



NATIONAL
FFA ORGANIZATION

Agricultural
Proficiency
Awards

Example Application

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2015 APPLICATIONS. MAY APPEAR DIFFERENT
IN EXAMPLE PROVIDED**

Small Animal Production & Care Entrepreneurship



National Proficiency Application

Small Animal Production and Care

55

55\$\$\$%

55\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

Entrepreneurship vs Placement Percentage

Entrepreneurship: **100%**

Placement: **0%**



Applicant Information

Applicant Name

Lacie Ga Jh

Chapter Name

5bnk \YfY' : : 5

Statement of Candidate and Parent/Guardian

We have prepared this application and certify that the records are true, complete and accurate and we hereby permit for publicity purposes the use of any information included in the application with the exception of the following:

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Candidate's Signature

Certification

We have verified the application and find that the statements contained herein are such that we are able to recommend him/her for the Degree/Award. Furthermore, we verify that he/she has conducted themselves in a manner to be a credit to the organization, chapter, school and community.

Date

Chapter Advisor Signature

Date

Superintendent or Principal Signature

Date

Employer Signature (Placement applicants only)

Date

State Advisor or State Executive Committee Signature



National Proficiency Application

Basic Award Setup Information

I. Application Dates

Began Agricultural Education
9/1/2010

Application Ending Date
12/31/2014

II. Proficiency Type

Proficiency Type

Small Animal Production and Care

Entrepreneurship vs Placement Percentage

Entrepreneurship: **100%** Placement: **0%**

Primary Pathway of SAE

Animal Systems

III. Assets

1. Current/Operating Assets	Value at Beginning Date	Value at Ending Date
a. Current/Operating Inventory (Entrepreneurship Experiences)		
1. Investment in harvesting and growing crops	\$0	Itemized ending inventory values are reported on "Ending Current Inventory" page.
2. Investment in feed, seed, fertilizer, chemical, supplies, prepaid expenses, and other current/operating assets	\$0	
3. Investment in merchandise, crops and animals purchased for resale	\$0	
4. Investment in raised market livestock & poultry	\$0	
2. Non-Current Inventory	Value at Beginning Date	Value at Ending Date
a. Investment in non-depreciable draft, pleasure, and breeding animals	\$0	Itemized ending inventory values are reported on "Ending Non-Current Inventory" page.
b. Investment in depreciable draft, pleasure, and breeding animals	\$0	
c. Investment in depreciable machinery, equipment, and fixtures	\$770	
d. Investment in depreciable land improvements, buildings, and fixtures	\$0	
e. Investment in land	\$0	





National Proficiency Application

Performance Review A

1. Briefly explain your SAE and how it related to this award area.

Having older brothers and a sister who were heavily involved in the exhibition of market animals led to my interest in market animal SAEs. My SAE program began at the age of nine with the selection of market rabbit experiences. Exhibition of market rabbit SAEs initiated my interest in raising my own breeding stock. I started with the purchase of two Mini Satin bucks and two does, and one Californian Buck and eight Californian does shortly after beginning high school. This led to the eventual development of my current operation into what it is today. I initially selected the Mini Satin breed for the valuable traits the breed has to offer and set the goal of promoting them to an increased notoriety similar to the Californians and New Zealands. It soon became clear, however, that the customer demand would remain more with the Californian breed, and thus, the remainder of my Mini Satin stock was sold in 2013. I invested this new income into the continued growth of the Californian breeding stock. The daily challenges related to selection, breeding, climate concerns, and marketing have enabled me to develop a clear understanding of what was required to maintain a breeding rabbit SAE. The reward of profits gained through this project has enabled me to increase the size and improve the quality of this operation to its current scope of sixty-seven does and eight bucks. Income from my SAE will be used to offset living expenses while in college.

