

## **BRAZIL AND USA TALENT JOINS INTERNATIONAL FARMING NETWORK**

**22 December 2017** – The Nuffield International Farming Scholars program has announced the selection of its 2018 Nuffield Scholars, which includes two agriculturalists from Brazil and two from the United States of America. These Nuffield Scholars were selected through a competitive process to join a further 1,300 scholars from eleven countries in this global scholarship initiative to build capacity in farmers, ranchers and agricultural professionals around the world.

Nuffield International Chairman Kelvin Meadows, a 2011 Nuffield Scholar from Canada, shared that 2018 will be an exciting time for the Nuffield International Farming Scholars program.

“We are excited at the growth of the Nuffield program in Brazil in the United States. Having these countries be part of the larger Nuffield network is important as the agriculture industry not only looks to find new best practices and markets, but also as we work to build capacity in the women and men who are involved in the industry around the world,” Meadows stated.

The 1,300 enterprising agriculturalists that have been awarded a Nuffield scholarship explore the global industry through up to 16 weeks of travel and experiential learning that spans a two-year period. The major components of the Nuffield program are a week long Contemporary Scholars Conference (CSC), six-week Global Focus Program (GFP) where groups of up to ten Nuffield Scholars visit multiple nations around the world, and a further six to seven weeks of individual travel focused on their own personal study topic. At the end of their Nuffield travel, each Scholar is required to submit a study report that provides global grounding in their area of investigation and recommendations for the industry moving forward.

### **The 2018 Nuffield International Farming Scholars are:**

#### **Brazil**

##### **Artur Falcette** (Campo Grande, Mato Grosso do Sul)

Active in production agriculture, Artur manages Sapé Agropastoril Ltda, a 5,500ha operation that produces soybeans, corn, oats, beef cattle, Brangus genetic production (registered bulls, cows and embryos), sugar cane, poultry, dairy cattle and technological tourism with a team of 38 employees. He is also a business partner at a consulting company focused on agribusiness management.

Artur graduated in Agribusiness Management at the Federal University of Viçosa-MG, has a MBA in Strategic Management of Agribusiness at Fundação Getúlio Vargas (FGV) and a postgraduate degree in Strategic Business Leadership at Ohio University in the United States.

In addition, he has specific training in people management, strategic planning and balanced scorecard (BSC).

As a Nuffield Scholar, Artur will investigate how the diversification of production, as well as its integration, is happening in different agribusiness players of the world. His goal of this work is to create benchmarking models for producers of all production scales and scopes.

Nufarm Brasil is supporting Artur's scholarship.

### **Mauro Nakata** (Sorocaba, Sao Paulo)

Mauro is a partner in the family tilapia business, consisting of a production farm, processing plant, and distribution arm. In addition to processing the nearly 2,000 tonnes of tilapia per year produced on their farms, they receive product from third-party farmers and a cooperative that the family was instrumental in establishing. Tilapia fillets are mainly sold wholesale, and byproducts such as fish meal and fish oil are also commercialised.

Mauro is a founding member and Treasurer since 2015 of PeixeBR, the national fish farming industry group, and a member of COMPECA and SIPESP, key state-level fish farming organisations. Mauro has a Bachelor degree in Economics at University Sao Paulo and studied at the Wageningen University in Holland through the Erasmus program.

As a Nuffield Scholar, Mauro will investigate ways to accelerate the development of Brazil's fish farming sector, taking into account efficient production systems, genetics, scalability of systems, value-adding and managing water quality.

Grupo Bom Futuro is supporting this scholarship. This is the organization's first Nuffield scholarship.

### **United States of America**

#### **Steven (Archie) Griffin** (Washington, NC)

A farmer from North Carolina, Archie is the assistant manager for Griffin AG LLC, a farming operation that grows corn, wheat and soybeans for storage and marketing along with other value-added crops. In addition to this work on the family operation, Archie's background includes experience in the small grain breeding department at North Carolina State University, field-based research work with the USDA Agricultural Research Services (ARS), and management of his own sweet corn production and distribution operation. Archie holds a Bachelor of Science in Plant and Soil Science from North Carolina State University and a Master of Business Administration from East Carolina University.

As a Nuffield Scholar, Archie is interested in studying farming and technology, looking at the transformational ways crops are sustainably planted, cultivated and brought to market through innovation and advanced technologies.

Archie is active in the agriculture community in North Carolina, and a graduate of the North Carolina Agricultural Leadership Development Program, operated by North Carolina Cooperative Extension.

TIAA-CREF Global Agriculture and TIAA-CREF Global Agriculture II are supporting this Nuffield International scholarship with the 3 previous International Scholarships they have supported having been awarded to scholars from Brazil.

### **Brian Dougherty (Ames, Iowa)**

Currently earning his Master's Degree in Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering at Iowa State University, Brian has extensive experience on the farm and in the engineering lab. As co-owner of a 170 cow/250 acre dairy near Waukon, IA, Brian has managed both animal husbandry and crop production, including corn, alfalfa, oats and cereal rye, as well as pastureland.

In addition to his on-farm work, Brian has an Associate Degree in Farm Management from Ellsworth Community College (IA), a Bachelor of Science degree in Ecological Engineering from Oregon State University, and is completing his Master's program at Iowa State. As part of his studies, Brian is investigating the effects of cropping management practices on soil health and nutrient losses to agricultural tile drainage water.

As a Nuffield Scholar, Brian is looking to study the intersection of soil health, water quality, and agricultural management practices, with a focus on the fundamental importance of soil health to agricultural sustainability, and related global efforts to regenerate agricultural soils.

Iowa Corn Growers Association, Iowa Pork Producers Association, National Pork Producers Board, and the Iowa Farm Bureau are jointly supporting this Nuffield International scholarship.

### **About Nuffield International Farming Scholars**

For the past 70 years, the Nuffield International Farming Scholars program has inspired people to make a difference in the world of agriculture. The Nuffield program focuses on building the capacity of farmers, ranchers, and agriculturalists around the world through transformational travel that develops knowledge, skills, and confidence they carry back to their home enterprises and local communities. With an alumni base of more than 1700 Nuffield Scholars, the program provides access to an unrivaled network of industry leaders, as well as the chance to explore

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production agriculture and the full value chain around the world. More information can be found at [www.nuffieldinternational.org](http://www.nuffieldinternational.org).

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