

TO: Agricultural Education Personnel
(Please give one copy to administrative personnel)

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Acknowledgments

- ◆ Welcome to the new Ag Ed Instructors entering the profession and to those who are returning. We wish you a most successful year in your agricultural education departments. Please call upon our staff if we can be of any assistance to you at any time (phone numbers are listed on the last page).
- ◆ Appreciation is extended us to IAAE Ag Ed Conference Committee members, ISU staff members, community college coordinators and instructional personnel, and all other agricultural education instructors who assisted in the 1998 Agricultural Education Conference in late June and early July. Your assistance was greatly appreciated and contributed significantly to the success of this annual conference. The 2000 Agricultural Education Conference is scheduled for June 19, 20, 21, 22-2000 in Ames, Iowa. The conference planning committee will be meeting on October 8th. Your input and counsel will be greatly appreciated. Contact your IAAE district representative and/or Clyde Johnson, 2000 Conference Chair at West Bend Community School-515-887-7831, johnson@west-bend.k12.ia.
- ◆ Thanks to the many Ag Ed instructors who worked in various capacities before and during the FFA division shows and other activities associated with the Iowa State Fair. It would not be possible to carry out so many aspects of FFA involvement without your hard work, dedication, and cooperation. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

Department Issues

- ◆ **Please keep DE newsletters and other enclosed materials in a separate folder or notebook** so you can easily refer to them for information and dates regarding upcoming FFA activities and events. Following some type of organized system to file all DE information will prevent lost or misplaced materials and save time and money for duplicating and forwarding information that has been distributed previously.
- ◆ **1999-2000 Ag Ed Directory** – The new directory will be distributed to the field in the very near future. Thanks to all who returned the change form. If you note errors after the directory is received, or if changes occur such as telephone numbers or e-mail addresses, please report the changes to Alan O’Neal at (515) 281-4712. Thank You!
- ◆ Your cooperation in providing information or assisting your administrators in completing all necessary forms regarding the Ag Ed program needed by the Bureau of Technical and Vocational Education of the Department of Education was appreciated. A noted improvement has been achieved in reducing errors on the BEDS document and CE-47s. A review of the BEDS document is on the agenda for the Fall Ag Ed. Inservice to further improve the local districts’ ability to report accurate and complete information their October 15 submittal. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.
- ◆ Model Agricultural Education Content Standards, Benchmarks, and the Revalidated Agricultural Education Competencies are being posted on the Department of Education web page. The can be accessed by the following address-http://www.state.ia.us/educate/programs/tech_voc/index.html.

- ◆ BEDS – Description of the agricultural education program your district provides is to be described utilizing a web based input procedures during the next few weeks. It is very important for purposes of school accreditation purposes that you identify the sequence of at least three units of instruction provided by this program. Inservice on this topic will be provided at the Fall 1999 District Ag Ed Inservice. The test site address should wish to observe the test document to be used to input such information is –<http://www.testing.state.ia.us/eddata/>. It is our understanding that someone has been trained in your district to input at the building level this descriptive information.
- ◆ **Notice to local FFA Chapters:** FFA Chapters attending the upcoming National FFA Convention in Louisville will need documentation from the Iowa Department of Revenue & Finance stating their purchases in Iowa are exempt from sales tax if they expect to purchase hotel rooms, meals, etc. exempt from sales tax in Kentucky. Purchases in this state by local FFA chapters are exempt from tax if those purchases are paid directly from school activity funds and not by reimbursements to individual students, faculty members, or chaperones. If the state of Kentucky will not accept this notice for purposes of its exemption, a letter signed by an employee of the Department of Revenue and Finance can be obtained by contacting the Department 515-281-3114 or by FAX at 515-242- 6487. Additional questions can be directed to Darwin Clupper in the Department’s Tax Policy Section at 515-281-3670.
- ◆ Where should FFA materials be sent? All FFA chapter membership reports, applications, entry forms, money, etc., should be sent to the Iowa Department of Education. Exceptions for State Fair will be noted on State Fair Entry forms. FFA Alumni and FFA Foundation correspondence should be sent to the Iowa FFA Foundation, Box 400, Mitchellville, IA 50169. **Specifically, the 1999-2000 FFA Membership Roster must be sent to the Iowa Department of Education.**
- ◆ When sending mail to the Department of Education, please address it as follows: **Name of Staff Person, Iowa Department of Education, Bureau of Technical and Vocational Education, Grimes State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0146.** This will help avoid lost mail or delays due to misdirected mail. If you want confirmation that your mail has been received by the Department of Education, you must either send it by Certified Mail or include a self-addressed stamped postcard which identifies the item(s) you sent -- we will return your card with a date stamp when it is received.
- ◆ The Governor's Council on Agricultural Education report summarizing information regarding the Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) for the past five years is available should you wish a copy. Contact Dr. Robert Martin, Professor and Head, Agricultural Education and Studies, 201 Curtiss Hall, Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50010.
- ◆ **START FARMING: IT IS POSSIBLE**—There will be a State-wide ICN Workshop at 27 sites on December 9 for Adult/Young Farmers, Postsecondary Agricultural Students, and High School Ag Production Students. Enclosed is a brochure that may be used for publicizing this workshop in your high school, college, and ag businesses in the community. For additional information, feel free to contact Jerry Lamers or Jim Athen.