2. Briefly explain how your roles, responsibilities, and/or management decisions related to this award area changed.

As I have grown, learned more, and as my herd size has increased, my roles, responsibilities and management decisions within my breeding rabbit operation have grown in quantity and scope. In the initial establishment of the breeding rabbit SAE, I had nineteen bucks and does and was responsible only for basic daily tasks of feeding, handling and simple maintenance of facilities. With current totals of 75 bucks and does, there are more business decisions needed in relation to marketing offspring to those participating in market shows and the ability to determine necessary versus unnecessary risks in budget creation. In addition, I must perform chores and facility maintenance for use of the housing facility. Since I no longer participate in the exhibition of my breeding stock while in college, it is imperative to uphold my role as a reputable show market rabbit producer through maintaining relationships with past customers as well as through promotion of my operation to potential buyers. I am currently achieving this task through the advertisement among local rabbit breeders associations and by publicizing the success of those currently exhibiting market rabbits from my breeding stock. With increased herd size, it has become equally important to find a market for cull rabbits as well. I have come to develop a working relationship with a local USDA buyer, who processes rabbits to farmers markets and high-end restaurants in the area.

3. Briefly explain what is the single greatest challenge you faced in this award area and how did you overcome that challenge?

In rabbit production, the greatest challenge to overcome is always in the changing extremes of our climate. From a flood in 2010, to a terrible drought and extreme heat in 2012, combating weather effects has been a constant struggle as temperature variations can have a great impact on the breeding ability of rabbits. Whether it is too hot or too cold, the breeding process is hindered. Any delay in this process means a delay in market readiness and therefore, creates a delay in sales. When breeding for specific shows, there is only a small window of time in which does may be bred to ensure the offspring sold as show market rabbits have sufficient time to reach show weight. If this window is missed entirely, these rabbits will be sold to a processor at a much lower rate. The difference in profit from a livestock exhibitor to a USDA processor can range from \$15-\$25 per rabbit. With so much riding on the success or failure of the breeding process, I must have complete involvement in the steps needed to make adjustments to the facility in times of climatic changes. These changes include: putting up and removing heavy plastic covering as needed, maintaining water cooler equipment in working order, hanging heat lamps and spacing rabbits to prevent overcrowding and suffocation during times of heat. Taking these steps have proven successful in attaining an adequate environment for rabbit production.





National Proficiency Application

Performance Review B

Briefly explain your three greatest accomplishments or findings in this award area.

Accomplishment/Finding #1

Growth of Operation: It was my original goal to increase breeding stock to fifty bucks and does by the end of my FFA involvement. I have exceeded my goal as I currently have eight bucks and sixty-seven does in my breeding stock and am now nearing maximum capacity in my current facility. This progression and growth has impacted sales through my increased ability to accommodate customer requests to breed for specific shows with plenty of back-up breeders to offer choices in selection. Growth of my operation will continue to impact the breeding rabbit experience as my reputation continues to grow among market rabbit exhibitors.

Accomplishment/Finding #2

Attained Profit: Over the past four and a half years, I have accumulated an overall income of \$27,092. This includes sales from both Californian and Mini Satin litters. I have found the demand for Californians to be much greater, and therefore have sold the remainder of my Mini Satin breeding stock. Though difficult, it is the ability to make this type of business decision that has made the achievement of profit possible. These profits are invested back into the operation in purchasing feed, more supplies as the operation grows, and in purchasing improved breeding stock to strengthen the genetics of the herd.

Accomplishment/Finding #3

Improved Show Placings (personal and of customers): I have been fortunate to receive such personal honors as "Best in Show" at numerous Rabbit Breeders Association•-sanctioned shows as well as Reserve Grand Champion Breeding Rabbit at the Oreg^on County Youth Expo. Having personal success has been key to the establishment of my reputation as a rabbit breeder. No longer being involved in the exhibition of market or breeding rabbits, my notoriety is in the hands of those purchasing and exhibiting market rabbits from my breeding herd. As word of the success of these individuals and the working relationship I strive to maintain with each spreads, it is my hope to continue an increase in customers and sales in the future.





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Performance Review C

What are three ways your experiences or opportunities in this award area will impact your future.

Impact #1

Experience in Animal Husbandry: The experience gained in animal husbandry will greatly impact the future of my breeding operation as I have gained numerous skills in animal health, nutrition and providing adequate housing. Specifically, I have learned to recognize and treat illnesses, parasite infestations, and injuries. In regards to nutrition, I have learned to adapt feed as necessary to promote and control weight gain and how to make adjustments when rabbits are not eating. Housing adjustments must be made as climatic variations occur and must be maintained to prevent the entrance of predators. Possessing these abilities will allow me to supervise and treat my herd more independently in the future.

