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Agriculture as a Career

Some of my earliest memories are of me spending time with my grandparents on their ranch, where my grandfather had a cow-calf operation. I spent every summer with my grandparents for as long as I can remember, until I got into high school. One of the best memories I have from my summers spent with my grandparents is helping my grandfather pull a calf from a blind cow. The mother did not accept the calf so I spent my summer bottle-feeding the calf. At the time, I did not understand what it was all about or what all the valuable lessons were that I was learning from this one bottle calf. The only thing I knew was I enjoyed what I was doing and did not want the summer to end.

It took me a long time to find the same type of enjoyment I got from that summer with the bottle calf, but I eventually did when I joined FFA my freshman year in high school. I started to see and understand how important agriculture is to any society. Without agriculture, we would not have clothes to wear, food to eat, or many of the things we use on a daily basis. The knowledge I have obtained over the years from the many experiences I have had involving agriculture has really given me a new respect for it. I like to share this respect with my friends who do not understand everything about agriculture. I want everyone around me to understand how important agriculture is; and how intertwined into our everyday lives it is. I want everyone to understand that without agriculture we would cease to exist.

Agriculture has taught me many valuable lessons that I will carry with me for the rest of my life. It has taught me the importance of hard work; and it has taught me responsibility for everything I do in life. Agriculture has given me a continuing chance to gain knowledge in many different fields of agriculture from crop production to the proper ways to raise livestock and much more. It has also given me the chance to educate others about agriculture, showing them that agriculture is not just about driving a tractor around in a field but it is much more. It is figuring out and implementing policies that can ensure the protection of the nation's beef supply or coming up with drought resistant crops that can be grown in dry regions.

Therefore, when it came time for me to choose a career path it was no surprise to my family that I choose agriculture. Agriculture was something that started out as an enjoyment, an enjoyment that grew to respect, and a respect that grew to a passion. The passion I have for agriculture is unwavering; I cannot see myself doing anything else and can truly say that agriculture is what I should do. As an agribusiness major, I plan to take the knowledge I have obtained both in and out of the classroom and apply it to helping other agriculturalists the best that I can. I will continue to educate others about agriculture and show them the passion that I have for it. I will continue to strive for better ways we can produce our crops and raise our livestock, and I will continue to enjoy agriculture for the rest of my life just as I did all those summers ago.