

UPDATE

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C. Coleman Harris
U.S. Department of Education
June 2003

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DATES TO REMEMBER

June		
	15	Honorary American Degree, VIP, and DSC Applications due at FFA Center
	19-29	Costa Rica Proficiency trip
	30	H.O. Sargent Application deadline, FFA Center
	30	American Degree Applications deadline, FFA Center
July		
	13-15	National FFA Board of Directors meeting, FFA Center, Adam's Mark Hotel, downtown Indianapolis
	15	National FFA Foundation Board of Trustees meeting, Adam's Mark Hotel, downtown Indianapolis
	15	Proficiency award applications deadline, FFA Center
	15	Agri-Entrepreneurship applications deadline, FFA Center
	15	MFE/ALD/EDGE information forms due, FFA Center

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WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FFA

Washington Leadership Conference: Start planning your trip to D.C.! The Washington Leadership Conference (WLC) begins with a series of six one-week learning laboratories in Washington, D.C., and expands into a yearlong online study of leadership, personal growth and career success for all participants. The action packed learning laboratories help members experience service learning and teaches them the fundamentals of mentoring and volunteerism strategies, problem-solving skills, relationship building skills and character development. In addition to the week in the nation's capital, the students participate in a yearlong program focusing on transferring the experiences and skills developed in the learning laboratories to practical applications in their local chapter and communities. WLC is hands-on learning at its best. Participants take the knowledge gained at a national conference and apply it at the local level in their chapter, school, and communities.

The Washington Leadership Conference will consist of six weeks instead of seven this year. Those dates are: June 3-8, June 10-15, June 17-22, June 24-29, July 8-13 and July 15-20. FFA's premier leadership conference is shaping up to be the best yet! For more information e-mail wlc@ffa.org or call 317-802-4312. You can also visit www.ffa.org.

MFE/ALD/EDGE information forms due in July: State information forms for hosting a MFE, ALD or EDGE conference are due by July 15, 2003. If you intend to host one or more of the personal growth and leadership conferences please complete the attached form for each conference and return them to April Pruet, apruet@ffa.org or fax 317-802-5256. If you intend to purchase the curriculum through the new delivery option please contact Andy Armbruster, aarmbruster@ffa.org or 317-802-4308.

PALS Update: This spring, a Train-the-Trainer workshop was held for the new PALS training material at the National FFA Center. The training focused on the following areas:

- How do you start and facilitate PALS programs?
- What are the benefits of PALS programs to FFA Chapters and Elementary teachers?
- What are the effects mentoring programs have on youth?
- How do you evaluate PALS programs?
- How do you incorporate healthy lifestyles activities into your PALS plan of action?
- How do you use the new materials in the CD-ROM format?

Representatives from 20 states, consisting of FFA advisors, FFA members, elementary teachers, administrators and counselors, were trained on how to help other teachers use the materials and start new PALS programs. State PALS Mentors will be training both students and teachers on the best practices in facilitating PALS programs throughout the summer. The PALS Training CD-ROM will also be available this summer. Thanks to the states who nominated trainers and are working with these trainers to get this information into the hands of students and teachers. Any state that was not able to send a representative to the training but would like to offer this training to teachers in an inservice setting should contact Tony Small, tsmall@ffa.org, 317-802-4300, local program success manager.

Many of our state mentors have expressed an interest in traveling to other states to provide training where possible and we have travel dollars to support this effort. The states with trainers in place are as follows: Colorado, Delaware, Georgia, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Washington and Wyoming.

For more information on the PALS program please contact Christy McDaniel, cmcdaniel@ffa.org, 317-802-4402, program coordinator, or Mike Honeycutt, mhoneycutt@ffa.org, 317-802-4262, education specialist.

2003 National FFA Officer Candidates: All documents found on the "Guide to the National FFA Officer Selection Process" (a private web page) have been updated to reflect the training and testing used during the 2002 selection process. This web page is an excellent resource for study materials, hints, tips and tools for candidates to prepare for the interview process at convention. Each state received an e-mail containing the link to the guide in March. The 2003 National Officer Candidate Application is available on the private web page and the State Guide to FFA Activities. All applications must be submitted in hard copy format and postmarked by Aug. 1, 2003. Contacts: Kelly Horton, khorton@ffa.org, 317-802-4248, or Kim Henry, khenry@ffa.org, 317-802-4362.

Final days to get \$10 off online orders: Have you been thinking about ordering FFA merchandise but just haven't gotten around to it? Now is the time to visit www.ffaunlimited.org to check out the latest and greatest FFA gear and save money while you're shopping! Between now and June 15, receive \$10 off your online order of \$125 or more. Enter the coupon code "FFA\$10" at check out. Please pass this promotion on to chapters so they can take advantage of this special offer.

Congratulations are in order: Are you ready for the upcoming open house season? It's not too late to find the perfect gift for that special FFA grad. From shadow boxes to picture

frames to commemorative 75th anniversary merchandise, FFA has all of the graduation gifts you need. Order online today at www.ffaunlimited.org or call 1-888-332-2668.

Summer markdown sale: Ready to shop for some great summer bargains? Visit www.ffaunlimited.org to see the latest markdowns on popular FFA gear!

NATIONAL FFA CONVENTION NEWS

National delegate process info on ffa.org: State leaders and delegates can now review action on 2002 committee reports and start planning for the 2003 delegate processes. There are a few significant changes in the process this year regarding the collection and submission of issues and the scheduling of delegates at the national FFA convention. For full details, visit: http://www.ffa.org/convention/html/del_info.html. Contact: Seth Derner, sderner@ffa.org, 317-802-4413.

Delegate schedule for 2003 National FFA Convention: With the National FFA Delegate Process starting at 10 a.m. on Tuesday (registration that morning from 7-10 a.m.), there are no official delegate activities on Monday at the 2003 National FFA Convention. Instead, a past National FFA Officer will be contracted to host activities for state FFA officers and other youth leaders (those serving as delegates). These activities will be completely optional; they will not be coordinated or sponsored by National FFA staff, and will be offered on a fee basis. The past national officer will be selected in the coming month and will send out a survey to state leaders to identify two or three activity options on that Monday. These options might include tours, workshops, meal functions, etc. Once arrangements are made, an order form will be sent to state leaders to sign up and pay for the activities in which they choose to have students participate. If you have questions about this new opportunity, please contact: Seth Derner, sderner@ffa.org, 317-802-4413.

2003 National FFA Convention Planning Info on ffa.org: Planning material, including housing information, is now available at <http://www.ffa.org/convention/index.html>. The entire Convention Planning Guide 1st Edition is available on the site, as is housing information and preliminary convention schedules.

Reminder: Convention registration fee set at \$30 beginning in 2003: The National FFA Board of Directors and National FFA Officers have set the national FFA convention attendance fee at \$30 for pre-registration and \$35 for on-site registration beginning in 2003. The action was taken to offset significant increases in costs for services, decoration, staging, labor and security. As a break-even activity, convention costs are borne by participants and not by general dues. Even with the approved increase, the \$30/\$35 FFA convention fee remains markedly lower than national meeting fees for other student organizations: VICA/Skills USA - \$90/\$100; FCCLA - \$100/\$110; and FBLA - \$85/95.

Honorary American Degree nominations due June 15: Nominations for Honorary American Degree recipients are due to the National FFA Center by June 15. Please send completed Honorary Degree nomination forms to: National FFA Organization, Attn: Honorary American Degree, 6060 FFA Dr., Indianapolis, IN 46268 or fax 317-802-5402.

VIP and Distinguished Service Citation nominations due June 15: VIP and DSC nominations are due to the national office by June 15. Please send completed nomination forms to: National FFA Organization, Attn: VIP/DSC, 6060 FFA Dr., Indianapolis, IN

46268 or fax 317-802-5244. Nomination forms are attached.

