

Agricultural Issues Forum - Career Development Event

Sponsored by:
Helena Chemical
Company



Purpose: The FFA Agricultural Issues Forum Career Development Event (CDE) is designed to provide an opportunity to expose a wide variety of students to the selection, research, planning and presentation of an agricultural issue. This is a team event with three to seven FFA members who are actively participating, orally presenting, and available to answer judges' questions.

Background: Agricultural Issues Forum is a relatively new CDE. Team members develop a presentation, which may include official FFA dress, costumes, props, skits, and other creative paraphernalia. The issue will come from one of the following seven agricultural topics as listed in the Focusing on Agricultural Issues instructional materials provided to agricultural education instructors:

- Environmental Issues
- Agricultural Technology Issues
- Animal Issues
- Agricultural Career Issues
- Economy and Trade Issues

- Agricultural Policy Issues
- Food Safety Issues

Research on the topic must be current and students must be involved in all the research of the topic and development of a portfolio.

The CDE is currently held on the state and national levels. All chapters in Tennessee are eligible to compete on the state level at the State FFA Convention held each spring in Gatlinburg. The state winner will represent Tennessee at the National FFA Convention in October. Three competent and unbiased judges will be selected from academia, businesses, and industry.

Visibility: The sponsor of this award will be recognized in the following ways:

- Immediate press release recognizing the new partnership.
- Statewide recognition at the state FFA convention in front of 2,500 FFA members.
- Statewide media recognition through press releases in agricultural publications.
- Name of sponsor will be on plaques received by FFA members.

Budget: The annual cost of this three-year commitment is \$1000.00. This amount of support each year will provide for cash awards and the cost of award plaques with the sponsor's name on each of three regional levels and on the statewide level. It will also cover the cost of the individual to compete at the national level.

Expected Results: This partnership will generate added interest and excitement in this award area. Through this increased interest more students will focus their skill development in the area of agricultural issues.