

Woman of the Year

in Agriculture

2015



Lisa Hinton



Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Adam H. Putnam, Commissioner



As a fifth-generation cattle rancher and citrus grower, I know first-hand the vital role women play in agriculture. Since 1985, the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Florida State Fair Authority have recognized the significant contributions of women in the Florida agriculture industry with the "Woman of the Year in Agriculture" award. This year the Department names Lisa Hinton as recipient of this distinguished award. I am extremely proud to honor Lisa and her outstanding work.

Lisa was born in Trilby, Florida, and grew up as a fifth-generation Florida farming family on a seed harvesting and cow-calf operation where she developed an appreciation and respect for agriculture. She spent her summers working in the family seed barn and, once she became old enough, driving a combine. When the National

FFA Organization voted to allow female membership in 1970, a young Lisa jumped at the opportunity to join. She became the first female to be elected a State FFA officer in Florida. She became one of the first of three females to be a national FFA officer candidate and one of the first of four females to receive the American Farmer Degree, FFA's highest honor.

Lisa took the experiences and knowledge she gained in FFA and headed for the University of Florida where she graduated with a B.S. in Agricultural Education. After graduation, Lisa taught high school and middle school for three years. Soon after, she was presented with the opportunity to impact the agriculture industry on a broader scale by becoming Director of Agribusiness for the Florida State Fair. She saw a need for a change within the livestock program at the fair and realized the potential for youth exhibitors to gain more than a check at the end of a sale. She placed a high priority on livestock education and her philosophy of "we're raising kids not animals" led to the development of the Champion Youth Program at the Florida State Fair. The program has gained national recognition as a valuable teaching tool for the future contributors to the agriculture industry. In addition to the Champion Youth Program, Lisa also played a role in developing and implementing other programs such as the Youth Steer Futurity that showcases Florida cattle, Ag-Venture and the Youth Livestock Show Ethics Certifications.

After her retirement from the Florida State Fair, Lisa seized an opportunity to promote agricultural education on a state and national level by serving as the Executive Director of the Florida Federation of Fairs. In this role, Lisa is able to impact the direction of 52 agricultural fairs in the state of Florida as well as over 200 associate members. Millions of guests from all across the globe visit Florida's agricultural fairs each year, and for many of them it is the only time they get to see, touch, smell, taste and hear Florida agriculture. These events truly are a vital connection between the industry and the general public, and Lisa is making great strides to maintain and improve this connection in the state of Florida.

As a result of her dedication to Florida agriculture, education and youth programs, Lisa was inducted into the Florida 4-H Hall of Fame (2002) and the Florida Federation of Fairs Hall of Fame (2009). It is impossible to quantify the number of young agriculturists Lisa has impacted directly and indirectly in her work. The educational programs she has implemented and the individuals she has inspired will have a lasting impact on Florida agriculture for generations to come.

Lisa joins 31 other women who have earned the respect and admiration of their peers by making outstanding contributions to Florida agriculture. Therefore, it is my distinct pleasure to congratulate Lisa Hinton on being named the 2015 "Woman of the Year in Agriculture."

Sincerely,

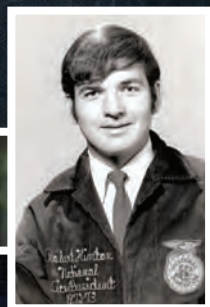
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Adam H. Putnam".

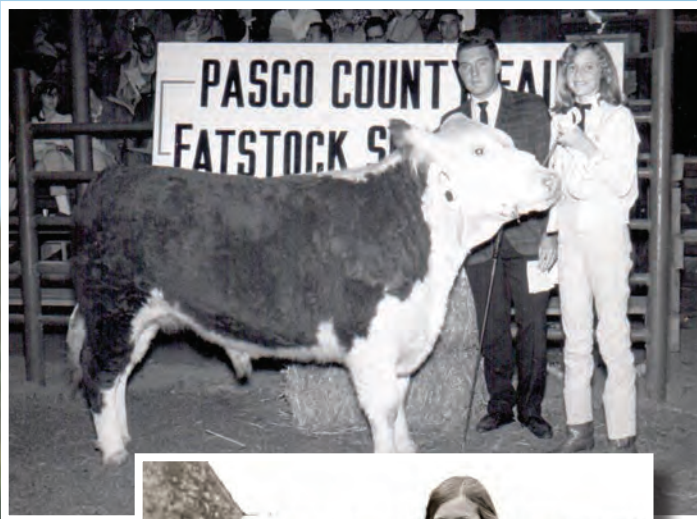
Adam H. Putnam
Commissioner of Agriculture





In 1970, Lisa Tomkow Hinton was among the first females to join the Future Farmers of America. Two years later she accomplished a goal that no other woman had done before and changed the way agriculture is viewed today.





During her time in the Florida Future Farmers of America. Lisa proved to be one of the organization's most talented members. In 1972, after much hard work and campaigning, she was elected State Secretary, Florida's first female FFA officer. Two years later Lisa was among the first four girls to earn FFA's highest honor, the American Farmer Degree.



