

OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND FORESTRY

2800 N. Lincoln Boulevard, Oklahoma City, OK 73105-4912

PRESS RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 4, 2017

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Betty Thompson, betty.thompson@ag.ok.gov, 405-522-6105

Significant Women in Oklahoma Agriculture honoree panel highlight at conference

The second morning of the Oklahoma Women in Ag and Small Business Conference kicked off with an inspirational start.

A panel comprised of three Significant Women in Oklahoma Agriculture honorees, Gaye Pfeiffer, Blayne Arthur, and Katie Plohocky, discussed numerous aspects of what it means to be a woman in today's agricultural world.

Though each of the panelists are involved in different aspects of the agricultural industry, whether it's specialty crops and farmer's markets, policy, youth development and show cattle, or cow-calf operations and a life of service to the industry, these remarkable women share the belief that it is critical for women in the industry to educate those outside of agriculture and be involved.

Significant Women in Oklahoma Agriculture is a collaborative program between the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food & Forestry and Oklahoma State University to recognize and honor the countless women across all 77 counties of the state, from all aspects and areas of the agricultural industry for their tremendous impact on agriculture in their communities. To date, 19 women have received this honor since March, and have been recognized through a continuing series of stories published by countless media outlets across the state.

The panel discussion was one of the highlights of the Oklahoma Women in Ag and Small Business Conference, hosted by Oklahoma State University and held at the Moore-Norman Technology Center Thursday and Friday. The two-day conference, held annually, aims to equip women in agricultural operations or small businesses through numerous workshops led by experts in their fields such as pest management, weather considerations for farming, cattle size, soil health, tips for specialty crop growers, beekeeping and aquaponics.

In addition to the breakout sessions, the conference also featured two keynote speakers, Dr. Pamela Ronald of UC Davis and Lauren Nelson, co-host of Discover Oklahoma. Approximately 200 were in attendance at this year's conference.

To nominate a woman for Significant Women in Oklahoma Agriculture, visit www.okwomeninagandsmallbusiness.com and click on the link for the application. Applications will be accepted now through September 30.

###

Photo Caption: Significant Women in Oklahoma Agriculture panel comprised of honorees from left to right Katie Plohocky, Blayne Arthur, Gaye Pfeiffer and moderator Betty Thompson at the Oklahoma Women in Ag and Small Business Conference.

