

## Regional Stars In Agribusiness, Farming

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the Warren County FFA Chapter kept him motivated and taught him the skills necessary for working with people and running a business. "I have gained so much knowledge from those I have worked for and from the instruction I received in my agriculture classes," he said. "Also, my parents have supported me in my decisions and have encouraged me to work hard and expand my business."

Wells, the son of Herschel and Kay Wells, plans to continue reinvesting profits into his business and working to increase his customer base. "Even though the work is hard and the hours long, I enjoy every aspect of the business

operation," said Wells. He hopes to eventually be the largest, most successful nursery and landscape operation in Tennessee.

**Regional Star Farmers**  
**Glaze Southern Region Star**  
Hal Glaze moved from Atlanta to rural Red Hill, Ga., when he was in junior high school. After spending that first summer helping a neighbor in his broiler houses, the city kid decided he was going to become a poultry farmer.

Today, the 21-year-old Glaze owns six poultry houses and raises more than 810,000 birds per year. Because of his hard work and determination, he has been recognized by the National FFA Organization as the 1992 Southern Region Star Farmer.

Upon graduation from Franklin County High School in 1989, he secured a loan to finance construction of four broiler houses. After interest rates dropped, Glaze refinanced the loan and purchased additional acreage and two more poultry houses. Even with the added acreage, refinancing reduced his loan payments by \$600 a month.

Glaze developed his financial management skills, not only in his poultry business, but by serving as chapter and district FFA treasurer. He also served as chairman of the Franklin County FFA Chapter's earnings and savings committee. Gary Minyard, Glaze's FFA advisor, said, "Hal's leadership skills and influence on others have certainly been an asset to our chapter."

Glaze's poultry operation is highly technical, using the latest

innovations in watering and ventilation equipment and design to keep birds healthy. By constructing the poultry houses with tunnel ventilation, Glaze has increased feed efficiency and decreased heat stress on the birds. He also installed an in-line medication system to uniformly treat the flock at the first sign of a disease problem.

In addition to poultry, Glaze has nine head of commercial beef cows. He hopes to add two more broiler houses to his farming operation. He also plans to increase the size of his commercial beef cattle operation.

Glaze credits much of his success to involvement in FFA. He learned about the agricultural industry, how to keep records, and the importance of keeping up to date with the latest technologies and development in agriculture.

He said, "The managerial and leadership abilities, along with the skillful application practices developed through agricultural education and the FFA, have helped

make my dream a reality."

Glaze and his wife, Paula, reside in Eastanollee, Ga. Hal is the son of Robert and Peggy Glaze.

**Funk Western Region Star**  
Darren Funk began growing sugar beets near Burley, Idaho, for a local grower association's program as a youngster. His crop acreage was limited to whatever his father could spare. Today, he is farming on his own. As a result of his determination and hard work, Funk, 19, has been named the 1992 Western Region Star Farmer by the National FFA Organization.

Over the years, Funk has expanded his operation from 13 to 71 acres of sugar beets, edible beans, spring wheat, and potatoes. Charles Gummerson, Funk's officer at West One Bank, said, "Darren is a conscientious and dedicated farmer. His crops are exceptional and he's below budget on his expenses, evidence of his keen management practices. I'm impressed with his maturity,"

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