



# **Land Judging CDE**

## **Purpose**

The purpose of the Land Judging Career Development Event is to stimulate interest, encourage proficient development and excellence in land management as taught in agricultural education. Students evaluate soil characteristics including texture, slope and drainage and then classify the land in a capacity class. Recommendations for land treatments are made with consideration given to farm, residential and urban uses.

## **State Event Superintendent**

The superintendent for this event is Mrs. Shelby Robertson, State FFA Coordinator, Department of Agricultural and Human Sciences, NC State University, Box 7654, Raleigh, NC 27695-7654  
Phone: 919.513.1206 Fax: 919.513.0216

Questions and comments can be directed to Mr. Jason Chester, Central Region Coordinator, 444 Bristol Dr, Statesville, NC 28677. Phone: 704.213.1335, Email: [jdcheste@ncsu.edu](mailto:jdcheste@ncsu.edu)

## **Eligibility and General Guidelines**

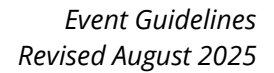
This event is open to all FFA chapters and FFA members in good standing. FFA Members may not participate in a Career Development Event that leads to a state level event after July 1, following their high school/early college graduation. Members winning a previous state event in this area or that have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

Each chapter may send one team to compete at the state event. Teams shall consist of three or four members. 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.

FFA members and advisors may not visit the site of a state career development event within seven days of the start of the event. Teams that violate this rule will be disqualified.

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.



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.

## Middle School Participation

## Dress Code

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

The Handbook of Land Judging in North Carolina contains information and other materials related to the contest. Procedures for setting up a contest are described in the Appendix of the handbook.

## Scoring and Related Items

1. All judge cards will be completed by contest officials before the contest begins.
2. The official judge will check to ensure that all official answers conform to the information in the handbook.
3. Land treatments will be scored as follows:
  - a. When possible, equal value will be assigned to all applicable treatment (e.g. 5 points each for 6 treatments). When that is not possible, some treatments will be assigned a 1 point higher value than others. The higher values will arbitrarily be assigned in order beginning



with the first treatment selected by the judges (e.g. 5 points for the first 2 treatments when there is a total of 7 treatments).

- b. The treatments indicated by the student will be considered until the student has selected a number of treatments equal to the number selected by the judges.  
Ex: the judges selected 7 treatments, and treatment 20 represents the participant's 7<sup>th</sup> selection. No consideration will be given to the marked selections below treatment 20. In cases where the student selects fewer treatments than the judges, all marked treatments will be scored.
- c. Note: For the Fertilizer and Soil Amendments Team Activity, students in the senior division only will be provided with the chart in Appendix II. After judging all the pits at the site, teams will be provided with soil test results for each pit. Teams will have up to twenty minutes to complete the card together. The total 50 points will be divided based on the number of required amendments. For example: if 5 amendments are selected on the whole card, each correct check will be worth 10 points.

<b>Event Scoring Summary</b>	
Part 1 – Soil Characteristics	Max 43 points/site
Part 2 – Land Capability Classes	Max 10 points/site
Part 3 – Recommended Land Treatments	Max 27 points/site
Part 4 – Urban Uses	Max 15 points/site
Part 5 – Special Environmental Concerns	Max 5 points/site
<i>Individual Participant Total Per Pit: Max 100 points</i>	
<i>Team Activity Total: Max 50 points</i>	
<i>Total Team Score (Top 3 Scores): Max 1,250 points</i>	

## **Procedure for Determining the State Event Winner When Scores are Tied**

In the event a tie score exists, apply the following method:

1. Compare the alternate scores. The lowest team member score is the alternate score.
2. If this method fails to break the tie, co-winners will be declared. In the event of a tie that prevents the top five teams, eligible for national competition, to be determine the following procedure will be used to determine the fifth place team. Compare the total team score (including the alternate score) for the sections of the event that carries the highest point value: Soil Characteristics, Recommended land treatments, Urban Uses, Land Capability Class and Special Environmental Concerns. If a tie continues, the fifth place team will be determined by a coin toss between the team advisors.

## **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: Soil Characteristics, Recommended Land Treatments, Urban Uses, Land Capability Class and Special Environmental Concerns.



## **State Awards**

The awards for the state event will be presented annually on site at the conclusion of the state event to include a team 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place certificate and a travel monetary award. At the state FFA convention awards will be presented to include a team 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup>, place plaque. The highest-placing middle school team will be recognized only if they are not already among the overall top three teams. If a middle school team places in the top three overall, they will not receive additional middle school-specific recognition.

