



# Alabama FFA Annual Report 2016-2017



## Overview

The FFA mission is to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agriscience education.

Agriscience education in Alabama is designed as a three-part model: Classroom and Laboratory Instruction, FFA and SAE (Supervised Agriculture Experience).

## Agriscience In Classroom

Classroom and laboratory instruction are the basis for everything done in agriscience education and is the foundation for a successful FFA Chapter. The agriscience education mission is to prepare students for successful careers and a lifetime of informed choices in global agriculture, food, fiber and natural resources systems.

## FFA

FFA is a career and technical student organization, based on middle and high school classes that promote and support agricultural education. Originally founded in 1925 at Virginia Polytechnic Institute, FFA became a nationwide organization in 1928 known as Future Farmers of America. In 1988 the name was changed to the National FFA Organization, now commonly referred to as FFA, to recognize that the organization is for those with diverse interests in the food, fiber and natural resource industries, encompassing science, business and technology in addition to production agriculture. Today FFA is among the largest youth organizations in the United



**2016 State FFA Officer Team— Top Row L-R: Ethan Mobley, State Vice President; Torran Smith, State Sentinel; Ben Castleberry, State Secretary. Bottom Row L-R: Hannah Black, State Reporter; Sierra Goodwin, State President; Becky Hawkins, State Treasurer**

States.

The Alabama FFA Association provides many opportunities for students to showcase what they have learned in the classroom. The Alabama FFA Association, founded in 1929, was the 36th state association chartered by the National FFA Organization.

In Alabama there are there 263 Chapters boasting more than 14,000 Students. A key to success of FFA is local chapter involvement. Agriscience programs at local public schools have a FFA advisor responsible for coordinating the activities of the local FFA chapter and informing the members of opportunities available to them through the organization. Local chapters develop a program of activities each year that serves as a road map for the chap-

ter's activities. Chapters across the state conduct various community service projects, chapter leadership development workshops or student development activities.

FFA in Alabama is divided into three districts: North, Central and South. District FFA Eliminations are conducted each year to reduce the number of teams competing in various agricultural-related contests known as Career Development Events (CDEs) at the state level. The districts also select officer teams each year through an application and interview process. These officers also conduct chapter visits, give speeches and conduct workshops for chapters.

Alabama FFA selects its best to represent the organization each year. Six state officers are elected to serve the organization at the annual state convention. The state officers serve on the Executive Committee of the Alabama FFA Association and conduct the business of the organization. The state officers also visit chapters and inspire chapters to be in a perpetual state of improvement.

## Supervised Agriculture Experience (SAE)

A student's SAE project is an extension of the classroom experience. The student has an opportunity to learn through hands-on applications outside of the regularly scheduled class time.

## Because you gave...



Donations to Alabama FFA provide prize money and travel money for contests. State

and national contests are events that students will carry memories from for a lifetime. These contests help build skills that you can use anywhere in life, improve communication skills and problem solving abilities and help boost self confidence. My personal experiences in FFA helped me to know exactly what I wanted to do with the rest of my life and I'm positive I'm not the only person this organization has impacted this way. Thank you to all our donors. You make these experiences possible.

**- Brian Lucas, Advisor, Thorsby FFA**

**Mission Statement:**  
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.

## Thank you to our Partners!

### Platinum Partners (\$15,000 +)



### Gold Partners (\$10,000-\$14,999)



Alabama Farmers Agriculture Foundation



### Silver Partners (\$5,000-\$9,999)



### Bronze Sponsors (\$2,500 — \$4,999)

Alabama Association of Conservation Districts  
Home Builder's Association of Alabama  
Southern Heritage Fundraising  
River Brite Citrus

Alabama Cattlemen's Association  
Alabama Contract Poultry Growers Association  
Alabama Poultry and Egg Association

