



Nursery/ Landscape Handbook

Purpose

To stimulate career interest, encourage proficiency development, and recognize excellence in students of nursery practices and landscaping through the agricultural education curriculum.

Objectives

- To demonstrate the ability to identify nursery and landscape plant materials and turf grasses commonly used in the United States.
- To demonstrate the ability to identify unhealthy plant conditions due to pests, nutritional or physiological disorders, and mechanical or chemical injury.
- To demonstrate knowledge of the principles and skills involved in propagation, growth requirements, growing techniques, harvesting, marketing and maintenance of nursery plants and landscape turf.
- To demonstrate knowledge of the principles and techniques of landscape design and construction.
- To demonstrate the ability to identify, select, use and maintain appropriate supplies and equipment for nursery and landscape operations, including equipment and procedures in mechanization and automation.
- To demonstrate knowledge of safety practices in nursery and landscape operations.
- To demonstrate skills in oral and written business communications.
- To demonstrate understanding of marketing principles and proper sales and service skills.
- To demonstrate the ability to prepare accurate and legible records and reports and to interpret business documents.

General Rules

1. Participants may wear modified official FFA dress for this event (black slacks or jeans for females or black jeans for males and appropriate footwear, appropriate clothing for inclement weather).
2. Four persons will constitute an official team for the Nursery/Landscape Career Development Event. However, only three of the individual scores will be used in the team score tabulation. In addition, no alternates will be allowed in the Nursery/Landscape Event.
3. This State CDE will be conducted by the College of Southern Idaho in conjunction with State FFA Leadership Conference.
4. Materials participants will need to provide:
 - Pruning shears
 - Pruning knife
 - Gloves
 - Safety glasses
 - Engineers & Architects scale
 - Battery operated calculator (scientific calculators not allowed)
5. Entry fees to cover the cost of hosting the event will be assessed.

Event Format

PHASE 1: IDENTIFICATION OF PLANTS, PESTS, DISORDERS, & SUPPLIES (150 POINTS PER CONTESTANT)

Participants will identify 50 items selected from the provided list covering the following categories:

Plant Materials

Plant Pests (Insects, Diseases, Weeds)

Plant Disorders

Equipment & Supplies

Plants to identify will be presented as intact, live specimens. Pest and disorder and equipment & supply items may be presented as an intact specimen, photograph or preserved specimen. When a problem must be presented with an affected plant, a “Disorder” label will be with the item to designate the identification of the problem rather than the plant.

When participants have identified the specimen, the appropriate number of the specimen as listed on attached form is to be written on a scorecard. Three points will be awarded for each specimen correctly identified. Each participant will be allowed 50 minutes to complete this phase of the contest. No specimens may be touched or handled in any way.

PHASE 2: GENERAL KNOWLEDGE EXAMINATION (150 POINTS PER CONTESTANT)

1. Thirty (30) objective-type multiple-choice questions will be selected from the areas listed below. This phase of the event will test the participant's knowledge and understanding of the basic principles relating to the following areas of horticulture (for example: questions for the plant materials area may deal with such features as anatomy of a flower or leaf, physiology of specific types of plants important to the horticultural industry, etc.) The contents of the exam will be extracted from the previous five (5) years of written exams from the National Nursery and Landscape Career Development Event. National exams as reference materials will not utilize the most recent National Convention test items.

Areas for testing include:

- a. Plant materials
- b. Plant disorders
- c. Cultural practices
- d. Landscape design and construction
- e. Supplies and equipment
- f. Safety
- g. Equipment operation and maintenance
- h. Interpersonal relations (skills)
- i. Salesmanship
- j. Records and reports

Each participant will be allowed fifteen minutes to complete this phase. Each correct answer has a value of five points.

PHASE 3: LANDSCAPE ESTIMATING (150 POINTS PER CONTESTANT)

Participants will be furnished with a landscape drawing and scratch paper. The student will answer fifteen (15) objective questions about the landscape drawing, such as, determine the cost of fencing, cost of patio bricks, or the number of yards of sod required to cover a specific area. Each answer has a value of 10 points. Students should furnish both an architect and engineers scale and a battery-operated electronic calculator (if desired). Fifty minutes will be allowed for this practicum.

