

**Indiana Farm Bureau  
Young Farmers & Ranchers Achievement Award  
Rules for 2008 Annual Convention Competitive Event**

**Background**

The Indiana Farm Bureau annually conducts a Young Farmers Achievement Award competitive event. State Farm Bureaus are encouraged to promote this activity among county Farm Bureaus. Selection of the winning Young Farmers 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 organization. **The ideal candidate(s) for the Achievement Award is an individual or couple involved in production agriculture with a majority of their income subject to normal production risks.** The AFBF Young Farmers & Ranchers Committee and the AFBF Organization Team will coordinate the program at the national level.

**Eligibility-Competitors must meet the following criteria to compete.**

- Members in good standing with their county Farm Bureau.
- Competitors shall be an individual or a married couple (husband & wife).
- Competitors shall be voting Farm Bureau members between the ages of 18 and 35 years of age. Individual or spouse shall not have reached their 36<sup>th</sup> birthday by January 31<sup>st</sup> after the AFBF Annual Convention at which the competitive event is held (January 31, 2009). If spouse is over 35 years of age, the applicant must apply as an individual.
- Past and present members of the AFBF Young Farmers & Ranchers Committee or their spouses are not eligible to compete.
- Competitors must be actively engaged in farming or ranching with the majority of income coming from production agriculture.
- Past state YF&R Achievement Award winners, and/or previous AFBF Achievement Award competitors are not eligible to compete.
- County, State and Farm Bureau employees are not eligible, this also includes affiliate companies.
- Competitors may only compete in 1 national YF&R competitive event per year.

The Indiana Farm Bureau YF Achievement Award recognizes both husband and wife in this competitive event. This is derived from the names on the applicant line. If the applicant is married, but only one of the partners is eligible, do not include any details concerning the spouse.

**Entry Form & Application Guidelines**

- Do not use your name, name of your county, or any names that may bring about the recognition or identification of you beyond the entry form (page 3).
- The entry form and application must be in 10-point Times New Roman.
- Do not use abbreviations or acronyms.
- Recreating the application on a computer is not allowed.
- Application must be properly signed with no additional pages.
- Letter of recommendation, scrapbooks or other visual additions will be terms for disqualification.
- Only the named applicant(s) on the entry form are permitted into the interview.

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

**Judging**

- A panel of qualified judges will select the State winners.
- The application and entry form will be coded upon receipt. Applicant's name and county will not be revealed to the judges until they are finished judging the application.
- The Top 3 competitors will be interviewed by the same three judges who reviewed the written applications.
- Interviews will be up to 30 minutes in length and are intended to clear up any "gray areas" which may arise from the written application.
- If you become a top 3 finalist your interview is for verification/clarification purposes and it may affect your final ranking.
- Interviews will be held at a time convenient to the judges and three finalists.
- Values used in judging the applications will be:
 

Farm Operation & Growth	35 points
Financial Progress of Operation	30 points
Farm Bureau Leadership	20 points
Other Leadership	15 points
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100 points</b>
- Judging is based on the application forms sent to Indiana Farm Bureau and the clarifying interview.
- Information contained in the entry form and application is considered confidential.

**Deadline**

Each application must be in the Indiana Farm Bureau office on or before **midnight (Eastern Standard Time) August 1, 2008** to be considered for recognition and awards. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

INDIANA FARM BUREAU  
2008 ENTRY FORM  
YOUNG FARMERS & RANCHERS ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The applicant should carefully read through this entry form and application before filling out any part of it. The entry form and application must be in the office of Indiana Farm Bureau, PO Box 1290, Indianapolis, IN 46206, **on or before August 1, 2008.**

1. Applicant(s):  
Phonetic Pronunciation: (As it will be used in the program & for recognition)

2. Address:

3. City & State: Zip Code: Phone: ( ) -

4. Date of Birth: H W Age: H W

5. Education/Degree: H W

Short courses or other specialized study:

6. Number of children: Age(s) :

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

7. B. Give a 5 to 8 line description below your signature to be used for display purposes throughout the Indiana Farm Bureau Annual Convention.

I (we) hereby certify the information on this entry form and attached application to be accurate and true statements, **IFB DOES NOT ACCEPT LIABILITY FOR APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED INCORRECTLY.** IFB reserves the right to use your photos and/or any video footage for use in promoting Farm Bureau. The photos and/or video footage of undersigned contestant may also be available to sponsors of Farm Bureau events.

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Applicant(s)

2008 APPLICATION  
YOUNG FARMERS & RANCHERS ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

NOTE: This application should reflect the operations of your immediate past tax accounting year.

