

Area Student Competed for FFA Award National FFA Organization

Indianapolis - The National FFA Organization (FFA) announced national proficiency finalists in August. Jarod John Bodensteiner of the Wapsie Valley FFA was selected as a national finalist for the National FFA Proficiency Award in Forest Management and Products - Entrepreneurship/Placement. Bodensteiner was one of only four people chosen to compete for this award at the national finals held October 19-22 during the 89th National FFA Convention and Expo in Indianapolis.

The proficiency awards recognize outstanding achievement in agribusiness gained through establishment of a new business, working for an existing company or otherwise gaining hands-on career experience. The Forest Management and Products Award is one of 47 proficiency program areas FFA members can participate in to develop valuable experience and leadership skills at the local, state and national levels. Bodensteiner, a member of the Wapsie Valley FFA Chapter, became eligible for the national award after winning the Iowa state FFA competition earlier this year.

This award is sponsored by John Deere. In recognition of being a finalist, each of the four finalists received a plaque and \$500. Bodensteiner works at Wapsie Pines Christmas Tree Farm during the spring and winter of each year. In the spring, he plants trees and perform other tasks as needed on the farm. During the winter, he helps customers cut down and/or mark their selected Christmas tree. He also helps transport, shake and bale trees. Bodensteiner is supported by his parents, Brenda and Kevin, and his FFA advisor, Ellen Doese.

Caption:

(Jarod.Sponsor): John Deere representative presents Jarod Bodensteiner the Forest Management and Products proficiency finalist award.