The Fall District Agricultural Education Inservices are as follows:

Location	Date	Site	Time	Program Agenda
SC(Indianola)	September 20	Indianola HS	4:30 p.m.	Briefing/Meal/Inservice/DistFFA/Bus. Mtg.
NE(Oelwein)	October 5	Oelwein HS	5:00 p.m.	Briefings/Inservice/Dist. FFA/Bus. Mtg. (Eat before you arrive)
NW(Cherokee)	October 6	Cherokee HS	6:00 p.m.	Briefing/Meal/Inservice/DistFFA/Bus. Mtg
NC(Ventura)	October 6	Ventura HS	5:00 p.m.	Briefings/Inservice/Dist.FFA/Bus. Mtg. (Eat before you arrive)
SW(Atlantic)	October 6	Atlantic HS	5:00 p.m.	Briefing/Meal/Inservice/DistFFA/Bus. Mtg.
SE (Kalona)	November 3	Kalona Inn- Kalona	5:00 p.m.	Briefing/Meal/Inservice/DistFFA/Bus. Mtg.

Purpose: The purpose of the meeting is to provide for briefings relating to key initiatives and inservice to prepare those attending to align local program curriculum utilizing Model Ag Ed Standards, Benchmarks, and Revalidated Competencies.

Briefings: Representatives of the Governor’s Council on Agricultural Education, the Department of Education, Iowa State University, Northwest Missouri State University (SW district), AEAs and the community colleges serving each respective district, will be present. They will brief participants on current activities and share information on new initiatives that are of interest to agricultural education professionals.

Inservice: The inservice program at the Fall Ag Ed Inservice district meetings this year will focus on “Alignment of local curriculum to Model Ag Ed Standards, Benchmarks and Revalidated Competencies”. If you have been engaged in the process of updating your curriculum and would like to share your challenges and success to date during the meeting, please contact your district Vice President and offer to make a brief presentation as a part of the inservice

Introduction: Each teacher is to bring a brief description of their best activity he/she has used in teaching agricultural education. (Briefly present: Title, Objectives, Strategies, Activities, Evaluation, and Identifier of who is presenting when you introduce yourself at the meeting.).

Professional Development for Agricultural Educators -- New Program Features:

New Teachers in Iowa: Provide an additional hour of instruction for each ICN session for new teachers in Iowa. For 1999-2000, the \$100 registration fee will be waived for new teachers in Iowa. Topics for each session will be developed through interaction with new teachers.

Site Instructors: For the ICN Sessions, site instructors have been prepared to be responsible for local arrangements and assistance in carrying out the program, including closure, new teacher programs and promoting area participation among teachers. Agriculture Education and Studies-ISU (AGEDS) has provided training for site instructors. Please work closely with them to maximize this opportunity to provide quality professional staff development.

Localized Program (planned and implemented locally): Agricultural educators, through a local education school/institution/agency, may submit proposals to AGEDS on development and implementation of technical or non-technical programs for consideration for inclusion in the Professional Development Program. Local programs will be selected, if there is sufficient demand for the topic, and if site instructor(s) show a feasible plan to carry out the program. Attendance could be in lieu of an ICN delivered statewide offering, if related to the same instructional area and is of equal scope. A \$200 honorarium will be made available to the individual conducting the selected local programs that are implemented.

Individualized Program: Approved individualized programs could be used to substitute for any of the sessions that relate to the same instructional area and are of equal scope (would need approval prior to the scheduled session). Requests for a substituted program must be submitted to Eldon Weber as soon as it appears that a scheduled program will be missed due to unforeseen circumstances.

Looking Back to Plan Ahead

Agricultural Educator's Professional Development Program

Participation, Cost and Credit Limitations: **Cost/Student**

- | | |
|---|------------------------|
| • 1996-97 (43 participants) \$23,500 budget – maximum of 1 credit
(43x40=1,720 students)
\$23,500/1,720=\$13.66 | |
| • 1997-98 (75 participants) \$39,000 budget, maximum of 1 credit
(75x40=3,000 students) | \$39,000/3,000=\$13.00 |
| • 1998-99 (107 participants) \$44,800 budget, maximum of 3 credits
(107x40=4,280 students) | \$44,800/4,280=\$10.47 |
| • 1999-2000 (as of 9-15-1999 - 90 participants) | |

Three Year Program Value:

- **9,000 students benefited at an average cost of \$12.37 per student**
- 154 ag educators developed teaching methodology skills (facilitating learning and managing programs), with opportunities for graduate and re-licensure credits.
- Over 12, 000 students benefited over a three year period, based on increased instructor skills and new classroom educational materials.
- 30 new teachers were supported in a “big brother-big sister” program with support from experienced teachers who attended ICN sessions and 25 ICN sites.
- 107 ag educators with more effective recruiting plans—goal of recruiting more and higher quality students.
- Added additional program strands (Iowa Farm Bureau Federation \$25,000, Iowa Soybean Association \$15,000, Junior Achievement \$12,000)
- Added a \$2,500 scholarship and internship component (Pioneer Hi Bred International)
- Credit options are increased from one to three over a three year period.
- ISU Extension contributed over \$10,000 in-kind contribution. Extension and Iowa Bankers Association took leadership in providing participants with “Ag Decision Maker.”
- Farm Bureau Federation contribution supported the cost of instructional materials “Iowa Crop Management Database” for use in the classroom, an additional 10 trained ICN site facilitators and 10 ICN sites.
- Program participation increased 240% over a two year period.

