April 27, 2018

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

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**STATE WINNERS IN THE LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT PROFICIENCY RECOGNIZED AT THE 90th GEORGIA FFA STATE CONVENTION**

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

Will Kellum of Jefferson City placed first in the proficiency competition. Placing second was Jackie Swaringim of Toombs County, and Nathan Stainback of Tift County placed third.

Proficiency awards are granted to FFA members who have excelled in their Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE). Landscape Management Proficiency students gain valuable knowledge through their participation in career specific activities such as planting and maintaining plants and shrubs, landscaping and outdoor beautification, installing sprinklers, and improving recreational areas.

The Landscape Management proficiency was sponsored at the state level by Georgia’s Ag Tag Sales.

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 also 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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