FFA Proficiency Awards

Submitted by Coleman Sappington and used in cooperation with the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

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FFA Proficiency Awards
What is a Proficiency Award?

• An award presented by the National FFA to recognize excellence in a SAE program.
• There are over 50 areas of agriculture for which awards are available.
Proficiency Awards

• Proficiency award winners are recognized at the:
  – local level (chapter)
  – section
  – district, federation and/or area level
  – state level
  – national level
Proficiency Awards!

- There are 50+ categories of proficiency awards
- Placement and entrepreneurship SAE programs are recognized in each category
Proficiency Award Categories

- Number of categories vary from year to year depending upon sponsorship
- The slides that follow show the typical categories
Agricultural Communications*

- Radio station
- TV station
- Newspaper
- Magazines
Agricultural Mechanical Technical Systems

- Working on any type of farm equipment
- Working at a tractor dealership
Agricultural Processing*

- Anything in which you change the form of some raw product
  - Making jams and jellies
Agricultural Sales and/or Service*

- Selling seed
- Working at FS
- Working at a farm store
Beef Production

• Raising cattle
• Working at a beef farm
Grain Crop Production

- Corn
- Wheat
- Grain Sorghum
Dairy Production

- Raising cattle
- Working at a dairy farm
Diversified Crop Production

- Raising more than one type of crop
Diversified Livestock Production

- Raising more than one type of livestock
Emerging Agricultural Technology*

- Any new or developing technology
  - GPS
Environmental Science*

- Recycling programs
- Creating grass waterways
Equine Science

- Raising horses
- Working on a horse farm
Fiber Crop Production*

- Cotton
- Flax
Floriculture*

- Raising any type of flowers
- Working at a greenhouse
Forage Production*

- Hay production
Forest Management*

- Cutting firewood
- Timber stand improvement
- Logging
Fruit and/or Vegetable Production*

- Raising any kind of fruit or vegetables
  - Family garden
- Working at an orchard
Home and/or Community Development*

- Remodeling
- Cleaning up an old farm
- Planting flowers around town
Landscape Management*

- Doing landscaping at your house or for others
- Working for a landscaping business
Nursery Operations*

- Raising trees
- Working at a nursery
Oil Crop Production

- Soybeans
- Peanuts
Outdoor Recreation*

- Serving as a hunting guide
- NOT hunting for sport
Poultry Production

- Chickens
- Turkeys
- Any other type of fowl
Sheep Production*

- Raising sheep
- Working on a sheep farm
Small Animal Care*

- Cats
- Dogs
- Iguanas
- Snakes
Specialty Animal Production*

- Rabbits
- Goats
- Donkeys
Specialty Crop Production*

- Mushrooms
- Any crop that doesn’t fit into another category
Swine Production

- Raising pigs
- Working on a pig farm
Turf Grass Management*

- Mowing yards
- Working at a turf farm
Wildlife Management

- Planting food plots & monitoring them
Proficiency Award Tips

• Don’t get behind on your record books
  – Make entries daily
• Learn about what you are doing – don’t just do it because you’re told to
  – Ask questions
• Take pictures throughout the year
• Be neat!
  – Neatness makes a big impression during judging
Proficiency Award Tips

- On pictures for your caption pages:
  - Don’t Say “This is a picture of….”. The judges know it is a picture.
  - Change shirts/caps
  - Make captions action oriented “Suckering tomatoes has been shown to…”
  - Don’t show unsafe practices in your pictures (such as no safety glasses while working on machinery)
FFA Proficiency Awards

What is a Proficiency Award?
• An award presented by the National FFA to recognize ________________ in a SAE program.
• There are over ________ areas of agriculture for which awards are available.

Proficiency Awards
• Proficiency award winners are recognized at the:
  – _____________ level (chapter)
  – section
  – _______________, federation and/or area level
  – state  level
  – _______________ level
• There are ______ categories of proficiency awards
• Placement and ________________ SAE programs are recognized in each category

Proficiency Award Categories
• Number of categories vary from year to year depending upon ________________
• The slides that follow show the typical categories

Agricultural Communications*
• ________________ station
• TV station
• ________________ Magazines

Agricultural Mechanical Technical Systems
• Working on any type of farm ________________
• Working at a ________________ dealership

Agricultural Processing*
• Anything in which you change the form of some raw product
  – Making jams and jellies

Agricultural Sales and/or Service*
• Selling ________________
• Working at FS
• Working at a farm ________________

Beef Production
• Raising ________________
• Working at a beef farm
Grain Crop Production
• Corn
• ________________
• Grain Sorghum

Dairy Production
• Raising cattle
• Working at a ________________ farm

Diversified Crop Production
• Raising ________________ than ________________ type of crop

Diversified Livestock Production
• Raising more than one type of ________________

Emerging Agricultural Technology*
• Any ________________ or developing technology
  – GPS

Environmental Science*
• ________________ programs
• Creating grass waterways

Equine Science
• Raising ________________
• Working on a horse farm

Fiber Crop Production*
• ________________
• Flax

Floriculture*
• Raising any type of ________________
• Working at a greenhouse

Forage Production*
• ________________ production

Forest Management*
• Cutting ________________
• Timber stand improvement
• Logging
Fruit and/or Vegetable Production*
• Raising any kind of fruit or vegetables
  – Family garden
• Working at an _______________

Home and/or Community Development*
• _______________
• Cleaning up an old farm
• Planting flowers around town

Landscape Management*
• Doing landscaping at your house or for others
• Working for a landscaping _______________

Nursery Operations*
• Raising _______________
• Working at a nursery

Oil Crop Production
• Soybeans
• _______________

Outdoor Recreation*
• Serving as a _______________guide
• NOT hunting for sport

Poultry Production*
• Chickens
• _______________
• Any other type of fowl

Sheep Production*
• Raising _______________
• Working on a sheep farm

Small Animal Care*
• Cats
• Dogs
• _______________
• Snakes

Specialty Animal Production*
• Rabbits
• _______________
• Donkeys
Specialty Crop Production*
• Mushrooms
• Any crop that doesn’t fit into another ________________

Swine Production
• Raising ______________
• Working on a pig farm

Turf Grass Management*
• ______________ yards
• Working at a turf farm

Wildlife Management
• Planting food ______________ & monitoring them

Proficiency Award Tips
• Don’t get ______________ on your record books
  – Make entries ______________
• Learn about ______________ you are doing – don’t just do it because your ________________ to
  – Ask ______________
• Take ______________ throughout the year
• Be ______________!
  – Neatness makes a big impression during judging

• On pictures for your caption pages:
  – Don’t say “This is a ______________ of…” The judges know it is a picture.
  – ______________ shirts/caps
  – Make captions ______________ oriented “Suckering tomatoes has been shown to…”
  – Don’t show ______________ practices in your pictures (such as no safety glasses while working on machinery)