



Agronomy CDE

Purpose

The purpose of the Agronomy Career Development Event is to create interest and promote understanding in agronomy by providing opportunities for recognition through the demonstration of skills and proficiencies.

Objectives for this event are:

- Demonstration of basic knowledge of agronomic sciences;
- Exploration of career opportunities, skills, and proficiencies in the industry;
- Understanding sustainable agriculture and environmental stewardship through the use of Integrated Pest Management and Best Management Practices.

State Event Superintendent

The superintendent for this event is Joshua Bledsoe, State Agricultural Education Leader, Department of Agriculture and Human Sciences, NCSU, Campus Box 7654, Raleigh, NC 27695-7654.

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Eligibility and General Guidelines

This event is open to all FFA chapters and FFA members in good standing. FFA Members may not participate in a career development event that leads to a state level event after July 1, following their high school/early college graduation. Members winning a previous state event in this area or who have participated in a previous national event in the area are ineligible.

Each chapter may send one team to compete at the state event. Teams shall consist of three or four members. Four scores will count towards the team total (a three-member team will earn a zero for the 4th score). No alternates are allowed in state events. Any alternate found participating in a state event will result in total team disqualification.

FFA members may also participate as individuals in this event. A chapter may have up to two members participate as individuals as long as the chapter does not have a team participating in the event. Their scores will only count toward individual recognition, and will not be tallied as a team score.

The use or possession of cellular phones or any other mobile electronic communication device is prohibited during any state-level career development event. Any violation of this rule by any team member will result in total team disqualification.

FFA members participating in career development events that require the use of calculators may only use non-programmable/non-graphing calculators that do not have the ability to communicate with other calculators. Calculators will be screened prior to the start of a CDE for acceptability. Students caught using data stored on a calculator or communicating with other calculators will result in a total team disqualification for the event.



Any member found cheating in any state-level career development event will result in total team disqualification for that event.

The North Carolina FFA Association, in keeping with the FFA mission and purposes, does not permit the use of tobacco products, e-cigarettes, vapes, or Juuls at any FFA facility or at any FFA activity.

At the North Carolina FFA State Convention, participation in more than one FFA CDE is permitted as long as events are not being held concurrently and no special provisions are required to facilitate participation.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, North Carolina FFA will honor requests for reasonable accommodations made by individuals with disabilities. Please direct accommodation requests through the CDE/LDE Accommodation Request [Form](#). If the accommodation can be made for all and/or doesn't provide an unfair advantage, then every effort will be made to provide the accommodation. Requests can be accommodated more effectively if notice is provided at least 10 days before the event.

Middle School Participation

Middle school students and teams may participate in any career development event or leadership development event. The top three middle school teams will be recognized. Middle school teams should designate during registration.

Dress Code

Participants are required to follow the North Carolina FFA Career Development Event Dress Code. A ten percent reduction in the total team score will be taken if a participant violates the dress code.

Participants are allowed to wear long pants, an appropriate shirt with a collar or an appropriate high school or FFA t-shirt or they may wear official dress as described in the FFA manual.

Procedures for Administering the Event

Part 1: General Knowledge Exam - 100 points

Twenty-five objective multiple choice questions will be given to each participant. Questions will come from the references listed at the conclusion of this document.

Part 2: Annual Practicum – 320 Points

Students will identify 32 weed and/or crop plants and/or weed and/or crop seeds. Live plant specimens will only be used and may be in any stage following emergence. The crop seeds will be shown as untreated seeds. If possible and applicable, the seed head will also be provided. Students will have one minute to identify each specimen. Refer to the North Carolina Plant and Seed List.

Part 3: Insect Identification – 100 Points

Ten samples will be identified according to insect name. The insect specimens can be shown as either live and/or mounted form. Refer to the insect identification list.

Part 4: Equipment and Machinery Identification - 100 Points

Students will identify 10 items from the machinery list. Samples may appear as actual equipment, scale models, toys, or pictures.



Part 5: Usability (Crop Quality) - 100 Points

Students will be given two classes of crop samples: one will be forage and the other a vegetable crop. Each class will consist of four samples of the same crop. Participants will rank each class with a Hormel card (50 points per sample).

Scoring

<i>Maximum Score (Individual)/(Team)</i>	720/2880
General Knowledge Exam	100
Annual Practicum	320
Insect Identification	100
Equipment and Machinery Identification	100
Usability (Crop Quality)	100

Procedure for Determining the State Event Winner When Scores are Tied

In the event a tie score exists, apply the following methods in sequential order until the tie is broken.

1. Compare the total team score for the annual practicum and the higher scoring team is the winner.
2. Compare the total team score for the general knowledge exam and the higher scoring team is the winner.
3. Compare the total team score for the Insect Identification and the higher scoring team is the winner.
4. If these methods fail to break the tie, co-winners will be declared and a run-off event will be held to determine which team will represent North Carolina at the National FFA Convention. The run-off event will follow the same rules as the state event.

Procedure for Determining the State Event Winner When Scores are Tied for Individual Participants

Ties in scores between individuals will be broken by comparing the scores of the portion/section of the event that carries the highest point value. The order of comparison would be Annual Practicum, General Knowledge Exam, Insect Identification, Equipment and Machinery Identification and Usability.

State Awards

The awards for the state event will be presented annually at the state FFA convention to include a team 1st, 2nd and 3rd place plaque and a monetary travel award. The high scoring individual will receive a plaque.



National Career Development Event Participation

State winning teams advancing to the national career development event will be automatically registered for the national event. It is the responsibility of the FFA Chapter Advisor to complete all necessary national certification and waiver forms and return them to the state FFA Coordinator by the assigned due date. State winning CDE teams that choose not to participate at the national level should contact the state office by Sept. 1 prior to national convention. Teams that fail to inform the state office prior to Sept. 1 will be ineligible to participate in that same CDE for the next year (chapters may appeal to the State FFA Board of Directors). Teams that do not compete at national convention will be required to pay back the \$500 travel award.

Bibliography

Tests used in previous state events are available online at www.ncffa.org to instructors who wish to use them as instructional aids.

The following is a list of the general references for the material covered by the National FFA Agronomy Career Development Event.

1. Ohio Agronomy Guide – Ohio Extension
2. University of Arizona, College of Agriculture- *Plant Growth and Development, Plant Production Management, Weeds, Insects*
3. *Corn and Soybean Field Guide*-Perdue Extension
4. Nasco References
5. University of Illinois, College of Agriculture – *Crop Plant Booklet, Weed Plant Booklet, Field Scouting Manual*
6. *NCSU Forage Crop Evaluation*
7. *Missouri Vegetable Crop Evaluation*

FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE WRITTEN EXAM ONLY - The North Carolina Agricultural Production I/II Outline and Test Bank Questions (Agronomy and Land Management Sections) will be used.



Contestant Name _____ Chapter _____ Score _____

NORTH CAROLINA FFA ASSOCIATION
AGRONOMY CDE: PLANT AND SEED LIST (320 Points)
(Weed and/or Crop: Plant and/or Seed may be used)

