

Agriculture Public Speaking

Event Rules

All members participating in this Leadership Development Event must meet the eligibility requirements and adhere to the rules of the Kentucky FFA Association as outlined in the Rules Governing FFA Activities document.

This is an individual event. A chapter is allowed one participant in each of the agriculture public speaking areas.

Official Dress Appropriate: Yes

Regional Event: Regional FFA Day

State Event: State FFA Convention

AGRICULTURE PUBLIC SPEAKING AREAS

A separate event will be held in each of the following areas:

- Agriculture Mechanics
- Beef
- Crop
- Dairy
- Fruit and Vegetable
- Goat and Sheep
- Greenhouse
- Floral
- Horse
- Nursery and Landscape
- Poultry
- Small Animal
- Swine
- Turf and Lawn Care

SPEECH THEMES

By December 1st of each year, a list of speech themes will be posted to www.kyffa.org. A theme will be listed for each speech area.

The theme will be a broad topic such as Beef Nutrition.

Student speeches must have a clear relation to the theme provided.



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SPEECH PREPARATION

Student will write a prepared speech that is directly related to the theme for their area. Speeches should be about a specific topic related to the theme.

The purpose of the speech is to inform the audience about the topic. It should be assumed that the audience has a basic understanding of the agriculture industry but judges may or may not be experts in the area. In the example of beef nutrition the speech could be as general as “feeding the breeding herd” or as specific as “feeding distillers grain to brood cows.”

Speeches are to be the original work of the student. Sources must be cited. Appropriate credit must be given for direct quotations used in the speech. The works cited page must list all resources that were used in preparation of the speech including sources for statistics, quotations, and other information. A sample works cited page is available at www.kyffa.org

A works cited page will be presented to the judges prior to the speech being given.

DELIVERY OF SPEECH

Upon entering the room, the speaker should be prepared to give their name and chapter to the judges. They will begin speaking on a signal from the time keeper.

Each speaker shall be limited to five (5) minutes to deliver their speech. Time will begin when the speaker begins speaking.

The timekeeper will stand at 4:00 and again at 4:30. A participant who goes over five minutes will be assessed a 10 point penalty (penalty is at 5:01.) At 5:30, students will be stopped and not allowed to finish speaking.

Speeches should be prepared in advance and students must be familiar with their speeches. It is acceptable for students to use note cards during delivery of the speech and no additional points will be given for a memorized speech. Students are not expected to turn in a manuscript to the judges. Points may be deducted if the students’ use of notes is distracting from the presentation.

QUESTIONS

Following presentation of the speech, the time keeper will announce “We will now begin questions.”

Students will have two questions or two minutes for questions. If the two minutes expires while the student is answering a question, they will be allowed to complete their answer.



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Questions must be related to the topic of the speech and may be specific in nature. For example, if the student's speech was on "feeding distillers grain to brood cows" it would be acceptable to ask questions about anything related to the use of distillers grain including the cost, nutritional content, storage, transportation, supplement needs, etc.

Questions may not be outside the scope of the speech. Questions may not be controversial or political.

There will be no penalties assessed related to the time taken for questions.

Scoring

Agriculture Public Speaking participants in the regional FFA Day event will be rated by the judges as Superior, Excellent, Good, or Fair.

The regional winning speaker and the runner-up will represent the region in the state event.

Three judges for each event, are to be selected by the regional organization of the Kentucky Association of Agriculture Educators (KAAE). The judges will select the winner of the event using the official score sheet only to supplement their combined opinion.

