Indiana Soils CDE

I. Suggestions for County and Area Soil CDE Contest
   A. After contest date and location have been decided:
      1. Notify Department of Youth Development and Agricultural Education of date and location.
      2. Notify all Extension educators, Agriculture teachers and coaches in your area.
      3. Contact local SCS office for the district conservationist and area soil scientist to assist with location of pit sites and arrangements for digging holes. Efforts should be made to have the landowner identify where tile drains are located, if possible, to prevent digging into them.
      4. Two to three days prior to the contest, call the Indiana Underground Utility Protection Service to request location of any utility services in the area. This must be done prior to digging holes. The following information will be needed:
         a. Physical address of the property
         b. Property owner’s name and address
         c. GPS coordinates of property, if known
         d. Date of contest
         e. Date holes are to be dug
         f. Name and address of person digging holes
         g. Approximate number of participants expected
         h. Contact name and phone number if site locator has questions when locating utilities
            The contact phone number is 811 or 800-382-5544 and the web site is http://indiana811.org/holey-moley
      5. Check with Farm Credit Services of Mid America, ACA and any other sponsor you may have in mind for possible awards if your area so desires.
      6. If applicable for your area contest, make arrangements for a noon meal. Some areas may have a local sponsor who will provide donuts or apples or other nutritious snacks for contestants and coaches.
      7. Review the Understanding and CDE Indiana Soils (ID-72) and the 4-H/FFA Ag CDE Handbook (4-H 98). If you have questions, be sure to get these answered before the day of your contest.
      8. Notify local news media and make arrangements for volunteer helpers, freeing himself or herself to do overall and last minute problem solving on the day of the contest.
   B. Materials needed for the contest:
      1. Eight slope stakes (generally 2" x 2", 5 to 6 feet long).
      2. Eight to twelve yard sticks.
      3. Four one-gallon (or similar) water bottles (one for each hole).
      4. Four boxes or buckets for surface texture. At the county and area contests soil will be provided in a box or bucket at each hole for contestants to determine Surface Texture.
      5. Six to seven pieces of poster board (about 10" x 12") for use as hole cards, if you do not use cards available from Media Distribution Center (4H 736A), and 5 to 6 pieces of lath mounting stakes.
      6. Three adding machines or calculators for score tabulation if not utilizing the Purdue Judging Tabulation computer program.
      7. Registration forms, manuals, site cards, and score cards (both agricultural and home site). If you do not have these in your local or area office, check with the State Department of Youth Development and Agricultural Education or Media Distribution Center.
      8. Ribbon awards for area and state contests are provided by the state soil and water conservation districts and will be brought to the contest by a Purdue specialist.
      9. Score cards:
         4-H 394 - Soil CDE Score Card
         4-H 255 - Home site Score Card
   C. Personnel generally required to run contest:
      1. Eight to ten tabulators and graders.
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2. Four group leaders to guide groups of contestants between holes during the contest.
3. Four hole supervisors to stand by holes, keep them in order and take up completed score cards.
4. Time keeper.
5. Runners to bring score cards to graders.
6. Help for these tasks can come from fellow educators, Agriculture teachers, SCS personnel or SWCD supervisors.
7. Contact to arrange for CDE or other assistance:
   Gary Steinhardt, Agronomy Department  Tony Carrell, Extension Specialist, YDAE
   Lilly Hall, Purdue University  615 W. State St.
   West Lafayette, Indiana 47907  West Lafayette, Indiana 47907
   Phone: (765) 494-8063  Phone: (765) 494-8435

D. Official CDE of Sites
   1. Official CDE of contest sites is usually done the day before the contest.
   2. Arrangements for this are generally made several weeks in advance of the contest through a letter or phone call with Gary Steinhardt.

II. Requirements
   A. Soil pits are judged at four sites, according to scorecard(s) provided by Purdue Cooperative Extension Service. Two of the pits will be judged for home site evaluation and two for agricultural use evaluation.
   B. Printed scorecards will be given to each contestant on which they will give their evaluation of each site and optically scannable forms may be used at state contest. The contest coordinator may choose to have contestants complete their scannable form at the completion of each hole if weather conditions permit. Coaches are to instruct their contestants how to complete the scannable form. Scannable forms will NOT be re-marked and re-graded if the original marks are not being read by the electronic scoring machine.
   C. Each contestant will have approximately 15 minutes to complete their score card for a given site or area. The contest coordinator should give 5 additional minutes at each site if there are more than 20 contestants per group or if land or weather conditions are poor or if scanable forms are marked at the site.
   D. All teams must be pre-registered and checked in at the prescribed time (both area and state).
   E. A total of 8-10 practice holes among 2-3 sites will be available at the State Contest the day before the State Contest and officials will be present for discussion.
   F. Only printed 4-H Slope finders for use with a clipboard may be used as a reference/mechanical device during the State Soils contest.

