

FARMERS COOPERATIVE

FARMING NEWS

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Third Graders Grow Own Food

The 'Cabbage Patch' Kids

By Pauline Fletcher Cogdill

Growing With Farmers Cooperative is the theme used again for this year's Cabbage Plant Growing Contest. When you see a third grader wearing one of our Cooperative T Shirts with the logo, "Growing With Farmers Cooperative" you'll know they spent a lot of time caring for their cabbage for the weigh in on Saturday, May 12th in Live Oak, and on May 19th at our Madison Co-op store.

Farmers Cooperative and Bonnie Plant teamed up again for their fourth Annual Cabbage Plant Growing Contest.

The Cooperative Cabbage Program included all third grade classes at Suwannee Elementary School, Branford Elementary School, Madison County Central School, Greenville Elementary School, Lee Elementary School, Pinetta Elementary School and Taylor Elementary School.

GENERAL MANAGER, Todd Lawrence, Agronomy Division Manager, Barry Long, and Madison Manager Eddie Curl, delivered 800 plants to the various elementary schools in their area. Heather Bennett, Denise Watts, Karen Fraley and all the managers provided pizza parties for the winners.

In order for third graders to be eligible for the Bonnie Plant Farms Cabbage Contest, they simply had to plant the free Bonnie cabbage plant, provide the nutrients and attention

the cabbage needed, and just watch it grow. Farmers Cooperative provided a small bag of fertilizer and a garden trowel free. Farmers Cooperative's website provided complete instructions on how to grow their Bonnie Plant cabbage.

We had a total of 30 class winners in the Cabbage Plant Growing Contest this year. Additionally, class winners will be entered into the State Bonnie Plant Farms drawing for a chance to win a \$1,000 scholarship from Bonnie Plant Farms.

Our third grade gardeners learned responsibility along with a real sense of accomplishment to see how they can grow their own food. Children were encouraged to bring their cabbage to the weigh in regardless of the size or weight. In fact, they ranged from 22 pounds on down.

All the winners and their cabbages can be seen on our website at www.farmerscooperative.org and then click on photo gallery.

WE WOULD LIKE TO recognize all our winners: First Place Winner at Suwannee Elementary School, Morgan Larney's cabbage weighed in at 22.01 lbs., Morgan is a student in Mrs. Roberts' class. Second Place Winner, Benton Stratton's cabbage weighed in at 15.76 lbs., and Benton is a



Morgan Larney, first place winner at SES. Morgan is in Mrs. Roberts' class at Suwannee Elementary.

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Cabbage Winners

Continued from Page 1, continued on Page 3



**Landri Aust,
Madison
County first
place winner:
21 pounds.**



**Cera
McElreath,
BES first place
winner: 14.25
pounds.**

Red Brand Fence Sales Support FFA Chapters

Farmers Cooperative is pleased to have once again participated in “Home Grown”, an initiative developed for Ag dealers by Red Brand fence that financially supports local FFA chapters. Home Grown runs from January 1st to December 31st and applies to all new orders of Red Brand field fence, sheep and goat fence, barbed wire, and horse fence placed by Farmers Cooperative. For every new order, \$1.00 per roll is donated to a local FFA chapter.

“Just like Farmers Cooperative, the FFA has been a part of this community for generations,” said Barry Long. “And we believe that efforts like this help keep that tradition going strong. Farmers Cooperative has been known for giving back to the communities that they serve, and participating in Home Grown is just another way of giving back. Now our customers can have the very best fencing and know that they are partnering in the support of our local FFA chapters.” Help spread the word; the more people know about Home Grown the more dollars we can generate for our local FFA chapters.

In May, Agronomy Division Manager, Barry Long presented checks to Suwannee Middle School FFA Chapter, Suwannee High School Junior Chapter and Suwannee High School FFA Chapter. The FFA chapters are always doing what they can to raise funds, but this is a win-win for everyone. Just by Farmers Cooperative customers purchasing Red Brand fence, we are all partnering in the future of these students. “We can’t say thank you enough,” said FFA chapter advisors.

Red Brand has been supporting the

FFA for over sixty years as a national sponsor. Now, through Home Grown, they’re helping Farmers Cooperative give more dollars over and above what Farmers Cooperative already gives on the state and local levels to FFA.

Madison Manager, Eddie Curl, presented a check to Madison County FFA Advisor, Ed Sapp for the Madison branch store’s participation in Red Brand Home Grown fence purchases.

The local FFA chapters appreciate the folks at Farmers Cooperative and everyone

in the community who purchases Red Brand fence. The funds donated will go toward many worthwhile FFA projects. “On behalf of local FFA chapters, we truly appreciate it,” said FFA chapter advisors.

Farmers Cooperative in Live Oak and Madison are very pleased that Red Brand Home Grown Fencing program partnered with Farmers Cooperative to give these funds to our Local FFA chapters. For complete details on Home Grown, call Farmers Cooperative in Live Oak and Madison or visit www.redbrand.com/homegrown.



