

**Georgia Farm Bureau Federation
Young Farmers & Ranchers Excellence in Agriculture Award**



**YOUNG FARMERS
& RANCHERS**

Rules for 2020 GFB Excellence in Agriculture Competition

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Background

The Young Farmers & Ranchers (YF&R) Excellence in Agriculture Award competition is designed as an opportunity for young farmers and ranchers to earn recognition, while actively contributing and growing through their involvement in Farm Bureau and agriculture. Participants will be judged on their involvement in agriculture, leadership ability, and participation/involvement in Farm Bureau and other organizations (i.e., civic, service and community). **The ideal candidate(s) for the Excellence in Agriculture Award is an individual or couple who does not have the majority of his/her income subject to normal production risks.**

This award program is not solely based on the applicant(s) occupation, but a combination of industry impact, leadership impact, and farm bureau impact. Applicants are encouraged to have dedicated involvement in their county Farm Bureau and develop strong relationships and impact in their district and state.

Information about the Excellence in Agriculture applicant is requested on the entry form. ALL INFORMATION IS HANDLED IN STRICT CONFIDENCE AND IS DESTROYED AFTER JUDGING IS COMPLETED.

PLEASE make sure to complete each section fully and completely! BE CREATIVE- use your space to tell the judges a story about your impact and involvement. Again, use the room! Try your best to not leave any space/characters- the more you can provide about your impact, the better!

Eligibility

- An applicant can be either an individual or a couple. There is no preference given to individuals or couples in this award; the only stipulation is that the majority of the individual or couples income cannot be derived from normal production risk.
- Applicant(s) shall be a Farm Bureau member(s) between the ages of 18 and 35 in good standing with his/her county Farm Bureau. The individual or spouse/spousal-equivalent shall have reached his/her 18th birthday at the time he/she qualifies for the national competition and shall not have reached his/her 36th birthday by Jan. 31, 2021.
- Applicant(s) must not have derived a majority of his/her income from an owned production agriculture enterprise in any of the past three years.
- Applicant(s) may only compete in one national YF&R Competition per year.
- Applicant(s) may compete in either the Achievement Award or the Excellence in Agriculture Award, but not both in the same year.
- Past and present members of the AFBF Young Farmers & Ranchers Committee and/or their spouse are not eligible to compete.
- Past state YF&R Achievement Award winners and/or previous AFBF Achievement Award competitors are not eligible to compete.
- Past state YF&R Excellence in Agriculture Award winners and/or previous AFBF Excellence in Agriculture Award winners are not eligible to compete.
- Current employees of county, state and/or American Farm Bureaus and their affiliates are not eligible to compete.
- Current Chair or Vice Chair of the GFB Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee are not eligible to compete.
- Each county may submit one entry to be considered for national recognition and must use the GFB entry form and application.

Entry Form & Application Guidelines

- **Do not use applicant's name, the name of his/her state or county, or any names that may bring about the recognition or identification of the applicant's state beyond the entry form. The written versions of the application have a search feature to locate any identifiers. Verbal and presentation reference to applicants' name, state and county will be allowed during your presentation for personalization of presentation.**
- The entry form and application must be completed in **first person** narrative (i.e. I, me, we, etc.) for questions 1-5. "A1"/"A2" may not be used for questions 1-5. Applicants must use "A1"/"A2" to denote each applicant for all of question 6.
- Do not use abbreviations or acronyms, unless it has been spelled out once with the abbreviation in parentheses behind it. For example, United States Department of Education (USDE). AFBF, FB, and YF&R are acceptable to use throughout the application.
- It will be up to the judges' discretion to deduct points if applicants include activities before they were 18.

Note: Disregarding any of the guidelines listed above will result in disqualification.

Presentation Guidelines

- The presentation will be an interactive, 25-minute presentation, in which the applicant(s) has an opportunity to share the contents of his/her entire application in narrative form with a panel of three judges and the audience.
 - Applicant(s) will have 25 minutes to present on the topics addressed in the application and address questions from the judges. It will be up to the applicant(s) to determine how they use this time. Applicants will be notified by the time keeper when 10 minutes are remaining and again when 5 minutes are remaining. Time will be called and conclude the applicant's time in front of the judges at 25 minutes.
- The only visual means in which to deliver the information is through a PowerPoint presentation. The applicant(s) need to bring his/her presentation on a USB flash drive. All the necessary presentation equipment will be provided.
- Verbal and presentation references to applicant(s) name and county will be allowed during the presentation.
- No props (including notes), sound or video of any kind will be allowed during the presentation.
- Applicants are not allowed to view other presentations at the state level.

Judging

- All applications will be judged prior to the GFB YF&R Conference. Applicants will present to a different set of judges at the Summer Conference.

