

2023

NACTA JUDGING CONFERENCE



NACTA

NORTH AMERICAN COLLEGES
AND TEACHERS OF AGRICULTURE

DAIRY CATTLE MANAGEMENT CONTEST OFFICIAL RULES

Saturday, April 15, 2022

7:45 a.m. - Instructions

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon - Contest

MJC West Campus

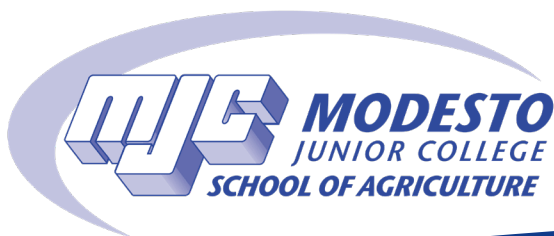
ACE Pavilion & Mary Stuart Rogers

Contest Director:

Nicole Morris

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Dairy Management Contest

The contest will consist of 4 sections: (1) general dairy knowledge exam – 100 points per individual, (2) pedigree reading – 50 points per team, (3) commercial dairy cattle scenario – 50 points per team, and (4) select a mating sire – 50 points per team. Total points possible is 450 points – 300 points from top 3 exam scores, 150 for 3 team sections.

General Dairy Knowledge Exam Section

- Individual exam, 60 minute time limit
- Multiple Choice, Matching and True/False style exam – 50 questions, Total of 100 points
- Questions will not have equal values.
- Questions related to general dairy knowledge focusing on: husbandry, nutrition, reproduction, management, identification, anatomy, genetics, genomics, marketing and evaluation

Pedigree Reading & Interpretation Section

- Team Portion, 20 minute time limit, 50 points
- Will consist of six registered Holstein pedigrees. A situation scenario will be provided specifying conditions that the contestants (acting as buyers) are putting the animals in.
- Contestants will judge as a team with no individual scores but all members of a team, must participate. Contestants will answer a series of questions based on the pedigrees provided.
- Questions will not have equal values and points may be given for certain incorrect answers much as breaks are assigned in traditional judging classes.

Commercial Dairy Cattle Section

- Team Portion, 20 minute time limit, 50 points
- Will consist of commercial animals' data, including identification and data sheets from herd management system. No pedigrees. A situation scenario will be provided prior to the contest describing conditions under which animals are going into.
- Contestants will judge as a team with no individual scores but all members of a team, must participate. Contestants will answer a series of questions based on the pedigrees provided.
- Questions will not have equal values and points may be given for certain incorrect answers much as breaks are assigned in traditional judging classes.
- Contestants should be prepared to answer questions concerning weights, values, body conditions and to identify discriminating factors among animals to make management decisions.

Selecting a Mating Sire Section

- Team Portion, 20 minute time limit, 50 points
- Will consist of team members being presented either a registered pedigree and require them to mate the animal to sire that is provided.

- Each team will be provided with a scenario to mate the provided female and have to choose from a list of five provided sires. The teams will have a full pedigree on the female and also a full PTA and pedigree description of each bull. Teams will answer written questions and be required to pick the best choice to mate the heifer/cow.
- Questions will not have equal values and points may be given for certain incorrect answers much as breaks are assigned in traditional judging classes.

Teams will consist of four (4) members who will judge and give reasons. The three high individual scores will be totaled to determine team scores. Two individuals may participate beyond the members of the team, but team members must be declared prior to the contest. If extra individuals participate, they must declare in advance if they want to be eligible for individual awards, keeping in mind that competing for awards makes them ineligible for participation on a NACTA dairy team in future years. Extra individuals must pay full registration fees.

ELIGIBILITY

All contestants must be currently enrolled in a two-year or a four-year institution and pursuing an undergraduate degree. A competing individual may not compete in this contest if he/she has participated as a scored, official contestant in a national NACTA Dairy Judging contest in any previous year in the same division. If he/she previously competed in the two-year college division, he/she may compete once more in the four-year college division.

CONTEST RULES

1. There will be a two-year college division and a four-year college division. Both divisions will evaluate the same placing classes. Awards will be given separately by division.
2. The Superintendent shall supply contestants with the scantron forms necessary for exam, and additional questions for team sections. The only materials contestants may take into the testing are a pencil, which contestants must provide. No other books or materials shall be allowed.
3. There will be NO conferring between contestants during the individual general dairy knowledge exam. If contestants are observed talking they may be eliminated from the competition.
4. Tie Breakers:
 - a. If a tie exists for individual or team overall awards, the contestant or team having the highest overall individual general dairy knowledge exam score will be awarded the higher placing.
5. The Superintendent's announcement of all individual and team placings will be final.