

November 7, 2008

Farmers Cooperative Company Partners with Syngenta to Raise \$5,000 *New FFA Program Supports Future Leaders of Agriculture*

Farnhamville, IA – Farmers Cooperative Co. (FC) and Syngenta Crop Protection raised more than \$5,000 to support future leaders in agriculture. The effort came through the FFA Blue Jacket Program, a unique collaboration between Syngenta and retail partners throughout the Midwest.

Under the program, for every \$2,500 pledged by retail customers, Syngenta makes a matching donation. Funding supports a variety of programs, including the National Collegiate Agriculture Ambassadors, the American FFA Degree program as well as other FFA programs on a national scale. In addition, FC was able to designate a local FFA chapter to receive an official FFA blue corduroy jacket. The Rockwell City- Lytton FFA Chapter was chosen by FC.

According to Holly Daniel, with FC, “FFA programs are fundamental to the core values of our business. We believe in giving back to the local community,” she explained, “and we do as much as we can to support the future leaders in the agriculture industry. Through our work with FFA, we have a chance to invest in the future of agriculture, and that’s a great feeling.”

“Because of support from FC and Syngenta through the Blue Jacket program, FFA can continue to grow and develop the future leaders necessary for American agriculture to maintain its competitive edge,” said Dennis Sargent, Executive Director of the National FFA Foundation. “We say thank you to FC and Syngenta for helping FFA continue the tradition of growing tomorrow’s leaders.”

The National FFA Organization, formerly known as the Future Farmers of America, is a national youth organization of 507,763 student members – all preparing for leadership and careers in the science, business and technology of agriculture – as part of 7,439 local FFA chapters in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. The National FFA Organization changed to its present name in 1988, in recognition of the growth and diversity of agriculture and agricultural education. FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for **premier leadership, personal growth and career success** through agricultural education. Visit www.ffa.org for more information.