

Agronomy

Monday, April 29

Throckmorton Hall

Check-in: ~~12:30-1:00pm~~ (Throckmorton 1018)

Contest: ~~1:15-4:15pm~~

NEW TIME: Check-in: 2:30-3 pm

Contest: 3:15 to 6:15 pm

Coordinator: Dr. Rachel Veenstra (rveenstra@ksu.edu)

College Contact: Dr. Dan Moser (dmoser@ksu.edu)

Updated: April 9, 2024

General Information

Team information

Teams will consist of up to four members, with the three high individual scores used for the total team score. Teams must participate in their appropriate District Agronomy Event to be eligible to participate in the State Agronomy Event. Each team member will complete all four rotations to determine their individually contributing score. Official dress is not required for this event.

Student success and contest accessibility is important. Thank you for your assistance in ensuring students have access to what they need and the contest coordinator is well-informed and prepared.

Advisors with teams or individuals requiring accommodations should request these in writing with appropriate documentation to the contest coordinator as soon as possible, at least one week prior to the contest. Accommodations requested at check-in day-of-contest are not guaranteed, due to staffing and scheduling logistics.

Equipment

Required materials (provided by competing schools) include unmarked writing boards, pencil or pen, and an electronic calculator. Calculators must be battery-operated, non-programmable, and silent. Cell phones, smart phones, or iPads cannot be used as calculators.

Recommended materials (provided by competing schools) include a magnifying glass, forceps, handbooks for grain grading, and a seed analysis picking board not to exceed 9" x 12" in size.

Items listed above are the only items that may be taken into the event by a contestant.

Information concerning identification of seeds, pictures of grains for classing, etc. may not be included in Grain Grading books used by contestants. Grain Grading books may be used only when contestants are doing the Grain Grading portion of the contest (not during seed analysis or seed and plant identification).

Other general rules

No communication with anyone other than officials will be permitted while the event is underway.

No cell phones, smart phones, iPads, or other personal digital devices (including smart watches) will be allowed in the contest rooms. If anyone has a cell phone ring during the contest, they will be disqualified and removed from the contest.

Infraction of any rules presented in this document will be followed by penalties varying from a deduction in points to dismissal from the event.

General announcements

Coaches are invited to stay in the orientation room after contest commencement for a quick meeting with the contest coordinator to discuss and provide input on desired/potential changes to the Agronomy contest for 2025.

Contest and evaluation format

This contest will consist of four rotations – each with unique aspects to test students agronomic knowledge from different perspectives. These four rotations are listed and described below. The contest coordinator will provide score sheets and answer forms for students at the contest. **No scantrons will be utilized.** Complete rotation descriptions, lists, form examples, and resources for study and purchase are listed in subsequent sections.

Rotation	Part	Assessment	Evaluation	Points
1	1-3	Crop and Weed Identification	100 specimens	300
2	4-6	Grain Grading	3 samples	150
	7-9	Seed Analysis	3 samples	150
3	10	Agronomic Quiz and Calculations	30 multiple choice / 6 calculations	150
4	11	Practicum	37 stations	150
			TOTAL	900

- *Rotation A. Identification*
Parts 1, 2, 3. Identification of weeds and crops, plants, or seeds. 100 total samples.
- *Rotation B. Grain Grading and Seed Analysis*
Parts 4, 5, 6. Three Grain Grading samples chosen from the following crops: wheat, grain sorghum, corn, and soybean.
Parts 7, 8, 9. Three Seed Analysis samples chosen from the following crops: wheat, alfalfa, oat, grain sorghum, soybean, barley and rye.
- *Rotation C. Agronomic Quiz and Calculations*
Part 10. A general knowledge quiz consisting of 30 multiple choice questions, plus six calculation problems related to fertilizer application, seeding rates, pure live seed, plant population, harvest losses, yield estimation, sprayer calibration, etc. General knowledge questions will cover basic principles of crop production and soil management, including plant growth processes and crop development, tillage and seedbed preparation, variety selection, seeding, essential nutrients and fertilization practices, pest development and pest control (weeds, insects, diseases), water management, harvest factors and crop quality effects, and residue management. Focus will be on major grain crops (wheat, corn, sorghum, soybean, sunflowers, canola) and forages (alfalfa, fescue, bromegrass, native range) grown in Kansas. Some questions will require comparison of different crops for production data (KS, USA, world), uses and products, grain or forage quality, growth habit or adaptation, critical growth stages for stress, etc. Questions may include topics related to best management practices for preserving environmental quality, water quality, soil

conservation, and sustainability.

- *Rotation D. Soils, Fertilizers, Crops, and Herbicides Practicum*

Part 11. A general knowledge practicum consisting of 37 stations where students will perform simple analyses or answer questions such as: determine soil texture by feel; interpret herbicide, seed, and/or fertilizer labels; answer questions from publications such as a Soil Survey Report, Weed Control Handbook, Crop Planting Guide, or Crop Variety Trial reports; write or interpret legal land descriptions; interpret soil test recommendation reports; identify insects, diseases, and common agronomic equipment; identify weeds in the vegetative stage; identify common fertilizer carriers, ag lime, inoculum, etc.; name common nutrient deficiencies shown on crop plants (N, P, K, S, Fe); identify the crop from which various feed ingredients are made (ie. soybean meal, wheat bran, alfalfa pellets); identify growth stages of major crop plants (corn, wheat, sorghum, soybean); name common plant structures (on seeds, seedlings, roots, stems, leaves, or flowers).

Tiebreakers

Legible writing is important and the judges will consider this factor in determining scores. Correct spelling is encouraged. Spelling may be used to break tie scores.

Tie scores for individual rankings and awards will be broken by: first, seed analysis total points; second, grain grading total points; and third, identification total points.

Tie scores for team rankings and awards will be broken similarly using team total points by section: first, seed analysis; second, grain grading; and third, identification.

