

PANHANDLE DISTRICT 1 4-H

To: County Extension Agents – ANR, FCH, 4-H

From: Tina Bryant
District 4-H Specialist

Subject: **District 1 Range and Pasture Grass ID Contest**

Contest Date: **April 18, 2024**

Location: **WTAMU Stanley Schaffer Agriculture Education Building
22200 Valleyview Rd., Canyon, TX**

Registration: **March 11 – April 4 on 4-H Online Fee: \$15
Late Registration April 8 – 11 Late Fee: \$50**

Schedule: **Check-in: 1:00 p.m.
Youth Orientation: 1:15 p.m.
Contest Start Time: 1:30 p.m.
Awards: Approximately 3:00 p.m.**

Age Categories: 3rd - 5th grade – Junior
6th – 8th grade – Intermediate
9th – 12th grade – Senior

It is the responsibility of the agents to validate and correct placement of youth in age categories. Counties may move juniors up to intermediates, but intermediates can NOT be moved up to seniors or down to juniors.



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The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

Contest Format

Range Judging is made up of three parts. Part 1 – Plant Identification, Part II – Range Evaluation, and Part III Rangeland Health. In Part I, contestants will identify 20 to 30 staked plants. They will be given 60 seconds to identify each. In Part II, contestants will evaluate the degree of utilization, kind of site, successional stage, similarity index, vegetative state, recommend stocking rate, and identify management decisions for rangeland sites. In Part III, contestants will evaluate four staked plots individually to evaluate range health. Scantrons will not be used for this contest.

Range and Pasture Grass Identification will involve the identification of 40 to 50 live or mounted plant specimens from the Master Plant List. Contestants will classify each grass specimen according to their life span, season of growth, origin, and grazing value for livestock and wildlife. Contestants will be given 60 seconds to identify each plant.

The contest will use scantron (707-4) which will be provided to all participants on the day of the contest. **Contestants need to bring a #2 pencil and a clipboard.** Attached is a scantron that can be duplicated and used for practice so all 4-H members are familiar with the scantrons prior to the contest. All contests follow the Texas 4-H Roundup Contest Guidelines.

State Qualifiers: Counties may enter as many teams as they wish. Both Range Evaluation and Range & Pasture Grass ID are invitational contests at state.

Contest Resources can be found at:

<https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/range-science/> (Includes the master plant list, sample score cards, Range Evaluation Manual, and many other project resources)

Forms are also available at <http://agrilifebookstore.org/>
Range Judging Forms: RS 1.040, RS 1.041, RS 1.402
Grass ID Form: RS 1.403, Master Plant List: RS 1.404

Plant Mounts are available from the Range Club. These may be ordered from the TAMU Range Club, <https://rangeclub.tamu.edu/range-club-plant-sales/>

Scantron: <https://www.judgingcard.com/ScanSheets/samples/707-4.pdf>