Impact #2

Experience in Animal Selection: Having the evaluation skills to select breeding animals that will produce successful show market rabbits is essential to the future success of my breeding rabbit operation. Animal selection will continue, as it has in the past, to be based on production rates, offspring growth, and offspring performance. Just as I had to make the decision to end my production of Mini Satin rabbits due to lack of demand, I must remain aware of the changes in market demand in the future and adjust my selection of breeding stock accordingly.

Impact #3

Opportunity to serve as Junior Director of local ÜääñÁ Organization: Having the experience of serving as a Junior Director for a professional organization in the realm of rabbit production has introduced me to countless breeders, both local and statewide. Establishing these contacts and working relationships provides sources from which I may purchase replacement and additional breeders. Because of the narrow time frames in which rabbits may be bred for specific shows, rabbit breeders often work together by backing each other up in case one or the other is unable to breed their stock successfully. I have been fortunate to have had this experience with a local breeder and will strive to build similarly beneficial relationships in the future.





National Proficiency Application

Supervised Agricultural Experience - Entrepreneurship

2010

Pathway	Name & Description	Size/Scope of Enterprise
Animal Systems	Breeding Rabbits- Californian 1 Californian Buck 8 Californian Does (7 litters)	9 head
Animal Systems	Breeding Rabbits- Mini Satin 3 Mini Satin Bucks 7 Mini Satin Does (2 litters)	10 head

2011

Pathway	Name & Description	Size/Scope of Enterprise
Animal Systems	Breeding Rabbits- Californian 2 Californian Bucks 18 Californian Does (50 litters)	20 head
Animal Systems	Breeding Rabbits- Mini Satin 3 Mini Satin Bucks 7 Mini Satin Does (3 litters)	10 head

2012

Pathway	Name & Description	Size/Scope of Enterprise
Animal Systems	Breeding Rabbits- Californian 4 Californian Bucks 33 Californian Does (74 litters)	37 head
Animal Systems	Breeding Rabbits- Mini Satin 2 Mini Satin Bucks 6 Mini Satin Does (5 litters)	8 head

2013

Pathway	Name & Description	Size/Scope of Enterprise
Animal Systems	Breeding Rabbits- Californian 6 Californian Bucks 47 Californian Does (105 litters)	53 head
Animal Systems	Breeding Rabbits- Mini Satin 2 Mini Satin Bucks 6 Mini Satin Does (8 litters)	8 head

2014

Pathway	Name & Description	Size/Scope of Enterprise
Animal Systems	Breeding Rabbits- Californian 8 Californian Bucks 67 Californian Does (153 litters)	75 head





National Proficiency Application

Income and Expense Summary of Entrepreneurship SAE Program

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Total
1. Revenues from Operations						
a. Closing Current Inventory	\$487	\$403	\$3	\$0	\$422	\$422
b. Beginning Current Inventory	\$0	\$487	\$403	\$3	\$0	\$0
c. Change in Current Inventory	\$487	-\$84	-\$400	-\$3	\$422	\$422
d. Cash Sales	\$240	\$5,835	\$7,154	\$8,695	\$11,220	\$33,144
e. Value Used at Home (Non-cash)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
f. Value of Production Transferred to other enterprise, Transferred to Non-Current, Bartered or Labor Exchanged (Non-cash)	\$286	\$1,121	\$1,062	\$1,346	\$1,195	\$5,010
h. Gross Revenues (Change in Current Inventory and Total Sales)	\$1,013	\$6,872	\$7,816	\$10,038	\$12,837	\$38,576
2. Expenses from Operations						
a. Inventory Purchased for Resale (Cash)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
b. Inventory Purchased for Resale (Non-Cash Transfers)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
c. Cash Expenses (all other types)	\$300	\$757	\$847	\$1,643	\$1,473	\$5,020
d. Non-Cash Expenses (Transferred, Bartered, or SAE Labor Exchange)	\$286	\$1,036	\$692	\$1,216	\$960	\$4,190
e. Contributed Non-Cash Expenses (Gift or non-SAE Labor Exchange)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
f. Total Operating Expenses	\$586	\$1,793	\$1,539	\$2,859	\$2,433	\$9,210
3. Net Income from Operations	\$427	\$5,079	\$6,277	\$7,179	\$10,404	\$29,366
4. Non-Current Inventory						
a. Closing Inventory	\$2,120	\$2,162	\$2,326	\$2,304	\$2,471	\$2,471
b. Transfer in from Operations (Non-Cash Transfers of non-current assets)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
c. Contributed Inventory (Outside contribution of non-current assets - gift)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
d. Purchases	\$1,890	\$760	\$775	\$920	\$1,030	\$5,375
e. Beginning Inventory	\$770	\$2,120	\$2,162	\$2,326	\$2,304	\$770
f. Sales	\$175	\$395	\$0	\$730	\$100	\$1,400
g. Non-Cash Sales	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
h. Net Non-Current Transactions	-\$366	-\$323	-\$611	-\$212	-\$764	-\$2,275
5. Net Income From Operations & Net Non-Current Transactions	\$62	\$4,757	\$5,666	\$6,967	\$9,640	\$27,092
6. Annual Profitability Measures						
a. Operating Profit Margin (OPM) Net Operating Income/Totals Sales = % of sales related to profit	42%	74%	80%	72%	81%	76%
b. % of Total Returns from Net Non-Current Gains (Net Non-Current Gains/Total Gains)						
c. Review Non-Current Ending Inv. Value						