Study Resources

Materials available from the Kansas State University Department of Agronomy. **To order, please email both Sarah Frye (sezerger@ksu.edu) and Renae Sinclair (rsinclair@ksu.edu).**

Item	Description	Price
Plant samples	Crop and weed plants each mounted with clear tape on blue 8 ½ x 11 inch cardstock.	\$1.00 each
Laminated plant samples	Same as above but laminated on blue 8 ½ x 11 inch cardstock.	\$2.00 each
Seed samples	Coin envelope containing approximately one tablespoon of seed.	\$0.75 each
Plant and Seed Identification Book	Written description of all the plants and seeds on the official list with specific identification tips. Spiral bound.	\$5.00 each
Plant and Seed Identification USB Drive	Animated PowerPoint slides of all plants and seeds on the official list. <i>*pictures being updated</i>	\$5.00 each
Grain Grading Sets	Set of grain grading samples from previous events.	\$8.00 per set
Seed Analysis Sets	Set of seed analysis samples from previous events.	\$8.00 per set
U.S. grain standards	Booklet containing the current official U.S. standards for corn, sorghum, soybean, and wheat.	\$5.00 each

Other materials

Excellent Grain Grading Tutorials for each crop are available on the AMS.USDA.GOV website at <https://www.ams.usda.gov/resources/interactive-resources>. From there click on “E-Learning” and then “Grading Tutorials”. A copy of the full grain grading standards Handbook II for more specific details can also be accessed at <https://www.ams.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media/Book2.pdf>.

Excellent plant and seed images are available at the USDA Plants Database at www.plants.usda.gov, a searchable database for both crops and weeds. This is one of the best sites for seed photos.

Another excellent searchable database for plant and pest images is the Bugwood Center for Invasive Species site at <http://www.bugwood.org> or go directly to the image database at <https://images.bugwood.org/>. Click on Forestry Images, Invasive.org, Insect Images, or Weed Images.

Rotation Descriptions

Rotation 1 (1-3). Identification

Identification of grain crop plants and/or seeds; forage crop plants or seeds; and weed plants or seeds. A complete list of species is found at the end of this document.

1. 100 samples will be identified. A total of 40 minutes are allowed to identify the 100 samples. Scoring will be 3 points per sample for a total of 300 points.
2. All event samples will come from the official identification list on the following pages.
3. Samples will be identified using the master numbered list provided in these rules. Lists will be provided to each contestant by the contest coordinator day-of-contest. The list is organized alphabetically within three sections: Grain Crops, Forage Crops, and Weeds.
4. Answers will be entered by writing the matching number for the plant or seed name from the master list. The name may be written out, but that is not required, nor is it graded. The number must be correct or the sample will be scored as missed.

Rotation 2 (4-6). Grain Grading

Grain grading will be done in accordance with the Official U.S. Standards for Grain. Grain standard booklets can be ordered from the Kansas State University Department of Agronomy or printed from the AMS-USDA Federal Grain Inspection Service website at: <https://www.ams.usda.gov/grades-standards/grain-standards>. Click on the standards for each crop and print the PDF files. The booklets from K-State have “horizontal” tables that contestants may find easier to read than the “vertical” tables from the above site.

Students should also have access to the “General Provisions” chapter of the “Official US Standards” and can add them to their grain grading handbooks used in the contest. General Provisions are found by clicking on an icon above the individual crop standards on the website.

1. Three samples will be graded in 20 minutes. 150 points total (50 points per sample).

2. Samples are 8 ½ x 11 inch cards with a grain base sample, given card factors, and mounted visual factors. An example of a grain grading sample is included at the end of this section.
3. Samples will be selected from corn, sorghum, soybeans, or wheat.
4. Students must visually determine class, subclass, damage(s), foreign material, other grains, and splits. All other grading factors, including special grades and non-table sample grade factors, will be given as card factors on the grain grading cards.
5. Contestants will examine given factors and visual factors on the grain grading card and give the complete grade designation and grade determining factors. No factors are listed for grade U.S. No. 1.

Example for Wheat

Card factors:

Test weight - 57.0 lbs.

Odor - Smutty

Dockage - 0.34%

Visual factors:

Rye - 5.3%

Heat damaged wheat - 3.3%

Insect damaged wheat - 7.8%

Dark, hard vitreous kernels - 68%

Complete grade designation:

U.S. Sample Grade Northern Spring Wheat, Light Smutty, Dockage 0.3%

Determining factor(s):

Foreign material

Heat-damaged kernels

6. Contestants are permitted to highlight selected information and/or add notes relative to Grain Grading as desired in their Official Grain Standards booklets. It is not permitted to add information regarding identification tips or pictures for grain classes, types of damages, etc.
7. Not all classes, subclasses, and special grades included in the Official U.S. Standards will be used. **The following classes, subclasses, special grades and other special rules will apply to the event:**
 - A. **Corn**
 - a. Class - White, Yellow, or Mixed. Determined by inspection of base sample or from visual factors.
 - b. Special grade - Infested
 - c. Sweet corn and pop corn in corn are foreign material and may be shown on cards.
 - d. When calculating stones and animal filth for sample grade, stones are rounded to tenths (standard is greater than 0.1%, thus must be more than 0.15% to round to 0.2%) Animal filth is rounded to hundredths (standard is greater than 0.20%, thus must be more than 0.205% to round to 0.21%).

B. Sorghum

- a. Class - Sorghum. (White and Tannin sorghum classes will not be used in the contest.)
- b. Special grades - Infested, Smutty
- c. Dockage - reported in whole percents with fractions of a percent being disregarded (i.e. 1.9% => 1% or 3.2% => 3%). If dockage drops to 0%, it is not listed.
- d. Non-grain sorghum found in grain sorghum is foreign material and may be used to determine the grade. Non-grain sorghum includes broomcorn, sorgos, sudangrass, shattercane, and johnsongrass.
- e. When calculating stones for sample grade, stones are rounded to tenths (standard is greater than 0.2%, thus must be more than 0.25% to round to 0.3%). Stones are determined AFTER THE REMOVAL OF DOCKAGE, so the denominator in the calculation is the base sample weight minus the weight of the dockage removed. If stones are found IN THE DOCKAGE, they do not count and should be ignored.

