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*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

By Sarah Spradlin and Jordan DeWitt,

**STATE WINNERS IN THE DIVERSIFIED CROP PRODUCTION PLACEMENT PROFICIENCY RECOGNIZED AT THE 89th GEORGIA FFA STATE CONVENTION**

MACON, Ga. – Winners of the Diversified Crop Production Placement Proficiency were recognized at the 89th Georgia FFA State Convention held at the Macon Centreplex on April 27-29, 2017.

Landon Herring of Lowndes County placed first in the proficiency competition. Placing second was Brad Sanders of Toombs County, and Caleb Carr of Sonoraville received third place honors.

Proficiency awards are granted to FFA members who have excelled in their Supervised Agricultural Experience. The Diversified Crop Production Placement Proficiency involves the use of the best management practices available to efficiently produce and market two or more crop related proficiency areas such as: grain, fiber/oil, forage, specialty crop, non-horticultural vegetable or fruit production.

The Diversified Crop Production Placement Proficiency was sponsored at the state level by Georgia Plant Food Educational Society, Incorporated.

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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**Media Contact:** Ben Lastly, 706-552-4456, blastly@uga.edu