

# Colorado Agricultural Education Weekly Update

RDU

11/16/2009

## [FFA Live Calendar](#)

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**November, 2009** Event or Report Due Submit/Mail to or Request Info from:

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√ Make motel reservations for lodging at State Convention

6 Membership Invoices and Rosters Distributed for Review and Payment [FFA](#)  
15 News articles for Colorado FFA Newsletter Dues [FFA](#)  
15 Gates Interest – Free Loan Application Due [FFA](#)

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**December, 2009** Event or Report Due Submit/Mail to or Request Info from:

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√ Make Reservations for National Western Stock Show

1 Submit Payment for FFA Dues – *Check must be postmarked by due date to qualify for Superior/ National Chapter Award & CDE Participatio*

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**January, 2010** Event or Report Due Submit/Mail to or Request Info from:

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√ Set District Review date of State Degree Applications/Record Books.

√ Invite State officer for certification (*Required at Final Review only*)

9-24 National Western Stock Show – Denver [NWSS](#)  
19 State FFA Executive Committee Meeting – Denver [FFA](#)  
National Western Stock Show FFA & CYFEA Day  
Heifer Wrangle Contest  
26-28 Colorado Farm Show – Greeley

## Topics included this week's pontifications

- [Update from National FFA](#)
- [Where has the state office been?](#)
- [FFA Dues Invoices](#)
- [SAE Grants Due](#)
- [Young Farmer Membership Grants](#)
- [Convention Housing Block](#)
- [Colorado Teacher Showcased in National Publication](#)
- [FREE Lesson Plans on Biotechnology](#)
- [National FFA Scholarship Program Goes Live](#)
- [Beef Industry Scholarship](#)
- [Campbell's Tomato Seeds](#)

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Some of you may have noticed that you hadn't heard much out of my office since national convention. Rest assured, I'm not ignoring you, nor was I offended by some of the clever comments I received back on my last update and the reference to plentiful pontifications from the desk of the program director. It's just that we've been a bit busy here completing the first phase of the CTE / Ag Ed Standards project. The final drafts of our standards were presented to the State Board of Education by Scott Stump. At the completion of his presentation on the work all the CTE teachers had put in and the results of their efforts the board and audience at the meeting all applauded. According to those who have attended board meetings in the past, THIS DOESN'T HAPPEN!

I believe this is an indication of the impact our work developing new standards will have on the education world. Five of the six pathway standards for ag are posted for public viewing at [http://www.coloradostateplan.com/content\\_standards.htm](http://www.coloradostateplan.com/content_standards.htm). Somehow natural resources/environmental science haven't gotten up yet, but should be up by early next week. Take a look at the product of countless hours of work by Dr. Enns and over 35 Colorado ag teachers. The ag content standards that you helped develop went through three grueling days of validation of the core content knowledge that is imbedded. Many thanks to John Haddan, Carl Beaman and Leon Hanhardt for their time supporting and explaining how ag would deliver a math, science or communication standard as a part of the lesson. At times they had to tell the core subject specialists that no, we don't deliver that standard. This happened more often than them telling us we didn't deliver the standard. It was an interesting and educational process to say the least.

The good news is we have the standards drafted and posted.

The good news is also this project is not nearly completed!

Here is what we see in the near future that needs to be completed.

- Identification of Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness standard linkage to ag standard outcomes
- Development of a delivery site / course builder for new standards
- Reestablishment of links between content standards and curriculum units of instruction in Animal, Plant and Ag Management curriculums
- Revision of four curriculums to ensure identified core content ( math science & communications) outcomes are effectively addressed in the instructional content
- Development of curriculums for Ag Power, Structures & Technology, Natural Resources & Food Product/ Processing pathways
- Determine how to meet Perkins IV expectations of technical knowledge and skill assessment

As you can see, we'll be working on this project for the next several years. Those of you thinking about doing a masters project might want to explore possibilities for credit work through this effort. For now we are all catching a quick breather from the project while we determine how we're moving forward.

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I commend you on excellent work so far. I'm proud of what has been created and am excited for the future as we use these ag content standards to frame our classroom instruction in Colorado ag classrooms.

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**FFA dues** invoices were emailed last week and snail mailed this week. If you haven't received an invoice contact Kenton immediately so he can follow up on the problem. Your dues are to be paid to the state association by Dec 1. Get this invoice to your schools treasurer immediately so it doesn't get delayed over the Thanksgiving vacation. Dec 1 is Tuesday after the holiday vacation so don't wait!!!!