C. Soybeans

- a. Class - Yellow, Mixed. Determined by inspection of base sample or from visual factors.
- b. Special grades – Garlicky, Infested, Purple Mottled or Stained.
- c. When calculating stones for sample grade, stones are rounded to tenths (standard is greater than 0.1%, thus must be more than 0.15% to round to 0.2%).

D. Wheat

- a. Class - Hard Red Winter, Soft Red Winter, Hard Red Spring, Hard White, and Mixed. Determined by inspection of base sample or from visual factors. (Durum wheat will not be used as a base sample, but may be shown as a visual factor on the card which may affect contrasting classes and/or wheat of other classes in determining the numerical grade for other classes and/or determining mixed class.
- b. Subclass - Dark Northern Spring Wheat, Northern Spring Wheat, Red Spring Wheat. (When grading hard red spring wheat, the subclass is listed in the grade designation and not the main class. When hard red spring wheat is used as the base sample, the percentage of dark, hard and vitreous kernels will be given as a card factor.)
- c. Special grades - Ergoty, Garlicky, Infested, Light Smutty, Smutty.
- d. Dockage - rounded to the nearest 0.1 percent and stated in tenths or whole and tenths percent (i.e. 2.05% => 2.1% or 0.78% => 0.8%). If dockage is present but rounds to 0.0%, it is still listed as Dockage 0.0%.
- e. Wheat with more than 10% CCL or WOCL (off table) is Mixed Wheat, not Sample Grade. This is recorded to the nearest whole number, so it must actually be 10.5% or more to round to 11%. A sample with 10.4% CCL or WOCL would still be No. 5. CCL and WOCL are not grading factors once the sample is classed as Mixed Wheat.
- f. When calculating stones for sample grade, stones are rounded to tenths (standard is greater than 0.1%, thus must be more than 0.15% to round to 0.2%). Stones are determined AFTER THE REMOVAL OF DOCKAGE, so the denominator in the

- calculation is the base sample weight minus the weight of the dockage removed. If stones are found IN THE DOCKAGE, they do not count and should be ignored.
- g. When calculating ergot for special grade, ergot is rounded to hundredths (standard is greater than 0.05%, thus must be more than 0.055% to round to 0.06%). Ergot is determined AFTER THE REMOVAL OF DOCKAGE, so the denominator in the calculation is the base sample weight minus the weight of the dockage removed. If ergot is found IN THE DOCKAGE, it does not count and should be ignored.
 - h. When counting smut balls for special grades, smut is determined AFTER THE REMOVAL OF DOCKAGE, so if smut balls are found IN THE DOCKAGE, they do not count and should be ignored.
8. For the special grade “Infested” in all crops, live weevils (lw) will include rice weevils, granary weevils, cowpea weevils, maize weevils, and lesser grain borers. Other live insects injurious to stored grains (oli) will include Angoumois grain moth, Indian meal moth, saw-toothed grain beetle, confused flour beetle, red flour beetle, vetch bruchids and the larvae of any of these insects. Insects will be given as card factors on the grading card. Any live insects in the samples are unintended and should be disregarded.
 9. For the special grade “Garlicky” in soybeans and wheat, 1 green garlic bulblet equals 3 dry or partly dry bulblets. Green garlic bulblets have retained all their husks. Dry or partly dry bulblets have lost all or part of their husks. If dry garlic bulblets are given, divide by 3 and add to any green garlic bulblets to get a total for comparison to the standard.
 10. Only dockage-free grain will be used for the base samples, but dockage removed may be given as a card factor.
 11. Base sample weights for determining factors are given in the standards handbook as an approximation. For factors determined by count, if the standard states that a factor is determined “in a 1000-gram portion”, it can be actually be determined on a sample of 1000 to 1050 grams. Therefore, a soybean sample with 5 green garlic bulblets in 1045 gram base sample would be “Garlicky”. For factors determined by weight, the actual weight of the base sample should be used in the calculation. Therefore, a corn sample with 1.50 grams of stones in a 1036 gram base sample would be $(1.50 / 1036) \times 100 = 0.14478\%$, rounded to tenths => 0.1% (not sample grade).
 12. **The following scoring system will be utilized:**
 - A. **Grade**
 - a. Correct = 18 points
 - b. 1 grade off (i.e. No. 3 if key has No. 2) = 12 points
 - c. 2 grades off (i.e. No. 4 if key has No. 2) = 6 points
 - d. 3 grades off (i.e. No. 5 if key has No. 2) = 0 points

B. Class

- a. Corn, sorghum, soybean, soft red winter wheat, hard red winter wheat, and hard white wheat
 - I. Correct = 12 points
 - II. Incorrect = 0 points

C. Subclass

- a. Hard red spring wheat only
 - I. Class and subclass correct = 12 points
 - II. Class correct but subclass incorrect = 6 points
 - III. Class incorrect = 0 points

D. Special grades

- a. Deduct 5 points for each special grade (including dockage) omitted and for each listed but not on the key. Wrong number for dockage, including an incorrectly rounded number, will be deducted the full 5 points.
- b. Special grades should be listed in alphabetical order as shown in Rules 7.A.b, 7.B.b, 7.C.b, and 7.D.c. Deduct 1 point if not in correct order.

