

UPDATE

Vol. XXXII, No. 7
C. Coleman Harris
U.S. Department of Education
July 2002

DATES TO REMEMBER

July

- 1 Alumni Council Applications due, FFA Center
- 1 Alumni Outstanding Achievement and Outstanding Affiliate applications due, FFA Center
- 1 National FFA Alumni Association Scrapbook and Scrapbook Contest Evaluation forms due, FFA Center
- 1 SPC and Delegate Chair and Vice-Chair pre-registrations due, FFA Center
- 1 National band , chorus and talent applications due postmarked to national directors
- 1
- 11 CDE certification forms due
- 13-16 National FFA Organization Board of Directors meeting, Adam's Mark Hotel and FFA Center, Indianapolis
- 15 Career Development Event certifications due, FFA Center
- 15 National Chapter Awards applications due, FFA Center
- 15 Agricultural Proficiency Awards applications due, FFA Center
- 15 Agri-Entrepreneurship Awards applications due, FFA Center
- 15 Agriscience Student Recognition applications, FFA Center
- 15 Agriscience Teacher of the Year applications, FFA Center
- 16 National FFA Foundation Board of Trustees meeting, Adams' Mark Hotel, Indianapolis

August

- 1 State Staff Costa Rica Seminar applications due, FFA Center
- 1 Hall of States Exhibit Application due
- 1 National Convention Delegate registrations due
- 1 National Officer Candidate applications due
- 15 Agriscience Fair certifications due, FFA Center
- 15 Legion of Merit Citation applications due, FFA Center
- 15 Prepared Public Speaking manuscripts due, FFA Center

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FFA

What's hot at convention? This year the National FFA Organization is conducting a comprehensive survey to discover what convention attendees like and dislike about convention activities. Unlike previous years, this survey will not be done on computer or via ffa.org. Instead, we want to send people-survey specialists-out into the crowd to talk with people and collect data. Surveying will occur Friday, Nov. 1 and Saturday, Nov. 2. Times are flexible. If you would like to help conduct the survey, please check your personal convention schedule before responding by Aug. 30 to Katie Dallam at kdallam@ffa.org <<mailto:kdallam@ffa.org>>, 317-802-4216. Look for more information in early September.

Don't forget to reserve housing. The Louisville Housing Bureau began assigning rooms June 15. All requests in by that date will receive confirmation by Aug. 1. If you normally reserve rooms through the National FFA Organization (e.g., state staff, judges, etc.,) you will be contacted regarding this year's process. If you have questions, please call Andrea McNeely, 317-802-4288, amcneely@ffa.org, or Katie Dallam, 317-802-4216, kdallam@ffa.org.

ffa.org is your 75th National FFA Convention information center. Go to www.ffa.org/convention/index.html for the latest details on this extraordinary anniversary event. Find downloadable forms, checklists, worksheets and other information in the Convention Survival Guide-made for a first year advisor or a veteran teacher. If you cannot find an answer on the website, contact Katie Dallam, kdallam@ffa.org [<mailto:kdallam@ffa.org>](mailto:kdallam@ffa.org), 317-802-4216.

Remember official dress at the convention! The national FFA convention is the premier FFA event showcasing our organization to sponsors, potential supporters, parents, members and advisors. Portraying a positive, professional image in and around the convention facility is essential. Proper official dress helps to achieve that goal. The National FFA Organization strongly encourages all advisors to ensure FFA members in attendance at the 75th National FFA Convention follow the standards of proper official dress as outlined in the Official FFA Manual. Members should wear official dress while at the convention facilities, except during activities such as dances and concerts where appropriate casual dress is fine. Proper official dress gives FFA members a unique identity and a positive, recognizable image. Please follow the guidelines as listed in the FFA manual regarding official dress.

Females: Black skirt of appropriate length, white blouse, FFA scarf, Black shoes, official FFA jacket. Males; Black slacks, white dress shirt, FFA tie, black socks, black shoes, official FFA jacket.

WLC. The Washington Leadership Conference is well underway, and we've got three weeks left to go! There are still plenty of openings for the July conference dates. Contact: Kassie Lucero, 317-802-4319, klucero@ffa.org, or Tina Paris, 317-802-4309, paris@ffa.org for more information.

