

Tennessee FFA Star Farmer

Sponsored by
Tennessee Farm Bureau
Federation



Purpose: The Tennessee Star Farmer award promotes excellence in FFA members who are developing their Supervised Agricultural Experience Program in the area of production agriculture. The winner is selected annually on the regional and state level from those FFA members who are applying for and have been selected to receive the State FFA Degree. A student must be in at least his third year of membership to apply for the degree.

Background: Being selected as a Star Farmer is one of the oldest and most cherished honors that an FFA member can receive. From the first Star Farmer of America, Carlton Patton, to Tennessee's own Star Farmer Joe Moore, who was featured on the cover of *Time Magazine* in 1955, to this year's state winner, the honor has been bestowed on the one who is considered the best in developing a program that will enable the member to be a successful farmer. To be eligible for this award, a member must:

- Currently be an active member of the FFA and be in at least the third year of membership.
- Carry on an accepted Supervised Agricultural Experience Program.
- Be pursuing a career in production agriculture.
- Be active in the activities of the local FFA chapter.
- Be selected as regional Star Farmer.

Applicants must indicate on the State FFA Degree form that they wish to be considered for Star Farmer. The top applicants will receive a visit from an impartial official to compare the applicants.

Visibility: The sponsor of this award will be recognized in the following ways:

- Statewide recognition through press releases to agricultural publications, local newspapers and various media.
- Statewide recognition at the state FFA convention in front of 2,500 FFA members, advisors and guests.
- Statewide recognition as donor in Annual Reports and on website.
- Name of business on plaques received by FFA members.

Budget: The annual cost of this three-year commitment is \$1300.00 each year. This amount of support each year will provide the award plaques with sponsor's name on each of three regional levels, communication on the statewide level, cash awards for the winners on the regional and state levels, and will pay travel expenses for the official who makes visits to each of the programs.

Expected Results: This partnership will generate added interest and excitement in this award area. Through this increased interest more students will focus their skill development in area of production agriculture.