National Proficiency Application

Candidate Inventory Statement - Current Inventory

A. Harvested and Growing Crops/Plants on 12/31/2014

Description	Quantity	Value
	TOTAL	

B. Feed, Seed, Fertilizer, Chemicals, Supplies, Prepaid Expenses, and other Current Assets on 12/31/2014

Description	Quantity	Value
Rabbit Feed (Breeding Rabbits- Californian)	2 bags	\$27
Ivomec Wormer (Breeding Rabbits- Californian)	1/2 bottle	\$20
	TOTAL	\$47

C. Merchandise, Crops, and Animals Purchased for Resale on 12/31/2014

Description	Quantity	Value
	TOTAL	

D. Raised Market Animals on 12/31/2014

Description	Quantity	Value
USDA Buyer/Show Rabbit Prospects (Breeding Rabbits- Californian)	75 head	\$375
	TOTAL	\$375





National Proficiency Application

Candidate Inventory Statement - Non-Current Inventory

E. Non-Depreciable Draft, Pleasure, or Breeding Animals on 12/31/2014

Description	Quantity	Ending Total Value
	TOTAL	

F. Depreciable Draft, Pleasure, or Breeding Animals on 12/31/2014

Description	Quantity	Acquisition Cost	Depreciation Claimed	Value
CB- PS1	1.00	\$80	\$75	\$5
CD- M2	1.00	\$50	\$45	\$5
CD- M4	1.00	\$80	\$75	\$5
CD- M8	1.00	\$95	\$90	\$5
CD- MS2	1.00	\$95	\$90	\$5
CD- PS1	1.00	\$75	\$70	\$5
CD- PS2	1.00	\$100	\$95	\$5
CD- H71	1.00	\$55	\$50	\$5
CD- AW	1.00	\$80	\$75	\$5
CD- AW2	1.00	\$100	\$76	\$24
CD- A2	1.00	\$65	\$48	\$17
JB130	1.00	\$75	\$56	\$19
KD627	1.00	\$75	\$56	\$19
12F	1.00	\$75	\$56	\$19
OH497	1.00	\$75	\$56	\$19
RD32	1.00	\$50	\$36	\$14
RD171	1.00	\$50	\$36	\$14
RD174	1.00	\$50	\$36	\$14
RD175	1.00	\$50	\$36	\$14
A11	1.00	\$60	\$33	\$27
22B	1.00	\$60	\$33	\$27
SR9CA	1.00	\$50	\$27	\$23
STD1	1.00	\$50	\$27	\$23
STD25	1.00	\$50	\$27	\$23
STD35	1.00	\$50	\$27	\$23
STD36	1.00	\$50	\$27	\$23
STD37	1.00	\$50	\$27	\$23
STD39	1.00	\$50	\$18	\$32
STD68	1.00	\$50	\$27	\$23
STD73	1.00	\$50	\$27	\$23
RW1	1.00	\$60	\$22	\$38
RW2	1.00	\$50	\$18	\$32
RW4	1.00	\$50	\$18	\$32
RW5	1.00	\$50	\$18	\$32
VP2	1.00	\$50	\$18	\$32
VP4	1.00	\$50	\$18	\$32
VP6	1.00	\$50	\$18	\$32





