IOWA
FFA ASSOCIATION

AG ISSUES & PERCEPTIONS
LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT EVENT

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1055 SW Prairie Trail Pkwy
Ankeny, IA 50023
P: 515-965-7376
F: 515-965-7373
iowaffa.com

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT EVENT (LDE)
GENERAL POLICIES, RULES, RESULTS AND STANDARDS

*Violations of any of the following rules may be grounds for the disqualification of the participants.

I. Board Policies

The following board policies (https://www.iowaffa.com/about.aspx, "Governing Documents" link on the right) apply directly or in part to LDEs:

- Board Policy #2-2: Changes to Judging Event Results
- Board Policy #2-3: Use of Electronic Storage/Transmission Devices
- Board Policy #2-4: Substitution of Team Members
- Board Policy #2-5: Advancement of Teams to National FFA Competition

II. Eligibly of Chapters and Participants

A. Events are open to all FFA chapters in good standing with the Iowa FFA Association. The first qualifying level of participation varies among sub-district, district, and state levels. Refer to event specific rules to identify the initial level of participation.

B. It is recommended, but not required, to have local FFA advisors or their designee enter teams in the initial level of an event their intent to have a team on Iowa FFA On-Line (http://anfmp01.dmacc.edu/fmi/webd#) seven (7) days prior to the initial event.

C. Participants in the following events may compete in only one sub-district, one district and one state FFA event:

- Ag Broadcasting
- Ag CSI
- Ag Impact
- Ag Issues & Perceptions
- Ag Sales (Individual)
- Chapter Program
- Chapter Website (Event Day Presenter)
- Conduct of Meetings
- Experience the Action
- Extemporaneous Speaking
- FFA Creed Speaking
- Job Interview
- Parliamentary Procedure
- Public Speaking

D. Only one entry per chapter is permitted in each official event with the following exceptions: Ag CSI and Ag Impact. It is strongly recommended that local events be utilized to determine the local winner to broaden the base of competition at the local level.

E. After an FFA Advisor registers the chapter's intent to enter an event, it is suggested, but not required, to enter the names of the participants on Iowa FFA On-Line (http://anfmp01.dmacc.edu/fmi/webd#) by noon three (3) days prior to the event. Any member not listed on Iowa FFA On-Line will need to be registered as an FFA member on the National FFA Roster (https://www.ffa.org/). Changes to online entries may be made the day of the event. State and National FFA Dues will be invoiced in accordance with Iowa FFA Association policies and by-laws.

F. A participant, at the time of his/her participation in the state event and selection as a national team member, must:

1. Be a current bona fide dues paying FFA member in good standing with the local chapter, state FFA Association and the National FFA Organization at the time of the LDE in which he/she participates.
2. Be a middle school or high school FFA member. A graduating senior is considered eligible to compete in state and national LDEs up to and including their first national convention following graduation. Middle school refers to students in grades 7-8 and high school refers to students in grades 9-12.
3. Currently be an active FFA member of the chapter making entry into the event.

G. A member may not participate in both a state 4-H and state FFA event when said events are held on the same day.

H. If an entry in an LDE is not able to advance, the designated alternate(s) will become the participant(s).

I. Members are eligible to participate for up to two years in the following LDEs on the sub-district/district level. Once they have participated in one of those events on the state level they are ineligible to participate in that event in future years.

- Ag Broadcasting
- Ag CSI
- Ag Impact
- Ag Issues & Perceptions
- Ag Sales (Individual)
- Chapter Program
- Conduct of Meetings
- Experience the Action
- Extemporaneous Speaking
- FFA Creed Speaking
- Job Interview
- Parliamentary Procedure
- Public Speaking

J. At the Sub-District and District level, it is permissible to deliver the written materials to the Sub-District Advisor or District Advisor respectively. Written materials will be returned following the respective event and may be revised before the next event. Written materials advancing to the State event must be postmarked to the FFA Enrichment Center seven (7) business days following the District event. Events with written materials include:
   - Ag CSI
   - Ag Impact
   - Ag Sales (Individual)
   - Chapter Program
   - Experience the Action
   - Job Interview
   - Public Speaking

K. No student may participate in more than one LDE/CDE each year at the national level.
L. Accommodations for participants can be made upon request of the FFA Advisor. The accommodation form must be submitted no less than 14 days prior to the respective event. Any assistance given to a team member from any source other than the LDE officials or assistants will be sufficient cause to eliminate the team from the LDE.
M. Proctors that are identified for online or virtual components shall have proper credentials to deliver educational programs to youth and shall not have a conflict of interest with participants in the event. The FFA advisor(s) and/or assistant FFA advisor(s) shall not serve as a proctor.
N. Participants shall not initiate contact with the judges. Doing so will result in a 5% deduction of points. Interactions allowed between the judges and participants are identified in each respective LDE's rules.
O. Items needed for specific phases of each LDE will be noted under their specific rules.
P. Participants are expected to observe the National FFA Code of Ethics and the Proper Use of the FFA Jacket during the career development events found in the Official FFA Manual (https://www.ffa.org/official-manual/).
Q. Official FFA dress is expected for all participants when appropriate. If official dress is not appropriate, official casual dress should be worn. Official casual dress shall consist of 1) FFA t-shirt or polo shirt and 2) khaki or nice denim pants or shorts.