1999-2000 AEPD Topics

- Linking Teaching and Learning Strategies to Competencies (IDE-AEA)
- Vision for Iowa Agriculture and Natural Resources (IDALS-IDNR)
- Preparing Teams for the Envirothon Workshop (IDALS-IDNR)
- Equine Science Workshop
- Opportunities for Student Coops (Iowa Institute of Coops)
- Student International Entrepreneurial Opportunities-(GLOBE Junior Achievement)

- Ag Decision Maker Regional Workshops (Extension)
- Student Horticulture Projects (ISU Extension)
- Sustainable Weed and Nutrient Management Strategies (ISU Agronomy)
- Crop Management Precision Ag and Risk Management (Soybean Association)

Summary of lesson topics for 1999 — 2000 Ag Ed Professional Development Program – Spring 1999 Survey

50% sampling – 148 surveys sent out secondary and post secondary instructors- 99 responses

<p>Most Highly Recommended Topics for Next Year’s Program (ranked from most to least frequent responses)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Agronomy (specially precision agriculture, GPS, GIS systems) ➤ Ag Business, (especially the various aspects of marketing) ➤ Horticulture ➤ Animal Science (swine industry issues and embryo transfer were most frequently mentioned) ➤ Hands-on practical topics of all types were seen as vital ➤ Biotechnology ➤ Ag mechanics ➤ Aquaculture 	<p>Instructors found different sessions useful for a variety of reasons. The following are some of them:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 14 years average teaching experience (ranging from 1 to 35 years) ➤ 48.5% of respondents had participated in the professional development program in the last 3 years ➤ Percentage that agreed or strongly agreed with the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -I increased use of powerpoint –31% -I have assisted students in developing student goals –88% -I have a student recruitment plan –86% -I placed more emphasis in my teaching approach to provide an environment for motivated students –71% -I have stressed more biological and pest control methods in crop or horticulture production 50% -If a part of next year’s Ag Ed Professional Development program was offered over the Internet, it would increase my interest in participation –65% ➤ My professional growth was a main reason for participating in the AEPD program –85%
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FFA UPDATE

- ◆ Some schools are seeking to change the name of their FFA Chapter due to reorganization, shared programs, and mergers. In order for a chapter to change its name, it is necessary to make a constitutional change and to apply for a new charter. This process is initiated by requesting a petition for charter form from the State FFA Advisor and submitting it along with a revised constitution, a program of activities, and the membership roster. There is a \$10.00 charter fee to cover the printing cost. The national FFA office assigns the chapter number.
- ◆ Two "Made For Excellence" Conferences will be held in 1999. The dates for these conferences are October 16-17 and November 13-14, at the YMCA Camp located near Boone. Registration will take place on each Saturday, October 16, and Saturday, November 13, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. with the conference starting at 12:45 p.m. The cost is \$80/FFA member. Advisors may attend and participate along with the students at the same fee of \$80/advisor. Advisors may attend, but not participate in the personal development activities for a fee of \$30/advisor, which covers meals and lodging. Approximately 10 advisors are needed to serve as chaperones. All fees will be waived for those instructors selected to serve as chaperones. Registration forms with fee information were mailed to all FFA advisors on August 30, 1999. Registration forms must be postmarked to the DE by September 28. An unlimited number of FFA members per chapter may attend, however each conference is limited to a total of 150 participants. Iowa's FFA officer team is organizing the meal functions and entertainment. Participants will need to bring the following items: Official FFA dress, casual clothes, toiletries (toothbrush, shampoo, comb, etc.), bedding; and a positive attitude.

◆ **FFA membership-New forms and procedures**

- Payment and roster are still due by November 1, 1999
- **Send to same address—Jim Athen, Iowa FFA Association-Iowa Department of Education**
 - FORM A (1yr membership & non-member subscription), and**
 - FORM B (multiple year membership & non-member subscription(when appropriate), and**
 - TOTAL FORM-IOWA (with check or Purchase Order)(No cash)**

FFA advisors are encouraged to carefully review the membership roster being prepared for the 1999-00 membership year for completeness and accuracy before writing a check. **Submit the check along with the official membership roster to the IOWA FFA ASSOCIATION, Iowa Department of Education, Bureau of Technical and Vocational Education, Grimes State Office Bldg., Des Moines, IA 50319-0146. DO NOT SEND TO NATIONAL FFA ORGANIZATION.** (The information from the National FFA Organization may lead some to send the rosters and money to National FFA Organization. **The mailing procedure to follow is the same as in past years—send rosters and money to Department of Education.**)

The combined total for state and national dues for a one-year membership is \$10.50 per member (\$5.50 for state dues and \$5.00 for national dues). Refer to the TOTAL FORM-IOWA for further clarification of the amount for other membership opportunities (i.e., 3-year memberships and non-member subscriptions to the national FFA magazine, NEW HORIZONS, that your chapter may choose). The dollar amount for each membership category is printed on this form that was prepared for your chapter by the National FFA Organization and mailed to your chapter around September 1.

