

DTN/*The Progressive Farmer*
Seeking nominations for the 2019

America's Best Young Farmers and Ranchers

America's Best Young Farmers and Ranchers is a DTN/*The Progressive Farmer* program that recognizes the next generation of farmers and ranchers who are building successful agricultural businesses and who are making positive impacts on agriculture and in their communities.

Nominees for America's Best Young Farmers and Ranchers must be 40 years old or younger in the calendar year 2018, manage at least 500 acres (on their own, with other family members or business associates) and/or have interest in a 50-head cow herd or larger. Nominees must demonstrate innovation in business, provide evidence of work for the betterment of agriculture, and describe efforts they have made to improve their communities.

Nomination forms must be complete. Answer all questions at the bottom of this document.

Nominations may be forwarded by the nominee, the nominee's family, by farming and ranching organizations, business or retail outlets, community and church organizations, government agencies or others familiar with the work and reputations of the nominee.

Nominations must include one letter of recommendation from a financial institution frequented by the nominee and one letter of nomination from a person(s) familiar with the nominee's professionalism and community involvement.

Nominations should include photographs or videos of the nominee's business and family.

From the nominations, five honorees will be selected. Each honoree and guest will receive an all-expense-paid trip to Chicago to attend the DTN/*The Progressive Farmer* 2018 Ag Summit. Honorees will be introduced there and will be featured in the *The Progressive Farmer* magazine.

All nominations must be postmarked, or received by e-mail or fax by Friday, April, 27, 2018. For additional information or to send completed nomination forms by post, e-mail or fax, please use the contact information below:

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America's Best Young Farmers and Ranchers



NOMINATION FORM

Nominee's name: _____

Address: _____

Farm name: _____

Farm address (if different from home address): _____

Office/home phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____ Website: _____

Date of birth: _____ Names of family members and ages: _____

Farm/ranch size (acres): _____

Crops produced (include timber, fish, fruits, vegetables, pasture): _____

Cow/Calf : _____

Please answer these questions and attach to this nomination form:

- Tell us about yourself, what makes you tick? What's a good day for you?
- Tell us about a personal challenge—business, production or personal—you overcame. How?
- Describe your farming or ranching operation (include a brief history, typical production results, details of local topography, climate, soil types, etc.).
- What is your strategy for building your farming or ranching business?
 - Who is your mentor. What traits among person's skills and personality are important to you.
- Describe a production practice you implemented that positively impacted your business.
- Describe a management decision that had a significant impact on your farm or ranch.
- What inspires you about farming or ranching?
- Describe the hopes or plans you have for your farm/ranch in 25 years and the steps you will make to get there. We're not necessarily looking for business plans, This question is aspirational. What are your dreams and hopes?
- Tell us about your family activities. Give us some insight into family life.
- Do you coach or mentor children outside your immediate family? Why?
- Describe your involvement in your community or in a farming/ranching organization.
- This program is called "America's Best Young Farmers and Ranchers." Tell us what makes you one of the best of your generation.