April 26, 2018

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

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**STATE WINNERS IN THE NURSERY AND LANDSCAPE CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENT RECOGNIZED AT THE 90th GEORGIA FFA STATE CONVENTION**

MACON, Ga. – Winners of the Nursery and Landscape Career Development Event (CDE) were recognized at the 90th Georgia FFA State Convention held at the Macon Centreplex on April 26-28, 2018.

In the senior division, Matthew Walshe of Oconee County High was the state high scoring individual, followed by John Hunter of Appling County High and Sean West of Evans High in second and third respectively. In the team competition, the state winner was Portal High, followed by Oconee County High in second place and Appling County High in third.

In the junior division, Sierra Davidson of North Murray High was the state high individual, followed by Brianna Beard of Northside High and Josh Bruner of North Murray High finishing second and third, respectively. In the team competition, the state winner was North Murray High, followed by Northside High in second place and Pelham High in third.

CDE awards are granted to FFA members and teams who have exhibited premier leadership, personal growth, and career success in a variety of competitions. The Nursery and Landscape CDE tests participants’ knowledge and skills in various aspects of the industry. This event includes the identification of plant materials and disorders, as well as a hands-on problem solving and a written exam involving the production, design, installation, and maintenance of landscape plants, related products, equipment and services.

The Nursery and Landscape Career Development Event was sponsored at the state level by the Georgia FFA Foundation and Pennington Seed, Inc..

All individual and team winners received a plaque and a cash award. Individual winners received $100. Second place individuals received $50 and third place individuals received $25. The winning team was awarded $2,000 travel money to attend the National FFA Convention. Additionally, the advisor of the state winning team received a $100 cash award.

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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