



Millsboro Middle School FFA Millsboro, DE

May 2019

Middle School Spotlight Month

by Mrs. Sarah Ruggiero

Name: Millsboro Middle School

Location: Sussex County

Staff: Mrs. Susan Quillen

Exploring Agriscience 6th - 8th grade

Facilities: Currently installing their first greenhouse for their program!

At Millsboro Middle School Agriculture Teacher Mrs. Susan Quillen is hard at work preparing her students for the future. Their FFA chapter has 85 members dedicated to the future of Agriculture. Part of their FFA programs success is having a very dedicated teacher, as well as hands-on experiences for every student who enters her room.

To help keep their FFA program strong there are many fundraisers their chapter participates in yearly. This includes in the fall their students selling mums to pay for their membership and be able to earn their own FFA jacket. Mrs. Quillen boasts that, "they rock at that

and we often award at least 15 jackets!"

Additionally, they are very successful with strawberries and this was the first year they attempted Easter flowers. Some accomplishments from all this hard work is being nominated as Delaware's Outstanding Middle School program.

This chapter is always planning something for their students to participate in and look forward to.

Speaking of looking forward to; what student doesn't enjoy a field trip?

During just this past year the ever active Millsboro Middle FFA for the first time ever, in an effort to highlight non-traditional agriculture careers, went to Baltimore to visit Camden Yards and hear about their turf management. Then they ventured to the aquarium to explore animal husbandry and environmental/ecology of their exhibits. At the end of the year they also have a Sussex County Ag Tour where their FFA members visit local agricultural business to see future

career opportunities and/or areas that interest them for SAEs. This is in addition to a trip to the Food Bank, Discovery Conference, Preliminaries and State Convention.

It doesn't stop there with this chapter competing in a comprehensive list of competitions to keep their FFA members engaged. Some competitions they have competed in this past year include:

- Extemporaneous Public Speaking
- Floriculture
- Food Science
- Milk Quality
- Conduct Of Chapter Meetings
- Agronomy
- Livestock Evaluation
- Nursery Landscaping
- Poultry Evaluation

The chapter's accomplishments are a testament to the perseverance of their Ag Teacher. This is a young chapter, beginning 6-years ago. In that time they have had students win trips to Nationals, compete at State Convention and at the State Fair. They work 365 at Millsboro Middle, preparing students for a future as leaders! It is an amazing program that deserves more recognition for all of its daily hard work.