LIVESTOCK EVALUATION

During the Livestock Evaluation Career Development Event (CDE), students work within teams to rank breeding and market classes of beef, sheep and swine and give oral reasons to back up their decisions.

Students participating in this CDE make accurate and logical observations of livestock, decide on the desirable traits in marketing and breeding livestock, and select and market livestock that will satisfy consumer demands and provide increased economic returns to producers.

Understanding what makes a good market or breeding beef, sheep or swine is valuable knowledge for the decisions every livestock producer has to make. This CDE also encourages students to communicate proficiently, interpret data and work as a team — skills that translate into other career opportunities.

RULES AND REGULATIONS
1. The top 4 individual scores on a team will be used to determine the team score.

2. Three sets of oral reasons will be designated by the division superintendent at the beginning of the CDE, each on a different species, one breeding and one market, and one performance data set. Reasons will be given after all classes have been placed. Two minutes will be allowed the contestant for each set of reasons. The reason judges will work with the official judges when the reason class is judged. Oral reasons will be graded on the basis of 50 points for a perfect score. The scores made on reasons will be added to the individual placing score to determine the total individual score.

3. Either one beef, sheep or swine female selection class will be included. Contestants will be required to select the best four animals from eight, using visual appraisal and performance data. Performance data will be provided either orally or visually.

4. One class of breeding beef, sheep or swine will be evaluated with performance data provided for each animal, this data will be used in the final placing of the class. This class will also be one of the three oral reasons classes.

5. Contestants will be allowed 12 minutes for each class. Two minutes will be allowed for passing time.

6. The General Livestock Evaluation CDE Superintendent will have the authority to determine which classes will be handled. Officials cannot touch animals that contestants are not allowed to handle.

7. Contestants will be permitted to view the animals from all angles. The Livestock Evaluation CDE Superintendent will arrange for rear view, side view, and close-up inspection of all classes in a systematic manner.

8. Animals will be numbered 1, 2, 3, and 4, left to right, as viewed from the rear.

9. The Hormel system will be used for the official scoring except for reasons, selection and grading as per National CDE Rules.

10. The Livestock Evaluation CDE Superintendent will designate a tie-breaking class.

11. The group leader will initial the correct response on the student's marks on the scorecard if a change is necessary.

PROBLEM SOLVING (50 POINTS)
The problem-solving component of the event is a team activity for advanced teams only, requiring all members

of the team to work individually to complete the test. This will be a 50 point 25 question problem-solving test with multiple-choice responses over livestock science selection, management and production. The questions will come from the last three years of national tests. Time allowed will be one hour. Score earned will be recorded on the individual scores. (Value per team is equal to 200 points.)

TIEBREAKERS
If ties occur, the following events, in order, will be used to determine individual and team outcomes:
1.Total of oral reasons.
2.Total of placing classes.
3.Total of keep/cull classes.

Livestock classes shall consist of:

2021-2022:
1 class breeding ewes
1 class market lambs
1 class breeding gilts
1 class market hogs
1 class breeding heifers
1 class market cattle
1 class of market goats
1 class heifer selection (8 head)
*3 sets of oral reasons

2022-2023:
1 class breeding ewes
1 class market lambs
1 class breeding gilts
1 class market hogs
1 class breeding heifers
1 class market cattle
1 class market goats
1 class gilt selection (8 head)
*3 sets of oral reasons

2023-2024:
1 class breeding ewes
1 class market lambs
1 class breeding gilts
1 class market hogs
1 class breeding heifers
1 class market cattle
1 class of market goats
1 class ewe selection (8 head)
*3 sets of oral reasons

** 1 of the Breeding classes shall have performance data and be one of the reasons classes
***Beginning competitors will answer a series of questions in place of the Oral Reasons classes.**