**PA FFA Floriculture**

**Career Development Event**

***Chairperson Information***

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| **CDE Chairperson** | Delores (Lori) Bruce |
| **Email** | dbruce@monroecti.org  loribilly3@gmail.com |
| **Best Contact Number** | 570-801-0110 or 570-629-2001 ext.2534 |
| **Contest Date/Times** | Tuesday 1:30PM – 3 PM Wednesday 8:30 AM – 1:30 PM 2025 |
| **Contest Location** | Holding Barn  |
| **CDE Review Time** |  |
| **CDE Review Location** |  |

***Basic CDE Guidelines***

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| **Event Type:** Individual/Team | **# of Team Members:**  |
| Individual Materials List• Clean clipboard, free of notes• Two sharpened No. 2 pencils• Prepared résumé• Floral cutters/clippers• Ribbon shears• Wire cutters• Floral knife• Calculator- Should be battery operated, non-programmable andnon-scientific (basic five function only). No other calculators areallowed to be used during the event.• Participants may also bring an apron, and/or a tool belt and towels. | Group Materials List• Clean clipboard, free of notes• Two sharpened No. 2 pencils• Prepared résumé• Floral cutters/clippers• Ribbon shears• Wire cutters• Floral knife• Calculator- Should be battery operated, non-programmable and non-scientific (basic five function only). No other calculators areallowed to be used during the event.• Participants may also bring an apron, and/or a tool belt and towels. |
| Attire* Tuesday – Official Dress (points will be deducted for failure to meet this state standard.)
* Wednesday – Chapter or team shirts or school appropriate clothing. NO sandals, NO open toed or open heeled shoes.
 | CDE At-A-Glance (List of major components)* TEAM ACTIVITY (800 POINTS)
* IDENTIFICATION OF PLANT MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT (200 POINTS)
* GENERAL KNOWLEDGE EXAMINATION (200 POINTS)
* PROBLEM-SOLVING/DECISION-MAKING (200 POINTS)
* ANNUAL PRACTICUMS (100 POINTS)
* ROTATIONAL PRACTICUMS (75 POINTS)
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| Pre-State CDE Expectations* Please refer to the National CDE Floriculture Manual for event details and CDE Scorecards, references and resources.
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| This CDE is a two-day eventThe winning four member-team will advance to the National Event in October. The second-place team will represent Pennsylvania at the Eastern States Exposition in September. All four team member scores will be included in the team score. Individuals and teams of less than four members will be eligible for individual awards. |
| CDE Changes from Previous Years?* We will be following the National FFA Rotational Practicum schedule, any questions please email me.
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| Event RulesEach team will be comprised of four members.• All four scores will be used to determine total team score. • Under no circumstances will any participant be allowed to touch or handle plant material during the event except when instructed by the event staff. • Any communication between participants during the event will be sufficient cause to eliminate the team and/or individual from the event. The exception to this is the team activity. • Any participant caught cheating during the event will be expelled from the event. • All participants are expected to be prompt at their stations throughout the event. No provision will be made for tardiness, which will in most cases cause the late participant to lose event points. • The event chairperson will assign the participants to group leaders who will escort them to various event staging sites. Participants must know their participant number and stay in their assigned group at all times or until told to change leaders by the event chairperson. • Any assistance given to a participant from any source during the event, other than a floriculture official, will be sufficient cause to eliminate the team from the event. • All participants will be given an identification number by which they will be designated throughout the event. • Various computer applications may be utilized throughout the floriculture event. • Any participant in possession of an electronic and/or communication device in the event area is subject to disqualification. |

***CDE Rules***

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| **CDE Component** | **Points** | **Component Description** |
| TEAM ACTIVITY | 800 | Each team will perform an assignment routinely performed in some phase of the floriculture industry that requires teamwork. Prior to the event, the Pennsylvania FFA Floriculture Career Development Event committee will selecta theme and series of floriculture industry assignments that span the breadth of the industry from production to design. These tasks will be described in situational terms for presentation to each team. Forty-fiveminutes will be allowed for completing the activity. There will be an additional fifteen minutes for preparation and clean up. All materials needed to complete the assignment will be provided.The type of assignments that may be used in this phase of the event are but are not limited to:• Prepare floral products for an event.• Prepare and pack floral products for shipping and updating inventory.• Create a floral product display.• Create a greenhouse production and task schedule to meet the needs of a given customerScoring criteria for the team preparation and presentation are on the team activity scorecard which will be recorded by a judge. |
| IDENTIFICATION OF PLANT MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT | 200 | Fifty specimens from the National FFA floriculture plant and equipment identification list will be displayed for participants to identify by technical and common names. A number will designate each specimen. Four points will be awarded for each specimen that is correctly identified. Each participant will be allowed 25 minutes to complete this phase of the event. |
| GENERAL KNOWLEDGE EXAMINATION | 200 | Participants will answer 50 multiple choice questions that cover all areas of the floriculture industry as reflected in the event objectives. This phase of the event will test participants’ knowledge and understanding of basic biological and scientific principles of producing and marketing flowers, plants and foliage. Each participant will be allowed 50 minutes to complete the exam. Each answer has a value of four points. |
| PROBLEM-SOLVING/DECISION-MAKING | 200 | Each participant will solve ten problems related to the various aspects of the floriculture industry identified in the event objectives. Each problem will describe the situation or create the problem and list four possible solutions to the problem. The participant must decide on the best possible solution to the problem. All materials and information necessary to solve the problem will be available to the participant as he/she solves the problem. Each participant will be allowed 50 minutes to complete this phase of the event. Each correct solution has a value of 20 points. |
| ANNUAL PRACTICUMS | 300 | **FLORAL ARRANGEMENT (100 POINTS)**Make a $55 floral arrangement (The $55 cost will include both labor and tax and be within fifty cents either way of the $55). The event superintendent will announce the type of arrangement during the team orientation meeting. Using the materials provided, participants will be allowed 20 minutes to complete their arrangements and itemized bills. The event assistant at the beginning of the practicum will provide participants the retail price of the flowers and foliage that they will use in their arrangements. The markup will be built into the retail price. When the participant has determined the total arrangement cost, he or she has included the markup. Retail cost of flowers and foliage given to the participant will be determined after polling florists to determine their current retail prices on the flowers and foliage used in the event. Scoring criteria are presented on the floral arrangement practicum scorecard which will be recorded by a judge. **Explanation of Floral Arrangement Terms** • Design: Category Interpretation: Design follows objective/ scenario given • Balance: Physical and visual • Creativity: Artistic inventiveness • Depth: Placement of materials at different levels throughout the arrangement • Focal Emphasis: Design has one area of design that attracts the eye to it • Line: Movement • Mechanics: Professional techniques and application • Scale: Proportion • Unity: Cohesiveness of designdescriptions at the team orientation meeting along with application forms to complete. Participants will be allowed to choose the job they wish to interview for and prepare their applications prior to participating in the practicum. Participants will be expected to prepare, prior to the event, a résumé of their experiences and background to present to the judge at the time of the interview. Ten minutes will be allowed for this practicum. Participants will be allowed five minutes to complete the interview and five minutes for judges to score the interview. Scoring criteria are presented on the job interview practicum scorecard which will be recorded by a judge.**GROWING PROCEDURES (100 POINTS)** One or more of the three below will be demonstrated on an annual basis. Twenty minutes will be allowed for this section including questions from the judges. Potting of Young Plants (Plugs or Liners) • Participants will be asked to plant young plants in the pots provided. Each participant will be given a group of young plants from which to select their transplants from; an appropriate pot or pots; potting medium at the correct moisture level, ID stake and a marking pencil. • Scoring criteria are presented on the plant potting practicum scorecard which will be recorded by a judge. Asexual Propagation of Plants • Each participant will be provided the parent plant materials and all other materials needed to propagate plants asexually. Using the available materials, participants will take cuttings from the plant before them and stick them in rooting media labeled correctly. Participants should sanitize all equipment and use appropriately in a safe manner. • Scoring criteria are presented on the asexual plant propagation scorecard which will be recorded by a judge. Pinching Plants • A plant will be placed before each participant. The participant will be given instructions as to what they are to do to the plant by the event assistant in charge of the practicum. Participants will be judged on the procedures they follow in pinching the plant. • Scoring criteria are presented on the pinching plant scorecard which will be recorded by a judge. |
