



## Introduction to Horticulture CDE

### Purpose

The Introduction to Horticulture Career Development Event is unique to North Carolina in which only first-year horticulture students may participate. The event is designed to allow students to demonstrate their proficiency in plant identification, weed and pest identification and general horticultural knowledge.

### Sponsor

The North Carolina Nursery & Landscape Association currently sponsors this event.

### Superintendent

Comments and questions may be directed to Dr. Jason Davis, State FFA Coordinator, Department of Agricultural and Human Sciences, NCSU, Campus Box 7654, Raleigh, NC 27695-7654.  
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### Eligibility

This event is open to FFA members in good standing who are enrolled in or have taken Horticulture I. Students cannot compete if they are currently enrolled in or have taken Horticulture II. Teams advancing to state event participation must be certified by the regional FFA advisor. Members of a previous state winning team are ineligible.

The top three individuals in the regional event are eligible to participate in the state event as individuals regardless of their team placing.

**Teams shall consist of four members. Only the top three scores will count towards the team total.** No alternates are allowed in state events. Any alternate found participating in a state event will result in team disqualification.

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.

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.**

FFA members participating in career development events that require the use of calculators may only use non programmable/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.

At the North Carolina FFA State Convention, participation in more than one FFA CDE event is permitted as long as events are not being held concurrently and no special provisions are required to facilitate participation with the exception that parliamentary procedure and public speaking and parliamentary procedure and Creed speaking which are held concurrently will allow dual participation and special provisions for flighting.

### State Career Development Event Participation

The appropriate numbers of teams based on event participation from each region are eligible to compete in the state career development event. The top three individuals in the regional event are eligible to participate in the state event as individuals regardless of their team placing. Teams and individuals advancing to state event participation must be certified by the regional FFA advisor.



## 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.

***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

Any communication between participants during the event will result in both individuals getting a zero on that phase of the event. If an individual is suspected of cheating, the participant will be given a personal quiet warning on the first offense and a zero on that phase of the event for any second offense in addition to the team being disqualified.

Participants are allowed and encouraged to bring and use clipboards in order to hold event score cards. Clipboards should be examined by an official prior to the event to determine that they are free of written materials.

## Regional Event Set-Up

The host school will have the responsibility in setting up the career development event, choosing career development event officials, judges and materials according to the following:

### Part 1: Identification (40 points)

- 20 minutes are allotted for this portion
- Twenty different plants will be chosen from the current list of ID plants and each plant will be numbered.
- Each contestant will be assigned a plant to begin the identification portion of the event. Each

contestant will remain at each plant for one minute then progress on to the next plant.

- No contestant will be permitted to return to a plant for a second time.
- Each plant will be worth 2 points.
- Event officials will grade papers.
- Grading will be done by giving 2 points for each plant correctly identified.
- If it is observed that a participant uses the same number twice, both numbers will be marked incorrect.

### Part 2: Knowledge Test (50 points)

- 25 minutes are allotted for this portion
- A written knowledge test will be made up of 50 items from the Horticulture I VoCATS Bank.
- Copies of written tests will not be made available to teachers.

### Part 3: Practicum (10 points)

- 5 minutes are allotted for this portion
- Each participant will be asked to identify 5 pests.
- Officials will rotate students through 5 pest identification stations.
- To expedite the practicum process, the event coordinator may provide more than one set of five pests to identify.
- Students may earn a maximum of 2 points per pest for a total of 10 points.

## Regional Event Scoring

<i>Maximum Score</i>	<i>100</i>
Identification	40
Knowledge Test	50
Practicum	10

## State Event Set-Up

The State FFA Coordinator or horticulture consultant shall be responsible for setting up the event, choosing event officials, judges and materials according to the following:



### Part 1: Identification (80 points)

- 40 minutes are allotted for this portion
- Forty different plants will be chosen from the current list of ID plants and each plant will be numbered.
- Each participant will be assigned a plant to begin identification.
- Each participant will remain at each plant for one minute then progress on to the next plant.
- No participant will be permitted to return to a plant a second time.
- Each plant will be worth 2 points.
- Grading will be done by giving 2 points for each plant correctly identified; if it is observed that a participant uses the same number twice, both numbers will be marked incorrect.
- Teachers will grade the papers but should not grade papers of their own team.