### Five Star Partners (\$1,000 — \$2,499)

Alabama Forestry Foundation  
Alabama Sheriff's Association  
AL Soil and Water Conservation Committee  
Calhoun County Fair  
Marvin Wayne & Frankie Davis  
Southeastern Livestock Expo

Ed and Peggy Stringer  
Alabama Rural Electric Association  
Sarah P. Murchison  
Cargill Incorporated  
Jacob Davis  
Florida Fruit Association

Alabama Pork Producers  
National FFA Tractor Supply  
Jerry Newby  
Ward Farms  
Alabama National Guard  
Slidell Oil Company

### Four Star Partners (\$500 — \$999)

Elsanor Planting Company (Edward Kane)  
Laslie Hall  
Sarah Murchison  
Alabama Agribusiness Council  
Alabama Catfish Producers  
Douglass Thiessen

Alabama Wheat and Feed Grain Producers  
Dr. John Summerford  
Alabama Turfgrass Association  
Alabama Power Company  
Edgar and Peggy Stringer  
Ag Alumni Association of Auburn University

National FFA Foundation  
Thompson Tractor Company  
Alabama Council of Cooperatives  
Alabama Wildlife Federation  
WM J. Redmond & Son, Inc.

### Three Star Partners (\$250 — \$499)

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Covington Co. Farmers Federation  
Doug Rigney  
Jackson Co. Farmers Federation

Jeff Newman  
Lasater Farms (Scott Lasater)  
Maples Stock Farm (Tommy Maples)  
Paul & Patricia Smith

Sumter Co. Farmers Federation  
Reeves & Patel LLC  
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### Two Star Partners (\$100 — \$249)

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Birdsong Ag, LLC (William Birdsong)  
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Glynn Debter  
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James W. Fordham - Farms  
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Lamar Co. Farmers Federation  
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Curt Lee  
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Tallapoosa County Farmers Federation  
Autauga County Farmers Federation  
Macon County Farmers Federation  
Jefferson County Farmers Federation

Lamar County Farmers Federation  
Mobile County Farmers Federation  
Washington County Farmers Federation  
Shelby County Farmers Federation  
Macon Co. Farmers Federation  
Marengo Co. Farmers Federation  
Marion Co. Farmers Federation  
Mobile Co. Farmers Federation  
Monroe Co. Farmers Federation  
Morgan Co. Farmers Federation  
Paul Pinyan  
Perry Co. Farmers Federation  
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Russell Co. Farmers Federation  
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Tommy Martin  
Tuscaloosa Co. Farmers Federation  
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Bullock Co. Farmers Federation  
John & Carol Dorill  
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### One Star Partners (\$99 or less)