PRACTICUMS

Practicums will include Pruning every year and rotate others as follows:

- 2024 - Pruning, Potting and Measuring**
2025- Pruning, Measuring and Propagation
2026- Pruning, Propagation and Potting

- Potting Nursery Stock (50 points)** - Each participant will be provided with five liner stock plants of 5-7 inches in height. Participants will pot the plants in one-quart nursery containers using standard practices. Label, pencils, soil, containers, and hand pruners will be provided. Ten minutes will be allowed for completion of this practicum. An official will observe and score each participant during this practicum. Scoring criteria are presented on the "Potting Nursery Stock" scorecard.
- Measuring Nursery Stock (50 points)** - Each participant will be asked to measure five (5) nursery plants for market size (height, spread or caliper as appropriate) according to the American Standard for Nursery Stock for BR and B&B evergreen and deciduous trees and shrubs. A caliper and measuring rule will be provided. Plants presented in containers will be assumed as growing in the field, and a label will advise on whether it is to be dug BR or B&B. Ten minutes will be allowed for completion of this practicum.
- Pruning Nursery Stock (50 points) (Every Year)** - One or more nursery plants will be displayed with ten (10) points marked for possible pruning cuts. No plants will actually be pruned. Participants are to evaluate each labeled point and decide if the plant part should be pruned or not for improvement of the plant's health, form and overall quality. Five (5) positive cuts will be given point values equaling fifty (50). Five (5) negative cuts will be given zero (0) points. Participants will be given points based on the number of positive cuts selected. Ten minutes will be allowed for the completion of this practicum.
- Propagating Nursery Stock (50 points)** - Each participant will be furnished a stock plant, rooting flat and media, rooting hormone, and label and a marking pen. Participants are to prepare the designated softwood or hardwood cuttings and place them in the media with a single label. Ten minutes will be allowed for making and sticking five cuttings. An official will observe and score each participant during this practicum. Scoring criteria are presented on the "Propagating Nursery Stock" scorecard.

Scoring

Participant scores are the sum of the seven individual phases of the event.

Team scores are the sum of all members scores plus the group portion of the team activity and team challenge. Possible points are as follows:

PHASE	Member	Team
1. Identification	150	450
2. Landscape Estimating	150	450
3. General Knowledge	150	450
PRACTICUMS (3 OF THE 4)	Member	Team
1. Practicum 1 Pruning	50	150
2. Practicum 2	50	150
3. Practicum 3	50	150
Individual Total	600	
TEAM TOTAL		1,800

TIEBREAKERS

If needed in the case of tied individuals, final placings will be determined by comparing, in order, scores for the following:

1. General Knowledge Exam
2. Identification
3. Landscape Estimating

If needed in the case of tied team total scores, final placings will be determined by comparing, in order, scores for the following:

1. Team General Knowledge Exam score
2. Identification
3. Landscape Estimating

Nursery/Landscape Plant Identification (Botanical Name)

