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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**NAITCO LEADERS FROM AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM PROGRAMS  
FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY ELECTED TO SERVE ANOTHER TERM FOR 2019-20**

The National Agriculture in the Classroom Organization (NAITCO), a non-profit membership organization that supports Agriculture in the Classroom (AIRC) state programs around the country, recently elected officers to serve a second term and lead the group in its efforts to increase agricultural literacy in pre-kindergarten-12 classrooms nationwide.

Will Fett, executive director of the Iowa Agriculture Literacy Foundation in Des Moines, IA, and Tammy Maxey, senior education manager of the Virginia Agriculture in the Classroom in Richmond, VA, have been elected to serve second terms as president and president-elect, respectively, for 2019-20.

In addition, Katie Carpenter, director of New York Agriculture in the Classroom, has been re-elected treasurer, and Tonya Wible, education director of Pennsylvania Friends of Agriculture Foundation, has been re-elected secretary by the NAITCO Executive Committee. Rounding out the officer team is Immediate Past President Willie Grenier, executive director of Maine Agriculture in the Classroom.

"The National Agriculture in the Classroom Organization is hitting its stride as the leader in Pre-K-12 agricultural literacy nationwide," Fett said. "The officer team and I wanted to serve one-more term to continue the momentum in showing teachers how effective using agricultural concepts can be to teach reading, writing, science, social studies, math and more."

Regional representatives elected for the upcoming year are:

**Central Region** – Sue Knott of Minnesota AIRC program and Courtney Schardt of Nebraska Farm Bureau's AIRC program.

**Southern Region** – Scott Christmas of Kentucky Farm Bureau's AIRC program and Audrey Harmon of Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry's AIRC program.

**Western Region** – Amber Smyer of Nevada Department of Agriculture's AIRC program and Jessica Jansen of Oregon Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom.

**Eastern Region** – Secretary Wible and Treasurer Carpenter also serve as the Eastern Region representatives of the organization.

NAITCO is a non-profit organization representing most of the 50 state Agriculture in the Classroom programs around the country. Its mission is to educate K-12 teachers and students about the importance of agriculture by providing them with web-based materials, workshops and awards programs that demonstrate how agriculture can be used to effectively teach core subject areas.

For more information, contact NAITCO Executive Director Lisa Gaskalla by emailing [lisa.gaskalla@naitco.org](mailto:lisa.gaskalla@naitco.org) or calling (352) 745-0246.