

TO: Vocational Agriculture Teachers
FROM: Amy Timmerman, State Contest Coordinator
SUBJECT: State Range Judging
DATE: September 12, 2019

The State Range Judging Contest will be held Wednesday, September 25, 2019 in the O'Neill - Atkinson area. Registration will be from 8:00-9:00 at the Atkinson Community Center at 206 W 5th St. Atkinson, NE.

The Upper Elkhorn NRD, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Nebraska Extension in Holt & Boyd County and the NE Section of the Society for Range Management are sponsors for the contest.

Contestants must compete in their own division. For example, juniors are high school sophomores and younger, seniors are high school juniors and seniors and adults for anyone out of school. There is no limit on the number of individuals that may be entered.

The registration fee is **\$5.00** per contestant and needs to be paid in full by the morning of the contest. Payment is to be made payable to “**University of Nebraska – Lincoln**”. There will be invoices/receipts in your registration packet that day of the contest. As in past years, the tabulations are computerized so we need to have student names ahead of time in order to get all the information entered.

Registration will be completed on-line at https://go.unl.edu/2019_state_range_judging by 3 PM on Friday September 20th. You will receive a confirmation email following completion of your registration. If you have difficulties registering please contact Amy Timmerman or Kelli Knox located at the Holt County Extension Office at 402-336-2760. Registrations prior to the deadline are highly encouraged.

On Monday September 23rd, all registered advisors will receive an email with information regarding the practice site location and all the information you will need for the day of contest. Contestants will have access to the practice location on Tuesday September 24th from 1 pm till dark and Wednesday morning until registration closes.

Following the contest there will be no awards ceremony. Within a day or two of the completion of the contest, official state contest results will be posted on the NE Society for Range Management website (www.nesrm.org) under the Range Judging tab and emailed out on the NE AgEd listserve. Awards will be mailed to the schools following

the contest. Area contest awards will be given to instructors at registration time on Wednesday.

Please have contestants wear appropriate shoes (muck boots may be advisable) and clothing the day of the contest. Depending on how much rain we have in the area prior to the contest, contestants may walk up to half a mile to the contest location that morning. We hope you bring a full bus to the contest! Since range and pastures account for 52 percent of the land in the state of Nebraska, range judging contests are an effective tool for teaching students about Nebraska's rangelands and grasslands, and the benefits of good range management.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 402-336-2760.
