



United States Department of Agriculture

Farm Service Agency
Minnesota State Office
375 Jackson Street, Suite 400
St. Paul, MN 55101

Voice: (651) 602-7700
Fax: (651) 602-7743
www.fsa.usda.gov/mn

2011 Youth Agri-Business Management Award Sponsored by: USDA Farm Service Agency of Minnesota

USDA Farm Service Agency provides financial assistance to family size farmers and ranchers to help ensure the future well-being of American agriculture. Through the Rural Youth Loan program, the Farm Service Agency (FSA) provides financial assistance to rural youth to establish and operate income-producing projects of modest size. Youth applicants work directly with an FSA loan officer and a project advisor to secure financing. The FSA Rural Youth Loan program helps rural youth build a sustainable future in production agriculture.

This year, the USDA Farm Service Agency of Minnesota is partnering with Minnesota FFA to offer the 2011 Youth Agri-Business Management Award. The award was created to honor a young Minnesota agricultural entrepreneur who shows outstanding achievements through his or her Student Agricultural Experience with a \$250 award. Our goal is to recognize an individual passionate about Minnesota production agriculture that excels in business practices and financial management.

To qualify, applicants must:

1. Be a member of the Minnesota FFA.
2. Have a current youth loan with USDA Farm Service Agency during at least part of the time from **May of 2010 through February of 2011**. The FSA Youth loan could have either been made during this time or in an earlier year but the loan must have been active during part of this timeframe.
3. Be enrolled in a Student Agricultural Experience (SAE) involving an agriculture enterprise.

Applications must be completed and submitted to the applicant's chapter advisor no later than **February 25th, 2011**. The recipient will be announced and the award made during the 2011 Minnesota State FFA Convention.

To apply, please submit the following:

1. Application cover sheet (next page) listing the applicant's biographical information.
2. Complete the application questionnaire about the use of your USDA Farm Service Agency Youth Loan:
3. Applicant's Personal Resume
4. Supporting project/financial related documents, including, but not limited to, a balance sheet, a cash flow statement, marketing/business plan, and any additional media such as photos, videos, websites, PowerPoint presentations that highlight the applicant's project and accomplishments.
5. The Chapter Adviser must forward the application to the Farm Loan Office servicing the account within the required time frames.

For more information concerning the FSA Rural Youth Loan Program please contact your local USDA Farm Service Agency Office. You can find a list of locations on the web at www.fsa.usda.gov/mn. For questions concerning this application, please contact the Minnesota State FFA Foundation or the USDA Farm Service Agency State Office (Jeff Johnson 320-235-3540 x113 or jeff.johnson@mn.usda.gov).



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2011 Youth Agri-Business Management Award

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Application must be typewritten

Chapter #: _____

Member ID #: _____

Background Information:

Name: _____

Complete FFA Chapter Name: _____

Name of High School: _____

Complete Applicant Mailing Address: _____

Complete School Mailing Address: _____

Telephone Number (with area code): _____

School Telephone Number (with area code): _____

E-mail: _____

Parents/guardians Name: _____

e-mail: _____

Chapter advisor(s):

Name: _____

e-mail: _____

Name: _____

e-mail: _____

Name of SAE business or proposed business: _____

Year FFA membership began: _____

Year in school at time of applying for award: _____

Anticipated (or actual) graduation year: _____

Are your state and national FFA dues paid? _____

We have examined this application and find that the records are true, accurate and complete. We hereby permit the use of any information included in this application for publicity purposes with the exception of the following:

Candidate's Signature

Parent or Guardian Signature

Chapter Advisor Signature

Superintendent or Principal Signature
(indicate which)



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3. Lending Process – Describe your experience working with Farm Service Agency to secure a youth loan. What was the application process like? How did the FSA Farm Loan Officer assist you in your project? How did the youth loan adult supervisor assist?

4. Project Implementation - How is the product being marketed? What were the results? Describe your business strategies. Did your strategies work? Why or why not? What would you do differently?



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5. Discuss any challenges you encountered and how you were able to overcome these challenges.

6. Agri-Business Management – What did you learn about agri-business management practices including production agriculture techniques, financial management, and financial record keeping?



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7. Discuss the future of the project/business.

8. How does the project affect your future/career plans?