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**Local FFA Members Selected to Compete Nationally**

DATELINE (Thursday October 18th, 2018/National FFA Organization) – A local FFA chapter was recently selected to compete for national recognition in a career development event at the 91st National FFA Convention & Expo in Indianapolis, Oct. 24-27.

The Hillsdale FFA chapter from Jeromesville, Ohio will send members to Indianapolis as they vie for national honors in the agronomy area. Bayer CropScience sponsors the event. FFA members who will represent the chapter include Will Yeater, Alex Becker, Alena Arnold, Jessie Raubenolt, and Blayne Bartter. Tom Kaufman is the coach and Mark Hoffman and Lindsay Bowen is the chapter advisor.

Agronomy is one of 25 career/leadership development event areas, covering jobs skills in everything from communications to mechanics. The agronomy CDE participants will compete in all facets of the agronomic industry, from crop and weed identification to integrated pest management. Skills in soil identification and analysis as well as the ability to make sound managerial decisions are put to the test. Students are challenged to work individually and with their team during the day-and-a-half event. CDEs and LDEs help students develop the abilities to think critically, communicate clearly and perform effectively in a competitive job market.

The National FFA Organization provides leadership, personal growth and career success training through agricultural education to 653,359 student members who belong to one of 8,568 local FFA chapters throughout the U.S., Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The organization is also supported by 344,239 alumni members in 2,051 alumni chapters throughout the U.S.

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**About National FFA Organization**

The National FFA Organization is a national youth organization of 653,359 student members as part of 8,568 local FFA chapters in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The organization is supported by 344,239 alumni members in 2,051 local FFA Alumni chapters throughout the U.S. The FFA mission is to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education. The National FFA Organization operates under a federal charter granted by the 81st United States Congress and it is an integral part of public instruction in agriculture. The U.S. Department of Education provides leadership and helps set direction for FFA as a service to state and local agricultural education programs. For more, visit the National FFA Organization online at FFA.org and on Facebook, Twitter and [the official National FFA Organization blog](https://www.ffanewhorizons.org/).

**About National FFA Foundation**  
The National FFA Foundation builds partnerships with industry, education, government, other foundations and individuals to secure financial resources that recognize FFA member achievements, develop student leaders and support the future of agricultural education. Governed by a 19-member board of trustees composed of educators, business leaders, individual donors and FFA Alumni, the foundation is a separately registered nonprofit organization. About 82 percent of every dollar received by the foundation supports FFA members and agricultural education opportunities. For more, visit FFA.org/Give.