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## **News Release**

# **Rockford FFA Wins Iowa FFA Ag Biotechnology CDE**

AMES, Iowa--The Rockford FFA Chapter from Rockford was named the Champion Team in the annual Iowa FFA Biotechnology Career Development Event held at Iowa State University in Ames on April 10, 2017. Members of the first place team included: Kelli Wicks, Kari Jeffrey, Austin Duryee, and Marissa Norby. Their agriculture education instructor and FFA advisor is Mr. Jym Hansen. The Linn-Mar FFA Chapter from Marion was named the Reserve Champion Team. Members of the second place team included: Alexis Costello, Chase Krug, Ekta Nanda, and Addison Crow Schrader. Their agriculture education instructor and FFA advisor is Ms. Barbara A. Lemmer. Kelli Wicks, Rockford FFA, Rockford, was named the High Individual Overall in the competition.

FFA teams from 42 chapters participated in this year's Career Development Event designed to provide the student an opportunity to display their agricultural knowledge and skills in the area of Biotechnology. The 161 individuals who participated in the event completed several activities including a general knowledge exam and an identification activity. The team members also collaborated in a team activity relating to biotechnology principles.

The Iowa FFA Biotechnology Career Development Event was made possible with support through the Iowa FFA Foundation. The Biotechnology Career Development Event was coordinated and conducted by Stacie Turnbull, and numerous other faculty and staff with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

### **Top 10 Teams**

- 1 Rockford FFA, Rockford
- 2 Linn-Mar FFA, Marion
- 3 West Branch FFA, West Branch
- 4 South Winneshiek FFA, Calmar
- 5 Mid-Prairie FFA, Wellman
- 6 Maquoketa Valley FFA (@ Delhi
- 7 Boyden-Hull FFA, Hull
- 8 Gilbert FFA, Gilbert
- 9 New Hampton FFA, New Hampton
- 10 Sumner-Fredericksburg FFA

### **Top 10 Individuals**

- Kelli Wicks, Rockford FFA, Rockford  
Kari Jeffrey, Rockford FFA, Rockford  
John Krall, West Branch FFA, West Branch  
Hanna Schmitt, South Winneshiek FFA, Calmar  
Chase Krug, Linn-Mar FFA, Marion  
Ekta Nanda, Linn-Mar FFA, Marion  
Eric Heick, West Branch FFA, West Branch  
Cody Dvorak, Gilbert FFA, Gilbert  
Alexis Costello, Linn-Mar FFA, Marion  
Cassidy Rourke, Mid-Prairie FFA, Wellman

## **Specialty Areas -- Top Team/ Top Individual:**

### **Team Practicum**

**Team:** South Winneshiek FFA, Calmar

### **General Knowledge Examination**

**Team:** Rockford FFA, Rockford

**Individual:** Kelli Wicks, Rockford FFA, Rockford

### **Identification**

**Team:** West Branch FFA, West Branch

**Individual:** Eric Heick, West Branch FFA, West Branch

### **Gold Teams (12)**

#### Score Range (740 to 612)

Rockford FFA, Rockford

Linn-Mar FFA, Marion

West Branch FFA, West Branch

South Winneshiek FFA, Calmar

Mid-Prairie FFA, Wellman

Maquoketa Valley FFA @ Delhi

Boyden-Hull FFA, Hull

Gilbert FFA, Gilbert

New Hampton FFA, New Hampton

Sumner-Fredericksburg FFA

Cascade FFA

North Scott FFA, Eldridge

### **Bronze Teams (10)**

#### Score Range (430 to 342)

Oelwein FFA, Oelwein

Forest City FFA, Forest City

North Fayette Valley FFA, West Union

Maquoketa FFA, Maquoketa

Central City FFA, Central City

Marengo FFA, Marengo

Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn FFA, Hartley

Clay Central/Everly FFA, Everly

Winterset FFA, Winterset

West Delaware FFA, Manchester

### **Silver Teams (20)**

#### Score Range (594 to 451)

East Sac FFA, Lake View

Davis County FFA, Bloomfield

Hudson FFA, Hudson

Little Switzerland FFA, Waukon

Williamsburg FFA, Williamsburg

Vinton-Shellsburg FFA, Vinton

West Dubuque FFA, Epworth

Nashua Plainfield FFA, Nashua

Roland-Story FFA, Story City

Waverly-Shell Rock FFA, Waverly

Aplington-Parkersburg FFA, Parkersburg

South O'Brien FFA @ Paullina

Central Lee FFA, Donnellson

Independence FFA Chapter

Interstate 35 FFA, Truro

Moravia FFA, Moravia

Newton FFA, Newton

West Lyon FFA, Inwood

Crestwood FFA, Cresco

Gladbrook-Reinbeck FFA, Reinbeck

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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 232 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](http://IowaFFA.com), on Facebook, and Twitter.