



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CONTACT: *Neil Bowman, director*
N.C. State Fair Livestock Shows
919-270-7094

Troxler announces 2017 N.C. State Fair Youth Livestock Scholarship recipients *28 students awarded \$2,000 each*

RALEIGH – Twenty-eight North Carolina students have been named recipients of 2017 N.C. State Fair Youth Livestock Scholarships, Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler announced.

The scholarships are designed for high school seniors and students currently enrolled in an institute of higher education who have participated in the junior livestock or market turkey shows at the N.C. State Fair.

The scholarships were funded by sponsors of the annual N.C. State Fair Junior Livestock Sale of Champions. The number of scholarships awarded each year is based on qualified applicants and funds available from the previous year's Sale of Champions. Because of strong support of the 2016 sale, 28 scholarships valued at \$2,000 each were awarded this year.

"We have awarded a total of \$158,000 in scholarships since starting this program in 2015," Troxler said. "These scholarships are an investment in the next generation of farmers and agribusiness leaders. I cannot thank our sponsors enough for their support of these young people."

A selection committee evaluated applicants based on their involvement with N.C. State Fair junior livestock shows, academic achievement, extracurricular activities and an essay. Each application was assigned a number and identifying information was removed before evaluation.

Following is a list of the scholarship recipients by county, along with the university or community college they will attend this fall:

Buncombe

- Tucker Worley, Leicester, North Carolina State University
- Ty Worley, Leicester, Haywood Community College

Cabarrus

- Cooper McAuley, Concord, N.C. State University

Davidson

- Madison Dyson, High Point, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- Abby Fulton, Lexington, University of North Carolina at Greensboro
- Tristen Fulton, Lexington, Iowa State University
- Kylie Ward, Lexington, University of Mount Olive

Edgecombe

- Ashley Wollett, Red Oak, Nash Community College

Franklin

- Joey Moore, Youngsville, N.C. State University

Harnett

- Mason Blinson, Buies Creek, Oklahoma State University

Haywood

- Caleb Henson, Canton, Haywood Community College
- (MORE)

- Jesse Henson, Canton, Oklahoma State University

Johnston

- Kelsey Bentley, Kenly, N.C. State University
- Cecilia Fricke, Middlesex, East Carolina University
- Macy Massengill, Princeton, N.C. State University
- Haley Stevens, Selma, Wilson Community College

Lenoir

- Mary Beth Tyndall, Deep Run, N.C. State University

Madison

- Bethany Mackey, Mars Hill, East Tennessee State University

Randolph

- Evan Gunter, Asheboro, N.C. State University

Rowan

- Lauren Luther, Mount Ulla, N.C. State University

Rutherford

- Megan Lawing, Bostic, Gardner-Webb University

Stanly

- LeAnn Harward, Richfield, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Stokes

- Rachel Brown, Walnut Cove, N.C. State University
- Brandon Hartman, Walnut Cove, N.C. State University

Wayne

- Alec Linton, Mount Olive, Methodist University

Wilson

- Liz-Anne Earle, Kenly, West Texas A&M University

Yadkin

- Christy Rucker, Hamptonville, University of North Carolina at Wilmington
- Leah Thomas, East Bend, Western Carolina University

The application for the 2018 scholarship class will be posted online at ncstatefair.org in early January 2018. The deadline to apply is March 1, 2018.

For more information on how individuals and organizations can support the 2017 Junior Livestock Sale of Champions or the scholarship program, contact Neil Bowman, director of N.C. State Fair livestock shows, at neil.bowman@ncagr.gov or 919-270-7094; or Angie Crone, sponsorship director, at angie.crone@ncagr.gov or 919-839-4514.