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## **NEWS FROM NEW YORK FARM BUREAU**

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For Immediate Release: December 9th, 2015

## **NYFB Announces Award Winners at State Annual Meeting**

Albany, NY – At its State Annual Meeting in Albany, NY, New York Farm Bureau presented a number of awards at its Tuesday night awards banquet to those members and counties that have excelled in the Farm Bureau mission to "serve and strengthen agriculture." The dinner, sponsored by Farm Credit East, announced awards for Young Farmers, Promotion and Education, and Membership.

The Young Farmer program handed out three awards for their annual contests. Winners of these awards will represent New York at the American Farm Bureau Annual Meeting this January in Orlando, Florida. The New York State Discussion Meet champion was Lonny Schaefer from Delaware County, the Excellence of Agriculture award was presented to Sarah Blood from Schoharie County and the 2015 New York State Achievement Award winner was Michael Jennings from Montgomery County.

Membership is a crucial part of Farm Bureau and many individuals took an active role in the campaign to increase numbers. Many individuals worked tirelessly to recruit new members and 40 people were awarded for their efforts.

Lastly, New York Farm Bureau awards the "Farm Bureau Key" to counties that excel in overall program accomplishment. Four counties won the 2015 Gold Key Award. They are Delaware, Tompkins, Monroe, and Chautauqua County Farm Bureaus.

New York Farm Bureau is the State's largest agricultural lobbying/trade organization. Its members and the public know the organization as "The Voice of New York Agriculture." New York Farm Bureau is dedicated to solving the economic and public policy issues challenging the agricultural community.