

# National Teach Ag Campaign

300 Garrigus, Lexington, KY 40546-0215  
859.257.2224 | [www.naae.org/teachag](http://www.naae.org/teachag)

## NEWS RELEASE

For more information:  
Ellen Thompson  
Project Director, National Teach Ag Campaign  
[ethompson.naae@uky.edu](mailto:ethompson.naae@uky.edu)  
Phone: (605) 350-3842

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **FUTURE AGRISCIENCE TEACHERS SELECTED FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SYMPOSIUM AT NATIONAL TEACH AG DAY**

Lexington, KY – The National Teach Ag Campaign has selected 20 agricultural education majors from across the country to attend the Future Agriscience Teacher (FAST) symposium, as a part of the National Teach Ag Day celebration in September. The FAST Symposium is a professional development, networking, and mentoring experience for preservice agricultural education majors. The selected students will participate in a three-day event that will focus on creating an inclusive classroom environment, inquiry-based learning, classroom management, professional development, and collegiality. The FAST participants will also be a part of the National Teach Ag Day live celebration that will take place on Thursday, September 20, 2018 at the Corteva Agriscience Agriculture Division of DowDuPont headquarters, in Johnston, Iowa, beginning at 11am EDT.

As a component of the National Teach Ag Campaign, the FAST symposium provides preservice agriculture teachers with essential training and support for practical application of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) skills in the context of agriculture, for success in their future classrooms.

“The demand for agriculture teachers exists because of the unique talents agriculture teachers bring to the classroom,” said Ellen Thompson, National Teach Ag Campaign Project Director. “The FAST symposium gives these future agriscience teachers another tool to be successful.”

National Teach Ag Day is a nationwide celebration that encourages others to consider a career teaching agriculture while recognizing the contributions that agriculture teachers make in our schools and communities. Agriculture teachers are key to developing essential career and life skills in students, so that they will be successful problem solvers, leaders, entrepreneurs and agriculturalists. To log on to the live webcast, or for resources to help you plan your local Teach Ag Day celebration, visit [naae.org/teachag](http://naae.org/teachag).

The 20 selected participants are: Allison Abadir, University of Missouri; Alice Cox, Clemson University; Brittany Daniel, University of Mount Olive; Allyson Dorrell, Kansas State University; Dusty Dykstra, South Dakota State University; Brittany Elliott, University of Kentucky; Stephanie Hauger, South Dakota State University; Christopher Hicks, University of Mount Olive; Leah Jacobs, Purdue University; Sarah Manderfield, South Dakota State University; Adam Manderfield,

South Dakota State University; Laura Mincks, Iowa State University; Henry Neyens, South Dakota State University; Holly Podliska, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Joe Ramstad, University of Minnesota-St. Paul; Madelyn Regier, South Dakota State University; Star Schipper, South Dakota State University; Ellie Steensma, Dordt College; Alex Toupal, South Dakota State University and Shaylee Truax, University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

The National Teach Ag Campaign is a project of the National Council for Agricultural Education, led by the National Association of Agricultural Educators. Funding for the National Teach Ag Campaign is provided by the CHS Foundation, Corteva Agriscience™ Agriculture Division of DowDuPont™, BASF, Herman & Bobbie Wilson, and Growth Energy, as a special project of the National FFA Foundation. The campaign is designed to raise awareness of the need to recruit and retain high quality and diverse agriculture teachers, encourage others to consider a career teaching agriculture, and celebrate the positive contributions that agriculture teachers make in our schools and communities. For more information about the National Teach Ag Campaign, visit [www.naae.org/teachag](http://www.naae.org/teachag).

###

a project of



NATIONAL  
FFA FOUNDATION

funded by