COMPETITIONS

A Call for H.O. Sargent Applications: The H.O. Sargent Award recognizes the work done by FFA members and non-FFA members who contribute to diversifying FFA and/or agricultural education. The award program, initially established through the leadership and vision of Mr. G.W. Owens of New Farmers of America and Dr. H.O. Sargent of the U.S. Department of Education, was re-instituted in 1995 in commemoration of the contributions individuals of all backgrounds have made to FFA and agricultural education.

Activities that qualify an individual for the H.O. Sargent award are as varied as the imagination and resources allow. This is in part because “diversity” is broadly defined to embrace the following areas: ethnic, cultural, geographical (e.g. rural, urban), gender, ability, career cluster, education.

Awards Structure for the member award is as follows:

Local - Each local chapter is encouraged to recognize an FFA member who has been active in promoting diversity in agricultural education and the FFA. See above for examples of what qualifies. An award certificate is available in the Local Program Resource CD-ROM. The local winner may be submitted to the next level of competition using procedures established by each state.

State - Each state may select one state winner that may include having district, federation or area winners. The state winner will be forwarded for national competition.

National - At the national level, four finalists will be selected. During the convention each finalist will participate in an interview and make a presentation that promotes diversity.

The application deadline is June 30, 2003. The form is attached below. For more details visit our website at <http://www.ffa.org/programs/hosargent/html/app.html#MEMBER>, or call Damon Spight at 317-802-4244. The H.O. Sargent Award program is sponsored by Monsanto as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

2003 CDE deadlines announced: Deadlines have been set for the 2003 National FFA CDEs; all items are due to the FFA Center by the dates indicated. A copy of all forms listed below can be found in the 2003 State Guide. They are as follows:

June 1 - Team declaration forms due

July 10 - Team certification forms and certification fee due (\$25 per team, excluding dairy handlers)

- Waiver forms due (Please include with certification forms)
- Special assistance requests due (Contact: Alyssa Peterson, apeterson@ffa.org 317-802-4263)
- State assistants/volunteers forms due
- State speaking judges forms due

Aug. 15 - Prepared public speaking manuscripts due

Sept. 15 - Agricultural communication portfolios due

- Agricultural issues portfolios due
- Job interview portfolios due
- Marketing plan portfolios due

Oct. 1 - Late membership payments and \$25 processing fee due (for qualification)

Oct. 15 - Add/Delete forms due

Agriscience Fair application change: There are changes to the Agriscience Fair program for 2003. There are two changes to the Agriscience Fair Rules: a) in team divisions, both members are required to be present for judging to qualify for placing and awards. b). rules for use of embryo subjects has been added to "Safety Rules." The only change to the application is the addition of the Agriscience Fair Certification Form. The revised application is attached. This form should be filled out completely, signed and submitted with the certification and abstracts by Aug. 15 to Christy McDaniel, National FFA Organization, 6060 FFA Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46268. For more information contact Christy McDaniel, cmcdaniel@ffa.org, 317-802-4402.

COLLEGIATE NEWS

PAS website unveiled: The National Postsecondary Agricultural Student Organization (PAS) can be visited on the World Wide Web. Their new web address is: www.nationalpas.org.

EDUCATOR NEWS

Order educational resources for next year: The approaching end of another school year is the perfect time for teachers to prepare for next fall. Plan ahead by purchasing educational resources now. The latest and greatest instructional materials are now available through the Agricultural Education Resources Catalog. Designed in a user-friendly format, lesson plans can be customized for various classroom settings. Each lesson includes learning objectives, recommended resources, vocabulary terms, sample tests with answers, transparency masters, student lab sheets and much more. Teachers can take advantage of some of the best-designed instructional materials ever assembled.

Also, don't forget about the other resources needed in the fall. Use the dollars remaining in instructional budgets to purchase Official FFA Manuals, Student Handbooks and other important materials. It's never too early to begin thinking about next fall. Order early and make the start of next year that much easier.

Visit www.ffa.org/ffaunlimited to learn more about these exciting resources.

Professional development openings for agriculture teachers: As part of the relationship between the National FFA Foundation and Dupont, six professional development openings for agriculture teachers were offered as part of DuPont's ongoing commitment to science education. Six ag teachers will be a part of a science based professional development program offered through the Keystone Center for Science as well as the Biological Sciences Curriculum Study "Keys to Science Institute" in Colorado. Three separate week-long sessions will be attended with focus topics of Environmental Science, Sustainability and Biotechnology with two teachers in each of the interest areas .

As a complement to this summer activity, a new project designed to better connect agricultural education teachers focused on teaching science has recently been funded by DuPont as a special project of the National FFA Foundation. The project will feature interactive workshops at both the National FFA Convention and NAAE conventions this coming year through use of a virtual classroom. Those who will be conducting the workshops this fall will be the six teachers who were selected to attend the training at the Keystone Science Center and the BSCS (Biological Sciences Curriculum Study) Keys to Science Institute. The selected teachers represent all six regions across the country. As a part of their selection, the instructors have agreed to conduct workshops at both

conventions and in their states. This project is designed to increase both awareness and the implementation of educational programming in sustainability and the environment in the agricultural education classroom. More information on the program will be coming soon. The successful partnership in making this project reality goes to Kevin Keith for the concept and Tony Small, Jay Jackman and Lynn Campbell in working with DuPont and associated companies to coordinate the training of teachers and activities. This is teamwork at its best to start working on a systemic change in teaching science across all of agricultural education.

Educational Material: The American Quarter Horse Association is the place for you to find quality educational material and services to assist you in your classroom. From anatomy booklets to coat color charts, AQHA wants to ensure that your students receive the most up-to-date educational information about horses. Now, AQHA is offering 100 free copies of the Rising Star Horse Camp CD-ROM to Agricultural Science teachers! The Rising Star Horse Camp CD-ROM is an interactive tool that guides students through topics ranging from feeding and nutrition to health care and more. Be one of the first 100 to e-mail your name, address and school to AQHA at lrogers@aqha.org, and get this awesome classroom tool to enhance your equine science lessons. Check out www.aqha.com for more information on the American Quarter Horse Association today.

Mission to FFA Associations: Twenty-five years from now, what will FFA members and advisors want to know about FFA in 2003? As state staff and state officers, the National FFA Organization asks you to lead the charge in collecting items and information for inclusion in the state box you contribute to the FFA 100th Anniversary Time Capsule, which will be filled at the 2003 National FFA Convention. Consider items that represent your state, its agricultural base, and the status of agricultural education. Pictures, letters, magazine clippings, scrapbooks, etc. are just some of the items that could be included. Reflect on the past 25 years from 1977 through 2003. Summarize the present attitudes and atmosphere regarding agricultural education, agriculture and FFA. Envision the future. Set forth predictions. In his letter, the 1977-78 National FFA Western Region Vice President predicted convention attendance at the 75th National FFA Convention would reach 50,000 people. Final attendance numbers were 51,025.

Be creative. While financial reports, meeting minutes and leadership conference curriculum may give future members an idea of FFA in 2003, consider what it feels, looks, tastes, and smells like. Capture FFA in ways from which future generations can learn. Specifics

- State boxes must be the size of a shirt box or a UPS shipping box (2nd Day Air). Dimensions are approximate. Try not to exceed the following: 17" x 12.5" x 3.5".
- Boxes cannot contain perishable items. The time capsule will be placed in storage and not opened for a pre-determined time - 25 years maximum.
- The National FFA Organization cannot guarantee the safe return of items included in state boxes. You are encouraged to make copies of or keep an itemized list of the materials included in your box.
- An itemized list of materials included in your box must be submitted to National FFA before being placed in the Time Capsule.

ALUMNI NEWS

The National FFA Alumni Association's 2003 State Leaders Conference: The

National FFA Alumni Association invites you to attend the 2003 SLC to be held in Corpus Christi, Texas, July 22-27, 2003. Contact your state FFA alumni leadership for registration information or contact Frank Saldana, fsaldana@ffa.org, 317-802-4292, for more information.

