

# Excellence in Agriculture Award

## Summary



### Background

Virginia Farm Bureau's Excellence in Agriculture program is designed as an opportunity for young people to earn recognition for their service, while actively contributing and growing through their involvement in Farm Bureau and agriculture. Recognition and judging is based 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 agriculturalists (more than 50% of income acquired off the farm) that promote the agricultural industry through their daily routine.**

Virginia Farm Bureau will provide an expense-paid trip to the VFBF Annual Convention held in November to one winner from each of nine field districts. During convention the district winners will conduct a presentation for judges to determine a statewide Excellence in Agriculture winner. All finalists will be recognized during the convention for their achievements and the state winner will be sent to the American Farm Bureau convention the following January to compete for national honors.

### Eligibility

- **Be nominated** by anyone using the approved nomination form on page 2 of this summary. **Nominations must be sent to VFB W&YF Dept. by February 28<sup>th</sup>**
- **Submit a completed Excellence in Agriculture application form by March 31<sup>st</sup>**
- **District winners/Runners up must be Farm Bureau members** in good standing with their county Farm Bureau.
- An applicant can be either an individual or a married couple. If married, husband or wife may opt to apply as an individual.
- Competitors must be between 18 and 35 years of age and shall not have reached their 36th birthday by January 31st after the AFBF Annual Convention at which the competitive event is held.
- 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.
- Farm Bureau employees are not eligible, this also includes affiliate companies.
- Applicants must have derived a majority of their income from a non-production agriculture enterprise for the past three years. For example ag teacher, fertilizer salesperson, ag marketing, ag writer, farm employee (non-owner).

Completed Excellence in Agriculture applications received by VFB W&YF Dept. will undergo a review process to select the district winners. District winner will be notified by mail and directed on how to develop their presentation for the final judging at the VFB convention November.

Virginia Farm Bureau Young Farmers  
**Excellence in Agriculture Nomination**



Nomination for the Excellence in Agriculture Award can be made by anyone who is interested in recognizing a qualifying person for their outstanding achievements. Please see "summary" page for details.

**The ideal candidate(s) for the Excellence in Agriculture Award are either an individual or couple who are non-production agriculturalists and promote the agricultural industry through their daily work routine.**

On this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, I nominate \_\_\_\_\_  
of \_\_\_\_\_ County for the VFB Young Farmer Excellence in  
Agriculture Award.

**Reason(s) for nomination:**

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**Address and contact information for nominee:**

**Nominee:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**e-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_ **phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Nominator's name* \_\_\_\_\_

*phone* \_\_\_\_\_

*e-mail* \_\_\_\_\_

*Nominator's signature* \_\_\_\_\_

**Nominations must be sent by February 28<sup>th</sup> to:**

**Virginia Farm Bureau Attn: W&YF Dept.**

**P. O. Box 27552**

**Richmond, VA 23261**

***Form can be submitted electronically to: [ron.saacke@vafb.com](mailto:ron.saacke@vafb.com)***

An Excellence in Agriculture application will be mailed to the nominee with a letter of congratulations once this form is received by VFB. To receive additional information about contests please contact us at [YoungFarmers@vafb.com](mailto:YoungFarmers@vafb.com) or call 804-290-1032.