



## **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 4<sup>th</sup> 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 up to 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 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 travel award.

## **Bibliography**

Tests used in previous state events are available online at [www.ncffa.org](http://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
___ Kudzu	___ 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	___ Shepardspurse	___ Sweet Clover	___ Timothy
___ <i>Prostate Spurge</i>	___ <i>Sicklepod</i>	___ Tall Fescue	___ Tobacco
___ Puncturevine	___ Smartweed	___ Timothy	___ Tomato
___ Redroot Pigweed	___ Sowthistle	___ Tobacco	___ Watermelon
___ Shepardspurse	___ Tansy Mustard	___ Tomato	___ White Clover
___ <i>Sicklepod</i>	___ Wild Carrot	___ Watermelon	___ White Wheat
___ 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)**

<b>Forage Crops (Hay)</b>	<b>Vegetable Crops</b>
<b>Alfalfa</b> <b>Coastal Bermuda Hay</b> <b>Orchard grass</b> <b>Red Clover</b> <b>Sweet Clover</b> <b>Tall Fescue</b> <b>Timothy</b> <b>White Clover</b>	<b>Broccoli</b> (1 Head per container) <b>Cabbage</b> (1 Head per container) <b>Cantaloupe</b> (1 per container) <b>Cauliflower</b> (1 Head per container) <b>Chili Pepper</b> (4-6 per container) <b>Cucumber</b> (4-6 per container) <b>Onion</b> (4-6 per container) <b>Potato</b> (4-6 per container) <b>Strawberry</b> (4-6 per container) <b>Sweet Potato</b> (4-6 per container) <b>Squash</b> (4-6 per container) <b>Tomato</b> (4-6 per container) <b>Watermelon</b> (1 per container)
<p>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.</p>	



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.

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





Contestant Name \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

**Judging event placing card (form 2)**

**Class Name: Forage 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

Score: \_\_\_\_\_

**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

Score: \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Score:** \_\_\_\_\_