

# 4-H/FFA Judging Committee

## November 8, 2005

### ***Call to Order***

Clint called meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

Introductions were made.

### ***Minutes of Pervious Meeting***

It was moved by Nancy Scott and seconded by Stephanie DeCamp to pass minutes. Minutes approved.

### ***Corrections to Agenda***

Add to agenda:

1. Question about eligible
2. Questions about soil and Forestry Committee

***Financial Report*** – \$9,285...down from last year from about \$14,000.

***Contestant Participation Report*** - Pass out by Clint Rusk.

### ***Committee Reports***

#### **Horse and Pony**

First Saturday in May will be the date for the event. CDE will take place at the Hendricks County Fair Grounds (Danville), which should help the event be a money maker. 208 contestants at last year's event. Columbus FFA, placed second at the National FFA. All Horse and Pony teams placed well at their respective National event.

#### **Poultry**

*See Committee Notes at the end of the minutes.* Contest will be May 20, 2006 at Purdue.

#### **Forestry**

No Report.

#### **Entomology**

No Report.

#### **Horticulture**

The 2006 State Horticulture CDE will be held on August 4<sup>th</sup> at the Indiana State Fairgrounds. The winning 4-H team represents Indiana at the National Junior Horticulture Contest, which includes attending their national meeting and presenting a poster, with support from the Indiana State Fair. The next national horticulture CDE will be in Omaha, Nebraska.

## **Crops**

The 2005 State Crops CDE will be held on December 10<sup>th</sup> on campus in West Lafayette. The current Crops Skills Manual is on the FFA and 4-H webpages. Kathryn Orvis suggested that advisors consider writing the Agronomy Department to express the benefits of the Crops and Soil CDEs. Comments should be sent to Craig Beyrouthy, chair of the Agronomy Department at Purdue.

## **Soils**

The tentative contest date for the 2006 State Soil CDE will be November 4<sup>th</sup> which will be in the northern part of the state. There were 349 contestants in this year's CDE...this number was down 7 from last year. The state committee did not change the entry fee for this event. The Scantron machine worked well. A discussion was held about bringing the scantron sheets back to the classroom. It was requested that the soil sites be closer to the CDE headquarters to save time and money. Kathryn Orvis and Carl Broady suggested that advisors consider writing the Agronomy Department to express the benefits of the Crops and Soil CDEs. Comments should be sent to Craig Beyrouthy, chair of the Agronomy Department at Purdue.

Horticulture event is August 4, 2006 at the State Fair Grounds. Winning 4-H team represents the National Junior Horticulture Association, which includes attending meeting, poster and all entitlements that of the NJHA, which may be overwhelming to students and teachers. National even will be in Omaha Nebraska.

## **Dairy Cattle**

North Miami FFA team placed 3<sup>rd</sup> at National FFA convention, which makes them eligible for a trip to Scotland.

## **Dairy Foods**

No changes to contest. State contest held on Saturday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2006 at Purdue. CDE coordinator is leaving; need some to "shadow" the 2006 event and run for 2007...food science department at Purdue would be the logical choice...no "shadow" person have been identified.

## **Livestock**

Whitko FFA team placed 3<sup>rd</sup> at National FFA convention, which makes them eligible for a trip to Scotland. Event ran well. Clinton Central placed 2<sup>nd</sup> at American Royal in the 4-H division and North Montgomery placed 1<sup>st</sup>

## **Dairy Goat**

Will be the August 2, 2006 at the State Fair.

## **Wildlife Habitat**

Next event will be April 8<sup>th</sup> at Ross camp in Tippecanoe county.

## **Skill – a – thon**

140 contestants...Clinton Central winner, but Central Noble will go to the National CDE. Contest will be Saturday, October 7, 2006 in Boone County.

## **Meats**

Contest will take on January 28, 2006 at Purdue. Owen Valley placed 6<sup>th</sup> in at National FFA Convention.

## ***Old Business***

### **Forestry CDE**

Coaches meeting at the State CDE (Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>) Recommendations from that meeting will be brought to the appointed committee consisting of Becky Holbert, Don Harberlin, Rick McGown, and Natalie Carroll to get together to address the publications being out of date and to develop a question bank for the CDE. Other concerns: the new leaf samples, publications, and the CDE not matching up to what is being taught in the classroom.

### **Soils CDE**

*Summary of proposed rule changes for soils*

Proposed rules includes:

#### Agriculture

1. High potential for soil erosion by water
2. High potential for surface water pollution

#### Homesite

1. Growing acid-loving plants
2. Lawn care
3. Pumping septic tanks

Committee will take proposed rules changes to their areas; will bring back discussion items to the November meeting for a vote. Corrections and additions will be added to the website, no new book will be printed. Committee members included: Duane Hugh, Randy Warren, Mike Jones, Jim Wildermuth, Hank Carson, Brad Lee, Gary Steinhart

Concerns...the septic system needs to be simplified. Kids carry to many items at the event. Already a difficult CDE, with the rules changes, would be made more difficult. Should not add items, but should replace items for the CDE instead. **See comments at the end of the minutes.** More issues with the Homesite than Ag Site. Moved by Dave Addison and seconded by Hank Carson to have the committee look at the issues and brought back to the 4-H/FFA judging body. Look into the having meet at the Dec. 10 CDE...(lunch meeting) contact Brad Lee and Steinhart for date.