III. Holding Room Operating Procedures

A. Only holding room supervisor(s) and FFA participants are allowed in the holding area while competitive events are in session.
B. Participants will be escorted to the bathroom by an official FFA student or courtesy corps member. If participants are in procession of electronic storage or transmission devices, participants will hand over technology to student escort during that time.
C. In case of emergency, the sub-district or district advisor will be notified immediately, as well as the participant's advisor(s) and holding room supervisors.
D. In the event of an emergency contact which must be made with a participant, the message will be relayed to the participant by means of the holding room supervisor(s), and/or the holding room supervisor accompanying the advisor(s) delivering the message.
E. In the event that participants are arriving late, the participants will be met at the main entrance of the event and escorted by an event official to the holding room area and immediately check in with the holding room supervisor(s). Allowance of a late arrival is at the discretion of the host advisor.

IV. Judging Results and Awards

A. All events at sub-district, district and state levels are to be judged on a group ranking basis of Gold Emblem, Silver Emblem, and Bronze Emblem. Members placing below the three rankings will be listed as participants. Only if a written rule is violated will a "participation" ranking be given. This will prevent that entry from advancing. If necessary for entry in a regional or national event, one or more of the winners will be selected.
B. First, second, and third place shall be designated in every event at the state level.
C. In sub-district, district and state events, effort will be made to secure three (Ag Sales and Job Interview events shall have four) qualified and impartial persons to serve as judges whose decisions shall be final.
D. Judges:
   1. Effort will be made to make the comments of judges on strong and weak features available to all advisors for their participants, after the placings have been made.
   2. Of all events should make every effort to supply comments on individuals and team events.
   3. Must obtain permission from the LDE Chairperson before issuing a "participation" rating.
E. The results of all district FFA events will be released only by the District FFA Advisor, upon completion of the events at the district level.

F. Results of sub-district, district, and state events are to be released to the press and radio services so that parents and others at home may know of the outcome of the FFA events at the earliest opportunity. Release dates should be STRICTLY observed.
G. All references to awards to be provided by the National FFA Foundation, Inc. or Iowa FFA Foundation, Inc., are tentative, pending final announcement by the organization.
H. Should an unusual interruption occur while an event is in progress it is expected that good judgment will be exercised in maintaining fairness to all participants.
I. Officer books advancing to the state level of competition will not be displayed at the district event in order to assist the district advisors in meeting their obligations to preserve the materials for further competition. They will be displayed at the state leadership conference.

V. <u>Video Recording</u>

A. Recording performances at the sub-district and district level is strictly prohibited.

B. Requests to record a performance at the state competition shall be submitted to state FFA staff for consideration at least 3 weeks before the event date.

C. Approval for a request to record a performance at state competitions shall be at the discretion of state FFA staff.

V. <u>AFNR Career Cluster Content Standards</u>

AFNR Content Standards are specifically outlined within each respective LDE.

Ag Issues & Perceptions CDE

2027 Chairpersons: Ashley Wolfe, Grinnell
Committee: Caitlin Remington, Bondurant; Laura Brecht, Cedar Rapids; Mike Adams, Cresco

I. Overview

The purpose of the agricultural issues forum is to present a current issue to a public audience. Students will engage in the selection, research, planning and presentation of a local, state, national or international agricultural issue with relevance to a chapter's local community.

This is a District, State & National Level Event.

II. AFNR Career Cluster Content Standards

CRP.01. *Standard*: Act as a responsible and contributing citizen and employee.
- **CRP.01.01.** *Indicator:* Model personal responsibility in the workplace and community.
- **CRP.01.02.** *Indicator:* Evaluate and consider the near-term and long-term impacts of personal and professional decisions on employers and community before taking action.
- **CRP.01.03.** *Indicator:* Identify and act upon opportunities for professional and civic service at work and in the community.

