

Missouri Farm Bureau's future, as well as the future of agriculture, hinges on the involvement of young farmers and ranchers.

As young farmers and ranchers (18-35 years of age), you are one of the most valuable resources of Missouri Farm Bureau and agriculture.

Your involvement in the heart of this organization is a key component of Farm Bureau's philosophy.

Contained in this brochure are three of the programs and leadership opportunities available to you.

For more information on any of these programs, contact your county office, district Young Farmer Chairman or the MFB Young Farmer/Rancher Department at (573) 893-1411 or (573) 893-1412.



Jason and Colleen Gerke

The Missouri Young Farmer and Rancher Contests have been some of the most beneficial activities we've participated in. When Colleen won the state Discussion Meet, she gained much more confidence in her public speaking skills and now feels more comfortable actively participating in meetings and group settings. It also gave her a greater understanding and broader view of timely issues affecting our industry. Participating in the Achievement Award sparked us to take a critical look at our business and reflect on what all we had achieved to this point, as well as where we needed to head in the future to reach our goals. At the National level, it was great to meet and network with other young farmers and ranchers and learn about what they were doing on their operations.

Jason Gerke

CONTEST SPONSORS



P.O. Box 658 • 701 S. Country Club • Jefferson City, MO 65102 • (573) 893-1400



OPPORTUNITIES



The future of Farm Bureau and agriculture depends on the willingness of Missouri's young farmers and ranchers to get involved!

for . . .


**Missouri
Young
Farmers
& Ranchers**

EXCELLENCE IN AGRICULTURE AWARD

Designed to recognize young farmers and ranchers who have not received a majority of their income from an owned production agriculture enterprise for the past three years.

This award is designed as an opportunity for young farmers and ranchers, while actively contributing and growing through their involvement in Farm Bureau and agriculture, to earn recognition. Participants will be judged on their involvement in agriculture, leadership ability, involvement and participation in Farm Bureau and other civic, service and community organizations. A panel of qualified judges will make the final selection of the state winner, who will be announced at the MFB Annual Meeting in December.

THE STATE WINNER WILL RECEIVE:

1. A new 2011 625i John Deere Gator, provided by  **FCS Financial Services**.
2. A \$500 cash award from the Ford Motor Company.
3. A \$500 cash award from the Missouri Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture.
4. Expense paid trip to the AFBF Convention in Honolulu, HI, January 2012.

RULES OF ELIGIBILITY ARE:

1. Must be a Farm Bureau member in good standing with their county Farm Bureau.
2. Must not have derived a majority of their income from an owned production agriculture enterprise for the past three years.
3. Competitors can be either an individual or a married couple (husband and wife) and shall be at least 18 and no more than 35 years of age as of January 31, 2012. If married, husband and wife may apply as individuals or as co-applicants.
4. Past state Achievement Award winners are not eligible to compete.
5. Entries are due by November 4, 2011.

DISCUSSION MEET

A forum to analyze agricultural problems and propose solutions.

The Discussion Meet is a group discussion designed to offer young farmers and ranchers the opportunity to discuss issues affecting agriculture today.

2011 TOPICS

1. Are the current and proposed Renewable Energy Policies beneficial to all segments of American agriculture? Why or why not?
2. How can we convince the public that the animal agriculture industry balances production efficiencies with the public's expectations of animal care?
3. Have farmers and ranchers effectively utilized social media to educate and influence the public? What strategies can be implemented to expand the interaction between producers and consumers?
4. How do we capitalize on the growing world demand for agricultural products?
5. What role, if any, should agriculture play in addressing health and obesity issues?

THE STATE WINNER WILL RECEIVE:

1. A \$500 cash award from the Ford Motor Company.
2. A \$500 cash award from the Missouri Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture.
3. Use of a Case-IH tractor in the range from the Farmall to Magnum models for one year (150 hour limit), or a \$2,000 credit toward the purchase of any CNH "serialized" product.
4. Expense paid trip to the AFBF Convention in Honolulu, HI, January 2012.

RULES OF ELIGIBILITY ARE:

1. Contestants must be at least 18 and no more than 35 years of age as of January 31, 2012.
2. Must be a Farm Bureau member in good standing with their county Farm Bureau, and engaged in production agriculture.
3. Entries are due by November 10, 2011. The state contest will be held and the winner announced at the MFB Annual Meeting in December.

ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Designed to recognize successful young farmers and ranchers.

This award program is designed to recognize the outstanding farmer and/or rancher based on farming operation, growth and financial progress of operations, and leadership experiences. A panel of qualified judges will make the final selection of the state winner, who will be announced at the MFB Annual Meeting in December. The "top 3" entries will receive one night's lodging and meals to attend the MFB Annual Meeting.

THE STATE WINNER WILL RECEIVE:

1. A \$500 cash award from the Ford Motor Company.
2. A \$500 cash award from the Missouri Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture.
3. A year's free use (350 hour limit) of a Kubota "M" series tractor with the option to purchase at the end of the year.
4. Expense paid trip to the AFBF Convention in Honolulu, HI, January 2012.

RULES OF ELIGIBILITY ARE:

1. Husband and wife must be at least 18 and no more than 35 years of age as of January 31, 2012.
2. Must be a Farm Bureau member in good standing with their county Farm Bureau, who is actively farming with the majority of their income from production agriculture.
3. Entries are due by September 9, 2011.



Find contest applications, along with all requirements and rules of eligibility, on our website at www.mofb.org.

(Click on the "Young Farmers & Ranchers" tab)