

**Indiana Farm Bureau
Young Farmers & Ranchers
Excellence in Agriculture Award
Rules for the 2008 Competitive Event**

Background

The Farm Bureau Excellence in Agriculture Award Program is designed as an opportunity for Young Farmers & Ranchers to earn recognition, while actively contributing and growing through their involvement in Farm Bureau and agriculture. Participants will be judged on their involvement in agriculture, leadership ability, involvement and participation in Farm Bureau and other organizations (i.e., civic, service and community). **The ideal candidate(s) for the Excellence for Agriculture Award is an individual or couple who are non-production agriculturalist that promote the agricultural industry through their daily work routine.**

Information about the Excellence in Agriculture applicant is requested on the entry form. ALL INFORMATION IS HANDLED IN STRICT CONFIDENCE.

Eligibility

- Applicants should be members in good standing with their county Farm Bureau.
- An applicant can be either an individual or a married couple. If married, husband and wife may apply as individuals or as co-applicants.
- Applicant(s) must be a Farm Bureau member or Farm Bureau member family.
- Competitors shall be Farm Bureau members between the ages of 18 and 35 years of age. Individual or spouse shall not have reached their 36th birthday by January 31st after the AFBF Annual Convention at which the Competitive Event is held. (January 31, 2009)
- Past and present members of the AFBF Young Farmers & Ranchers Committee or their spouses are not eligible to compete.
- Past state YF&R Excellence in Agriculture Award winners, and/or previous AFBF Excellence in Agriculture Award competitors are not eligible to compete.
- Past state Achievement Award winners, and/or previous AFBF Achievement Award competitors are not eligible to compete.
- County, State and American Farm Bureau employees are not eligible, this also includes affiliate companies.
- Competitors may compete in either the Achievement Award or Excellence in Agriculture Award Program Competitive Event, but not both in the same year.
- Competitors may only compete in 1 national YF&R competitive event per year.
- Applicants must have derived a majority of their income from a non-production agribusiness enterprise for the past three years. For example ag teacher, fertilizer salesperson, ag marketing, ag writer, farm employee (non-owner).

Entry Form & Application Guidelines

- Do not use your name, name of your county, or any names that may bring about the recognition or identification of yourself beyond the entry form (page 5). Verbal and PowerPoint reference to your name and the name of your county will be allowed during your PowerPoint presentation (see **Presentation Format** on page 3).
- The entry form and application must be in 10-point Times New Roman.
- Do not use abbreviations or acronyms.
- Redoing the application on a computer/word processor is not allowed.
- If applying as an individual, only include information pertinent to applicant.
- Application must be properly signed with no additional pages used.
- Letter of recommendation, scrapbooks or other visual additions will be terms for disqualification.
- Deadline for receiving entry forms for the competitive event to Indiana Farm Bureau is **August 1, 2008 by Midnight.**

Judging Criteria

The applications will be judged by one set of judges.

Application

| | | <u>Approx. %</u> |
|---|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Questions II-IV, | 120 pts. | 30% |
| Farm Bureau Experience | 100 pts. | 25% |
| Other Leadership Experience | 140 pts. | 35% |
| Additional Awards and Recognition | | |
| Application Form: (e.g., neatness, readability, Following instructions) | 40 pts. | <u>10%</u> |
| MAXIMUM POINTS | 400 pts. | 100% |

Presentation (Top Three Finalists)

| | | |
|---|-----------------|-------------|
| Overall Presentation | 100 pts. | 50% |
| Personal Growth and Development (Accomplishments) | 50 pts. | 25% |
| Leadership Involvement (Farm Bureau & other organizations) | 50 pts. | <u>25%</u> |
| MAXIMUM POINTS | 200 pts. | 100% |

Total Score

| | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Application | 400 pts. | 66.7% |
| Presentation | 200 pts. | <u>33.3%</u> |
| MAXIMUM POINTS | 600 pts. | 100% |

Presentation Format

The presentation will be an interactive interview in which the competitor(s) has an opportunity to share the contents of their application in narrative form. The only visual means in which to deliver the presentation is through a PowerPoint presentation. All the necessary presentation equipment will be provided for the contestant(s). The contestant(s) need to bring their presentation on a CD. The presentation will be given to a panel of three judges. The guidelines for the presentation are as follows:

- Introduction and presentation - (maximum of 12 slides*) 15 minutes on the issues addressed in the application as well as past and present accomplishments and future goals.
*moving bullet point into the slides is permitted and will not be counted as an additional slide.
- Question and answer session - 10 minutes
- Verbal and PowerPoint references to your name, state and county will be allowed during presentations.
- Dress should be business attire
- No props allowed
- No sound allowed in power point presentation

INDIANA FARM BUREAU
2008 ENTRY FORM
YOUNG FARMERS & RANCHERS EXCELLENCE IN AGRICULTURE AWARD

The applicant should carefully read through this entry form and application before filling out any part of it. The entry form and application must be in the office of Indiana Farm Bureau, PO Box 1290 Indianapolis, IN 46206, **on or before midnight(EST) August 1, 2008.**

NOTE: This applies to you and your spouse, if married. Please indicate "Husband" (H) and "Wife" (W) when applicable.

1. Applicant(s): _____
(As it will be used in the program & recognition)

Phonetic Pronunciation: _____

2. Address: _____

3. City & State: _____ Zip Code: _____ Phone: () _____ - _____

4. Date of Birth: H _____ W _____ Age: H _____ W _____

5. Education/Degree: H _____ W _____

Short courses or other specialized study: _____

6. Number of children: _____ Age(s) : _____

7. Please provide one of the following for verification purposes:

_____ copy of 1099 or W-2 form

_____ A letter of recommendation for your employer or company on letterhead that includes length of employment and a brief description of your job responsibilities.

I (we) hereby certify the information on this entry form and attached application to be accurate and true statements, made to the best of our ability. IFB reserves the right to use your photos and/or any video footage for use in promoting Farm Bureau. The photos and/or video footage of undersigned contestant may also be available to sponsors of Farm Bureau events. I have not derived a majority of my income from production agriculture in any of the past three years.

Applicant(s)

INDIANA FARM BUREAU
2008 ENTRY FORM
YOUNG FARMERS & RANCHERS EXCELLENCE IN AGRICULTURE AWARD

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

1. Give 5 to 8 lines description *to be used for display purposes throughout the Indiana Farm Bureau Annual Convention.*

2008 APPLICATION
YOUNG FARMERS & RANCHERS EXCELLENCE IN AGRICULTURE AWARD

I. Personal Background

Married Single Children _____

Education Level _____

II. A. How is your occupation involved in agriculture/agribusiness?

B. Please explain your personal involvement in production agriculture: (daily, seasonal)

III. What opportunities exist for you to have a positive impact on agriculture?

IV. List and explain three important issues that agriculture needs to address in the next 5 years.

V. Farm Bureau Experience

NOTE: This applies to you and your spouse, if married. Please indicate "Husband" (H) and "Wife" (W) when applicable.

List leadership roles you and your spouse have fulfilled in Farm Bureau indicating service on committees, boards or as officers.

| <u>COUNTY FARM BUREAU</u> | <u>YEARS</u> |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| | |

| <u>STATE/AMERICAN FARM BUREAU</u> | <u>YEARS</u> |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| | |

VI. Leadership Experience

- A. Other agricultural leadership positions held by you and your spouse such as Farm Credit, Soil Conservation, REC, FSA or other farm cooperatives.

ORGANIZATION

LEADERSHIP ROLE

| <u>ORGANIZATION</u> | <u>LEADERSHIP ROLE</u> |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| | |

- B. Community and Service Programs participated in by you and your spouse and leadership given. (Civic and service clubs, church, school, volunteer leadership, etc.)

ORGANIZATION

LEADERSHIP ROLE

| <u>ORGANIZATION</u> | <u>LEADERSHIP ROLE</u> |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| | |

VI. Leadership Experience (continued)

- C. List significant offices held or awards achieved while participating in youth organizations.

ORGANIZATION

LEADERSHIP ROLE

| <u>ORGANIZATION</u> | <u>LEADERSHIP ROLE</u> |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| | |

- D. What additional award(s) and recognition have you received in the past?

- E. What are your leadership goals for the next five years?