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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

By Katibeth Wise

**STATE WINNERS IN THE TURF & LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE
PROFICIENCY RECOGNIZED AT THE 98th GEORGIA FFA STATE
CONVENTION**

MACON, Ga. – Winners of the Turf & Landscape Maintenance Proficiency were recognized at the 98th Georgia FFA State Convention held at the Macon Centreplex on April 22-25, 2026.

Josh Patel of Screven County placed first in the proficiency competition. Placing second was Caleb Brown of Social Circle, taking third place honors is Samuel Edwards of Golden Isles Career Academy.

Proficiency awards are granted to FFA members who have excelled in their Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE). Student participation in Turf & Landscape Maintenance involves the planting and maintaining of turf for outdoor beautification, owning a lawn mowing service, improving recreational areas, producing sod for sale, and managing golf courses.

The Turf & Landscape Maintenance Proficiency was sponsored by Georgia Crop Improvement Association at the state level.

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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