



Big prizes at YF&R competitions

Every December, YF&R hosts three statewide competitions, the winners of which get a cash prize and the chance to participate in the national YF&R contests at the American Farm Bureau convention. National winners get brand new pickup trucks, tools, or tractors!

These opportunities are perfect for former FFA members who are accustomed to competitions.

Achievement Award: Open to young ag producers (individuals or couples) who actively farm or ranch and earn most of their income from production agriculture. It recognizes farming operation growth, financial progress, and leadership experience in and outside of YF&R and Farm Bureau.

Excellence in Agriculture: Recognizes Farm Bureau members (individuals or couples) whose work has made a significant impact on the agricultural community. The majority of their income does not have to come from production agriculture.



Discussion Meet: Showcases effective communication within a group, much like the meetings that are the backbone of Farm Bureau's grassroots advocacy work. Contestants are evaluated on the exchange of ideas and information on predetermined topics. Collegiate participants compete for scholarships.

Young Farmers & Ranchers Program
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"I've gained so much from my involvement in YF&R, as a farmer, as an advocate for agriculture, and on a personal level. I've also made great friends in Oregon and across the country."

Jason Flowers,
YF&R member
Klamath County farmer



Protect & promote Oregon agriculture: Learn how public policy impacts Oregon agriculture, from land use to labor laws — and find out how you can make a difference. If farmers don't stand up for agriculture in the legislature, no one will.

Travel: Get the chance to attend conferences, workshops, and ag tours across the state from Portland to Klamath Falls, Newport to Ontario. Or travel with YF&R across the country. Recent events brought members to Washington D.C., Nashville, and Orlando.

Compete: Put your communication and farm management skills to the test through YF&R's three competitions: the Discussion Meet, Achievement Award, and Excellence in Agriculture.



"YF&R is a great way to meet other young farmers for networking, leadership training, travel opportunities, and fun. You feel like you're really making a difference for the future of Oregon agriculture."

Catherine Kiyokawa,
YF&R member
Hood River County farmer

Give back: YF&R supports next-generation farmers and ranchers through work with FFA, organizing the state FFA tractor driving contest, a legislative tour of the capitol, and events at the Oregon FFA Convention. YF&R also connects with college students interested in agriculture via Collegiate Farm Bureau meetings, Collegiate Discussion Meets, and other events.

Have fun! From ski trips to barbecues, YF&R members have a lot of fun. Build true friendships with people who have similar interests, have adventures in Oregon and beyond, and share some laughs. Now what's better than that?



HOW TO GET INVOLVED

1. Become a Voting, Supporting, or Student member of Oregon Farm Bureau. Get the registration form at oregonfb.org or call 503.399.1701.
2. Email yfr@oregonfb.org or connect with YF&R via Facebook at facebook.com/OregonYFR. A YF&R member will get in touch with you soon about the next meeting or event.

YF&R — Young Farmers & Ranchers — is a group within Farm Bureau specifically for agriculture producers between the ages of 16 and 35.

YF&R is a natural progression from FFA and a great way to get introduced into Farm Bureau, Oregon's largest general agriculture advocacy organization.

WHY JOIN?

Sharpen your skills: Oregon's YF&R offers trainings and workshops that address the interests of young farmers and ranchers. Workshop topics have included leadership training, political advocacy, ag technology, financial and business strategies, ag communications, legislative issues, and regulation updates.



Network: Meet other young farmers and ranchers from around Oregon, the U.S., and the world. Get ideas for your farm, gain contacts, and learn about new ag resources. You'll also make valuable professional contacts — and will meet and work with elected officials on issues that directly impact Oregon agriculture.