FLORIDA ASSOCIATION
Future Farmers of
America



ELECT
**LISA
TOMKOW**
FOR
State Secretary

Lisa Tomkow Receives Award At Convention

DADE CITY—A 17-year-old Tribby girl, Lisa Tomkow, has received 4-H national recognition by being awarded the annual Danforth Leadership scholarship to attend Camp Minacanea, Michigan next fall.

Lisa, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Tomkow, has recently been elected as the first girl to be selected as the State Secretary of the Future Farmers of America, and has spent 8 of her brief 17 years in 4-H club activities and started winning 'blue ribbon' awards as far back as 1965.

Her latest achievement, the Danforth award, was based on the excellence of her presentation of her report of the many areas of 4-H work she accomplished, which included being selected as one of the two Florida delegates to the National 4-H Citizenship Seminar in Washington, D.C., and being nominated by her school principal at Pasco Comprehensive High School, where she is an honor graduate, as one of the Outstanding Teenagers of America.

Lisa told the Banner, "4-H has opened the doors of opportunity for me. Without the challenge that 4-H has inspired within

me, I doubt that I would have ever accomplished many of the things which have set out to do."
(See AWARD Pg. 15)



Miss Lisa Tomkow



Win Future Farmer Honors

Hillsborough County and this area won a lion's share of honors during the Future Farmers of America convention in June at Daytona Beach. These three and others were recognized by Plant City civic clubs in

joint session last week. From left are Tom Umiker, Turkey Creek, state FFA vice president Lisa Tomkow, Pasco County, state secretary and Rudy Wetherington, Turkey Creek, new state FFA president.



A fifth-generation Florida farmer, Lisa has spent a lifetime promoting agriculture. An innovator, leader and trailblazer, Lisa Hinton exemplifies what it means to be a role model, particularly for young women. Lisa remains as passionate as ever about agriculture and she continues to work to inspire the next generation.



After graduating from the University of Florida, Lisa spent a year teaching agriculture to middle school students. The following year she began teaching at a local high school, where she and her students were tasked with designing a petting zoo for the Florida State Fair. Her work impressed State Fair Chairman Doyle Carlton Jr. so much he offered Lisa the job of director of agri-business. For the next 24 years she was integral in developing educational programs for children.





Through demonstrations and hands-on activities, the popular AgVenture program teaches local third-graders about agriculture. Lisa was instrumental in developing the program, which is a joint venture between the Florida State Fair, Hillsborough County Farm Bureau and the Cooperative Extension Service. Vina Jean Banks, Lynann Hudson and Judi Whitson continue to organize and implement the program today.





Under Lisa's direction, livestock competitions such as the Champion of Champions and the Steer Futurity, shifted focus from the livestock to the child's work raising the animal and keeping records. This reflected Lisa's philosophy regarding livestock shows: "We're raising kids, not animals."





For her lifetime contributions, Lisa was inducted into the Florida 4-H Hall of Fame in 2002 and into the Florida Federation of Fairs Hall of Fame in 2009. In 2013, Lisa was named the Executive of the Year for State and Provincial Associations by the International Association of Fairs and Expositions for her work with the industry.

After her retirement from the Florida State Fair in 2006, Lisa was appointed executive director of the Florida Federation of Fairs. Today, she works closely with longtime friend and Federation president Tom Umiker.





Lisa and her husband of 39 years, Bob Hinton, have known each other since their days as state officers in the FFA. These days Bob and Lisa live on their farm in Riverview growing a variety of crops, primarily strawberries.





From left, back row: Vera Hinton, Lisa Hinton, Bob Hinton, Clayton Raburn; front row: Jess Hinton, Shane Hinton, Iris Hinton, Further Noumena, Mason Raburn, Jake Raburn, Melissa Hinton Raburn, Jackson Raburn.

Lisa enjoys spending as much time as she can with family, especially with her six grandchildren.





Previous Winners

Woman of the Year in Agriculture

2014

Belinda Chason

2013

Lynetta Usher Griner

2012

Imogene Yarborough

2011

Sarah K. Childs

2010

Ann Holt

2009

Marcia Lightsey

2008

Patsy Nathe

2007

Colleen H. Boggs

2006

Iris Pollock Wall

2005

Marlene Strickland

2004

Martina "Teena" Borek

2003

Jennie Lee Zipperer

2002

Annette Barnett

2001

Barbara Carlton

2000

Helen Houck

1999

Vina Jean Banks

1998

Nancy Gurnett Hardy

1997

Gertrude "Trudy" Carey

1996

Norma Stokes

1995

Louve "Vee" Frierson Platt and Patricia Robbins

1994

Anne Wardlaw Dickinson

1993

Sarah W. Bailey

1992

Carol C. Murphy

1991

Ruth M. Tucker

1990

Jeanette Barthle

1989

Belle Jeffords

1988

Carolyn Reed Kempfer

1987

Dorothy Conner Shipes

1986

Ruth Wedgworth

1985

Jo Ann Smith