<u>Application</u>		<u>Approx. %</u>
Questions 2-4	150 points	37.5%
*Ag Involvement, Impact on Ag and Issues Facing Ag Goals	20 points	5%
Farm Bureau Experience	120 points	30%
Other Leadership Experience	80 points	20%
Application Form	<u>30 points</u>	<u>7.5%</u>
MAXIMUM POINTS	400 points	100% (80% of Total Score)
<u>Presentation</u>		
Delivery of Presentation	40 points	40%
Content of Presentation	30 points	30%
<u>Responses to Questions</u>	<u>30 points</u>	<u>30%</u>
MAXIMUM POINTS	100 points	100% (20% of Total Score)

Deadline

All applications are due June 1, 2020 by 5:00 p.m. Please submit the application and any additional pieces through the online awards portal at: <http://www.gfb.ag/yfrcompete>

Georgia Farm Bureau Federation
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2020 Entry Form

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All applications are due June 1, 2020 by 5:00 p.m. Please submit the application and any additional pieces through the online awards portal at: <http://www.gfb.ag/yfrcompete>

The data below and throughout the application applies to you and your spouse/spousal-equivalent, if married. Please indicate "Applicant 1" (A1) and "Applicant 2" (A2) when responding to question VI.

Applicant(s)*: A1 _____ A2 _____

* Will be used in the program and for recognition

Phonetic Pronunciation: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

Email: A1 _____ A2 _____

Date of Birth: A1 _____ A2 _____

Education/Degree: A1 _____ A2 _____

Short Courses/Specialized Study: A1 _____ A2 _____

Please provide **one** of the following for verification purposes.

- Copy of Form 1099 or Form W-2
- A letter of verification from your employer or company on letterhead that includes length of employment and a brief description of your job responsibilities

I (we) hereby certify the information on this entry form and attached application to be accurate and true statements. **GFB DOES NOT ACCEPT LIABILITY FOR APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED INCORRECTLY BY A COUNTY FARM BUREAU OFFICE.** GFB reserves the right to use my (our) photos and/or any video footage for use in promoting Farm Bureau. The photos and/or video footage of the undersigned contestant(s) may also be available to Farm Bureau sponsors. I (we) have not derived a majority of my (our) income from an owned production agricultural enterprise in any of the past three years. By participating in the Event, I (we) warrant that I (we) fully and unconditionally agree to and accept the YF official contest rules and the decisions of the GFB YF Committee, which are final and binding.

Applicant(s) Signature(s): A1 _____ A2 _____

I hereby certify that the above named applicant(s) is the official state entry and is therefore eligible to be entered in and considered for AFBF's Young Farmers & Ranchers Excellence in Agriculture Award for 2020.

County President: _____ Date: _____

County: _____

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2020 Application

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Note: Remember to write in first person narrative (i.e. I, me, we, etc.) for questions 1-5. Remember no county-specific identifiers.

- I. **PERSONAL BACKGROUND** (family, education and personal interests) – ***Approximately 2,000 characters***

- II. **AGRICULTURAL INVOLVEMENT**

- A. Please explain the applicant(s) occupation – ***Approximately 2,500 characters.***

II. **AGRICULTURAL INVOLVEMENT (continued) - *Approximately 2,500 characters.***

B. Please explain the applicant's (applicants') personal involvement in agriculture/agribusiness.

III. **IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE - *Approximately 2,500 characters.***

What does the applicant(s) do to positively promote and impact the agriculture industry?

IV. ISSUES FACING AGRICULTURE - *Approximately 5,000 characters.*

- A. Agriculture faces important issues at the local, state, national and international levels. Explain three important issues that the industry needs to address in the next five years. Choose one issue from three of the four levels mentioned above.

IV. ISSUES FACING AGRICULTURE (continued) – *Approximately 5,000 characters.*

B. Choose one of the issues in your response to 4A and discuss how you personally have addressed, or can address, that issue and work towards a resolution.

V. **GOALS - *Approximately 5,000 characters.***

What goals does the applicant(s) have for the next five years related to his/her career, Farm Bureau involvement and involvement with other organizations?

6. LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE (from age 18 to current)- Approximately 2,500 characters per section (20 lines)

Note: This applies to both applicants, if applying together. Please indicate A1 and A2 when applicable.

- A. List Farm Bureau leadership roles, involvement opportunities, recognitions and/or awards received by the applicant(s), indicating service on committees, boards or as officers. Please include years of involvement. *Example: A1 – Elected President of the County Farm Bureau Board of Directors (2015-2016)*

County Farm Bureau

State/American Farm Bureau

V. **LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE (continued)- Approximately 2,500 characters per section (20 lines)**

- B. List other agricultural leadership roles, involvement opportunities, recognitions and/or awards received by the applicant(s), indicating service on committees, boards or as officers. (i.e. Farm Credit, Soil Conservation, Farm Service Agency, farm cooperatives, 4-H, etc.). Please include organization, description and years of involvement.

Example: A1 & A2 – 4-H, Serves as a 4-H Livestock Club Leader (2013 – present)

- C. List other community and non-agricultural leadership roles, involvement opportunities, recognitions and/or awards received by the applicant(s), indicating service on committees, boards or as officers (i.e. civic/service clubs, church, school, volunteer leadership, etc.) Please include organization, description and years of involvement.

Example: A1 – Local Elementary School, Served as Parent Teacher Association (PTA) President (2015-2017)

VI. Please explain any situations or circumstances that may have affected your leadership experiences.
Approximately 250 characters