



Career Program Area: Crops Specialist

Specific Rules

1. Each team consists of three members. The participants will compete both individually and as a team.
2. In the event of a tie for individuals, three preselected questions from the written exam will be asked and continue in the same sequence until a winner emerges. For teams the first criteria will be the highest team score and if still tied, the second criteria will be the same three preselected questions used to break individual ties as above.
3. Participants need to provide their own calculator and 2 No. 2 pencils and erasers. Participants are encouraged to bring their own Internet devices (phone, tablet, laptop). While every attempt will be made to have Wi-Fi available, it cannot be guaranteed

Procedures

1. Each team member will work individually to answer test questions on soils, agronomy, fertility, pesticides and crop marketing.
2. Each team member will work individually to properly identify the common pests, insects, seeds, weeds and plants in the crop industry.
3. All members of the team will prepare a response to a Case Study in crop management, assuming the role of a crop consultant hired to make recommendations to the grower. Students will be prepare an 8-10 minutes **presentation** on their findings to a panel of industry representatives. The use of computers and internet will be allowed, however all sources must be properly referenced.

Proficiency level is evaluated in the following subject matter areas:

- Soils
- Agronomy
- Fertility
- Pesticides
- Crop Marketing
- Crop Identification (field, forage, vegetables)
- Seed Identification (field, forage, vegetables)
- Pest Identification (insect, weeds, diseases, nutrient deficiency)
- Crop Management (use of soil/tissue reports, pesticide labels and general knowledge)

- Agronomy Equipment Identification

Program Evaluation

Individuals will be evaluated on performance in each of the three activity areas

- Written examination = 100 points (individual)
- Case Study = 100 points (team)
- Identification = 50 points (individual)
- **Total Points Possible = 250 points**

Team scoring will be based on

- Average of three individual written exams = 100 points
- Average of three individual ID scores = 50 points
- Case Study = 100 points
- **Total Points Possible = 250 points**