New Mexico FFA

Land Evaluation

Career Development Event

LAND EVALUATION

Reviewed 7/17/23

PURPOSE

To help integrate qualitative skills in the developing and understanding of soil sciences in conjunction with the Agricultural Education curriculum.

OBJECTIVES

- Develop knowledge of soil classification by evaluating land uses.
- To increase analytical thinking procedures
- Increase students' knowledge in prevention of soil erosion
- Increase knowledge of Soil Conservation through practice methods
- Allows students to pursue job opportunities and an interest in a soil science field

COMMON CORE REFERENCES

7-8th Grade

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RST.6-8.3 Follow precisely a multistep procedure when carrying out experiments, taking measurements, or performing technical tasks.

9-10th Grade

HS-ESS2-5. Plan and conduct an investigation of the properties of water and its effects on Earth materials and surface processes.

11-12th Grade

HS-ESS3-1. Construct an explanation based on evidence for how the availability of natural resources, occurrence of natural hazards, and changes in climate have influenced human activity.

EVENT RULES

Pit Evaluation

Four pits will be analyzed on land class factors and land treatment by each participant. Each pit will count 75 points. **Pit depth over 72'' will be indicated on the pit card.**

Pit cards and Water

Pit cards and water will be provided.

Ribbons

Vertical ribbons indicate the judges official zone.
Horizontal ribbons will not be utilized.

Clipboards

ONLY clear plastic clipboards will be allowed.

Team Members

This team may consist of four members with the three highest total scores making the team score.

Brush Control Defined for New Mexico Land Judging Sites

Much of New Mexico's rangeland is impacted by perennial brush and invasive species. It is a wise practice to eliminate undesirable species by mechanical or chemical practices. Perennial brush and other undesirable species should be controlled irregardless of "size" in an effort for desirable grass species to thrive. The following are examples of common NM plants that should be controlled:

- Mesquite
- Greasewood
- Creosote
- Sagebrush
- Cholla Cactus
- Prickly Pear Cactus
- Broom Snakeweed
- Any Tree Species

Special Considerations for Contest:

Windbreak may be used on all classes

Topsoil and subsoil from various locations may be used in the contest

References

Land Judging in Oklahoma will be used as reference instructions. Copies of this bulletin are available from: landjudging.com

CONDITION OF FIELD

Field #: _____

1) Soil Tests Show
   A) pH
   B) Phosphorus - (p205) _____ lbs./acre
   C) Potassium - (k20) _____ lbs./acre
   D) Nitrogen - (N) _____ lbs./acre
   E) Other - _____

2) Pay no attention to present mechanical practices.

3) Thickness or original topsoil was:

4) Size of field: _____ acres

5) Treat for most intensive use.

6) Other Factors: