



CENTRAL FFA CONTESTS

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2025

ENTRY DEADLINE: FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2025

2025 CENTRAL FFA CONTESTS

Dear Ag Instructors & County Extension Agents:

Within this booklet you'll find information about and the link to enter the 2025 Central FFA Events. The Dairy Cattle Judging Contest, Dairy Products Judging Contest, Showmanship Contest and Forage Management Cup Contest will be **held on Tuesday, September 30**.

The Dairy Cattle Judging Contest will be held in the World Dairy Expo Sale Pavilion. In order to accommodate all students, the contest will be divided into three heats. The Dairy Products and Showmanship Contests will also have three heats available. Please see the general instructions for more information. There is a \$40 entry fee per contest entered and the Forage Management Cup Contest is open to 4-H, FFA, or other youth groups. Registration for all events is **online** only! Chapters can register for events and order passes using a credit card for payment through the World Dairy Expo website.

The FFA organization has always enjoyed an unequalled reputation for outstanding youth leadership. However, if FFA members have to be reprimanded by show staff and security for actions that are inappropriate, it is detrimental to the entire industry's image of the FFA organization.

Adequate instruction and supervision must be provided so that FFA members benefit from attending and so that the agricultural industry continues to admire and support these future leaders.

Hope to see you at World Dairy Expo!

REGISTER AND ORDER PASSES ONLINE

www.worlddairyexpo.com/pages/Online-Contest-Registration.php

If you would like to pre-order daily tickets, you may do so at a reduced rate of \$10 each. Please note there is a \$20 per person admission fee if you purchase at the gate on Tuesday. All admission fees include parking. *A link to purchase discounted admission tickets will be included in your confirmation email after registering your contest participants. Admission tickets must be purchased via this link and not at the time of team registration.*

WORLD DAIRY EXPO CENTRAL FFA CONTESTS

- Dairy Cattle Judging - Dairy Products -
- Forage Management Cup - Showmanship -

Tuesday, September 30 2025

Judging: See specific contest for location and times

Chair: Mr. Dakota Bockenbauer, University of Wisconsin-Platteville

GENERAL CONTEST REGULATIONS AND INFORMATION

1. The Dairy Cattle Judging, Showmanship and Dairy Products Contests will have three heats. Please mark your preference at time of entry. **Heats subject to change.**
2. Each team will consist of four members. Only one team application per chapter will be accepted for each contest.
3. Eligible contestants in the Dairy Cattle, Dairy Products and Showmanship Contests must be FFA members currently in their freshmen, sophomore, junior or senior year in a U.S. high school; international students must be enrolled in agricultural education classes.
4. Agricultural youth groups; FFA, 4-H or similar, with members in grades 7th - 12th may enter the Forage Management Cup Contest.
5. No student may enter except as a member of a team and no individuals apart from team members will be allowed to judge.
6. You may register online with a credit card only for all Central FFA events at World Dairy Expo until Friday, September 5. Upon completion of your online registration, a receipt will be emailed to you. If you do not receive a receipt, please contact lmiller@wdexpo.com or call (608) 224-6455. **Late entries will only be accepted online via credit card from September 6 - 16.**
7. **An entry fee of \$40 per contest must accompany entries. A school entered in more than one contest must pay the \$40 fee for each contest. School entries submitted September 6 - September 16, must pay an additional late fee of \$60. No entries will be accepted after September 15.**
8. Final instructions will be emailed the week prior to the contests. Score sheets will be picked up by team coaches during registration on the day of the contest.

9. Certificates are given to the first and second place teams and the first and second place individuals. Ribbons are provided for first through tenth place teams and individuals. Other special awards are given in each contest. Results will be announced on the [WDE FFA Contests page](#), and awards will be distributed following World Dairy Expo.
10. All contestants shall report to the contest Superintendent in the designated area where they will receive full instructions in regard to the routine and details of the contest. Opportunity will be given to participants to ask questions.

DAIRY CATTLE JUDGING

Location: World Dairy Expo Sale Pavilion
Contest Registration

Heat 1 - 7:30 a.m. to 7:50 a.m.

Heat 2 - 9:00 a.m. to 9:20 a.m.

Heat 3 - 10:30 a.m. to 10:50 a.m.

