



NEWS RELEASE

May 31, 2017

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County 4-H Youth Compete in 3rd Annual Regional Chicken Show

White Lake, N.C. – Nearly 60 youth ages 5 to 18 competed in the 3rd Annual Regional Chicken Show at the North Carolina FFA Center at White Lake May 2. The location was converted into a show field for chickens. The youth, involved in 4-H and FFA programs, came from counties in the southeast to show off their hens and broilers.

Registration through Cooperative Extension 4-H or livestock agents, or school FFA, was required for participation in the chicken show. Registration for laying hens took place in December; while youth who raised and showed broilers had until early February to commit to the project. At least two required trainings were provided in each county to teach the youth about proper care, biosecurity, showmanship techniques, record keeping and more. Three areas of competition were judged including showmanship, which is the handling of the bird and being able to verbally share their knowledge about the anatomy and breed to a judge; breed, in which the judge compares the overall look of the bird including fullness, color and health in comparison with other birds of the same breed; and project record books, which is a written record of knowledge gained and learned through the project.

Cumberland County Cooperative Extension Livestock Agent Liz Lahti led the County's efforts in the Regional Chicken Project. Initially, over 100 children representing Bladen, Brunswick, Columbus, Cumberland, Hoke, Robeson and Sampson counties signed up. Cloverbuds, ages 5 to 8, received recognition and ribbons for their participation in showmanship and record books.

Ribbons were presented to the following youth for their achievements in the Showmanship and Breed classes:

Junior Showmanship

1st	Luke Barber	Bladen County
2nd	Jacie Kinlaw	Bladen County
3rd	Valencia Banaduc	Cumberland County
4th	Sami Drake	Cumberland County
5th	Chase Lewis	Cumberland County



Senior Showmanship

1st	Ashlyn Johnson	Cumberland County
2nd	Nayeli Estrada	Robeson County
3rd	Meagen Butler	Robeson County
4th	Lupita Santes	Robeson County
5th	Isabella Dugarte	Robeson County

Barred Rock Hen Class

1st	Lucas Collins	Columbus County
2nd	Braxton Swain	Cumberland County
3rd	Jadakiss Smith	Robeson County

Golden Comet Hen Class

1st	Rylie McDonald	Sampson County
2nd	Isabelle Dugarte	Robeson County
3rd	Xzania Porter	Columbus County

Broiler Class

1st	Meagan Butler	Robeson County
2nd	Antonio Flores	Robeson County
3rd	Jadakiss Smith	Robeson County

The youth were also recognized later for their achievements in completing required project record books documenting their individual chicken project. Winners received ribbons and cash prizes in the amounts of \$15 for 1st place, \$10 for 2nd place, and \$5 for 3rd place. The project book winners were as follows:

4-H Project Book ages 9-10

1st	Gabrielle Johnson	Hoke County
2nd	Chase Lewis	Cumberland County
3rd	Esaiah Johnson	Hoke County

4-H Project Book ages 11-12

1st	Jacie Kinlaw	Bladen County
2nd	Keegan Lewis	Cumberland County
3rd	Peyton Matthis	Sampson County

4-H Project Book ages 13-15

1st	Ashlyn Johnson	Cumberland County
2nd	Elizabeth Kirby	Columbus County

FFA Project Book Middle School

1st	Cooper Strickland	Cumberland County
2nd	Valencia Banaduc	Cumberland County
3rd	Cole Leach	Cumberland County

FFA Project Book High School

1st	Nayeli Estrada	Robeson County
2nd	Brianda Barrera	Robeson County
3rd	Meagen Butler	Robeson County

Parents reported that their children showed improved responsibility and work ethic because of their participation in the Regional Chicken Project. For more information about youth livestock programming, please contact Bladen County Cooperative Extension at 910-862-4591.

ABOUT N.C. COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

North Carolina Cooperative Extension is a strategic partnership of NC State Extension, The Cooperative Extension Program at N.C. A&T State University, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA-NIFA), and local government partners statewide. Extension delivers research-based education and technology from NC State and N.C. A&T that enriches the lives, land and economy of North Carolinians. Extension professionals in all 100 counties and the Eastern Band of Cherokee provide educational programs specializing in agriculture, youth, communities, health and the environment.