

Tractor & Green Industry Equipment Safety & Operations CDE

(Revised 05/05/2017)

Rules

1. Competition is open to FFA members who have been enrolled in agriculture education in Michigan during the previous school year.
2. Contestants must use entry blanks furnished by the Michigan FFA Association.
3. The contest will consist of a written test, pre-operation check and a practical demonstration of safe driving skills.
4. Contestants must use tractors & zero turn mowers provided by the committee.
5. Contestants must operate tractors & zero turns in a safe manner and at a safe speed at all times.
6. Judges will determine the maximum safe operating speed.
7. Scoring will be done by "Points Penalty" System. The contestant with the lowest score will be the winner.
8. The time limit set by the judges will be enforced.
9. Participants should have passed the "Purdue/Dept of Labor - Gearing Up for Safety – National Safe Tractor Driving Program" and have received a certificate of completion.
10. A maximum of two (2) students per class from each school will be permitted to participate.

Contest Organization

A. Participants:

Each FFA Chapter may enter a maximum of two students per class. The classes will be:

Garden Tractor Division – (Grades 7, 8 & 9 the previous year) – Garden Tractor & 2 Wheel Trailer – Forward Only
Utility Tractor Division – (Grades 10, 11, & 12 the previous year) – Large Tractor & 2 Wheel Trailer – Bi-
Directional Division

Zero Turn Mower Division – (Grades 10, 11, & 12 the previous year) – Commercial Zero Turn Riding Mower

B. Awards:

Trophies will be presented to the top five individuals in each class. Ties will be broken by criteria determined by the judges.

Students placing first in a division will not be eligible for future participation in that division of the State FFA Tractor & Green Industry Equipment Safety Operation CDE

C. Personnel:

Scorekeeper - Responsible for recording errors, measurements, and time used by the contestant and for calling out the contestants' names when it is their turn to complete the course. The scorekeeper and supervisor have the authority to disqualify contestants for unsafe conduct.

Field Judge #1 - Serves as timekeeper.

Field Judge #2 - Informs each contestant of the speed limit and answers contestants' questions.

(Both field judges will be taking the measurements to determine how the trailer is placed relative to the center.)

All three judges will carry a red flag. If the flag is waved, stop immediately and turn off the engine.

Other Personnel - a superintendent, three tabulators, and two runners.

D. Tractors and Equipment:

The contest consists of two courses;

- one single-axle trailer class course scaled to the width of the equipment
- one zero turn course
- The courses will be marked by posts with golf balls on top. Contestants will be penalized if they knock off a golf ball or knock over a post.

E. Scoring & Measurements:

1. Ability to drive;
2. Ability to park a trailer in an exact position;
3. Time used to maneuver a tractor and trailer while driving at safe speeds;
4. Knowledge of tractor & zero turn safety;
5. Pre-Operation Safety Check

Contestant with the lowest score will be ranked the highest.

Two Wheel Trailer Event Measurement: The trailer must be parked in the center of the shed. If trailer is not parked in the dead center, the difference will be between the right measurement and left measurement, divided by two.

Time definition: Time starts when the tractor/mower moves forward and stops when the contestant raises his/her hand after completing the course.

Quiz: A quiz will be given to contestants to determine their knowledge of a tractor and it's safe operation. The number of mistakes they make will be recorded on the score-sheet and multiplied by 4.

Quiz References for Tractor Safety Quiz: The questions are taken from:

“Gearing Up for Safety” by Purdue/Dept of Labor Curriculum Leaders Guide

Available at: Hobar Publications
8075 215th Streete
Lakeville, MN 55044

http://www.finneyco.com/safetycd_leaders_guide.htm

F. Contest Procedure for Participants:

In order to make the contest run as smooth as possible, we ask you to follow this procedure:

1. Report to the tabulation desk to receive a quiz. After completing the quiz, return it to the desk.
2. Wait at the course until the scorekeeper calls your name.
3. When you mount the tractor/zero-turn become familiar with the controls. Listen to the instructions and ask questions.
4. Go through the pre-operational exam with the scorekeeper.
5. Start the course when you are ready.
6. Run through the course as shown in the diagram. After you have completed the course, place the tractor/zero-turn in neutral, set the brakes and raise your hand to tell the timekeeper that you are finished. You must complete the course in five minutes. If you exceed the limit you will be stopped and no score will be given. Contestants given a 'no score' will not be eligible for awards.
7. Dismount the tractor/zero-turn and you are finished. Final Scores will be posted at the end of the contest.