STATE STAFF NEWS

Nominations for judges being accepted: The National FFA Organization is accepting nominations for judges for the Agricultural Proficiency Awards, Star Awards, Agriscience Awards and National Chapter Awards at the 2003 National FFA Convention in Louisville, Ky., this fall. The Agricultural Proficiency and the Star Awards judging will take place Thursday, Oct. 30, 2003. All of the judges will be invited to an awards luncheon on that day. The Agriscience Awards will be judged Wednesday, Oct. 29 and Thursday, Oct. 30. National Chapter Awards, Models of Innovation awards will be judged Wednesday, Oct. 29. We are not able to cover any expenses for the judges. Nominations can be submitted on the attached form and should be mailed to Rosalie Hunsinger, National FFA Organization, P.O. Box 68960, Indianapolis, IN 46268-0960 or faxed to her at 317-802-5255.

INTERNATIONAL HAPPENINGS

International teacher opportunities available: Competitive scholarships are available for agriculture teachers to participate in an international experience through EARTHWATCH. The scholarships are available for use in 2003. EARTHWATCH is a research organization with international expeditions throughout the world. Expeditions take place throughout the year. Participants receive scholarships of up to \$1500 to cover a portion of the expedition costs plus membership to EARTHWATCH. Applications are being accepted and are available online at www.ffa.org/programs/global/.

FFA Global Leadership Training available online: FFA Global is looking for agriculture instructors who are interested in exploring agriculture in our exciting, online learning program about global agriculture. A "real world" storyline allows students to learn about global agriculture and U.S. policy as they follow the lives of two fictional FFA members as they travel to Moldova, Honduras and Ethiopia. Several chapters are already using the program and if you are interested in learning more about this project, please contact FFA Global, global@ffa.org or 317-802-4309. Visit the FFA Global Leadership Scenarios site at www.ffa.org/scenarios today!

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED IN UPDATE

Local Program Resource Guide 2003-2004 CD-ROM: Great news! We are preparing for the release of the Local Program Resource Guide 2003 – 2004 CD-ROM (LPR Guide), your complete guide to Agricultural Education with all of the National FFA Organization's most valuable program-enhancing materials. For a fourth year, these materials will be provided through a CD-ROM format. One representative from each state has been sent a request form via e-mail.

In addition, we have offered the **LPR Guide** to all pre-service teacher educators and their pre-service students for the upcoming year. As a result, those students will have an opportunity to become familiar with the materials before they begin teaching. One representative, per training site, has been sent a request form via e-mail.

Please e-mail or fax your order to Michele Gilbert, mgilbert@ffa.org, 317-802-5301. The CDs will be shipped to state staff in mid-June and to teacher educators in mid-August. For more information please contact: Michele Gilbert (information above), Tony Small, tsmall@ffa.org, 317-802-4300 or Jim Armbruster, 317-802-4334, jarmbruster@ffa.org.

National FFA Awards and CDE Advisory Board Award Revision Process: Every five years, the National FFA Organization's CDEs, award and recognition programs are reviewed to keep them closely aligned with instructional relevance, current technology, industry practices and the mission, vision and strategic direction of Agricultural Education and FFA. This spring, we are beginning another round of this ongoing review process.

Currently, three subcommittees are forming to evaluate award and recognition programs. As the committees begin their review process, the National FFA Organization will keep you up-to-date with the progress and status of the committees and the project timeframe, which is expected to last through 2005. The award revision process white paper, timeline and committee updates are available online at <http://www.ffa.org/statestaff/html/awardrevision.html>.

Communication Resource Index on ffa.org: A whole host of communication resources for state and local use is now available online at <http://www.ffa.org/comm/commindex.html>, a handy one-stop shop for state and local communication materials. The new Opening Doors materials are available here, as are standards and guidelines covering topics such as news releases, key messages and frequently asked questions. Throughout 2003 and 2004, we'll be adding new materials to this resource index every quarter, so check back often to see what's new.

National FFA Convention in Indianapolis in 2006: The annual national FFA convention is in Louisville, Ky., again this year, and will not move to Indianapolis until 2006. During the National Agricultural Education Inservice in February, Bob Heuvel, site selection committee chair, shared information about moving the convention from Louisville to Indianapolis in 2006. Please review the attached document for more information.

UPDATE is also available at www.ffa.org/news/html/ffapubsindex.html#update each month. Attachments are available online.

The FFA Mission

FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for **premier leadership, personal growth** and **career success** through agricultural education.

The Agricultural Education Mission

Agricultural Education prepares students for successful careers and a lifetime of informed choices in the global agriculture, food, fiber and natural resources systems.

The National FFA Organization is a resource and support organization that does not select, control or supervise state association, local chapter or individual member activities except as expressly provided for in the National FFA Organization Constitution and Bylaws.

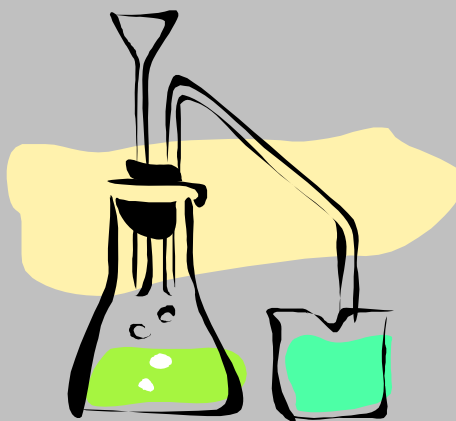
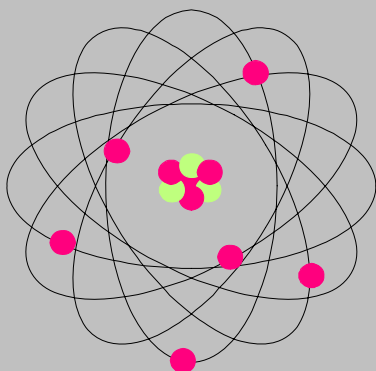
The National FFA Organization affirms its belief in the value of all human beings and seeks diversity in its

membership, leadership and staff as an equal opportunity employer.

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National FFA Agriscience Fair

NATIONAL FFA AGRISCIENCE FAIR
GUIDELINES & PROCEDURES



Sponsored by

Ford Motor Company Fund

Award Objective

The National FFA Agriscience Fair recognizes middle and high school students who are studying the application of scientific principles and emerging technologies in agricultural enterprises. Participation begins at the local chapter level and progresses to the state and national levels. Areas of participation closely mirror those of the International Science and Engineering Fair but reflect an agricultural theme.

GOALS

- Provide students with an opportunity to use the scientific process.
- Provide students an opportunity to achieve local, state and national recognition for their accomplishments in agriscience.
- Reinforce skills and principles learned in agriscience courses.

- Provide an opportunity for students to demonstrate and display agriscience projects that are products of their agriscience courses.

- Provide recruiting and promotional opportunities for agriscience programs.

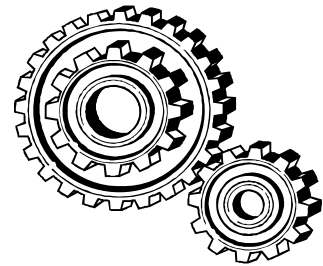
RECOGNITION

Chapter Level - Winners may be selected annually in each FFA chapter. The winner may represent any of the agriscience category areas (based on state rules for competitions). Medals and certificates are available from the National FFA on the Medal Distribution Request form included in the Free Chapter Materials packet.

State Level - Winners from each division in all five categories may be selected annually in each of the chartered state associations. Each of those winners may then participate in the appropriate areas on the national level.

National Level - Winners from each state may be forwarded for national competition. A national winner will be selected in each division. National winners will be presented with ribbon rosettes and plaques.

Additional awards may become available as funded by special project sponsors above and beyond the core sponsorship for the National FFA Agriscience Fair. They may include, but are not limited to, scholarships and cash awards to division winners in each category. These awards will be **appropriate** for each division, not necessarily equal or identical.



