

WOOL

3 or 4 Member Teams

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of the wool career development event is to support instructional objectives related to the grading and marketing of wool. Students apply skills related to grading wool based on spinning count and yield, factors used to market the product. Additionally, students make observations and generalization and apply decision-making skills.

II. Equipment

Team members must provide their own compliant clipboard and/or clean folder with the following items: scan sheet, and/or copy of the scan sheet, optional Texas FFA CDE drop sheet, and/or 2 sheets of lined or unlined blank paper.

III. EVENT FORMAT

1. Team Make-up

Three or four individuals per school form a team. All members will be scored and the top three scores will count towards the team total.

2. Fleece Evaluation (300 points)

- a. Evaluation for fineness, length and yield will be done on the scan sheet.
- b. Students will be given 30 minutes to evaluate 30 fleeces (at least one minute per fleece, based on provider preference).
- c. Each fleece is worth ten 10 points. Correct checks receive four points for fineness, two points for length and four points for yield.
 - i. Fineness will be determined according to the Spinning Counts (see table below). Correct answer will receive full credit of 4 points, answers that are one fineness away will receive 2 points, and answers more than one fineness away will receive 0 points.
 - ii. Length will be classified as staple, French combing or clothing.
 - iii. Staple lengths ~~samples~~ will ~~also~~ be pulled ~~by contest officials~~ and attached to a paper background ~~with a clear covering~~ and mounted on cardstock for staple length. This is the only staple that should be analyzed to determine staple length. Correct answers will receive 2 points any incorrect answer will receive 0 points.
 - iv. Students will write in a percentage for yield any answer within 4% will receive full credit of 4 points. Any answer within 5% to 8% will receive 2 points. 9% or more away 0 points.
- d. The use of any type of measuring device will not be allowed, including markings on hands or other body parts or attire. Mishandling of fleeces will cause a contestant to be disqualified.

3. Placing and Questions (400 to 600 points)

- a. Four ~~to six~~ classes of four fleeces each will be placed and questions will be asked on each class ~~(two breeds and two commercial)~~.
- b. The wool placing and questions will be scored on scan sheet.

- c. Students will be given 15 minutes to place and fill out reasons on each class.
- d. The highest possible placing score for a class is 50 points and the highest possible questions score for a class is 50 points, making a total possible score of 100 points for each class. See sample of wool placing and questions sheet (in Resources).
- e. For questions, the student must list the number of the fleece, which matches the fleece description. Students must use only one number for each description. Officials have the option of giving credit for more than one answer for a particular description if they think the fleeces are equal. Three points are deducted for each incorrect answer in determining questions score. The list posted below will be the questions that must be completed.
- f. Staple length samples will be pulled by contest officials and attached to a paper background with a clear covering and mounted on cardstock for staple length. This is the only staple that should be analyzed to determine staple length.
- g. The use of any type of measuring device will not be allowed, including markings on hands or other body parts or attire. Mishandling of fleeces will cause a contestant to be disqualified.

IV. SCORING

Evaluation for fineness, length and yield	300
Placing and Reasons Classes	400 to 600 (depending on number of placing classes)
TOTAL INDIVIDUAL POINTS	700 to 900 (depending on number of placing classes)
TOTAL TEAM POINTS	2,100 to 2700 (depending on number of placing classes)

V. TIEBREAKERS

In the event that the score of two or more teams results in a tie, the following procedure will be used to break the tie:

1. The team with the highest total score of grading will be the higher placing team.
2. If the teams are still tied, the team with the highest total score of the questions will be the higher placing team.
3. If the teams are still tied, the team with the highest placing class wins.
4. If teams are still tied, the advisors of the team will meet with contest officials who will conduct a coin toss to determine the higher placing team.

Individuals with scores resulting in a tie will follow the following tie-breaker policy:

1. The contestant with the highest score on grading will be the higher placing individual.

2. If the individuals are still tied, the contestant with the highest score on the questions will be the higher placing individual.
3. If the individuals are still tied, the team with the highest placing class wins.
4. If individuals are still tied, they will be accompanied by their advisor and will meet with contest officials who will conduct a coin toss to determine the higher placing individual.

VI. RESOURCES

SPINNING COUNT	STAPLE	FRENCH COMBING	CLOTHING
Fine 64's, 70's, 80's and Finer	>3"	2¹/₄"-3" 2"-3"	<2¹/₄" <2"
1/2 Blood 60's 62's	>3 1/4"	2 1/4" to 3 1/4"	< 2 1/4"
3/8 Blood 56's and 58's	>3 1/2"	2¹/₂" to 3¹/₂" n/a	<2¹/₂" <3 1/2 "
1/4 Blood 50's and 54's	>4"	2¹/₂" to 4" n/a	<2¹/₂" <4"
Low 1/4 Blood 48's and coarser	>4"	2¹/₂" to 4" n/a	<2¹/₂" <4"

Questions of Placing Classes

Fleece Description
Longest staple
Shortest staple
Most uniform staple length
Finest in class
Coarsest in class
Most uniform fineness (DIA.)
Heaviest grease WT
Lightest grease WT
Most LBS clean wool
Least LBS clean wool
Highest yielding
Lowest yielding
Most character
Most vegetable matter
Most stained wool
Least fiber strength