

# **State FFA Dairy Cattle Career Development Event**

**NOTE: All FOUR Individual Scores to be counted in Team Score!**

## **FORMAT**

### **A. Herd Record Evaluation**

1. Members of a team will collaborate to analyze individual cow production records (DHI) of a 20 cow herd. Individual cows are to be selected according to their appropriate status for culling, breeding or other management decision categories. Answers will be recorded on the provided team answer form. (See sample herd production form and questions on Dairy Cattle pages 5-8 in National CDE booklet.)
2. Each cow will have an assigned point value that will accumulate points toward team score only. Individual scores and rankings will not be affected.
3. The herd record management exercise is worth a maximum of 150 points. Members will have 20 minutes to complete it.

### **B. Pedigree Class**

1. One class of pedigrees (no animals present) will be ranked as to their indication of the animals' ability to transmit superior production and type traits to offspring. This exercise is worth 50 points for a perfect placing.
2. Other factors include completeness (number of daughters or records), accuracy (reliability), level of performance (type and production) and profitability.
3. See sample pedigrees and reasons on Dairy Cattle [National FFA CDE booklet. These pedigrees were placed 2-1-3-4 with cuts of 4-3-7].

### **C. Sire Selection Exercise**

1. The sire selection exercise requires members to use linear descriptive traits for one cow and sire summary information to make corrective matings. Participants will rank four potential mates for the cow. (See sample problems and reasons on Dairy Cattle, National FFA CDE booklet.)

2. Linear evaluation and production information on the cow will be provided along with the transmitting ability estimates of the sires.
3. A maximum of 50 points can be earned in this section.
4. A minimum of 15 minutes will be allowed for this exercise.

#### **D. Evaluation and Selection**

1. Three classes of four dairy animals each will be placed on type. Classes will be selected from the recognized breeds of dairy cattle. The class selection committee, however, shall give priority to selecting quality cattle in the breeds available, and not be obligated to having all breeds represented in the judging classes. Classes will consist of heifers, young cows or mature cows.
2. Participants will be permitted to view the animals from all angles but will not be permitted to handle them.
3. Animals will be numbered 4-3-2-1 left-to-right as viewed from the rear. The holders will wear numbers that identify the animals.
4. Each class is allowed 50 points for a correct placing (150 points maximum).
5. Participants will have a minimum of 12 minutes to place each class. For classes on which oral reasons will be given, participants will be given a minimum of 15 minutes.

#### **E. Oral Reasons**

1. Oral reasons will be required on one class, which will be designated by the event superintendent prior to the actual judging of the class.
2. Oral reasons will be given in another location immediately following the judging classes.
3. Participants may not use notes during delivery of reasons, with the exception of a card showing only their placing order.
4. Each class is allowed 50 points for a perfect set of reasons.

5. Participants will have at least 12 minutes to prepare each set of oral reasons. No more than two minutes may be used to deliver the reasons before the judges.

**F. General Knowledge Exam**

A 50 question multiple-choice exam will be given to each participant, with each question scored 2 points (for total of 100 points). Information on dairy foods may be included in the exam. Participants will have 30 minutes to complete exam.

**SCORING SUMMARY**

<b>Individual</b>	<b>Maximum Points</b>
B. Pedigree Class	50
C. Sire Selection	50
D. Judging	150
E. Oral Reasons	50
F. Written Exam	<u>100</u>
<b>TOTAL POSSIBLE SCORE</b>	400

  

<b>Team</b>	<b>Maximum Points</b>
A. Herd Record Evaluation	150
B. Individual Scores	<u>1,600</u>
<b>TOTAL POSSIBLE SCORE</b>	1,750