



Dairy Cattle Evaluation and Management

Purpose

The purpose of the New Jersey FFA Dairy Cattle Evaluation and Management Career Development Event is to provide a competitive event for agricultural education students that emphasizes skills in dairy cattle management and evaluation.

Objectives

- To provide a practical experience to students enrolled in agricultural education with an interest in dairy cattle to help prepare them for industry positions or to manage a modern dairy herd.
- To develop students' skills in observation, analysis, communication, and team collaboration.
- To provide experience in the evaluation of dairy cattle type, production records and dairy herd management.
- To encourage agriculture instructors to seek assistance from various resources in the dairy industry. (Examples: dairy breed associations, artificial breeding organizations, state extension dairy specialists, state dairy herd improvement associations, dairy equipment manufacturers, local dairy farmers and breeders, etc.)

Event Rules

The complete rules, policies and procedures relevant to all New Jersey FFA Career and Leadership Development Events may be found in the CDE & LDE Event Participation Policy:

https://nj.gov/agriculture/ag_ed/ffa/activity/CDE_LDE_Policy.pdf

- This event is hosted by the New Jersey 4-H. Rules in this handbook are subject to change with little to no notice as a result.
- Teams will consist of four members, and all four scores will count toward the team score. Students CAN compete as both FFA members and 4-H members. However, they must complete and submit the appropriate score cards for each organization.
- The team score is comprised of the combined scores of each individual and the team activity in which all team members will participate.
- Participants should wear an FFA shirt, long pants, and appropriate footwear (no sneakers or open-toed shoes). Participants must come to the event prepared to work in adverse weather conditions. The event will be conducted regardless of weather. Participants should have rain gear, warm clothes and closed toed shoes. All contestants must wear rubber boots which can be disinfected or plastic boot covers.
- The most current and updated information will be used as industry standards change.
- Any communication between participants during the event will be sufficient cause to eliminate the team from the event.
- Any participant caught cheating during the event will be expelled from the event.
- Participants are NOT allowed to use (or have visible) electronic devices during the event, unless for medical reasons or a portion of the event requires usage. This includes cell phones, tablets, etc. Participants will be allowed to use calculators, if specified for that event; however, cell phone calculators and graphing calculators are not permitted! Failure to adhere to these rules will result in disqualification.
- All individuals participating will judge in a cooperative manner following the rules set forth by the event coordinator.
- No school/chapter will use Rutgers University or Delaware Valley University facilities or locations for the training of teams. Contact with University faculty and staff is permissible. **Penalty will be disqualification.**

- There will be no separate alternate teams.
- The State level competition fee of \$11 per contestant will be paid by the competing school. If a chapter is at least blue affiliated, registration to state FFA career development events is waived.

Event Format

Each participant must have:

- Two sharpened No. 2 pencils.
- Clipboard
- Blank paper

Flow of Event

- Evaluation of 4 classes – 60 minutes
- Reason Class #1
- Reason Class #2
- Judges' Comments

Individual Activities

Evaluation and Selection (200 points)

- Four classes of four dairy animals will each 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 to having all breeds represented in the evaluation classes. Classes will consist of heifers, young cows or mature cows.
- Class or classes may contain production/pedigree data as part of the evaluation process.
- Participants will be permitted to view the animals from all angles but will not be permitted to handle them.
- The dairy cattle handlers will wear numbers, which identify the animals. If there are no handlers, each animal will be clearly identified.
- Each class is worth 50 points maximum for a correct placing.
- Participants will have 12 minutes to place each class. For classes on which oral reasons will be given, an additional 8 minutes will be allowed for taking notes on the class.
- No books or notes are allowed at the contest..

Oral Reasons (100 points)

- Oral reasons will be required on at least two classes. These classes will be designated by the event superintendent prior to the actual evaluation of the class. Participants can take notes on each reasons class for preparation.
- Oral reasons will be given in another location immediately following the evaluation classes.
- Participants may not use notes during delivery of reasons. Points will be deducted for the use of notes.
- Each class is worth 50 points maximum for each set of reasons.
- Participants will have 12 minutes to prepare each set of oral reasons. No more than two minutes may be used to deliver the reasons before the judges.

Scoring

Activity	Individual Points	Team Points
Evaluation (4 classes)	200	800
Oral reasons (2 classes)	100	400
Total possible score	300	1,200

Tiebreakers

If a tie occurs, the following events will be used to determine award recipients:

Individual

- Oral reasons score.
- General knowledge exam score.
- Evaluation score.

