

# The Colorado Young Farmer

Volume 42, Issue 1

January 2012

## Upcoming Events 2012

**January 17**

National Western Stock  
Show  
FFA/YF Day

**January 24-26**

Colorado Farm Show  
Greeley, CO

**February 3-4**

43rd Colorado Young  
Farmers  
State Institute

**December 6-8**

46th National Young  
Farmer Institute  
Memphis, TN

## Make Plans to Attend 43rd Colorado Young Farmers Educational Association Institute February 3-4, 2012 Red Lion Hotel Denver Central Denver, Colorado



Entertainment  
Ralph Duren

**"CALL OF THE WILD"**  
Jefferson City, Missouri



Speaker Sam Zakhem

**"I'M PROUD TO BE AN  
AMERICAN"**  
Denver, Colorado

### WORKSHOP

**"DRIP IRRIGATION AS  
AN ALTERNATIVE"**

Ross Roberts

### WORKSHOP

**"WATER POLICY  
DECISION AND TOOLS"**

Dr. James Pritchett and  
Dr. Neil Hansen

### WORKSHOP

**"YOUNG FARMERS-  
WHERE DO WE GO  
FROM HERE?"**

### WORKSHOP

**"WEBSITE AND LOCAL  
YOUNG FARMER  
CHAPTER TRAINING"**

Jeremy Weathers

# State Institute

## Host – State Association

### Casino Night and Trade Show – Fort Morgan and South East Weld County Chapters

### Friday afternoon Workshop – CSU ATA/YF Chapter

## P R O G R A M

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2**

- 6:00 p.m. REGISTRATION –Prefunction West  
Photo Check In
- 8:30 p.m. EARLY BIRD SOCIAL- Hospitality 107  
Sponsored by Auctioneers Miller and Associates

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3**

- 6:30-8:00 a.m. BREAKFAST - Restaurant
- 7:00 a.m. REGISTRATION – Prefunction West  
Photo Check In
- 8:15 a.m. Chapter Delegates Report – Aspen III
- 8:30 a.m. BUSINESS SESSION – Aspen III  
Call Institute To Order  
Seating of Delegates  
Minutes of 2011 State Institute  
Introduction of State Officer Candidates and Nominations  
From the Floor  
Bids For 44 th State Institute  
Old Business  
Constitution Committee Report  
New Business  
Nominating Committee-Executive Boardroom  
Colorado Spokesperson For Agriculture Report  
Jacqui Larson, Coordinator  
Coordination Sponsored by Pioneer Hi-Bred  
Elisa Sagehorn, 2011 Colorado Winner  
Committee Meetings  
Auditing Committee-Hospitality 107
- 10:00 a.m. TRADE SHOW BREAK –Keystone Ballrooms  
Sponsored by Farm Radio - KSIR AM 1010 in Fort Morgan
- 10:30 a.m. WORKSHOP-Aspen III: “DRIP IRRIGATION AS AN  
ALTERNATIVE”  
Ross Roberts-Quality Well and Pump, LaSalle, Colorado
- 12:00 Noon LUNCHEON – Aspen I-II  
Sponsored by Gordon Insurance Company, Limon, Colorado  
Master of Ceremonies– Allan Carlson, CYFEA Northeastern  
Vice President  
Invocation–Ben Christensen, CYFEA Secretary  
Introduction of Guests–Eric Kipp, CYFEA Immediate  
Past President  
Report – Tarek Thompson, 2011 FFA Heifer Wrangle
- Recipient  
Remarks – Lance Jagers, President  
Colorado Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association  
ENTERTAINMENT – “CALLS OF THE WILD”  
Ralph Duren-Jefferson City, Missouri  
Sponsored by DeKalb Seed, Archer Lubricants and  
Nu Tech Seeds
- 1:45 p.m. VISIT TRADE SHOW-Keystone Ballrooms
- 2:15 p.m. WORKSHOP – Aspen III: “WATER POLICY DECISIONS  
AND TOOLS”  
Dr. James Pritchett, Associate Professor of Ag and  
Resource Economics, Colorado State University  
Dr. Neil Hansen, Associate Professor of Soil and Crop  
Sciences, Colorado State University
- 4:00 p.m. VISIT TRADE SHOW-Keystone Ballrooms

- 6:00 p.m. WILD WEST SALOON CASINO NIGHT-Aspen III-  
Prefunction West  
Entertainment-“CALLS OF THE WILD AFTER DARK”  
Ralph Duren-Jefferson City, Missouri

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4**

- 6:30-8:00 a.m. BREAKFAST - Restaurant
- 6:30 a.m. REGISTRATION –Prefunction West  
Photo Check In
- 8:30 a.m. BUSINESS SESSION – Aspen III  
Special Door Prize Drawing  
Morning Inspirations  
Seating of Delegates  
Auditing Committee Report  
Nominating Committee Officer Report  
Officer Candidate Introductions  
Bids For 44 th State Institute  
New Business  
Colorado Young Farmers Educational Foundation Report-  
Randy Schwalm, President  
Chapter Caucus For Elections  
45 th National Young Farmer Educational Institute  
Report –Eric Kipp, CYFEA Past President and Dan Ross,  
CYFEA President  
Other Business
- 9:45 a.m. TRADE SHOW BREAK – Keystone Ballrooms  
Sponsored by Colorado FFA Association  
Hosted by CSU Alpha Tau Alpha Members
- 10:30 a.m. 2012 COLORADO SPOKESPERSON FOR AGRICULTURE  
CONTEST –Aspen III  
Jacqui Larson-Coordinator  
Sponsored by American AgCredit
- 12:00 noon SPOKESPERSON FOR AGRICULTURE LUNCHEON –  
Aspen I-II  
Sponsored by Colorado Farm Bureau  
Master of Ceremonies –Andi Begler, CYFEA Reporter  
Invocation –Bryson Miller, CYFEA Treasurer  
Introduction of Guests–David Begler, CYFEA Southeastern  
Vice President  
Greetings – Lyndee Charles, President, Colorado  
FFA Association  
SPOKESPERSON FOR AGRICULTURE AWARD  
PRESENTATIONS  
Jacqui Larson, Coordinator  
Colorado Contest Sponsor – American AgCredit  
National Contest Sponsor – Colorado Wheat  
Administrative Committee  
Jacket Presentation and Coordination – Pioneer Hi-Bred  
Photo of Agriculture Award Presentations- Westprint
- 1:30 p.m. VISIT TRADE SHOW-Keystone Ballrooms
- 1:45 p.m. WORKSHOP – “YOUNG FARMERS-WHERE DO WE GO  
FROM HERE?”-Aspen III  
Moderator-Bryson Miller, CYFEA Treasurer