**Madison Manager Eddie Curl
presents a check to Madison County
FFA Advisor Ed Sapp.**



**Suwannee High Jr. FFA. Jimmy Williams
(l-r), Fallon Ratliff, and Agronomy
Division Manager Barry Long.**



**Suwannee High Sr. FFA. Devon Hingson,
Ben Glass, Agronomy Division Manager
Barry Long, and Laura Beth Baker.**



**Suwannee Middle FFA. Keith Dye
(l-r), Denver Cameron, Anne Etcher
(advisor), Agronomy Division Manager
Barry Long, and Terrah Henderson.**

Cabbage Winners

Continued from Pages 1 & 2

student in Ms. Smith's class. Third Place Winner Kamdyn Carroll's cabbage weighed in at 14.36 lbs and Kamdyn is a student in Ms. Hurst's class.

Other class winners included: Jack Fry, Ms. Fry's class; Precious Cline, Ms. Henderson's student; Kayle Huggins, Ms. McMillan's class; Amber Thompson, Ms. Lambert's class; Ali Law, Mr. Harris' class; Sera Richard, Ms. Brown's class; and Caitlin Copland, Ms. Furry's student.

Branford Elementary School winners were Ms. Conger's student, taking First Place, Cera McElreath at 14.25 lbs. (see photo, previous page). Second Place winner Mason Patterson, Ms. Knighton's student and Third Place Winner, Martina Corbin also Ms. Conger's student. The winner of the Pizza Party at Branford Elementary went to Katlin Timberlake, Ms. Martin's student, and those third graders really enjoyed their pizza.

Madison's First Place Winner, Landri Aust's cabbage weighed in at 21 lbs and she is Ms. Ross' student (see photo, previous page). Second place Winner, Kassidy Robinson's cabbage weighed in at 16.69 lbs and she is in Ms. Salls' class. Third Place Winner, Joshua Hamilton, nurtured his cabbage to 14.54 lb. Joshua is in Ms. Day's class. Pizza Party Winner went to J. T. Price, Ms. Putnal's class in Taylor County.

CLASS WINNERS FOR Madison also included Jule Bell, Ms. Herd's student; C'Anna Parker in Ms. Lincoln's class; Kenessia Robinson, Ms. Johnson's student; Cassie Murphy, Ms. DuBose's student; Allora Baxley, Ms. Dudley's class; Abigail Rucks, Ms. Upshaw's student; James Jones, Ms. Waters' student; Matthew Gassler, Ms. O'Quinn's Class; Elizabeth Kenda, student of Ms. Anderson; Samuel Nash, Ms. Pride's class; Sarah Bailey, student of Ms. Everett; and Catherine Maultsby, Ms. Pickles' class.

First place winners won a \$30.00 gift card from Farmers Cooperative, A Growing With Farmers Cooperative T-shirt and a Co-op hat.

Second place winners won a \$20.00 gift card from Farmers Cooperative, a Growing With Farmers Cooperative T-shirt and a Co-op hat.

Third place winners won a \$10.00 gift card from Farmers Cooperative, a Growing



Barry Long and Sera Richard (Mrs. Brown's class), SES pizza winner.



Martina Corbin, BES third place winner: 8.88 pounds.



Kamdyn Carroll, SES third place winner: 14.36 pounds.



Mason Patterson, BES second place winner: 9.78 pounds.



Benton Stratton, SES second place winner: 15.76 pounds.



J.T. Price, pizza winner for Taylor & Madison counties, combined.



Katlin Timberlake, BES pizza winner, and Larry Cole (grandfather).



Kassidy Robinson, Madison County second place winner: 16.69 pounds.

With Farmers Cooperative T-shirt and a Co-op hat.

Each class winner's name was put into a random drawing to win the pizza party, along with a \$10.00 gift card from Farmers Cooperative, a Growing With Farmers Cooperative T-shirt and a Co-op hat.

Congratulations third graders for your great participation in the Farmers Cooperative/Bonnie Plant Cabbage Growing Contest.



Joshua Hamilton, Madison County third place winner: 14.54 pounds.

For the Past Quarter

NEW CO-OP MEMBERS

LIVE OAK STORE

Roger or Susan DeFouw
Sharon W Sommers, Live Oak
Jordan Watson, Live Oak
Harold V. Chase, McAlpin
Evangeline D Jones, Live Oak
Douglas Olson, Seminole
Christopher S Miller, Lake City
Ronald Hartley, Jacksonville
Dylan Teeter, Wellborn
Darrel Phillips, Lake City
B & L Farming, Live Oak
Carolyn Spilatore, Live Oak
William & Janice Trinder, Jasper
Ruth Campbell, Lake City
Kevin Scott Whitely, Lake City
Craig Sellers, Live Oak
Virginia E. Kurtz, Live Oak
Tyler Alcorn, Live Oak
Staci Greaves, McAlpin
Michael Mitchell, Mayo
Carmen Jefferson-Brown, Live Oak
Alan Hostetler, Boyton Beach
Straw Life, Inc., Branford
Anthony Crump, Live Oak
Arnett Eubanks, O'Brien
Linda G Reeves, Wellborn
Wayne B Crotty, Live Oak
Five Points Pawn, LLC, Lake City
Nakeia Sirmans Jackson, Live Oak
Betty Africano, Live Oak
Melvin Fouraker, Callahan
Melinda Hart, McAlpin