- ◆ It is important that complete and accurate information for all members' name be clearly printed or typed on the roster. Please make certain all addresses are complete and accurate-use street address in lieu of RR when ever possible. New members in Iowa should receive their first issue of the National FFA Magazine in March if membership has been submitted by November 15. For further membership roster assistance, contact Glenna Gordon, membership specialist at National FFA– 317-802-4265,ggordon@ffa.org or Jim Athen, DE- (515) 281-4704-jim.athen@edu.state.ia.us.
- ◆ When additional memberships are added or other modifications to the membership roster information submitted at the beginning of the school year, the additions or modifications must always include the full and complete information on each student being added or whose information is being modified. Payment for membership dues must also accompany any additions.
- ◆ The chapter advisor is responsible for procedures that assure payment and submittal of membership dues in a timely manner. **The student's membership must be submitted on an official FFA Membership Roster with payment prior to eligibility for participation in FFA events. It is the responsibility of the local chapter advisor to check the local chapter roster to ascertain whether the student's name is on the membership roster before signing entry forms for his/her participation in any FFA event including shows and fairs where FFA membership is required.**

If Honorary Membership Cards are desired for Honorary Chapter FFA Degree persons, be certain to list honorary members on the chapter roster and place a "H" circled after the first name of a honorary member.

FFA Chapter Information/Requirements

- ◆ Iowa SAE record books are available from INTERSTATE Printers and Publishers. If you have questions on the use of these record books, please call any of the committee members or Alan O'Neal for assistance. The Ag Skills/Improvement Project Record books are also available from INTERSTATE. It is recommended that every high school agriculture student should use the Ag Skills record book even if they are only in agricultural education one semester.
- ◆ Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) Programs are a major part of a quality agricultural education programs and is required for degree advancement in the FFA. High school agriculture instructors with students who say they cannot have a supervised agricultural experience program need to help students explore the possibility of specialty animal or horticultural enterprises; agricultural work experience; or use of the school's Ag mechanics laboratory, green house, farm, etc. Some students may only be able to have Ag skills and improvement projects. In addition, you could encourage high school agriculture students with limited SAE opportunities to have an agriscience project. Remember, supervised agricultural experience is a hands-on application of what is being taught in the classroom and consists of practical learning experiences conducted outside the regularly scheduled agriculture class time. In helping students select an SAE program, ask yourself if it is necessary for the student to be enrolled in your Ag Ed class to develop the skills necessary to do this job? Seek assistance from the DE Ag Ed consultants for suggestions. **Students SHALL NOT be permitted to have the same animals, crops, etc., for Ag Ed supervised agricultural experience and for 4-H projects.**
- ◆ All active FFA members, while in high school, **MUST** be enrolled in at least one agricultural education course during the school year and/or follow a planned course of study; either course must include a supervised agriculture experience program, the objective of which is preparation for an agricultural career. Members may retain their active membership until November 30, following the fourth National FFA Convention after graduating from high school.
- ◆ Being a chartered FFA chapter carries the responsibility of submitting reports on time to the State FFA Association. **This responsibility must not be taken lightly.** These reports are the Annual Program of Activities and the membership roster and dues, both of which are due November 1, and the Annual FFA Chapter Report due June 1. Submittal of these reports is mandatory in order for the chapter to remain in "good standing." Failing to meet the deadlines causes a great deal of problems for chapter members who want to participate in FFA activities above the chapter level.
- ◆ A chartered chapter in "good standing" with the Iowa FFA Association may participate in all district and state activities, events, meetings, and the state FFA Leadership Conference. A chapter is in "good standing" when (1) all state and national dues are paid by December 1, (2) the membership report and annual program of activities (POA) are submitted by December 1, (3) the chapter constitution is not in conflict with the state constitution, (4) it has at least 10 active members, and (5) all FFA reports are submitted to the State Association as requested. These standards will be followed.
- ◆ Minimum qualifications for the Greenhand Degree include: "Be regularly enrolled in an Ag Ed course and have satisfactory plans for a supervised agricultural experience program."
- ◆ Minimum requirements for the Chapter FFA Degree includes the statement that the FFA member has satisfactorily completed at least 180 hours of systematic agricultural education instruction at or above the ninth grade level, have in operation an improved supervised farming, and/or other agricultural experience program, and be regularly enrolled in an agricultural education class.

- ◆ Planning an exciting and challenging program of activities is imperative to the success of any FFA chapter. One cannot expect students to have an interest in a program that does not have any activities. Careful planning is the first step in developing an effective program. The Program of Activities form provided by the DE is considered minimum. Chapters submitting a program to the DE with less than the minimum will have it returned for revision and their "good standing" status will be in jeopardy.

