



## MEDIA RELEASE

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# 2017 MINNESOTA 4-H DAIRY SHOWCASE RECOGNIZES MEGAN RATKA FOR EXCELLENCE

August 27, 2017 St. Paul, Minn. – The top 25 4-H dairy project members from across Minnesota were recognized for their dedication to their cows, clubs and communities. More than \$50,000 was contributed by donors and awarded to youth at the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Minnesota 4-H Dairy Showcase held Sunday, August 27, at the Minnesota State Fair.

Donors who contributed at the Tanker level (\$3,000 and up) included Gopher Dairy Club of the University Of Minnesota, Compeer Financial Services, and Dairy Products Inc. Milk Can donors (\$1,000 to \$1,999) included Midwest Dairy Association, Big Gain, Central Minnesota Credit Union, Foremost Farms USA, Diamond K Genetics, and Minnesota Farm Bureau Foundation.

*Megan Ratka of Stearns County achieves 4<sup>th</sup> place in the Minnesota 4-H Dairy Showcase. Megan is the daughter of Kathy. Megan will receive \$2,500 from Midwest Dairy Assoc. and Big Gain.*



Minnesota State Fair 4-H dairy cattle exhibitors who receive a purple or blue ribbon in their respective class are eligible to participate. Youth also complete an online leadership portfolio and earn points based on his or her project leadership, dairy-related activities and community involvement. Bonus points are given to individuals receiving champion and reserve champion honors. A committee of judges selects the top 25 based on a scorecard format. To date, the event has awarded more than \$300,000 to deserving Minnesota 4-H youth.

The Minnesota 4-H Dairy Showcase is a joint effort between the Minnesota Livestock Breeders Association and the Minnesota 4-H Dairy Project Development Committee.

Photos on the 2017 Minnesota 4-H Shows at the State Fair can be found at <http://www.4-H.umn.edu/fairresults>  
Additional information on the Minnesota 4-H Dairy Showcase can be found at [www.extension.umn.edu/youth/mn4-H/events/dairy-showcase.html](http://www.extension.umn.edu/youth/mn4-H/events/dairy-showcase.html).