

EASTERN REGIONAL FFA LIVESTOCK CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENT

OBJECTIVES

- 1. To understand and to interpret the value of performance data based on industry standards.
- 2. To measure the students' knowledge in the following categories:
- 3. To make accurate observations of livestock
- 4. To determine the desirable traits in animals
- 5. To make logical decisions based on these observations
- 6. To discuss and defend their decisions for their placings
- 7. To instill an appreciation for desirable selection, management and marketing techniques
- 8. To develop the ability to select and market livestock that will satisfy consumer demands and provide increased economic returns to producers. Provide positive economic returns to producers as well as meet the needs of industry.
- 9. To become proficient in communicating in the terminology of the industry and the consumer.
- 10. To identify the criteria used in grading livestock. Scenarios will be used in the selection process.
- 11. To provide an opportunity for participants to become acquainted with professionals in the industry.
- 12. To provide an opportunity for participants to make new friends through friendly competition.

EVENT RULES

- 1. Teams will be comprised of four members. All four scores will be used to determine total team score.
- 2. Official dress is required for this event; however, members may wear dark jeans and hard shoes/boots, and females may wear dark jeans/slacks and hard shoes/boots. **NO "CASUAL" FFA DRESS!**
- 3. Registration will be on Friday at 7:30 am in the Mallary Complex. The event schedule will be as follows:

7 :30 AM	Team Registration	Milking Parlor Bleachers
8 AM	Written Test	Milking Parlor Bleachers
	Team Activity Part II	Milking Parlor Bleachers
	Placing Classes/ Team Activity Part I	Mallary Complex
	Oral Reasons	Mallary Complex

Students are released to their advisors at the conclusion of oral reasons.
- 4. Contestants will be provided with a box lunch during the event, courtesy of the Eastern States Exposition.
- 5. **Contestants must bring pencils and clean clipboards for this event. Scantrons will be used for all placing classes & written portions of the event. Paper for reasons note-taking will be provided.**
- 6. 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!**
- 7. **No cell phones** – they must be turned in to each chapter advisor prior to the start of the contest. **If a contestants' cell phone goes off during the event, that individual will be disqualified.**

EVENT FORMAT

A. Individual Activities:

- 1. **Placing Classes** – Classes will be determined by the available animals being exhibited at The Big E, with a minimum of three sheep, three swine, and three beef cattle classes. Each class is worth 50 points & contestants will be given 15 minutes for each class. **(450 points possible)**
- 2. **Keep/cull Class** – Classes 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. **(50 points)**
- 3. **Oral Reasons** – Each contestant will give three sets of oral reasons, to be determined the day of the CDE by the CDE committee & officials. Each set of reasons is worth 50 points. **(150 points)**
- 4. **Multiple-choice Test** – Contestants will be given 30 minutes to complete the 50 question test. Questions will come from the last 3 years' National tests plus references listed below. **(50 points)**

B. Team Activity:

- 1. **Placing Questions** – 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. **(100 points)**
- 2. **Production Scenario Activity** – All four team members will work together to provide a response to the scenario that is provided on the day of the event. Teams will have 30 minutes to complete this section. **(100 points)**

## TIEBREAKERS

If ties occur, the following events will be used in order to determine award recipients:

1. We will follow the National FFA Livestock Evaluation CDE tiebreakers, which are as follows (for teams as well as individual ties):
  - a. Total Reasons Score
  - b. Total Placing Score
  - c. Keep/cull Score

## AWARDS

Awards will be presented at the awards banquet. Awards are presented to teams as well as individuals based upon their rankings. The awards are sponsored by The Big E.

## REFERENCES

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

For the most current copies of U.S.D.A. market standards and posters (large and small) illustrating market grades, write:  
Agricultural Marketing Service,  
U.S.D.A. Livestock Seed Event  
Standard and Review Branch  
Room 2641 South Building  
Washington, 25 DC 20250

Beef Improvement Federation  
Department of Animal Sciences and Food  
Kansas State University  
Northwest Research Extension Center  
105 Experiment Farm Road  
Colby, KS 67701  
[www.beefimprovement.org](http://www.beefimprovement.org)

National Swine Improvement Federation  
204 Polk Hall  
North Carolina State University  
Raleigh, NC, 27695-7621  
[www.nsif.com](http://www.nsif.com)

*Modern Livestock & Poultry Production*; James R. Gillespie, 7<sup>th</sup> edition, Delmar Publishers.

*Livestock Judging, Selection, & Evaluation*; R. Hunsley, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition, Interstate Publishers.

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/](http://www.texasgoat.com/Goat_Handbook/)

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