FFA Career Development Events

- ◆ The State FFA Soils Event is open to only the top five teams in each district. District FFA Advisors should submit a list of the top five teams to the state FFA advisor immediately following the district soil CDE. Chapter advisors of the five top teams in each district must submit entry forms provided by the DE. These entries should be mailed to the DE immediately following the district event, and a \$5.00 entry fee must accompany the entry form. The names of the team members must be printed or typed on the entry form. Advisors are urged to take extreme care in making certain that the names are legible and spelled correctly, as this information goes into a computer that will generate labels for each participants scorecard and will be used in news releases.
- ◆ **This merits repeating.** Before submitting names of FFA members to participate in any FFA events above the chapter level, advisors are urged to check their membership rosters to make sure that each student is listed. Too often we find participants who are not listed on the chapter roster. This causes problems because members are not allowed to participate until dues have been paid. **Technically, students are not FFA members until their names appear on the chapter roster and state and national dues are paid to the state association.** If a student changes his or her name due to adoption or marriage, or transfers to another school the instructor of the receiving school needs to inform the state office in writing. The notice should include the student's name and the chapter to which state and national dues were paid. The written notice will then be placed with the chapter's roster so that a cross-reference can be made when membership is checked.

NATIONAL INFORMATION

- ◆ Each FFA Chapter received a packet from the National FFA Organization that contained the new applications for American FFA Degree, Proficiency Awards, National Chapter Award, Student and Teacher Agriscience Awards, and a form for ordering Foundation Award Medals. Please note that these medals must be ordered from the National FFA Center. You should plan to do that well in advance of your chapter awards banquet so that you will have them on time.
- ◆ FFA membership rosters were mailed from the National FFA Organization office to all Iowa FFA chapters in late August or early September. This was at our request to combat the problem of rosters being lost in the summer bustle.
- ◆ Each chapter has an identification number. This number can be found on the membership roster in the upper left -hand corner. It is a four digit number preceded by the letters IA (IA _ _ _ _). The chapter number is also included in the Directory for Secondary and Postsecondary Agricultural Education Departments.
- ◆ FFA advisors' appearance and dress at the National FFA Convention is of great concern to some FFA members and advisors. Advisors are encouraged to look sharp. Official dress is required of all members attending the National FFA Convention and will be checked by the Courtesy Corps when entering the Convention Auditorium and Career Show area. Does it not seem appropriate that the advisors' dress be on a corresponding level (professional in appearance)?

- ◆ Comments and suggestions regarding issues to come before the National FFA Convention delegate body are to be directed to Iowa delegates to the 72nd National FFA Convention. Delegates are as follows: Nick McKenna, Ryan Foor, Debra Kleitsch, Hilary Johnson, Seth HarrisonBrad Hammes, Amber Wiebbecke, Maria Medici, Kari Zevenbergen, Tim Hibma (Sibley-Ocheyedan FFA), and Bryan Humphreys (River Forks FFA [Columbus Junction]).
- ◆ Housing reservations for the National Convention should be completed no later than October 1. Please refer to the second edition of "An Advisor's Planning Guide for the 72nd National FFA Convention" for the latest details regarding the convention.
- ◆ National FFA Convention Registration Cards are to be appropriately signed and must be taken to the National Convention. The registration fee will be \$25.00 each for all those who attend the entire convention and career show. DO NOT send registration cards to the DE.
- ◆ Comments and Suggestions from the National Finals Selection Judges on Proficiency Award Applications for State FFA Associations and Local FFA Chapters:
 - Utilize the space provided in the application to communicate member SAE programs to the judges. Make certain that the judges understand the SAE and its relevancy to the Agricultural Proficiency Award category for which the student is applying.
 - Use the photos to support a wide array of student skill and activity in their SAE program. Do not, for instance, show six different photos of the member showing animals at fairs and stock shows.
 - Complete the entire application. Do not skip questions and do not omit supplemental materials, particularly resume and statement of employer or advisor.
 - Make certain that students completing these applications have access to the National FFA Proficiency Award handbook. Most "problems" seen in the applications are addressed in there, with examples of how the application should be correctly completed.
 - Do not type applications in all capital letters or script fonts. This can be very hard for some to read.
 - Make sure the proficiency area the student is applying fits into that category.
 - Make sure that if students are wearing official FFA jackets in a photo that this is an appropriate use for a jacket (i.e., a jacket worn while milking cows or while artificially inseminating cattle would not be an appropriate use of an official FFA jacket).
 - Applications are to be written in first person by the applicant. A number of applications address the applicant by name or use pronouns such as he, she, they, and we. The student should be writing the application with the support of advisors, parents, and/or others. The application should **not** be completed by these others.
 - In the future, all applications should be typed or computer derived. If there is some reason why the application could not be completed by typing or by computer, that explanation should be included with the application. Some handwritten applications are very hard to read.
 - Readability, spelling, sentence structure, etc. should be checked.
 - Any judges marks and directions written on applications at the state level should be eliminated before sending to the national level.
 - Use no more than six pictures for the application – this includes any pictures included on a cover page – it is preferred that applications do not include cover pages at all.
 - Minimize the use of "Here I am..." leads to photo captions. Tell the story of your SAE program and show the quality of it.
 - Plan ahead for the picture portions, showing a member. For example, mowing the lawn when it is covered with snow is not realistic.
 - Try to tell the story of your SAE program in the performance review. This is the first impression the judges have of your program and application. If you find yourself repeating the same answers, you are more than likely misinterpreting the questions. Review the Agricultural Proficiency Handbook for more information.

- Make certain that the candidate explains any unique or questionable situation which impacts their SAE program.

