



NEWS RELEASE

Wyoming FFA Association

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SNOWY RANGE FFA WINS AGRICULTURAL ISSUES FFA CHAMPIONSHIP



CHEYENNE— The Snowy Range FFA Chapter was named Wyoming’s top chapter in the 2014 Agricultural Issues Forum Career Development Event on April 19, 2014, at the Wyoming FFA State Convention in Cheyenne.

The Agricultural Issues Forum Career Development Event is a competitive activity that tests students' knowledge of agricultural issues and evaluates how well they can apply classroom knowledge to real-life situations. To qualify for the state competition, teams must design a presentation that addresses multiple viewpoints of a contemporary agricultural issue and present it to a number of audiences in

their community. For the national event, they present a portfolio based on their local audiences' feedback and deliver their presentation to a panel of judges.

The Snowy Range team's issue was antibiotic resistance through medicated feeds and how it contributes to human drug resistance. The students started researching topics in January and chose their issue for its relevancy timeliness. They gave several presentations to groups in Cheyenne and Laramie, including the Wyoming Department of Agriculture.

"It basically covers antibiotics that are in human medicine that are also used in food production," explained team member Jamie Hansen.

The team's FFA advisor is Danielle Kunkel. They were also assisted by Vicky Haley and Terry Jones.

Other Agriculture Issues Forum winning teams are:

SIXTH HIGH TEAM	Lyman FFA
FIFTH HIGH TEAM	Wright FFA
FOURTH HIGH TEAM	High Plains FFA
THIRD HIGH TEAM	Casper FFA
SECOND HIGH TEAM	Buffalo FFA
FIRST HIGH TEAM	Snowy Range FFA

This event is one of many educational activities at the state FFA convention in which FFA members practice the lessons learned in agricultural education classes. The contest superintendent was Garrett Horton, an employee of Farm Credit Services of America. FCSA employees served as judges for the competition.

"The agriculture issues forum combines public speaking and research skills in one dynamic competition," said State FFA Advisor Stacy Broda. "Students really delve into the pros and cons of an agriculture issue to develop their arguments and presentation. It's a great introduction to situations they'll face as professionals."

The Snowy Range team now looks forward to representing Wyoming at the national competition, to be held at the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Ind., in October. The team received \$1,000 in travel funds from the FUSA Insurance Agency and the Rocky Mountain Farmers Union for their winning presentation. Other Agricultural Issues Forum awards were sponsored by the Colter Allen Memorial.

The Wyoming FFA Association is part of the National FFA Organization, formerly known as Future Farmers of America. This youth organization has more than half a million student members nationwide, and more than 2,000 in 50 chapters in Wyoming. The FFA mission is to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.

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