## ***New Business***

Motion made by Mike Jones to change Pre-vocation membership to 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students on page 18 of the official manual. Seconded by Bob Allen. Motion passed.

## ***Announcements***

Next meeting will be Monday, June 12, 2006 at the Purdue.

It was moved and seconded to adjourn. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 5:57p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Craig Rebich

# Poultry CDE Evaluation Discussion Notes

October, 10, 2005

1. There were inconsistencies in the reasons category between the FFA and 4-H division. Was requested to replace the FFA judge.
2. Involve more local people, such as past 4-H and FFA members to help with event.
  - a. Natalie Nutt
  - b. Brandon Hall
  - c. Joe Flitcraft
3. Meat Products
  - a. Ducks – Get Grade A birds with all parts and have contest committee to downgrade as needed.
  - b. Turkey – Reserve birds that have not been injected for the CDE, injections decrease the grade
  - c. Chicken – Order extra parts
4. Lighting Problems
  - a. Exterior eggs need better light
  - b. Light bar over table would help
5. Candling
  - a. No more than 3 eggs per station.
  - b. Need a coach, who has a good knowledge of candling, in the room to replace broken eggs with eggs of the same grade.
6. Monitors
  - a. Need more coaches to help in room...4 to 5 ideal
  - b. Assign coaches or on registration form, have coaches identify to bring people to help monitor.
  - c. FFA staff help.
7. Scoring
  - a. Parts of the contest could be scantron (parts, dressed birds), would make grading easier
  - b. Questions on how to handle the cuts with the scantron machine.
8. Awards Presentation
  - a. Perform awards ceremony “Oklahoma Style”
  - b. Read off names of top ten individuals or teams, once students are up in front, read, “Tenth place winner is..., Ninth place winner is..., etc”
  - c. Try to figure out away to make copies of results available for coaches at CDE
9. Officiating Errors
  - a. Need three judges – have each person independently judge the contest, then compare notes, discuss any discrepancies, and agree on the correct answer.

**Agriculture and Environment:**

I concur with the proposed changes and would suggest one other small change.

It has been my experience that using the current rules for **Filter Strips** often yields an illogical answer when it is applied because the landform is outwash. Many terraces throughout northern Indiana are broad areas especially along major streams. In these areas the filter strips are nearly always placed in the floodplain or if they stretch into the outwash area it would be a very small portion of the outwash area. Other areas that will be outwash landforms include drainage ways where the grassed waterway would be the practical approach for controlling movement of contaminants into nearby the surface waters. **I recommend that we delete Outwash as a criteria for marking Filter strips yes.**

**Homesites:**

I feel that all the proposed additions have merit but I don't want to add to an already difficult task.

I enjoy teaching soils and coaching soil judging teams and feel that it is a very beneficial activity for those students who get involved. I usually start the year with 20 to 30 students at our first couple of practices. Within a couple of weeks I always have several dropouts despite our tradition of success and trying my best to keep it fun. By far the biggest reasons students drop out of soils for me is because they become discouraged, feeling that there are way too many rules to learn. Most alternative activities that they have available, whether FFA events such as livestock judging or giving a speech or joining a sports team, look easy to them compared to learning all the rules needed to become proficient at soils. For this reason I feel that we must prioritize the proposed additional practices with the current practices and make a decision on which we will keep. I served on the committee when changes were made a few years ago. Our original recommendations were altered by adding 2 practices to the homesite so that it would have the same total point value as the AG site (101).

**If I were to prioritize the 4 practices being suggested they would be; P & K first, then septic pumping and lowest would be the pH adjustment.** My reason for making the pH adjustment lowest is that most lawn plants, grown in Indiana, are not acid loving plants. When one does purchase an azalea, or if you want your hydrangea to bloom in blue, the planting instructions that now routinely come with the plant inform the purchaser of the pH requirements and recommend testing and sulfur addition.

**I would recommend the following 3 current practices for replacement:**

1. **Sand Filter** (most counties are moving towards making the filter a required part of all septic installations)
2. **Trench System ordinary size** (few soils fit the criteria) The two trench system practices could be combined into 1 with the criteria for use being that the soil be well drained and have no limiting layer within 40 inches.
3. **Install Diversion structures and drains** (It seems to me that this practice is poorly understood and seldom used in residential construction)

**Other**

A few years ago the proposal was made and approved at the state judging committee meeting to place surface soil samples in containers. This is being done only sporadically and I expect it is due to the fact that the book has not been rewritten since the change was made. Since we will be rewriting the book at the end of this revision process lets make sure that this is included in the "site preparation" section now printed on pages 95 and 96. Putting the sample in a container offers many advantages listed below and to my knowledge no disadvantages.

Advantages:

1. It gets the contestants through the pits more rapidly because surface texture and color can be determined outside the pit.
2. Your position in the pit is not a factor in whether you get the correct sample.
3. All contestants are judging the same material that the officials made their decision upon.

I would also like to see us get rid of the terms sandy and clayey in describing soil textures. There was a reason this was instituted but I feel there are greater reasons to drop it. I would use this analogy. Some would ardently argue the superior features of the apple computer but the world chose to go another direction. We need to be consistent in our terminology with the rest of the land use world.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my thoughts on making changes to one of my favorite activities. I hope we make changes based not only upon technical soil management information but also on how this will effect participation in this very worthwhile activity for our youth.