National Proficiency Application

Learning Outcomes & Efficiency Factors

Learning Outcome or Efficiency Factor		Beginning Level	Level Attained	Description
1	Increase in Rabbit Herd Size (Breeders)	Year: 2010 Level: 9	Year: 2014 Level: 75	Having the ability and facilities to increase herd size enabled me to market more offspring to livestock show exhibitors. I am now able to produce litters for FFA chapters and 4-H clubs seeking to purchase large numbers of pens at once or for different shows within the same time of year.
2	Increased Profit in Sales	Year: 2011 Level: \$4,756	Year: 2014 Level: \$9,641	Profits increased from \$4,756 in 2011 to \$9,641 in 2014, a 102.7% increase in the three years. The profit increase attained validates my sound business decisions and animal selection methods made in the course of my breeding rabbit SAE program.
3	Percent of Kits Weaned Per Litter Born	Year: 2011 Level: 87.3%	Year: 2014 Level: 90.1%	It became evident as I regularly monitored new litters, approximately 90% of deaths occurred after birth due to climate changes. This led to my evaluation of facility adaptation in times of extreme temperature variations (i. e. adding/removing coverings, heat lamps, fans, etc.).
4	Percentage of Live Births Per Kindling - Californians	Year: 2011 Level: 88%	Year: 2014 Level: 91%	Live births can only be increased through genetics and husbandry. I eliminated some kindling deaths by selecting and/or retaining prolific does and through careful selection of breeding bucks. Improved environmental control during times of expected kindling also contributed to increased live births.
5	Percentage of Rabbits Achieving Market Weight Per Industry Standard at Twelve Weeks of Age.	Year: 2010 Level: 0%	Year: 2014 Level: 83%	Industry standard for market weight at twelve weeks of age is 4.0-4.75 lbs.. Achieving this weight increases revenue earned per market rabbit. Recording market weights and corresponding them to the sire and dam, provides needed information as I select does and bucks to retain or cull from herd.





National Proficiency Application

Skills, Competencies, and Knowledge

A. Five Primary Skills, Competencies, and Knowledge within your Pathway

	AFNR Performance Indicator	Contributions to Success
1	AS.02.03 Select animals for specific purposes and maximum performance based on anatomy and physiology.	Learning the evaluation methods for the selection of breeding animals allows me to choose quality livestock that will improve genetics in breeding stock and show ring performance of market animals. To this point, I have been fortunate to attain \$27,092 in profit through the successful selection of breeding stock.
2	AS.03.01 Prescribe and implement a prevention and treatment program for animal diseases, parasites and other disorders.	As rabbits are not regularly vaccinated, herd management requires monitoring for illnesses such as: colds, snuffles, tumors, and parasites such as ear mites. I worm rabbits four times each year as the only preventative measure. Through this process I have had no incidents of death among breeding stock due to illness in the course of my SAE program.
3	AS.06.01 Demonstrate safe animal handling and management techniques.	Observing the animals' surroundings regularly will allow me to prevent the animal from incurring injury, thus making them more marketable and/or capable of production. In case of injury, the value of these rabbits decreases dramatically. Rabbits sold for market shows sell at an average of \$50 per rabbit, whereas rabbits sold to a local USDA buyer will sell at a rate of \$5 per pound.
4	AS.02.02 Apply principles of comparative anatomy and physiology to uses within various animal systems.	In a large herd of rabbits, genetics vary. This makes it imperative to monitor for animal deformities and teeth issues which affect the animals ability to eat, and thus grow properly. When it becomes clear these issues are a result of genetics, changes must be made in the breeding stock to eliminate these costly disorders. I evaluate each litter for these traits to determine how they will be marketed and make adjustments in breeding stock at this time.
5	AS.08.02 Evaluate the effects of environmental conditions on animals.	Regulating temperature for breeding stock is imperative for breeding success. Weather extremes of too cold or hot will prevent breeding, delaying production and thus sales. It is my goal for each doe to produce three litters per year. Had every breeding been successful, does would have produced 552 litters from 2011-14, but instead produced a total of 398 litters. Breeding difficulties are generally attributed to extreme weather conditions and compatibility issues between does and bucks.