Overall Team

- Team activity score.
- Total oral reasons score.
- Total general knowledge exam score.
- Total evaluation score

Awards

Awards will be presented to individuals and the first place team based on their rankings at the CDE awards ceremony at the New Jersey State FFA Convention. Awards are sponsored by the New Jersey FFA Foundation, Inc., the New Jersey State FFA Association, and/or the National FFA Organization.

Individual

- Overall Medals
 - Medals – Top three individuals
- H.O. Sampson Certificates (hands-on sections ONLY)
 - Certificate – Top five individuals

Team

- Plaque Sponsored by the National FFA Organization – 1st place

The 1st place team will represent New Jersey at the Big E in September and National FFA Convention in October.

References

This list of references is not intended to be all-inclusive.

Other sources may be utilized, and teachers are encouraged to make use of the very best instructional materials available. The following list contains references that may prove helpful during event preparation.

- National FFA past CDE materials, [FFA.org](https://www.ffa.org)
- Hoard's Dairyman — Judging contest and materials, youth tests and quiz questions and current industry issues, www.hoards.com
- Cornell University Department of Animal Science Dairy Resources, <https://cals.cornell.edu/nys-4-h-animal-science-programs/state-events/contest-resources/dairy-judging>
- Virginia Dairy Quiz Bowl study materials, <https://www.vtdairy.dasc.vt.edu/youth/quizbowl/youth-quiz-bowl.html>
- CEV Multimedia, Inc., <https://www.icevonline.com/>
- Holstein Foundation Education Workbooks, <http://www.holsteinfoundation.org/education/workbooks.html>
- Holstein Foundation Youth Programs: Dairy Bowl Materials, <http://www.holsteinfoundation.org/youthprograms/dairybowl.html>
- Dairy Herd Improvement, www.drms.org
- Current Dairy Unified Scorecard, <http://www.purebreddairy cattle.com/pages/Literature.php>
- Gillispie, James R. Modern Livestock and Poultry Production (most current edition). Albany, N.Y.: Delmar Cengage Learning, Inc. Cengage Publishers, [Cengage.com](http://www.cengage.com)

Request for Reasonable Accommodations

The New Jersey FFA Association is committed to providing equal access to our events and activities for all people. Use this form to request a reasonable accommodation or assistance at least 3 weeks before any state-level events: <https://form.jotform.com/NJFFA/accommodations-request>. A new form will need to be submitted for each event in which a reasonable accommodation is being requested. This information will be kept confidential and will be used only to process the request. Our staff will review the request upon receipt and contact the requestor with additional information. The association cannot guarantee accommodations or assistance if a form is received less than 3 weeks before an event. Accommodations being requested that require the assistance of another person (nurse, interpreter, scribe, reader, etc.) is the responsibility of the school/requestor. It is also the school/requestor's responsibility to provide any approved equipment to aide in the accommodation process, if applicable.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy and Guidelines

The standard operative procedures allow FFA members to use AI tools to assist them in their learning. Appropriate uses of AI may include generating ideas for any FFA-related assignment, project, contest and award application; checking facts of a phenomenon; or checking for and correcting grammatical errors in a paper written by a member. Specific guidelines for appropriate use, including examples, is provided in the policy. To ensure clarity, a statement outlining ethical AI utilization will be added to program handbooks. Non-compliance with this policy represents plagiarism and will automatically disqualify a member.

Please visit the State Activity Guide, [Artificial Intelligence \(AI\) Policy 1.007](#) to view the full guidelines and best practices.

New Jersey FFA Association | Career and Leadership Development Events

Professional Integrity

FFA members participating in New Jersey FFA programs and events understand and agree that all work must result from their own effort and ability, created, and completed alone (except for partner or chapter applications). When outside sources (direct quotes or phrases, specific dates, figures, or other materials) are used for a project, document, or application, the required reference citation must be completed according to the rules specified by the applicable handbook.

While participating in New Jersey FFA programs, FFA members are prohibited from:

- Plagiarizing
- Violating copyright
- Cheating
- Falsifying information
- Using another person's results or thoughts as their own, even with this person's permission. This includes work done by a family member or a mentor.
- Using information or data obtained from the internet without proper citation.

Any attempt to gain an unfair advantage will not be tolerated. Non-compliance represents plagiarism and will automatically disqualify a member.