### Part 2: Knowledge test (100 points)

- A written test will be made up from the North Carolina VoCATS Horticulture I item bank.
- Each question will be valued at one point.
- Copies of written tests will not be made available to teachers.
- 50 minutes are allotted for this portion

### Part 3: Practicum (20 points)

- The practicum will consist of the identification of five pests in addition to five multiple-choice questions related to any of the pests identified on the practicum identification list.
- To expedite the practicum process, the event coordinator may provide more than one set of five pests to identify.
- Questions will be based on pest management using the NC Chemical Manual (At least 15 identical chemical manuals are recommended for use during this portion of the practicum.).

- Each identified pest is worth two points, and each multiple-choice question is worth two points.
- No participants will be given extra time.
- 30 minutes are allotted for this portion

### Time Summary

Identification	40 Minutes
Knowledge Test	50 Minutes
Practicum	30 Minutes

### State Event Scoring

<i>Maximum Score</i>	<i>200</i>
Identification	80
Knowledge Test	100
Practicum	20

### 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 alternate scores. The lowest team member score is the alternate score.
2. Compare the total team scores for the knowledge followed by the identification component. The higher scoring team will be determined the winner.
3. If these methods fail to break a tie, co-winners will be declared.

### 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. The high scoring individual will receive a plaque.

**Official Plant Identification List  
NC FFA Introduction to Horticulture Career Development Event**

Plant specimens will be numbered 1-20 for the Regional Event and 1-40 for the State Event. Contestant is to write the appropriate number in the space beside the name of the specimen.

Contestant Name \_\_\_\_\_ Contestant # \_\_\_\_\_ Score \_\_\_\_\_

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| _____ Abelia X grandiflora/Glossy Abelia  | _____ Iris X germanica var. florentine/Bearded Iris                                     |
| _____ Acer palmatum/Japanese Maple  | _____ Juniperus conferta/Shore Juniper  |
| _____ Acer rubrum/Red Maple   | _____ Juniperus horizontalis 'Plumosa,' 'Bar Harbor,'<br>or 'Wiltonii'/Creeping Juniper |
| _____ Ageratum mexicanum/Ageratum   | _____ Lagerstroemia indica cv./Crape Myrtle   |
| _____ Ajuga reptans/Ajuga   | _____ Ligustrum japonicum cb./Japanese Privet   |
| _____ Aracaria heterophylla/Norfolk Island Pine                                       | _____ Liquidambar styraciflua/Sweetgum  |
| _____ Asparagus densiflorus 'Spengeri'/<br>Sprenger Fern                              | _____ Liriope muscari/Liriope (Green or<br>Varigated cv.)                               |
| _____ Aucuba japonica/Japanese Aucuba   | _____ Magnolia grandiflora/Southern Magnolia  |
| _____ Begonia X semperflorens-cultorum/<br>Wax Begonia                                | _____ Malus sp. or cv./Flowering Crabapple  |
| _____ Berberis thunbergii/Japanese Barberry   | _____ Maranta leuconeura var. kerchoviana/<br>Prayer Plant                              |
| _____ Betula nigra/River Birch  | _____ Myrica cerifera/Wax Myrtle  |
| _____ Buxus sempervirens/Common Boxwood   | _____ Nandina domestica/Heavenly Bamboo<br>Or Dwarf Nandina                             |
| _____ Canna X generalis/Canna   | _____ Nephrolepis exaltata cv./Boston Fern  |
| _____ Cercis canadensis/Eastern Red Bud/<br>Judas Tree                                | _____ Ophiopogon japonicus/Mondo Grass  |
| _____ Chlorophytum comosum cv./Spider Plant   | _____ Pelargonium X hortorum/Geranium   |
| _____ Chrysanthemum morifolium or Dendranthema<br>X grandiflora/Florist Chrysanthemum | _____ Pelargonium peltatum/Ivy Leaf Geranium  |
| _____ Chrysanthemum X superbum/Shasta Daisy   | _____ Petunia sp/Petunia  |
| _____ Coleus X hybridus/Coleus  | _____ Philodendron scandens var. oxycardium/<br>Parlor Ivy                              |
| _____ Cornus florida/Flowering Dogwood  | _____ Pinus mugo var. mugo/Mugo Pine  |
| _____ X Cupressocyparis leylandii/Leyland Cypress                                     | _____ Pinus strobus/Eastern White Pine  |
| _____ Dieffenbachia maculata/Dumbcane   | _____ Pinus Taeda/Loblolly pine   |
| _____ Epipremnum aureum cv./Golden Pothos   | _____ Plectranthus australis/Swedish Ivy  |
| _____ Euonymus alata/Winged Enonymus  | _____ Prunus serrulata 'Kwanzan'/<br>Japanese Flowering Cherry                          |
| _____ Euonymus japonica or 'Variegata'/<br>Evergreen Euonymus                         | _____ Pyrus calleryana 'Bradford'/Bradford Pear   |
| _____ Euphorbia pulcherrima cv./Poinsettia  | _____ Quercus palustris/Pin Oak   |
| _____ Ficus benjamina/Weeping or Benjamin Fig   | _____ Quercus phellow/Willow Oak  |
| _____ Ficus elastica 'Decora'/Decora Rubber Plant                                     | _____ Rhododendron catawbiense/Catawba Hybrid<br>Rhododendron                           |
| _____ Forsythia X intermedia/Border Forsythia   | _____ Rhododendron kiusianum or Rhododendron<br>obtusum japonicum/azalea                |
| _____ Hedera helix/English Ivy  | _____ Saintpaulia ionantha/Africal Violet   |
| _____ Hemerocallis cv./Day Lily   | _____ Salvia splendens/Salvia   |
| _____ Hosta sp./Hosta   | _____ Schefflera arboricola/Dwarf Schefflera  |
| _____ Ilex X attenuata 'Fosteri'/Fosteri Holly  | _____ Spathiphyllum cvs./Peace Lily   |
| _____ Ilex cornuta 'Dwarf Burford'/<br>Dwarf Burford Holly                            | _____ Tagetes erecta/Africal Marigold   |
| _____ Ilex crenata 'Helleri'/Helleri Holly  | _____ Tradescantia zebrina/Purple Wandering Jew   |
| _____ Ilex vomitoria 'Nana'/Dwarf Yaupon  | _____ Viola X wittrockiana/Pansy  |
| _____ Impatiens/Impatiens Cultivars and Hybrids                                       |   |