CRP.02. *Standard*: Apply appropriate academic and technical skills.
- **CRP.02.01.** *Indicator:* Use strategic thinking to connect and apply academic learning, knowledge and skills to solve problems in the workplace and community.
- **CRP.02.02**. *Indicator:* Use strategic thinking to connect and apply technical concepts to solve problems in the workplace and community.

CRP.04. *Standard:* Communicate clearly, effectively and with reason.
- **CRP.04.01.** *Indicator:* Speak using strategies that ensure clarity, logic, purpose and professionalism in formal and informal settings.
- **CRP.04.02.** *Indicator:* Produce clear, reasoned and coherent written and visual communication in formal and informal settings.
- **CRP.04.03.** *Indicator:* Model active listening strategies when interacting with others in formal and informal settings.

CRP.05. *Standard*: Consider the environmental, social and economic impacts of decisions.
- **CRP.05.01.** *Indicator*: Assess, identify and synthesize the information and resources needed to make decisions that positively impact the workplace and community.
- **CRP.05.02.** *Indicator:* Make, defend and evaluate decisions at work and in the community using information about the potential environmental, social and economic impacts.

CRP.06. *Standard:* Demonstrate creativity and innovation.
- **CRP.06.01.** *Indicator:* Synthesize information, knowledge and experience to generate original ideas and challenge assumptions in the workplace and community.
- **CRP.06.02.** *Indicator*: Assess a variety of workplace and community situations to identify ways to add value and improve the efficiency of processes and procedures.
- **CRP.06.03.** *Indicator:* Create and execute a plan of action to act upon new ideas and introduce innovations to workplace and community organizations.

CRP.07. *Standard*: Employ valid and reliable research strategies.
- **CRP.07.01.** *Indicator*: Select and implement reliable research processes and methods to generate data for decision-making in the workplace and community.
- **CRP.07.02.** *Indicator:* Evaluate the validity of sources and data used when considering the adoption of new technologies, practices and ideas in the workplace and community.

CRP.08. *Standard:* Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
- **CRP.08.01.** *Indicator:* Apply reason and logic to evaluate workplace and community situations from multiple perspectives.
- **CRP.08.02.** *Indicator:* Investigate, prioritize and select solutions to solve problems in the workplace and community.
- **CRP.08.03.** *Indicator:* Establish plans to solve workplace and community problems and execute them with resiliency.

CRP.09. *Standard:* Model integrity, ethical leadership and effective management.
- **CRP.09.01.** *Indicator:* Model characteristics of ethical and effective leaders in the workplace and community (e.g. integrity, self-awareness, self-regulation, etc.).

CRP.09.02. *Indicator:* Implement personal management skills to function effectively and efficiently in the workplace (e.g., time management, planning, prioritizing, etc.).
CRP.09.03. *Indicator:* Demonstrate behaviors that contribute to a positive morale and culture in the workplace and community (e.g., positively influencing others, effectively communicating, etc.).

CRP.10. *Standard:* Plan education and career path aligned to personal goals.
CRP.10.03. *Indicator:* Develop relationships with and assimilate input and/or advice from experts (e.g., counselors, mentors, etc.) to plan career and personal goals in a chosen career area.
CRP.10.04. *Indicator:* Identify, prepare, update and improve the tools and skills necessary to pursue a chosen career path.

CRP.11. *Standard:* Use technology to enhance productivity.
CRP.11.01. *Indicator:* Research, select and use new technologies, tools and applications to maximize productivity in the workplace and community.
CRP.11.02. *Indicator:* Evaluate personal and organizational risks of technology use and take actions to prevent or minimize risks in the workplace and community.

CRP.12. *Standard:* Work productively in teams while using cultural/global competence.
CRP.12.01. *Indicator:* Contribute to team-oriented projects and builds consensus to accomplish results using cultural global competence in the workplace and community.
CRP.12.02. *Indicator:* Create and implement strategies to engage team members to work toward team and organizational goals in a variety of workplace and community situations (e.g., meetings, presentations, etc.).

III. Event Rules

The rules governing District and State events, in addition to those for all events, are as follows:

A. The number of members on each discussion team will be three to seven (3-7). Only the certified team members can take an active role in the presentation of materials and use technology during the presentation. All team member must be available for questions.
B. Presentations may include official FFA dress, costumes, props, skits and other creative paraphernalia. Costumes, props, skits and other paraphernalia must be professional in nature and used to showcase respect of all cultures. The event committee reserves the right to remove any team whose presentation, props, skits or other actions are disrespectful of others or shows lack of good judgement.
C. Teams must bring their own projector and props for the competition.
D. All topics will be considered to be an agricultural issue. Topics have been screened prior to the event by respective district or state leadership to ensure their alignment with topics relevant to agriculture.
E. Each discussion team will be limited to the following sequence and time allotment:
   - A maximum of fifteen (15) minutes will be allowed for the team introduction, discussion, and conclusion.
   - The team will receive a signal at ten (10) minutes and fourteen (14) minutes. At fifteen (15) minutes the timekeeper will announce that time is up, and the presentation will end.
   - Seven (7) minutes for judges' questions of the discussion team will be allowed.
   - Team members will be allowed ten (10) minutes to set up immediately prior to presentation and ten (10) minutes will be allowed immediately after to the questions portion to tear down. Points will be deducted for exceeding the 10 minutes to set-up or tear down. (0.1 point/second)
F. The judges in each District shall designate the top two teams to compete in the State event. The judges shall also name an alternate.
G. The state event may consist of preliminary and final rounds depending on the number of entries.
H. The judges at the State level shall designate the top (1) team to compete at the National event. The judges shall also rank the top five (5) teams.
I. The winner of the state event will advance to the national level event.

IV. Resource Information

A. Topic Selection
   1. The agricultural issue could come from one of the following eight agricultural issue topic areas as listed in the Focusing on Agricultural Issues Instructional Materials (www.FFA.org/resources/ag-issues)
   2. The issue teams will be discussing is to be presented in a question format.
   3. The same general agricultural issue, topic, or question will not be used in the following three years by the same chapter and/or advisor at the state competitive event. The issue used for the 2020 event is exempt from this rule.

4. Each team's topic will stay the same between the District and State levels.
5. Research on the topic must be current and a result of the students' efforts.
6. The topic questions will be shared through Iowa FFA Online prior to districts.

B. Advancing to the State Event
1. A chapter is asked to have a minimum of five high quality public forums prior to their state qualifying event. These forums provide the opportunity for a state qualifying team to receive a maximum of 10 points at the state event. **Evidence of these forums, in the form of a verification letter, shall be turned in at the state event.** Example portfolios can be found on the National FFA Agricultural Issues Webpage. Only the evidence of the forums is required at state.
2. Any additional information beyond the evidence of forums will not be provided to the judges.
3. High-quality forums are those presentations made to community groups that would have an interest in the issue. High-quality forums can also be with smaller numbers of individuals who hold elected, appointed, or other official positions that will make decisions or impact the issue. Suggested procedures for setting up these presentations and examples of community groups have been provided in the Agricultural Issues Forum Presenter's Guide.
    a) For example, providing a water quality issue to a water district board of 6 is still high-quality, and providing your presentation to the governor of 1 is still high quality as long as they play a role in the issue.
4. Examples of low-quality forums would be quickly visiting a local business and giving a presentation to the workers, going to the home of one of the parents to deliver the information, presenting the forum at the chapter's FFA banquet, and presenting the forum to a class in the school. Low-quality forums will receive zero or minimal points.
5. A team may submit up to two live virtual forums as part of their five community forums.

C. Scoring - Team Presentation (125 points)
1. Introduction (20 points)
    - Statement of the issue
    - Details why issue is important
2. Pro Viewpoint (20 points)
    - Identification of positive points
    - Points addressed are relevant and credible
3. Con Viewpoint (20 points)
    - Identification of negative points
    - Points addressed are relevant and credible
6. Summary of pro/con viewpoints (20 points)
    - Restate the issue
    - Summarize the argument presented from both sides
7. Effectiveness of presentation (20 points)
    - Participation of each team member.
    - Creative in how main points are made. (It makes no difference, for the "creativity" score, if team is in costume or official FFA dress.)
    - Quality and power of the presentations.
    - Speaks at the right pace to be clear.
    - Pronunciation of words is clear and intent apparent.
    - No distracting mannerisms that affect effectiveness.
    - Gestures are purposeful and effective.
    - Well poised with good stage presence.
    - Use or overuse of any technology or prop that reduces the focus on the content provided by the team and team's presentation of the content can result in a lower presentation score.
8. Questions (25 points)
    - Appropriate response and knowledge of the issue will be evaluated from team members' responses.
9. Deductions
    - There will be a five-point deduction from the scorecard of any team that draws a conclusion supporting a pro or con viewpoint during the formal presentation. (-5 points)
    - Extended setup or teardown of room. (-0.1 point/second)
10. STATE ONLY: Evidence of Forums (10 points)
    - The chapter has provided 5 letters of evidence of 5 high-quality forums for the judges at the state competitive event.