**I. PERSONAL BACKGROUND (family, education and personal interests)**

**II. Agricultural STATUS - Select all that apply**

- A.  Owner     Renter     Manager    Please explain if:  
 Partnership     Corporation     Joint Venture     Other

Explanation:

- B. Please indicate and justify your percent of contribution in the operation in the following areas:

    % personal capital involved  
    % management/decision making

- C. Please list your specific responsibilities:

D. Total acres operated                      Acres owned

E. Number of years farming or ranching

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**III. AGRICULTURAL OPERATION**

A. <u>List major crops*</u>	<u>First Year</u>	<u>Current Year</u>	
	<u>No. of Acres</u>	<u>No. of Acres</u>	<u>Yield per Acre</u>

\*Indicate if irrigated

B. Under volume of production, indicate number of head, pounds, dozen or other appropriate measure of volume.

<u>Enterprise</u>	<u>Volume of Production</u>	
	<u>First Year</u>	<u>Current Year</u>

C. Please be creative in explaining your operation if your agricultural enterprise does not fit with Sections A & B.

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**III. AGRICULTURAL OPERATION (continued)**

D. List other agricultural or related business enterprises and describe size and relate importance to your total operation.

E. How was your agricultural operation acquired? Indicate, in narrative form, what portion of your operation was purchased or personally earned, acquired through inheritance, through partnership conversion, rental, contract or management arrangement.

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**III.AGRICULTURAL OPERATION (continued)**

- F. Explain significant agricultural machinery, equipment irrigation systems and/ or buildings built or devised by the applicant during the years you have been farming.

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**III. AGRICULTURAL OPERATION (continued)**

- G. Describe changes, expansion or improvement in management and marketing practices in your operation since you began.

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#### IV. APPLICANT'S FINANCIAL STATEMENT

**NOTE:** All information submitted is regarded as confidential and upon completion of judging all applications are returned to the Indiana Farm Bureau office to be destroyed.

Current market value of **just your share** of:

<b>A. ASSETS</b>	<b>Year Started <u>Farming</u></b>	<b><u>2007</u></b>	<b><u>2006</u></b>	<b><u>2005</u></b>
1. Value of land, buildings & other improvements	\$	\$	\$	\$
2. Value of machinery & equipment	\$	\$	\$	\$
3. Value of livestock & poultry	\$	\$	\$	\$
4. Value of crops & supplies on hand	\$	\$	\$	\$
5. Value of non-farm real estate assets	\$	\$	\$	\$
6. Value of cash, stocks, bonds, other personal assets	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>B. LIABILITIES</b>				
1. Current liabilities (less than one year)	\$	\$	\$	\$
2. Intermediate liabilities (1-7 years)	\$	\$	\$	\$
3. Long term liabilities (8 years and up)	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>NET WORTH</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>

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Banker/Loan Officer/or Tax Accountant Signature

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**IV. FINANCIAL STATEMENT (continued)**

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C. Indicate other sources of income and property acquisition during the years you have been farming, such as off-farm employment, SPOUSE'S INCOME, gifts, prizes and inheritances.

D. Discuss any unusual situations, such as urban development, public highways, public works construction, discovery of mineral rights, etc that may have affected your operation.

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**V. PROGRESS OF OPERATION**

- A. List goals or objectives for production efficiency developed by the applicant in improving the quality of the farming program such as: weight of pigs at 56 days, ratio of pounds of feed to pounds of gain, cost per 100 pounds of gain, pounds of butterfat per cow or yield per acre, efficient land use, acreage increases.

**SPECIFIC GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND ACHIEVEMENT GAINED**

BEGINNING GOALS	CURRENT ACHIEVEMENT	CURRENT GOALS

- B. Describe ways in which you measure and evaluate the management of your farming operation (i.e., increase/decrease in cost per acre; increase/decrease in net income per acre; debt/income ratio; debt/equity ratio).

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**V. PROGRESS OF OPERATION (continued)**

C. Indicate major problems connected with your operation that you have overcome or solved.

D. Indicate plans for future expansion, improvements or changes in your agricultural operation.

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**VI. LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE**

NOTE: This applies to you and your spouse, if married and applying as a married couple. Please indicate "Husband" (H) and "Wife" (W) when applicable.

- A. List leadership roles you and your spouse have fulfilled in Farm Bureau indicating service on committees, boards or as officers.

<u>COUNTY FARM BUREAU</u>	<u>YEAR(S)</u>

<u>STATE FARM BUREAU</u>	<u>YEAR(S)</u>

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**VI. LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE (continued)**

B. Other agricultural leadership positions held by you and your spouse such as Farm Credit, Soil Conservation, REC, FSA or other farm cooperatives.

<u>ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>LEADERSHIP ROLE</u>

C. Community and Service Programs participated in by you and your spouse and leadership given. (Civic and service clubs, church, school, volunteer leadership, etc.)

<u>ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>LEADERSHIP ROLE</u>

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**VI. LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE (continued)**

D. List significant offices held or awards achieved, while participating in youth organizations.

<u>ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>LEADERSHIP ROLE</u>

E. What are your leadership goals for the next five years:

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