| ROTATIONAL PRACTICUMSWe will be following the National FFA Rotational Practicum schedule, any questions please email me. | 225 | In addition to the three annual practicums, three practicums will be selected from the list below **SELLING PRACTICUM (75 POINTS) (ONE WILL BE CHOSEN)** **Selling One-On-One** • Each participant will assume the role of a sales person in a floriculture business (grower, florist shop, garden center, etc.) A customer (judge) with a specific need will approach the participant. The participant will help the customer meet his/her need by using sales skills. All supplies, information and the business setting in which the participant works will be provided. Ten minutes will be allowed for this practicum. Of the ten minutes, participants will be allowed five minutes for dialogue with the customer and completion of the sales form. Judges will be allowed five minutes to score the participant. Scoring criteria are presented on the selling one-on-one practicum scorecard which will be recorded by a judge.**MEDIA SELLING (75 POINTS)**Each participant will be asked to create or evaluate advertising fromthe following:• Newspaper/catalog ad• Radio script• Newsletter• Brochure/flyer• Email• Social media• Facebook• Twitter• Video – YouTube• Web homepageAll information and materials needed to develop the advertisement will be provided. Twenty minutes will be allowed for this practicum. Ofthe 20 minutes, 12 minutes will be allotted for preparation, five minutesfor oral/written presentation and three for judges to score. Scoring criteria are presented on the media selling practicum which will be recorded by a judge.**MAKE A MIXED PLANTER COMBINATION (75 POINTS)**Each participant will make a $35 mixed planter combination. All plant materials, growing media and containers will be provided. Twentyminutes will be allowed for each participant to make their mixed planter combination and complete the itemized listing of costs. At thebeginning of the practicum, the participant will be provided with the retail price of plants and other materials to be used in their mixedplanter combination. The markup is built into the retail price. Scoring criteria are presented on the making a mixed planter combination practicum scorecard which will be recorded by a judge.**MAKE AND PACKAGE A CORSAGE (75 POINTS)** Each participant will make and package a $25 corsage. The type of corsage and information about the corsage will be announced by the event assistant in charge at the beginning of the practicum. All plant and non-plant materials needed to construct and package the corsage will be provided. Each participant will be allowed 20 minutes to complete the construction of the corsage and complete an itemized listing of costs for the corsage constructed. Scoring criteria are presented on the making and packing a corsage scorecard which will be recorded by a judge. **IDENTIFYING AND CONTROLLING PLANT DISORDERS (75 POINTS)** Pest and disorder items may be presented as an intact specimen, photograph or preserved specimen (herbarium sheet, insect mount, etc.). Each specimen will be designated by a station number. The participant must identify the item and its classification (nutritional/ environmental, insect/ pest, or disease). The participant then must determine the damage location as well as chemical and culture controls for the disorder. Each participant will identify 15 specimens total for this event. No specimens or items may be touched or handled in any way. Fifteen minutes will be allowed for this event. Refer to the Disorder Practicum Scorecard for additional details. The plant disorders will come from the following list of disorders. **Nutritional and Environmental Disorders** • Cold temperature (freeze) • Cold water damage• Ethylene damage • Insufficient water damage • Iron deficiency • Nitrogen deficiency • Phosphorus deficiency**Diseases** • Botrytis – Gray mold • Damping-off • Downy mildew • Leaf spot (Black) • Powdery mildew • Root rot • Rust • Stem rot • Tospovirus (INSV and TSWV) **Insects and Pests** • Aphids • Fungus gnats • Leaf miner • Leafhopper • Mealybugs • Scale • Shore flies • Snails/ Slugs • Spider mites • Thrips • Whiteflies **HANDLING A HAZARDOUS SITUATION (75 POINTS)** Each participant will be presented with a hazardous situation that could develop in a floriculture business. The participant will be asked to explain how to resolve the problem. The participant will be evaluated on their understanding of the problem and procedures and practices followed in resolving the problem. Ten minutes will be allowed for this practicum. Scoring criteria are presented on the hazardous situation scorecard which will be recorded by a judge. |
| **Causes for Disqualification:**Each team will be comprised of four members.• All four scores will be used to determine total team score. • Under no circumstances will any participant be allowed to touch or handle plant material during the event except when instructed by the event staff. • Any communication between participants during the event will be sufficient cause to eliminate the team and/or individual from the event. The exception to this is the team activity. • Any participant caught cheating during the event will be expelled from the event. • All participants are expected to be prompt at their stations throughout the event. No provision will be made for tardiness, which will in most cases cause the late participant to lose event points. • The event chairperson will assign the participants to group leaders who will escort them to various event staging sites. Participants must know their participant number and stay in their assigned group at all times or until told to change leaders by the event chairperson. • Any assistance given to a participant from any source during the event, other than a floriculture official, will be sufficient cause to eliminate the team from the event. • All participants will be given an identification number by which they will be designated throughout the event. • Various computer applications may be utilized throughout the floriculture event. • Any participant in possession of an electronic and/or communication device in the event area is subject to disqualification. |
| **National/Regional FFA Career Development Event (CDE) Eligibility (March ‘15)** 1. Any school that wins a state level Career Development Event (CDE) will represent Pennsylvania in their respective National FFA CDE, if the CDE exists, providing they meet the following criteria:  a. No more than one-half of the state winning team has been substituted for any reason. In the event that the CDE team consists of three members, then only one substitution is allowed.  b. No substitute on the winning team has ever previously competed in the same CDE at the National Convention.2. Any school that places second in a state level CDE will represent Pennsylvania at the Big E, if the CDE exists, providing they meet the following criteria:  a. No more than one-half of the state winning team has been substituted for any reason. In the event that the CDE team consists of three members, then only one substitution is allowed.  b. No substitute on the second-place team has ever previously competed in the same CDE at the Big E. Pennsylvania FFA Policy Manual 3. No substitutions shall be allowed in CDEs with individual contestants. First place will 2 represent Pennsylvania at the National FFA CDE and second place will represent Pennsylvania 3 at the Big E, if such CDEs exist. 4. If a team or individual is no longer eligible to complete in a CDE at the National Convention or Big E, the opportunity passes down the list of winning teams/individuals until the next highest eligible team/individual can be found to replace them. 5. Once a student competes at the National FFA Convention, places first in an individual state CDE, and/or is the member of a first-place team in a team state CDE, they have exhausted their eligibility and are no longer eligible to complete in that respective CDE at the State Level. |
| **Tie – Breaker:****INDIVIDUAL** If ties occur the following events will be used in order to determine award recipients: 1. Written Exam 2. Plant and Equipment Identification 3. Floral Arrangement Practicum 4. Growing Procedures **TEAM** If ties occur the following events will be used in order to determine award recipients: 1. Team Activity 2. Written Exam 3. Plant and Equipment Identification |

***Resources***

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