

At the recently completed Iowa Agricultural Education Summer Conference, held June 28 – June 30, in Ankeny, IA, Barbara Lemmer, agriculture instructor and FFA advisor at Linn-Mar High School was selected as the 2011 Outstanding Agricultural Education Teacher. This award distinguishes Iowa Association of Agricultural Educators members who are at the pinnacle of their profession and who are conducting the highest quality agricultural education program. The award recognizes leadership in civic, community, agriculture/agribusiness and professional activities. Outstanding agricultural educators are innovators and catalysts for student success in agricultural education.

Enthusiastic, motivated, inspiring... these are just a few words that describe an Outstanding Teacher. The IAAE Outstanding Teacher Awards go to agriculture teachers that have kept a tradition of excellence in their program along with the inborn love for agriculture. The IAAE's vision is to be the premier professional organization for advancing agricultural education. Lemmer embodies the ideals of the agricultural teaching profession through his instruction methods.

Lemmer has completed 29 years of teaching high school agriculture. She began her teaching career at Anamosa High School and taught there until 2004. She then transferred to Linn-Mar Community School District in Marion where she is currently teaching. Lemmer utilizes a variety of teaching methods to reach her students and strives to find a place where they can succeed whether it is in the classroom, in the student leadership organization, FFA, or through hands on learning or Supervised Agriculture Experiences. She realizes that every student is different and strives to find ways to reach her students. She has taken advantage of numerous professional development opportunities and serves an active role in the Iowa Association for Agricultural Educators, National Association for Agricultural Educators, and the National FFA Alumni Association.

For her outstanding efforts throughout this past year as well as in her teaching career, Barbara Lemmer was presented a plaque by fellow agricultural education instructor, Zach Morris. Her application has been forwarded on to be evaluated in the National Association of Agricultural Educators regional competition. Lemmer will also have the opportunity to represent the state of Iowa at the NAAE Convention.