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**SAE Grants** to national must be postmarked by next Monday. We've found that the application has a glitch on the top of the cover page that blocks the state name. Rosalie Hunsinger at national just sent me a revised document that you can use if you so choose. If you've already printed and signed the original version don't worry about it. The problem wasn't caused on our end so won't have any impact on the selection process. Don't forget, there are four grants that are specific to Colorado so don't miss this opportunity.

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**Colorado Young Farmers** with support of Mountain Plains Farm Credit are once again providing grants for Young Farmer Chapter membership growth and expansion. If you have a chapter or are considering starting a chapter you might want to look into this opportunity. There is \$175 provided to existing chapters to promote a membership activity and \$300 to new chapters for membership drives. The grant will also pay new members state and national dues for their first year as well as pay for registration for the chapter advisor to attend summer institute. If you're interested contact Jack Annan at [Jack.annan@njc.edu](mailto:Jack.annan@njc.edu)

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**B**efore Convention I contacted the schools participating in the National FFA Convention housing block concerning the hotel draw for the remaining three years in Indy. As I mentioned before the process, it wasn't look good for our chances to get the same locations as we have had the past four years. Well, I was correct in my assumptions. By the time Colorado's chance to select hotels came up there were no rooms left downtown at all.

For the next three years at Indianapolis all of our rooms in the state housing block will be just east of the Indianapolis airport. We were able to block 65 double/ double rooms at the Wyndam and 53 at the Quality Inn. Cost at the Wyndam is \$153.81 (\$38.45 / student) and \$107.72 (\$26.93 / student) at the Quality Inn. I know this isn't going to be as convenient as the downtown rooms we've had in the past, but it was the best available for the money and location. If you want to continue staying downtown I suggest you work together and go through the housing service to get your rooms. A single chapter can reserve rooms for several other chapters through the housing service. All you'll need to do is distribute the

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reservation # to each chapter to use when sending in registration next summer. Housing opens sometime this fall so if you desire downtown rooms you want to be early with your requests. I'll watch for the notification from NFFA and let you know when it opens.

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Once again the national FFA has looked to Colorado to showcase teachers who are doing it right in the classroom. The latest Life Knowledge newsletter has a feature article on Cara Heid and how she utilizes a comparison to baking for teaching the welding process. Take a few minutes and read it [here](#).

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**FYI** the rest of this update are forwards from National FFA and other entities. They are included here as a service to the field, but should not be counted against the author of this document in the analysis of the degree of pontification found in this update.

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**Monsanto** has made available a number of resources for teachers to use in their classrooms at no cost. The newest resource is a series of Trait Stewardship Lesson Plans that provide students with the opportunity to learn about biotechnology's techniques, practical application and related careers. These materials are available to teachers in a variety of easy-to-use activities - discussion topics, case studies, readings, hands-on labs and Internet activities - that can be modified to match classroom needs.

The Trait Stewardship Lesson Plans as well as other resources of potential interest are available on Monsanto's <http://www.monsanto.com/> website and can be accessed directly by visiting:

<http://www.monsanto.com/responsibility/youth/educationaloutreach/biotechnology.asp#biotech>

Julie Fritsch

Communications/Marketing Coordinator

National Association of Agricultural Educators

1-800-509-0204

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Dear State FFA Staff:

The 2010 National FFA Collegiate Scholarship program goes live **November 15, 2009**. As in the past, we would appreciate your assistance in distributing the following information to advisors in your state.

To register and submit an online application, students can go to the FFA homepage at [www.ffa.org](http://www.ffa.org) and click the "Scholarship" link. They may also go directly to the Scholarship homepage at [http://www.ffa.org/index.cfm?method=c\\_programs.Scholarships](http://www.ffa.org/index.cfm?method=c_programs.Scholarships).

FFA applications must have advisor approval. A complimentary email will be sent to advisors when a student has submitted an application for review. However, it is not necessary to wait for the notice. Advisors may login at their convenience and view the status of **all** applicants from their chapter. To view applications, advisors will go to [www.ffa.org](http://www.ffa.org), click the "scholarship" link, then the **2010 Scholarship Application** link. Password and log in information for advisors is available from the state office.

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**Applications must be submitted electronically by 5:00 p.m. EST February 15, 2010. Required Signature Pages must be mailed through the U.S. Postal Service postmarked no later than February 22, 2010.** Note: Applicants cannot print the required Signature Page until after advisor approval. Applicants will not be able to access the Print Signature Page link after 11:59 p.m. EST on February 22, 2010.

Helpful Tools including Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ), Important Notes, scoring rubrics and sample applications will be available on the Scholarship homepage as of November 15, 2009. A list of specific information necessary to complete the application is on the Application homepage. Students should have that information in hand before beginning the application process.

