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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**NAITCO LEADERS FROM AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM PROGRAMS
FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY ELECTED TO SERVE NAITCO FOR 2020-21**

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

Tammy Maxey, programs director of Virginia Agriculture in the Classroom and Denise Stewardson, director of Utah Agriculture in the Classroom, have been elected to serve as president and president-elect, respectively, for 2020-21.

In addition, Katie Carpenter, director of New York Agriculture in the Classroom, has been re-elected treasurer, and Jessica Jansen, executive director of Oregon Agriculture in the Classroom, has been re-elected secretary by the NAITCO Executive Committee. Rounding out the officer team is Immediate Past President Will Fett, executive director of Iowa Agriculture Literacy Foundation.

"The National Agriculture in the Classroom Organization strives to serve as the leader in Pre-K-12 agricultural literacy nationwide," Maxey said. "The officer team will work hard 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 the Minnesota Agriculture in the Classroom program and Courtney Schardt of Nebraska Farm Bureau's Agriculture in the Classroom program.

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

Western Region – Secretary Jansen and Melissa Sikes of Alaska Agriculture in the Classroom.

Eastern Region – Treasurer Carpenter and Debbi Cox of New Hampshire Agriculture in the Classroom.

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 or calling (352) 745-0246.