B. Five Supporting Skills, Competencies, and Knowledge outside your Pathway

	AFNR Performance Indicator	Contributions to Success
6	ABS.03.01 Prepare and maintain all files needed to accomplish effective record keeping.	Accurate records identify the successes and failures of all aspects of an entrepreneurship SAE. Records confirm or refute the accuracy of animal selection techniques whether in individual animals or in breed selection. Ultimately, it was through record keeping I was able to determine the need to sell my remaining Mini Satin breeding stock as the market demand was not creating a comparable profit (\$64 per doe per year) to the Californians (\$144 per doe per year).
7	ABS.06.05 Merchandise products and services to achieve specific marketing goals.	The establishment of marketing techniques has led to the sale of rabbits produced by breeding stock, both at home and through a local USDA buyer. Approximately 90% of at-home sales result from word-of-mouth marketing from previous customers or local breeders. The remaining 10% may be attributed to networking at shows and meetings and my listing in association breeder's directories.



8	CS.01.02 Relationships: Build a constituency through listening, coaching, understanding and appreciating others.	Communicating effectively with customers is essential to the marketing and sale of rabbits. Maintaining relationships is a vital component to retaining customers for future sales. According to sales records, I have had six repeat customers, among stock show exhibitors (including 4-H clubs and FFA chapters), purchasing market rabbits a minimum of two of the past four years.
9	CS.07.01 Apply safety/health practices to AFNR worksites.	Taking measures to ensure personal safety will not only benefit myself, but also allow me to continue adequate care of rabbit SAEs. Though generally there no major risks involved in rabbit production, scratches are a common occurrence which may lead to infections. Regular attention and presence among all rabbits ensures rabbits will remain calm in times of handling. Along with wearing long sleeves when handling inexperienced rabbits, these steps will significantly decrease my chances of injury.
10	CS.01.01 Action: Exhibit the skills and competencies needed to achieve a desired result.	Successful showmanship increases the probability of higher placement in the show ring. These placings are powerful advertising components for the sale of breeding and market animals as 100% of my personal show stock have been products of my breeding herd.





National Proficiency Application

Resume

1. Career Objectives

While attending University to obtain my degree in Ag Science, I plan on interning with county extension agent offices. My ultimate goal upon graduation is to become a county extension agent.

2. Agricultural Science Courses

- Sep 2013-May 2014 - Agricultural Facilities Design and Fabrication
- Jan 2013-May 2013 - Entrepreneurship
- Sep 2012-Jan 2013 - Professional Standards in Agribusiness
- Sep 2011-Jun 2012 - Principles and Elements of Floral Design
- Jan 2011-Jun 2011 - Landscape Design and Turf Grass Management
- Sep 2010-Jun 2011 - Principles of Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources
- Sep 2010-Jan 2011 - Professional Communications

3. Supervised Agricultural Experiences

- 2012-2014 Beef (Ownership) 2 projects
- 2010-2014 Swine (Ownership) 8 projects
- 2010-2014 Small Animal (Ownership) 2 projects
- 2010-2012 Specialty Animal (Ownership) 1 project

4. FFA Involvement and Leadership

- 2013-2014 FFA Chapter President
- 2011-2014 Nursery/Landscape CDE
- 2013 FFA Day at the Capitol
- 2013 FFA Foundation Ambassador
- 2012-2013 District Vice President
- 2012-2013 FFA Chapter Treasurer
- 2010-2013 FFA Committee Involvement - Student Leadership Committee and Program of Activities Committee
- 2010-2013 Invitational FFA Competitions - Junior/Senior Farm Skills LCDE
- 2011-2013 Senior Skills LCDE
- 2011-2013 District, Area & State Convention Voting Delegate
- 2012 FFA Foundation Ambassador
- 2012 Area Leadership Conference
- 2012 Area Chapter Leadership Conference
- 2011-2012 FFA Chapter Treasurer
- 2010 Junior Farm Skills
- 2010 Area Greenhand Camp

