



# **Livestock Evaluation CDE**

## **Purpose**

The purpose of the Livestock Evaluation Career Development Event is to provide a competitive event for agricultural education students, emphasizing skills in livestock evaluation, selection, and management as taught through the agricultural education curriculum.

The objectives of this event include:

- Understanding and interpreting performance data based on industry standards;
- Selecting and marketing livestock that will provide increased economic returns;
- Communicating industry terminology effectively; and
- Identification of criteria used in grading livestock.

## **Sponsor**

The Livestock Evaluation CDE is sponsored by the North Carolina Cattlemen's Association, the North Carolina State Fair, and the Wilkes Community College Animal Science department.

## **State Event Superintendent**

The superintendent for this event is Mrs. Carmen Bracey, State FFA Coordinator, Department of Agricultural and Human Sciences, NC State University, Box 7654, Raleigh, NC 27695-7654 Phone: 919.513.0216

Email: [cehoneyc@ncsu.edu](mailto:cehoneyc@ncsu.edu)

## **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 the area are ineligible.

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 the state events. Any alternate found participating in a state event will result in a 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.

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.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, NC FFA will honor requests for reasonable accommodations made by individuals with disabilities. Please direct accommodation requests to: Carmen Bracey at [carmen\\_bracey@ncsu.edu](mailto:carmen_bracey@ncsu.edu). Requests can be served 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 participants will be recognized in each division of an event. Middle school participants should designate during registration.

## **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. Participants must wear closed toe shoes.

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.

## **State Career Development Event Participation**

The top 10 teams from each regional event along with the top three scoring individuals regardless of their team placing are eligible to compete in the state career development event. Teams and individuals advancing to the state event must be certified by the regional FFA Advisor.

## **Procedures for Administering the Regional Event**

Two regional events will be held prior to the state event. An event will be held for the eastern and western regions to determine qualifiers for the State Career Development Event. The regional events will include the following parts.

### Placing Classes (50 points per class)

- Using Universal Form A, 4-6 classes of four animals will be placed on type.
- Where possible, there will be at least one class from each species.
- A maximum of 15 minutes will be allowed per class.
- Contestants will be permitted to view the animals from all angles but will not be permitted to handle the animals (with the exception of market lambs and market goats).
- A perfect score is 50 points per class.



### Oral Reasons (50 points per class)

- Oral reasons will be required for one class of animals to be designated by the contest official(s).
  - All species are eligible for oral reasons.
- Production data will be provided on breeding animals and may be used in presenting oral reasons.
- Students will not be penalized if they choose not to use production data in their reasons.
- Contestants will have 15 minutes to place this class.
- A minimum of 15 minutes will be given to prepare reasons.
- Contestants will have 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 is 50 points for reasons.

### **Regional Event Scoring**

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4-6 Placing Classes	50 points/class
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1 Oral Reasons	50 points/set
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### **Procedures for Administering the State Career Development Event**

#### Placing Classes (50 points per class)

- Using Universal Form A, 8-10 classes of four animals will be placed on type.
- Where possible, there will be two classes of breeding cattle, and one class of market cattle, breeding sheep, market sheep or lambs, market swine, breeding swine, breeding goats, and market goats.
- A maximum of 15 minutes will be allowed per class.
- Contestants will be permitted to view the animals from all angles but will not be permitted to handle the animals (with the exception of market lambs and market goats).
- A perfect score is 50 points per class.

#### Oral Reasons (50 points per class)

- Oral reasons will be required for two classes of animals to be designated by the contest official(s).
  - All species are eligible for oral reasons.
  - One of the two classes will be on breeding animals.
- Production data will be provided on breeding animals and may be used in presenting oral reasons.
- Students will not be penalized if they choose not to use production data in their reasons.
- Contestants will have 15 minutes to place this class.
- A minimum of 15 minutes will be given to prepare reasons.
- Contestants will have 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.

#### Visual Observations & Production Data (20 points)

- Students will be asked 10 multiple-choice questions on one class of breeding animals.
- The oral reasons breeding class should not be used for this activity.
- Students will have 15 minutes to place the class using Form A and answer the questions.
- Each question will have a value of 2 points each.



### Team Activity (100 points)

- A keep/cull class of animals will be evaluated and count as one score for the team.
- This class will be composed of eight animals and team members will select four animals to keep from the class based on visual appraisal **and/or** performance/production data.
- Each team will use one scorecard.
- This activity is worth 100 points and is added one time to the entire team score.

### **State Event Scoring**

8-10 Placing Classes	50 points/class
2 Oral Reasons	50 points/set
Visual Observations	20 points
Team Activity	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 team activity component and the higher scoring team is the winner.
2. Compare the total team score for oral reasons on breeding animals.
3. Compare the total team score for the next oral reasons class.
4. Compare the total team score for the visual observations portion.
5. 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 oral reasons scores for breeding animals, followed by the additional oral reasons class, and followed by the visual observation score. If the scores remained tied, 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 and a travel monetary award.

### **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 the National Convention will be required to pay back the travel award.

## **Bibliography**

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

## **Supplemental Information**

A non-refundable event registration fee that includes the meal will be required of all pre-registered teams.



**ORAL REASONS SCORECARD**

Participant No. \_\_\_\_\_

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)

**Livestock Team Activity  
Beef / Sheep / Swine**

Female Selection  
(Keep / Cull)

Contestant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contestant Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle or list the numbers of the four animals you want to keep as replacements:

**1    2    3    4    5    6    7    8**

Event officials will assign a point value to each of the individual animals, giving the most points to the most desirable animal and the least points to the least desirable animal. If the participant selects the best four animals, full credit will be given.

This activity is worth 100 points and is added one time to the entire team score.

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