Don't forget to schedule your EDGE, MFE and ALD conferences! Early last month, your state association's executive secretary should have received an electronic information packet for the National FFA Leadership and Personal Growth Series. Schedule your conferences by faxing or e-mailing the state information form (included in the electronic information packet) by July 15 to Andrea McNeely, 317-802-5288, amcneely@ffa.org.

Membership

Membership numbers. The National FFA Membership total as of June 21, 2002, is 458,671. This represents an 18 year high. The final count will be published Aug. 31, 2002. Need Membership ID numbers? Here are three ways to obtain them. Membership ID numbers are located in the upper left-hand corner of the mailing address label of the FFA New Horizons magazine (it's a nine digit number). The National FFA Organization also sent your state or chapter a green bar report of members who were submitted for

this membership year. You can also e-mail us at membershipservices@ffa.org <<mailto:membershipservices@ffa.org>> with a list of the individuals who need Membership ID numbers.

EDUCATOR NEWS

Agriscience Fair certification changes to begin in 2003.

A new certification process will be in place next year. The forms are available now and may be used for 2002, and must be used in 2003. The new form includes a checklist for Agriscience fair projects to ensure exhibits meet all eligibility and safety requirements. The certification forms and five copies of the project abstract will be due postmarked Aug. 15 each year. The new certification form is included in the 2003 application form (attached) along with an example format for the project abstract. Please contact Anna Melodia with questions, amelodia@ffa.org.

STATE STAFF NEWS

National FFA Agricultural Ambassador Program. Applications are now being accepted for the National FFA Agricultural Ambassador Program. Once again, the National FFA Organization, the Education Community Outreach Host committee and the Louisville Food Processing Network will bring the Agricultural Ambassador Program to the 75th National FFA Convention. The program will assist with providing training and resources to urban fourth grade classroom teachers in preparation for a visit and presentation by FFA members from around the country. This opportunity should prove to be very educational to all the ambassadors who participate. It will also prepare them to train other chapter members within your state to create an agricultural awareness project.

Who can be involved this year?

- All 2001-2002 state FFA officers who will not serve as official delegates at the National FFA convention will be eligible.
- Other selected FFA members who will arrive early for the convention.

All FFA Agricultural Ambassadors will be selected through an application process.

Time commitment:

- Must be able to attend the training on Tuesday, Oct. 29, 2002. Registration for training will start at 8 a.m.
- Must be able to participate in the visit to the schools Wednesday, Oct. 30, 2002.

What does it cost?

The costs for the materials, supplies, and lunch on Tuesday and Wednesday are covered through sponsorship of this project. The Louisville Food Processing Network has funded this as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

Applications due: Aug. 16, 2002. An information sheet and application are attached.

Contact: Michele Gilbert, mgilbert@ffa.org <<mailto:mgilbert@ffa.org>>, 317-802-4301; Tony Small, tsmall@ffa.org <<mailto:tsmall@ffa.org>>, 317-802-4300; or Frank Saldana, fsaldana@ffa.org <<mailto:fsaldana@ffa.org>>, 317- 802-4239.

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED IN UPDATE

2002 Career Development Event (CDE) Information

Contact: Wendy Baird, 317-802-4263 or wbaird@ffa.org.

2002 certification deadline: The National Convention begins Oct. 30, 2002. The deadline date for CDE certification forms is July 11, 2002. Please mark your calendars for the 2002-2003 school year.

CDE Student Waiver: Each member participating in a National FFA CDE must submit the proper Waiver, Release of Liability and Consent to Medical Treatment form. The National FFA CDE Coordinator must receive the form by Sept. 30, 2002. If a team does not qualify for participation in the national event until after this deadline, the waiver form must be submitted with the certification form. Students who do not submit this form will not be allowed to participate.

Certification payment: Page 2 of the introduction section of the CDE handbook, "Selection and Certification of State Teams," item number 4 states: Each entry in team or individual CDEs will be charged an entry-processing fee, payable at certification (Fee is \$25 per entry). All certification-processing fees for CDE teams must be paid with the certification form. Dairy Handlers and events that are demonstrations do not have a processing fee. Certification forms will not be processed until payment has been received.

Deadlines for Manuscripts and Portfolios:

- All Prepared Public Speaking manuscripts must be submitted to the National FFA Center by Aug. 15, 2002.
- All portfolios for Agricultural Communications, Agricultural Issues and Marketing Plan must be submitted to the National FFA Center by Sept. 15, 2002.
- All cover letters, resumes and references for Job Interview must be submitted by Sept. 15, 2002.