Robert Sitterson

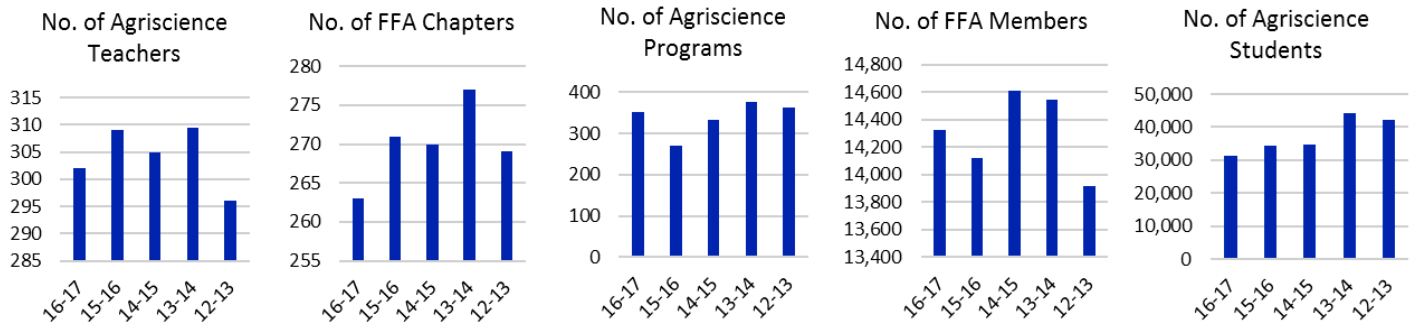
John Carpenter Ford

Carter & Huff

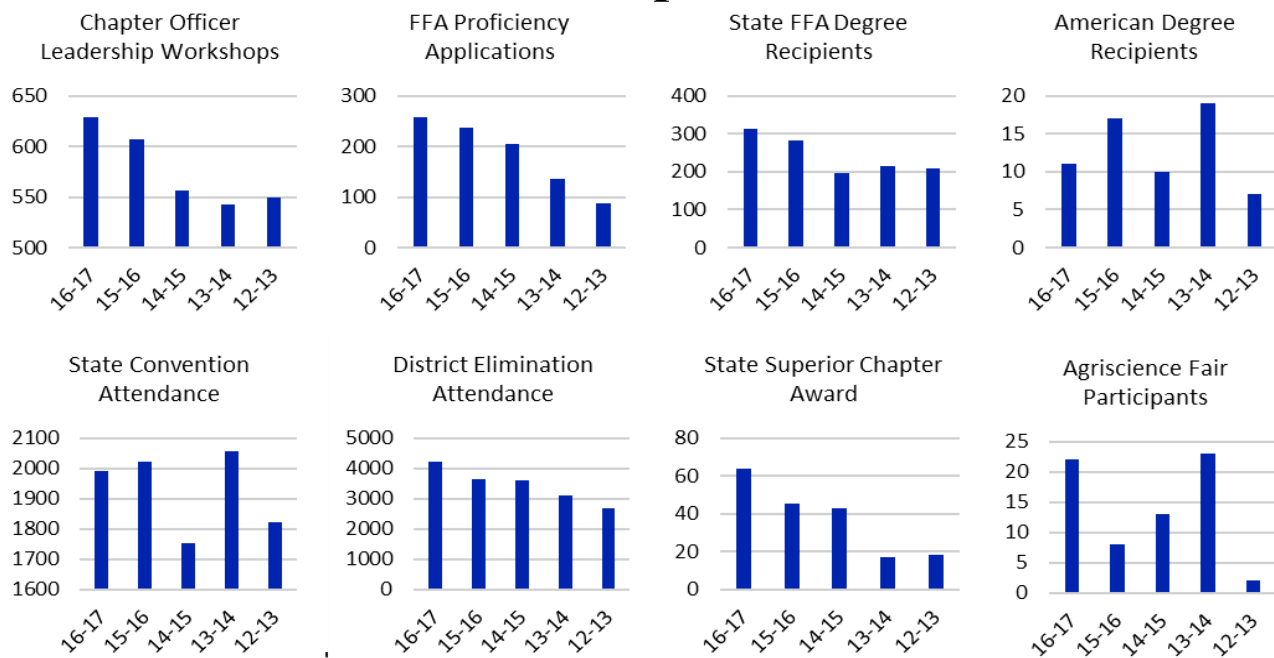
Tommy Eddy

Shawn Lambert

# Agriscience Education/FFA Statistical Information



## Alabama FFA Event Participation



Nearly 600 members of the Alabama FFA delegation to the 89th National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana.

**FFA Motto:**  
**Learning to Do**  
**Doing to Learn**  
**Earning to Live**  
**Living to Serve**

**Did You Know?**

You can donate to Alabama FFA online! Visit [alabamaffa.org](http://alabamaffa.org) and click on the "Partners" tab on the left-hand menu. We appreciate the support!