	Common Name	Botanical Name		Common Name	Botanical Name
101	Japanese Maple	<i>Acer palmatum</i>	138	Hall's Japanese Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera japonica</i> 'Halliana'
102	Norway Maple	<i>Acer platanoides</i>	139	Oregon Grape	<i>Mahonia aquifolia</i> cv.
103	Carpet Bugle	<i>Ajuga reptans</i> cv.	140	Flowering Crabapple	<i>Malus</i> spp. And cv.
104	Columbine	<i>Aquilegia x hybrida</i> cv.	141	Daffodil	<i>Narcissus pseudonarcissus</i> cv.
105	Astilbe	<i>Astilbe</i> hybrid cv.	142	Japanese Spurge	<i>Pachysandra terminalis</i>
106	Mentor Barberry	<i>Berberis x mentorensis</i>	143	Peony	<i>Paeonia</i> hybrid cv.
107	River Birch	<i>Betula nigra</i>	144	Boston Ivy	<i>Parthenocissus tricuspidata</i>
108	Butterfly Bush	<i>Buddleia davidii</i> cv.	145	Fountain Grass	<i>Pennisetum ruppelia</i>
109	Littleleaf Boxwood	<i>Buxus microphylla</i> cv.	146	Norway Spruce	<i>Picea abies</i>
110	Blue Atlas Cedar	<i>Cedrus atlantica</i> 'Glauca'	147	Colorado Blue Spruce	<i>Picea pungens</i> cv.
111	Redbud	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	148	Lily-of-the-Valley-Bush	<i>Pieris japonica</i>
112	Japanese (Flowering) Quince	<i>Chaenomeles speciosa</i> cv.	149	Mugo Pine	<i>Pinus mugo</i>
113	Shasta Daisy	<i>Chrysanthemum x superbum</i> cv.	150	Eastern White Pine	<i>Pinus strobus</i>
114	Clematis	<i>Clematis</i> hybrid	151	Scotch Pine	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>
115	Flowering Dogwood	<i>Cornus florida</i> cv.	152	London Planetree	<i>Platanus x acerifolia</i>
116	Bearberry Cotoneaster	<i>Cotoneaster dammeri</i>	153	Kentucky Bluegrass	<i>Poa pratensis</i> cv.
117	Washington Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus phaenopyrum</i>	154	Shrubby Cinquefoil	<i>Potentilla fruticosa</i> cv.
118	Purple Coneflower	<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	155	Flowering Cherry	<i>Prunus serrulata</i> , Kwanzan' Jap.
119	Winged Euonymus	<i>Euonymus alatus</i>	156	Firethorn	<i>Pyracantha coccinea</i> cv.
120	Wintercreeper	<i>Euonymus fortunei</i> cv.	157	Pin Oak	<i>Quercus palustris</i>
121	European Beech	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i> cv.	158	Red Oak	<i>Quercus rubra</i>
122	Fescue	<i>Festuca</i> spp. And cv.	159	Catawba Hybrid Rhododendron	<i>Rhododendron x catawbiense</i>
123	Border Forsythia	<i>Forsythia x intermedia</i> cv.	160	Hybrid Tea Rose	<i>Rosa</i> spp. Class Hybrid Tea cv.
124	Common Blanketflower	<i>Gallardia aristata</i> cv.	161	Black-eyed Susan	<i>Rudbeckia fulgida</i>
125	Ginkgo, Maidenhair Tree	<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>	162	Meadow Sage	<i>Salvia nemorosa</i> cv.
126	Thornless Honeylocust	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos inermis</i> cv.	163	Sedum	<i>Sedum spurium</i> cv.
127	English Ivy	<i>Hedera helix</i> cv.	164	European Mountain Ash	<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>
128	Daylily	<i>Heemerocallis</i> spp. and cv.	165	Bumalda Spirea	<i>Spirea x bumalda</i>
129	Coral Bells, Alumroot	<i>Heuchera</i> cv	166	Common Lilac	<i>Syringa vulgaris</i> cv.
130	Plantain Lily	<i>Hosta x hybrida</i> cv.	167	Yew	<i>Taxus</i> spp. And cv.
131	Bigleaf Hydrangea	<i>Hydrangea macrophylla</i>	168	American Arborvitae	<i>Thuja occidentalis</i> cv.
132	Meserve Holly	<i>Ilex x meserveae</i>	169	Littleleaf Linden	<i>Tilia cordata</i>
133	Bearded Iris	<i>Iris x germanica florentina</i> cv.	170	Tulip	<i>Tulipa</i> spp. Cv.
134	Chinese Juniper	<i>Juniperus chinensis</i> cv.	171	American Cranberry Bush	<i>Viburnum trilobum</i>
135	English lavender	<i>Lavendula angustifolia</i> cv.	172	Periwinkle	<i>Vinca minor</i> cv.
136	Sweet Gum	<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	173	Chinese Wisteria	<i>Wisteria sinensis</i> cv.
137	Tuliptree	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	174	Adam's Needle	<i>Yucca filamentosa</i>

Nursery/Landscape Plant Identification (Common Name)

	Common Name	Botanical Name		Common Name	Botanical Name
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168	American Arborvitae	<i>Thuja occidentalis</i> cv.	160	Hybrid Tea Rose	<i>Rosa</i> spp. Class Hybrid Tea cv.
171	American Cranberry Bush	<i>Viburnum trilobum</i>	112	Japanese (Flowering) Quince	<i>Chaenomeles speciosa</i> cv.
105	Astilbe	<i>Astilbe</i> hybrid cv.	101	Japanese Maple	<i>Acer palmatum</i>
116	Bearberry Cotoneaster	<i>Cotoneaster dammeri</i>	142	Japanese Spurge	<i>Pachysandra terminalis</i>
133	Bearded Iris	<i>Iris x germanica florentina</i> cv.	153	Kentucky Bluegrass	<i>Poa pratensis</i> cv.
131	Bigleaf Hydrangea	<i>Hydrangea macrophylla</i>	148	Lily-of-the-Valley-Bush	<i>Pieris japonica</i>
161	Black-eyed Susan	<i>Rudbeckia fulgida</i>	109	Littleleaf Boxwood	<i>Buxus microphylla</i> cv.
110	Blue Atlas Cedar	<i>Cedrus atlantica</i> 'Glauca'	169	Littleleaf Linden	<i>Tilia cordata</i>
123	Border Forsythia	<i>Forsythia x intermedia</i> cv.	152	London Planetree	<i>Platanus x acerifolia</i>
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147	Colorado Blue Spruce	<i>Picea pungens</i> cv.	172	Periwinkle	<i>Vinca minor</i> cv.
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140	Flowering Crabapple	<i>Malus</i> spp. And cv.	117	Washington Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus phaenopyrum</i>
115	Flowering Dogwood	<i>Cornus florida</i> cv.	119	Winged Euonymus	<i>Euonymus alatus</i>
145	Fountain Grass	<i>Pennisetum ruppelia</i>	120	Wintercreeper	<i>Euonymus fortunei</i> cv.
125	Ginkgo, Maidenhair Tree	<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>	167	Yew	<i>Taxus</i> spp. And cv.