Superintendent: Mr. Dakota Bockenbauer - soa@uwplatt.edu
University of Wisconsin-Platteville

Dairy Cattle Judging: The Dairy Cattle Judging contest allows students to develop skills in dairy cattle selection through animal evaluation, and alignment of physical characteristics through questions. Teams of four members will compete with the best 3 scores counted towards team score. The Dairy Cattle Judging contest will consist of three heats, Heat 1 will begin at 8:00 AM, Heat 2 at 9:30 AM, and Heat 3 beginning at 11:00 AM. Registration will be 7:20-7:50 AM for Heat 1, 8:50-9:20 AM for Heat 2, and 10:20-10:50 AM for Heat 3. Please indicate your heat preference on your entry form. Heats will be strictly limited to 38 teams (152 contestants) each. Heats are subject to change. All heats will place four classes of dairy cows and/or heifers. Classes will be selected from Holstein, Brown Swiss, Jersey, Guernsey, Ayrshire, Milking Shorthorn and Red & White cattle. No oral reasons will be given; however, the contestants will answer a set of questions on one of the classes.

Contestants must be preregistered. Coaches/advisors can pick up score sheets for their team when they arrive at the Sale Pavilion. Confirmation of the contestants and final instructions will be emailed to coaches/advisors the week prior to the contest. Contestant substitutions are permitted on the day of the contest.

Contestants are to be seated in the Sale Pavilion by 8:00 AM for Heat 1, 9:30 AM for Heat 2, and 11:00 AM for Heat 3 to receive instructions. Contestants may not enter the Pavilion until their heat is called. Remember to bring a pencil.

SHOWMANSHIP CONTEST

Location: World Dairy Expo Sale Pavilion
Contest Registration

Heat 1 - 7:15 a.m. to 7:45 a.m.

Heat 2 - 8:45 a.m. to 9:15 a.m.

Heat 3 - 10:30 a.m. to 10:50 a.m.

Showmanship Contest: The Showmanship Contest allows students to display skills in dairy cattle effective dairy handling. Students in this contest will present animals for evaluation as part of the **Dairy** Cattle Judging Contest. Showman are judged on their ability to set up their assigned animal to its best advantage and effectively exhibit the animal as requested by the event ringmaster. While exhibiting poise and ring etiquette observable by the judges. Showmanship will be divided into three heats. The first 16-individuals to register in each heat (48 showman total) will be eligible. Individuals who register after that will be put on a list of alternates in the order they are received. Showmanship contestants (accepted and alternates) **MUST** check in no later than 7:40 AM on the day of the contest for Heat 1, 9:10 AM for Heat 2, and 10:40 for Heat 3. Showmanship contestants will need to assist with getting animals to and from barns. Coaches are urged to bring showmanship alternates. Alternates will be used for contestants that do not show up or show up late. The showmanship contestant cannot be a member of the judging teams.

Showmanship will be judged on (a) attitude of the exhibitor, (b) leading the animal, (c) posing the animal, (d) control of the animal, and (e) poise and alertness of the exhibitor.

CONTEST ATTIRE

Males: White pants, white shirt, FFA Jacket, FFA tie, and appropriate shoes for showing.

Females: White pants or skirt, white blouse, FFA Jacket, FFA tie or scarf, and appropriate shoes for showing.

NOTE: All contestants are required to wear white trousers with white shirts when leading in the show ring.

DAIRY PRODUCTS JUDGING

Location: Lake Rooms - Upper Level of the Exhibition Hall

Contest Registration

Heat 1 - 7:20 a.m. to 7:50 a.m.

Heat 1 is scheduled to start at 7:55 a.m. sharp

Heat 2 - 9 a.m. to 9:20 a.m.

Heat 2 will begin immediately following Heat 1, approximately 9:30 a.m.

Heat 3 - 10:30 a.m. to 10:50 a.m.

Heat 3 will begin immediately following Heat 2, approximately 11 a.m.

Registration is in the Lake Rooms of the Exhibition Hall. Heat 1 contestants need to register and proceed to the competition area without an advisor. Heat 2 contestants will need to register prior to 9:20 a.m. Heat 3 contestants will need to register prior to 10:50 a.m. and wait for further instructions.

Superintendent: Mr. Dakota Bockenbauer soa@uwplatt.edu
University of Wisconsin-Platteville

Participants are given the opportunity to assess, identify and score milk, cheese and other dairy products. Contestants must be pre-registered. Contestant substitutions are permitted on the day of the contest. Four individuals will comprise a team, one team per school. There are no exceptions. Each team member will complete each of the sections in the contest.