E. Wrongly written

- a. Deduct 1 point for each grade, special grade, or dockage wrongly written (ie. Red Winter for Hard Red Winter, 2.1% Dockage for Dockage 2.1%, leaving off "U.S." or "No." in the grade line, using "#" instead of No., leaving out the word "Grade" for U.S. Sample Grade, misspelled words, etc.) Maximum deduction of 2 points per sample for writing errors in the grade box.
- b. Deduct 1 point for each determining factor wrongly written (ie. Foreign for Foreign Material, Shrunk for Shrunk and Broken Kernels, misspelled words, etc.). Official FGIS abbreviations may be used, but if so must be exactly correct or a writing deduction will be taken. Maximum deduction of 2 points per sample for writing errors in the determining factors box.

F. Determining factors

- a. No factor (U.S. No. 1)
 - I. None listed = 20 points
 - II. One or more factors listed = 0 points
- b. One factor
 - I. Correct = 20 points
 - II. Incorrect = 0 points
- c. Two factors
 - I. Correct = 20 points
 - II. 1 incorrect = 10 points
 - III. 2 incorrect = 0 points

- d. Three factors
 - I. Correct = 20 points
 - II. 1 incorrect = 14 points
 - III. 2 incorrect = 7 points
 - IV. 3 incorrect = 0 points
- e. Four factors
 - I. Correct = 20 points
 - II. 1 incorrect = 15 points
 - III. 2 incorrect = 10 points
 - IV. 3 incorrect = 5 points
 - V. 4 incorrect = 0 points

G. Extra determining factors

- a. When the number of factors listed by the contestant exceeds the number on the key, scoring is on the basis of the number listed by the contestant; e.g. If the contestant lists three factors, of which two are correct, and the key only lists two factors, the contestant is given 14 points.

13. Reference Materials - Excellent Grain Grading Tutorials for each crop are available on the AMS.USDA.GOV website at <https://www.ams.usda.gov/resources/interactive-resources>. From there click on “E-Learning” and then “Grading Tutorials”. You can also link to the “Visual Reference Images” for photos of grain damages for each crop.

A copy of the full grain grading standards “Handbook II” with more specific details can also be accessed at <https://www.ams.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media/Book2.pdf>.

Grain Grading Publications EP95, EP96, EP97, and EP98 for corn, grain sorghum, soybeans, and wheat are available for downloading from www.ksre.ksu.edu/bookstore. Although they are dated and do not include changes in the sorghum tables made in 2008, they are good for showing photos of grain damages.

Rotation 2 (7-9). Seed Analysis

Contestants will find and identify crop and weed seeds in a base sample of a common crop. Details are as follows:

1. Three samples will be analyzed in 20 minutes. 150 points total (50 points per sample).
2. The samples will be selected from the following crops: alfalfa, grain sorghum, wheat, oat, barley, rye, and soybean. The seed quantities before the addition of impurities will be 5 grams of alfalfa; 30 grams of grain sorghum, oat, wheat, barley, and rye; and 65 grams of soybean.

3. Contestants can use forceps, flat-sided sticks, magnifying lenses, and one seed analysis picking board to aid in seed analysis separations. Seed analysis boards must not exceed 9 x 12 inches.
4. Admixtures will be named according to common names as in the identification list except as indicated in rule number seven, special rules for specific crops.
5. The contestant must classify all seeds mixed with the base sample. The seeds will be classified as either (a) other crops and/or varieties, (b) noxious weeds, (c) restricted weeds, or (d) common weeds.
6. No less than three seeds of any one impurity will be added to a sample. All crop and weed seeds must be mature. Only impurities listed as permissible on the identification list may be used.
7. Special rules for specific crops are listed on the following page:
 - A. Wheat - Base material will be any pure sample of wheat.
 - a. Hard red spring or soft red winter wheats will not be used as mixtures in hard red winter wheat. Two or more red wheats will not be used as admixtures in the same sample or another crop.
 - b. Wheat types used as admixtures in other crops will be identified only as red wheat, white wheat, and durum wheat.
 - B. Oat - Base material will be any pure sample of white or yellow oat.
 - a. Gray, black and hulled oat will not be used as admixtures in oat or other crop samples.
 - b. White and yellow oat will not be intermixed.
 - c. Any cultivated oat found as an admixture in other crop samples will be identified only as oat.
 - C. Grain sorghum - Base material will be any pure sample of yellow or white grain sorghum.
 - a. Sudangrass and shattercane must be shown in the glumes.
 - D. Alfalfa - Base material will be any pure sample of alfalfa.
 - a. Sweetclover will not be used as an admixture in alfalfa.
 - E. Soybean - Base material will be any yellow soybean variety.
 - a. Varietal mixtures will not be used.
8. **The following scoring system will be utilized:**
 - A. The total score per sample will be 50 points.

- B. The following points will be allotted for proper classification of each impurity: other crops and/or varieties 1, noxious weeds 3, restricted weeds 2, and common weeds 1. The deduction will be according to the category where it belongs rather than where the contestant has placed it.
- C. The remaining points will be allotted equally, or approximately so, for the proper identification of the impurities. The term approximately is used to allow scoring in whole points. Subtract the total points allotted to classification from 50 and divide the remainder by the number of impurities present. Drop decimal if result is 0.5 or less, round up if more than 0.5.
- D. When less than four impurities are present, no more than 12 points (total for classification and identification) will be allotted to each. This allows a maximum deduction of 12 points for any impurity not identified. In a sample with 0-3 impurities, other crops and/or varieties = 10 points, noxious weeds = 12 points, restricted weeds = 11 points, and common weeds = 10 points.
- E. The contestant who names an impurity which is not present will be penalized approximately one-half of the points allotted to the proper identification only of an impurity present. Subtract the total points allotted to classification from 50 and divide the remainder by the number of impurities present as in part C above. Divide that result by 2. Drop decimal if result is 0.5 or less, round up if more than 0.5.
- F. If a contestant calls an impurity in a sample which contains none, 12 points will be deducted, giving a score of 38 points. Two impurities in a pure sample will cause a loss of 24 points, etc.