Pests and Disorders Identification

No.	Item Name
Pests	
175	Aphid
176	Bagworm
177	Borer
178	Leafhopper
179	Leaf Miner
180	Scale
181	Spider Mite
182	Snail/Slug
183	Whitefly
184	White Grub
Diseases	
185	Anthracoze
186	Apple Scab
187	Black Spot
188	Botrytis
189	Canker
190	Cedar-Apple Rust
191	Crown Gall
192	Fireblight
193	Powdery Mildew
194	Root Rot

No.	Item Name
Weeds	
195	Annual Bluegrass
196	Broadleaf Plantain
197	Buckhorn Plantain
198	Chickweed
199	Crabgrass
200	Dandelion
201	Henbit
202	Nutsedge
203	Oxalis
204	Purslane
205	Clovers
Physiological Problems	
206	Frost/Freeze Injury
207	Iron Deficiency
208	Leaf Scorch (drought/winter burn)
209	Nitrogen Deficiency
210	Pot-Bound roots
211	String Trimmer Injury
212	2,4-D Injury
Beneficial Insects	
213	Praying Mantis
214	Lady Beetle
215	Paper Wasp
216	Lacewing
217	Spider

Equipment and Supplies Identification

No.	Item Name	No.	Item Name	No.	Item Name
260	anvil-and-blade pruner	294	impact sprinkler	328	solenoid valve
261	ball cart (B&B truck)	295	landscape fabric	329	spade
262	bark mulch	296	leaf rake	330	sphagnum moss
263	bow saw	297	loppers	331	square point (flat) shovel
264	broadcast (cyclone) spreader	298	mattock	332	string trimmer
265	bubbler head, irrigation	299	measuring wheel	333	thatch rake
266	bulb planter	300	mist nozzle (mist bed)	334	tree caliper
267	bunker rake	301	mower blade balancer	335	tree wrap
268	burlap	302	nursery container	336	trowel
269	compressed air sprayer tank pressurized	303	oscillating sprinkler	337	vertical mower
270	core aerifier	304	peat moss	338	water breaker
271	chain saw	305	pick	339	wire tree basket
272	cut-off machine	306	planting/earth/soil auger		
273	drip emitter, irrigation	307	pole pruner		
274	dry-lock wall block	308	polyethylene pipe		
275	edger (power or hand)	309	pop-up irrigation head		
276	edging	310	post-hole digger		
277	erosion netting	311	power blower		
278	fertilizer injector	312	power hedge trimmer		
279	fertilizer tablet	313	pot-in-pot units		
280	garden (spading) fork	314	pump sprayer tank not pressurized		
281	garden (bow) rake	315	propagation mat		
282	grafting band	316	pruning saw		
283	grafting knife	317	reel mower		
284	granular fertilizer	318	resin-coated fertilizer		
285	gravity (drop) spreader	319	rotary mower		
286	ground/pelleted limestone	320	rototiller		
287	hedge shears	321	round point shovel		
288	hoe	322	scoop shovel		
289	hook-and-blade pruners	323	shade fabric		
290	hose-end repair fitting	324	sharpening stone		
291	hose-end sprayer	325	siphon proportioner		
292	hose-end washer	326	soaker hose		
293	hose repair coupling	327	soil sampling tube		

Nursery/Landscape CDE Identification and Equipment Scorecards

150 points

Participant Name _____ Number _____ Chapter _____

Directions: Identify plant specimens, insect pests, diseases, weed pests, equipment and supplies by writing the correct sample number from list provided to the sample spaces below.

1.	26.
2.	27.
3.	28.
4.	29.
5.	30.
6.	31.
7.	32.
8.	33.
9.	34.
10.	35.
11.	36.
12.	37.
13.	38.
14.	39.
15.	40.
16.	41.
17.	42.
18.	43.
19.	44.
20.	45.
21.	46.
22.	47.
23.	48.
24.	49.
25.	50.

SCORING DIRECTIONS: Each plant, insect pest, disease, weeds pests, equipment and supplies identification is worth 3 points. Deduct total incorrect from 150 points possible and record score at the bottom of the card.