*continued on next page*

- 3:30 p. m. WORKSHOP-"WEBSITE AND LOCAL YOUNG FARMER CHAPTER TRAINING"-Aspen III  
Jeremy Weathers, Stormy Productions, Yuma, Colorado
- 5:00 p.m. SOCIAL –Prefunction South  
Sponsored by M&M Farms
- 6:00 p.m. AWARDS BANQUET –Aspen I-II-III  
Sponsored by Premier Farm Credit  
Master of Ceremonies – Dan Ross, CYFEA President  
Invocation –Eric Kipp, CYFEA Immediate Past President  
Dinner  
Introduction of Guests-Bryson Miller, CYFEA Treasurer  
Year In Review – Andi Begler, CYFEA Reporter  
Introduction of Speaker-Allan Carlson, CYFEA  
Northeastern Vice President  
PRESENTATION- "I'M PROUD TO BE AN AMERICAN"  
Sam Zakhem, Denver, Colorado

### AWARDS PROGRAM

- Honorary Members  
Colorado Cooperative Council
- Outstanding Colorado Young Farmer Chapter Community Service Award  
Winner – Colorado Bean Company
- Outstanding Colorado Young Farmer Chapter  
Runner-Up – Sharp Brothers Seed Company  
Winner – Garst Seeds
- Outstanding Colorado Young Farmer Advisor  
Winner – Schmeeckle Bros. Construction Company  
"Glenn Schmeeckle Memorial Award"
- Outstanding Colorado Young Farmer Agri-Business Award  
Winner – Channel Bio (NC+)
- Outstanding Colorado Young Farmer Agri-Service Award  
Winner – Northern Feed and Bean
- Outstanding Colorado Young Farmers  
Winner – Western, Southeastern, Northeastern-Garst Seeds
- Scholarship Report – Eric Kipp, CYFEA Immediate Past President  
Guy Kuntz – Senior Recipient
- Auction – 25 Hours of Tractor Use  
Sponsored by Colorado Case IH Dealers
- Presentation of Past Officer Certificates and Pins
- Retiring President's Comments
- Installation of 2012-2013 Officers  
Officer Jacket Presentation  
DeKalb Seed
- Officer Coat Presentation  
Channel Bio (NC+)
- Closing
- Pictures Of Award Winners and Sponsors Immediately Following  
Day Care Sponsored by Rocky Mountain Farmers Union-Suite 240

## My Thoughts

### Dan Ross – President



During the past year, I have enjoyed serving as President of the Colorado Young Farmers. I have had the opportunity to meet many great people, learning and travel many miles. The good thing about windshield time is the conversation with fellow officers. We have tried

to solve the world's problems and we know in reality we haven't. However, if we have helped solve just one, we have made accomplishments.

One of the largest problems with any organization is finances. Over the years, we have been blessed with wonderful sponsors of our activities. Times are changing and we have to adjust and make changes to benefit our Association. Certainly, finances are an important issue.

While traveling with Eric Kipp, we came up with an idea to raise funds. We thought about having a Colorado Young Farmer raffle. We thought about selecting a popular item that would promote agriculture and benefit the Association.

Perhaps a 30 to 45 horsepower tractor with a loader might appeal to a large group of our population on small acreages and farms.

Our thoughts were to find a company willing to donate the first unit and we would purchase a tractor from that company the next two years. We could sponsor a raffle during each of the three years.

If each of the active chapters participated, each one could sell 500 tickets at \$10 per ticket we could raise about \$50,000 annually to assist the Association and provide additional scholarship funds.

We welcome your feelings about this potential idea of raising funds. We can discuss it more at the state Institute. Please contact me at any time.

We hope all chapters are planning to send delegates and other members to attend the Forty Third Colorado Young Farmers Educational Association Institute, February 3-4, 2012 at the Red Lion Hotel Denver Central in Denver, Colorado.

**J9 Crop Insurance, LLC**  
Specializing in all your crop insurance needs

Mike & Janine Freeman

217 1st Street  
PO Box 1325  
Ault, Colorado 80610  
E-mail Janine@J9crop.com

Bus 970-834-1160  
Fax 970-834-0348  
1-800-390-7006

## Meet Your State Officers



**Ben Christensen**  
*Secretary*

**B**en grew up on an irrigated farm and ranch near Blanca, which is located in the San Luis Valley. He was homeschooled and graduated in 2005.

He was an active member of the Ute Creed 4-H Club and held most offices in the club. Upon graduation, Ben enrolled in the Heavy Equipment Mechanics Program at Trinidad State Junior College in Alamosa. While in college, he joined the Alamosa Young Farmer Chapter. The chapter membership consisted of college

students who had graduated or were presently in college. The group has been renamed the San Luis Valley Chapter and has members from a wide area around Alamosa. He has attended every state Institute since becoming a member.

Ben is currently farming with his father about 900 irrigated acres. They raise alfalfa, Coors barley, hybrid seed canola, spring wheat and sunflowers. They also have 40 head of cross bred cows and 90 head of Columbia ewes. During the fall he does custom combining and trucks during the winter months.

He is a member of the Colorado Cattlemen's Association. Currently he is serving on the Board of Directors of the San Luis Valley Cattlemen's Association. Ben has served as Western Vice President and Reporter prior to this year.



**Bryson Miller**  
*Treasurer*

**B**ryson was raised on an acreage near Brush, Colorado. Agriculture was his way of life as the family raised livestock, and his father, Chuck Miller is owner of Auctioneers Miller and Associates.

He was a member of the Valley View Ag 4-H Club and held all of the club offices and served as President two times.

Bryson was a leader in the Brush FFA Chapter. He served as Sentinel, Treasurer and President. He received the Outstanding Green Hand award. He won the chapter Creed Speaking award and was district runner-up. He excelled in judging and competed in Dairy Judging his sophomore year and the team was district runner-up and third in the state contest. He was on the Livestock Judging team his junior year that was district runner-up. He was a member of the Horse Judging team his senior year that won the district contest.

Bryson excelled in showing market swine and sheep and won numerous class and division championships at the Morgan County Fair. He exhibited the Grand Champion hog two times and won Reserve Champion once. He showed five class winners at the Colorado State Fair including Champion Yorkshire. He also had a class winner at the National Western Stock Show.

During high school he also excelled in basketball and baseball. He earned all state honors in both sports.

