

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## STEVE McSHANE PILOTS NATIONAL "ACCURATE AGRICULTURE BOOKS" PROJECT

SALINAS, CA. – Salinas Nuseryman, Steve McShane, was selected to join a national team of young farmers and ranchers to pilot and promote the nation's "Accurate Ag Books" project on behalf of the American Farm Bureau Federation.

The mission of Accurate Ag Books is to identify children's books that share good messages about production agriculture. This year's featured book is <u>Busy Barnyard</u> by John Schindel.

McShane's responsibilities began February 2<sup>nd</sup> as he read to Ms. Catharine Higgin's first grade class at New Republic Elementary School in North Salinas. McShane will continue to read to classes and present feedback to a national team developing lesson plans and activities surround the book.

McShane was appointed to the National Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee in March of 2007 by American Farm Bureau President Bob Stahlman. He represents the Western Region of the United States.

McShane is a founder and past chair of the Central Coast Young Farmers and Ranchers and served one term as Chair of the State Young Farmers and Ranchers. "More and more children are removed from where their food comes from. Agricultural education is critical for a community like ours," shared McShane.

The American Farm Bureau Federation Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee is based out of Washington D.C. and is a program of the American Farm Bureau Federation.