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*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

By Sarah Spradlin and Jordan DeWitt,

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

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

Hayden Ariail of Franklin County placed first in the proficiency competition. Placing second was Tyler Wise of Wilcox County, and Wyatt Galloway of Piedmont Academy received third place honors.

Proficiency awards are granted to FFA members who have excelled in their Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE). The Diversified Agricultural Production Proficiency involves activities where students utilize best management practices to produce and market at least one livestock and one crop related product.

The Diversified Agricultural Production Proficiency was sponsored at the state level by Titan/Goodyear Farm Tires and at the national level by Ram Trucks.

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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