

# **LIVESTOCK EVALUATION**

Sponsored by:  
Department of Animal Science  
Oklahoma State University  
Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources

## **Contest Superintendent**

Dr. Mark Johnson  
109 Animal Science Bldg.  
(405) 744-6065  
mark.johnson@okstate.edu

## **Contest Details**

**Date:** Saturday, April 26, 2008  
**Time:** 7:00 a.m.  
**Location:** Animal Science Arena - West on McElroy, Stillwater

**\*\*Students with cell phones will be disqualified.**

## **Contest Purpose, Objectives, Rules and Guidelines**

### **CONTEST OBJECTIVES**

- I. To understand and to interpret the value of performance data based on industry standards.
- II. To measure the students' knowledge in the following categories:
  - A. to make accurate observations of livestock
  - B. to determine the desirable traits in animals
  - C. to make logical decisions based on these observations
  - D. to discuss and to defend their decisions for their placing.
- III. To develop the ability to select livestock that will provide increased economic returns to producers, as well as meet the needs of the industry and consumers.
- IV. To become proficient in communicating in the terminology of the industry and the consumer.
- V. To identify the criteria used in marketing livestock.

### **RULES OF THE CONTEST**

- I. One team composed of three or four members may be entered by each school. The three high scores will be considered the official contestants. Ties will be broken by alternate's score and if still tied, by team reasons.
- II. Absolutely no individuals or partial teams will be allowed to compete.

- III. No one will be allowed in the arena during the contest other than contest officials, judges, and contestants. Coaches may see the classes in the livestock holding area after the oral reasons session begins, but are not allowed in the arena during the contest.
- IV. No one except contest personnel will be allowed in the tabulation room. Any school or coach entering the tabulation room will be automatically disqualified.
- V. No contestant shall be permitted at the OSU livestock barns or the Animal Science arena to inspect the animals to be used in this contest prior to the judging, and any violation of this rule will be sufficient to bar such student from the contest.
- VI. Registration will begin at 7:00 a.m. Instructions will be given at 7:30 a.m. and the contest will start shortly thereafter. No team shall be allowed to enter after instructions have been given and contestants divided into groups.
- VII. While the contest is in progress, there shall be no conferring between contestants. A warning will be given after the first violation and any further violation will warrant disqualification. Furthermore, contestants are not permitted to carry cell phones or any electronic devices during the contest. Contestants that violate this rule will be disqualified.
- VIII. Six classes of livestock of four animals each will be placed. There will be one class each of: breeding sheep, market lambs, market swine, breeding swine, market cattle and breeding cattle. The classes may be shown loose or by holders.
- IX. Three sets of oral reasons will be designated by the Superintendent at the beginning of the contest. Reasons will be given after all classes have been placed. Notes will not be permitted; however, contestants may use a card with only their placing of the class written on it.
- X. One class of 5 slaughter cattle will be graded individually, according to the latest U.S. Market Grades, using Slaughter Cattle Card (quality and yield grades). One class of 5 feeder cattle will be graded according to the latest U.S. Market grades using Feeder Cattle Card (frame size and muscle thickness). For the most current information, copies of standards and posters (large and small) illustration of these grades write: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA, Livestock Seed Division - Standard and Review Branch, Room 2641, South Building, Washington, D. C. 20250. These classes will be scored according to the National FFA Livestock Evaluation CDE Feeder and Slaughter Cattle Grading score cards.
- XI. The contest will include three female selection classes, one each in beef, sheep and hogs, consisting of eight animals. Contestants will be required to select the four best animals from the eight using visual appraisal and performance data. Performance data will be provided orally or in writing. Scenarios will be used in the selection process. An example of the female selection class card is shown in this section.
- XII. Performance Records may be used in the placing and the female selection classes of beef, sheep, and swine. Performance criteria, when used shall be based on standards developed and used by; the Beef Improvement Federation, the Sheep Industry Development Program, Inc., and the National Swine Improvement Federation.

Beef Improvement Federation  
Department of Animal Sciences and Industry  
Kansas State University  
Northwest Research Extension Center

105 Experiment Farm Road  
Colby, Kansas 67701

National Swine Improvement Federation  
204 Polk Hall  
North Carolina State University  
Raleigh, NC 27695-7621

Sheep Industry Development Program, Inc.  
200 Clayton Street  
Denver, CO 80206

- XIII. One of the female selection classes will be judged as a cooperative team event
- XIV. Go to [judgingcard.com](http://judgingcard.com) for example of CDE judging card.