Categories

The following are the categories for the National FFA Agriscience Fair:

I. BIOCHEMISTRY/ MICRO-BIOLOGY/ FOOD SCIENCE

This involves the biology of microorganisms such as bacteriology, virology, protozoology, fungi bacterial genetics, and yeast. This area can also include the following: Chemistry of life processes such as molecular biology; molecular genetics; enzymes; photosynthesis; protein chemistry; food chemistry; hormones, etc.

Examples:

- Compare yeast fermentation techniques for converting sugars to alcohol
- Resistance of organic fruits to common diseases
- Control of molds on bakery products

II. ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

The study of pollution (air, water and land) sources and their control. Other areas of ecology would be applied here.

Examples:

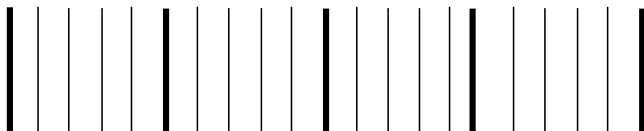
- Effect of agricultural chemicals on water quality
- Effects of cropping practices on wildlife populations
- Compare irrigation systems for energy efficiency
- Research uniform water quality standards
- Compare water movements through different soil types

III. ZOOLOGY (ANIMAL SCIENCE)

The study of animals including animal genetics, ornithology, ichthyology, entomology, animal ecology, paleontology, cellular physiology, animal husbandry, cytology, histology, animal physiology, invertebrate neurophysiology, studies of invertebrates, etc.

Examples:

- Compare nutrient levels on animal growth
- Research new disease control mechanisms
- Effects of estrous synchronization on ovulation
- Compare effects of thawing temperatures on livestock semen
- Effects of growth hormone on meat/milk production



IV. BOTANY (PLANT/SOIL SCIENCE)

The study of plant life such as agriculture, agronomy, horticulture, forestry, plant taxonomy, plant physiology, plant pathology, plant genetics, hydroponics, algae, etc.

Examples:

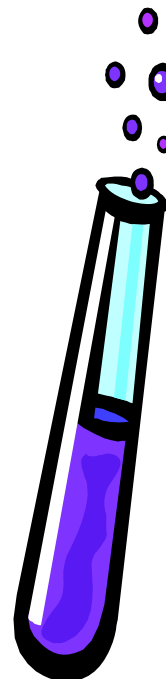
- Effect of substrate particle size on shiitake mushroom growth
- Effects of heavy metals such as cadmium on edible plants
- Effect of ultraviolet light on soil microbes
- Effects of lunar climate and soil condition on plant growth
- Compare plant growth between hydroponics and conventional method

V. ENGINEERING (MECHANICAL/ AGRICULTURE ENGINEERING SCIENCE)

This area includes technology and projects that directly apply scientific principles to manufacturing and practical uses such as mechanical, chemical, electrical, environmental engineering, etc.

Examples:

- Develop alternate energy source engines
- Absorption media for plant materials
- Compare various tillage methods for energy efficiency
- Investigation of light energy sources



Agriscience Fair Rules

Projects may be disqualified if they do not meet the eligibility, safety and display rules.

ELIGIBILITY RULES

1. Competition is open to all FFA members in grades 7-12. There are four divisions. Division I is open to individual members in grades 7, 8 and 9. Division II is open to individual members in grades 10, 11, and 12. Division III is for teams of two members in grades 7, 8, and 9. Division IV is for teams of two members in grades 10, 11 and 12. The students grade level is determined by the age of the member at the time of qualification at the state level. States with qualifying competitions may have up to 20 entries, one in each category, in each division. For example: A state may have an entry in Zoology in Divisions I, II, III and IV. You may not have more than one entry in a division. Participant must be an FFA member.
2. There are five categories. They are Biochemistry/Microbiology/Food Science; Environmental Sciences; Zoology; Botany; and Engineering. See previous explanations for more information.
3. Each member and/or team may enter only one project. A team is a maximum of two members working cooperatively on the same project. Students participating in the Agriscience Student Scholarship and Recognition Program may participate in the National FFA Agriscience Fair. Successive year projects must indicate change or growth in the project from the previous year(s) in the log books. Displays must reflect the current year's work only.
4. Each participant is required to meet with the judges to explain their project. Explanation and questioning may not exceed fifteen minutes. Students with conflicts due to participation in other national events will need to choose only one event in which to participate. No exceptions will be made due to participation in other events (i.e. National Band or Chorus, Career Development Events).
5. In team divisions, both members are required to be present for judging to qualify for placing and
6. States may enter one project in each area that they have a state winner, this is a maximum of twenty entries for states with a qualifying competition. In the case that a state does not have a state qualifying competition, the maximum number of entries will be ten. No entries from a state may compete against each other in the same division at the national level.
7. Exhibited projects and project reports shall be the result of the student(s) own efforts.

SAFETY RULES*

1. If an exhibit becomes unsafe or unsuitable for display, it will be removed and deemed ineligible for any awards.
2. Projects involving vertebrate animal/embryo subjects must conform with the following statement: Experiments on live animals/embryos involving surgery, the removal of parts, injection of harmful chemicals, and/or exposure to harmful environments, are

Agriscience Fair Rules

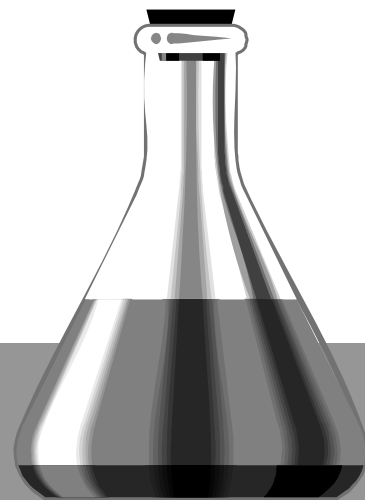
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not acceptable at the National FFA
Agriscience Fair. Live vertebrates/embryos
are not permitted at the fair.

- not acceptable at the National FFA Agriscience Fair. Live vertebrates/embryos are not permitted at the fair.
 3. Toxic and hazardous chemicals are prohibited.
 4. All necessary chemical glassware must be displayed in a stable manner. The items must be back from the edge of the table and may not be operational at any time.
 5. Students should substitute colored water, photographs or drawings for chemicals.
 6. Crystals, other than sucrose (sugar) and sodium chloride (salt), may not be displayed. Projects involving crystals can be represented by pictures or other three-dimensional models.
 7. Hypodermic needles and syringes may not be displayed in any exhibit at the National FFA Agriscience Fair.
 8. It is critically important that no person be exposed to any bacteria that are considered pathogenic. Therefore, the following two rules are very important: No wild cultures incubated above room temperature; no cultures taken from humans or other warm blooded animals may be **used. This includes, but is not limited to** skin, throat and mouth.
 9. Plastic petri dishes must be used and must be sealed.
 10. Lasers may not be used in any exhibit.
 11. Dangerous and combustible materials are prohibited.
 12. No exhibit shall have open flames. Any part of an exhibit that can get hotter than 100 degrees Celsius (boiling water temperature) must be adequately protected from its surroundings.
 13. If an exhibit includes electrical wiring or devices, they must be safe. For voltages above 20 volts, special precautions must be taken. All connections must be secure and provide suitable protection against short circuits, etc.
 14. All wiring carrying more than 20 volts must be well insulated. Also, the connections must either be soldered or secured by UL approved fasteners. The wire used must be insulated adequately for the maximum voltage that will be present and the wire must be of sufficient size to carry the maximum current you anticipate. Open knife switches or doorbell-type push buttons in circuits using more than 20 volts may not be used.
 15. If the exhibit will be connected to 120 volt AC power (plugged into a wall outlet) fuses or circuit breakers must be provided to protect not only the exhibit but also any others that may share the same sources of power. The power cord used must be UL approved for the voltage and current it will be carrying, and it must be at least 1.8 meters (6 feet) long. National FFA staff must be notified of the need for power at the time of certification so power can be ordered in advance.
 16. Exhibits requiring voltage in excess of 120 volts AC are not allowed.
* See Agriscience Handbook for additional safety recommendations.

