

Livestock Evaluation CDE

(rev. Oct 2019)

Purpose

The purpose of the FFA Livestock Evaluation Career Development Event is to (a) understand and to interpret the value of performance data based on industry standards; (b) to make accurate observations of livestock; (c) to determine the desirable traits in animals; (d) to make logical decisions based on these observations; (e) to discuss and to defend their decisions for their placing; (f) to instill an appreciation for desirable selection, management and marketing techniques.

Eligibility

This event is held during the Delaware State Fair. It is open to all high school FFA chapters and FFA members in good standing. Members that have participated in a previous national event or previous state winning teams in this area are ineligible.

A middle school division is also available. Participants in the middle school event will place all 6 classes of livestock, take the same multiple choice exam as the high school level, and will provide 1 set of oral reasons. The keep/cull classes will be the middle school team activity. All points for these areas are the same as high school, except that the oral reasons will be a total of 50 points possible, instead of 150 points.

Event Procedures

- A. Each team will be comprised of four members. All four scores will be used to determine the total team score.
- B. The Official Dress for this event will be an FFA T-shirt, jeans, and sneakers/hard shoes. No shorts or open-toed shoes. Contestants wearing either will not be allowed to compete.
- C. Participants will report at/to:
 - 7:30—7:50am for Registration at the FFA Gazebo in The Centre
 - 7:50– 8:30 am for Team Activity at The Centre
 - 8:35 am at the Kent Building for judging
- D. Chapters that show up late will receive zero points for any section that they have missed.**
- E. Participants will not be allowed to possess any personal electronic devices (i.e. cell phones, smart watches, air pods, etc) other than those approved by event officials. Participants who possess personal electronic devices without prior approval of the event officials will be disqualified from the event.**
- F. Contestants will rotate through each species until all classes are complete. **There is to be no talking during the event. Any contestant that violates this rule will receive zero points for that class!**
- G. Contestants must bring pencils and clean clipboard for this event
- H. Materials provided by the state:
 - Paper for reasons will be provided.
 - No notebooks are permitted, only clipboards and calculators will be allowed.
 - Scantron score sheets will be used in the event to record all responses.
 - Folders will be distributed along with the scantron to keep them from getting wet or having damage to the side with the OMR. Drawing, writing, and any other marks on these folders is a 10 point deduction for that team member.

Event Format

- A. Team Activity - 300 points total (**middle school will do keep/ cull classes for their team activity— see below**)
 1. Placing Questions – 100 points

All (4) team members will work together to answer 10 questions based on a live animal class; scenario and/or performance data may be provided as needed. Teams will have 15 minutes to complete this section.
 2. Scenario Activities – 200 points
 - a. Market activity–100 points

Two team members will be assigned to participate in the market activity. Students will work together to provide a response to the scenario provided on the day of the event. Contestants will have 20 minutes to complete this section.
 - b. Genetics activity–100 points

Two team members will be assigned to participate in the genetics activity. Students will work together to provide a response to the scenario provided on the day of the event. Contestants will have 20 minutes to complete this section.
- B. Individual Activities
 1. Livestock classes - 50 points/class, 300 points total

Six placing classes (two sheep, two swine, one beef cattle, and one market goat). Classes will be determined by availability of animals at the Delaware State Fair. Contestants will be given 15 minutes for each class.
 2. Keep/cull classes - 50 points

Contestants will be presented with a production scenario to evaluate the 8 animals in the class. Each animal will be assigned a point value, with the correct answer totaling 50 points. Contestants will have 15 minutes to complete this section. **This will be the middle school team activity.**
 3. Oral reasons - 50 points/class, 150 points total

Three sets of oral reasons will be designated by the event chair at the beginning of the event. Reasons will be given after all classes have been placed in an area designated by the CDE Chairs. Participants will be provided paper to take notes on each reason class for preparation.
 4. Written test - 50 points total

The objective, multiple choice exam is designed to determine team members understanding of the livestock industry. The exam will consist of 25 multiple choice questions. Questions will come from the last 3 years of National tests, plus those references in the reference section. Thirty minutes will be given for the exam.

Scoring

High School Team	Individual	Team
Placing Questions		100
Market Activity		100
Genetics Activity		100
Keep/ Cull (MS only as a team)		200
Individuals		
Classes - 6 @ 50 points ^{MS}	300	1200
Keep/Cull (HS individual score)	50	200
Oral Reasons - 3 @ 50 points	150	600
Oral Reasons - 1 @ 50 points ^{MS}		
Exam ^{MS}	50	200
Totals	550	2,500

^{MS} = Middle School Participants

Tiebreakers

If ties occur, the following events will be used in order to determine award recipients (this will be for team as well as individual ties):

High school:

1. Total of oral reasons.
2. Total of placing classes.
3. Total of keep/cull classes.

Middle School:

1. Total of oral reasons.
2. Total of placing classes.
3. Total of written test score

Awards

Awards will be presented to individuals and teams based upon their rankings at the State Fair FFA Awards Breakfast. The first place team will represent Delaware at National Convention, the second place team will represent Delaware at Big E in Springfield, MA. The top 10 individuals will receive certificates; top 9 individuals will receive premium money from the Delaware State Fair provided they have registered with the Delaware State Fair for this CDE by June 1st; Top 3 individuals will receive medals.

References

This list of references is not intended to be all-inclusive. Other sources may be utilized and teachers are encouraged to make use of the very best instructional materials available. The following list contains references that may prove helpful during event preparation.

National FFA Core Catalog – national CDE test, practicums and team activities

105 Experiment Farm Road
Colby, KS 67701
www.beefimprovement.org

National Swine Improvement Federation
204 Polk Hall
North Carolina State University
Raleigh, NC 27695-7621
www.nsisf.com

Gillispie, James R. *Modern Livestock and Poultry Production 8th edition* or most current edition. Albany, NY: Delmar Publishers, Inc. 2004.

Hunsley, R. *Livestock Judging, Selection and Evaluation*. 5th Edition. Danville, IL: Interstate Publishers, 2001.

Sheep Evaluation Reference
<http://animalscience.ag.utk.edu/itcmodules/module1/introductiontosheepevaluation.htm>

Meat Goat Evaluation Reference
<http://www.lsuagcenter.com/NR/rdonlyres/B8FE3706-64DC-417F-A592-B8DEC14B4D9F/43292/pub2951MeatGoatJanuary2008LOWRES.pdf>

Goat Handbook
www.texasgoat.com/Goat_Handbook/