5. Community Service

- 2014 University Biomedical Science Association - Highway Clean-up
- 2011-2014 Stock Show & Rodeo School Tours Program Group Leader
- 2013 Community Food Drive Collection & Distribution
- 2012 County Food & Fiber Round-Up Group Leader
- 2012 Community Food Drive Collection & Distribution
- 2011 State FFA "Day of Service" - Landscape Restoration
- 2011 Breast Cancer Awareness Susan G. Komen Fundraiser
- 2011 Support the troops - Veterans T-Shirt Fundraiser
- 2010 Volunteer Fire Department-Jr. Volunteer



6. Accomplishments

- "Best in Show" - Uca Club Show
- "Best of Breed" - Uca Club Show
- "Best of Show" - Uca Rabbit Breeders Association Show
- "Grand Champion Breeding Rabbit" - Uca County Youth Expo
- "Reserve Champion Breeding Rabbit" - Uca County Youth Expo
- Elected Junior Director - Rabbit Association (2013-2014)
- District Star Greenhand Award - Production
- District Star Chapter Farmer Award - Production
- District Star Lone Star Award - Production
- District Small Animal Production Proficiency Award
- Area Small Animal Production Proficiency Award

7. Certifications, Skills, and Memberships

- 2012-2013 National Honor Society
- 2011-2013 One Act Play
- 2011-2013 Volunteer Fire Department Member
- 2010-2013 Varsity Cheerleader
- 2012 Varsity Volleyball
- 2011 American Rabbit Breeders Association
- 2011 Powerlifting
- 2011 Llama Association
- 2010-2011 JV Volleyball

8. Recommendations

Uca Club Show

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]





National Proficiency Application

Project Photos



Feed must be selected based on quality, local availability, and cost. When fed a well-balanced ration, rabbits have an average feed conversion rate of 3:1. Because rabbits prefer a pelleted ration, both rate of gain and feed efficiency are increased by selecting a complete-pellet feed including sources of energy, fiber, protein, minerals of calcium and phosphorous and vitamins. Rabbits synthesize B-vitamins through coprophagy (ingestion of soft fecal matter), a process similar to rumination.





National Proficiency Application

Project Photos



Ideal teeth characteristics in rabbits mean having a slight over-bite. Having an under-bite, chipped/broken teeth, missing teeth, or having top and bottom teeth lined up on top of each other are all characteristics which would lead to difficulty eating, improper growth, and show disqualification. Evaluating for these characteristics on a regular basis allows me to cull rabbits from the herd. Though these are sold at a lower rate, removing them from the facility will lessen feeding expenses.





National Proficiency Application

Project Photos



With small animal production comes the concern of predator attacks. Living in a remote, wooded area provides a perfect habitat for various types of wildlife. It is essential to monitor the facility on a regular basis to ensure the safety of the breeding stock from predators such as raccoons, possums, and snakes. This also means one must be prepared at all times to take action to rid the facility of the attacker.





National Proficiency Application

Project Photos



Participation in American Rabbit Breeder's Association and 5brGHY Rabbit Breeder's Association sanctioned shows has enabled me to promote and market my herd through multiple "Best in Show" honors. Because the Californians far exceed Mini Satins in show popularity, it became apparent my focus needed to be within the Californian breed to ensure a market for the rabbits produced. The decision to sell my remaining Mini Satins opened the door to expand and improve my Californian operation.





National Proficiency Application

Project Photos



Maintaining accurate records in an online record keeping system allows me to track all expenses and income related to SAE projects. Using the online "Agricultural Experience Tracker" provides the convenience of entering financial and activity information both from home and while at school. Updating these records will aide me in determining overall profits and losses as well as having necessary information available for future award and scholarship applications.





National Proficiency Application

Project Photos



Maintaining pen facilities includes not only the repair of broken parts within the facility, but also the clearing of fallen tree limbs and any other debris which may be detrimental to the soundness of the structure. Performing these and similar duties is a major part of the SAE agreement which I have arranged with my parents. This agreement allows my use of their pen facilities in exchange for labor at the rate of \$8.00/hour with a minimum of four hours of labor performed monthly.