III. Awards
   A. Ribbons for area and state contests are provided from the State 4-H/Youth Department.
   B. Gold medals for first place and silver medals for second place 4-H and FFA Senior teams and coaches in each area are provided by the Farm Credit Services. Also, gold medals for first place and silver medals for second place for overall Junior Teams in each area are provided by the Farm Credit Services.
   C. At the state level, team members and coaches in Senior 4-H and FFA classifications receive awards as follows:
      1. Senior Team Awards
         Sponsored by Farm Credit Services:
         1st Place FFA, 4-H and Master’s Team  Trophy for each team, and FCS special award
         (portfolio, pen, jacket, etc.)
      2nd Place FFA, 4-H and Master’s Team  Trophy for each team
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3rd Place FFA, 4-H and Master’s Team  Plaque for each team
4th Place FFA, 4-H and Master’s Team  Plaque for each team
5th Place FFA, 4-H and Master’s Team  Plaque for each team

Sponsored by Purdue Agronomy Club:
1st Place FFA Team  Traveling Plaque
1st Place 4-H Team  Traveling Plaque
1st Place Master’s Team  Traveling Plaque

Sponsored by State FFA Association:
1st Place FFA team  Banner

2. Senior Individual Awards
   Top ten individuals will receive ribbons with placing designated.
   Top five individuals will also receive, sponsored by Farm Credit Services:
   1st Place FFA, 4-H and Master’s Individual  Trophy & special award
      (such as portfolio, pen, jacket, etc.)
   2nd Place FFA, 4-H and Master’s Individual  Trophy & special award
   3rd Place FFA, 4-H and Master’s Individual  Plaque & special award
   4th Place FFA, 4-H and Master’s Individual  Plaque & special award
   5th Place FFA, 4-H and Master’s Individual  Plaque & special award

3. Junior Team Awards sponsored by Farm Credit Services:
   1st Place Team Overall  Trophy
   2nd Place Team Overall  Trophy
   3rd Place Team Overall  Plaque
   4th Place Team Overall  Plaque
   5th Place Team Overall  Plaque

1. Junior Individual Awards:
   Top ten individuals will receive ribbons with placing designated.

2. Coach of the Overall high placing team in the contest will receive a chrome plated spade, sponsored by IAPSC.

IV. Additional Information
   A. Material on home site evaluation is also a part of the soil CDE contest and is fully explained in Understanding and CDE Indiana Soils (ID-72).
   B. Supplementary teaching materials, scorecards and instructions will be issued each year as the materials are improved. This may alter scoring and timing of the contest to some degree. Any changes to other rules will be distributed to all concerned.
   C. If there are any ties, they will be broken by one of the following methods, in order.
      1. The highest total team score, including the alternate on the teams.
      2. If a tie remains, total scores for the teams, not including the alternate, for site 1 will be used.
      3. If a tie remains, total scores for the teams, not including the alternate, for site 2 will be used. Site 3, etc. will be used if needed.
      4. In case of a tie for the individual awards, the score on site 1 will be used. Sites 2, 3, etc. will be used if a tie remains.
   D. Every attempt will be made to establish the state contest date as to not interfere with National FFA Convention for Agriculture teachers and National Association of Extension 4-H Agents Conference for Extension Educators.
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V. National Contest Rules
A. 4-H and FFA Division Land CDE
   1. A maximum of five 4-H and five FFA teams may enter from each state. Each state may also enter two additional Homesite Evaluation teams provided they meet the criteria of national rule #6. Decision on 6/10/2009 is that these two additional teams will come from the Indiana’s Master Division, giving the teams the option in placement order. Rule # 6: Any 4-H or FFA contestant who has participated in ANY previous National Land CDE or Homesite Evaluation will not be eligible to participate in this year’s Land CDE contest. Contestants may compete in the Homesite Evaluation contest provided they were not a previous member of a champion or reserve champion team in Land CDE or Homesite Evaluation, or was not a champion or reserve champion individual in Land CDE or Homesite Evaluation.
   2. Four contestants comprise a team. Scores of the high three team members make the team score. A team of only three members is permissible.
   3. Team members will compete for both team and individual prizes.
   4. Each state will be responsible for the methods used in selecting the five teams to represent the state. National rules will not allow any contestants participating in the National contest to return to the National contest as a contestant.
   5. The above contest rules applying to land CDE shall also be applicable to the CDE of Home sites.
B. General Rules - National Contest
   1. Clipboards, bubble vials, levels, notes, bulletins, etc., must not be used in the contest.
   2. The same team or individuals may compete in land CDE, home site CDE, and pasture and range CDE.
   3. Contest results submitted to National officials by the tabulation committee shall be final.
   4. To qualify for a champion trophy, medal or cash award, the team or individual winning such award must be present at the awards dinner to accept it. If such champion is not present at the awards dinner, the championship trophy and/or medal(s) shall be awarded to the next high-ranking team or individual that is present, the championship cash award shall be forfeited to the donor.
   5. No person under the age of 21 or members of a 4-H club or FFA is eligible to complete in the adult division.
   6. See the National Land CDE website for further information http://www.landCDE.com/ Usually information is not updated on the website until current year calendar occurs.

VI. Supplemental/Optional Reference Items
   • A 48 page manual entitled "Soils Manual for Land CDE" is available through Vocational Education Productions. Call 1-800-235-4146 for details.

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