Upon graduation from Brush High School in 2003 he attended Northeastern Junior College. He majored in Agri Business and graduated with an Associate of Applied Science degree in 2005.

During college, he met his future wife, Stephanie. They were married in 2006. They have a year and a half old daughter Sidney Grace and are expecting a second child next summer.

Upon graduating from NJC, Bryson became a partner in the family business managing the Consignment Sale Company.

Bryson grew up attending Young Farmer activities. His father is a member of the Fort Morgan Young Farmer Chapter and is past state President. Upon graduating from high school, Bryson became a leader in the chapter and served as Reporter, Treasurer, Secretary, Vice President and President. He is the Immediate Past President this year. The Fort Morgan Chapter was host for the 40th State Institute and he served as Chairman of the committee. He assisted the chapter in organizing the annual "Game Night For A Cause."

He is active in the community and serves on the United Way Morgan County Board of Directors, the Morgan County Fair Sale Committee and donates his auction services to numerous organizations throughout the community and state.

As a state officer, he is interested in bettering himself personally and strengthening the state Association which has played a large role in his life since childhood.



**Andi Begler**  
*Reporter*

**A**ndi, age 22 graduated from Colorado State University last May with a degree in English. She hopes to become a copy editor for a publishing company and as an author herself, she naturally loves all things written.

She grew up in a small town of Divide, Colorado which is near Cripple Creek. She was involved in Girl Scouts, plays and 4-H activities. Andi loves nature and the outdoors

and she learned about agriculture through 4-H. She attended Woodland Park High School until the age of 16, when she moved to Blanca, Colorado. She graduated from Bryon Syring Delta Center in Monte Vista, Colorado. She then went to get her EMT-B at Trinidad State Junior College in Alamosa, Colorado. She transferred to Colorado State University.

She and her husband, David, have been married three years. He works for the City of Aurora. They live near Fort Lupton, near his grandparent's farm and help them when needed.

Andi leads a busy life style as a housewife, just obtained a new job and working on the farm. She is an active member of the Country Circle women's club and is a Pampered Chef consultant. Her hobbies include sewing, camping, fishing, hunting and 4-wheeling.

Andi and David are members of the Front Range Young Farmer Chapter and are involved in all of the chapter activities. She has served as Southeastern Vice President and North-eastern Vice President. She is enjoying being a state officer.

## Elisa Sagehorn - National Spokesperson for Agriculture Contest Winner

Elisa Sagehorn was named the winner of the National Spokesperson for Agriculture Contest. She competed against other state winners as part of the National Ag Communications contest. The Spokesperson program was part of the 45th National Young Farmer Educational Association Institute held December 7-10 2011 in Kansas City, Missouri.

She is the daughter of Keith and Diane Sagehorn from Holyoke, Colorado.

Elisa won the 2011 Colorado Spokesperson for Agriculture contest and received an expense paid trip to compete in the National Contest to represent Colorado.

Elisa is a 2008 graduate of Holyoke High School. She was very active in the Holyoke FFA Chapter. She has earned the Chapter, State, and American degrees. She served as chapter President and the Northeast District Treasurer during her



Denny Kelly representing John Deere presents National Spokesperson for Agriculture winner Elisa Sagehorn from Holyoke, Colorado with plaque.

senior year. She earned a Gold second place rating in Job Interview her senior year. She served on the Colorado FFA state officer team during the 2009-10 year as an Executive Committee Member.

Elisa was a member of National Honor Society and served as Secretary during the senior year. She was a Representative on Student Council and Colorado FBLA District Vice President and a member of the Civic Conscious Committee. She won the American Legion Auxiliary Citizenship Award in 2004 and 2008 and was recognized with the Colorado Dr. Martin Luther King Junior Humanitarian Award in 2008. She is also a National Society of High School Scholars member.

During high school, Elisa took college classes through Northeastern Junior College. Upon graduation from high school, she attended Dordt College in Iowa for one year. She then transferred to Colorado State University.

She has been a leader on the CSU campus. She is a member of the CSU Young Farmer/ATA Chapter and won the Colorado Young Farmers Educational Association Spokesman for Agriculture award in 2011. Elisa is a National Collegiate Agriculture Ambassador, a CSU College of Agriculture Ambassador, a CSU Presidential Ambassador, and a member of Gamma Beta Phi.

Elisa worked part time as a Calf Operations Assistant with TransOva Genetics, LLC in Sioux Center, Iowa. During the summer of 2010 she worked as a Communications Intern with Colorado Farm Bureau. The past summer she worked as a Research Assistant/ Intern with Syngenta in Vero Beach, Florida.

She is a junior at Colorado State University majoring in Agriculture Education.

### Colorado Spokesperson for Agriculture Contest

February 4, 2012! Mark it on your calendar now and plan to enter the Colorado Spokesperson for Agriculture contest. It will be held at the 43rd Colorado Young Farmers Educational Association Institute.

The winner will receive an expense paid trip to compete in the "Agriculture Communications" contest in Memphis, Tennessee in December of 2012.

The Colorado contest will provide monetary awards to the winners as follows: First place \$200, Second place-\$100 and the Third, Fourth and Fifth place will each receive \$50.

Any female or male Colorado Young Farmer member is eligible to enter the contest. There is no age limit to compete.

The contestants must present a five minute statement on a current agricultural or environmental topic. A ten minute question period by a panel of judges will follow the presentation. Make plans to participate.



Serving the community since 1905 and here to serve generations to come.

Country Stores • Car Care Centers • Convenience Stores  
Agronomy Services • Petroleum Services • Feed Services

260 Factory Road  
Eaton, CO 80615  
(970) 454-4000  
www.aglandinc.com



# “Betsy” and Tarek Thompson Do Well In FFA Heifer Wrangle Contest

“Betsy,” owned and shown by Tarek Thompson of the Woodlin FFA Chapter did well in the FFA Wrangle show at the 2011 Colorado State Fair. He placed seventh in the heifer quality breeding class and ninth in showmanship.

Tarek caught a calf at the National Western Stock Show last January. Each of the sixteen FFA members who caught calves were required to purchase a heifer from funds provided by a sponsor. In turn, he bought a Black Angus heifer from Atwater Angus Ranch in Genoa, Colorado. He wrote a monthly letter to the Young Farmers, maintained accurate records, prepared a scrapbook, and showed the

heifer at the Colorado State Fair.

The contest designated points in each of the following categories: show ring placing, showmanship placing, scrapbook, records, management practices and letters to the sponsor. Tarek did an excellent job in each of these areas.