Recognition

- ◆ Iowa's Results in national FFA competition are as follows:

National Chapter Award: (The order in which the chapters are listed is the order in which they placed at the state level.)

Three Star: Harlan, Creston, and St. Ansgar.

Two Star: Monticello, G &G (Garnavillo, Algona, Bison (Buffalo Center), Vinton, Osceola, Wapsie Valley (Fairbank), Mount Ayr, Red Oak, West Marshall (State Center), Sibley, Maquoketa (Delhi), Charles City, and Marengo.

One Star: Hawkeye (West Bend), Mid-Prairie (Wellman), Cascade, Agri Power (Eddyville), North Fayette, (West Union), and Edgewood..

National Chapter Award Finalist:

Community Development Division: Creston, Harlan

Student Development Division: Harlan

Chapter Development Division: Creston

Congratulations to these outstanding FFA Chapters.

Harlan FFA will represent the Iowa FFA Association in the Hall of States display activity.

Proficiencies: Four Iowa FFA members were selected as National Finalists in the National Pool Judging Proficiency Award event and will advance on to the national event with judging taking place at the National FFA Convention in Louisville in October. Winners by school P.O. and Proficiency area are: **Jordan Walther**, Garnavillo, Dairy Production – Entrepreneurship; **Nora Richter**, Delhi, Dairy Production – Placement; **Ryan Beeson**, Red Oak, Oil Crop Production – Placement; and **Jeffrey Moellers**, Arlington, Swine Production, Placement.

American FFA Degrees: Fifty one (51) Iowa FFA members are candidates to receive the American FFA Degree during the 1999 National FFA Convention in Louisville on Saturday, October 30, 1999). They are as follows (by school P.O): **Tammy Sue Barnes**, Anamosa; **Anthony Doevers**, Fairbank; **Andy Bolton**, Alburnett; **Karen Bolton**, Alburnett; **Kelli Bormann**, Goose Lake; **Paul Brandt**, Oelwein; **Corey Brink**, Garnavillo; **Clinton Brown**, Creston; **Waylon Brown**, St. Ansgar; **Chad Carlson**, Cascaded; **Nicole Claeys**, DeWitt; **Jayulin Dahlhauser**, Algona; **Matt Danner**, Carroll; **Andy Demuth**, Waverly; **Mathew Dewey**, Waverly, **Devin Engelbrecht**, Eldridge; **Elise Feinberg**, Alburnett; **Teresa Feldpausch**, DeWitt; **Thomas Goodhue**, Indianola; **Jamie Haidsiak**, Mount Ayr; **Samantha Heinz**, Charles City; **Matthew Horak**, Vinton; **Trista Ide**, Creston, **Brad Jensen**, Osage, **Andy Johnson**, Osage; **Justin Jordahl**, Iowa Falls; **Brian Kessel**, Lamoni, **Michael Dramer**, Osage, **Patrick Lentz**, Waverly; **Mark Licht**, Manson, **Bonnie Lohf**, Belle Plaine; **Nathan McAvan**, DeWitt; **Carrie McCaw**, Williamsburg; **Scott Metzger**, Inwood; **Rebecca Miller**, Elgin; **Brad Moline**, Manson; **Sharon Nimke**, Manson,; **Jill Phillips**, Montezuma; **Cody Purdum**, Creston, **Anna Riesselman**, Carroll; **Brad Ritter**, Charles City; **Carmen Schulte**, Edgewood; **Matt Scuffham**, Algona; **Kelsey Stansberry**, Marion (Linn-Mar); **Grant Stuart**, Walnut; **Jason Thole**, Arlington; **Cameo Toney**, Lamoni; **Loren Truelsen**, DeWitt; **Jordan Walther**, Garnavillo; **Ann Wenger**, Fairbank, and **Grant Woodley**, Clarion.

Star in Production Agriculture Finalist: Justin Jordahl, Iowa Falls

Agri-entrepreneurship Education Program State Winner: Abraham Schwager of the Cascade FFA Chapter was the state winner in the Agri-entrepreneurship Education Program and will receive a \$100 cash award provided by the Kauffman Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership.

STATE FAIR

- ◆ Orscheln Farm and Home Supply sponsored State Fair FFA Exhibitor T-shirts. Please have exhibitors from your FFA chapter write a thank you letter for FFA exhibitor T-shirts to Mark Cullifer, Orscheln Farm & Home Supply, Box 698, Moberly, MO 65270.
- ◆ Kent Feeds, Inc. sponsored the Beef Barbecue for FFA and 4-H participants at the Iowa State Fair. Please have exhibitors who enjoyed this meal write thank you letters to Mr. Art Lurdal, Vice President of Advertising, Promotion & Public Relations, Kent Feeds, Inc., 1600 Oregon St., Muscatine, Iowa 52761.
- ◆ **FFA Participation at Iowa State Fair Sets Records – by Brad Greiman, Superintendent, FFA Division**

Iowa State Fair officials are please with this year’s participation by FFA exhibitors. According to Brad Greiman, FFA Department Superintendent, “Participation by FFA members at the Iowa State Fair is at an all-time high.” Over 900 FFA members from 161 chapters across Iowa exhibited at the 1999 fair, which were both record numbers. Of the 18 FFA shows at the 1998 Iowa State Fair, 5 of them set participation records.” They are as follows:

- Dairy –97 animals exhibited by 36 members
- Horse –118 animals shown by 65 members from 43 chapters
- Photography –396 exhibitors by 147 members from 30 chapters
- Rabbits –19 chapters participated
- Market Sheep –105 members from 69 chapters

Greiman noted that there were 3,363 FFA entries at the 1999 fair, and that participation by FFA members at the Iowa State Fair has steadily increased since 1991 when approximately 500 members exhibited. He went on to say that the high level of FFA participation at the Iowa State Fair reflects an eight-year trend of increased FFA membership in Iowa.. In 1991, Iowa FFA membership stood at 8d722. Since that time, membership has grown each year, with over 11,400 FFA members joining in 1999.

To encourage FFA members to participate at the Fair even in the current agricultural economic conditions, the Iowa State Fair Board allocated an additional \$11,000 in FFA premium money for the 1999 fair. Also, the Iowa FFA Foundation has obtained cash awards for FFA members who have excelled with their exhibits at the Iowa State Fair.

The Iowa State Fair offers the opportunity for FFA members to compete in 18 shows, from the traditional areas of beef, horse, sheep and swine to the more unique of floriculture, horticulture, rabbit and photography.

Greiman, who is in his fourth year as FFA Department Superintendent, said the Iowa State Fair results were based on records available of the past fifteen years, and do not include results of the FFA Dairy Goat Show scheduled for August 19 and Ag Demonstrations scheduled each day until August 22.

OTHER NEWS

◆ Future Iowa FFA Leadership Conference Dates at Veterans Auditorium:

2000	April 6-8	2002	April 11-13	2005	April 14-16
2001	April 5-7	2003	April 10-12	2006	April 20-22
		2004	April 1-3		

Future Summer Ag Ed Conference Dates at Ames

2000	June 19-22	2001	June 25-28	2002	June 24-27 (tentative)
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◆ **Activity Insurance for FFA Members**

American Income Life Insurance Co. is again offering FFA chapters the opportunity to purchase Accident insurance for FFA members at a rate of \$1.00 per year. Enrollment materials were sent to every chapter in the nation.

- ◆ Enclosed with this mailing is information regarding an opportunity for teachers, students and other guest to attend **The World Food Prize Award Ceremony**. The ceremony will take place on October 14 from 4-5 p.m. at Hoyt Sherman Place, 15th and Woodland in Des Moines. This event is open to the public. For tickets call 1-800-682-8976.

The World Food Prize is known to many as the “Nobel Prize” for food. It is the foremost international award recognizing the achievements of individuals who have advanced human development by improving the quality, quantity or availability of food in the world. The Laureate receives a \$250,000 cash award. The Prize was conceived by Dr. Norman E. Borlaug who won the 1970 Nobel Peace Prize for his work in world agriculture.

The Award Ceremony will honor the distinguished work of the 1999 World Food Prize Laureate. Other featured guests at the Ceremony will be 1970 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Norman E. Borlaug, World Food Prize Foundation Chairman John Ruan, past World Food Prize Laureates, Council of Advisors member Elizabeth Dole and notable food and agriculture leaders from around the world.

- ◆ ***Entrepreneurship* Summaries of Entrepreneurship Education-Focused Web Pages**, Prepared by Cathy Ashmore- The Consortium for Entrepreneurship Education 1/26/99. A printed copy of this document that identifies twenty-seven (27) webb sites will be distributed at the Fall Ag Ed District Inservice meetings..

<<http://www.entre-ed.org>> The International Consortium for Entrepreneurship Education
<<http://members.aol.com/NCXEYE>> The National Coalition for Empowering Youth Entrepreneurs
<<http://www.cfed.org>> Corporation For Enterprise Development (CFED)
<<http://www.deca.org>> DECA
<<http://www.aspeninst.org>> The Aspen Institute
<<http://www.colemanfoundation.org>> The Coleman Foundation, Inc.
<<http://www.wibo.org>> The Workshop in Business opportunities
<www.youthventure.org> Youth Venture
<<http://www.iel.org>> The Institute for Educational Leadership, Inc.
<<http://www.kstc.org>> Kentucky Science and Technology Council
<<http://www.realenterprises.org>> Real Enterprises
<<http://www.emkf.org>> Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation

<<http://www.celcee.edu>> CELCEE
<<http://www.nfte.com>> National Foundation for Teaching Entrepreneurship
<<http://www.nyec.org>> National Youth Employment Coalition
<<http://www.tryedge.com>> Welcome to Edge
<<http://www.kidsway.com>> KidsWay INC
<<http://www.ja.org>> Junior Achievement
<<http://www.fgse.nova.edu/eausa>> Enterprise Ambassador USA
<<http://www.nbia.org>> National Business Incubation Association
<aeochicago@aol.com> (no web site available) Association for Enterprise Opportunity
<<http://www.nxlevel.org>> Nxlevel
<<http://www.sbaonline.sba.gov>> US Small Business Administration
<<http://www.nfibonline.com>> National Federation of independent Business
<<http://www.usasbe.org>> US Association for Small Business and Entrepreneurship
<<http://www.slu.edu/eweb>> eWeb
<<http://www.smallbiz.suny.edu>> The SBDC Network
<<http://www.lowe.org>> The Edward Lowe Foundation
<<http://www.sbaer.uca.edu>> Small Business Advancement National Center