The contest will consist of five sections: a written exam relating to the dairy industry, cheese identification where the contestants will have to identify seven to ten types of cheese, eight to ten milk flavors including assigning milk intensity scores, six to ten characteristics of cheeses, and identifying five to ten fat content products. **CONTESTANTS ARE REQUIRED TO BRING AND USE A #2 LEAD PENCIL.**

WORLD FORAGE MANAGEMENT CUP CONTEST

Location: Mendota Rooms 3 & 4 - Lower Level of Exhibition Hall

Contest Registration - 8:30 a.m.

Superintendents: Mr. Rich Crow - soa@uwplatt.edu
University of Wisconsin-Platteville

The **World Forage Management Cup** is a contest with a format the sponsors believe will excite agriculture youth about efficient forage production and utilization. The University of Wisconsin - Platteville Agronomy Soil Conservation Chapter and World Dairy Expo are conducting the contest. The contest is held as part of the Central FFA Events at World Dairy Expo on Tuesday, September 30, 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Agricultural youth groups; FFA, 4-H or similar, with students in grades 7th - 12th are invited to participate. The contest has the following eligibility rules:

1. The four members of the first place overall team and the individual with the highest overall individual score will not be eligible to compete in future World Forage Management Cup contests.
2. Individuals who have placed in the top ten among individual contestants in overall score will be limited to participation in only one future World Forage Management Cup contest.

CONTEST DIVISIONS

The two-hour contest will consist of four divisions, in which each member on the -person team will compete in each division. The four divisions are judging, identification and forage management questions. Each division has a maximum point count of 60 points and an overall maximum total of 240 points per individual. The divisions are explained as follows:

1. **Judging** - 30 minutes - Twelve different groupings of hay or silage will be placed with visual and/or analytical data. Groupings can include samples of haylage, corn silage, oatlage, alfalfa hay, grass-legume hay and grass hay. A grouping would have four different samples and would be ranked like a ring of four cows, i.e. 3-2-4-1. Some groupings will have analytical data given, such as protein, NDF, RFV, etc.
2. **Identification** - 30 minutes - 60 total plants and seeds of crops used for forage and weeds which compete with forage crops will be chosen from a list which will be available during the contest. The plant species which are included in the contest are listed below.

3. Lab Practical – 30 minutes - This section will consist of 30 stations, each worth 2 points. Each station will have photographs or actual samples of data tables, equipment, insects, diseases, etc., along with specific questions which will require identification, interpretation, calculation, and/or evaluation of the display material to answer correctly. These stations will represent activities commonly completed in forage production systems.

4. Forage Management Questions - 30 minutes - 60 multiple choice questions will cover forage production, quality and handling

PLANT & SEED IDENTIFICATION LIST FORAGE CROPS & WEEDS

Crops

Alfalfa; alsike clover; barley; birdsfoot trefoil; big bluestem; corn; crested wheatgrass; crownvetch; fieldpea; Indiangrass; Kentucky bluegrass; ladino clover; lespedeza, Korean; millet; oats; orchardgrass; perennial ryegrass; red clover; redtop; reed canarygrass; rye; sainfoin; smooth brome; sorghum; sudangrass; sweetclover; switchgrass; tall fescue; timothy; triticale; vetch, hairy & wheat.

Weeds

Barnyard grass; black medic; bull thistle; burdock, common; Canada thistle; chicory; chickweed, common; crabgrass, large; curly dock; dandelion; dodder; downy brome; eastern black nightshade; field bindweed; foxtail barley; giant foxtail; green foxtail; hedge bindweed; hoary alyssum; lambsquarters, common; leafy spurge; milkweed, common; milkweed, eastern whorled; musk thistle; oxeye daisy; pennycress, field; pepperweed, greenflower; Pennsylvania smartweed; pigweed, redroot; plantain, blackseed; plantain, buckhorn; plumeless thistle; quackgrass; ragweed, common; ragweed, giant; red sorrel; shepherdspurse; St. Johnswort; velvetleaf; white cockle; wild buckwheat; wild carrot; wild garlic; wild mustard; wild oats; wild parsnip; wild radish; yarrow, common; yellow foxtail; yellow nutsedge & yellow rocket.

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