## **National Career Development Event Participation**

The top five (5) teams in the state are eligible to participate in the in the National Land and Range Contest. It is the responsibility of the FFA Chapter Advisor to complete all necessary national certification forms and return them to the State FFA Coordinator by the assigned due date.

## **Bibliography**

The Handbook of Land Judging in North Carolina contains information and other materials related to the contest may be accessed at the ncffa.org website at

[https://ncffa.org/Web%20Files/Chapter%20Guide/Land\\_Jdg\\_Handbook.Sept.2009.pdf](https://ncffa.org/Web%20Files/Chapter%20Guide/Land_Jdg_Handbook.Sept.2009.pdf)



<b>Fertilizer And Soil Amendments – Team Activity</b>				
<b>Site Number</b>	1	2	3	4
Soil Amendments				
Phosphorus (P)				
Potassium (K)				
Nitrogen (N)				
No Fertilizer Or Soil Amendments				
			Score:	Max points = 50



North Carolina Land - Form #601NC-1

Team #	Last Name	First Name
0 0 0 0		
1 1 1 1	A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A	A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A
2 2 2 2	B B B B B B B B B B B B B B B B	B B B B B B B B B B B B B B B B
3 3 3 3	C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C	C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C
4 4 4 4	D D D D D D D D D D D D D D D D	D D D D D D D D D D D D D D D D
5 5 5 5	E E E E E E E E E E E E E E E E	E E E E E E E E E E E E E E E E
6 6 6 6	F F F F F F F F F F F F F F F F	F F F F F F F F F F F F F F F F
7 7 7 7	G G G G G G G G G G G G G G G G	G G G G G G G G G G G G G G G G
8 8 8 8	H H H H H H H H H H H H H H H H	H H H H H H H H H H H H H H H H
9 9 9 9	I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I	I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I
	J J J J J J J J J J J J J J J J J J	J J J J J J J J J J J J J J J J J J
	K K K K K K K K K K K K K K K K	K K K K K K K K K K K K K K K K
	L L L L L L L L L L L L L L L L L L	L L L L L L L L L L L L L L L L L L
	M M M M M M M M M M M M M M M M	M M M M M M M M M M M M M M M M
	N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N	N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N
	O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O	O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O
	P P P P P P P P P P P P P P P P P P	P P P P P P P P P P P P P P P P P P
	Q Q Q Q Q Q Q Q Q Q Q Q Q Q Q Q Q Q	Q Q Q Q Q Q Q Q Q Q Q Q Q Q Q Q Q Q
	R R R R R R R R R R R R R R R R R R	R R R R R R R R R R R R R R R R R R
	S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S	S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S
	T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T	T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T
	U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U	U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U
	V V V V V V V V V V V V V V V V V V	V V V V V V V V V V V V V V V V V V
	W W W W W W W W W W W W W W W W W W	W W W W W W W W W W W W W W W W W W
	X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X	X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X
	Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y	Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y
	Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z	Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z Z

Division  
Junior J  
Senior S

Contestant #  
1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9

Team Name / Additional Info

Part I - Surface Layer (top 6 inches)

TEXTURE	1	2	3	4
1 Sandy	1	2	3	4
2 Loamy	1	2	3	4
3 Clayey	1	2	3	4
STRUCTURE	1	2	3	4
1 Single Grain	1	2	3	4
2 Granular	1	2	3	4
3 Blocky	1	2	3	4
4 Platy	1	2	3	4
5 Massive	1	2	3	4
CONSISTENCE	1	2	3	4
1 Loose	1	2	3	4
2 Friable	1	2	3	4
3 Firm	1	2	3	4
EROSION	1	2	3	4
1 None to slight	1	2	3	4
2 Moderate	1	2	3	4
3 Severe	1	2	3	4

Part I - Subsurface Layer

TEXTURE	1	2	3	4
1 Sandy	1	2	3	4
2 Loamy	1	2	3	4
3 Clayey	1	2	3	4
STRUCTURE	1	2	3	4
1 Single Grain	1	2	3	4
2 Granular	1	2	3	4
3 Blocky	1	2	3	4
4 Platy	1	2	3	4
5 Massive	1	2	3	4
CONSISTENCE (Moist)	1	2	3	4
1 Loose	1	2	3	4
2 Friable	1	2	3	4
3 Firm	1	2	3	4
4 Very Firm	1	2	3	4
CONSISTENCE (Wet)	1	2	3	4
1 Non-Sticky	1	2	3	4
2 Sticky	1	2	3	4
3 Very Sticky	1	2	3	4
PERMEABILITY	1	2	3	4
1 Rapid	1	2	3	4
2 Moderate	1	2	3	4
3 Slow	1	2	3	4
4 Very Slow	1	2	3	4
DEPTH to Limiting Layer	1	2	3	4
1 Very Shallow (<12")	1	2	3	4
2 Shallow (12-24")	1	2	3	4
3 Moderately Deep (24-36")	1	2	3	4
4 Deep (>36")	1	2	3	4