He is the 15-year-old son of Todd and Jeannie Thompson and Odd and Judy Little. He has an older brother Garson Thompson.

Congratulations Tarek for a job well done!



Tarek did a good job showing “Betsy”



The Colorado Young Farmers sponsored Tarek Thompson from the Woodlin FFA Chapter.



The state officers with Tarek and “Betsy”

## Center Pivot Irrigation, LLC

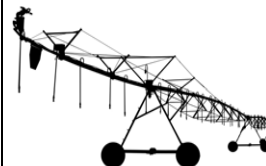


Serving Northeastern Colorado for 10 years

Irrigation System  
Sales

**Dan Ross**  
CEO/Owner

Parts and Service  
on all brands



506 E 8th ave  
Yuma, CO 80759  
970-848-3787 office  
970-630-1026 cell

## FORTY FIFTH NATIONAL INSTITUTE IN KANSAS CITY

The Forty Fifth National Young Farmer Educational Association Institute was held December 7-10, 2011 in Kansas City, Missouri. It was held at the Holiday Inn Kansas City Coco Key Resort.

Colorado was well represented with 14 people from five chapters in attendance. They included: Idalia-Ralph and Beverly Weyerman, Glen and Estalene Wudtke and Bill and Lois Lippert; St. Vrain-Allan and Shelley Carlson; Yuma-Dan Ross and Eric Kipp; Colorado State University-Elisa Sagehorn and Northeastern Junior College-Dave Lieber along with Executive Secretary Jack and Florence Annan. Over 400 people from 21 states were in attendance.

There were 29 delegates from 10 states represented at the business meetings. The Colorado delegates were Immediate Past President, Eric Kipp and President, Dan Ross. The main delegate business session was held on the first day prior to the Institute activities.

The "Taste Of The Heartland" the theme for the casual kick-off to the Institute was held after the business session the first evening. This social event provided the opportunity for everyone to get familiar or reacquainted while testing some of Missouri's "home-grown" food and drink. Everyone enjoyed the food and visiting with friends while a local jazz band entertained the group. Missouri Director of Agriculture, Dr. Jon Hagler welcomed the group to the Institute.

The first two days provided those in attendance the chance to tour farms and livestock operations and a wide variety of agribusinesses. It was educational to travel within 65 miles of Kansas City to see the Heartland of America.

The group enjoyed the educational visit of LifeLine Foods, which is a leading innovative company producing material for both domestic and international markets. The items produced originate from two primary business enterprises, corn-based food ingredients and ethanol.

For over 100 years, the ancestors of Shatto Milk Company have farmed in the Kansas City area. In June of 2003, Leroy and

Barbara Shatto decided to process and bottle their own milk on the farm. The milk goes from the cow to the store in as little as 12 hours and in environmentally friendly glass bottles. They also provide flavored milk, ice cream and cheese products.

From the beginning of World War II through several name changes and defense programs, Whiteman Air Force Base has continued to grow as a major force in defense of our nation. Whiteman was the home of the of the B-2 Advanced Technology Bomber and was assigned to Air Force Global Strike Command in 2010.

Greg Wade Farms started with a dairy farm and some row crops in the 1970s. In 2003, with their sons returning to the farm, the operation turned into a commercial venture consisting of 12,000 acres of corn and beans.

The Last Creek Wind Farms project was completed in 2010. The 100 wind turbines produce power purchased by Associated Electric Cooperative Inc., for use with it member cooperative utilities throughout Missouri.

On April 3, 1860 a lone Pony Express rider left on horseback from the gates of the Pikes Peak Stables in St. Joseph, Missouri. Today these stables are home to one of our nation's most famous landmarks, the Pony Express National Museum.

The Bayer Crop Science facility is one of the company's largest manufacturing facilities in North America. Over 500 employees produce and package a variety of crop protection products including herbicides and fungicides.

The Heartland John Deere dealership serves the demands of agriculture in the area. The store also had apparel, gifts and collector's items available for all to purchase. The group enjoyed lunch in the showroom of the dealership.

Don and Brenda Weigand were married and started farming and raising cattle together in 1981. Their two sons, their wives, and two daughters are involved in the operation as well. Their operation consists of 2500 acres of owned land, 2000 acres of rented land, 250 registered Angus cows, 200 commercial cows, a custom mix feed store and an over-the-road trucking business.

The Show-Me Energy Cooperative is a non-profit producer owned and cooperative founded to support the development of renewable biomass energy service in West Central Missouri.

After the first day of tours, the group returned to the hotel for dinner. The traditional flag ceremony was impressive. It was enjoyable to hear from Kip Cullens, the World Soybean Yield Champion from Purdy, Missouri. The highlight of the evening was entertainment by Ralph Duren and his "Calls Of The Wild" presentation. He will perform at the Colorado Institute in February.

Upon completion of the second day of tours, the group enjoyed dinner at the American Royal and a tour of the historical museum. Upon returning to the hotel, everyone enjoyed the drive by tour of the holiday Plaza Lights Crown Center and the Power and Lights District.



The Colorado delegation enjoyed the educational Institute.

*continued on next page*

The final day included introductions and presentations of the Missouri Master Farmer/Young Farmer Decision Maker panel members. The Monsanto Mobile Experience tour was enjoyed by many of the participants. The Farm Management contest was held.

The group had the opportunity to attend educational seminars including "Agriculture and The Economy-Where Are We Headed?" and "USDA Beginning Farmer Program."

A second delegate meeting was held the final afternoon. The 2011-2012 National Officers were elected. They included: President-Carol Corman, Pennsylvania; President Elect-Allen Tyler, Georgia; Secretary-Tim Kelley, South Carolina and Past President-C.J. Fleenor, Indiana.

The closing banquet included awarding the Master Farmer Awards, announcement of the Agriculture Communications winners and the National Spokesperson for Agriculture winner, Elisa Sagehorn from Colorado. Everyone enjoyed the "Sounds of the Heartland" entertainment after the program.

Dave Lieber from Colorado assisted the national officers in coordinating activities throughout the institute. He will serve as the National Institute Chairman next December in Memphis, Tennessee.

The annual auction of gift baskets and other items donated by the states was a success. Colorado provided a gift basket of Colorado products and two framed prints by John Deere artist, Raymond Crouse.

The next Institute will be held December 6-8, 2012 in Memphis, Tennessee.

