



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Tom Stephens Named 2021 Oklahoma Hall of Fame Inductee**

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla. — During the virtual Ag Day Celebration, the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry and Sec. of Agriculture, Blayne Arthur announced Mr. Tom Stephens as the recipient of the Governor’s Outstanding Achievement Award in Agriculture. The Guymon farmer and rancher became the 24th inductee into the Oklahoma Agriculture Hall of Fame, the state’s most prestigious agricultural award.

Stephens has worn countless different hats within the agriculture industry – FFA member, rancher, wheat farmer, rural servant and agriculture industry pioneer. Each of his roles within the agriculture industry have been vastly different, but one thing has remained constant: his passion for the industry, hard work and learning new things runs deep.

“I am exceptionally proud to represent all of our great Oklahoma farmers and ranchers, but we are especially excited to honor Tom Stephens this year as an outstanding agriculturist and service-minded citizen,” Secretary of Agriculture, Blayne Arthur, said. “He has continually worked to improve our industry and we are proud to recognize him.”

Stephens was nominated for this honor by Mike Schulte with the Oklahoma Wheat Commission. Schulte applauded Stephens for being a progressive agriculturist known for his commitment to his conservation practices and his selfless acts in giving back to the wheat industry time and time again.

“Tom is well-known for his best management practices within his farming and ranching operations spanning over 65 years,” said Schulte. “Not only has he implemented exceptional practices in his own operations but has served countless hours giving back to help others find better ways to ensure clean and sustainable environmental practices on their farms as well.”

With the 2021 Celebrate Ag Day being a virtual event, we are postponing the in-person celebration to later this year. We look forward to honoring Mr. Stephens as the 2021 Agriculture Hall of Fame inductee.

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