Part I - Total Soil Characteristics

SLOPE	1	2	3	4
1 0-2% Nearly level	1	2	3	4
2 2-6% Gently sloping	1	2	3	4
3 6-10% Sloping	1	2	3	4
4 10-15% Strongly sloping	1	2	3	4
5 15-25% Steep	1	2	3	4
6 25% + Very steep	1	2	3	4
DRAINAGE	1	2	3	4
1 Well	1	2	3	4
2 Moderately Well	1	2	3	4
3 Somewhat Poorly	1	2	3	4
4 Poorly	1	2	3	4
5 Very Poorly	1	2	3	4
FLOODING	1	2	3	4
1 No hazard	1	2	3	4
2 Potential hazard	1	2	3	4
3 In flood plain	1	2	3	4
SURFACE WATER REMOVAL	1	2	3	4
1 Rapid	1	2	3	4
2 Moderate	1	2	3	4
3 Slow	1	2	3	4
4 Very slow	1	2	3	4

Part II - Land Capability Class

CLASS	1	2	3	4
1 I	1	2	3	4
2 IIe	1	2	3	4
3 IIs	1	2	3	4
4 IIw	1	2	3	4
5 IIIe	1	2	3	4
6 IIIs	1	2	3	4
7 IIIw	1	2	3	4
8 IVe	1	2	3	4
9 IVs	1	2	3	4
10 IVw	1	2	3	4
11 VIe	1	2	3	4
12 VIs	1	2	3	4
13 VIIe	1	2	3	4
14 VIIs	1	2	3	4
15 VIII	1	2	3	4





Tillage Systems		1	2	3	4
1 Conventional tillage, conserve crop residue	1	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
2 Conservation tillage, manage crop residue	2	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
3 Long-Term No Till	3	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
Conservation Cropping Systems		1	2	3	4
4 Row crop each year	4	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
5 Soil conserving crop 1 year in 4	5	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
6 Soil conserving crop 1 year in 3	6	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
7 Soil conserving crop 1 year in 2	7	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
8 Soil conserving crop 2 years in 3	8	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
9 Soil conserving crop 3 years in 4	9	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
Supporting Practices		1	2	3	4
10 Contour farming	10	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
11 Strip cropping	11	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
12 Terrace and maintain terraces	12	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
13 Construct diversion	13	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
14 Establish grassed waterway	14	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
15 Establish field border	15	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
16 Establish windbreak	16	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
17 Install water table control	17	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
18 Install surface water management	18	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
19 Stabilize sediment source areas	19	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
20 Establish recommended grass and/or legumes	20	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
21 Plant recommended trees	21	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
Management Practices		1	2	3	4
22 Remove obstructions	22	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
23 Control grazing	23	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
24 Proper pasture management	24	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
25 Improve tree stand	25	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
26 Woodland protection	26	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
27 Harvest trees using recommended method	27	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N

Septic Systems		1	2	3	4
1 Slight	1	1	2	3	4
2 Moderate	2	1	2	3	4
3 Severe	3	1	2	3	4
Basements		1	2	3	4
1 Slight	1	1	2	3	4
2 Moderate	2	1	2	3	4
3 Severe	3	1	2	3	4
Foundations		1	2	3	4
1 Slight	1	1	2	3	4
2 Moderate	2	1	2	3	4
3 Severe	3	1	2	3	4
Sanitary Landfills		1	2	3	4
1 Slight	1	1	2	3	4
2 Moderate	2	1	2	3	4
3 Severe	3	1	2	3	4
Landscaping		1	2	3	4
1 Slight	1	1	2	3	4
2 Moderate	2	1	2	3	4
3 Severe	3	1	2	3	4

Part IV - Special Environmental Concerns					
Mark True (T) or False (F) for each question for all sites - 5 marks per site!					
1 This appears to be a hydric soil. Check with authorities before draining and/or clearing site.	1	T F	T F	T F	T F
2 Risk of groundwater contamination when wet (from soluble nutrients and/or certain pesticides).	2	T F	T F	T F	T F
3 Deep leaching of soluble nutrients may restrict rates of animal or municipal waste application.	3	T F	T F	T F	T F
4 Proximity to water body may restrict application of certain pesticides and waste materials.	4	T F	T F	T F	T F
5 High risk of off-site damage from eroding sediments if vegetative cover is destroyed or absent.	5	T F	T F	T F	T F