



MEDIA RELEASE

21st January 2019

Farm Education Awards celebrate the very best agricultural education projects in the UK

Nominations are now open for the Bayer-LEAF Education Awards. Refreshed with a new name, look and feel, the awards celebrate all the great work that farmers and those involved in agriculture do to inspire young people about farming, what it delivers and why it matters. Nominations will close on 21st March 2019, with the category winners being announced in November.

Carl Edwards, Director of Education and Public Engagement at LEAF (Linking Environment And Farming) explained: "Connecting future generations with farming, how their food is produced and where it comes from is vital – both to the future of the agricultural industry and for their own health and wellbeing. We know that providing young people with meaningful learning experiences either on-farm, in the classroom or online can also help to nurture a lifelong interest in the natural world and an awareness of their role in helping to protect it.

"We are delighted to be working together with Bayer to shine a spotlight on inspirational people and the projects which are reaching out to young people in new and creative ways to ignite their interest in farming and the countryside. We want people to send in their nominations and tell us about those people and projects that go the extra mile to share their passion for food and farming so we can give them the recognition they deserve."

Alice Turnbull, Communications and Government Affairs Specialist at Bayer added, "At a time when there is so much uncertainty about prospects for UK agriculture post-Brexit, these awards are an excellent way of highlighting farmers and individuals who go to considerable efforts to communicate about modern farming.

Cont.. /

“It is important for everyone to understand where their food comes from and how it is produced, and the role that science and technology plays in farming today in feeding a growing population sustainably. The Bayer-LEAF Education Awards are certainly one of our highlights, through them we are able to inspire and mobilise champions of food and farming education so that future generations grow up knowing more about farming and its relevance to their everyday lives.”

The four Award categories are:

Innovation Learning Award recognises a farm demonstrating innovative work with schools encouraging an understanding of and interest in current farming practices.

Primary School Partnership Award for a farm building successful relationships with primary schools (5-11 year olds) making a valuable and sustained contribution to school life both on and away from the farm.

Secondary School Partnership Award for a farm building successful relationships with one or more secondary schools (11-18 year olds) that is engaging young people with food and farming in new and creative ways and that is making a valuable and sustained contribution to school life both on and away from the farm.

Young Inspirational Communicator Award is brand new this year and recognises an individual (between the ages of 18-35) that engages with young people to open their eyes to the world of farming, what it delivers, and why it matters using digital tools to do so. Chosen through a public vote, we are looking for an outstanding individual who is making a difference to how young people view farming and its role in their everyday lives through innovative digital methods. We will be looking for exciting and innovative projects that are addressing a particular educational challenge, or knowledge gap.

Nominations are now open for the 2019 Bayer-LEAF Education Awards. Completed nomination forms should be returned to education@leafuk.org by the **21st March 2019**. In a further break with previous years, the winner of the *Young Inspirational Communicator Award* will be decided by a public vote. All category winners will be announced in **November 2019**.

For further information and nomination forms visit:

<https://cropscience.bayer.co.uk/about-us/awards-19/>

ENDS

For more information please contact:

LEAF Education:

Cat Cambridge / David Gough

LEAF Press Office - Ceres

T: 01189 475 956

E: leaf@ceres-pr.co.uk

Bayer:

Alice Turnbull

Tel: 01223 226 566

Email: alice.turnbull@bayer.com

Editors' Notes:

LEAF Education

- **LEAF (Linking Environment And Farming)** is a leading organisation delivering more sustainable food and farming. LEAF works with farmers, the food industry, scientists and consumers to inspire and enable sustainable farming that is prosperous, enriches the environment and engages local communities.
- **LEAF Education** builds on the work of FACE (Farming and Countryside Education) following its merger with LEAF in July 2017. It works to inspire future generations about farming, food and the countryside. It manages a number of industry and educational initiatives, including Access to Farms, CEVAS (Countryside Educational Visits Accreditation Scheme), Countryside Classroom, Chef on the Farm and LEAF Open Farm School Days.
- **LEAF Education** provides teachers with curriculum focused training, tools and resources to help them deliver high-quality learning experiences about farming. It also helps farmers navigate the world of education and supports them in delivering inspiring and engaging on-farm and in-classroom activities.
- More information about LEAF Education can be found at www.education.leafuk.org

Bayer

- Bayer is a global enterprise with core competencies in the Life Science fields of health care and agriculture. Its products and services are designed to benefit people and improve their quality of life. At the same time, the Group aims to create value through innovation, growth and high earning power. Bayer is committed to the principles of sustainable development and to its social and ethical responsibilities as a corporate citizen. In fiscal 2016, the Group employed around 115,200 people and had sales of EUR 46.8 billion. Capital expenditures amounted to EUR 2.6 billion, R&D expenses to EUR 4.7 billion. These figures include those for the high-tech polymers business, which was floated on the stock market as an independent company named Covestro on October 6, 2015. For more information, go to www.bayer.com.

Forward-Looking Statements

- This news release may contain forward-looking statements based on current assumptions and forecasts made by Bayer management. Various known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors could lead to material differences between the actual future results, financial situation, development or performance of the company and the estimates given here. These factors include those discussed in Bayer's public reports which are available on the Bayer website at www.bayer.com. The company assumes no liability whatsoever to update these forward-looking statements or to conform them to future events or developments.
- More information about Bayer can be found at www.cropscience.bayer.co.uk