



Northeast Iowa Dairy & Agriculture Foundation

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

More Than 470 FFA Members Participate in Tri-State Ag & Dairy Expo

More than 470 FFA members from 39 Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin high schools participated in the annual Tri-State Ag & Dairy Expo held on Thursday, Sept. 14, 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.

North Fayette Valley FFA was named the champion dairy judging team. Team members included Brock Soppe, Blake Sparrgrove and Alexis Oakland. Aden Kruse of Beckman Catholic High School was the high-scoring individual of the contest.

West Central FFA topped the non-reasons dairy judging contest. The team consisted of Clara Miller, Emma Streif and Taylor Teague. Taylor Teague was also named the high-scoring individual of the non-reasons contest.

Waukon FFA was named the champion dairy products judging team. Team members included Caleb Helgersen, Ethan Gibbs, Kendra Gibbs and Olivia Marti. Ethan Gibbs was also named the high-scoring individual of the dairy products contest.

Additionally, the Tri-State Ag & 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 annual award was Ron Lenth who was recognized for his dedication to the expo.

In addition to the contests, the expo offered educational sessions on agriculture topics including Iowa State University's biosecurity trailer, Hoard's Dairyman judging and a grain bin rescue demonstration with the

National Education Center for Agricultural Safety. The Northeast Iowa Community College (NICC) dairy science and agriculture students helped with the preparation of cattle for the dairy cattle judging contests.

Competition results were as follows:

Dairy Judging with Reasons

Top Individuals

1. Aden Kruse, Beckman Catholic FFA
2. Kelsey Timp, South Winn FFA
3. Andrew Pingnot, Vinton-Shellsburg FFA
4. Brock Soppe, North Fayette Valley FFA
5. Blake Sparrgrove, North Fayette Valley FFA

Top Teams

1. North Fayette Valley FFA
2. St. Charles FFA
3. South Winn FFA

Dairy Judging without Reasons

Top Individuals

1. Taylor Teague, West Central FFA
2. Gabe Monroe, Decorah FFA
3. Caleb Zuercher, MFL MarMac FFA
4. Laney Albertsen, Union FFA
5. Tannin Burke, Crestwood FFA

Top Teams

1. West Central FFA
2. MFL MarMac FFA
3. Decorah FFA

Dairy Products Contest

Top Individuals

1. Ethan Gibbs, Waukon FFA
2. Olivia Marti, Waukon FFA
3. Jack Lansing, West Dubuque FFA
4. Anissa Stanley, Lansing FFA
5. Justin Rucker, Denver FFA

Top Teams

1. Waukon FFA
2. Benton Community FFA
3. West Dubuque FFA

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Photos:

Top team of the dairy judging contest, North Fayette Valley FFA: Brock Soppe, Blake Sparrgrove and Alexis Oakland.

Aden Kruse of Beckman Catholic High School was the high-scoring individual of the dairy judging contest.

The recipient of the fourth annual award in memory of Dennis Rud was Ron Lenth pictured with Dr. Kent Nelson.