

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **Northeast Iowa Community-Based Dairy Foundation**

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### **Maquoketa Valley FFA and Spring Grove FFA Top Tri-State Dairy Ag and Expo Contests**

Nearly 400 FFA members from 27 Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin high schools participated in the annual Tri-State Ag and Dairy Expo held on Thursday, Sept. 12, at Iowa's Dairy Center in Calmar. The expo featured dairy judging and dairy products contests where students enhanced their evaluation skills on dairy cattle and products.

Maquoketa Valley FFA chapter of Delhi, Iowa was named the champion dairy judging team. Team members included Lane Domeyer, Amber Engelken, Carter Kruse and Mason Kruse. Brooke Courtney, of Decorah FFA chapter, was the high-scoring individual of the contest.

Maquoketa Valley FFA chapter also topped the non-reasons dairy judging contest. The team consisted of Courtney Geodken, Sarah Goedken and Tara Goedken. Courtney was also the high-scoring individual of the non-reasons contest.

Spring Grove FFA chapter of Spring Grove, Minn. was named the champion dairy products judging team. Team members included Liz Garcia-Holty, Jacine Johanningmeier, Marie Petersen and Kendal VanMinsel where Jacine was also the high-scoring individual of the dairy products contest.

Additionally, the Tri-State Ag and Dairy Expo presented an annual award in memory of Dennis Rud, a former FFA instructor and longtime employee of Nelson Dairy Consultants. The award is given to an individual who has had a significant role in the success of the expo. The recipient of the second annual award was Roger Lenius, who was recognized for his dedication to the expo.

The Northeast Iowa Community College (NICC) Dairy Science Club and agriculture students helped with the preparation of cattle, contests and seminars. In addition to a competition for students, the expo offered seminars on agriculture topics which included linear dairy cattle evaluation, dairy products evaluation and robotic technology.

Tri-State Ag and Dairy Expo would not be possible without support from local businesses and organizations. A special thanks to Nelson Dairy Consultants for donating of all the plaques and ribbons for top scorers of the contests.

Competition results were as follows:

### **Dairy Judging with Reasons**

#### **Top Individuals**

1. Brooke Courtney, Decorah FFA
2. Mason Kruse, Maquoketa Valley FFA
3. Kelsey Biel, Fillmore Central FFA
4. Payton Olson, St. Charles FFA
5. Kaylea Gosnell, Crestwood FFA

#### **Top Teams**

1. Maquoketa Valley FFA
2. Fillmore Central FFA
3. St. Charles FFA

### **Dairy Judging without Reasons**

#### **Top Individuals**

1. Courtney Geodken, Maquoketa Valley FFA
2. Sarah Goedken, Maquoketa Valley FFA
3. Sydney Matthias, Wapsie Valley FFA
4. Austin Hesse, Wapsie Valley FFA
5. Hailey Swanson, Vinton-Shellsburg FFA

#### **Top Teams**

1. Maquoketa Valley FFA
2. Vinton-Shellsburg FFA
3. Turkey Valley FFA

### **Dairy Products Contest**

#### **Top Individuals**

1. Jacine Johanningmeier, Spring Grove FFA
2. Maci Hummel, Edgewood-Colseburg FFA
3. Jaden Schwarting, Independence FFA
4. Tyson Cota, Eastern Allamakee FFA
5. Luka Schulte, Edgewood-Colseburg FFA

#### **Top Teams**

1. Spring Grove FFA
2. Edgewood-Colesburg FFA
3. Eastern Allamakee FFA

**Photos:**

Top team of the dairy judging contest, Maquoketa Valley FFA of Delhi, Iowa: Lane Domeyer, Amber Engelken, Carter Kruse and Mason Kruse.

Brooke Courtney of Decorah FFA was the high-scoring individual of the dairy judging contest.

The recipient of the third annual award in memory of Dennis Rud was Roger Lenius.

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