**"I believe in the future of agriculture..."**



# Alabama FFA and Agriscience Education Headlines

## Local FFA Member Wins National Award

Alabama FFA member, Trenton Thomas, was selected as winner of the National FFA Poultry Production proficiency award at the 90th National FFA Convention & Expo in Indianapolis in October. The National FFA Agricultural Proficiency Awards honor FFA members who, through their supervised agricultural experiences (SAEs), have developed specialized skills

they can apply toward their future careers. Thomas of the Goshen FFA Chapter grew up helping on his family's poultry farm. He works in eight broiler houses on a daily basis, working with 158,270 birds. His duties



Thomas is honored at National FFA Convention

include managing the operation, monitoring

and addressing problems, culling birds early in the growing process, as well as maintaining interior equipment, air quality, water, feed and ventilation systems. Thomas plans to attend Auburn University and study agribusiness management and poultry science. He is supported by his parents, Angie and Chris, and his FFA advisors, Cody Eiland and Jamie Rich. This award is sponsored by Tractor Supply Company and U.S. Poultry & Egg Association.

## Auburn Ag Ed Boasts Significant Growth

**Increasing Enrollment**—This has been the focus of Auburn University Agriscience Education faculty. Specifically, faculty has been focused on increasing enrollment in the undergraduate teacher certification program. With the help of a donation from the Alabama FFA Foundation, an Agriscience Education Ambassador program was recently established to accomplish this goal. Five undergrad Agriscience Education students were hired to be recruiters and program planners as a part of this effort.

In Spring 2017 alone, the Ambassadors visited eight high school agriculture classrooms, held one-on-one prospective student campus visits and set up a recruitment booth at the Chapter

Presidents' Conference, Spring Judging Clinics, College of Agriculture Open Houses and all three District Eliminations with an estimated total prospective student reach of over 3,000. These efforts resulted in 40 committed undergraduate Agriscience Education majors for Fall 2017, a 250 percent increase over Fall 2016.

The group has also established an Auburn University Agriscience Education Alumni Facebook page with the intention of reuniting alumni. Additionally, a student organization named FAST (Future AgriScience Teachers) has been established. This organization focuses on creating opportunities for pre-service teachers to connect with each other and current teachers and leaders in the field. In The organization hosted guest speakers and workshops to allow Ag Ed majors to learn about topics they feel are important, but that may not have been taught in their specific coursework.

The positive effects of hiring these Ambassador students has been tremendous and the department plans to hire more at least two more students to continue to grow the Agriscience Education program at Auburn University.

## Agriscience Education is one unit in the Career and Technical Education Section of the Alabama Department of Education.

### Dr. Ed Richardson

Interim State Superintendent of Education

### Ms. Collie Wells

Interim Deputy State Superintendent of Career and Technical Education and Workforce Development



### Agriscience Education - Montgomery Office

Education Administrator/State FFA Advisor—Jacob Davis

Education Specialist—Andy Chamness

Administrative Assistant—Pam Kilpatrick

### Agriscience Education- Auburn Field Office

Education Specialist/FFA Executive Secretary—Philip Paramore

Graphic Arts Technician—Kenny Boyd

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## Alabama FFA Association

P. O. Box 302101  
Montgomery, AL 36130-2101

Phone: 334-242-9114  
Fax: 334-242-0234

Visit us online at [www.alabamffa.org](http://www.alabamffa.org), [www.ffa.org](http://www.ffa.org)!

## Alabama FFA Foundation Board Members

### 2015-2016

Paul Pinyan (President) - AL Farmers Federation

Jim Cravey (Vice President) - Past State FFA Officer

Doug Thiessen (Secretary/Treasurer) - Alabama Ag Credit

Jacob Davis - State FFA Advisor

Doug Rigney - AL Farmers Federation-retired

Dr. Billy Powell - Alabama Cattlemen's Association

Sarah P. Murchison - AL Team AgEd

Chris Isaacson - AL Forestry Association

H. N. Lewis - AL Young & Adult Farmers Educ. Assoc.

Josh Johnson - WSFA Channel 12 Montgomery

Jerry A. Newby - Newby Farms

Cameron Catrett - President-AL FFA Association

Andrew Brock - AAAE Past President (Marshall Technical School)

Daryl Behel - AAAE President (Cherokee HS)

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