**(The following recommendation was proposed by the Constitution Committee that was assigned at the 2011 Institute.)**

**Colorado Young Farmers Proposed Constitution Changes.**

Committee members:

Bryson Miller, Beth Ray, Maureen Whittington, Artie Elmquist, Conrad Bostron

1. Officer Titles

- a. President
- b. Vice President
- c. Secretary
- d. Treasurer
- e. Reporter
- f. Executive Committee Member
- g. Executive Committee Member
- h. Immediate Past President

1. Where this will reflect in the Constitution & Bylaws.

- a. Constitution
  - i. Article VI Section A.
    - Replace Northeastern, Southeastern & Western Regional Vice Presidents to one Vice President & Add 2 Executive Committee Members.
    - ii. Article VII Section A.
      - Change three Regional Vice Presidents to 1 Vice President & add 2 Executive Committee Members
      - iii. Article VII Section B.
        - Remove Section Completely
- b. Bylaws
  - i. Article I Section B.
    1. Vice President: It shall be the duty of the Vice President to assist in directing the work of the association, coordinate all committees and preside over meetings in the absence of the President
    2. Section F becomes Executive Committee Members and Immediate Past President becomes Section G.
      - a. The Executive Committee Members shall assist in all workings of the association & represent the Colorado Young Farmer membership at all Colorado Association activities.

**Colorado  
Agricultural  
Development  
Authority**



The Colorado Agricultural Development Authority (CADA) Beginning Farmer Program is available to assist beginning farmers and ranchers in Colorado with purchases of land, breeding stock, or equipment.

This program provides tax-exempt bonds to lenders who provide low-interest financing for approved purchases. Individuals who own insubstantial amounts or no farm land may qualify for up to \$470,000 in tax exempt bonds under this program. Parent-child and other directly related person transactions are now allowed under this program.

For information on this program contact participating agricultural lenders or the:

Colorado Agricultural Development Authority  
700 Kipling Street, Suite 4000  
Lakewood, CO 80215-8000  
Tel: (303) 815-9543  
Fax: (303) 237-4851  
www.cadafarmloan.com

**IMPORTANT**

**Each chapter should bring a laptop computer with wireless connectivity ability to the state Institute.**

**It will be used during the "Website and Local Young Farmer Chapter Training" workshop on Saturday afternoon.**

**The workshop will be presented by Jeremy Weathers with Stormy Productions from Yuma, Colorado.**

# *National Institute Highlights*



The Colorado delegates at the Business Sessions were Immediate Past President, Eric Kipp – left and President, Dan Ross



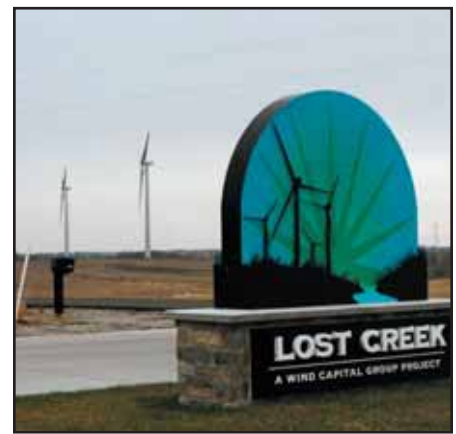
Dan Weigand and his granddaughter describe their farming, registered Angus custom mix feed store and trucking business



The Heartland John Deere dealership owner and Institute Chair, Suzi Beck, welcomed the group to the luncheon served in the dealership showroom



The John Deere prints donated by Colorado are always a favorite at the auction



The Lost Creek Wind Farm provides power to the Associated Electric Cooperative in Missouri



National President C. J. Fleenor from Indiana presided at the Business Sessions



National Advisor Dr. Steve Brown presented a report at the Business Session



The Show-Me Energy Cooperative supports the development of renewable biomass energy sources



Dave Lieber from Colorado will serve as the 2012 National Institute Chairman in Memphis, Tennessee

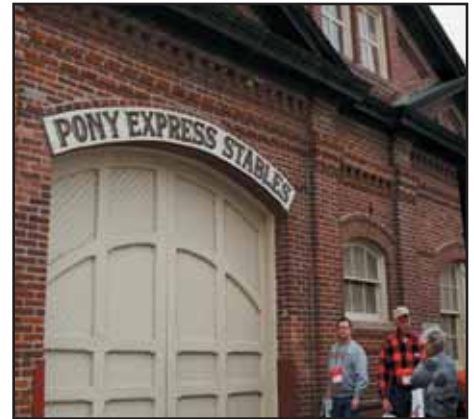
# National Institute Highlights



Missouri Director of Agriculture, Dr. John Hagler, welcomed the group at the opening dinner



Everyone enjoyed "The Taste of Heartland" food during the opening evening activities



Everyone enjoyed visiting the Pony Express Stables and Museum



The Missouri Master Farmers were recognized at the closing banquet



(l to r) The newly elected National Officers are Tim Kelly, Secretary from South Carolina, Carol Corman, President from Pennsylvania and Allen Tyler, President Elect from Georgia



Everyone enjoyed sampling at the flavored milk at the Shatto Milk Company



The Greg Wade Farms is a large operation that raises corn and soybeans

## Officers Present Young Farmer Programs to CSU Ag Ed Seniors

An important part of an Agriculture Education program in a community is the local Young Farmer chapter.

The seniors at Colorado State University who will be student teaching during the Spring Semester and become Agriculture Education teachers, had the opportunity to become acquainted with the Young Farmer program. The history, purpose and activities of a local chapter, state Association and National organization were presented.

The meeting was held on November 14, 2011 on the Colorado State University Campus in a classroom in the Animal Science building. The session was arranged through the cooperation of Dr. Kellie Enns, Teacher Educator and Advisor of the Colorado State University ATA/ Young Farmer Chapter.

The state officers who participated in the program included: Dan Ross-President, David Begler-Southeastern Vice President, Ben Christensen-Secretary, Bryson Miller-Treasurer, Andi Begler-Reporter, Eric Kipp-Immediate Past President, Mike Womochil-Advisor and Jack Annan-Executive Secretary. In addition, Dennis Everhart, retired Agriculture Education teacher and Young Farmer Advisor at Woodin High School shared his positive experiences regarding a successful Young Farmer program.

The officers discussed the opportunities through education, leadership, community service and recognition available to Young Farmer members on the local, state, and national level. Advisor, Mike Womochil discussed the value of a Young Farmer program in a local Agriculture Education program.

All of the seniors were invited to be guests at the Forty Third Colorado Young Farmers Educational Association Institute on February 3-4, 2012 at the Red Lion Hotel in Denver, Colorado.

