



The 89th INTERNATIONAL **RICE FESTIVAL**

— *will recognize* —

BRYCE JOSEPH BREAU

— *as the 2026* —
JUNIOR FARMER OF THE YEAR

OCTOBER 15-18, 2026

DOWNTOWN CROWLEY

✦ The 89th International Rice Festival will recognize Bryce Joseph Breaux as the 2026 Junior Farmer of the Year. Bryce is the 17-year-old son of Jarrod and Kim Sittig Breaux of Iota. He has two brothers: Tyler and Ashton. Bryce is the grandson of Carolyn Breaux and the late Raymond Breaux of Iota and J.D. "Bunskie" Sittig Jr. and Deborah "Yogi" Sittig of Eunice.

✦ Bryce was raised on his family's farming operation, which consists of 1350 acres of Rice and 1150 acres of Crawfish. Growing up on the farm allowed him to develop a strong work ethic and learn the responsibilities of farming at an early age. His passion for agriculture became evident when, at just six years old, he planted a small rice crop in his backyard and harvested it with a pair of scissors.

✦ As he grew older, Bryce became involved in the daily operations of the farm. By the age of eight, he was operating the tractor and grain cart. When the COVID 19 pandemic caused schools to shut down, Bryce was only eleven years old, but he used that time away from the classroom to gain valuable hands-on experience. During that time, he independently planted 1,100 acres of rice, a testament to his expanding agricultural expertise and his willingness to embrace new technology.

✦ Today, Bryce plays an active role in the farming operation. During planting season, his primary responsibility is operating the spreader truck, while also assisting on the grain drill and spray rig when needed. During harvest, he spreads fertilizer in the mornings and fills in on combines and grain trucks as necessary. Bryce also utilizes a thermal drone to help eradicate wild pigs that damage rice crops, both on his family's farm and in neighboring fields. His experience with drone technology has sparked a strong interest in agricultural spray drones, which he is beginning to incorporate into the farming practices.

✦ Bryce is currently a senior at Iota High School and is expected to graduate in May 2027. Following graduation, he plans to join the family farming operation full-time and hopes to acquire farmland of his own as he continues his agricultural career.

✦ When he is not working, Bryce enjoys hunting, riding his jet ski and side-by-side, and spending time with his family and friends. Bryce is also a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Iota.



ALL BECAUSE OF RICE