Agricultural Mechanics Theme: Material Handling Systems

Please refer to the following website for complete information regarding the 2002 Agricultural Mechanics CDE: <http://www.missouri.edu/~pavt0689/natcon.html>.

UPDATE is also available each month at www.ffa.org/news/html/ffapubsindex.html. Attachments are available online.

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The FFA Mission

FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for **premier leadership, personal growth** and **career success** through agricultural education.

The Agricultural Education Mission

Agricultural Education prepares students for successful careers and a lifetime of informed choices in the global agriculture, food, fiber and natural resources systems.

The National FFA Organization is a resource and support organization that does not select, control or supervise state association, local chapter or individual member activities except as expressly provided for in the National FFA Organization Constitution and Bylaws.

The National FFA Organization affirms its belief in the value of all human beings and seeks diversity in its membership, leadership and staff as an equal opportunity employer.



2002 Ag
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2003 AGF



Abstract



Electronic 2002 Ag
Ambassador ...



National Chapter
Award Judging...



One Mission: Student Success

75th National FFA Convention

October 30 - November 2, 2002

**2002 National FFA
Agricultural Ambassador
Program**

Information Provided Inside

National FFA Agricultural Ambassador Program

What is it? The 2002 National FFA Agricultural Ambassador Program.

Once again, the National FFA Organization is bringing the 75th National FFA Convention to Louisville, Kentucky, October 30 – November 2, 2002. This event has opened the door for exciting opportunities to connect with the community. As a part of this relationship several special activities are being planned. The Education Community Outreach Host committee has focused its efforts on connecting with the education community. This focus has created an exciting opportunity to continue the Agricultural Ambassador program this year. This program will involve 30-35 fourth grade classroom teachers and their students and the National FFA Organization.

The program will assist in providing training and resources to fourth grade classroom teachers in preparation for a visit and presentation by state FFA officers from around the country. As a member of this group, the teachers will have access to specialized training, resources from Project Food, Land and People, Agriculture in the Classroom, 4-H Gee Whiz in Agriculture, Food for America and other classroom instructional resources.

When does this occur?

During the 2002 National FFA Convention (October 30 – November 2, 2002)

The teachers who have been selected will attend training June 26 -27, 2002 and prepare pieces of information that will be a part of their curriculum for the fall. The instructional resources are focused on agricultural literacy and will be the foundation for a visit from the FFA Agricultural Ambassadors during the National FFA Convention.

The FFA Agricultural Ambassadors will be selected through an application process. The applications are due **August 16, 2002**. The Agricultural Ambassadors selected will be placed into teams of 2-3 people. The teams will be provided resources, training and information to present to the fourth grade classroom assigned in the Louisville area. Some preparation before the convention will be necessary, and **Tuesday, October 29, 2002** will be the day of training and development. Resources for possible implementation in home states, practice sessions for the officers and an overview of the following day's activities will be a part of the training session. **Wednesday morning, October 30, 2002** will be the day for actual state officer presentations and interaction with the school.

Who can be involved this year?

All 2001 - 2002 State FFA Officers that will not serve as official delegates at the National FFA convention will be eligible.

The development of this activity and its success relies on utilizing the skills of state officers or chapter leaders/leaders who are not official delegates and have skills and training to make the difference as an agricultural ambassador. The activities of the National FFA Agricultural Ambassador program occur primarily during the time of Official Delegate meetings. In addition, the training and experiences of agricultural ambassadors will assist in further development of your skills.

What does it cost?

The costs for the materials, supplies, and lunch on Tuesday and Wednesday are covered through sponsorship of this project. The Louisville Food Processing Group has funded this as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

Will this require additional travel?

No. The ambassadors' training sessions will occur at the main convention center. In addition, the ambassadors will be escorted in presentation groups to the school sites to conduct the educational activity. Currently, the plan is to have 2-3 teams per school (which is 4-6 ambassadors) present at each site. The classroom size will not be over 30 for each ambassador team. The Agriculture Club of Louisville, (a Cooperative Extension agent group in Kentucky) will assist in providing transportation to and from the school sites.

Why should I become involved?