After the presentation, several of the officers enjoyed dinner together with the seniors at a local restaurant as guests of the CSU Chapter. After dinner, the officers attended the CSU ATA/ Young Farmer Chapter meeting. Many ideas and activities were discussed. Bryson Miller, Treasurer presented comments and upcoming activities of the Colorado Association.

It was a productive and worth while day for both the officers and the seniors.



Dennis Everhart, retired Woodlin Young Farmer Advisor talks about the value of a Young Farmer program



Treasurer Bryson Miller discusses the Young Farmer program



Advisor Mike Womochil presents the value of a Young Farmer program



**David P. Hartline**  
Manager

Office: (970) 867-9454  
Cell Phone: (970) 380-3863  
Fax: (970) 867-9455

14272 US Hwy 34  
P.O. Box 186  
Fort Morgan, CO 80701

E-Mail:  
david.hartline@mortonbuilding.com

mortonbuildings.com

**State Institute**

**“Wild West Saloon Casino Night”**

- Come dressed in your western attire.
- A night of fun, games and prizes.
- Good Food

**Enjoy the “Calls Of The Wild After Dark”**

## “WE NEED TO MAKE A CHANGE”

We have all heard these words from a parent, teacher, fellow workers or maybe a loan officer. At the time, we didn't understand why a change was needed, but later on we realized the change was made for the betterment of the situation. The Colorado Young Farmers Educational Association needs to make a change. Funding for the Executive Secretary position will end on June 30, 2012. The current funding is \$16,000 a year. This includes salary, travel, operating expenses, and postage for newsletters, along with other incidental expenses.

I was asked a year ago to serve on a task force to see if we could come up with a way to fund the Executive Secretary position. We have met four times this past year. Many ideas were brought up. Let's first examine how the Young Farmer Program was funded in the beginning. In 1970, members enrolled in a local community college. Tuition was around \$30 for three credits. Enrollments created F.T.E.'s which was used to fund the program. This benefited local community colleges and increased enrollments. The community colleges also applied for grants and monies from the Federal and State governments to decrease costs to the Young Farmer tuition. These were called scholarships or tuition assistance. Enrollments increased from 250 to 600 students from the 70's to the 90's. With those numbers the funding of the Young Farmer program was sound. Part of the tuition money was used to fund the Executive Secretary position.

In the mid 1990's, enrollment in the community college system started to decrease. This was due to increased tuition, community colleges dropping the Young Farmer Program, Ag teachers not wanting to have a Young Farmer program, and the members thinking they were not getting enough benefit for the cost of the tuition. By 2011, there was only one chapter (NJC) paying tuition. Tuition had increased to \$105. They enrolled 12 students in the community college system. As numbers decreased, the state staff have had to use money from other sources to cover the cost of the Executive Secretary position.

Over the last five years, monies from state and federal government programs have decreased. This has put a strain on the finances of the community college system. With only 12 of the 229 Young Farmer dues paying members enrolling in the college program, the state staff had a hard time justifying spending \$16,000 on 12 students. Funding of the Executive Secretary comes from Community College systems not from dues the Young Farmers pay.

At a meeting on November 29, 2011, as I have said before, we explored many options. The one option that seemed best suited to the situation was that all Young Farmers will enroll in a continuing education program at NJC. Participation cost will try to phase in the increased. I know this seems expensive, but there are few scholarships available today to decrease costs. With a 229 member enrollment, NJC can provide services to meet the needs of the Colorado Young Farmers including funding the Executive Secretary. One of the new services will be Ag teachers who have a Young Farmer Program will receive a stipend to serve as an instructor and advisor. It is hoped this will increase membership in the Colorado Young Farmers and get more Ag teachers involved in the Young Farmer program.

Colorado Young Farmers are at a crossroad. If we do nothing, come July 1, 2012 we will not have a funded Executive Secretary position. A decision will be made at the State Institute in February. I hope everyone will accept the need for a change. Change brings opportunity for the Colorado Young Farmers to continue to be one of the leading ag organizations.

Randy Schwalm

*We're looking for contestants for the 2011  
Colorado Spokesperson for  
Agriculture Contest!*



**Plan To Enter NOW!  
Spokesperson Contest –  
February 4, 2012**

The winner receives an all-expense paid trip to compete in the National Contest in Memphis, Tennessee December 6-8, 2012



**SONNENBERG AGENCY, LLC**

MULTIPLE LINES

*SPECIALIZING IN CROP INSURANCE*

Tim & Sam Sonnenberg

302 N. 3rd Street

P.O. Box 1087

Sterling, CO 80751

PHONE: 970-522-1681

FAX: 970-522-1467

E-MAIL: tim@crophailins.com

**PRODUCTION AGRICULTURE FEEDS THE WORLD**

When You Need Feed,  
Think of **Ranch-Way Feeds**  
A Full-Line Independent Manufacturer  
in Downtown Fort Collins  
Highest Quality Available  
*Tailor-Made for Western Feeding!*

546 Willow Street, Fort Collins, CO  
**800 333 7929** Ranch-Way.com  
**Dealer Inquiries Welcome**



## Executive Committee Minutes

### **Country Steak Out Restaurant • Fort Morgan, Colorado May 7, 2011**

The meeting was called to order by President Dan Ross at 9:45 a.m. The officers in attendance were Dan Ross, Ben Christensen, Eric Kipp, Bryson Miller and Jack Annan.

The minutes were read and approved. Bryson Miller presented the Treasurer's Report. Ben Christensen moved to accept the report, Bryson Miller seconded the motion and the motion carried.

The correspondence was read by Ben Christensen.

The Legislative Day held in March was discussed. Everyone felt the lunch with the legislators was very beneficial. The officers discussed the possibility of scheduling a tour after lunch next year.

The officers reviewed the Activity Calendar dates for the year.

Dan Ross indicated he presented a Young Farmer report at the CVATA meeting in early May.

The possibility of revising the Colorado Young Farmer website was discussed.

Bryson Miller discussed the Fish and Chip Tournament that will be held in June. All officers were encouraged to attend.

Jack Annan presented the Young Farmers Scholarship report. A total of 55 applications were received. The recipients were: Freshmen-Allison Seedorf and Tucker Allmer (Kristen Keelan could not accept the scholarship as she will be attending a college out of state); Sophomore-Lauren Mertens; Junior-Elisa Sagehorn and Senior-Guy Kuntz.

The officers will prepare a pork chop barbecue dinner for the Colorado Agriculture Education Teachers in June in Pueblo.

