

Woody Ornamental Plant Identification

Description: The student (maximum of two individuals per school) will be required to identify, by botanical name (genus and species) and common name, a group of 50 woody plants. These plants will be live samples and will be selected from the master list of plants attached.

Time: 1 hour and 50 minutes

Judging Criteria

Points: 100 possible points per individual; individual scores are combined toward the team score for a total of 200 possible points.

Each plant will be worth a maximum of two points:

- .5 point for correct spelling
- .5 point for genus
- .5 point for species (and cultivar, if applicable)
- .5 point for common name

Materials Provided: Master list of woody ornamentals is attached. THIS LIST WILL BE THE SOLE AUTHORITY FOR SPELLING AND NOMENCLATURE FOR THIS EVENT.

Annual & Perennial Identification

Description: The student (maximum of two individuals per school) will be required to identify, by botanical name (genus and species) and common name, a group of 50 annual and perennial plants including turf grasses. These plants will be live samples and will be selected from the master list of plants attached

Time: 1 hour and 50 minutes (55 minutes per participant, as participants are split into two groups)

Judging Criteria

Points: 100 possible points per individual; individual scores are combined toward the team score for a total of 200 possible points.

Each plant will be worth a maximum of two points:

- .5 point for correct spelling
- .5 point for genus
- .5 point for species (and cultivar, if applicable)
- .5 point for common name

Materials Provided: Master list of annuals & perennials is attached. THIS LIST WILL BE THE SOLE AUTHORITY FOR SPELLING AND NOMENCLATURE FOR THIS EVENT

Paver Installation

Description: A three-person team (maximum of one per school) will be required to construct a small patio form as shown on a plan and properly lay pavers on sand in a specified pattern. Paving material may be brick, interlocking blocks, stone pieces or other modular material suitable for a residential patio.

Time: 1 hour and 50 minutes

Judging Criteria

Points: 100 possible points per team member; 200 possible points towards the team score; each team member will receive half of the team points for their individual scores.

Points will be assigned based on the following criteria:

1. Structural soundness (30%)
2. Neatness and aesthetics (25%)
3. Adherence to plans and specifications (25%)
4. Safe use of tools and equipment (20%)

Time will be used only as a tiebreaker.

Materials Provided: Pavers, sand, edge material, nails.

Materials to Bring: Handsaw, hammer, mallet, 2' level, broom, stakes and shovel and other materials deemed necessary to construct the patio as described above. Pencil and scratch paper.

Pest Identification

Description: The student (maximum of two individuals per school) will be required to identify, by botanical name (genus and species) and common name, a group of 50 weeds, insects and diseases, either from photographs or live samples. These pests will be selected from the master list attached.

Time: 1 hour and 30 minutes

JUDGING CRITERIA

Points: 100 possible points per individual; individual scores are combined toward the team score for a total of 200 possible points.

Each identification will be worth a maximum of two points:

- .5 point for correct spelling
- .5 point for genus
- .5 point for species (and cultivar, if applicable)
- .5 point for common name

Materials Provided: Master list of pests is attached. THIS LIST WILL BE THE SOLE AUTHORITY FOR SPELLING AND NOMENCLATURE FOR THIS EVENT.

Materials to Bring: Pencil, scratch paper and clipboard

Skid Steer Operation

Description: The student (maximum of one individual per school) will demonstrate understanding and proficient operation of a skid steer loader. The student will be required to do a pre operation inspection and operate the machine through a designated course. The course will simulate several job site conditions such as, but not limited to; tight quarter operations and material retention during operation. New this year is a simulation to measure material retained through the course (and it won't be a bucket of mulch). In addition the student will take a written exam covering safety, skid steer loader characteristics, operation and maintenance. Materials will be sent to each school for preparation, so sign up early.

Time: 30 minutes for exam; 30 minutes for operation of skid steer; time-slots will be assigned during the event briefing on Friday using a lottery system

Judging Criteria

Points: 100 possible points for the individual score; the individual score is doubled toward the team score for a total of 200 possible points.

Points will be assigned based on the following criteria:

1. Written exam (25%)
2. Pre-operation inspection (25%)
3. Safe completion and measurements of operational tasks on course (50%)

Materials Provided: Skid steer loader towels and an obstacle course.

Materials to Bring: Hard hat, gloves and pencil. Long pants and hard-soled shoes *must be worn* in order to compete.

Arboriculture Techniques

Description: A two-person team (maximum of one team per school) will demonstrate proficiency in techniques and knowledge needed by arborists. There will be three areas of competition: written exam, rope toss and tree climb.

Time: One hour written exam on Saturday; time-slots will be assigned during registration using a lottery system for the rope toss and tree climb.

Written exam scores for all participants will be included in individual and team scores. Schools will be entered into the lottery based on the date their registrations were received.

Judging Criteria

Points: 100 possible points per team member; 200 possible points towards the team score; each team member will receive half of the total team points for their individual scores.

The written examination will measure the participant's knowledge of tree care, specific arboricultural techniques and safety.

The rope toss will give one member of the team five chances to reach a 40' target. Point values will vary depending upon the number of throws needed.

The tree climb will involve a climb, tie-in and short limb walk. The second teammate will serve as a grounds-person. This part of the competition will have a 30 minute time limit. It will begin when the climber begins to climb and end when the climber either touches the ground or uses up the allotted time. The sponsor reserves the right to determine the time limit. All personal and school climbing gear will be inspected and approved before the student can climb.

The written exam, rope toss and tree climb must all be completed by the same two team members.

Scoring will be based upon safety, knowledge and efficiency.

Materials Provided: All necessary materials will be provided.

Materials to Bring: Gloves and rubber or composition soled work shoes or boots. Work boots that come over the ankle must be worn by the student who climbs. No leather soles. Pencil for test.

Exterior Maintenance/Construction Cost Estimating

Description: The student (maximum of two individuals per school) will estimate the bidding price of a landscape maintenance contract or landscape construction project. Students will do take off's from a plan that will be provided the day of the competition.

Time: 1 hour and 50 minutes

Judging Criteria

Points: 100 possible points per individual; individual scores are combined toward the team score for a total of 200 possible points.

Solutions will be scored against a pre-determined solution. Time will be used only as a tiebreaker.

Materials Provided: Landscape plan, fertilizer application rates, labor hours for units of work, materials, equipment and labor costs, overhead and profit margins.

Materials to Bring: Architects' and engineers' scales, calculator, map wheel, pencil and scratch paper. **Note: The use of planimeter's will not be allowed during this event.**