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*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

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**STATE WINNERS IN AGRISCIENCE FAIR FOOD PRODUCTS AND PROCESSING SYSTEMS CATEGORY RECOGNIZED AT THE 98<sup>th</sup> GEORGIA FFA STATE CONVENTION**

MACON, Ga. – Winners of the Agriscience Fair Food Products and Processing Systems Category were recognized at the 98<sup>th</sup> Georgia FFA State Convention held at the Macon Centreplex on April 22-25, 2026.

In the area of Food Systems, there was an individual/team named the winner from each of the six divisions. Division 1 winner was Rosa-Gertrudis Dougan-Ondo of Haymon-Morris Middle. Division 2 winning team was Benjamin Walker and Maddax Chang of Dove Creek Middle. Division 3 winner was Ashlyn Wood of Walnut Grove. Division 4 winning team was Lulu Smoot and Katie Brown of the Walnut Grove FFA Chapter. Division 5 winner was Briana Dougherty of Camden. The Division 6 winners were Naimah Nemorin and Trent Ferguson of Calhoun City.

Students competing in the Agriscience Fair conduct a scientific research project pertaining to the agriculture and food science industry and present their findings to a panel of judges with a visual display and written report.

The Food Products and Processing Systems Category of the Agriscience Fair was sponsored by the The Schimmel Family Foundation.

Each winner received a plaque, a \$100 cash award, and \$500 travel money to compete in the National Agriscience Fair at the National FFA Convention. The advisor of each state winner also received a \$100 cash award.

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 over 1 Million 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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