

Texas Farm Bureau Outstanding Young Farmer & Rancher Contest 2016 Rules and Awards

BACKGROUND

The Texas Farm Bureau (TFB) annually conducts an Outstanding Young Farmer & Rancher (YF&R) Contest. Selection of the winning YF&R competitor is based on his/her efforts in production agriculture and leadership achievement. Participation in this program with individual recognition and the resulting publicity will help build the individual and the organization. **The ideal candidate(s) for the Outstanding YF&R Award is an individual or couple involved in production agriculture with a majority of his/her income subject to normal production risks.**

Information about the Outstanding YF&R Award applicant is requested on the entry form. All information is handled in strict confidence and is destroyed after judging is completed.

PRIZES AND AWARDS

ALL APPLICANTS

1. \$100 service voucher (sponsored by Chevrolet Certified Service).

THREE FINALISTS

1. Expense paid trip for finalist and spouse to annual meeting in San Antonio, December 2016 where state winner announced.

TWO FINALISTS

1. Pair of Justin boots (sponsored by Justin Brands, Inc.).
2. Power tool (sponsored by Grainger).
3. \$500 cash (sponsored by Southern Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company).

STATE WINNER

1. Chevrolet ¾ ton diesel, 4-door, 4-wheel drive Silverado pickup (sponsored by Texas Farm Bureau Insurance Companies).
2. One year use of a Case IH Farmall series tractor (Sponsored by Case IH).
3. \$5,000 cash (sponsored by Farm Credit).
4. \$750 service voucher (sponsored by Chevrolet Certified Service).
5. Expense paid trip for the state winner and spouse to compete in the American Farm Bureau Federation Achievement Award during the 2017 AFBF Convention in Phoenix, AZ (provided by Texas Farm Bureau).

AFBF NATIONAL Awards

Winner receives - Choice of either a 2017 Chevrolet Silverado or 2017 GMC Sierra, paid registration to the AFBF FUSION Conference in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on Feb.10-13, 2017. Winner and two Finalists receive - a Case IH Farmall 50A, \$2,500 cash prize and \$500 in STIHL merchandise.

ELIGIBILITY

- An applicant can be either an individual or a couple that is married and a current member to the Texas Farm Bureau. Married applicants will apply as a couple if both spouses meet all other eligibility requirements.
- Applicant(s) shall be Texas Farm Bureau member(s) between the ages of 18 and 35 in good standing with his/her county Farm Bureau. The individual or spouse shall have reached his/her 18th birthday at the time he/she qualifies for the national competition and shall not have reached his/her 36th birthday by Jan. 31, 2017.
- Applicant(s) must be actively engaged in farming and/or ranching, with the majority of his/her income coming from production agriculture.
- Applicant(s) may compete in the Excellence in Agriculture or the Outstanding YF&R, but not both.
- Past and present members of the AFBF Young Farmers & Ranchers Committee and/or their spouse are not eligible to compete.
- Past state Outstanding YF&R Award winners are not eligible to compete.
- Current employees of county, state and/or American Farm Bureaus and their affiliates are not eligible to compete.
- Each applicant must use the Texas Farm Bureau entry form and application.
- There is no limit on the number of entries from each county.

ENTRY FORM & APPLICATION GUIDELINES

- Do not use applicant's name, the name of his/her city or county, or any names that may bring about the recognition or identification of the applicant beyond the entry form.
- The entry form and application must be completed in first person narrative (i.e. I, me, we, etc.) for questions I-VI. Applicants must use "A1" and "A2" to denote each applicant for all of question VII.
- Do not use abbreviations or acronyms.
- Do not bind or restructure this application. (Leave the application as is)

Note: Disregarding any of the guidelines listed above will result in disqualification.

JUDGING

- The entry form and application of each entry will be coded upon receipt by TFB. The applicant's name and county will not be revealed to the judges until judging is completed.
- Values used in judging at all levels will be:

Farm Operation and Growth:	70 points
How Operation was Acquired:	60 points
Farm Bureau Leadership:	40 points
Other Leadership:	30 points (Agriculture = 15 points, Community = 10 points, Goals = 5 points)
Total:	200 points

DISTRICT LEVEL JUDGING

- A panel of three qualified judges will select each District winner. The District winners will be judged by an additional panel of three qualified judges who will review the written applications and determine the three finalists.

THREE FINALISTS JUDGING

- An additional panel of three qualified judges will review the applications and visit the top 3 finalists on their farm and/or ranch. From this process the overall winner will be determined.
- The on farm/ranch interviews will be up to 3 hours in length.
- During the visit/interview process, only the named applicant(s) on the entry form are permitted.

PHOTOGRAPHS

Applicant may provide pictures of the operation. Pictures should be mounted in some way that will keep them in order and will facilitate copying on a machine. It is important that you explain what each picture is. Mounting on a sheet of heavy paper with a caption under each picture or simply scanned and copied on plain paper is desirable. **Do not send in loose individual pictures with captions written on the back. Picture should not identify the applicant, or his/her city or county.**

DEADLINE

Application must be postmarked **no later than August 31, 2016**. Mail to:

Texas Farm Bureau
ATTN: YF&R Coordinator
P.O. Box 2689
Waco, TX 76702-2689

This application and information is also available at [http://www.texasfarmbureau.org/yfr/.](http://www.texasfarmbureau.org/yfr/)

Texas Farm Bureau Outstanding Young Farmer & Rancher Contest 2016 Entry Form

Please submit this form and application via mail, post marked no later than August 31, 2016. No emailed entry forms or applications will be accepted.

The data below and throughout the application applies to you and your spouse, if married. Please indicate "Applicant 1" (A1) and "Applicant 2" (A2) on question VI.

Applicant(s)*: A1 _____ A2 _____
First Middle Last First Middle Last

**Will be used in the program and for recognition*

Phonetic Pronunciation: _____

Address: _____

_____ _____ _____
City State Zip Code

Phone: _____
A1 A2

Email: _____
A1 A2

Date of Birth: _____
A1 A2

Education/Degree: _____
A1 A2

Short Courses/Specialized Study: _____
A1 A2

Number of Children: _____ Ages: _____

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

A. 3-line description of your operation (include uniqueness) for use during Awards & Recognition Program.

B. Please elaborate on the above description (5 to 8 lines) to be used for display purposes throughout the TFB Annual Meeting.

I (we) hereby certify the information on this entry form and attached application to be accurate and true statements. Texas Farm Bureau reserves the right to use my (our) photos and/or any video footage for use in promoting Farm Bureau. The photos and/or video footage of the undersigned contestant(s) may also be available to Farm Bureau sponsors. By participating in the Event, I (we) warrant that I (we) fully and unconditionally agree to and accept the YF&R official contest rules and the decisions of the TFB YF&R Committee, which are final and binding.

Applicant(s) Signature(s): _____
A1 A2

I hereby certify the above named applicant(s) is an entry from _____ county and is therefore eligible to be entered in and considered for 2016 Texas Farm Bureau's Outstanding YF&R Award.

County Farm Bureau President: _____
Signature Date County

**Texas Farm Bureau
Outstanding Young Farmer & Rancher Contest
2016 Application**

Note: This application should reflect the operations of the immediate past tax accounting year. Remember to complete the application using first person narration for questions I-VI, and using A1 and A2 for question VII.

I. PERSONAL BACKGROUND (family, education and personal interests) –
Approximately 1,500 characters

II. AGRICULTURAL STATUS (Select all that apply) –

A. Owner Renter Manager

Please explain if:

Partnership Corporation Joint Venture Other

Explanation – Approximately 250 characters:

B. Please indicate and justify the percentage of contribution in the operation by the applicant(s) in the following areas:

_____ % personal capital involved

_____ % management/decision making

C. Please list specific responsibilities of the applicant(s) – Approximately 900 characters:

D. Total acres operated: _____ Acres Owned: _____

E. Year applicant(s) started farming or ranching: _____

III. AGRICULTURAL OPERATION (continued) – *Approximately 2,000 characters per section*

C. Please be creative in explaining the operation if the agricultural enterprise does not fit within Sections A and B

III. AGRICULTURAL OPERATION (continued) – *Approximately 2,500 characters per section*

D. How was the agricultural operation acquired? Indicate, in narrative form, what portion of the operation was purchased or personally earned by the applicant(s), acquired through inheritance, or acquired through partnership conversion, rental, or by a contract or management arrangement.

III. AGRICULTURAL OPERATION (continued) – *Approximately 2,500 characters per section*

- E. List other agricultural or related business enterprises, describing the size, relationship and importance to the total operation (i.e., custom harvesting, processing, ag tourism, etc.).

III. AGRICULTURAL OPERATION (continued) - *Approximately 5,000 total characters*

- F. Describe significant changes, expansion or improvement in management and marketing practices, and the acquisition of agricultural machinery, equipment and irrigation systems, and/or buildings built or devised by the applicant(s) since his/her involvement in the operation began.

IV. APPLICANT'S FINANCIAL POSITION – *Approximately 2,500 characters per section*

Note: All information submitted is regarded as confidential, and upon completion of judging, all applications are returned to the AFBF office to be destroyed.

- A. Indicate other sources of income and property acquisition during the years the applicant(s) has been farming, such as off-farm employment, spouse/spousal-equivalent's income, gifts, prizes and/or inheritances.

IV. APPLICANT'S FINANCIAL POSITION (Continued) – *Approximately 2,500 characters per section*

- B. Discuss any unusual situations/problems that may have affected the operation that the applicant(s) has overcome and solved.

IV. APPLICANT'S FINANCIAL POSITION (Continued) – *Approximately 2,500 characters per section*

- C. In narrative form, please outline major agricultural machinery, equipment or buildings designed or built by the applicant during the years you have been farming and/or ranching as covered in this report. Please include pictures if possible.

V. PROGRESS OF OPERATION (continued) – *Approximately 2,500 characters per section*

B. Describe ways in which the applicant(s) measures and evaluates the management of his/her farming operation.

V. PROGRESS OF OPERATION (continued) – *Approximately 2,500 characters per section*

C. Indicate plans the applicant(s) has for future expansion, improvements or changes in the agricultural operation.

VI. GOALS

- A. What goals does the applicant(s) have for the next five years related to his/her career, Farm Bureau involvement and involvement in other organizations? *Approximately 5,000 characters*

VI. GOALS - Section A (Continued) - *Approximately 5,000 total characters*

