



April 25, 2026
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

By Katibeth Mims

**STATE WINNERS IN THE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PROFICIENCY
RECOGNIZED AT THE 98th GEORGIA FFA STATE CONVENTION**

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

Kasen Elsberry of Chattooga County placed first in the proficiency competition. Placing second was Renley Dent of Wayne County, and Dalson Plante of Toombs County, received third place.

Proficiency awards are granted to FFA members who have excelled in their Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE). The Wildlife Production and Management Proficiency involves activities where students improve the accessibility of fish and wildlife or develop and improve land and water habitats. This proficiency can also include professional development opportunities with Fish and Wildlife Departments and the Department of Natural Resources.

The Wildlife Management Proficiency was sponsored at the state level by the Georgia FFA Foundation.

All proficiency winners received a plaque and a cash award. State winners received \$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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