This is the fourth year for the National FFA Agricultural Ambassador program. The opportunity to be a part of this event is exciting. In addition, the opportunity to inform youth about agriculture, agricultural career opportunities, promote the National FFA Organization through serving as an agricultural ambassador is an awesome responsibility. The development of young people and commitment to the FFA mission of **Premier Leadership, Personal Growth** and **Career Success** are a part of this exciting event. Finally, the resources and training that will be a part of this program may assist in conducting similar activities across the country and allow for collaboration to occur that will last for years to come.

How do I sign up?

Enclosed is an application and additional information about participating in this group of the National FFA Agricultural Ambassador program this year. The applications are due **August 16, 2002** to the National FFA Organization. Following selection, specific information on assignments, plans and preparation opportunities will be sent to each agricultural ambassador.

General comments:

This will be the fourth year for the National FFA Agricultural Ambassador program for the 2002 National FFA Convention. We look forward to the opportunity to be a part of the Louisville community and hope that you will join us by participating in this exciting event.

For additional information contact:

Michele Gilbert

Local Program Success Assistant
(317) 802-4301
mgilbert@ffa.org

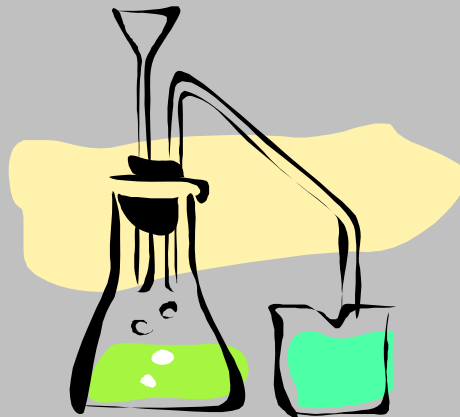
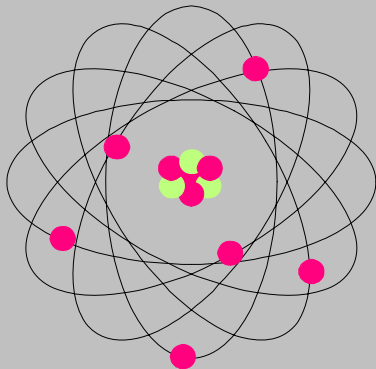
Frank Saldana

Local Program Success Specialist
(317) 802-4239
fsaldana@ffa.org

National FFA Organization, 6060 FFA Drive, P.O. Box 68960, Indianapolis, IN 46268-0960

National FFA Agriscience Fair

NATIONAL FFA AGRISCIENCE FAIR
GUIDELINES & PROCEDURES



Sponsored by

Ford Motor Company Fund

Award Objective

The National FFA Agriscience Fair recognizes middle and high school students who are studying the application of scientific principles and emerging technologies in agricultural enterprises. Participation begins at the local chapter level and progresses to the state and national levels. Areas of participation closely mirror those of the International Science and Engineering Fair but reflect an agricultural theme.

GOALS

- Provide students with an opportunity to use the scientific process.
- Provide students an opportunity to achieve local, state and national recognition for their accomplishments in agriscience.
- Reinforce skills and principles learned in agriscience courses.

- Provide an opportunity for students to demonstrate and display agriscience projects that are products of their agriscience courses.
- Provide recruiting and promotional opportunities for agriscience programs.

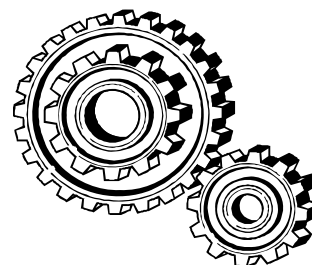
RECOGNITION

Chapter Level - Winners may be selected annually in each FFA chapter. The winner may represent any of the agriscience category areas (based on state rules for competitions). Medals and certificates are available from the National FFA on the Medal Distribution Request form included in the Free Chapter Materials packet.

State Level - Winners from each division in all five categories may be selected annually in each of the chartered state associations. Each of those winners may then participate in the appropriate areas on the national level.

National Level - Winners from each state may be forwarded for national competition. A national winner will be selected in each division. National winners will be presented with ribbon rosettes and plaques.

Additional awards may become available as funded by special project sponsors above and beyond the core sponsorship for the National FFA Agriscience Fair. They may include, but are not limited to, scholarships and cash awards to division winners in each category. These awards will be **appropriate** for each division, not necessarily equal or identical.



