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December 1, 2005

TO: County Agents with 4-H Dairy Responsibilities

FROM: Boyd Brady
Extension Associate, Dairy

SUBJECT: **2006 4-H Dairy Efficiency Award** and Trip to the National 4-H Dairy
Conference in Madison, Wisconsin (late Sept. thru early Oct. 2006)

We plan to send approximately three Alabama 4-H Dairy Youths to the National 4-H Conference in Madison, Wisconsin. The conference will be held late September, thru October, 2006, and will include numerous educational activities plus field trips to the World Dairy Expo, the Hoard's Dairyman Publishing Company and dairy, the Dairy Shrine and Museum, American Breeders Service, etc. It is a very educational and enjoyable trip; however, it usually requires the winners to miss nearly a full week of school. We do not take missing school lightly, but we feel that the opportunity to see various science exhibits, visit different geographic locations, listen to speakers from various backgrounds and become acquainted with youth of different cultures and learn about different career opportunities provide a strong educational program which compensates for the missed classes. All meals, lodging and registration fees for the 4-H'ers are paid by local sponsors. In addition, numerous sponsors from throughout the U.S. sponsor the cost of the programs at Wisconsin.

Alabama's participants at the National 4-H Dairy Conference are selected through the 4-H Dairy Efficiency Award Program. Enclosed is a copy of the program guidelines and a copy of the application form. Please contact deserving dairy youths in your county who you feel would benefit from a trip such as this. To distribute the educational experiences, we prefer to select recipients from several different counties. However, if you have more than one deserving youth, please have each submit an application. There have been times when we have selected two youths from the same county.

(Please type or print clearly), and return the application to me no later than **June 1, 2006**. Selections will be made after that date! Thank you for your help and consideration in this matter.

ALABAMA 4-H DAIRY EFFICIENCY AWARD PROGRAM

Trip to National 4-H Dairy Conference in Madison, Wisconsin

DONORS

Alabama Farmer's Federation
Alabama Holstein Association
Alabama Jersey Cattle Association
American Dairy Association
Select Sires

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

1. Promote and sponsor an educational program for developing a better understanding of producing, processing, marketing and utilizing dairy products (and related areas).
2. To provide a means by which various individuals and groups interested in the dairy industry and in youth can cooperate to meet the developmental needs of youth.

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES

1. Help select 4-H youth:
 - a. Increase their understanding of the dairy industry.
 - b. Learn about vocational and professional opportunities in the dairy industry including various science options.
 - c. Practice good citizenship, group participation and leadership responsibilities.
 - d. Become acquainted with different geographic areas and cultures.
2. To provide adult advisors and leaders an opportunity to participate in national activities and to help gain an appreciation for needed cooperation and understanding in our increasingly interdependent world.

ELIGIBILITY

1. Must be a bona fide 4-H member in Alabama.
2. Must have completed at least one year of a 4-H dairy program at the time of application.
3. Must be at least 15 and not over 19 years of age at the time of the conference.
4. Should have an outstanding record of 4-H dairy accomplishments.
5. Should have abilities and talents that will enable them to contribute to the National Dairy Conference in Madison, Wisconsin.

6. Should have an interest in the production, marketing, processing and/or utilization of dairy products.
7. Should be capable of bringing information and inspiration back and passing it on to other youth and adults through talks, reports, news stories, etc.

LIMITATIONS TO ELIGIBILITY

1. A delegate can attend only one National 4-H Dairy Conference.
2. Anyone exhibiting one or more dairy animals at the World Dairy Expo is not eligible to be a delegate to the conference.

BASIS FOR SELECTION OF DELEGATES

1. Evaluation of Dairy Awards Application Form.
2. Supportive statement from Extension personnel relative to the applicant's character, ability, school and extra curricular activities and future plans.
3. Outstanding Dairy Achievement.
4. A personal visit with the applicant might be held.

INCENTIVES AND RECOGNITION

Each delegate will be awarded an expense-paid trip to the National 4-H Dairy Conference in Madison, Wisconsin. The conference usually held during the first week of October in conjunction with the World Dairy Expo and National Dairy Judging contest. Depending on scheduling, delegates might miss up to five days of school. The number of award recipients will depend upon funds available for the trip.

An award will be presented to each delegate at the Annual 4-H Dairy Awards Program in February of each year.

**APPLICATION FOR 4-H DAIRY EFFICIENCY AWARD & TRIP
TO THE NATIONAL 4-H DAIRY CONFERENCE, MADISON, WISCONSIN**

Name _____ Birth Date _____

Address _____ County _____

_____ Phone# () _____

Name of Parent or Guardian _____

1. What school grade will you be in this fall? _____

2. How many years have you been in 4-H (including this year)? _____

3. How many years have you had a 4-H Dairy Project? _____

4. Did you have dairy animals for your Dairy Projects? _____

5. Do you live on a dairy farm? _____ If so, how many cows? _____

6. How many calves and/or cows do you own or lease? _____

7. Describe briefly what you do with your 4-H Dairy Project and/or on your farm (milk, clean, feed, keep records, judging, posters, demonstrations etc.).

8. List the most important things you have learned about dairying.

9. List the things you enjoy most about working with dairy animals or dairy project.

10. List the things that you like least about working with dairy animals or dairy project.

11. What would you like to learn more about in dairying?

12. What has been your most enjoyable or rewarding dairy experience?

13. What was your worst time or biggest mistake with your dairy project?

14. What have you done to avoid that bad situation or correct the mistake?

15. What would you hope to gain from attending the National 4-H Dairy Conference in Madison, Wisconsin?

16. What would you like to see in Madison? What would you like to learn while you are there?

17. How do you think your experiences at the National 4-H Dairy Conference will help you in the future?

18. How do you plan to share what you learn at the National 4-H Dairy Conference with other 4-H'ers in your community and throughout Alabama?

Date

Return before **June 1, 2006**, to:
Boyd Brady
Extension Associate, Dairy
109 Upchurch Hall
Auburn University
Auburn, AL 36849-5625

Signed:

Applicant

Parent or Guardian

County 4-H Agent or Regional Agent