Farm Power and Machinery

Revised 6/2023

Purpose and Standards

The contest shall be designed to test a student’s mechanical skills and abilities relating to power equipment used in agriculture, and shall serve as a training forum for students interested in pursuing a career as an equipment technician.

Foundation Standards: Mathematics Algebra 10, 12, 13, 15 and Geometry 8, 10, 11, Listening and Speaking 1.8, 2.3, Technology 4.1, 4.2, 4.6, Problem Solving and Critical Thinking 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, Health and Safety 6.2, 6.4, 6.5, Ethics and Legal Responsibilities 8.3, Leadership and Teamwork 9.1, 9.2, 9.3.

Ag Mechanics Pathway Standards: Safety B 1.0, Engines and Machinery B 11.0.

Contestants

Teams consist of three members, with all three individual scores counting as the team score. All team members are eligible for individual awards.

Classes

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Individual Points** | **Team Points** |
| A. | Parts & Tool Identification | 100 | 300 |
| B. | General Information Test | 100 | 300 |
| C. | Tractor Operation and Safety | 100 | 300 |
| D. | Trouble Shooting of Tractors and Machinery | 100 | 300 |
|  | TOTAL | 400 | 1200 |

Tie Breaker

1. In the Farm Power and Machinery Contest ties will be broken on the basis of the highest individual or team score(s) using the general information test portion of the contest.
2. If a tie still exists, the total score of the individual or team will be used to determine the high individual or team.

Sub-contest Awards

Sub-contest awards will be given for high teams and individuals in the following areas: Parts & Tool Identification, General Information Test, Tractor Operation and Safety, and Trouble Shooting of Tractors and Machinery.

Host School Requirements

The sponsoring school shall determine which area in the Tractor Driving section it will offer and then inform schools in their letter of invitation for the contest.

Rules

1. Each area of competition may have several methods of presentation. The selection of the method to use for competition is to be made by the organizing group who is sponsoring the contest.
2. The sponsoring agency will select four pieces of equipment to be used for identification and/or trouble shooting from the list of equipment below:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Disc Harrows | Moldboard Plows | Cultivators |
| Swathers/Mowers | Rakes | Balers |
| Planters/Drills | Combines | Spray Equipment |
| Wheel/Track Tractors | Forage Harvesters | Nut Sweeper |
| Tree Shaker | Shuttle Cart | Nut Pickup Machine |

1. Written materials will be returned; Scantron score sheets could be returned.
2. The references to be used for the contest are listed below:

* FMO Tractors
* FOS Engines
* FOS Hydraulics
* FOS Electrical Systems
* FOS Shop Tools
* FMO Books pertaining to EQUIPMENT listed above.

Various operator’s manuals related to the listed equipment may be used for contest sections A, C and D. Deere and Company publishes many of the resources. All equipment dealers provide equivalent materials.

1. Contest Area Descriptions
   1. Parts & Tool Identification – This area shall consist of the identification of parts and tools that are commonly found and currently used in the area of power equipment.  
        
      The references listed above shall establish the common name of parts and tools used in the contest and provide consistency from contest to contest. There may, however, be variations of the parts as they are shown in the references.  
        
      The testing format for this area is at the discretion of the sponsoring school, which could be name identification, purpose or function identification, or problems associated with those parts used.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Tool ID, Engine ID, and Hydraulic ID |  | 40 pts. |
| Tractor and Machinery ID |  | 60 pts. |

* 1. General Information Test – The written test for this contest shall be designed to test the contestants on their knowledge in the area of farm power and machinery.  
       
     The test format can be true/false, multiple choice, short answer, fill in, matching, math problems, or any combination of testing systems. The subject areas to be included on the test are as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Diesel Engines |  | 10 pts. |
| Gasoline Engines |  | 10 pts. |
| Hydraulics |  | 10 pts. |
| Electrical Systems |  | 10 pts. |
| Equipment Maintenance |  | 10 pts. |
| Field Operation |  | 15 pts. |
| Implements |  | 15 pts. |
| Power Transmission |  | 20 pts. |
| TOTAL |  | 100 pts. |

* 1. Tractor Operation and Safety – This area shall consist of a Safety Test, one Tractor Driving section, and one Tractor Controls section to test the contestants’ ability to safely and accurately operate modern farm tractors and machinery.

Safety Test – 20 pts.

Consists of written questions on safety procedures when operating, servicing, and working around tractors and farm machinery.

Tractor Driving – 40 pts.  
The sponsoring agency will devise a course to test contestants’ driving skills in one of three areas:

Backing – trailer shall be of the two-wheel variety only.

Precision – tractor mounted implement.

Hitching – 3 pt. Mounted Implement.

Scoring in all events will have a balance between time and safety. Standardized score sheets shall be developed for this area. Only wheel tractors will be used and when possible, like types of tractors and implements will be provided for each area.

Tractor Controls – 40 pts.

The sponsoring agency will develop an operation procedure to test contestants' knowledge and skills in correctly adjusting and operating tractor and implement controls.  
  
Note: Possible Operation Control Examples are as follow, hosting schools are not limited to this list.

Draft/Position Control Setting

Lower/Response Setting

Height Adjustment – three point

Remote Hydraulic Operation

Differential Lock Usage

Turning Brake Usage

Mechanical Front Wheel Drive Operation

Seat Adjustment

Light System

Instrument Panel Check

Pre-operational Check

Safety Check

Tire Setup

Functional Explanation of Transmission

Use of Hydraulic Pressure Test Gauge

Use of Volt/Ohm Meter

* 1. Trouble Shooting of Tractors and Machinery – This area will test the contestants’ ability to inspect Tractors, Implements, or Machinery and determine maintenance needs, adjustment problems, and visible faults and safety hazards. Common and visible faults are to be used. Implements may be set on the ground, in transport position, or in working field position.

1. Post - Contest Procedures
   1. Critique – a review of each area of the contest, open to all Agricultural Teachers and contestants, will be held after the contest.