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News Release

2019 Stars Over Iowa Winners Announced

AMES, IOWA—The 2019 Stars Over Iowa Winners were announced at the 91st Iowa FFA State Leadership Conference at Hilton Coliseum on April 16, 2019. A Star Over Iowa was selected in each of the four different areas: Agricultural Placement, Agribusiness, Agriscience, and Agricultural Production.

The 2019 Star in Ag Placement Winner is Tristen Liebe of the North Linn FFA Chapter at Troy Mills. Through his SAE, Tristen has learned both effective time management and the value of a strong work ethic. Both come in handy as he helps his father manage 5,000 acres of seed corn and soybeans. After graduation, Tristen plans on receiving his Class A CDL and driving truck for his father's truck operation.

Spencer Collins of the Adel Desoto Minburn FFA Chapter at Adel is the Star in Ag Production winner. Spencer began his SAE by purchasing six bred heifers and has expanded his cattle herd to 35 breeding cows and 24 feeder calves. Throughout the SAE Spencer has worked to increase operational efficiency, improve genetics and expand his operation. He has participated in the Iowa State Fair, Conduct of Meetings CDE and volunteered in many community activities. After high school he plans to attend Iowa State University and major in Ag Studies.

Emily Harold of the West Branch FFA Chapter is the 2019 Star in Agribusiness winner. Emily has produced Berkshire hogs with a main diet of acorns and has marketed her pork as Natural Oak Pork. After processing her pork she has sold to restaurants as well as local clients. Emily has established lasting relationships with her clients including making cold calls and following up on her commitments to her clients.

The Star in Agriscience Winner is Ty Schoelerman of the Spencer FFA Chapter. Ty has completed three livestock based agriscience projects. One with sheep production relative to barometric pressure and the second to determine the starch utilization of early versus late feedlot cattle. In his final project, comparing cattle manure nutrient values. Ty plans to continue his research and pursue his career goal to becoming a livestock veterinarian.

The Stars Over Iowa program is made possible with support from Beck's Hybrids through the Iowa FFA Foundation. The National FFA Foundation sponsors cash awards for the four overall star winners.

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About Iowa FFA Association

The Iowa FFA Association is a youth organization of over 15,400 student members as part of 242 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.