V. Event Resources

A. Focusing on Agricultural Issues Instructional Materials. Website focused on guiding teams through the creation and implementation of a presentation. https://web.ics.purdue.edu/~peters/HTML/ag-issues-forum/ag-issues-forum.html

B. National FFA Agricultural Issues Webpage. The website includes examples of previous teams' work and information related to examples of forum evidence. https://www.ffa.org/participate/cde-lde/agricultural-issues-forum/

VI. Awards

District:	Chapters:	FFA Certificate	(Available online)
	Individuals:	FFA Certificates	(Available online)
State:	Chapters:	FFA Certificate	(Available online)
	Individuals:	FFA Certificates	(Available online)
	Champion Team:	Plaque	(Awarded on Stage at SLC)
		Cash Award	(Awarded after SLC)
	Reserve Team:	Plaque	(Awarded on Stage at SLC)
		Cash Award	(Awarded after SLC)
	3rd Team	Cash Award	(Awarded after SLC)
	4th Team	Cash Award	(Awarded after SLC)
	5th Team	Cash Award	(Awarded after SLC)

All awards subject to available sponsorship.

VII. Event Hosting Guidelines/Checklists

Needed Materials Checklist:

____ Ag Issues Judges Score Form on white (1 copy x 3 judges x Total Number of Teams)
____ General Critique Forms on blue (1 copy x 3 judges x Total Number of Teams)
____ Ag Issues Summary Form on yellow (1 copy)
____ Ag Issues Judge Letter, *Showcase Respect for all Cultures* (1 copy x 3 judges)
____ 2 Tables for Judges
____ 3 Chairs for Judges
____ 2 Tables for Participants
____ 7 Chairs for Participants
____ A/V Cart for electricity and projector(s)
____ 1 projector screen
____ "10 Minutes" Time Card
____ "14 Minutes" Time Card
____ Stopwatch
____ Pens/Pencils for Judges
____ Flashlights or Desk Lamps for Judges

Event Chairperson: Refer to the "Advisor's Handbook" for specific directions.

VIII. Event Forms

Showcase Respect of all Cultures Letter for Judges

To Whom It May Concern:

The Agricultural Issues Event respects and promotes the practice of one's first amendment rights. The event is a unique opportunity for students to research and embody a stance on an issue that the student may normally not align with personally. By the students embodying a professional with a different set of beliefs, they can gain a deeper understanding of the issue. It is your role as a judge to remain unbiased and not take sides on the issue(s). A high-quality judge in the Agricultural Issues Event can remove their personal beliefs and evaluate the students on the rubric outlined in the Iowa FFA Association Ag Issues & Perceptions LDE Rules.

Additionally, we ask that students demonstrate the same level of respect. Students should always show respect to all cultures, including those different from the speaker. In no manner should a team provide a forum that could be considered offensive to a culture different from themselves. Answers to questions should be answered with facts rather than opinions or stereotypes. The definition of culture is broadly defined, therefore, it is recommended to consider all cultures as professionals. It is further recommended that teams present their forums to diverse audiences, including the dynamic of cultures represented in the presentation. By completing this task, written and verbal feedback should provide a quality measure on the cultural sensitivity of the forum.

Thank you for serving as a judge for the Agriculture Issues Event and for making the competitive event a success. With your assistance, this event will provide students with insight on some of the most pressing issues of our times.

Sincerely,

Iowa FFA Ag Issues LDE Chairpersons & Assistants

Iowa FFA Association
FFA Enrichment Center
1055 SW Prairie Trail Parkway
Ankeny, IA 50023
www.iowaffa.com

Ag Issues & Perceptions

Judge's Score Form (one sheet per judge)

Judge _____

Use this form to score each team's materials and presentation.
Write additional comments on the (blue) comment sheets.

	School P.O. (Town)	Introduction	Pro Viewpoint	Con Viewpoint	Summary of pro/con viewpoints	Effectiveness of Presentation	Questions	Deductions	District Total Score - 125 points	STATE ONLY: Evidence for Forums	State Total Score - 135 points	Final Rating		
												Gold Emblem	Silver Emblem	Bronze Emblem
		20	20	20	20	20	25	-	125	10	135			
1														
2														
3														
4														
5														
6														
7														
8														
9														
10														
11														
12														

Judge's Ag Issues & Perceptions FFA Event Summary

This form is to be used by Event Chairperson to report results of the judging.

Judge Names:

_____

_____

_____

Event: Ag Issues & Perceptions CDE

_____ Sub-District of _____ District

District/State: _____

Date of Event: _____

	School P.O. (Town)	Participant Name	Use letters to indicate ratings G - S - B - P			Total Points	G = Gold	S = Silver	B = Bronze	P = Participation	Advance to Next Event
			Judge 1	Judge 2	Judge 3						
1											
2											
3											
4											
5											
6											
7											
8											

10 Minutes

14 Minutes