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OKLAHOMA FARM BUREAU

# Perspective

Aug. 31, 2018

## Members begin grassroots policy development at statewide meetings

Oklahoma Farm Bureau members gathered to share and discuss ideas for the organization's 2019 policy during annual August Area Meetings held across the state over the last month.

Held each year, the meetings signify the beginning of OKFB's grassroots policy development process. Members meet in each Farm Bureau district to hear legislative and regulatory reports, as well

as organizational updates, before voicing concerns and issues they are facing on their farms and ranches and in their communities.

Preventing ad valorem tax increases, maintaining the state agriculture sales tax exemption, replacing the Waters of the U.S. rule, and producing industrial hemp were some of the most common concerns among members across the state. OKFB members

also were concerned about trade tariffs, feral hogs and mandatory cattle identification.

County Farm Bureau members now will meet to write resolutions to OKFB policy for review by the state resolutions committee Oct. 17-18. The resolutions will be finalized by the delegate body at the 2018 OKFB Annual Meeting in November.

For more information, contact the OKFB Public Policy department at 405-530-2300.



District One



District Nine



District Three



District Six



District Seven



District Four



District Eight



District Five



District Two



# Bushels for Books

Providing accurate agriculture books to educate today's youth



## WLC, Foundation to donate accurate ag books to teachers

**T**he Oklahoma Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee and OKFB's Oklahoma Farming and Ranching Foundation have partnered to sponsor the 2018 Bushels for Books program, which awards teachers and school librarians bushel baskets of accurate agriculture books to be used in their classrooms and libraries across the state.

Selected by the OKFB WLC, the books will cover various agriculture topics based

on the grade levels receiving the books. Most books are elementary age appropriate.

Applications are now available at [okfarmbureau.org/applications](http://okfarmbureau.org/applications), and must be submitted no later than Sept. 14 to [marcia.irvin@okfb.org](mailto:marcia.irvin@okfb.org) or mail to Oklahoma Farm Bureau, Attn: Marcia Irvin, 2501 N. Stiles Ave., Oklahoma City, OK 73105.

Only one application may be submitted per school. To be eligible for consideration, a teacher can submit an application for a

specific grade level or a school librarian can submit an application for books that range multiple grade levels.

The books will be presented to educators during the 2018 OKFB Annual Meeting on Saturday, Nov. 17 in Norman, Oklahoma.

For more information, contact Marcia Irvin by calling the OKFB home office at 405-523-2300.

## YF&R to honor outstanding young farmers and ranchers

*The Oklahoma Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers committee each year recognizes member achievements through awards presented at the OKFB Annual Meeting Nov. 16-18 in Norman. YF&R members are encouraged to apply for the YF&R Achievement Award, YF&R Excellence in Agriculture Award and the Charles L. Roff Award. Applications are due by Oct. 1. For more information, visit [okfarmbureau.org/applications](http://okfarmbureau.org/applications).*

## Oklahoma Farm Bureau Online



Rep. Frank Lucas works to deliver 2018 farm bill on time

Oklahoma's Rep. Frank Lucas, a House Agriculture Committee farm bill conferee, recently shared in a video the importance of maintaining strong farm policy and conservation programs in a farm bill package that needs to be passed on time. Find the video on the OKFB Facebook page at [facebook.com/okfarmbureau](http://facebook.com/okfarmbureau).



Don't miss your county annual meeting!

Oklahoma Farm Bureau members across the state will hold county annual meetings in the coming weeks. These meetings serve as an opportunity for members to celebrate the year, discuss agriculture issues, create grassroots OKFB policy for the next year, and fellowship with one another. Find details for your county annual meeting at [okfarmbureau.org](http://okfarmbureau.org) or contact your county office.



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[www.okfarmbureau.org](http://www.okfarmbureau.org)

## YF&R to host livestock judging contest at Oklahoma State Fair

The Oklahoma Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers committee will host students from across the state at the group's annual Oklahoma State Fair Livestock Judging Contest on Sept. 13 at the state fairgrounds in Oklahoma City.

Registration will begin at 9 a.m. on Sept. 13 in Barn 3. The contest will begin at 10 a.m. in Barn 8. Contestants may compete on a team or as individuals. The entry fee will be \$5 per person or \$20 per team.

