

Feature Story



Ohio State University ag student receives \$5,000 scholarship

When passion and investment come together, dreams come true. Each year, BASF and the American Soybean Association (ASA) help make those dreams possible with the Soy Scholarship. The Soy Scholarship is a \$5,000 award presented to an exceptional high school senior who thrives in both academics and leadership roles.

This year's winner is no exception, with a strong interest in helping solve the world's growing demand for nutritious food.

Clare Sollars from Washington Court House, Ohio, is this year's deserving Soy Scholarship winner. As a high school senior, she's had a plethora of leadership experiences in agriculture programs. On a national level, Clare served as a representative to the 4-H National Conference in Washington D.C., where she visited with members of Congress. On a state level, Clare was selected to serve on the Ohio 4-H Teen Advisory Council, the highest youth decision-making and advisement body in Ohio's 4-H program. Locally, she was elected to be the Future Farmers of America (FFA) chapter news reporter and the FFA chapter secretary.

Clare's passion for agriculture was born on her family's grain farm where she witnessed crop production each year and realized the hard work it takes to accomplish a successful harvest. She is thrilled with the prospect of helping growers make the best use of their land and harvest.

Applicants must plan to pursue a degree in an agriculture-related field at an accredited college or university to win the Soy Scholarship. After graduation, Clare hopes to turn her dreams into reality by pursuing a bachelor's degree in food engineering at The Ohio State University's College of Agriculture and College of Engineering. She plans to use her education to make the most nutritious use of crops to lessen poverty around the world and increase the health of those living in poverty.

"Clare's compassion regarding the world's growing need for available, nutritious food, as well as her academic background, will give her the tools she needs to help advance the industry," said Richard Wilkins, President of ASA.

For the past 11 years, BASF has partnered with ASA, along with other leading commodity associations, to award thousands of dollars in academic scholarships to exceptional students.

"Clare Sollars stands strong with the scholarship recipients over the years who have shown a commitment to learning and a desire for sustainable agriculture," said Neil Bentley, Director of Marketing, U.S. Crop Protection, BASF.

Clare received the scholarship at the BASF annual awards program during the 2017 Commodity Classic tradeshow in San Antonio.

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