Scoring example:

Sample with 10 admixtures:

3 crops, 2 prohibited noxious, 4 restricted noxious, and 1 common weed.

$$(3 \times 1) + (2 \times 3) + (4 \times 2) + (1 \times 1) = 18 \text{ points for classification}$$

$$50 - 18 = 32 \quad 32 / 10 = 3.2 \quad \text{drop decimal to 3 for correct identification}$$

Divide by 2 for extras: $3.2 / 2 = 1.6$ round up to 2 for extras added

Crops	- 4 (per missing species)
Prohibited Weeds	- 6 (per missing species)
Restricted Weeds	- 5 (per missing species)
Common Weeds	- 4 (per missing species)

Extras	- 2 (per listed species not present)
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Rotation 3 (10). Agronomic Quiz and Calculations

This rotation will be a two-part written exam.

A general knowledge quiz focused primarily on Crop Science but also including questions from Weed Science and Soils (including soil conservation and water quality) will be used. The quiz will consist of **30 multiple choice questions, 4 points each, 120 points total**. The remaining 30 points will be from six calculation problems related to fertilizer application, seeding rates, pure live seed, plant population, harvest losses, yield estimation, sprayer calibration, etc. General knowledge questions will cover basic principles of crop production and soil management, including plant growth processes and crop development, tillage and seedbed preparation, variety selection, seeding, essential nutrients and fertilization practices, pest development and pest control (weeds, insects, diseases), water management, harvest factors and crop quality effects, and residue management. Focus will be on major grain crops (wheat, corn, sorghum, soybean, sunflowers, canola) and forages (alfalfa, fescue, bromegrass, native range) grown in Kansas. Some questions will require comparison of different crops for production data (KS, USA, world), uses and products, grain or forage quality, growth habit or adaptation, critical growth stages for stress, etc. Questions may include topics related best management practices for preserving environmental quality, water quality, soil conservation, and sustainability.

Students will have 40 minutes to complete the quiz and calculations.

Example questions:

- a 1. Corn is a: a) summer annual b) winter annual c) perennial d) biennial.
- c 2. The wheat variety brought to KS by Mennonites (1874) that began our industry: a) Newton b) Pawnee c) Turkey d) Karl e) Crimean.
- a 3. The test weight per bushel for soybeans is: a) 60 b) 56 c) 50 d) 48 pounds.

Each participant will also perform six agronomic calculations and provide the correct solution (including correct units and rounded as requested) or select the correct multiple choice solution. **30 points total, 5 points each.** Calculations may include pure-live seed content, seeding rate, plant population, harvest loss, fertilizer application, pesticide application, cost of active ingredients, sprayer calibrations, or other agronomic calculations. Contestants are expected to know common measurements such as square feet/acre, oz/pint, pints/gal, bushel weights, feet/mile, etc. Formulas for sprayer calibration, row feet/acre, etc. may be given.

Answers for Agronomic Calculations will be rounded to a whole number or one or two decimals as logical and appropriate, e.g., plant population (whole number), seeding rate (0.1 pound), etc. Work must be shown to allow contest graders to evaluate for correct procedures for “rounded” answers.

Example questions:

- | | | |
|----|---|------------------------------------|
| 1. | If a producer counts an average of two plants per foot of row in eight inch drill rows, what is the plant population per acre? | Answer: <u>130,680 plants/acre</u> |
| 2. | A producer wants to check the seeding rate of a 30 foot grain drill. In a 100 foot long test strip, 4.0 pounds of wheat is collected. What is the seeding rate in lbs/acre? | Answer: <u>58.1 lbs/acre</u> |
| 3. | “Superstuff” pesticide is a liquid formulation that contains 40% a.i., weighs 9 lb/gal, and costs \$18.95 per gallon. What is the cost per pound of a.i.? | Answer: <u>\$5.26/pound a.i.</u> |
| 4. | If a producer finds 8 soybeans per square foot on the ground after harvest and the variety has 2500 seeds/pound, what is the field loss in bu/acre? | Answer: <u>2.3 bu/acre</u> |

Rotation 4 (11). Practicum

A general knowledge practicum consisting of **37 stations (150 points total)** where students will perform simple analyses or answer questions such as: determine soil texture by feel; interpret herbicide, seed, and/or fertilizer labels; answer questions from publications such as a *Soil Survey Report*, *Weed Control Handbook*, *Crop Planting Guide*, or *Crop Variety Trial* reports; write or interpret legal land descriptions; interpret soil test recommendation reports; identify insects, diseases, and common agronomic equipment; identify weeds in the vegetative stage; identify common fertilizer carriers, ag lime, inoculum, etc.; name common nutrient deficiencies shown on crop plants (N, P, K, S, Fe); identify the crop from which various feed ingredients are made (ie. soybean meal, wheat bran, alfalfa pellets); identify growth stages of major crop plants (corn, wheat, sorghum, soybean); name common plant structures (on seeds, seedlings, roots, stems, leaves, or flowers). Students will have 40 minutes to complete the Practicum.

Suggested resources (not intended to be all-inclusive):

1. Kansas State Research and Extension – Crops publications available at www.ksre.ksu.edu/bookstore
2. Soil Texture by Feel Procedure - S.J. Thien, KSU Agronomy Department
3. Soil Texture Triangle
4. County Soil Survey Publications - Local NRCS or County Extension Office, or Web Soil Survey at websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov
5. Most recent Chemical Weed Control Handbook. KSRE Report of Progress.
6. Kansas Crop Planting Guide – KSRE Publ. L-818.
7. Identifying Caterpillars in Corn, Sorghum, Soybeans. KSRE Publ. (Entomology Dept.)
8. How a Corn Plant Develops (SR 0048) Iowa State Univ. Extension
9. Soybean Growth and Development (PM 1945) Iowa State Univ. Extension
10. How a Sorghum Plant Develops (KSRE Publication – Agronomy Dept.)
11. High Plains Sunflower Production Handbook (KSRE – Agronomy Dept.)