As always, we suggest advisors encourage their high school seniors and collegiate FFA members to apply early in the event they experience technical issues and to provide ample time for advisor approval and collection of endorsements on the signature page.

We are looking forward to another record response this year. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, comments or concerns. I can be reached by phone through the Scholarship Hotline at 317-802-6099 or via email at [scholarships@ffa.org](mailto:scholarships@ffa.org).

Thank you!

**Teri Buchholtz**

Program Manager  
Awards and Recognition Team  
National FFA Organization  
PO Box 68960  
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Phone: 317-802-4419  
Fax: 317-802-5419  
[tbuchholtz@ffa.org](mailto:tbuchholtz@ffa.org)  
[www.ffa.org](http://www.ffa.org)

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Sue Dolph, [sdolph@beef.org](mailto:sdolph@beef.org) or 303-850-3389  
Marvin Kokes, [mkokes@beef.org](mailto:mkokes@beef.org) or 303-850-3339

### Students Encouraged to Apply for Beef Industry Scholarships

DENVER (Nov. 11, 2009) - Applications are now being accepted for the 2010-2011 Beef Industry Scholarship program, sponsored by the CME Group and presented by the National Cattlemen's Foundation. All entries must be postmarked by Dec. 1, 2009.

Ten scholarships of \$1,500 will be awarded to young people pursuing careers in the beef industry. The program encourages talented and thoughtful students who have demonstrated a commitment to a career in the beef industry, either through classes, internships or life experience. Graduating high school seniors or full-time undergraduate students enrolled at a two-year or four-year college for the 2010-2011 academic school year are eligible to apply. Applicants or their families must be members of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association to receive the scholarship.

Applications must include a 750-word essay that identifies a key issue confronting the beef industry and suggests a solution. Applicants must also submit a letter expressing future career goals and provide two letters of recommendation. A full description of the scholarship program, submission requirements and an online application can be found at [National](#)

The Colorado Community College System does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs or activities. Please direct inquiries to the CCCS AA/EEO officer, Cynthia Hier, at 720-858-2791 or via email at [cynthia.hier@cccs.edu](mailto:cynthia.hier@cccs.edu).

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[Cattlemen's Foundation](#) or by calling 303-694-0305.

In addition to a scholarship, the first-place winner will receive airfare and lodging to attend the 2010 Cattle Industry Annual Convention and Trade Show in San Antonio, Texas, Jan. 27–30.

Launched in 1989 as part of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Live Cattle Futures Contract on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, the Beef Industry Scholarship program is a partnership effort of the CME Group and the National Cattlemen's Foundation. CME Group has been a leader in the live cattle market since 1964, and the Beef Industry Scholarship Program exemplifies their commitment to the beef industry.

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Dear FFA State Leaders, Agriculture Teachers and Sign-up List from FFA Convention,

Hope this email finds you well. The National FFA is proud to continue its partnership with Campbell Soup Company and its *Help Grow Your Soup*<sup>™</sup> program. To date, Campbell has pledged up to \$500,000 to champion our agricultural education programs that will help our students become future leaders in the agriculture industry and their communities.

**Free Seeds!** Once again, Campbell is giving away its specially-cultivated tomato seeds as part of its *Help Grow Your Soup* program. Since there are limited quantities, Campbell wanted to share this opportunity with you and your members before they promote it to the general public. You may have heard about the opportunity at FFA Convention last week, but starting today, when you visit [www.HelpGrowYourSoup.com](http://www.HelpGrowYourSoup.com), you can enter the special UPC code – **CU01 Minestrone** – to apply and receive a FREE\* packet of Campbell seeds. Now you can grow the same tomatoes that go into many of Campbell's condensed soup including its iconic *Campbell's*<sup>®</sup> Tomato soup.

**Vote to Support FFA!** When you visit [www.HelpGrowYourSoup.com](http://www.HelpGrowYourSoup.com), you can learn about 10 barns in need of preservation and cast a vote for your favorite. For each vote, Campbell will donate \$1.00 to the National FFA (up to \$250,000). The five barns with the most votes will be preserved by the Campbell Soup Company, National FFA Alumni Association, FFA youth leaders and the local community next year.

Please share the special code with your FFA colleagues and students so they can receive a free packet of seeds and encourage more people to visit the website to vote and support the FFA!

\*Offer valid until 1/5/10 or while supplies last. Limit one request per household. Good only in USA, Puerto Rico. Void where taxed, restricted or prohibited by law. Allow 8 weeks for handling and delivery.

Best regards,

**Will Fett**

Regional Director

National FFA Foundation

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