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NDA’S POULTRY PHOTO CONTEST OFFERED GREAT ALTERNATIVE FOR YOUTH

LINCOLN – Avian Influenza outbreaks and concerns surrounding biosecurity measures lead Nebraska and many other states to cancel county, state and regional exhibitions. Youth involved in 4-H and FFA were given alternative activities to finish off their poultry projects.

The Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA) offered a poultry photo contest, with the winners having their photo entries printed on the 2016 NDA calendar.

“I know there was disappointment when we had to cancel the poultry shows this year, so we were glad we were able to promote our photo contest, which we began at last year’s State Fair,” NDA Director Greg Ibach said. “It’s appropriate that the calendar, in which the winning photos will appear, includes a whole section on biosecurity aimed at preventing the spread of Avian Influenza.”

A total of 41 participants representing 20 counties across Nebraska entered this year’s contest. The following winners were announced at the Nebraska State Fair during Labor Day weekend: Abby Gorecki, Ravenna; Ryan Nielsen, Broken Bow; Omni Smith, Kearney; Brylee Allred, Crawford; Sheridan Chaney, Elwood; Mahayla Allred, Crawford; Samuel Roth, Omaha; Emma Krysl, Stuart; Taylor Schubauer, Gibbon; Jackson Herbert, Fort Calhoun; Christopher Mercer, Gibbon; and Samantha Mercer, Gibbon.

NDA staff members judged the entries, looking at originality and composition.

Printing of the 2016 NDA calendar was funded through a grant from the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Service, Western Region. Calendars can be requested at local University of Nebraska Extension offices.

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