DISPLAY RULES

 1. Each exhibit may consist of one or more panels of information and any objects the student wishes to display. The exhibit panels must be constructed so as to be stable and free standing. The exhibit panels may be of poster board or foam core construction.
 2. The official maximum size for a project is 48 inches wide by 30 inches deep (the distance from front to back) by 108 inches high (from floor to top, includes table if project is on table top).
 3. All projects must have the following information attached to the upper right hand corner of the exhibit:
 - Name of person(s) responsible for developing project
 - Chapter Name, State
 - Title of category entered
 - Division entered (I, II, III, or IV)

[illegible]

Agriscience Fair Application Form

Must include certification form with application beginning in 2003.

This form may be used by states to identify individuals who are interested in participating in the National Agriscience Fair. This application form should be completely filled out and submitted to the state FFA office by the appropriate due date for your state. This form does not guarantee entry in the National Agriscience Fair. Each state may set its own standards or qualifications for participation.

ONE ENTRY PER FORM. COPY FOR ADDITIONAL ENTRIES AS NEEDED.

Name _____ Career Goal _____

Parent or guardian name _____

Home Address _____

Home City _____ Home State _____ Home Zip _____

Home Telephone _____ School Telephone _____
(Remember to include your area code) (Remember to include your area code)

FFA Chapter Name _____ FFA Chapter Number _____

Ag Instructor(s) _____

Year in School Use Arrow to Choose (at time of qualification)

School _____

School Address _____

School City _____ School State _____ School Zip _____

Project Title _____

Category: ☐ Biochemistry/Microbiology/Food Science
☐ Environmental Science
☐ Zoology
☐ Botany
☐ Engineering

Division: ☐ One (Individuals in grades 7-8-9)
☐ Two (Individuals in grades 10-11-12)
☐ Three (Team of two in grades 7-8-9) * Please fill in information below
☐ Four (Team of two in grades 10-11-12) *Please fill in information below

Fill in the information below for a second member of team: (Leave blank if individual)

Name _____ Career Goal _____

Parent or guardian name _____

Home Address _____

Home City _____ Home State _____ Home Zip _____

Home Telephone _____
(Remember to include your area code)

Year in School Use Arrow to Choose (at time of qualification)

Agriscience Fair Score Sheet

Each category is to be scored from 0-10, with 10 being a perfect score. The total possible score for the entire sheet is 100 points.

Participant _____

Category _____ Division _____

SCORE CATEGORY

_____ **Knowledge Gained**- Is there evidence the student has acquired scientific skills and/or knowledge by doing this project? Does the exhibitor recognize the scope and limitation of the problem he or she has selected?

_____ **Scientific Approach**- Has a scientific approach been made to the problem? Has the exhibitor solved the problem by using scientific facts as a basis for new conclusions? Is the exhibitor aware of the basic scientific principles that lend support to the methods used and the conclusions reached?

_____ **Experimental Research**- Has data been gathered from work done by the student, rather than the results from the work of others? Is the exhibitor's equipment effective? Does it do what it was intended to do? Can the research be the basis for further experimentation? Is the project actually a model or demonstration?

_____ **Individual/Team Work**-Has material been gathered from a variety of sources and cited? Is the log book present for examination? If a team, is evidence of collaboration present? Can the portions of the presentation representing the work of others be identified?

_____ **Thoroughness**-Is the exhibitor aware of the empirical method (the necessity of repeating trials) and the importance of controlling the variables in the experimentation in order to reach valid conclusions? Has the analysis of the problem been orderly? How successfully was the original plan carried through to completion?

SCORE CATEGORY

_____ **Information**-Are known facts and principles stated correctly and used accurately? Have the results of experiments been reported accurately even though faulty experimental methods or conditions may have made the data unreliable? If so, have these errors been noted? Is the data complete or at least based on random, rather than selected sampling?

_____ **Conclusions**-Has the student started with known facts and drawn their own conclusions? Are the conclusions consistent with the data and/or observations?

_____ **Written Project Report** - Are all components of the written report available? Has the exhibitor made thorough use of the data, literature cited, interviews, correspondence, etc. and noted them properly? Considering the age and experience of the exhibitor, does the project make use of their abilities?

_____ **Interview**-Is the exhibitor able to successfully communicate their knowledge on the project?

_____ **Visual Display**-Has the data been presented in the best manner for the particular type of information involved? Are spelling errors present? Does the exhibit demonstrate a general neatness and attractiveness? Is the display presented in a logical and interesting manner?

Total Score

Final Placing _____

Project Components

LOG BOOK

A log book is your most important piece of work. It will contain accurate and detailed notes of a well-planned and implemented project. Your notes should be a consistent and thorough record of your project. This will be one of your greatest aids when writing your paper.

PROJECT REPORT

You will be required to submit a written project report. It must include the following:

- **Title Page.** Include the project title, your name, address and chapter.
- **Table of Contents.** Reference each section of your paper.
- **Abstract.** The abstract should be a maximum of one page in length. It should include a brief statement of purpose, procedures used, data collected and conclusions drawn. It may also include possible research applications or future research.
- **Introduction.** This should include the problem statement, your hypothesis, and an explanation of what prompted your research and what you hoped to achieve.
- **Materials and Methods.** Describe the methodology used to collect your data or make your observations. This should be descriptive enough to allow someone else to replicate your experiment. Include a list of materials and equipment used.

- **Results.** A factual presentation of the outcomes of your study. These may be presented in tables and charts.

- **Discussion and Conclusion.** Draw conclusions from the results of your study and relate them to your original hypothesis. Be thorough. Allow the reader to see your train of thought, compare your results to commonly held beliefs or expectations. Offer sound reasoning for your results. If your results were not as expected, explain why in this section.

- **Acknowledgements.** Credit those who assisted you in your investigations. These may be individuals or businesses that provided guidance or materials.

- **Literature cited.** A list of published articles, books or other communications cited in your text. Use an accepted style guide for proper reference listings and footnotes.

INTERVIEW

The interview will consist of a question and answer period between the student and judge(s). The maximum time limit for the interview is 15 minutes. Judges are impressed with those students who can speak freely and confidently about their work. They are not interested in memorized speeches, they simply want to talk about the research to see if the competitor(s) have a good grasp of the project from start to finish. Besides asking the obvious questions, judges often ask questions to test insight into the project such as "What wasn't done?" and "What would be the next step?"

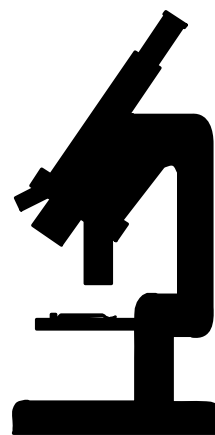
DISPLAY

Your display should be eye-catching and informative. Keep it simple so judges and others can quickly assess and understand your project and the results you achieved. Use clear language and captions to explain photos, graphs and other items. Make the headings stand out. Draw and clearly label graphs and diagrams. Use photographs to show the stages of your project or to depict items that may not be safe to exhibit or would be costly to transport or replace if lost or damaged.

Be sure to follow all rules relating to display requirements. Projects may be removed from competition if the guidelines are not followed.

JUDGING

Judges evaluate 1) how well the scientific method was followed; 2) the detail and accuracy of the log book and project report; and 3) whether tools/equipment were used in the best possible way. Judges look for well thought-out research. They look at how significant the project is in its field as well as how thorough the research is. The three components of the project: written report, interview and display, are all evaluated to determine the final placing of the exhibits.



Agriscience Fair Certification Form

Must include certification form with application beginning in 2003.