## North Carolina FFA Association

### Introduction to Horticulture Practicum – Pest ID List

Contestant Name \_\_\_\_\_ Contestant # \_\_\_\_\_ Score \_\_\_\_\_

Pest specimens will be numbered 1-5. Contestant is to write the appropriate number in the space beside the name of the specimen. Each correctly identified pest is worth two points for a total of ten points for the pest identification portion of the event.

#### Weeds

- \_\_\_\_\_ Buckhorn Plantain
- \_\_\_\_\_ Broadleaf Plantain
- \_\_\_\_\_ Crabgrass
- \_\_\_\_\_ Chickweed
- \_\_\_\_\_ Dandelion
- \_\_\_\_\_ Goose grass
- \_\_\_\_\_ Henbit
- \_\_\_\_\_ Oxalis
- \_\_\_\_\_ Spurge (prostrate)
- \_\_\_\_\_ White Clover
- \_\_\_\_\_ Wild Garlic
- \_\_\_\_\_ Yellow Nutsedge

#### Insects

- \_\_\_\_\_ Aphid
- \_\_\_\_\_ Bagworms
- \_\_\_\_\_ Caterpillar
- \_\_\_\_\_ Japanese Beetle
- \_\_\_\_\_ Lacebug
- \_\_\_\_\_ Mealybugs
- \_\_\_\_\_ Scale
- \_\_\_\_\_ Spider Mites
- \_\_\_\_\_ Thrips
- \_\_\_\_\_ White Fly

#### Diseases

- \_\_\_\_\_ Black Spot
- \_\_\_\_\_ Chlorosis
- \_\_\_\_\_ Damping off
- \_\_\_\_\_ Fireblight
- \_\_\_\_\_ Powdery Mildew
- \_\_\_\_\_ Root Rot
- \_\_\_\_\_ Rust