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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**\_\_\_ FFA Members Attend State Convention**

*\_(Number)\_* members from the *\_(Chapter Name)\_* FFA Chapter recently attended the 90th Minnesota FFA Convention, April 28-30 at the University of Minnesota–Twin Cities. Speakers, awards, competitions, workshops and sessions were some of the highlights for the 3,696 FFA members from Minnesota attending the convention, celebrating the convention theme, “Aspire To Be: Reach for the Horizon.”

*(insert quote from student)*

**Career Development Events**

More than 30 Career Development Events (CDE) cover job skills in everything from communications to mechanics. Some events allow students to compete as individuals, while others allow them to compete in teams. The \_*(Chapter Name)\_* members participated in the following contests at the Convention:

*(insert CDE participants and results)*

**Proficiency Awards**

The Agricultural Proficiency Awards honor FFA members who, through their Supervised Agricultural Experiences (SAE), have developed specialized skills that they can apply toward their future careers. Students can compete for awards in more than 45 proficiency areas covering everything from Agricultural Communications to Wildlife Management. Placement proficiency awards are given to those whose SAEs are related to employment, apprenticeships or internships at an agribusiness or agriculture-related organization. Entrepreneurship proficiency awards are given to those whose SAEs are related to ownership of an agribusiness or agriculture-related enterprise.

*(insert Proficiency Award results)*

**Minnesota FFA Degree**

The Minnesota FFA Degree is the highest award that the Minnesota FFA Association can bestow upon its members. 368 Minnesota FFA members qualified for the State FFA Degree. To be eligible for the Minnesota FFA Degree, students must have earned and invested at least $2,000 of his or her own efforts. Each recipient must have completed a minimum of two years of classroom instruction in an agricultural, food and natural resources education program.

*(insert chapter State Degree recipients)*

**Agriscience Awards**

The FFA Agriscience Fair is a competition for FFA members who are interested in the science and technology of agriculture. To qualify for the national agriscience fair students must conduct a scientific research project pertaining to the agriculture and food science industries and present their findings to a panel of judges with a display and a report.

*(insert Agriscience Award recipients)*

**Chapter Awards**

Numerous chapter awards are also given out at the State FFA Convention. The *\_(insert chapter name)\_* FFA Chapter received the following awards at the Convention:

*(insert chapter National Chapter Award, True Friends-Camp Courage, Ag Literacy, Land of Service, Triple Crown, Membership, Chapters in Good Standing, Donor Recognition, Models of Innovation, etc. results)*

**Other Highlights**

*(Highlight any other events or awards from the State Convention)*

**About Minnesota FFA**

FFA is a national organization developing students’ potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education with more than 600,000 members in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. The Minnesota FFA Association represents nearly 11,000 members and almost 200 high school chapters across the state. Agricultural education engages students through hands-on learning in the classroom, work-based learning opportunities known as Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects and FFA activities.

You can learn more about the experiences of FFA members and supporters by visiting [www.mnffa.org](http://www.mnffa.org/) and [www.ffa.org](http://www.ffa.org/).

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* Facebook on the following pages: Minnesota FFA Association, Minnesota FFA Foundation and Minnesota FFA Alumni