



2018 Floriculture CDE
Friday, February 23, 2018
University of Florida Mid-Florida Research Center
2725 S. Binion Rd, Apopka, FL

NEW FOR 2018: Friday event (rather than Saturday)

Identification of Plants and Equipment

Thirty-five (35) specimen from the Floriculture Plant List and fifteen (15) from the Equipment & Supply List included in the Florida FFA Competitive Event Guide will be displayed to identify.

TIP: Be sure students are familiar with how to use the scantron score card and specimen list to properly identify the plants, equipment and supplies at the exam. Be assured that if plants have an identifiable characteristic (such as a flower) it will be present on the plants. All efforts are made to assure the plants are healthy and in pots or vases, rather than using cuttings. Equipment will be actual specimen rather than photos. Focus on studying the most common plants and equipment.

Identifying and Controlling Plant Disorders (high school only)

Participants will utilize the list of disorders in the Florida FFA Competitive Event Guide and be asked to classify, identify, and if appropriate, choose the best chemical or biological control.

TIP: This was a new format last year and will be the same for this year. Specimen could be either live, preserved or photos, so be prepared for a variety. Only specimen listed on the FFA Plant Disorders will be included. It is most important to alert your students that each specimen presented has four answers associated with it. Let's say there is a photo of a Praying Mantis presented as number 1. The student would mark A in the Classification column for Beneficial. It is listed as D in the Identification column. Under the Chemical Control column, the student would realize that you don't want to control a beneficial, so the answer would be E None Listed. The same goes for the Other Control column. Feel free to contact me if you need more clarification. This activity is for high school students only. Middle school students will sit quietly during this rotation.

Customer Service

Participants will assume the role of an employee in a greenhouse, garden center or florist shop. They will be asked to determine the best approach to customer service when presented with common situations they may encounter as a professional.

TIP: This practicum will be a written problem-solving activity where a scenario will be presented and the student will determine the best course of action. They will draw on their general knowledge of customer service, salesmanship and professionalism. This will take place at the same time as the Plant Soil Water Relationships practicum. High school students will take both practicums in the 25-minute rotation. Middle school students will have 25 minutes to complete the Customer Service practicum.

Plant Soil Water Relationships (high school only)

The relationship between soil, air, and water is one of the least understood aspects in the production and maintenance of plants. Participants will demonstrate a basic understanding of the factors that influence success in this relationship through a written, problem-solving exam.

TIP: This practicum will also be a written problem-solving activity. Topics covered include understanding pH and its effect on nutrient uptake, soil texture and its effect on plant health, and the importance of soil amendments for floriculture crops. This will take place at the same time as the Customer Service practicum. High school students will take both practicums in the same 25-minute rotation. Middle school students do not complete this practicum.

Floral Skills

The American Institute of Floral Designers will again bring a creative floral activity to this year's CDE. This year's activity will be a bud vase.

TIP: AIFD professionals judge the final student project in several areas: 1) following instructions given to them during the opening demonstration, 2) neatness of product and workstation, 3) time management to complete the project and clean up their workstation, 4) safety in using snips and wires, and 5) creativity. Students will be provided with a demonstration of the project before they begin. They should bring with them knowledge on the focal point of a design, selecting the best face of a flower, texture and color as it relates to floral design. They should also be familiar with the basic tools of trade, including floral tape, ribbons, wire and cutting tools.

General Study Tools

Plant ID:

www.fnglaplantid.com

<https://quizlet.com/HortEdu/folders/fngla-plant-id-scientific-names/sets>

Pest ID:

<http://entnemdept.ufl.edu/creatures/>

Customer Service:

FCHP Manual, Chapter I, Business Issues

Pages 10-14

<http://www.fngla.org/certifications/FCHP/downloads/Chapter1.pdf>

Plant Soil Water Relationships:

FCHP Manual, Chapter III, Requirements for Plant Growth

Pages 1-7

<http://www.fngla.org/certifications/FCHP/downloads/Chapter3.pdf>

Attached pdf document called PlantSoilWater.pdf for a look at soil amendments

Floral Practicum:

Included with this information is a pdf with sample pages from a textbook called Floriculture Designing & Merchandising by Charles Griner. It is just one example of study material for your students. This particular textbook is from Cengage, ISBN-13: 978-1-4354-8935-6.