Score _____

Potting Nursery Stock Practicum Scorecard

(50 POINTS)

Name	Member Number	Chapter	Team Number	
Judge Name	Judge's Signature	Date		
	Excellent	Good	Needs Improvement	Member Score
Potting Process				
Selection of plugs or liners	5-4 points Plugs/liners are uniform in size and shape, correct number selected based on pot size provided	3-2 points Plugs/liners are somewhat uniform in size and shape, just slightly off in selecting the correct number	1-0 points Plugs/liners are not uniform in size and shape, correct number not selected based on pot size provided	
Proper planting depth	10-7 points Hole is made prior to placing plant in soil, the entire root system is covered, leaving proper stem length visible	6-4 points minor amount of roots are showing, planted slightly too deep	3-0 points A large amount of roots are showing or plant stem is covered with soil	
Labeling of plant/pot	5-4 points Labeled with date planted, plant name, and cultivar	3-2 points Labeled with some but not all information required	1-0 points no label present or labeled with incorrect information	
Correct growing medium level in pot	10-7 points Growing media is filled to the inner lip of the pot, leaving enough room to water the plant	6-4 points Growing media is filled slightly too high or too low	3-0 points Growing media is left very low or completely fills up the pot	
Plug or liner arrangement and angle	5-4 points Plugs/Liners evenly spaced for pot size given and plugs/liners planted in upright position	3-2 points plugs/liners planted slightly too close or too far apart, planting slightly tilting	1-0 points Plugs/liners not spaced corrected and not planted upright	
Firmness of growing medium	5-4 points After planting, growing media is tapped/ pressed firmly around each plant leaving the plant upright	3-2 points Growing media is left slightly loose or left slightly too firm restricting plant growth	1-0 points Growing media is not firmed after planting or left entirely too firm restricting plant growth	
General appearance (free from handling damage)	10-7 points Final product presented to the judge with plants upright, pot clean, and in sellable condition	6-4 points Final product presented to the judge in slightly sellable condition	3-0 points Final product presented to judge in non-sellable condition	
		TOTAL		
		(50 POINTS POSSIBLE)		

Nursery/Landscape Measuring Nursery Stock Scorecard

50 points

Participant Name _____ Number _____ Chapter _____

	<u>Possible points</u>	<u>Participant</u>
A. Correct Minimum Interval _____	(10)	_____
B. Correct Minimum Interval _____	(10)	_____
C. Correct Minimum Interval _____	(10)	_____
D. Correct Minimum Interval _____	(10)	_____
E. Correct Minimum Interval _____	(10)	_____
TOTAL POINTS	(50)	_____

Nursery/Landscape Propagating Nursery Stock Practicum Scorecard

(50 POINTS)

Name	Member Number	Chapter/State	Team Number
Judge Name	Judge's Signature	Date	

	Excellent	Good	Needs Improvement	Member Score
Selection of cuttings	10-7 points Small uniform terminal shoot cuttings	6-4 points Used some cuttings of the same size and type	3-0 point too large, nonterminal shoots, or not uniform in size	
Making cuttings	10-7 points Straight, flush even cut of the basal end	6-4 points Some cuttings cut properly and some incorrectly cut	3-0 points basal end cut at angle or damaged	
Preparation of cuttings for sticking in growing media	5-4 points Selected/ prepared cuttings that did not require further preparation	3-2 points Selected cuttings that required removal of damaged and/or unneeded foliage	1-0 points left damaged and/or unnecessary foliage on plant	
Use of rooting hormone	5-4 points Poured correct amount of rooting hormone into separate container, applied hormone & tapped off excess amount	3-2 points Too much or too little put in separate container, applied correctly but did not tap off extra hormone	1-0 point applied directly from source container and/or did not use rooting hormone	
Selection of growing media	5-4 points Select best rooting medium for optimum rooting	3-2 points Select moderate but not best choice for optimum rooting	1-0 points selected incorrect rooting medium	
Sticking of cuttings in growing media	10-7 points Creating a dibble in media prior to placing cutting, placing at proper depth, firming media correctly	6-4 points Correctly demonstrated at least 1 or 2 of the correct principles	3-0 points no prior hole made, planted too deep, or left unstable	
Cuttings labeled correctly	5-4 points Labeled with date propagated, plant name, and cultivar	3-2 points Labeled with some but not all information required	1-0 point no label present or labeled with incorrect information	
		TOTAL (50 POINTS POSSIBLE)		

Nursery/Landscape Pruning Nursery Stock Practicum Scorecard

50 points

NAME		MEMBER NUMBER
CHAPTER	STATE	TEAM NUMBER

Directions: Select the five (5) pruning cuts you feel would most improve the plant's health, form and overall quality. Mark your selections with a "X" next to the number.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____