National Proficiency Application

Checklist of Minimum Qualifications

- All items must be "MET" to qualify.
- Only computer-generated checks are shown here.

Item	Value
Candidate has fully described and selected one to five Learning Outcomes or Efficiency Factors.	MET
Candidate has fully described all ten Skills, Competencies, and Knowledge.	MET
All pictures include captions.	MET
All pictures include a digital upload.	MET
Application includes at least one full calendar year of records.	MET
If graduated, applicant must have completed at least three full years of agriculture, or all of the agriculture offered at the school last attended.	MET
If graduated, applicant must have been out of high school for no more than one year	MET
Ending Date is Dec 31 of the year prior to the National Convention which you are applying to receive an award.	MET
Employer or Instructor's Statement must be printed and submitted with the application.	MUST ATTACH
Personal Page must be printed and submitted with the application.	MUST ATTACH





National Proficiency Application

Manual Review Sheet & List of Attachments

Reviewed By: _____

To improve the quality of applications submitted, and to eliminate the need to disqualify an application at the national finalist level of competition each agricultural proficiency award the state advisor should certify application submitted.

Note: The following are manual reviews of the application and a listing of attachments and page limitations for the complete application. Please review each item and exactly follow the instructions for each attachment.

Manual Review of Application:

Approve (Check if Yes):

- 1. Applicant has in operation, and has maintained at least one calendar year of SAE records to substantiate an outstanding SAE program, which exhibits comprehensive planning, managerial and financial expertise, SAE Details page(s)
- 2. Applicant, parent or guardian, chapter advisor, school superintendent or principal and State FFA Advisor properly sign the application.
- 3. I hereby confirm there are no exaggerated, misleading, deceptive or false statements or claims about the applicant's experience, or performance in this application. Additionally, I confirm this supervised agricultural program has been conducted with the highest possible regard for the quality and human production practices as the products and/or services impact public safety and consumer confidence.

Attachments & Manual Review (Instructions Below)

Approve (Check if Yes):

- 1. Applicant has included a written evaluation limited to one page by the most recent employer or agriculture instructor describing the progress that the applicant has made in developing the skills and competencies necessary for success within the award area in which they are applying. (Limit to ONE Page 8 1/2 x 11)
- 2. Applicant has included a maximum of one page (maximum size 8 1/2" X 11") of additional information. This may **NOT** include the following: videos; CDs, DVDs, flash drive; etc.



Anywhere FFA

April 25, 2015

Proficiency Award Selection Committee:

It is my privilege to recommend Lacie Smith for the Small Animal Production Proficiency Award. Lacie's SAE involvement includes llama, market steer and swine production, as well as the establishment and growth of a registered breeding rabbit herd. Through this vast involvement, Lacie has developed a passion for animal care and production. As her advisor, I can attest to Lacie's progress towards the skill and competency development in the following areas:

Animal Selection: Lacie selects breeding stock and market animals based on evaluation techniques she has developed through the performance of previous SAE's.

Customer Relations: Lacie has learned the value of developing relationships with customers to positively promote her herd.

Animal Safety: Monitoring the housing facilities of her animals has allowed Lacie to exhibit animals that have consistently been without physical injury.

Record Keeping: Lacie has diligently maintained weight, vaccination, activity and financial records through excel spreadsheets and the use of the FFA Online Record book

Marketing Strategies: Through the exhibition and outstanding performance of breeding stock at sanctioned shows, Lacie has positively promoted her stock and increased her customer base.

Showmanship: Lacie has shown an interest in improving swine showmanship through her participation in a local showmanship clinic and has received numerous awards in Llama Showmanship.

Personal Safety: Through the wide spectrum of physical activities involved in the production of her animal SAE's, Lacie has made herself aware of personal safety precautions.

Herd Health Management: Lacie has become proficient in identifying illnesses and parasites among breeding animals.

Identifying Irregularities in Breeding Rabbits: Properly evaluating rabbits for irregularities prior to show has prevented Lacie from being disqualified at any breeding or market show.

Climite Control: Not being able to bred does at the appropriate time has taught Lacie that this will affect the readiness of the animals for show.

Sincerely,

Name and Signature of Advisor

PERSONAL PAGE UNAVAILABLE