The 2012 Colorado Farm Show in Greeley was discussed. Bryson Miller moved to have a booth at the show. Eric Kipp seconded the motion and it carried.

The officers were encouraged to make the assigned chapter visits. The outline of items to be reviewed was discussed.

Bryson Miller indicated he had obtained Running Creek Ranch as an officer travel sponsor.

The 2012 State Insitutie was discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Ben Christensen, Secretary

### **September 17, 2011**

The meeting was called to order at 9:37 a.m. The officers in attendance were Dan Ross, David Begler, Andi Begler, Bryson Miller, Ben Christensen and Jack Annan.

The minutes were read and approved. Bryson Miller presented the Treasurer's Report. Ben Christensen moved to accept the report, David Begler seconded the motion and it carried.

The correspondence was read by Ben Christensen. Dan Ross indicated that Terek Thompson did an outstanding job in the FFA Heifer Wrangle Contest at the State Fair in August.

The web site was discussed. It was felt it should be rebuilt by a professional. The officers will explore the possibilities.

It was decided to utilize the 2010 Year In Review on the lap top computer in the booth at the Colorado Farm Show.

It was decided the officers should contact the buyers at the Scholarship Auction from last year.

The location of the Forty Third Colorado Young Farmers Educational Association Institute was discussed. The Red Lion

Hotel in Denver Colorado had the best accommodations. Ben Christensen moved to sign the contract with them and David Begler seconded the motion. The motion carried. The Friday Luncheon entertainment will be Ralph Duren from Jefferson City, Missouri. The Awards Banquet speaker will be Sam Zakhem from Denver, Colorado.

The Fort Morgan and South East Weld County Chapters will be in charge of the Friday evening activity and the trade show.

Jack Annan emphasized the importance of the officers making the chapter visits.

The next meeting will be held November 5, 2011.

Ben Christensen moved to adjourn the meeting and David Begler seconded the motion.

The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 12:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Ben Christensen, Secretary

### **November 5, 2011**

The meeting was called to order at 9:47 a.m. by President Dan Ross. Those in attendance were Dan Ross, Allan Carlson, Bryson Miller, Eric Kipp, Andi Begler, David Begler, Ben Christensen and Jack Annan.

Bryson Miller moved to accept the minutes as corrected. Eric Kipp seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Bryson Miller presented the Financial Summary. He reviewed the new website expense and emphasized the need of additional travel sponsors. Ben Christensen moved to accept the Treasurer's report, Allan Carlson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Ben Christensen read the correspondence.

The group discussed the sponsorship of the 2012 Colorado FFA Heifer Wrangle. Bryson Miller moved to sponsor one-half a heifer as in the past. Andi Begler seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Bryson Miller reviewed the Forty Third Colorado Institute arrangements at the Red Lion Hotel in Denver, Colorado. The Institute program was reviewed. He indicated the Constitution Committee will meet in the near future.

It was decided the Friday Luncheon entertainer, Ralph Duren from Missouri would also perform during the Friday evening Casino Night activities.

It was decided the officers would escort the award winners to and from the stage during the awards program. The officers assignments during the Institution were reviewed. The Tractor Auction was discussed.

Each officer is requested to provided two items for the Colorado basket to be auctioned at the National Institute.

Bryson Miller reviewed the Colorado Young Farmer Website Grant Proposal that was sent to the Colorado FFA Foundation. Jack Annan reported the Colorado Young Farmers had received \$1000 for the project funded by Pfizer.

The presentation to the CSU Ag Ed Senior class will be held on November 14, 2012. The agenda for the presentation was reviewed.

The next meeting will be held at the American Pride Coop in Brighton on January 17, 2012 at 9:30 a.m. The officers will attend the Stock Show that afternoon.

Andi Begler moved to adjourn the meeting; Ben Christensen seconded the motion. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 1:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Ben Christensen, Secretary

# Chapter News

## Fort Morgan Lauren Linker – Reporter

Well it appears that summer has left us and winter is finally here! The Fort Morgan chapter wrapped up the year with a myriad of activities. We started November with an educational meeting of the Morgan County Quality Water District given by Mark Kokes. This was very informational giving us a picture of what it took to create the district and how it continues to thrive. We ended November with our 5th Annual Game Night. We decided to spice up the event this year and hire in a group of professional dealers to entertain the participants. Overall we had a fantastic turnout with people participating in the Texas Hold'em tournament, Black Jack, 3-card Poker, Roulette, and Craps. The hit of the night was probably a toss-up between the car blow-up and the beginner's craps table that taught everyone how to play the game.

The first week of December was full of action to finish up the year strong. On December 5th the team weathered the sub-zero temperatures to ride on a float in the annual Christmas parade. The following evening was our food drive in which the Young Farmers sort the food that Boy Scouts collect from around the county. The food benefits families that have been identified by the local Caring Ministries. Caring Ministries is generous enough to let us use their building for sorting food which is much easier than previous years in which we sorted the food in a member's shed and then had to transport it to town. This night was not much warmer than the previous but I am happy to report that no one lost any appendages to the harsh temperatures. This year there were enough boxes of food for approximately 200 families in need, and we were very happy with that.

The last event before the holidays and one of the most satisfying events of the year was held the following Friday. "Doink's Annual Harvest for Life Blood Drive" in honor of past member Don "Doink" Lebsock is an annual event that the Young Farmers help to sponsor. Many Young Farmers and community members showed up to support the local blood bank. Overall we had a very successful and exciting year in Fort Morgan and can't wait to see everyone in February!

## Northeastern Junior College Jerry Wernsman – Reporter

I cannot believe that we are about to enter another year. My, how time flies!

During the past year, the chapter sponsored 6 Kids Pedal Tractor Pull contests in the area. The members again sponsored the Colorado State Kids Pedal Tractor Pull in Yuma, Colorado in conjunction with the annual Old Thresher Days activities.

The chapter members were involved in a new community service during the Fall. The Blue Skies Therapeutic Riding Center challenged our chapter in a fund raiser. We were asked to sell "ducks" for a race down an irrigation ditch. The top ten finishers in the race received prizes donated by local merchants. This is a major fund raiser for the organization. We won the challenge by selling the most tickets.

In November, the chapter held their annual kick-off dinner and meeting. It was held in the Wickham Tractor shop in Sterling. We appreciated their support. Rocky mountain oysters and chicken strips along with pot luck salads and deserts were served. A meeting followed.