Kansas State Career Development Events in Agriculture
Agronomy Event
Official Identification List

(p) plant or head only
 (s) seed only

(b) both plant and seed together
No designation - plant or head or seed

Grain Crops (GC)

GC-1	Karl 92 wheat	(b)	GC-11	barley	
GC-2	Jagger wheat	(b)	GC-12	rye	
GC-3	Trego wheat	(b)	GC-13	rice	(s)
GC-4	hard red winter wheat	(s)	GC-14	sunflower	(s)
GC-5	hard red spring wheat	(s)	GC-15	soybean	(s)
GC-6	soft red winter wheat	(s)	GC-16	cotton	(s)
GC-7	hard white wheat	(s)	GC-17	grain sorghum	
GC-8	soft white wheat	(s)	GC-18	dent corn	(s)
GC-9	durum wheat	(s)	GC-19	pop corn	(s)
GC-10	oat		GC-20	canola	(s)

Forage Crops (FC)

FC-22	orange sorgo	(s)	FC-33	switchgrass	(p)
FC-23	sumac sorgo	(s)	FC-34	Indiangrass	(p)
FC-24	sudangrass	(s)	FC-35	sand lovegrass	(p)
FC-25	foxtail millet		FC-36	blue grama	(p)
FC-26	tall fescue		FC-37	sideoats grama	(p)
FC-27	Kentucky bluegrass		FC-38	sweetclover	
FC-28	orchardgrass		FC-39	red clover	
FC-29	smooth bromegrass		FC-40	alfalfa	
FC-30	buffalograss		FC-41	white clover	
FC-31	big bluestem	(p)	FC-42	birdsfoot trefoil	
FC-32	little bluestem	(p)	FC-43	Korean lespedeza	

Noxious Weeds* (NW)

NW-1	quackgrass		Elymus repens
NW-2	hoary cress	(p)	Cardaria draba
NW-3	musk thistle	(p)	Carduus nutans
NW-4			
NW-5	Canada thistle		Cirsium arvense
NW-6	field bindweed		Convolvulus arvensis
NW-7			
NW-8	johnsongrass		Sorghum halepense
NW-9	sericea lespedeza	(p)	Lespedeza cuneata
NW-10	bull thistle	(p)	Cirsium vulgare
	hogpotato**		Hoffmanseggia glauca
	leafy spurge**		Euphorbia esula
	Texas blueweed **		Helianthus ciliaris
	kudzu **		Pueraria lobata
	multiflora rose **		Rosa multiflora
	Russian knapweed **		Acroptilon repens
	woollyleaf bursage **		Ambrosia grayi

*Scientific name is given to make sure the proper species is used.

**Will not be used in the event.

Restricted Weeds (RW)

RW-9	wild carrot	(p)	<i>Daucus carota</i>
RW-10	bushy wallflower	(p)	<i>Erysimum repandum</i>
RW-11	common cocklebur		<i>Xanthium strumarium</i>
RW-12	jointed goatgrass		<i>Aegilops cylindrica</i>
RW-13	wild onion or garlic		<i>Allium canadense</i> or <i>vineale</i>
RW-14	downy brome		<i>Bromus tectorum</i>
RW-15	cheat		<i>Bromus secalinus</i>
RW-16	dodder		<i>Cuscuta</i> spp.
RW-17	morningglory		<i>Ipomoea hederacea</i> or <i>purpurea</i>
RW-18	wild buckwheat		<i>Polygonum convolvulus</i>
RW-19	curly dock		<i>Rumex crispus</i>
RW-20	giant foxtail	(p)	<i>Setaria faberi</i>
RW-21	horsenettle		<i>Solanum carolinense</i>
RW-22	silverleaf nightshade	(p)	<i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i>
RW-23	field pennycress		<i>Thlaspi arvense</i>
RW-24	velvetleaf		<i>Abutilon theophrasti</i>

Common Weeds (CW)

CW-25	redroot pigweed		<i>Amaranthus retroflexus</i>
CW-26	common ragweed		<i>Ambrosia artemisiifolia</i>
CW-27	giant ragweed		<i>Ambrosia trifida</i>
CW-28	sand sagebrush	(p)	<i>Artemisia filifolia</i>
CW-29	prairie threeawn	(p)	<i>Aristida oligantha</i>
CW-30	common lambsquarters		<i>Chenopodium album</i>
CW-31	large crabgrass		<i>Digitaria sanguinalis</i>
CW-32	barnyardgrass		<i>Echinochloa crusgalli</i>
CW-33	horseweed	(p)	<i>Conyza canadensis</i>
CW-34	shepherdspurse	(p)	<i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i>
CW-35	common broomweed	(p)	<i>Gutierrezia dracunculoides</i>
CW-36	wild sunflower		<i>Helianthus annuus</i>
CW-37	Venice mallow		<i>Hibiscus trionum</i>
CW-38	little barley	(p)	<i>Hordeum pusillum</i>
CW-39	kochia		<i>Kochia scoparia</i>
CW-40	henbit	(p)	<i>Lamium amplexicaule</i>
CW-41	prostrate knotweed	(p)	<i>Polygonum aviculare</i>
CW-42	Pennsylvania smartweed		<i>Polygonum pensylvanicum</i>
CW-43	Russian thistle		<i>Salsola tragus</i>
CW-44	yellow foxtail		<i>Setaria pumila</i>
CW-45	green foxtail		<i>Setaria viridis</i>
CW-46	buffalobur		<i>Solanum rostratum</i>
CW-47	shattercane		<i>Sorghum bicolor</i>
CW-48	common chickweed	(p)	<i>Stellaria media</i>
CW-49	puncturevine		<i>Tribulus terrestris</i>
CW-50	ironweed	(p)	<i>Veronia</i> spp.
CW-51	prickly lettuce	(p)	<i>Lactuca serriola</i>
CW-52	yellow nutsedge	(p)	<i>Cyperus esculentus</i>