Each statement below must be certified by the local FFA Advisor and the State Staff. The purpose of this form is to ensure that all projects meet the eligibility, safety and display rules. This form does not prevent the project from being disqualified at the national level if any requirements are violated at that time. Any "no" answers disqualify the project from national competition. See rules brochure (application page 3 & 4) or the Agriscience Handbook for details

Local Advisor State Advisor

Yes	No	Yes	No	
				1. Participant is a current in-school FFA member.
				2. Project is the result of the student's (divisions 2 & 4) or student team's (division 1 & 3) own work.
				3. Student or team of students will be attending the National Agriscience Fair and meet with the judges. (If team, both are required to be present)
				4. Projects involving vertebrate animals/embryos did not involve surgery, removal of parts, injection of harmful chemicals or exposure to harmful environments.
				5. No toxic or hazardous chemicals are used with the display.
				6. No crystals, other than salt and sugar, are used with the display.
				7. No hypodermic needles or syringes are included with the display.
				8. No bacteria are included in the display.
				9. Only plastic petri dishes are used (if applicable).
				10. No lasers are used.
				11. No combustible materials are used.
				12. No open flames are included with the display.
				13. All electrical devices meet approved safety standards. (see rules brochure for details)
				14. The exhibit meets the size restrictions: 48 inches wide x 30 inches deep x 108 inches high (height includes the table is the project is on a table top)
				15. Five copies of the project abstract are included with this application/certification form.

We certify that the above information is true, accurate and complete.

Student Signature

Student Signature (if team)

Local FFA Advisor Signature

State FFA Advisor Signature

The application form, this certification form and five copies of the project abstract must be postmarked by August 15 each year. Mail forms to:

Agriscience Fair
National FFA Organization
PO Box 68960
6060 FFA Drive
Indianapolis, IN 46268



THE FFA MISSION

FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.

THE AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION MISSION

Agricultural Education prepares students for successful careers and a lifetime of informed choices in the global agriculture, food, fiber and natural resources systems.

Produced by the National FFA Organization in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Education as a service to state and local agricultural education agencies.

The National FFA Organization affirms its belief in the value of all human beings and seeks diversity in its membership, leadership and staff as an equal opportunity employer.

National FFA Organization
6060 FFA Drive
PO Box 68960
Indianapolis, IN 46268-0960
www.ffa.org

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**Communicating About the
2006-2012 National FFA Convention
Site Selection Process
February 7, 2003
-FAQ-**

As most of you know, the National FFA Board of Directors and National FFA Officers have selected Indianapolis to host the 2006-2012 national FFA conventions. To help you address questions or comments, please review carefully the following information and guidelines. It is important that we communicate clearly and in a way that does not detract from the success and excitement of three remaining national conventions in Louisville, particularly the next year of continuing of 75th anniversary celebration.

I. The Facts

- FFA will hold the 2006-2012 National FFA Conventions in Indianapolis.
- The board voted to extend the 5-year contract period to 7 years, following a recommendation by both Indianapolis and Louisville.
- The main convention sessions will be held in Conseco Fieldhouse arena.
- The recommendation of Indianapolis by the convention site selection committee and the decision by the board and officers to approve that recommendation were both unanimous.
- Serving on the convention site selection committee were Bob Heuvel (chair), state supervisor of agricultural education and FFA board member, California; Vicki Lantz, agriculture teacher and FFA board member, Pennsylvania; Steve Zimmerman, state supervisor of agricultural education and FFA board member, North Dakota; Angela Browning, past national FFA officer, California; and Jennifer Edwards, past national FFA officer, Alabama.

II. Guidelines for Communications

- FFA will not release specific information about the bids out of respect for the cities' need to preserve confidentiality in the competitive negotiation process.
- FFA will not seek to highlight or promote Indianapolis as a convention site, but will instead focus on successfully staging the three remaining conventions in Louisville, including the continuing anniversary celebration in 2003.

III. Key Messages

These messages should be included as appropriate when discussing or communicating about the convention site selection:

- The decision was based on providing the best service and educational value to students and teachers in the years under consideration.
- A committee, appointed by the National FFA Board of Directors, representing FFA and agricultural education conducted the site selection process.
- The cities were evaluated using a “scorecard” with criteria developed by teachers, students and state staff.
- All cities had strong assets and advantages, and each was capable of providing exceptional service and support.
- FFA is grateful for the support and hospitality received from Columbus, Indianapolis, Louisville and Nashville.
- While no one city involved in the bidding process scored “best” in every category, FFA believes Indianapolis represents the most balanced approach to meeting its needs in the years under consideration.
- Selection of the location for the national FFA convention is a board issue, and does not require action by the delegates.
- Louisville will continue to host the convention through the end of its current contract in 2005.
- FFA looks forward to an exciting and successful 76th National FFA Convention this October in Louisville.

IV. Potential Questions (FAQ)

1. *Why is FFA moving its convention?*
Based on the information available today, FFA has selected the site it believes will provide the greatest service and educational value for its members and teachers in the years 2006-2012.
2. *What cities were considered?*
The four finalist cities bidding on the convention were Columbus, Ohio; Nashville, Tennessee; Louisville, Kentucky; and Indianapolis, Indiana.
3. *What is the value of this convention agreement?*
The annual financial impact of the national FFA convention is estimated to be \$25-30 million.

4. *If the Indianapolis was the choice over Louisville in 2002, why wasn't it selected for the 1998 convention?*

Since 1998 Indianapolis has added Conseco Fieldhouse, 120,000 square feet to the Convention Center, a 600 room Marriott hotel connected to the Convention Center and nearly 3,800 hotel rooms.

5. *Won't it be more expensive for FFA to hold its convention in the larger city of Indianapolis?*

When all related expenses are considered, it will actually be less expensive to attend and hold the national FFA convention in Indianapolis.

6. *There is no tax exemption for hotel rooms in Indiana. Has this additional cost been considered?*

Yes, even with the room sales tax charge, the cost for attendees in Indianapolis will be less than any of the cities bidding.

7. *Who created the scorecard used to evaluate the cities?*

Teachers, students and state FFA officials were asked to suggest criteria and priorities to construct the site evaluation scorecard. From those criteria and priorities the National FFA Board developed the Scorecard.

8. *How much financial support is Indianapolis offering?*

FFA asked for a \$500,000 (1/3 may be in-kind) pledge of financial support for the convention, and both Louisville and Indianapolis met this requirement.

9. *Will the delegates have to approve the decision?*

Selecting the location for the national FFA convention is a board responsibility and does not require action by the delegates.

10. *Why won't FFA produce a side-by-side comparison of the two cities?*

FFA will not disclose details of the bids from either city out of consideration for the cities' needs for confidentiality in contract negotiations. FFA also does not wish to divert focus from the excellent facilities and support in Louisville for the next four national FFA conventions.

11. *Won't security be harder to manage in Indianapolis compared with Louisville?*

Despite the difference in size, FFA believes that safety and security factors are comparable in both cities, and each was prepared to devote additional resources to enhancing security.

12. *Isn't a city the size of Indianapolis going to be more expensive for attendees in terms of food and lodging?*

Without sharing specifics, the average cost of the hotel rooms committed for the FFA convention in Indianapolis will be somewhat less than in Louisville.

Additionally, more rooms in Indianapolis will be closer to the convention site. Both cities offer an array of dining choices that is comparable in range and cost.

13. Is Indianapolis a more expensive travel destination by air?

The cost of airfare is comparable between Indianapolis and Louisville, though more flights are available through Indianapolis.

14. Will parking be more difficult in Indianapolis?

In addition to on-site open lot parking for buses and vans at the convention center and state fairgrounds facilities, Indianapolis has committed the use of ramp and assigned parking sufficient to meet the needs of cars arriving for the FFA convention.

15. Will it be more difficult to supervise students in Indianapolis?

FFA advisors have demonstrated an ability to supervise their students in a large urban area during the 71 conventions in Kansas City. That same level of supervision should prove effective for the convention in Indianapolis.

16. Will there be more “distractions” in downtown Indianapolis that take the focus away from the convention?

While the location of the convention events in Indianapolis will bring teachers and students into greater contact with the “vibrancy” of a urban downtown location, this was shown to be both desirable and manageable during the conventions held in Kansas City.

