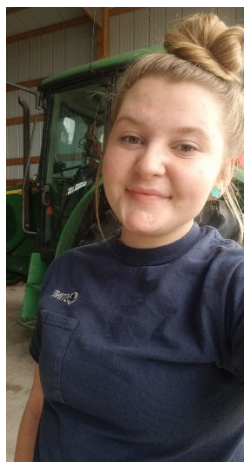


## Get to Know Us

'Get to Know Us' is a feature of some of our Farm Bureau Young Leaders and volunteers. We hope to share what agriculture means to those featured, share the variety of agricultural jobs/careers in our surrounding areas, and have our communities get to know us a little better! This month's feature is on: Jordan Reeder.



### **Tell us about yourself:**

Hey! I am Jordan Reeder, I currently reside in Kirkwood, but can usually be found somewhere on my grandparents' farm running about or wrenching on machinery. In my spare time I am hitting the riding arena or trails with my friends and my horse, Dillon. I am working on helping operate Shauman Farms - even being the young gun I still have to work to keep up with Grandpa most days.

### **Did you grow up in agriculture?**

I grew up running around my grandparents' farm just east of Kirkwood on 34, excited to be out doing anything with Grandpa Wendell. I cannot say I completely grew up in agriculture like others, but the farm definitely counts as my first home.

### **Where did you go to college? What is your degree in?**

I am currently a student at Southeastern Community College at the West Burlington campus, studying Modern Food Production, Agriculture and the Environment. I started at Carl Sandburg College to get my General Education classes done and finished from there with a Criminal Justice Degree. I am currently unsure of which path I want to take moving forward, but am steadily looking at Agricultural Law or Geographic Information Systems for Agriculture.

### **How many years of experience do you have in agriculture? What areas of the industry have you worked?**

I started out doing small things here and there for my Grandpa such as running the combine and disc, eventually working my way up to the bigger things like operating the planter and driving the tandems. I did side jobs for other farmers because of knowing how to work/feed cattle, pull large trailers, and operate tractors/ large machinery, making it easier for me to come help them out when they needed an extra hand. I recently just became interested in GPS and GIS systems and how they function, which has come in handy with our own farm.

### **What advice would you give students considering a career in an agriculture related field?**

I would say go for it! There are an endless number of careers within agriculture, it is not just farming row crops or raising livestock. The biggest thing is that in some way, everything is tied to agriculture even if we do not know it.

### **What benefits do you get from the Farm Bureau Young Leaders?**

Being around a younger generation of individuals in our group that are in agriculture and in different careers has been a huge plus for me. Having a group of people to be able to discuss topics within agriculture is also another benefit of being part of the young leaders committee.

If anyone has any questions or comments for Jordan, or would like to learn more about Farm Bureau and our Young Leader committee, please give us a call at 309-734-9401 or email [whfb@whfarmbureau.org](mailto:whfb@whfarmbureau.org).



