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August 5, 2022– for immediate release

**27 SD FFA Agri-scientists Advance to National Competition**

(Bath, SD) - The National FFA Agriscience Fair is a competition for FFA members interested in the science and technology of agriculture. Students compete in one of six categories: animal systems; environmental services/natural resources systems; food products and processing systems; plant systems; power, structural and technical systems; or social systems. There are Jr. High, 9-10th grade, and 11-12th grade divisions.

State FFA Agriscience Fair winners submit their written research papers to the national level and ten projects in each division are selected to advance and present their project for competition at the national level. Finalists will give a presentation on their project over zoom to judges and the top three in each division will be announced and recognized on stage during the National FFA Convention. National FFA just released the finalists to advance as national finalists and SD has 18 individual and team projects, consisting of 27 FFA members that will be competing at the national level:

**Animal Systems Category**

Julianne Grady, McCook Central, Division 1

Colton Stiefvater, McCook Central, Division 3

**Environmental Services/Natural Resource Systems Category**

Noah Felderman, Doland, Division 1

Ty Oyen & Gage Egger, Tri-Valley, Division 2

Karlie Stiefvater, McCook Central, Division 3

Harlee Nielson & Mikael Nielson, Hitchock-Tulare, Division 4

Andrew Rick & Bennett Sebert, West Central FFA, Division 6

**Food Products and Processing Systems Category**

Gracie Pedersen & Clara VanDerVliet, Tri-Valley, Division 2

**Plant Systems** **Category**

Deegan Moes, Doland, Division 1

Tanner Eide, Gettysburg, Division 3

Grace DiGiovanni, McCook Central, Division 5

**Power, Structural and Technical Systems Category**

Zane McCormick, McCook Central, Division 1

Tucker Peterson & Gavin Kipp, McCook Central, Division 2

Brody Ahlquist & Hunter Foster, Tri-Valley, Division 4

**Social Systems Category**

Summer Koch, McCook Central FFA, Division 1

Kaylee Klinkhammer & Karlee Klinkhammer, McCook Central FFA, Division 2

Lauren Roling & Madison Lauck, McCook Central, Division 4

McKenna Sichmeller & Josslin Jarding, West Central, Division 6

Finalists receive a travel stipend to assist with expenses as a special project of the SD FFA Foundation, sponsored by Eichacker Simmentals, Salem Veterinary Service, Dakota Hills Veterinary Clinic, DeTye Vet Supply, the Franken Family, Fall River Feedyard, Dakota Hills Veterinary Clinic, Fall River Veterinary Clinic, Buffalo Ranch Supply, First Dakota National Bank, Ducks Unlimited, Koupal Lazy EY Angus Ranch, Dry Creek Farm & Ranch, the Pennington County Conservation District, ProAg Engineering, Inc., the South Dakota Retailers Association, McCook Central FFA, Next Level Ag, Central Farmers Cooperative, Farm Credit Services of America, The First National Bank in Sioux Falls, Brian and Codi Mills, Carl and Kari Sanders, Jim Chilson, Meyerink Farm Service, Butler Machinery, CTE Global, Inc., Dacotah Bank, ADM Harrold, Miller, Tulare, Bayer, SD Biotech Association, Farmers Mutual of Nebraska, Pioneer-Corteva, and BankWest.

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