The contest will include market and breeding classes of beef cattle, sheep and swine. Each contestant will answer at least one set of questions in a class – 10 questions each worth 5 points. No oral reasons will be given.

Both the 4-H and FFA Divisions include junior and senior levels. Students in 8th, 9th and 10th grades will be in the junior division, and students in 11th and 12th grades will be in the senior division.

The High Individual and High Team Members of each division will be presented a jacket and an award. Ribbons will be awarded to the top 10 in each class. Awards also will be presented to the second- and third-place individuals and first- through third-place teams.

To receive complementary gate admission, counties or chapters must send a request with names of the contestants and instructors, teachers or leaders that will be participating by Sept. 4 Founda Dutton at [agclerk@okstatefair.com](mailto:agclerk@okstatefair.com).

View full details and information at [okstatefair.com/competitions/livestock](http://okstatefair.com/competitions/livestock).



## AFBF, coalition seek reprieve from order reviving flawed WOTUS rule

On behalf of America's farmers and ranchers, the American Farm Bureau Federation on Aug. 21 asked a federal district court in South Carolina to stay its order striking a rule that delayed implementation of the flawed 2015 Waters of the U.S. rule. Without a stay, the court order has the effect of immediately reviving and implementing the controversial WOTUS rule in 26 states. The 2015 rule has been blocked by other court orders in the remaining 24 states.

AFBF and a broad coalition of industry groups asked the U.S. District Court of South Carolina to delay implementation of its Aug. 16 order while the groups appeal the court's decision.

According to Monday's filing, the court's decision to strike the delay rule harms the public interest "because the 2015 WOTUS rule was promulgated in violation of [procedural requirements], is inconsistent with the text of the [Clean Water Act], and is unconstitutional — as every court to

consider the issue has concluded."

The Environmental Protection Agency and Army Corps of Engineers issued the delay rule to provide regulatory stability and consistency while the agencies consider whether to repeal the WOTUS rule.

AFBF and the coalition warn of the "patchwork regulatory regime" created by allowing implementation of the WOTUS rule in about half the nation.

"Enormously consequential national regulations like the WOTUS rule — which subject commonplace activities involved in building, farming, and pest management to a complex and burdensome federal permitting and enforcement scheme — should not apply differently depending on whether the activity happens to be located on one side of a state line or the other," the coalition said.

The groups will seek a stay from the federal appellate court if the district court denies the request.

## Member Benefits

### Cimarron Trailers

Cimarron Trailers offers two discounts to Oklahoma Farm Bureau members, based on the model purchased. Members can receive: \$250 discount for LoneStar and TranStar models (livestock and cargo trailers) or \$400 discount for NorStar, ShowStar and Stierwalt models (horse, low-profile stock and club-calf trailers). For more on Cimarron Trailers and their many models, visit [cimarrontrailers.com](http://cimarrontrailers.com).

[www.okfarmbureau.org/benefits](http://www.okfarmbureau.org/benefits)

## Calendar

### YF&R State Fair Livestock Judging Contest

September 16 • Oklahoma City  
Contact: Zac Swartz 405-205-0070

### OKFB Women's Leadership Committee Fall Conference

September 28-29 • Edmond  
Contact: Marcia Irvin 405-523-2405

### OKFB Young Farmers and Ranchers Awards Due

October 1  
Contact: Zac Swartz 405-205-0070

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## Oklahoma Ag in the Classroom honors OKFB WLC chair for years of service

*Left: The Oklahoma Ag in the Classroom advisory committee honors OKFB Women's Leadership Committee Chair Kitty Beavers (second from left) for her commitment to educating Oklahoma students about agriculture during her tenure as WLC chair. The WLC helps facilitate the state AITC conference each summer, sponsors AITC curriculum and materials, donates agriculture books to teachers across the state, and much more. After eight years as chair, Beavers will conclude her final term in November. Also pictured are AITC staff members Melody Aufill, Audrey Harmon and Cheri Long.*

## County policy resolutions due to home office by Oct. 5

*Each year, county Farm Bureau members gather to write resolutions to OKFB policy for the following year. County resolutions must be sent to the OKFB home office no later than Friday, Oct. 5. State staff then will assemble all county resolutions for review by the state resolutions committee Oct. 17-18 in Oklahoma City. For questions about the resolutions process, please contact Marla Peek at [marla.peek@okfb.org](mailto:marla.peek@okfb.org).*