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*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

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**STATE WINNERS IN THE AGRICULTURAL COMMUNICATIONS PROFICIENCY RECOGNIZED AT THE 90th GEORGIA FFA STATE CONVENTION**

MACON, Ga. – Winners of the Agricultural Communications Proficiency were recognized at the 90th Georgia FFA State Convention held at the Macon Centreplex on April 26-28, 2018.

Emmalee Richardson of Newton CCA placed first in the proficiency competition. Placing second was Iren Igbere of Arabia Mountain, and Austin Weaver of Berrien County received third place honors.

Proficiency awards are granted to FFA members who have excelled in their Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE). The Agricultural Communications Proficiency includes programs where students work in agricultural print facilities, such as newspapers and magazines. Students acquire training and practical experience writing and publicizing in preparation for a career in communications.

The Agricultural Communications Proficiency was sponsored at the state level by the Georgia Cooperative Council.

All proficiency winners received a plaque and a cash award. State winners receive $100, as well as $500 travel money to attend the National FFA Convention. Additionally, the advisor of the state winner received $100 cash. Second place winners received $50, and third place winners received $25.

The National FFA Organization, formerly known as the Future Farmers of America, changed its name in 1988 to reflect the growth and diversity of agriculture. There are more than 600,000 FFA members nationwide. The Georgia Association has more than 40,000 members, making it the third largest Association in the nation. The FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success, through agricultural education.

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