WEED PLANT	WEED SEED	CROP PLANT	CROP SEED
___ Barnyard Grass	___ Barnyard Grass	___ Alfalfa	___ Alfalfa
___ Black Nightshade	___ Black Nightshade	___ Barley	___ Barley
___ Broadleaf Plantain	___ Broadleaf Plantain	___ <i>Bean (Dry)</i>	___ Bermuda grass
___ Buckhorn Plantain	___ Bull Thistle	___ Bermuda grass	___ Canola
___ Bull Thistle	___ Buckhorn Plantain	___ Broccoli	___ Cantaloupe
___ Canada Thistle	___ Canada Thistle	___ Cabbage	___ Chili Pepper
___ Cheat	___ Cheat	___ Canola	___ Cotton
___ Cocklebur	___ Cocklebur	___ Cantaloupe	___ Cucumber
___ Common Chickweed	___ Common Chickweed	___ Cauliflower	___ Dent Corn
___ Common Lambsquarter	___ Common Lambsquarter	___ Chili Pepper	___ Durum Wheat
___ Common Mallow	___ Common Mallow	___ <i>Corn</i>	___ <i>Flax</i>
___ Common Milkweed	___ Common Milkweed	___ Cotton	___ Kentucky Bluegrass
___ Common Mullein	___ Common Mullein	___ Cucumber	___ Lettuce
___ Common Purslane	___ Common Purslane	___ Kentucky Bluegrass	___ Lima Bean
___ Common Ragweed	___ Common Ragweed	___ Lettuce	___ Oats
___ Common Sunflower	___ Common Sunflower	___ Oats	___ Onion
___ Crabgrass	___ Crabgrass	___ Onion	___ Orchard grass
___ Crown Vetch	___ Crown Vetch	___ Orchard grass	___ Peanuts
___ Curly Dock	___ Curly Dock	___ Peanuts	___ Peas
___ Dandelion	___ Dandelion	___ Peas	___ Pinto Bean
___ Dog Fennel	___ Field Bindweed	___ <i>Potato</i>	___ Pop Corn
___ Field Bindweed	___ Field Dodder	___ Rape	___ Red Bean
___ Field Dodder	___ Field Pennycress	___ Red Clover	___ Red Wheat
___ Field Pennycress	___ <i>Field Sandbur</i>	___ Rice	___ Rice
___ <i>Field Sandbur</i>	___ Foxtail	___ Rye (Grain)	___ Rye (Grain)
___ Foxtail	___ Ground Cherry	___ <i>Ryegrass</i>	___ Safflower
___ Ground Cherry	___ Horsenettle	___ Safflower	___ Sorghum
___ Horsenettle	___ Johnsongrass	___ Sorghum	___ Soybeans
___ <i>Horseweed (Marestail)</i>	___ Jimsonweed	___ Soybeans	___ <i>Spinach</i>
___ Johnsongrass	___ Leafy Spurge	___ <i>Spinach</i>	___ Squash
___ Jimsonweed	___ <i>Kochia</i>	___ Squash	___ Sudangrass
___ <i>Kochia</i>	___ Morning Glory	___ <i>Strawberry</i>	___ Sugar Beets
___ <i>Kudzu</i>	___ Nutsedge (Yellow)	___ Sudangrass	___ Sunflower
___ Morning Glory	___ Prostate Knotweed	___ Sugar Beets	___ Sweet Clover
___ Nutsedge (Yellow)	___ Puncturevine	___ Sunflower	___ Sweet Corn
___ <i>Primrose</i>	___ Redroot Pigweed	___ <i>Sweet Potato</i>	___ Tall Fescue
___ Prostate Knotweed	___ Shepardspurge	___ Sweet Clover	___ Timothy
___ <i>Prostate Spurge</i>	___ <i>Sicklepod</i>	___ Tall Fescue	___ Tobacco
___ Puncturevine	___ Smartweed	___ Timothy	___ Tomato
___ Redroot Pigweed	___ Sowthistle	___ Tobacco	___ Watermelon
___ Shepardspurge	___ Tansy Mustard	___ Tomato	___ White Clover
___ <i>Sicklepod</i>	___ Wild Carrot	___ Watermelon	
___ Smartweed	___ Wild Mustard	___ <i>Wheat</i>	
___ Sowthistle	___ Wild Onion/Garlic	___ White Clover	
___ Wild Carrot			
___ Wild Mustard			
___ Wild Oats			
___ Wild Onion/Garlic			



Contestant Name _____ Chapter _____ Score _____

NORTH CAROLINA FFA ASSOCIATION
AGRONOMY CDE: INSECT IDENTIFICATION LIST (100 Points)

- _____ Alfalfa Weevil Larva
- _____ Alfalfa Weevil
- _____ Aphid
- _____ Armyworm Larva
- _____ Assassin Bug
- _____ Bean Leaf Beetle
- _____ Blister Beetle (Larvae)
- _____ Blister Beetle
- _____ Chinch Bug
- _____ Colorado Potato Beetle
- _____ Colorado Potato Larva
- _____ Corn Earworm Larva
- _____ Corn Rootworm Larva
- _____ Cutworm Larva
- _____ European Corn Borer Larva
- _____ Flea Beetle
- _____ Grain Weevil
- _____ Grasshopper
- _____ Green Lacewing Nymph
- _____ Green Lacewing
- _____ Honeybee
- _____ Japanese Beetle
- _____ June Bug
- _____ Lady Bird Beetle Larva
- _____ Lady Bird Beetle
- _____ Leaf Skeletonizer Larva
- _____ Leafhopper
- _____ Lygus
- _____ Mexican Bean Beetle
- _____ Pink Bollworm Larva
- _____ Spidermite
- _____ Spittlebug
- _____ Spotted Cucumber/Southern Corn Rootworm Beetle
- _____ Stinkbug
- _____ Tobacco/Tomato Hornworm Larva
- _____ Tobacco/Tomato Hornworm Moth
- _____ Whitefly
- _____ White Grub
- _____ Wireworm/Click Beetle