17. How will local transportation be handled?

Indianapolis will provide shuttle bus service to and from major hotels and the a few CDE events at the state fairgrounds.

18. Is the convention site further away from our greatest concentration of members?

Both Louisville and Indianapolis are ideally located geographically and are in close proximity to the largest portion of the FFA membership.

19. Why was the seven-year contract signed vs. the five-year contract, originally approved by the Board of Directors?

There were nine cities who could not bid as they already had space committed for 2006-2012. Some cities book space up to 20 years out. Even the cities who bid but lost out encouraged FFA to bid earlier in the process. The Board then committed for seven years to give greater lead time for the 2012 and beyond bid.

20. What are the convention dates for 2006 - 2012?(Wednesday – Saturday)

2006: October 25-28, 2006

2007: October 24-27, 2007

2008: October 22-25, 2008

2009: October 21-24, 2009

2010: October 20-23, 2010

2011: October 19 – 22, 2011

2012: October 24 – 27, 2012

Due to National Center by June 1, 2003

**Star, Agricultural Proficiency Award and Other Selection
Committee Recommendations**

The following individual should be included among those invited to judge National FFA Awards, Agricultural Proficiency Awards or the Stars Over America at the National FFA Convention this fall:

Name: _____

Title: _____

Company/Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Telephone (Area Code Number) _____

E-mail Address: _____

(Please complete a separate form for each individual that you nominate.)

The nominee is best qualified in one of the following award categories:

Agricultural Communications Entrepreneurship/Placement	_____
Agricultural Crops Entrepreneurship/Placement	_____
Agricultural Livestock Entrepreneurship/Placement	_____
Agricultural Mechanical/Technical Systems	_____
Agricultural Sales Entrepreneurship or Placement	_____
Agricultural Services Entrepreneurship/Placement	_____
Emerging Agricultural Technology	_____
Equine Science Entrepreneurship or Placement	_____
Food Science and Agricultural Processing	_____
Horticulture or Nursery Operations	_____
Natural Resources Management & the Environment	_____
Small Animal/Specialty Animal	_____
Star Farmer	_____
Star in Agribusiness	_____
Star in Agricultural Placement	_____
Star in Agriscience	_____
National Chapter	_____
Agriscience Fair	_____
Agriscience Students and/or Teachers	_____

Person making nomination: _____

Please send all recommendations to:

Rosalie Hunsinger
Program Coordinator
National FFA Organization
P.O. Box 68960
Indianapolis, IN 46268-0960
Or FAX: (317) 802-5255

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CITATION

The Distinguished Service Citation is the highest award presented to an organization, agency business, industry or other group by the National FFA Organization. The Citation program is operated under the policies and procedures approved by the National FFA Board of Directors and National Officers.

A limited number of citations are presented annually at the National FFA Convention. The purpose of the award is to recognize outstanding contributions made to the Agricultural Education-FFA Program. States are ask to nominate organizations, agencies, or other groups for the Distinguished Service Citation. The recognition is for outstanding contributions made to the National FFA Organization and the total program of agricultural education. If an organization, agency, or other group you nominate is not selected, the nomination form will be returned for updating. We strongly recommend that the updated form be resubmitted next year. **Applications are due at the National FFA Center, postmarked on or before June 15.**

Name of Organization, Agency, Business or other Group being Nominated

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone No.: _____

Name of individual _____

(President, Chairman, Director or other Key Person Representing the Group being nominated):

Title: _____

Address of Individual: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone No.: _____

Explain the major contributions made of the Agricultural Education-FFA Program by this group:

Use your mouse to place your cursor at the end of this line. Delete this text by using the backspace key and begin typing!

Relate potential services and/or other contributions which his group can make to the Agricultural Education-FFA Program in the future:

Use your mouse to place your cursor at the end of this line. Delete this text by using the backspace key and begin typing!

Nominated by: Name: _____
Title: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Telephone No.: _____
Date of Nomination: _____

Return Form to:

Distinguished Service Citation
National FFA Center
PO Box 68960
Indianapolis, IN 46268

Nominations not approved by the National Board of Directors and National Officers will be returned to the individual who submitted the nomination for the purpose of updating and resubmitting in future years.

Approved by National Boards: () Yes () No

Date: _____

H.O. Sargent Award Applications



Overview

The National FFA Organization re-established the H.O. Sargent Award in 1995 to remember the New Farmers of America (NFA) and to recognize their place in the history of the FFA. The overall purpose of the H.O. Sargent award is to recognize success in achieving and promoting diversity in agricultural education and the FFA. This award is a modification of the H.O. Sargent award that existed in the NFA prior to the merger of the NFA and FFA.

Eligibility

The H.O. Sargent **member** award is available to all FFA members.

The H.O. Sargent **non-member** award is available to any individual who is not an FFA member. The individual should be supportive of activities that promote diversity within agricultural education and the FFA. The individual should also be active in the community. Teachers of agricultural education are eligible to win this award.

Additional Copies

Please make any additional copies of the H.O. Sargent Award application from the enclosed pages for multiple applicants.

Includes:

Member Application for current FFA members

Non-Member Application for individuals who are not FFA members

Postmark Deadline

State FFA associations must submit qualifying application to:

National FFA Organization
6060 FFA Drive
PO Box 68960
Indianapolis, IN 46268-0960
www.ffa.org

postmarked on or before JUNE 30.

The FFA Mission

FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education

The Agricultural Education Mission

Agricultural Education prepares students for successful careers and a lifetime of informed choices in the global agriculture, food, fiber and natural resources system

Produced by the National FFA Organization in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Education as a service to the state and local agricultural education agencies

The National FFA Organization affirms its belief in the value of all human beings and sees diversity in its membership, leadership and staff as an equal opportunity employer

© 2000 National FFA Organization.

Awards Structure for the Member Award

Local –Each local chapter is encouraged to recognize an FFA member who has been active in promoting diversity in agricultural education and the FFA. Examples of activities a student might initiate in order to qualify for the award include:

Promoting a pen pal program with FFA chapters that have students of a different culture.

Designing a membership recruitment program that appeals to a wide array of students.

Organizing activities such as NFA awareness Week.

Being a role model for other students.

Making presentations promoting agricultural careers to diverse groups.

An award certificate will be distributed in the summer packet sent to all agriculture teachers each year. A plaque is available from the FFA Chapter Catalog that can be purchased by local chapters to give to individuals who win this award. The local winner may be submitted to the next level of competition using procedures established by each state.

State –Each state may select one winner who will receive a \$100 cash award. States may have district, federation or area winners. The state winner will be forwarded for national competition.

National –At the national level, four finalists will be selected. During the convention, each finalist will participate in an interview and make a presentation in the National Finals Hall on their activities that have promoted diversity. Each finalist will receive \$250 and a plaque, with the national winner receiving an additional \$250 and plaque.

Application and Scoring –The member applying for this award will answer 12 short, open-ended questions and submit three supporting letters (from the teacher, school official, and community leader). An interview will be conducted at the national level (local and state may also choose to conduct interviews). During the interview, the member may provide additional supporting evidence. At the national level, the application is worth 50 points, the interview 40 points and the letters 10 points. The award will be presented on the main stage during the convention.

Awards Structure for the Non-Member Award

Local –Each local chapter may select an individual who is not an FFA member to receive the H.O. Sargent award. The individual should be supportive of activities that promote diversity within agricultural education and the FFA. The individual should also be active in the community. It should be noted that teachers of agricultural education are eligible to win this award. Examples of possible activities include:

Supporting scholarships for minority students to attend FFA camp, Washington Leadership Conference, college, etc.

Serving as a mentor or role model for an FFA member.

Encouraging under-represented groups of students to be in agricultural education (at both the secondary and postsecondary levels) and the FFA.

Teaching a unit to the agricultural education classes on cultural diversity.

At the local level, the H.O. Sargent award Certificate will be presented to the award winner. plaque may be ordered from the FFA Chapter Catalog. The local winner may be submitted to the next level for recognition.

