



2016 Empire Farm Days: August 9-11
Rodman Lott and Son Farms, Seneca Falls, NY
Show Manager Melanie Wickham
877-697-7837, mwickham@empirefarmdays.com



NYS FFA Welding Contest at Empire Farm Days; photo: Brian P. Whattam

PRESS RELEASE: May 2016

FFA Student Welders: Pre-Register by July 29 for Scholarship Competition at 2016 Empire Farm Days

Seneca Falls, NY. FFA students interested in entering the New York State FFA Welding Tractor Contest at the 2016 Empire Farm Days at Rodman Lott & Son Farms, 2973 Route 414 in Seneca Falls, NY, may pre-register by July 29. The competition will be held Thursday, August 11 as part of the Northeast's largest outdoor agricultural trade show.

Students compete as teams of two or individually for certificates; active FFA students will be scored and compete for \$2,250 in scholarship funds: \$1,000 for 1st Place, \$750 for 2nd Place, \$500 for 3rd Place from Morrisville State College. Awards are also presented for High Team performance.

Each student must perform three welds with two different types of welding equipment provided by Haun Welding. Contestants also complete a metal identification quiz and multiple-choice quiz, and are judged on professional appearance, attitude, preparedness and safety.

Contest sponsors include Haun Welding and Briggs and Stratton Power Products of Munnsville, NY.

To pre-register for the Thursday, August 11 competition, contact contest coordinators Johanna Bossard, 315-824-6386, jbossard@hamiltoncentral.org, or Professor Fred Bach at Morrisville State College, 315-684-6299, bachfw@morrisville.edu. A list of equipment to bring to the contest will be provided. Students may also register on-site at 9 am on contest day.

The New York State FFA/4-H Tractor Safety Contest will also be held on Thursday, August 11 at the largest outdoor agricultural trade show in the Northeast.

Experience Empire is the theme of the 300-acre Empire Farm Days in 2016. The event features the latest farming techniques, tractors, trucks, and implements of all sizes and uses; crop and equipment demonstrations, Dairy Profit and other educational seminars, test driving, live cattle and horse demonstrations, farm safety and family life displays, and information booths by hundreds of agriculture-related vendors, organizations, colleges and associations.

Show hours are 9am-5pm on Tuesday, August 9 and Wednesday, August 10, and 9am-4pm on Thursday, August 11. Parking is \$10 per vehicle. For daily schedules and more information visit www.empirefarmdays.com or call 877-697-7837.

CONTACTS:

- . NYS FFA Welding Contest Coordinators Johanna Bossard, 315-824-6386, jbossard@hamiltoncentral.org, Fred Bach, Morrisville State College, 315-684-6299, bachfw@morrisville.edu
- . Empire Farm Days Manager Melanie Wickham: 877-697-7837, mwickham@empirefarmdays.com
- . EFD Publicist Kara Lynn Dunn, 315-465-7578, karalynn@gisco.net

MORE INFO:

The 2015 Empire Farm Days New York State FFA Welding Contest individual winners, receiving Morrisville State College scholarships, were:

- Landom Drumm, Tully Central School, Tully, NY, Onondaga County
- Mike Bowers, Randolph Central School, Randolph, NY, Cattaraugus County
- Kayla Nefedov, Randolph Central School, Randolph, NY, Cattaraugus County.

The 2015 Empire Farm Days New York State FFA Welding Contest High Team honors went to Landom Drumm and Spencer George of Tully Central School, Tully, NY, Onondaga County.