Contestant Name _____ Chapter _____ Score _____

NORTH CAROLINA FFA ASSOCIATION
AGRONOMY CDE: USABILITY (CROP QUALITY) (100 Points)

Forage Crops (Hay)	Vegetable Crops
Alfalfa Coastal Bermuda Hay Orchard grass Red Clover Sweet Clover Tall Fescue Timothy White Clover	Broccoli (1 Head per container) Cabbage (1 Head per container) Cantaloupe (1 per container) Cauliflower (1 Head per container) Chili Pepper (4-6 per container) Cucumber (4-6 per container) Onion (4-6 per container) Potato (4-6 per container) Strawberry (4-6 per container) Sweet Potato (4-6 per container) Squash (4-6 per container) Tomato (4-6 per container) Watermelon (1 per container)
There will be one sample section taken from four different bales of the same type of hay. Each sample will be laid out to evaluate.	



Contestant Name _____ Chapter _____ Score _____

**North Carolina FFA Association
Agronomy Career Development Event
Equipment and Machinery Identification**

Equipment and machinery items will be numbered 1-10. Contestants should write the appropriate number in the space beside the name of the item. Each correct answer is valued at ten points.

Machinery List

Air Compressor/Hose	Hearing Protection
Backpack Sprayer	Hitch Pin
Bale Wagon	Hoe
Baler	In-Line Ripper
Bean Harvester Head (for Combine)	Liquid Manure Fertilizer Spreader
Bed Mulcher	Module Builder
Bed Shaper	Moldboard Plow
Center Pivot	Pea Harvester
Chemigation Unit	Peanut Digger
Combine	Plow (soil chisel)
Conveyor/Elevator	Potato Harvester
Corn Harvester Head (for Combine)	Press Wheel
Cotton Picker/Stripper	Pressure Gauge
Crop Cultivator	Pressure Regulator
Crop Disc Cultivator	PTO Shaft
Crop Planter	Rotary Hoe
Disc Mower	Seed Plate
Drill Planter	Soil Probe
Fertilizer Broadcaster	Soil Thermometer
Forage Harvester	Sweep Net
Gauge Wheel	Tensiometer
Grain Auger	Tractor
Grain Moisture Meter	Vegetable Transplanter
Grain Storage Bin	Yield Monitor
Hay Rake	



Judging event placing card (form 2)

Name: _____

School Name: _____

Contestant Number: _____

Class Name: Forage Class

Class Name: Vegetable Class

PLACINGS	CIRCLE PLACING
1-2-3-4	A
1-2-4-3	B
1-3-2-4	C
1-3-4-2	D
1-4-2-3	E
1-4-3-2	F
2-1-3-4	G
2-1-4-3	H
2-3-1-4	I
2-3-4-1	J
2-4-1-3	K
2-4-3-1	L
3-1-2-4	M
3-1-4-2	N
3-2-1-4	O
3-2-4-1	P
3-4-1-2	Q
3-4-2-1	R
4-1-2-3	S
4-1-3-2	T
4-2-1-3	U
4-2-3-1	V
4-3-1-2	W
4-3-2-1	X

PLACINGS	CIRCLE PLACING
1-2-3-4	A
1-2-4-3	B
1-3-2-4	C
1-3-4-2	D
1-4-2-3	E
1-4-3-2	F
2-1-3-4	G
2-1-4-3	H
2-3-1-4	I
2-3-4-1	J
2-4-1-3	K
2-4-3-1	L
3-1-2-4	M
3-1-4-2	N
3-2-1-4	O
3-2-4-1	P
3-4-1-2	Q
3-4-2-1	R
4-1-2-3	S
4-1-3-2	T
4-2-1-3	U
4-2-3-1	V
4-3-1-2	W
4-3-2-1	X

Score: _____

Score: _____

Total Score: _____