
Farm Credit proud sponsors of FFA Star Program at The Big E

Recipients of Star Farmer, Star in Agribusiness, Star in Agriscience, Star in Agricultural Placement named

Six Farm Credit associations were proud sponsors of the 2008 Eastern Region FFA Star Recognition Program, an elite competition and award program for FFA students enrolled in agricultural education. First Pioneer Farm Credit, headquartered in Enfield, CT, was the local participating association. Other Farm Credit sponsors included: Farm Credit of Western New York (Batavia, NY); Yankee Farm Credit (Williston, VT); Farm Credit of Maine (Auburn, Maine); MidAtlantic Farm Credit (Westminster, MD); and AgChoice Farm Credit (Mechanicsville, PA).

The culmination of the program was the Sept. 19 recognition ceremony, titled FFA Stars, which took place on 4-H/FFA Day at The Big E in West Springfield, MA. Competitors, who had won their titles in their respective states, were evaluated on their outstanding achievements in agriculture, leadership and scholastic rank.

Four young farmers from throughout the Eastern FFA Region's states were selected for the top awards: Star Farmer, Star in Agribusiness, Star in Agricultural Placement and Star in Agriscience. The 2009 Eastern Region FFA Star farmers are:

- Star Farmer: Kenneth D. Quick, Jr., of the Granville FFA Chapter, Granville, NY.

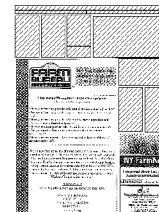
- Star in Agribusiness: Matthew VanScoy, of the Ridgemont FFA Chapter, Ridgemont, Ohio

- Star in Agricultural Placement: Brittany Lynn Pestey, of the Lebanon Regional FFA Chapter, Lebanon, CT.

- Star in Agriscience: J. Wyatt Hall, of the Giles FFA Chapter, Giles, VA.

According to Eastern Region Star Farmer Program Superintendent Harrison Griffin, "The region's most dynamic members competed for the coveted star awards that were sponsored by Farm Credit and The Big E. Farm Credit's generosity funded the star awards, travel stipends and the awards luncheon for the FFA stars and their parents, FFA advisers, judges and special guests."

James Putnam, senior vice president of First Pioneer Farm Credit in Enfield, CT, added, "Farm Credit associations have a proud history of supporting FFA and other leadership programs that help develop agriculture's future leaders. The FFA Star Program, in particular, exemplifies quality agricultural education and experiences for tomorrow's agriculturists."





Pictured L-R are: Star in Agribusiness Matthew VanScoy, of the Ridgemont FFA Chapter, Ridgemont, Ohio; James N. Putnam, senior vice president of First Pioneer Farm Credit, Enfield, CT; Star in Agricultural Placement Brittany Lynn Pestey, of Lebanon Regional FFA Chapter, Lebanon, Conn.; Eastern States Exposition (ESE) Chairman of the Board Donald R. Chase; Star Farmer Kenneth D. Quick, Jr., of the Granville FFA Chapter, Granville, NY; ESE President Wayne McCary; Star in Agriscience J. Wyatt Hall, of the Giles FFA Chapter, Giles, VA; and Hannah Crossen, National FFA Eastern Regional vice president.