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News Release

MUSCATINE FFA CHAPTER WINS 2016 STATE FFA NURSERY/LANDSCAPE CAREER DEVELOPMENT

The Muscatine FFA Chapter was named the Champion Team in the annual Iowa FFA Nursery/Landscape Career Development Event held at Kirkwood Community College in Cedar Rapids on June 14, 2016. Members of the first place team included: Molly Haller, Rj Strong, J.T. Manjoine, and Avery Kwirant. Their agriculture education instructors and FFA advisors are Mr Sam Paul, Mr. Dave Tometich, and Ms Ashley Wiebe. They will represent Iowa at the National Nursery/Landscape Career Development Event at Indianapolis, Indiana, in October. The Louisa-Muscatine FFA Chapter at Letts was named the Reserve Champion Team. Members of the second place team included: Tristan Rinnert, Christian Sturms, Andrew Reynolds, and Hattie Spies. Their agriculture education instructor and FFA advisor is Mr. Adam Crews. Molly Haller, Muscatine FFA, Muscatine, was named the High Individual Overall in the competition.

FFA teams from 10 chapters including 35 individuals participated in this year's Career Development Event designed to provide students an opportunity to display their agricultural knowledge and skills in the area of Nursery/Landscape. The event consisted of a general knowledge exam, a landscape estimation practicum, a customer service activity, identification of nursery materials (plants, disorders, equipment and supplies), and situation assessment and solution.

The Iowa FFA Nursery Landscape Career Development Event was coordinated and conducted by Shawna Moss and the faculty and staff at Kirkwood Community College in Cedar Rapids. Kirkwood Community College also provided a lunch to all participants. The Iowa FFA Nursery Landscape Career Development Event was made possible with support from the Wapello FFA Chapter through the Iowa FFA Foundation. Arysta LifeScience North America Corporation, Kubota Tractor Corporation, and STIHL, Inc, through the National FFA Foundation sponsored the Champion Team Plaque.

Listed below are the top teams and individuals in the various parts of the career development event.

Top 10 Teams

- 1 Muscatine FFA Chapter
- 2 Louisa-Muscatine FFA Chapter at Letts
- 3 Grinnell FFA Chapter
- 4 Unity Christian FFA Chapter at Orange City
- 5 Mediapolis FFA Chapter
- 6 Washington FFA Chapter
- 7 Denison FFA Chapter
- 8 Maquoketa Valley FFA Chapter at Delhi
- 9 Cascade FFA Chapter
- 10 Collins-Maxwell FFA Chapter at Maxwell

Top 10 Individuals

- 1 Molly Haller, Muscatine FFA, Muscatine
- 2 Avery Kwirant, Muscatine FFA, Muscatine
- 3 Jessica Meseck, Denison FFA, Denison
- 4 Tristan Rinnert, Louisa-Muscatine FFA
- 5 Elizabeth Schnicker, Washington FFA, Washington
- 6 Nicole Arment, Grinnell FFA, Grinnell
- 7 Hattie Spies, Louisa-Muscatine FFA
- 8 Nicole Van Roekel, Unity Christian FFA
- 9 Christian Sturms, Louisa-Muscatine FFA
- 10 Maggie Myers, Mediapolis FFA, Mediapolis

Specialty Areas -- Top Team/ Top Individual:

General Knowledge Exam

Team: Muscatine FFA Chapter Individual: Elizabeth Schnicker, Washington FFA, Washington

Landscape Estimation Practicum

Team: Muscatine FFA Chapter Individual: Molly Haller, Muscatine FFA, Muscatine

Customer Assistance

Team: Louisa-Muscatine FFA Chapter at Letts Individual: Jessica Meseck, Denison FFA, Denison

Identification of Nursery Materials

Team: Louisa-Muscatine FFA Chapter at Letts Individual: Molly Haller, Muscatine FFA, Muscatine

Assessment and Solutions

Team: Muscatine FFA Chapter Individual: Molly Haller, Muscatine FFA, Muscatine

Below is a list of chapters participating by medal group.

Gold Teams (7)

Score Range (1275 to 961)

- Muscatine FFA Chapter
- Louisa-Muscatine FFA Chapter at Letts
- Grinnell FFA Chapter
- Unity Christian FFA Chapter at Orange City
- Mediapolis FFA Chapter
- Washington FFA Chapter
- Denison FFA Chapter

Silver Teams (3)

Score Range (709 to 563)

- Maquoketa Valley FFA Chapter at Delhi
- Cascade FFA Chapter
- Collins-Maxwell FFA Chapter at Maxwell

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About Iowa FFA Association

The Iowa FFA Association is a youth organization of over 14,800 student members as part of 226 local FFA chapters across Iowa. The FFA mission is to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education. The Iowa FFA Association was organized by delegates from 23 schools at Iowa State College on May 17, 1929 and is an integral part of public instruction in agriculture. The Iowa Department of Education provides leadership and helps set direction for FFA as a service to local agricultural education programs. For more, visit the Iowa FFA Association online at IowaFFA.com, on Facebook, and Twitter.