



Dairy Cattle Management & Evaluation CDE

Purpose

The purpose of the Dairy Cattle Evaluation Career Development Event is to provide a competitive event for agricultural education students. The event emphasizes skills in dairy cattle evaluation, selection, and dairy herd management.

The goals of this event are:

- To prepare students for industry positions or to manage a modern dairy herd;
- To develop skills in observation, analysis, communication, and team collaboration; and
- To provide experience in the evaluation of dairy cattle type, production records, and dairy herd management.

State Event Superintendent

The superintendent for this event is Mr. Andy VonCanon, Western Region Agricultural Education Coordinator, Mountain Horticulture Crops Research and Extension Center, 455 Research Drive, Mills River, NC 28759 Phone: 828-553-6296 Fax: 828-684-8715 Cell: 828-553-6296
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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 that have participated in a previous national event in this 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 the state event will result in total team disqualification.

FFA members in good standing 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.

Calculators used for this event must be only basic five function (add, subtract, multiply, divide, and square root only) calculators. Possession of scientific calculators and other programmable calculators or other non-basic calculators by any team member shall result in total team disqualification.



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.

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

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.

Dress Code

Participants are required to follow the North Carolina FFA Career Development Event Dress Code. Participants are allowed to wear long pants, an appropriate shirt with a collar or an appropriate high school or FFA t-shirt. **Please dress appropriately for the weather as all activities will be held outside.**

The North Carolina FFA Association strives to promote a positive image at all Official FFA Events. The dress code policy was established to address the issue of appropriate attire at all Official FFA Events. Members should adhere to this policy for all events. A ten percent reduction will be applied to all individual scores from a chapter if a participant from that chapter violates the dress code during that career event.

Procedures for Administering the Event

Placing Classes (50 Points per class)

- Using Universal Form A, **six to eight** classes of four animals will be placed on type (All classes will be selected from one or more of the five major breeds of dairy cattle).
- A maximum of twelve (12) minutes will be allowed to place each class.
- Animals will be numbered 4, 3, 2, and 1.
- The Hormel Computing Slide or an appropriate software program will be used for scoring.
- Contestants will be permitted to view the animals from all angles but will not be permitted to handle the animals.
- A perfect score is 50 points per class.

Oral Reasons (50 Points per set)

- Oral reasons will be required for two classes of cows to be designated by the contest official(s).
- Contestants will have fifteen (15) minutes to place this class.
- A maximum of twelve (12) minutes to prepare reasons.
- Two minutes to deliver the oral reasons.
- Contestants may use their placing card while giving reasons. No other notes will be permitted.
- A perfect score for reasons is 50 points.



Written Test (100 Points)

- The participants will take a 25-question test.
- It will include 20 multiple choice questions involving dairy management practices and general knowledge; and 5 questions analyzing the dairy herd record data.
- Contestants will have twenty (20) minutes to complete the written test.
- A perfect score on the written test will be 100 points.

Scoring

6-8 Placing Classes	50 points/class
2 Oral Reasons	50 points/set
Written Test	100 points

Procedure for Determining the State Event Winner When Scores are Tied

In the event a tie score exists, the following methods will be applied in sequential order until the tie is broken:

1. Compare the total team scores for the written test activity and the higher scoring team is the winner.
2. Compare scores on the placing categories starting with the youngest to the oldest until the tie is broken.

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 placing categories starting with the youngest and going to the oldest animals until the tie is broken. If a tie continues, compare the oral reasons scores from oldest to the youngest animals.

If a tie continues, announce duplicate winners for high individuals.

State Awards

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



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 cash travel award.

Bibliography

For more information see the [National FFA Career Development Events Handbook](#).

The written test will be taken from the following references:

The major references will be [Modern Livestock and Poultry Production](#) by James Gillespie

[The Holstein's Foundation Dairy Judging Workbook](#) by the Holstein Foundation (802.254.4551)

[Linear Classification System](#) by the Holstein Foundation

Instructional Materials Services, Texas A & M University (8642A, 8647A, 8646E, 84-5)

Additional questions may be taken from the: N. C. Agricultural Statistics, Latest edition available and other Cooperative Extension Service and Dairy Breed Association manuals or booklets.

Calming Upset Customers, Rebecca L. Morgan, ISBN – 1-56052-384-0

Telephone Courtesy & Customer Service, Loyd Finch, ISBN – 1-56052-064-7

Marketing Strategies for Small Businesses, Richard F. Gerson, ISBN 1-56052-172-4

Agri-Marketing Technology, Selling and Distribution in the Agricultural Industry, Jasper Lee, James G. Leisning, David E. Lawyer, Interstate Publishers, Inc. Danville, IL



ORAL REASONS SCORECARD

Participant Number _____

Participant Name _____

Class No. _____

Class Name _____

Your Placing ____ - ____ - ____ - ____

- I. (Posture, clarity in speaking, confidence, convincing)

(Max. 12)

- II. Proper use of terms

(Max. 10)

- III. Accuracy of statements (based on what the participant saw)

(Max. 10)

- IV. Importance of points covered (reasons for placings, crucial points covered, complete explanation or reasons)

(Max. 18)

TOTAL _____
(Max. 50)