**Kansas State Career Development Events in Agriculture
Agronomy Event
Official Practicum Identification List**

Diseases (live plants or pictures)

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. bacterial blight of soybean | 13. leaf rust of wheat |
| 2. bacterial wilt of alfalfa | 14. leaf spot of alfalfa |
| 3. barley yellow dwarf virus (wheat) | 15. loose smut of wheat |
| 4. blacktip of wheat | 16. Northern corn leaf blight |
| 5. blue eye mold (corn kernel) | 17. Phytophthora root rot (soybean) |
| 6. bean pod mottle virus (soybean) | 18. rust (corn, sorghum, soybean) |
| 7. charcoal rot of sorghum | 19. pod and stem rot of soybean |
| 8. corn smut | 20. purple seed stain of soybean |
| 9. ergot (sorghum, wheat) | 21. stem rust of wheat |
| 10. ear rot (corn) | 22. wheat scab |
| 11. Gibberella stalk rot (corn) | 23. wheat streak mosaic virus (wheat) |
| 12. gray leaf spot (corn, sorghum) | |

Insects (preserved specimens or pictures)

- | (a) adult | (l) larvae | |
|-----------------------|------------|----------------------------|
| | | 8. corn rootworm (1 and a) |
| | | 9. European corn borer (l) |
| 1. alfalfa weevil (a) | | 10. fall armyworm (l) |
| 2. aphids | | 11. grasshopper (a) |
| 3. bean leaf beetle | | 12. green cloverworm (l) |
| 4. black cutworm (l) | | 13. lacewing (a) |
| 5. blister beetle (a) | | 14. lady beetle (a) |
| 6. chinch bug | | 15. painted lady |
| 7. corn earworm (l) | | 16. stinkbug (a) |

Weeds (vegetative stage – live plants)

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. barnyardgrass | 10. large crabgrass |
| 2. cheat | 11. morningglory |
| 3. common cocklebur | 12. Pennsylvania smartweed |
| 4. common lambsquarters | 13. redroot pigweed |
| 5. common ragweed | 14. velvetleaf |
| 6. wild sunflower | 15. Venice mallow |
| 7. field bindweed | 16. yellow foxtail |
| 8. field pennycress | 17. yellow nutsedge |
| 9. green foxtail | 18. pinnate tansymustard |

Equipment and Machinery (models, actual items, or pictures)

- | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. combine | 10. grain drill | 19. ripper |
| 2. cotton picker | 11. hay baler | 20. rotary hoe |
| 3. disc | 12. hydraulic line | 21. soil probe |
| 4. field cultivator | 13. mower | 22. soil thermometer |
| 5. gauge wheel | 14. nozzle bodies | 23. sprayer |
| 6. GPS receiver | (flood vs. flat fan) | 24. swather |
| 7. & light bar | 15. row crop planter | 25. tractor |
| 8. grain auger | 16. plow | 26. yield monitor |
| 9. grain moisture meter | 17. press wheel | |
| 9. grain storage bin/dryer | 18. rake | |

AGRONOMY FFA CDE - ANSWER LIST FOR IDENTIFICATION

Lists are alphabetical within three categories: Grain Crops, Forage Crops, Weeds

Shown As: (p=plant, s=seed, b=both, blank=either plant or seed)

ID Number	Common Name	Shown As	ID Number	Common Name	Shown As
	GRAIN CROPS			WEEDS	
1	barley		43	barnyardgrass	
2	canola	(s)	44	buffalobur	
3	dent corn	(s)	45	bull thistle	(p)
4	pop corn	(s)	46	bushy wallflower	(p)
5	cotton	(s)	47	Canada thistle	
6	grain sorghum		48	cheat	
7	oat		49	common broomweed	(p)
8	rice	(s)	50	common chickweed	(p)
9	rye		51	common cocklebur	
10	soybean	(s)	52	common lambsquarters	
11	sunflower	(s)	53	common ragweed	
12	Karl 92 wheat	(b)	54	curly dock	
13	Jagger wheat	(b)	55	dodder	
14	Trego wheat	(b)	56	downy brome	
15	durum wheat	(s)	57	field bindweed	
16	hard red spring wheat	(s)	58	field pennycress	
17	hard red winter wheat	(s)	59	giant foxtail	(p)
18	hard white wheat	(s)	60	giant ragweed	
19	soft red winter wheat	(s)	61	green foxtail	
20	soft white wheat	(s)	62	henbit	(p)
	FORAGE CROPS		63	hoary cress	(p)
21	alfalfa		64	horsenettle	
22	big bluestem	(p)	65	horsetweed	(p)
23	birdsfoot trefoil		66	ironweed	(p)
24	blue grama	(p)	67	johnsongrass	
25	buffalograss		68	jointed goatgrass	
26	foxtail millet		69	kochia	
27	Indiangrass	(p)	70	large crabgrass	
28	Kentucky bluegrass		71	little barley	(p)
29	Korean lespedeza		72	morningglory	
30	little bluestem	(p)	73	musk thistle	(p)
31	orange sorgo	(s)	74	Pennsylvania smartweed	
32	orchardgrass		75	prairie threeawn	(p)
33	red clover		76	prickly lettuce	(p)
34	sand lovegrass	(p)	77	prostrate knotweed	(p)
35	sideoats grama	(p)	78	puncturevine	
36	smooth brome		79	quackgrass	
37	sudangrass	(s)	80	redroot pigweed	
38	sumac sorgo	(s)	81	Russian thistle	
39	sweetclover		82	sand sagebrush	(p)
40	switchgrass	(p)	83	sericea lespedeza	(p)
41	tall fescue		84	shattercane	
42	white clover		85	shepherdspurse	(p)
			86	silverleaf nightshade	(p)
			87	velvetleaf	
			88	Venice mallow	
			89	wild buckwheat	
			90	wild carrot	(p)
			91	wild onion or garlic	
			92	wild sunflower	
			93	yellow foxtail	
			94	yellow nutsedge	(p)

