Fruit Tree Judging

Revised 6/2020

Purpose and Standards

The Fruit Tree Judging event seeks to effectively prepare the students to learn current agriculture pomology practices and procedures used in today’s industry. Workers seeking careers in agriculture must not only develop a high degree of knowledge and skill, they must also develop the ability to solve difficult problems. This event blends the testing of manipulative skills and knowledge required for careers in agriculture production.

Foundation Standards: Mathematics Algebra, 15.0 and Geometry 8.0, 11.0. History & Social Science Principles of Economics: 12.2.2, 12.2.5, 12.2.6, 12.2.7. Communication: 1.1, 2.2, & 1.8.

Plant and Soil Pathway: G11.1, 5.0 5.3 and 11.1. Ag and Natural Resources Pathway: Health & Safety 6.0, 6.1, 6.2, 6.4, & 6.5.

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

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Class | Individual Points | Maximum Team Points |
| Class #1 | 50 | 150 |
| Class #2 | 50 | 150 |
| Class #3 | 50 | 150 |
| Class #4 | 50 | 150 |
| Class #1 Reasons | 50 | 150 |
| Class #2 Reasons | 50 | 150 |
| Class #3 Reasons | 50 | 150 |
| Class #4 Reasons | 50 | 150 |
| Total | 400 | 1200 |

Tie Breaker

1. The team or individual scoring the highest reason score(s) will be the winner.
2. If a tie still exists, Class #1 placing will be used to determine the high individual or team.
3. If a tie still exists, Class #2 placing will be used to determine the high individual or team.
4. If a tie still exists, Class #3 placing will be used to determine the high individual or team.
5. If a tie still exists, Class #4 placing 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: Class #1, Class #2, Class #3, and Class #4. (Reasons included in respective class sub-contests.)

Rules

1. Classes to be judged:
   1. Four classes of trees will be judging. They will be labeled 1, 2, 3, 4.
   2. These classes will be young or bearing trees. One class will be almonds and the remaining classes will be selected from the following: apricots, apriums, nectarines, peaches, plouts, and plums. No more than one class will be given on each of these classes.
   3. In giving reasons, the students may look at their notes while giving their reasons for a deduction of five (5) points for every time they look at their notes. If a student reads their reasons, then the maximum they can score is twenty-five (25) points.
2. Contestants will be graded 50 percent for correct placement and 50 percent for oral presentations of reasons. Reasons are to be judged according to the following scores:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1. | Subject Matter | 60% |
| 2. | Logic and Force | 30% |
| 3. | Bearing and Address | 10% |

1. Twenty minutes will be allowed for judging each class. The contestant's reasons will be stopped at two (2) minutes each class.
2. The following score card used in judging trees has been reproduced for the instructor's convenience.
3. Judging of mature trees will be based on the trees merit on the day of judging.

TREE JUDGING SCORE CARD

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Values** | |
|  | Bearing  Trees | Non-Bearing  Trees 1-4 yrs |
| 1. Size | 15 | 15 |
| a. Height of Tree |  |  |
| b. Spread of Branches |  |  |
| c. Circumference of Trunk |  |  |
| 2. Framework | 15 | 20 |
| a. No. of Primary Scaffolds 3-4 |  |  |
| b. Ht. Of Primary Scaffolds 24-30 inches   from the ground |  |  |
| c. Distribution - 6-10 inches apart |  |  |
| d. No. of Secondary Scaffolds 5-7 |  |  |
| e. Ht. Of Secondary Scaffolds |  |  |
| f. General Symmetry of tree (Vase |  |  |
| Shaped, Modified Leader Type) |  |  |
| 3. Pruning | 15 | 20 |
| a. System should be in accord with length,   growth-severe, moderate or light |  |  |
| b. Fruiting wood evenly distributed |  |  |
| c. Interfering branches and dead wood removed |  |  |
| d. Pruning cuts properly made and treated |  |  |
| 4. Vigor | 15 | 25 |
| a. Dark green large leaves |  |  |
| b. Sufficient new wood past season |  |  |
| c. New wood in good condition - not spindling |  |  |
| 5. Fruitfulness | 20 |  |
| a. Amount of condition of fruiting wood |  |  |
| b. Amount and condition of fruiting buds,   blossoms or fruit |  |  |
| c. Yield - amount and quality |  |  |
| 6. Health | 20 | 20 |
| a. Fungus or bacterial diseases |  |  |
| b. Insect pests |  |  |
| c. Physiological diseases |  |  |
| d. Mechanical injury |  |  |
| e. Sunburn |  |  |
| f. Frost injury |  |  |
| TOTAL | 100 | 100 |