



NEW JERSEY FFA ASSOCIATION

New Jersey Department of Agriculture
Office of Agricultural Education
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In cooperation with the New Jersey Department of Education

December 16, 2016

To: New Jersey FFA Chapter Advisors/Agriculture, Food and Natural Resource Educators

From: Erin E. Noble, State FFA Specialist

CC: Nancy J. Trivette, State FFA Advisor

Re: New Jersey FFA Agriscience Fair
Wednesday, May 3, 2017 - Rutgers EcoComplex, Bordentown, NJ 3:00-6:00 pm

WHAT IS THE AGRISCIENCE FAIR?

The FFA Agriscience Fair is an exciting opportunity for students interested in scientific principles and emerging technologies in the agricultural industry. The National FFA Agriscience Fair provides middle and high school students the opportunity to achieve recognition for their accomplishments in Agriscience. This program also gives students a chance to demonstrate and display Agriscience projects that are extensions of their Agriscience courses.

There are six divisions:

- Division 1 – individual member in grades 7 & 8
- Division 2 – team of two members in grades 7 & 8
- Division 3 – individual member in grades 9 & 10
- Division 4 – team of two members in grades 9 & 10
- Division 5 – individual member in grades 11 & 12
- Division 6 – team of two members in grades 11 & 12

There are six categories:

- Animal Systems
- Environmental Services/Natural Resource Systems
- Food Products and Processing Systems
- Plant Systems
- Power, Structural and Technical Systems
- Social Systems

A chapter may only have one entry per division and category. If more than one Agriscience project is entered from the same chapter and/or school, then projects must differ in research hypotheses (questions or objectives), findings related to the research hypothesis (questions or objectives), conclusions, and recommendations.

HOW DO I SIGN-UP?

Complete the participant list at this link - <https://form.jotform.com/NJFFA/AgriscienceFair> - and submit it by **Saturday, April 1, 2017***. (Since the date falls on a weekend, participant list and materials will be accepted on the next business day.) Additional materials are also due on April 1. (See below)

A \$9.00 per person fee is assessed per participant; unless the chapter has at least Blue Affiliation, then the fee is waived. Please forward payment or purchase order by April 1. Make checks payable to: Treasurer, State of New Jersey with "Agriscience Fair" in the memo line and send to the Office of Agricultural Education, New Jersey Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 330, Trenton, NJ 08625-0330. **Participant lists submitted after April 1 will be assessed a \$10 late fee.** Please be prepared to pay prior to or at the registration desk on the day of the event. Cash will not be accepted.

WHO CAN COMPETE?

1. Contestants must be currently enrolled in an approved agricultural education course. However, only FFA members are eligible for awards and advanced competition.
2. Students who have earned first place and/or represented New Jersey at the National FFA Convention may not compete in the same division and category again.
3. A member may not compete as an individual and on a team in the same year.

WHAT DO I SUBMIT BY APRIL 1? – **NEW PROCESS IN 2017!!!**

The Agriscience Fair Application and Written Report template must be completed online through www.ffa.org. Visit this link for instructions on how to access both documents - https://www.ffa.org/SiteCollectionDocuments/agriscience_application_and_report_directions_17_21.pdf (must be logged into ffa.org to access this information).

Here is a list of what needs to be submitted for state level competition:

1. **Participant List:** Agriscience Fair Participant list submitted using this link - <https://form.jotform.com/NJFFA/AgriscienceFair>
2. **Agriscience Fair Application (created using National FFA's online application):** Mail the original application with signatures (please do not fax) which should include (be sure to make a copy for your files):
 - a. Cover page
 - b. Research Plan Approval Form
 - c. Adult Sponsor Checklist
 - d. Hazardous Materials Waiver Form
 - e. Human Vertebrate Form
 - f. Non-human Vertebrate Form
 - g. Skill Development Form
 - h. Research Funding
 - i. Checklist of Minimum Qualifications
 - j. Manual Checksheet

***ALL** pages of the National FFA Agriscience Fair Application are required even if the page doesn't pertain to the project.
3. **Written Report:** Upload the Written Report (using National FFA's template) to the application as instructed in the online application. You DO NOT need to mail a hard copy of the written report.

