Floriculture

Contest Description and Rules:

Please direct questions to:

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Floriculture Contest Objectives:

- Promote the study of and interest in production and retailing of flowers, plants and foliage.
- Identify floriculture plant material including foliage, cut flowers, bedding plants, cacti, flowering potted plants used in the commercial industry.
- Understand the biological and scientific principles and skills underlying floriculture crop production including scheduling, propagation, growth requirements, pest identification and management, greenhouse environmental control, harvesting, shipping and handling, marketing and post-harvest maintenance.
- Understand principles and develop skills of floral design.
- Understand the interpersonal skills, sales and customer service skills, and general business practices appropriate for successful employment in the floriculture industry.

The contest will consist of four sections; all participants will participate in all four activities:

Scoring of each section is weighted equally for the calculation of the final score.

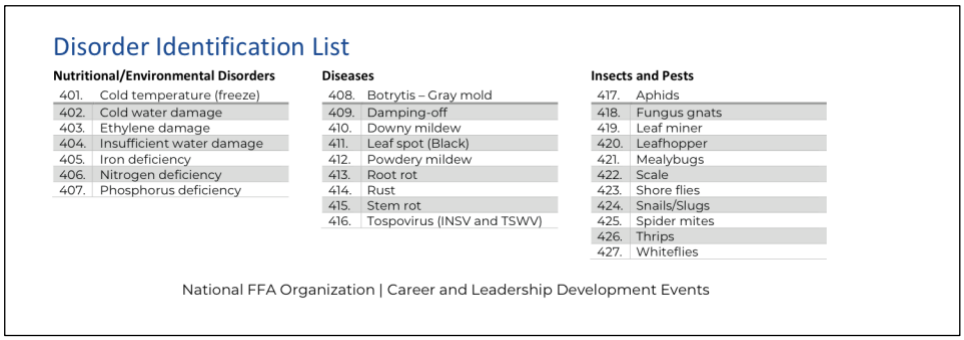
1. General Knowledge Exam:

Participants will answer fifty multiple choice questions, 2 points each, that cover the areas of the floriculture industry reflected in the contest objectives listed above. The written test will be based on the reference: Lisa's Study Guide (found on the CDE website), Introduction to Horticulture by Shri & Riley, and Florist Design School by Coake, Urban & Lanker. Some questions may include floral design pricing math calculations. Some questions may include photos, identification of materials, and math problems. Each participant will be allowed 40 minutes to complete the exam.

2. Diseases and Disorder Practicum:

Ten items for classification, identification, chemical and cultural control will be displayed for evaluation. Items will be selected from the National FFA Disorder List. Identification will be recorded on a scantron in the disorders practicum area. All items will be

valued at 5 points each. Contestants will have 15 minutes to make decisions and mark the scantron. No handling of specimens will be permitted by the contestants.



Disorder Identification List

Nutritional/Environmental Disorders		Diseases		Insects and Pests	
401.	Cold temperature (freeze)	408.	Botrytis – Gray mold	417.	Aphids
402.	Cold water damage	409.	Damping-off	418.	Fungus gnats
403.	Ethylene damage	410.	Downy mildew	419.	Leaf miner
404.	Insufficient water damage	411.	Leaf spot (Black)	420.	Leafhopper
405.	Iron deficiency	412.	Powdery mildew	421.	Mealybugs
406.	Nitrogen deficiency	413.	Root rot	422.	Scale
407.	Phosphorus deficiency	414.	Rust	423.	Shore flies
		415.	Stem rot	424.	Snails/Slugs
		416.	Tospovirus (INSV and TSWV)	425.	Spider mites
				426.	Thrips
				427.	Whiteflies

National FFA Organization | Career and Leadership Development Events

Source: 2025 Floriculture Handbook

3. Creating and Packaging a Pocket Square Boutonniere

Each participant will be given 30 minutes to make, price and package a pocket square boutonniere. This practicum is worth 65 points. Pricing will consist of developing an itemized listing of materials used based on the prices per unit provided. All materials will be provided.

Participants will NOT be allowed to bring in any equipment, calculators or extra materials. Each participant will be given supplies and all materials needed to create the pocket square boutonniere. Participants do not need to use all of the materials provided, however they are restricted to only use provided materials. Flowers will be pocket square boutonierre appropriate. Pocket squares will be scored by the judge(s) based on the Pocket Square Rubric on the Wisconsin state FFA site. Pricing of materials in this practicum will also be included.

Men's Pocket Square Rubric

4. Identification of Plant Material:

40 plant specimens, tools and equipment items will be displayed for participants to identify by technical and common names using the National FFA Floriculture Career Development Event's floriculture plant list and the Wisconsin Floriculture Tools and Equipment List. Both lists can be found on the WI Floriculture CDE website. Contestants will not be able to touch the specimens and will have approximately 30 minutes to complete the identification. Plants and tool/equipment items will be numbered 1-40. Participants will be given an answer sheet and the National FFA floriculture plant list and the WI Floriculture Tool/Equipment list. Each participant will be given 30 seconds to identify the plant, piece of equipment or tool and mark the plant number from the National FFA Floriculture Plant Identification List and the piece of equipment or tool from the Wisconsin Floriculture Tools and Equipment List onto the #1 area on the scantron using Pencils only. The supervisor for this portion of the contest will time the event and tell participants when to move to the next plant, tool or piece of equipment or tool. Participants will only be given one opportunity to identify each plant or item. Each specimen will be worth 2 points.

Identification of Plant Materials

Scoring:

Phase	Points
General Knowledge Exam	100 points
Disease and Disorder Practicum	50 points
Floriculture Design	55 points
Plant and Equipment Identification	80 points

Ties will be broken with a sequence of pre-determined questions from the knowledge exam.

Floriculture Scantron