**Agronomy CDE Event – Changes for 2016 FFA PA State Days**

The Agronomy CDE will consist of the following areas. Actual number of items and scoring for each part may vary based on specimens located by committee members or availability of items at the contest areas but will generally be close to the points as suggested below:

The following changes are being proposed:

1. Event will be held at Agronomy Farm and will be supported by some Agronomy department staff. It will be a one day event, and busing from and returning to campus will be needed.
2. Reducing Agronomy Guide Exam from 50 pts to **30** pts.

3. Reducing Weed/Crop and Seed ID pts from 240 pts to **150** pts

4. Increase points for Commodity Evaluation from 100 pts to **200** pts

5. Decreasing Insect ID from 100 pts to **60** pts

6. Adding a Crop disorder section of **60** pts

7. Adding a Team Activity (**200** pts each member) for a total of **800** pts for the team. This will only be scored summatively as a team, and will not count toward individuals’ scores based on an average of all 4 participants.

8. Teams must consist of **4** members and total score will reflect a combined score of all 4 members.

9. Tie breakers will be settled in the following ways:

a. Team: Highest total Commodity Evaluation Score of all team members, followed by Weed/Crop/Seed ID if Commodity Score total is tied.

b. Individual: Highest Commodity Evaluation Score, followed by Weed/Crop/Seed ID if Commodity Score is tied.

10. New score card and categories will follow more closely to the national contest and will look as follows:

Points Breakdown

100 Agronomy Knowledge Exam

30 Agronomy Guide Exam

100 Machinery ID

150 Weed/Crop/Seed ID

100 Soils

120 Pest Management –

*60 pts – insect ID*

*60 pts - crop disorder*

200 Commodity Evaluation

*100 pts - grading discount schedule - even years*

*100 pts - Purity (seed analysis) - odd years*

*100 pts - Usability (crop quality) judging sample – all years*

200 each member - Team Activity Management Problem (team only score)

Total of 800 pts Individual Score

Total of 4000 pts Team Score (4 x 800 + 4 x 200)

* We want the PA Agronomy CDE contest to more closely match the national contest.
* We will be creating new pages and score card samples for the CDE website that will be completed by the beginning of 2016 as well as meeting with Agronomy Farm personnel this fall at PSU.

Jarod Armstrong – 2016 Agronomy CDE Chairperson