◆ **Livestock Judging Guide**

A livestock judging guide is available from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. The guide has sections on: how to judge, beef cattle judging, swine judging, sheep judging, carcass evaluation, how to give oral reason, examples of oral reason, scoring live animal evaluation, and scoring placings. The guide is authored by Keith E. Gilster, Professor of Animal Science at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Orders can be sent to Cooperative Extension Distribution, 105 Ag Communications Building, P.O. box 830918, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE 68583-0918. When ordering single copies a check for \$3.00 plus \$1.50 handling charge must accompany the order. When multiple copies are ordered the customer will be billed.

◆ **FFA Flag Left At 1999 State Leadership Conference**

An FFA Flag was left at the Vets Auditorium after the State FFA Leadership Conference and is now at the Department of Education. If you left your chapter flag at the Conference and want it back, talk to Alan O'Neal about it.

◆ **National Postsecondary Agricultural Students Conference**

PAS Students of Iowa will host this conference on March 15-18, 2000 at the University Park Holiday Inn in West Des Moines, Iowa. Most activities will take place at the host hotel with special events at Iowa Farm Bureau, Des Moines Area Community College, and numerous ag businesses in the area.

BUREAU OF TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

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1999-2000 FFA/Ag Ed Calendar of Events

1998		
September 20	Indianola	(AEPD) South Central Agricultural Education Inservice
September 21	Co. Bluffs	PAS of Iowa Fall Industry Conference
September 25	Des Moines	Iowa FFA Board of Directors Meeting
September 28	Postmarked	Made For Excellence Conference Registration Form – DE
October 5	Oelwein	(AEPD) Northeast (NE) Agricultural Education Inservice
October 6	FAX	Soils CDE Entry - DE (top 5 chapters from each district)
October 6	Cherokee	(AEPD) Northwest (NE) Agricultural Education Inservice
October 6	Atlantic	(AEPD) Southwest (SW) Agriculture Education Inservice
October 6	Ventura	(AEPD) North Central (NC) Agricultural Education Inservice
October 16	Ames Area	Iowa FFA Soil CDE
October 16-17	Boone	Made For Excellence Conference #1
October 23		(AEPD) Workshop-Equine Science Activities
October 27-30	Louisville	National FFA Convention
November 1	Postmarked	Program of Activites (POA) Due to DE Membership Rosters Due – DE
November 4	ICN	(AEPD) “Opportunities for Student Coops”
November 3	Kalona	(AEPD) Southeast (SE) Agricultural Education Inservice
November 13-14	Boone	Made For Excellence Conference #2
November 22	ICN	(AEPD) GLOBE-Junior Achievement International Student Businesses
December 4	Des Moines	(AEPD) Globe Workshop-Junior Achievement International Student Businesses”
December 6	ICN	(AEPD) Motivation and Leadership Strategies
December 9	ICN-27 sites	START FARMING: IT IS POSSIBLE –BEGINNING & ADULT ED
December 30	Des Moines	Iowa FFA Board of Directors’ Meeting
2000		
January 15	Postmarked	National Chapter Applications – Form I and II
February 1	Postmarked	Iowa FFA Degree Applications – DE Honorary Iowa FFA Degree Applications – DE
February 2-4	Waterloo	PAS of Iowa Spring Conference
February 19-26	CELEBRATE	National FFA Week
February 22	Des Moines	FFA Legislative Symposium
March 1	Postmarked	American FFA Degree Applications – DE

1999-2000 FFA/Ag Ed Calendar of Events

March 13	Postmarked	SLC Entry Form
	Postmarked	<u>Applications:</u> State FFA Officer State FFA Band State FFA Chorus Talent Show Iowa FFA Leadership Conference Committee FFA Public Relations Journalism Chapter Reporter Award SAE/Ag Ed Publicity Chapter Award Agriscience Student Washington Leadership Conference Scholarship Academic Achievement Application
	Postmarked	Hotel Reservation Form - Convention Bureau
	Postmarked	<u>CDE Entries:</u> Ag Discussion Meet
March 11	Des Moines	Agriscience Fair
March 15-18	WDM	National PAS Conference
March 17-18	Boone	State Leadership Conference for New District Officers - YMCA Camp
April 6-8	Des Moines	Iowa FFA State Leadership Conference
April 6	Des Moines	Farm Business Management CDE
April 6	Ankeny	Ag Sales (Team) CDE
May 1	Postmarked	National FFA Band Applications - Band Director National FFA Chorus Applications – DE
June 1	Postmarked	Annual FFA Chapter Report – DE Honorary American FFA Degree Applications – DE
June 2-3	Des Moines	Iowa FFA Board of Directors' Meeting
June 15	Postmarked	American FFA Degree Applications from Finalists
June 19-22	Ames	Summer Agricultural Education Conference
August 10-20	Des Moines	Iowa State Fair
September 23	Des Moines	Iowa FFA Board of Directors' Meeting
October	Louisville	National FFA Convention
December 29	Des Moines	Iowa FFA Board of Directors' Meeting