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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

By Ashley Brannen

STATE WINNERS IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PROFICIENCY RECOGNIZED AT THE 97th GEORGIA FFA STATE CONVENTION

MACON, Ga. – Winners of the Environmental Science and Natural Resources Management Proficiency were recognized at the 97th Georgia FFA State Convention held at the Macon Centreplex on April 24-26, 2025.

Oliva Hogg of LaGrange placed first in the proficiency competition. Placing second was Austin Morgan of Effingham College & Career Academy, and Zoey Ryals of McIntosh Academy received third place honors.

Proficiency awards are granted to FFA members who have excelled in their Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE). FFA members that participate in the Environmental Science and Natural Resources Management Proficiency receive practical experience in the principles and practices of managing and improving the environment and natural resources. Activities involve managing agricultural waste, recycling agricultural products, cleaning the environment or serving in the conservation corps.

The Environmental Science and Natural Resources Management Proficiency was sponsored at the state level by the Georgia Pecan Commission.

All proficiency winners received a plaque and a cash award. State winners receive \$100, as well as \$500 travel money to attend the National FFA Convention. Additionally, the advisor of the state winner received \$100 cash. Second place winners received \$50, and third place winners received \$25.

The National FFA Organization, formerly known as the Future Farmers of America, changed its name in 1988 to reflect the growth and diversity of agriculture. There are nearly 940,000 FFA members nationwide. The Georgia Association has more than 80,000 members, making it the third largest Association in the nation. The FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success, through agricultural education.

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