

Land Judging – Career Development Event

Sponsored by: Farm Bureau Insurance



Purpose: The purpose of the Land Judging Career Development Event (CDE) is to provide a competitive event for agricultural education students, emphasizing skills evaluating soil for agricultural and home purposes.

Background: The Land Judging CDE has been successfully conducted as a cooperative activity between the FFA and the 4-H club for over forty years. This CDE encourages FFA members to gain an appreciation for soil and water conservation. Specifically members:

- Learn to evaluate the physical characteristics of land including soil texture, depth, drainage, available water

holding capacity, rock content, slope, erosion and site location.

- Place the site into the proper Land Capability class and determine its limitations.
- Make recommended land use practices.
- Evaluate the location for home site usage.

A team consists of four students with the three highest grades used to determine the team score. Students evaluate four locations with an open pit at least five feet deep at each location. Students compete on the district, regional and state levels before advancing to a national contest held during early May each year in Oklahoma. Members advance as a team. The top two teams from each region advance to the state competition. Soil scientists are used to help conduct the CDE by selecting the sites to be used and making the official evaluations. The top two state teams represent Tennessee at the national event.

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 on plaques received by FFA members.

Budget: The annual cost of this three-year commitment is \$2200.00. This amount of support each year will provide the award plaques with sponsor's name on each of three regional levels and at the state level, regional CDE expenses for teams to travel to the state competition, and travel expenses for the winning team to participate in the national competition.

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 land management.