**You MUST use the National FFA Agriscience Fair Forms and Templates.
NO OTHER FORMS WILL BE ACCEPTED!**

WHAT DOES THE NEW JERSEY FFA AGRISCIENCE FAIR INVOLVE?

Students participating in the Agriscience Fair will need to provide a display at the event. Displays can be no larger than 48 inches wide by 30 inches deep by 36 inches high (from top of table to top of display) and must be free-standing. A log book and up to five copies of the written report are optional but strongly encouraged. No additional props, handouts or electronics are permitted. No tablets, iPads, cell phones or other electronic devices will be permitted. Internet access will not be provided. Judges will interview participants for a maximum of 15 minutes. Participant order will be selected at random on the day of the event. The National FFA Agriscience Fair Score Sheet will be used to evaluate participants. New Jersey FFA is not responsible for disqualifications beyond the state level. Please keep in mind that there are different rubrics and scoresheets for middle school students and high school students. For more in-depth information, please review the New Jersey Agriscience Fair Handbook.

WHAT IS THE SCHEDULE FOR THE AGRISCIENCE FAIR ON MAY 3?

- * 3:00 -3:30pm – Display Set-up
- * 3:00 -3:30pm – Registration – Foyer
- * 3:30 pm – Event Kick-off – Auditorium
- * 3:45 pm –? (*End time depends on number of participants*) – Agriscience Fair Project Judging
(*The Auditorium will be used as a holding room for members not in interviews*)

WHAT RECOGNITION IS THERE?

New Jersey recognizes the top individual/team in each division and category with award checks (\$50), certificates, and medals at the State FFA Convention. Winners in each division and category will qualify to submit their final written research report, entry form, and all supporting certification forms for National FFA Agriscience Fair pre-screening. A maximum of 12 applicants in each category and division nationwide, as determined by a national screening panel, will be certified to participate in the National FFA Agriscience Fair. See pages 32-37 of the National FFA Agriscience Fair Handbook for the prequalifying score sheet and rubric. Scores from this process will count as 25% of the overall score of the Agriscience Fair. National FFA will announce the applicants chosen to advance to the National FFA Agriscience Fair in early to mid-August.

HOW DO I GET AGRISCIENCE FAIR RESULTS?

Official results will be available via email and on the New Jersey FFA website at http://www.jerseyageducation.nj.gov/agriculture/ag_ed/ffa/career/ Please do not call the Office of Agricultural Education for results.

"The New Jersey FFA Association is a resource and support organization that does not select, control or supervise local chapter or individual member activities except as expressly provided for in the state FFA constitution, bylaws or policies."

**Directions to the Rutgers EcoComplex
1200 Florence Columbus Road
Bordentown, NJ 08505 (609) 499-3600**

From NJ Turnpike:

Take Exit 7 to Rt. 206 S.
Stay on Rt. 206 S. for about 3.5 miles (Past exit for Hedding)
Exit Rt. 206 S. at Columbus-Burlington Exit (Rt. 543)
At stop sign make RIGHT onto Rt. 543 West (travel about 2 miles)
EcoComplex is large green building on LEFT, before the second light

or

Route 206 S. to first light - follow signs for I295 S.
First RIGHT (at light) onto Old York Road
QUICK RIGHT (at stop sign & sign for Rt. 295) onto Rising Sun Road
Proceed less than 1 mile
LEFT onto I295 South
Follow below

From Route 295:

Exit 52A (Columbus)
EcoComplex is large green building on RIGHT just past the first light.
From Route 206 Northbound:
Route 206 North past Columbus Farmer's Market
Exit for the town of Columbus approx. one mile north of market
At traffic light make LEFT onto Rt. 543 West (also called Main St.)
EcoComplex is large green building on LEFT, before the second light

From PA Turnpike:

Go over PA-NJ Turnpike Bridge
Take the first exit for US Route 130
RIGHT on the first light onto 656E (Florence-Columbus Rd.)
After approximately 3 miles there is an overpass for I295
Go through next light
EcoComplex is large green building on RIGHT