Ken & Kim Fabel, Ft Myers
Gertrude Upshaw, Live Oak
Timothy C Allen, Live Oak
James D Moffitt, Lake City
Kevin Roberts, Live Oak
Thomas Magliolo, Live Oak
Dianne Hare, Okeechobee
William Hartman, Lake City
Big Bend Farms, Live Oak
James N Nemicik, O'Brien
David M Newman, Branford
Sherry Hood, Lake City
Ren Orton, Live Oak
Ken Downing, Live Oak
James M Admire, Lake City
Andrew Gibbons, Live Oak
Evelyn G Davis, Jasper
James Batten, Mayo
Robin Mitchell, O'Brien
Dominick A. Ziemba, Live Oak
Charles F. Johnson, Jasper
Marty Howell, Live Oak
Donna Avera, Wellborn
Bob Henry's, Live Oak
Diane Brody, Lake City
Aaron D. Boone, Concord, CA
Guy G. Lacombe, Miami
Stacey Meyer Rescues, Live Oak
George Gawinowski, Live Oak
Constance Connors, Live Oak
Matthew Daniel Bass, Lake City
Richard Pra, Live Oak
Robert Marshall Howard, Live Oak
Peter H. Williams, McAlpin

Rebecca Smith, Ocala
Robert A. Mathews, Mayo
John Kidd, Live Oak
June Wilcox, Live Oak
James F. Hodges, Live Oak
Scott Rooney, Live Oak
Ken Dodd, Branford
Neil Johnson, Dowling Park
Sharon Tervola, Live Oak
Erik Granade, McAlpin
William A. Isaacks, O'Brien
Mike Goddard, Lake City
Pablo A. Hechevarria, Lee
Sharlot A. Keen, Live Oak
George Pellicer, Live Oak
Dale R. Burd, Lake City
Edna G. Ellison, Live Oak
Daniel K. Schnabel, Lake City
Rose Decker, Live Oak
Christopher T. Henry, Live Oak

MADISON STORE

Melvin Deshazior, Quitman
Sally McNealy Clavell, Tallahassee
Melvin Moore, Lee
Edwin Prevatt, Salem, FL
John Chamblin, Pinetta
April Shepherd, Pinetta
Troy Stallings, Madison
George Sweatt, Okeechobee, FL
Stahl-Meyer Foods, Madison
Ronald Reder, Homestead, FL
Davis Farm of Madison, LLC, Perry

Jorge Benitez, Plantation, FL
Steve Bass, Madison
Darren Driver, Mayo
Laura Carter, Valdosta
Gro-Eco Veggies & Fruit, LLC,
Madison
Mary Jo Hall, Madison
Stan Driggers, Bradenton
John-Rice Collins French, Madison
Roger H-Despointes, Lee
Morris Dunn, McAlpin
Davis Barclay, Madison
Billie Ballard, Madison
Bert Holloway, Lake City
Nellie Thomas Randell, Monticello
Cindy Springer, Monticello
Julie Korn, Sunrise, FL
Amanda Brock, Perry
John Barthle, Dade City, FL
Morgan A. Lamar, Perry
Ash Croft, Valdosta
Scott Norgan, Madison
A & K Cattle, Monticello
James Catanzaro, Jennings
Robert Thompkins, Madison
W.D. Poppell, Perry
Anthony Burnette, Madison
John Lynn Jr., Perry
Elbert Norris, Jasper
Gary Frazier, Tallahassee
Hugo Alberto Rosalio, Mayo
Marshall Bryson, Greenville, FL
Laura Ehlers, Madison
Owen Boales, Lee
Thomas Humphrey, Live Oak
Joanne L. Schmigel, Lamont, FL
Jamie Groover, Madison
Cindy Graham, Madison
John Berthle, Dade City, FL
Bernette Sampson, Madison
Charlie & Lillie Williams, Lee

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Todd Lawrence, Publisher & Editor

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WHERE ARE THESE FOLKS?

Farmers Cooperative is
trying to locate the following
people whose patronage refund
checks have been returned
from the U.S. Postal Service as
"undeliverable":

Eugene Aponte, Chiefland
Tom J. Edwards, Dade City
J W Joseph, Greenville
Joe Laney, Greenville
Edward D Liston, Bell
Cornell Miller, Greenville
Comer Y Thompson, Madison
Bertha M Woodson, Greenville

Bonnie Plant Winners



**Bill and Gayle Trinder of Jasper won two
free general admission weekend passes to
the Suwannee River Jam, May 2-5, 2012,
at the Spirit of Suwannee Music Park,
just by buying Bonnie vegetable plants at
Farmers Co-op. Congratulations!**