

Zena Lewis, a 7th-grade educator at Owasso Public Schools, was awarded a basket of agriculture books for her school during Oklahoma Farm Bureau's 78th Annual Meeting, held Nov. 8-10 in Oklahoma City. The Oklahoma Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture, in partnership with the OKFB Women's Leadership Committee, sponsored this year's Bushels for Books program. The program takes donated bushels of any commodity crop, as well as monetary donations from farmers and ranchers, and provides bushel baskets of agriculture books to Oklahoma educators. "Many students in our state have never learned what it takes for their food to get from the farm to their dinner plates," said David VonTungeln, Foundation president, in a release. "We're thrilled to present each of these eager educators with accurate agriculture books to help bring the farm to classrooms and libraries across Oklahoma." Applications were accepted from teachers across the state, and winners were chosen by the WLC state board.

The books cover various agriculture topics and were picked from the American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture's list. Lewis, a geography teacher who incorporates many agriculture elements into her curriculum, reached out to the Foundation to further benefit her students in the classroom. "I was real thrilled," Lewis told Owasso Reporter when asked about receiving the books. "It is going to be amazing from what I've seen the resources that it's going to provide, supplemental resources for my kids, phenomenal." Other educators who received books were: Cassidy Callahan, Anadarko; Luci Copelin, North Rock Creek; Ronna Haney, Stuart; Amy Harward, Haskell; Katrina Patton, Western Heights; Brenda Prescott, Wellston; Jennifer Riddle, Foyil; Christy Snider, Cherokee; Jessica Williams, Davis; Anna Wofford, Frederick; and Heather Wofford, Snyder. "Agriculture an important role in the lives of all of our students, but most will never experience the farm firsthand," said Mignon Bolay, OKFB WLC chair, in the release. "We're excited to once again share our way of life with the next generation of Oklahomans through our wonderful Bushels for Books program." For more information on the Bushels for Books program, visit OKFBFoundationForAgriculture.org/Bushels-For-Books/.