



(PHOTO: AFR Agent Randy Gilbert (*far left*), AFR District 3 Director Jim Shelton (*second from left*), AFR Agent Director District 4 Landon Jestis (*third from left*), Youth Coordinator Tailor Atkinson (*second from right*) and President Scott Blubaugh (*far right*) with 2022 AFR/OFU Cooperative Ag Achievement Contest winners.)

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Oklahoma Youth Top Agriculture Achievement Contest

OKLAHOMA CITY—Ten agricultural youth from across Oklahoma have earned top placings in the 2022 American Farmers & Ranchers (AFR) Agricultural Achievement Contest. The contest was conducted in conjunction with the Oklahoma Youth Expo (OYE) in Oklahoma City March 11-18. This year, AFR presented \$5,000 in prizes to contestants prior to the Oklahoma Youth Expo Grand Drive March 17.

The AFR Agricultural Achievement Contest recognizes outstanding youth in Oklahoma who display exceptional showmanship skills and possess extensive knowledge of the livestock industry, including production, management, processing and end product utilization.

“As an organization, we are proud to offer development and scholarship opportunities to the youth of Oklahoma,” said AFR President Scott Blubaugh. “Our annual Agricultural Achievement contest in particular is a great way for us to support the future of Oklahoma agriculture.”

Participation in the AFR Agricultural Achievement Contest is limited to Oklahoma junior and senior high school students who exhibit an animal at OYE. Contestants participate in showmanship rounds with their OYE animal and take a written test about the livestock industry. The top 10 finalists are interviewed on their individual livestock project and the industry as a whole to determine final placing.

The 2022 AFR Ag Achievement Top Ten are:

First Place: Kaylea Taylor, Mulhall-Orlando

Second Place: Taylor McConnell, Wellston

Third Place: Kaleigh Ohl, Wellston

Fourth Place: Karson Osborn, Fort Gibson

Fifth Place: Macy Koch, Perry

Sixth Place: Dax Delozier, Adair

Seventh Place: Corbin Clark, Morris

Eighth Place: Josie Doshier, Woodland

Ninth Place: Colton Jasper, Jones

Tenth Place: Auburn Lane, Owasso

The AFR Ag Achievement Contest is just one of many AFR Youth Program traditions. The organization also hosts a youth leadership summit, statewide scholarships, speech contests, livestock judging and grading competitions, and many other development opportunities. For more information on this contest or other AFR Youth Program projects, contact AFR Youth Development Coordinator Tailor Fields at (405)218-5566 or tailor.fields@afrmic.com.

AFR Cooperative is a membership services organization established in 1905 as Oklahoma Farmers Union. AFR provides educational, legislative and cooperative programs across the state and serves as a watchdog for Oklahoma's family farmers and ranchers and rural communities. The organization is actively supportive of the state's agricultural industry and rural population with membership consisting of farmers actively involved in production agriculture and non-farmers adding their voice in support of AFR principles.

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