State –Each state may select one non-FFA member to receive the H.O. Sargent award. Local schools may nominate individuals for this award and state agricultural education staff members may nominate individuals for this award. State staff are allowed to make nominations because they may be aware of individuals who are making contributions to diversity at the state level. A certificate will be awarded at the state level and each state may submit their recipient for national recognition.

National –Three national non-member H.O. Sargent Award winners will be selected from the pool of state recipients. A plaque will be awarded at the national level.

Application and Scoring -The application/nomination form has three major sections:

- A short narrative on the applicant's FFA /Ag Ed involvement (worth 100 points)

- A description of the significant contributions made by the individual to impact diversity (worth 300 points)

- Supporting documentation/evidence (i.e., newspaper articles, photographs, lesson plans, awards, letter of support. Etc.) (worth 100 points)

H.O. Sargent Award Member Application

1. Name: _____
2. Date of Birth: _____ 3. Age: _____ 4. Social Security # _____
5. Address: _____
(city) _____
(state) _____ (zip) _____
6. Telephone Number (including area code): _____
7. Name of parents/guardians
Father: _____
Mother: _____
8. Parent/Guardian occupation _____
9. Complete FFA chapter name: _____
10. Name of high school: _____
11. School address: _____
School City: _____ School State: _____ School Zip: _____
12. School telephone number (including area code): _____
13. Chapter advisor(s): _____
14. State/national dues paid? (Y/N): _____ Yes _____ No

We have examined this application and find the records are true, accurate, and complete. We hereby permit for publicity purposes, the use of any information included in this application with the exception of the following:

Candidate Signature

Chapter Advisor Signature

Parent or Guardian Signature

Superintendent or Principal Signature

FOR STATE ASSOCIATION USE ONLY

This is the number one application on the state level and is now being submitted for further consideration at the national level.

State Supervisor, Agricultural Education Signature

I. Member Involvement in Diversity

1. How did you get involved in promoting diversity?

Place cursor at the end of this line. Delete this text using the backspace key and begin typing!

2. List activities that you have participated in to promote diversity.

Place cursor at the end of this line. Delete this text using the backspace key and begin typing!

3. What impact did your participation have on diversity?

Place cursor at the end of this line. Delete this text using the backspace key and begin typing!

4. List activities that you have organized to promote diversity.

Place cursor at the end of this line. Delete this text using the backspace key and begin typing!

5. What impact did these activities (those in item 4) have on diversity?

Place cursor at the end of this line. Delete this text using the backspace key and begin typing!

6. What impact did these activities have on your chapter?

Place cursor at the end of this line. Delete this text using the backspace key and begin typing!

H.O. Sargent Award Application - Member
--

7. What impact did these activities have on your school?

Place cursor at the end of this line. Delete this text using the backspace key and begin typing!

8. What impact did these activities have on your community?

Place cursor at the end of this line. Delete this text using the backspace key and begin typing!

9. Based upon the results of your experience, what other activities would you recommend for your chapter?

Place cursor at the end of this line. Delete this text using the backspace key and begin typing!

10. Based upon the results of your experience, what other activities would you recommend for your school?

Place cursor at the end of this line. Delete this text using the backspace key and begin typing!

11. Based upon the results of your experience, what other activities would you recommend for your community?

Place cursor at the end of this line. Delete this text using the backspace key and begin typing!

12. How did you personally grow as a result of these experiences?

Place cursor at the end of this line. Delete this text using the backspace key and begin typing!

II. The member applicant should submit three supporting letters (teacher, school official, community leader, other) (10 points)

History

The New Farmers of America was begun at the suggestion of Dr. H.O. Sargent, Federal Agent for Agricultural Education for African-Americans, U.S. Office of Education, Washington, D.C., who believed that the time was ripe for an organization of African-American agricultural students similar to the Future Farmers of America.

Dr. Sargent's advocacy of an organization for African-American agriculture students included establishing a group similar to the New Farmers of Virginia, which was already organized. Just as the Future Farmers of Virginia led to a national organization called Future Farmers of America, Sargent dreamed the New Farmers of Virginia would lead to a national organization for African-American students called New Farmers of America. After a few years, several southern states had set up local chapters and state associations. At this stage of development, each state maintained a separate and distinct organization.

The first sectional grouping was organized at Virginia State College in 1928. At this meeting the Washington Section was formed, consisting of North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia. Later, Maryland, West Virginia and New Jersey were added. Shortly thereafter, the Almot Section was formed consisting of Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma and Texas. The Sargent Section was formed to include Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Tennessee and Kentucky. During the early years, each state was known by their respective state titles (such as NFT was the New Farmers of Tennessee).

A national organization of the New Farmers of America began to take shape in 1931 at a sectional meeting in Washington D.C., when the idea was discussed and adopted. The Almot and Sargent sections likewise supported the move, and in 1935, Dr. H.O. Sargent made arrangements to hold the first national meeting of New Farmers of America at Tuskegee Institute, Alabama. In August of the same year, representatives from all the Southern State Associations met and formed the National Organization of New Farmers of America with a constitution and bylaws.

2001-02-03-04-2005

H.O. Sargent Award Non-Member Application

State: _____

1. Complete name of applicant: _____
2. Title or occupation of applicant: _____
3. Business address: _____
(Street/R.R./box number) _____
(City) _____ (State): _____ (Zip): _____
4. Home address: _____
(Home City): _____
(Home State): _____ (Home Zip): _____
Home telephone number (including area code): _____
5. Nominated by: _____
Name of high school: _____
Title: _____
Business address: _____
Business City: _____ Business State: _____ Business Zip: _____
Business phone number (including area code): _____

Chapter Advisor Signature (if applicable)

FOR STATE ASSOCIATION USE ONLY

This is the number one application on the state level and is now being submitted for further consideration at the national level.

State Supervisor, Agricultural Education Signature

H.O. Sargent Award Application - Non-Member
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1. How is the nominee involved with the FFA and agricultural education?(**100 points**)

Place cursor at the end of this line. Delete this text using the backspace key and begin typing!

2. What significant contribution has the individual made to promote diversity in the FFA and agricultural education?(**300 points**)

Place cursor at the end of this line. Delete this text using the backspace key and begin typing!

3. Please attach supporting information (letters, newspaper articles, photographs, etc.)(**100 points**)

VIP CITATION

OFFICIAL NOMINATION FORM

The Special Vip Citation Program is operated under policies and procedures approved by the National FFA Board of Directors and National Officers. The Citations are presented annually at the National FFA Convention to individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the Agricultural Education-FFA Program, over a long period of years. States are asked to nominate individuals for VIP Citation. This recognition may be awarded to but not necessarily limited to those individuals holding the Honorary American FFA Degree.

If an individual is not selected, the nomination form will be returned for updating and resubmitting in future years. We strongly recommend that the updated form then be returned for consideration the next year. **Applications are due at the National FFA Center, postmarked on or before June 15.**

Name of Nominee: _____

Current title or Occupation of Nominee: _____

Current Business Address: _____

Current Business City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Current Business Telephone No.: _____

=====

Current Home Address: _____

Current Home City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Current Home Telephone No.: _____

Is Nominee Retired or Soon to Retire: _____ Explain: _____

Previous Title or Occupation: _____

Previous Business Address: _____

(Include address, city, state & zip)

Describe major contributions made of the Agricultural Education-FFA Program by this nominee of the VIP Citation. Use your mouse to place your cursor at the end of this line. Delete this text by using the backspace key and begin typing!

Indicate major accomplishments and/or recognition by other groups or organizations which may relate to the contributions this individual has made to the Agricultural Education-FFA Program

Use your mouse to place your cursor at the end of this line. Delete this text by using the backspace key and begin typing!

Nominated by: Name: _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone No.: _____

Date of Nomination: _____

Return Form to:

VIP Nomination
National FFA Center
PO Box 68960
Indianapolis, IN 46268

Nominations not approved by the National Board of Directors and National Officers will be returned to the individual who submitted the nomination for the purpose of updating and resubmitting in future years.