

2019 Extemporaneous Public Speaking Topics

1. What impact has the Antiquities Act had on land ownership and management in the western United States?
2. Should the USDA have standard definitions/requirements to label products for practices such as “grass-fed” and “naturally grown”?
3. How does the regulation of antibiotic use affect the food animal industry?
4. How are food safety issues affecting the Oregon shellfish producers and consumers?
5. How could the legalization of federal horse slaughter affect agriculture in the United States?
6. How should water be prioritized and managed in terms of production agriculture?
7. How do current agricultural commodity transportation issues affect Oregon agriculture?
8. How can Oregon agriculturalists utilize and implement integrated pest management (IPM) systems?
9. How can agriculturalists help close the communication and knowledge gap between producers and consumers?
10. How can Oregon producers compete with other states and countries with a minimum wage that is drastically higher?
11. How is precision agriculture changing the face of Oregon agriculture?
12. Should the state government be able to regulate regional crop production?
13. Should sea lions be removed from the base of dams for fish survival?
14. Does the benefit of alternative energy sources outweigh the loss of agricultural land or aesthetic value of the area?
15. How has GMO labeling affected production agriculture?
16. How will current and proposed international tariffs affect agriculture?
17. Should agriculture education curriculum be mandatory in elementary schools?

18. What roles will agriscience and technology play in feeding the world by 2050?
19. How have Oregon's wildfire prevention methods affected wildfires and Oregon agriculture?
20. Does Oregon's reputation as a "green" state attract business?
21. How can the port of Portland attract new container shipping companies?
22. Who should own precision ag data? The farmer or the equipment manufacturer?
23. Should the Oregon Department of Education modernize high school graduation requirements?
24. Should environmental groups be allowed to sue on behalf of a species, plot of land, etc.?
25. Is it appropriate to have different wage rates in different parts of the state?
26. How do we bridge the rural and urban divide in Oregon?
27. What affects could changes to US immigration laws have on agriculture?
28. How should predator control be funded in the state of Oregon?
29. What are the consequences of dam removal and are the benefits worth the cost?
30. Has Oregon's land use policy been beneficial and should it be continued?