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**For more information contact:**

Ashley Mueller, Program Assistant  
Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom  
(785) 532-7946 (voice)  
*ksfac@ksu.edu*

**Ag foundation's Teacher of the Year wins national teaching award**

**OSWEGO, Kan.** – Theresa Farris, a kindergarten teacher at Service Valley Charter Academy in Oswego, was recently named one of five recipients of the “Excellence in Teaching about Agriculture” national award. Farris is Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom’s (KFAC) 2011 Teacher of the Year.

The award program honors outstanding teachers who bring innovation and practical teaching about agriculture into the classroom. It is co-sponsored by the Agriculture in the Classroom Program (AITC) of the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture and the National Agriculture in the Classroom Consortium. Farris will be recognized during the AITC national conference in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., this June. As a recipient, Farris will receive a \$500 honorarium and up to \$1,500 for travel-related expenses to attend the national conference.

“It is an honor for Theresa and the state of Kansas. Theresa’s work with her students and her leadership in her school towards including agriculture as a part of the standard curriculum is exceptional,” said Cathy Musick, KFAC executive director. “We are so pleased to have a teacher who uses KFAC resources receive this national award.”

In addition to Farris, teachers from Arkansas, California, Colorado and Maine will also be honored. For more information about the award program or AITC, visit [www.agclassroom.org](http://www.agclassroom.org).