ANSWER FORM - FFA Plant and Seed IDENTIFICATION SECTION

Please list the matching ID NUMBER from the plant/seed name list

You may write the name of the plant/seed in the notes section, but it will not be graded

Sample No.	ID NUMBER from list	Your Notes (not required and not graded)	Sample No.	ID NUMBER from list	Your Notes (not required and not graded)
1			26		
2			27		
3			28		
4			29		
5			30		
6			31		
7			32		
8			33		
9			34		
10			35		
11			36		
12			37		
13			38		
14			39		
15			40		
16			41		
17			42		
18			43		
19			44		
20			45		
21			46		
22			47		
23			48		
24			49		
25			50		

ANSWER FORM - FFA Plant and Seed IDENTIFICATION SECTION

Please list the matching ID NUMBER from the plant/seed name list

You may write the name of the plant/seed in the notes section, but it will not be graded

Sample No.	ID NUMBER from list	Your Notes (not required and not graded)	Sample No.	ID NUMBER from list	Your Notes (not required and not graded)
51			76		
52			77		
53			78		
54			79		
55			80		
56			81		
57			82		
58			83		
59			84		
60			85		
61			86		
62			87		
63			88		
64			89		
65			90		
66			91		
67			92		
68			93		
69			94		
70			95		
71			96		
72			97		
73			98		
74			99		
75			100		

Example Grain Grading Card:

**Kansas State Career Development Events in Agriculture
FFA CDE Agronomy Event
Grain Grading**

<u>Sorghum</u> Crop	5 Sample Number	Event
<p><u>Base Sample</u></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 200px; width: 100%; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <p><i>sample bag with grain stapled here</i></p> </div>		<p><u>Visual Factors</u></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 100%; width: 100%; display: flex; flex-direction: column;"> <div style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; height: 150px; width: 100%; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <p style="margin-right: 10px;">0.5%</p> <p style="font-size: 2em;">→</p> <p style="margin-left: 10px;"><i>sample bag here</i></p> </div> <div style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; height: 150px; width: 100%; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <p style="margin-right: 10px;">3.5%</p> <p style="font-size: 2em;">→</p> <p style="margin-left: 10px;"><i>sample bag here</i></p> </div> <div style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; height: 150px; width: 100%; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <p style="margin-right: 10px;">1.25%</p> <p style="font-size: 2em;">→</p> <p style="margin-left: 10px;"><i>sample bag here</i></p> </div> <div style="height: 150px; width: 100%; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <p style="margin-right: 10px;">4.0%</p> <p style="font-size: 2em;">→</p> <p style="margin-left: 10px;"><i>sample bag here</i></p> </div> </div>
<p><u>Card Factors</u></p> <p>Moisture = 13.5%</p> <p>Test Weight per Bushel = 51.5 lbs</p> <p>40.2 g dockage 1015 g sample</p> <p>Broken Kernels = 6.5%</p> <p>Machine Separated Foreign Material = 0.3%</p> <p>5 cockleburrs, 5 rodent pellets and 2 stones weighing 1.8 g in 1015 g base sample</p> <p>1 live weevil and 6 other insects injurious to stored grain found in base sample</p> <p>Appearance – Distinctly Discolored</p> <p>Odor - Natural</p>		

Example Seed Analysis Answer Sheet (with scoring example):

**Kansas State Career Development Events in Agriculture
FFA CDE Agronomy Event
Seed Analysis**

Contestant No. _____

Total Score _____

Sample No. 7

Sample Name: Soybeans

A. Other Crops and/or Varieties -7	C. Restricted Noxious Weeds -8
- 1 foxtail millet - 6	- 2 horsenettle - 6
- 1 Korean lespedeza - 6	
B. Prohibited Noxious Weeds -9	D. Common Weeds -7
- 3 Canada thistle - 6	- 1 green foxtail - 6
- 3 hoary cress - 6	

EXTRAS -3

50 points possible

minus 11 classification points (noted before each admixture name)

Remainder for identification of admixtures = 39 points

Identification points = 39/6 admixtures = 6.5 (drop decimal to 6 for identification of each admixture)

Deduct ½ of the identification points for each admixture for any extra admixtures listed but not in sample

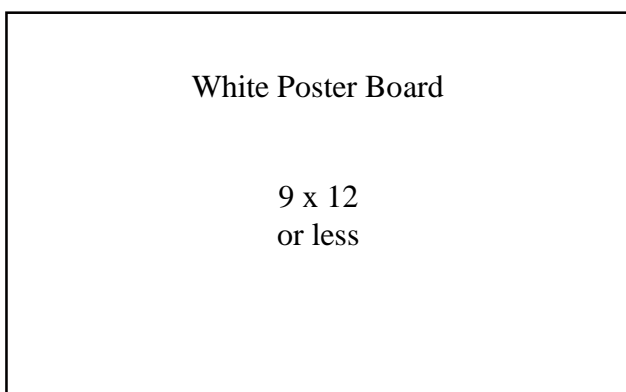
Extras = 6.5/2 = 3.3 (drop decimal to 3 for extras)

Seed Analysis Picking Board

Teams may wish to construct a small board (9 in x 12 in or smaller) on which to separate the seed analysis samples. One board is allowed per team. This board will remain in the Rotation 2 room during the contest for all team members to use.

Materials needed:

Heavy, white poster board
Cardboard for edging
Glue or Tape (clear scotch, strapping, or adhesive)



← Use glue or tape too hold cardboard edge on the board



A pour spout can be made by filling a gap with a removable piece of cardboard