Categories

The following are the categories for the National FFA Agriscience Fair:

I. BIOCHEMISTRY/ MICROBIOLOGY/ FOOD SCIENCE

This involves the biology of microorganisms such as bacteriology, virology, protozoology, fungi bacterial genetics, and yeast. This area can also include the following: Chemistry of life processes such as molecular biology; molecular genetics; enzymes; photosynthesis; protein chemistry; food chemistry; hormones, etc.

Examples:

- Compare yeast fermentation techniques for converting sugars to alcohol
- Resistance of organic fruits to common diseases
- Control of molds on bakery products

II. ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

The study of pollution (air, water and land) sources and their control. Other areas of ecology would be applied here.

Examples:

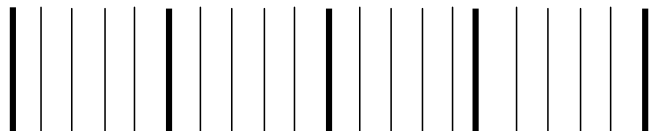
- Effect of agricultural chemicals on water quality
- Effects of cropping practices on wildlife populations
- Compare irrigation systems for energy efficiency
- Research uniform water quality standards
- Compare water movements through different soil types

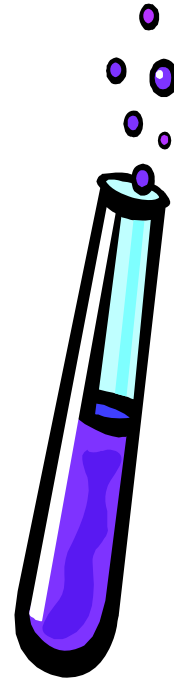
III. ZOOLOGY (ANIMAL SCIENCE)

The study of animals including animal genetics, ornithology, ichthyology, entomology, animal ecology, paleontology, cellular physiology, animal husbandry, cytology, histology, animal physiology, invertebrate neurophysiology, studies of invertebrates, etc.

Examples:

- Compare nutrient levels on animal growth
- Research new disease control mechanisms
- Effects of estrous synchronization on ovulation
- Compare effects of thawing temperatures on livestock semen
- Effects of growth hormone on meat/milk production





IV. BOTANY (PLANT/SOIL SCIENCE)

The study of plant life such as agriculture, agronomy, horticulture, forestry, plant taxonomy, plant physiology, plant pathology, plant genetics, hydroponics, algae, etc.

Examples:

- Effect of substrate particle size on shiitake mushroom growth
- Effects of heavy metals such as cadmium on edible plants
- Effect of ultraviolet light on soil microbes
- Effects of lunar climate and soil condition on plant growth
- Compare plant growth between hydroponics and conventional method

V. ENGINEERING (MECHANICAL/ AGRICULTURE ENGINEERING SCIENCE)

This area includes technology and projects that directly apply scientific principles to manufacturing and practical uses such as mechanical, chemical, electrical, environmental engineering, etc.

Examples:

- Develop alternate energy source engines
- Absorption media for plant materials
- Compare various tillage methods for energy efficiency
- Investigation of light energy sources

Agriscience Fair Rules

Projects may be disqualified if they do not meet the eligibility, safety and display rules.

ELIGIBILITY RULES

1. Competition is open to all FFA members in grades 7-12. There are four divisions. Division I is open to individual members in grades 7, 8 and 9. Division II is open to individual members in grades 10, 11, and 12. Division III is for teams of two members in grades 7, 8, and 9. Division IV is for teams of two members in grades 10, 11 and 12. The students grade level is determined by the age of the member at the time of qualification at the state level. States with qualifying competitions may have up to 20 entries, one in each category, in each division. For example: A state may have an entry in Zoology in Divisions I, II, III and IV. You may not have more than one entry in a division. Participant must be an FFA member.
2. There are five categories. They are Biochemistry/Microbiology/Food Science; Environmental Sciences; Zoology; Botany; and Engineering. See previous explanations for more information.
3. Each member and/or team may enter only one project. A team is a maximum of two members working cooperatively on the same project. Students participating in the Agriscience Student Scholarship and Recognition Program may participate in the National FFA Agriscience Fair. Successive year projects must indicate change or growth in the project from the previous year(s) in the log books. Displays must reflect the current year's work only.
4. Each participant is required to meet with the judges to explain their project. Explanation and questioning may not exceed fifteen minutes. Students with conflicts due to participation in other national events will need to choose only one event in which to participate. No exceptions will be made due to participation in other events (i.e. National Band or Chorus, Career Development Events).
5. In team divisions, both members are required to be present for judging to qualify for placing and
6. States may enter one project in each area that they have a state winner, this is a maximum of twenty entries for states with a qualifying competition. In the case that a state does not have a state qualifying competition, the maximum number of entries will be ten. No entries from a state may compete against each other in the same division at the national level.
7. Exhibited projects and project reports shall be the result of the student(s) own efforts.

SAFETY RULES*

1. If an exhibit becomes unsafe or unsuitable for display, it will be removed and deemed ineligible for any awards.
2. Projects involving vertebrate animal/embryo subjects must conform with the following statement: Experiments on live animals/embryos involving surgery, the removal of parts, injection of harmful chemicals, and/or exposure to harmful environments, are

Agriscience Fair Application Form

Must include certification form with application beginning in 2003.

This form may be used by states to identify individuals who are interested in participating in the National Agriscience Fair. This application form should be completely filled out and submitted to the state FFA office by the appropriate due date for your state. This form does not guarantee entry in the National Agriscience Fair. Each state may set its own standards or qualifications for participation.

ONE ENTRY PER FORM. COPY FOR ADDITIONAL ENTRIES AS NEEDED.

Name _____ Career Goal _____

Parent or guardian name _____

Home Address _____

Home City _____ Home State _____ Home Zip _____

Home Telephone _____ School Telephone _____
(Remember to include your area code) (Remember to include your area code)

FFA Chapter Name _____ FFA Chapter Number _____

Ag Instructor(s) _____

Year in School Use Arrow to Choose (at time of qualification)

School _____

School Address _____

School City _____ School State _____ School Zip _____

Project Title _____

Category: Biochemistry/Microbiology/Food Science
 Environmental Science
 Zoology
 Botany
 Engineering

Division: One (Individuals in grades 7-8-9)
 Two (Individuals in grades 10-11-12)
 Three (Team of two in grades 7-8-9) * Please fill in information below
 Four (Team of two in grades 10-11-12) *Please fill in information below

Fill in the information below for a second member of team: (Leave blank if individual)

Name _____ Career Goal _____

Parent or guardian name _____

Home Address _____

Home City _____ Home State _____ Home Zip _____

Home Telephone _____
(Remember to include your area code)

Year in School Use Arrow to Choose (at time of qualification)

Agriscience Fair Score Sheet

Each category is to be scored from 0-10, with 10 being a perfect score. The total possible score for the entire sheet is 100 points.

Participant _____

Category _____

Division _____

SCORE CATEGORY

_____ **Knowledge Gained**- Is there evidence the student has acquired scientific skills and/or knowledge by doing this project? Does the exhibitor recognize the scope and limitation of the problem he or she has selected?

_____ **Scientific Approach**- Has a scientific approach been made to the problem? Has the exhibitor solved the problem by using scientific facts as a basis for new conclusions? Is the exhibitor aware of the basic scientific principles that lend support to the methods used and the conclusions reached?

_____ **Experimental Research**- Has data been gathered from work done by the student, rather than the results from the work of others? Is the exhibitor's equipment effective? Does it do what it was intended to do? Can the research be the basis for further experimentation? Is the project actually a model or demonstration?

_____ **Individual/Team Work**-Has material been gathered from a variety of sources and cited? Is the log book present for examination? If a team, is evidence of collaboration present? Can the portions of the presentation representing the work of others be identified?

_____ **Thoroughness**-Is the exhibitor aware of the empirical method (the necessity of repeating trials) and the importance of controlling the variables in the experimentation in order to reach valid conclusions? Has the analysis of the problem been orderly? How successfully was the original plan carried through to completion?

SCORE CATEGORY

_____ **Information**-Are known facts and principles stated correctly and used accurately? Have the results of experiments been reported accurately even though faulty experimental methods or conditions may have made the data unreliable? If so, have these errors been noted? Is the data complete or at least based on random, rather than selected sampling?

_____ **Conclusions**-Has the student started with known facts and drawn their own conclusions? Are the conclusions consistent with the data and/or observations?

_____ **Written Project Report** - Are all components of the written report available? Has the exhibitor made thorough use of the data, literature cited, interviews, correspondence, etc. and noted them properly? Considering the age and experience of the exhibitor, does the project make use of their abilities?

_____ **Interview**-Is the exhibitor able to successfully communicate their knowledge on the project?

_____ **Visual Display**-Has the data been presented in the best manner for the particular type of information involved? Are spelling errors present? Does the exhibit demonstrate a general neatness and attractiveness? Is the display presented in a logical and interesting manner?

Total Score

Final Placing _____

Project Components

LOG BOOK

A log book is your most important piece of work. It will contain accurate and detailed notes of a well-planned and implemented project. Your notes should be a consistent and thorough record of your project. This will be one of your greatest aids when writing your paper.

PROJECT REPORT

You will be required to submit a written project report. It must include the following:

- **Title Page.** Include the project title, your name, address and chapter.
- **Table of Contents.** Reference each section of your paper.
- **Abstract.** The abstract should be a maximum of one page in length. It should include a brief statement of purpose, procedures used, data collected and conclusions drawn. It may also include possible research applications or future research.
- **Introduction.** This should include the problem statement, your hypothesis, and an explanation of what prompted your research and what you hoped to achieve.
- **Materials and Methods.** Describe the methodology used to collect your data or make your observations. This should be descriptive enough to allow someone else to replicate your experiment. Include a list of materials and equipment used.
- **Results.** A factual presentation of the outcomes of your study. These may be presented in tables and charts.
- **Discussion and Conclusion.** Draw conclusions from the results of your study and relate them to your original hypothesis. Be thorough. Allow the reader to see your train of thought, compare your results to commonly held beliefs or expectations. Offer sound reasoning for your results. If your results were not as expected, explain why in this section.
- **Acknowledgements.** Credit those who assisted you in your investigations. These may be individuals or businesses that provided guidance or materials.
- **Literature cited.** A list of published articles, books or other communications cited in your text. Use an accepted style guide for proper reference listings and footnotes.

INTERVIEW

The interview will consist of a question and answer period between the student and judge(s). The maximum time limit for the interview is 15 minutes. Judges are impressed with those students who can speak freely and confidently about their work. They are not interested in memorized speeches, they simply want to talk about the research to see if the competitor(s) have a good grasp of the project from start to finish. Besides asking the obvious questions, judges often ask questions to test insight into the project such as "What wasn't done?" and "What would be the next step?"

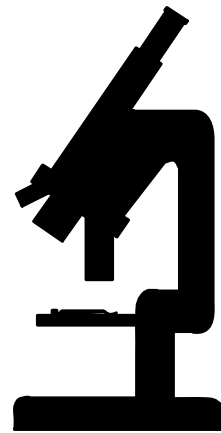
DISPLAY

Your display should be eye-catching and informative. Keep it simple so judges and others can quickly assess and understand your project and the results you achieved. Use clear language and captions to explain photos, graphs and other items. Make the headings stand out. Draw and clearly label graphs and diagrams. Use photographs to show the stages of your project or to depict items that may not be safe to exhibit or would be costly to transport or replace if lost or damaged.

Be sure to follow all rules relating to display requirements. Projects may be removed from competition if the guidelines are not followed.

JUDGING

Judges evaluate 1) how well the scientific method was followed; 2) the detail and accuracy of the log book and project report; and 3) whether tools/equipment were used in the best possible way. Judges look for well thought-out research. They look at how significant the project is in its field as well as how thorough the research is. The three components of the project: written report, interview and display, are all evaluated to determine the final placing of the exhibits.



Agriscience Fair Certification Form

Must include certification form with application beginning in 2003.

Each statement below must be certified by the local FFA Advisor and the State Staff. The purpose of this form is to ensure that all projects meet the eligibility, safety and display rules. This form does not prevent the project from being disqualified at the national level if any requirements are violated at that time. Any "no" answers disqualify the project from national competition. See rules brochure (application page 3 & 4) or the Agriscience Handbook for details

Local Advisor State Advisor

Yes	No	Yes	No	
				1. Participant is a current in-school FFA member.
				2. Project is the result of the student's (divisions 2 & 4) or student team's (division 1 & 3) own work.
				3. Student or team of students will be attending the National Agriscience Fair and meet with the judges. (If team, both are required to be present)
				4. Projects involving vertebrate animals/embryos did not involve surgery, removal of parts, injection of harmful chemicals or exposure to harmful environments.
				5. No toxic or hazardous chemicals are used with the display.
				6. No crystals, other than salt and sugar, are used with the display.
				7. No hypodermic needles or syringes are included with the display.
				8. No bacteria are included in the display.
				9. Only plastic petri dishes are used (if applicable).
				10. No lasers are used.
				11. No combustible materials are used.
				12. No open flames are included with the display.
				13. All electrical devices meet approved safety standards. (see rules brochure for details)
				14. The exhibit meets the size restrictions: 48 inches wide x 30 inches deep x 108 inches high (height includes the table is the project is on a table top)
				15. Five copies of the project abstract are included with this application/certification form.