In December, the chapter sponsored a Safflower Grower informational meeting on the Northeastern Junior College campus. Potential growers were invited to attend and become acquainted with the opportunities of growing the crop in the area.

We are looking forward to seeing other Young Farmer members at the State Institute in February.



### New Colorado Young Farmers Website

This Fall, the Colorado FFA Foundation made grants available to Colorado Team Ag Ed areas. The funds were sponsored by Pfizer.

Bryson Miller, Treasurer and Jack Annan, Executive Secretary, prepared a proposal for consideration. The name of the project was, "Colorado Young Farmers Educational Association Website and Organization Network".

The goals of the project were as follows:

- Create a centralized location for members and the public to gather information about the Colorado Young Farmers Educational Association, the local chapters and the National Young Farmer Educational Association.
- Utilize the project as a means for membership growth.
- To create a centralized location where members, sponsors, advisors, and associates of the organization can translate information, ideas and discussion in a user friendly format.
- To attract the younger generation of agriculturalists who prefer to use technology at their disposal such as websites, facebook, blogs and etc.
- To streamline the organization into modern technology and build a foundation for the future.

A grant in the amount of \$1000 was awarded for the project.

The new website has been completed and will be updated regularly by Jeremy Weathers with Stormy Productions in Yuma, Colorado.

To get to the website, click on the following link:

[www.coloradoyoungfarmers.com](http://www.coloradoyoungfarmers.com)

# SILVERADO

**Chevrolet Silverado  
America's Best Truck!**

100 YEARS OF CHEVROLET

See all the  
Chevrolet  
Silverado  
Line-up at  
[www.korf.net](http://www.korf.net)

Silverado 3500 HD  
Up to 20,000 pounds of  
towing with a maximum  
payload of 6,225 pounds.

Korf Continental  
Northeastern  
Colorado's #1  
GM Dealer!

Sterling 1-866-979-3317  
Yuma 1-888-376-3882  
Brush 1-877-221-9351  
Ft Morgan 1-888-699-1425

# Grainland



Holyoke.....970-854-2254  
 Amherst.....970-854-3141  
 Julesburg .....970-474-2479  
 Fleming.....970-265-2675  
 Haxtun .....970-774-6166  
 New Haven .....970-265-2675  
 Stateline.....970-854-3161

[www.grainland.coop](http://www.grainland.coop)

Grains - Agronomy - Feed - Fuel - Car Care - Ampride

## Take Advantage of a Rewarding Opportunity in 2012!

### We need State Officer Candidates

#### Qualifications

- Be a member of the Colorado Young Farmers Educational Association
- There is no age limit
- Eager to provide leadership
- Willing to visit local chapters
- Interested in traveling throughout Colorado carrying out the activities of the organization

*Candidates should bring completed, typed/word-processed applications to the State Institute at the Opening Business Session on February 3, 2012 at 8:30 a.m.*

*Contact your local chapter advisors or presidents for an application.*

When you are Farming for a New Vehicle, we have over 400!



New or PreOwned, Take your pick

**Ehrlich**  **TOYOTA**  
 IN GREELEY & FORT MORGAN

Hwy 34 & 47th Ave, Greeley Exit 80, 1209 Main, Fort Morgan  
 970-339-3900 970-867-1400  
[EhrlichToyota.com](http://EhrlichToyota.com) [EhrlichToyotaEast.com](http://EhrlichToyotaEast.com)



**Colorado Equipment**



**Colorado Machinery**



**Wyoming Equipment**



JOHN DEERE

#### AG EQUIPMENT

Greeley	Ft. Collins	Strasburg	Wyoming
(970) 356-3666	(970) 482-0400	(303) 622-4207	(307) 638-8669
(800) 848-3666	(866) 261-0400	(800) 322-4207	
Rocky Ford	Pueblo	Lamar	Holly
(719) 254-7621	(719) 948-2696	(719) 336-7751	(719) 537-6551
(888) 400-4020	(888) 405-4630	(800) 791-9807	(888) 849-3124

#### CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT

Pueblo West	Colorado Springs	Ft. Collins	Frederick
(719) 547-2550	(719) 475-1100	(970) 482-7154	(303) 833-5900
(800) 333-0850	(800) 364-3029	(800) 525-2920	(800) 490-6162

**COLORADO YOUNG FARMERS  
EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION**

Northeastern Junior College  
100 College Avenue  
Sterling, CO 80751  
www.coloradoyoungfarmer.com

Non-Profit Organization

**PRSRT STD**

U.S. Postage Paid  
Sterling, CO 80751  
Permit #37

*Address Service Requested*

**Thank  
You!**

The Colorado Young Farmer Educational Association is truly appreciative of the support given to us by the agriculture firms within our State and Nation. We are indebted to these business firms for they make it all possible for us to have an Awards Program and to carry on the business of our association. To the following Agriculture Businesses, we say "Thank you!"

Agland, Incorporated  
American AgCredit  
American Pride Co-op  
Archer Lubricants  
Auctioneers Miller and Associates  
Bank of Colorado—Akron, Brush, Ft. Morgan  
Holyoke, Sterling & Yuma  
Beta Seed, Inc.  
Brandon Johnston  
Bruce Kokes  
Case IH Colorado Dealers  
Center Pivot Irrigation  
Channel Bio (NC + Hybrids)  
Colorado Agricultural Development Authority  
Colorado Bean Company  
Colorado Cooperative Council  
Colorado Farm Bureau  
Colorado FFA Association  
Colorado Machinery/Equipment

Colorado Wheat Administrative  
Committee  
Colorado Young Farmers  
Educational Foundation  
Dale Whittington  
DeKalb Seed  
Ehrlich Toyota East  
Farm Radio KSIR AM, Fort Morgan  
FMC Corporation  
Garst Seed Company  
General Air  
Gordon Insurance  
Grainland Cooperative  
Jerry Hergenreder  
J-9 Crop Insurance, LLC  
Johnston Family Farms  
Korf Continental  
Monsanto

Morton Buildings  
M & M Farms  
MV Equipment  
Mycogen Seeds  
Northern Feed & Bean  
NuTech Seed  
Perry Bros. Seed Co.  
PGS Hybrids  
Pioneer Hi-Bred  
Premier Farm Credit  
Producers Hybrids  
Ranch Way Feeds  
Rocky Mountain Farmers Union  
Running Creek Ranch Co.  
Schmeeckle Brothers Construction Co.  
Sharp Brothers Seed Company  
Sonnenberg Agency, LLC  
Sterling Trophy Shop  
Syngenta Seeds Inc.  
Westprint