

Wisconsin FFA Center

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TO: 2017 Wisconsin FFA Agriscience Fair Participants and Advisors

FR: Cheryl Zimmerman, State FFA Executive Director

Congratulations!! We are excited to have your student(s) entered in the Agriscience Fair to be held at the 88th State FFA Convention in the East Corridor of the Exhibition Hall at the Alliant Energy Center in Madison. ***(Please note location in the East Corridor – same location as last year)*** I have attached the list of entries for you to confirm your entries. Please review the attached list to make sure your student(s) are properly entered.

Before arriving at state convention, there are important items that you and your students need to know.

Please note there are changes made to the Agriscience Fair starting in 2017. For reference, below are some important information sources on the National FFA Website that you need to review if you haven't already.

2017-2021 Agriscience Handbook

Application and Written Report Directions

Program webpage

Written report templates: on the program webpage under 'Application, Templates and Forms' select the appropriate template for the student(s) involved. Options include:

Report Template: Division 1-2

Report Template: Division 3-6

REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE STATE CONTEST: The National FFA Agriscience Fair application, which includes waiver forms is located on the National FFA Website through their Application Center – similar to degrees and proficiency award applications. <https://www.ffa.org/participate/awards/agriscience-fair> Your student will need to complete this application, create a pdf of the application and then print a copy and obtain all signatures to bring to the State FFA Convention. **This will be collected when your student checks in for competition.**

Your student is also required to submit a binder for state competition. This is considered the **Complete Project Report** for their agriscience fair project. These binders will be judged on Tuesday, June 13.

If your student is selected as a State Winner at the State FFA Convention...**1)** Their application must be approved and signed by the State FFA Executive Director before submitting to National FFA. If the student's application does not need any revisions after State Convention the materials submitted can be used for nationals. If the student needs to revise anything, the updated application **MUST** be given to Cheryl Zimmerman on Monday, June 26 at WAAE PDC. **NOTE: New this year, data cannot be added after the state level selection.** All applications need to be submitted together as a group. **2)** Advisors have to go online and certify state winning entries on the National FFA Website. Again remember that not all State Winners automatically go on for National Competition. You have to be selected through the national application process first.

The **top 12 nationwide** in each category/division will be selected from the score of their written report during the week of summer judging in July/August. Please refer to the agriscience fair handbook for details, format and the scoring rubric for the written report. <https://www.ffa.org/participate/awards/agriscience-fair> These Top 12 will come to the National Agriscience Fair at national convention to present their research project

SET-UP: Students must check in their binders between 11:00 and noon on Tuesday June 13. Binders will be judged on Tuesday so please make sure students check those in with the managers. Displays will be set up on Tuesday evening between 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. **All Agriscience Fair exhibits must be in place on Tuesday**

evening of the State FFA Convention. Students should plan to arrive on Wednesday morning at least 15 minutes before their scheduled interview time. Any computers, etc. should not be left with their displays on Tuesday evening. Students will be allowed in to put a finishing touch on their displays on Wednesday morning between 7:30 and 8:00. No students are allowed in the area from 8:00 to 9:00. Ms. Becky Grabarski and Mr. John Slipek, managers for the Agriscience Fair, will check in participants.

Students will be given half of an 8-foot table to set their display on. Location of their exhibit will be based on a first come basis. From the National Agriscience Fair Handbook:

National agriscience fair participant(s)' display shows the results of the study utilizing a display board up to the dimensions of:

- 36 inches high (from top of table to top of display)
- 48 inches wide
- 30 inches deep (the distance from front to back)

The complete display, which includes methods of attaching as needed (easel, stand, etc.,) cannot exceed the dimensions of:

- 38 inches high (from top of table to top of display)
- 50 inches wide
- 30 inches deep (the distance from front to back)

The display must consist of a stable, free standing display board on the provided table top not to exceed the sizes outlined above. The student researcher(s) may also have the log book and up to five copies of the written report as part of the display. The log book and copies of the written report are optional. No additional props, handouts or electronics are permitted. No tablets, iPads, cell phones or other electronic devices will be permitted. Internet access will not be provided.

JUDGING: Binder judging will occur on Tuesday evening. Students need to make sure to submit their binder at check in time as indicated above. Judging of the Agriscience Fair exhibits with the students will occur on Wednesday morning, June 14 at 8:00 a.m. Please report by 7:30 a.m. and the managers will instruct students as to how the judging will work. They will be providing them more details as to their time of interview, etc. There will be a holding area for contestants and students will be called upon to visit with the judges at their display. The judges will visit with students for approximately 15 minutes asking questions about the project, etc. Please refer to the National FFA Agriscience Fair rules for information regarding judging and procedures as we follow those rules.

VIEWING: The Agriscience Fair displays will be located in the East Corridor, which when the doors are fully open, this will be a connecting hallway to the main lobby. Following judging of the displays, members will have the opportunity to view displays from the time the judging is complete until 3:30 p.m. We would like students to be present at their display during this time to answer questions. If they have other awards to accept, they may leave for those along with lunch and restroom breaks.

AWARDS: *NEW!!!* Awards for the Agriscience Fair will be handed out at the 5:00 p.m. Leadership Dinner in Hall A on Wednesday, June 14. If tickets were not purchased for this event, students and advisors can still attend to receive their awards, however the meal will not be available to those that do not have tickets. All students will be receiving a medallion for their participation. State Winners in the Agriscience Fair will be recognized again at the Wednesday evening session beginning at 7:00 p.m. Entries will be ranked gold, silver, and bronze.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact my office.