We certify that the above information is true, accurate and complete.

Student Signature

Student Signature (if team)

Local FFA Advisor Signature

State FFA Advisor Signature

The application form, this certification form and five copies of the project abstract must be postmarked by August 15 each year. Mail forms to:

Agriscience Fair
 National FFA Organization
 PO Box 68960
 6060 FFA Drive
 Indianapolis, IN 46268



THE FFA MISSION

FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.

THE AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION MISSION

Agricultural Education prepares students for successful careers and a lifetime of informed choices in the global agriculture, food, fiber and natural resources systems.

Produced by the National FFA Organization in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Education as a service to state and local agricultural education agencies.

The National FFA Organization affirms its belief in the value of all human beings and seeks diversity in its membership, leadership and staff as an equal opportunity employer.

National FFA Organization
6060 FFA Drive
PO Box 68960
Indianapolis, IN 46268-0960
www.ffa.org

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(Abstract format)

Name

**Category
Division**

Abstract

Title of Project

Text of abstract should be 100 to 250 words, one page maximum; text of abstract should be Times New Roman font, 12-point pica, double-spaced. Headers and titles should be Times New Roman font, 12-point pica, and bolded. Each paragraph should be indented. Remember, the written report contains detailed information; the abstract is a brief overview that should catch the attention of the judges.

First paragraph: The purpose of your experiment.

Second paragraph: The procedures used during your experiment.

Third paragraph: The type of data collected during the experiment.

Fourth paragraph: The conclusions and research applications of your experiment.



One Mission: Student Success

75th National FFA Convention

October 30 - November 2, 2002

Agricultural Ambassador

Application

Due August 16, 2002

Name _____ Grade _____

E-Mail _____

Office Held _____

Home Address

School Address

(If Applicable)

Address _____

School _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

City _____

Phone _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Fax _____

Phone _____

Fax _____

1. Why do you desire to be an Agricultural Ambassador?

2. In what ways will your state benefit from your role as an Agricultural Ambassador?



National Chapter Award Judging Comment Sheet

Judges: Please mark as many comments as apply to the application. This form will be returned to the chapter with the application to assist them in preparing applications in the future.

State: _____ Chapter Name: _____

Suggestions for improvement:		Commendations:			
Overall					
Use only the official form for all pages		Excellent activities			
Use font no smaller than 10!		Innovative ideas!			
Use all space given to describe activities		Well-done application			
Proofread carefully for spelling & grammar		Good organization			
Do not use activity more than once on Form II		WOW!			
Too much repetition					
Activities should be related to quality standard					
Quality standards may only be used once					
Provide plan and results for each goal!					
Goals					
Write S.M.A.R.T.* goals		Well-written measurable goals			
A minimum of 3 goals required		Very educational and challenging			
A maximum of 5 goals is recommended. (this allows enough space in plan and results sections to follow-through on each goal)					
Plan of Action					
Report the plan for each goal stated		Well-planned activity			
Include a timeline for events		Clear procedures and steps			
Identify everyone involved		Unique/beneficial activity			
Description should be complete enough to allow for replication of event by those reading application.		Good detail			
More detail needed					
Results					
Report results for each goal stated		Great benefit to students			
Explain how this was a learning activity		Good involvement of community			
Who else was involved?		Good action photo			
Photo should be high quality		Impact on participants shown			
Photo should be from current year					
Caption must be 50 words or less					
More detail needed					
Final Ranking: (State use)		Final Ranking: (National use)			
Gold	Silver	Bronze	3 Star	2 Star	1 Star

* S.M.A.R.T. is an acronym for Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic and Trackable (Time-Specific), for more information, please see page 10 in the Chapter Planning and Recognition Handbook.