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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

By Katibeth Wise

**STATE WINNERS IN THE DIVERSIFIED LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION  
PROFICIENCY RECOGNIZED AT THE 98<sup>th</sup> GEORGIA FFA STATE  
CONVENTION**

MACON, Ga. – Winners of the Diversified Livestock Production Proficiency were recognized at the 98<sup>th</sup> Georgia FFA State Convention held at the Macon Centreplex on April 22-25, 2026.

Isabelle Williams of Madison County placed first in the proficiency competition. Placing second was Melinda Shattles of Seminole County, and Hayden Harris of Schley County received third place honors.

Proficiency awards are granted to FFA members who have excelled in their Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE). The Diversified Livestock Production Proficiency involves the use of best management practices to efficiently produce and market two or more livestock related proficiency areas including beef, dairy, swine, equine, specialty animal, small animal production and care, or poultry.

The Diversified Livestock Proficiency was sponsored at the state level by Mr. John Barnes.

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 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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