



FunFest 2026 Horticulture & Landscape Competition Rules High School



Objective: The objective is to demonstrate knowledge in plant and pest identification and acquired skills in landscape layout through three events.

Judging

Participants: Up to 6 Teams with 4 members. 24 participants are the maximum allowed from MCS.

Submission: No prior submission is required.

Judging Location:

Landscape Layout Practicum: Annual Bed (Behind Steed Hall)

Plant Identification: Steed 203

Pest Identification: Steed 203

SCC Judges: Hilarie Blevins, Associate Professor/Coordinator, Landscape Gardening

Notes: None.

Determining the winner: Team scores will be determined by adding earned scores from each of three events. The events include 1) Plant ID, 2) Pest ID, and 3) Landscape Plant Layout Challenge. The highest team score is the winner.

Competition Rules

Part 1: Plant Identification (150 points)

Fifteen pictures or samples of plants will be chosen from the current state FFA Introductory Horticulture list of ID plants. Each individual team member will identify the 15 plants and will have a total of 30 minutes to complete this activity. Each plant will be worth 10 points and no plant will be used twice. Each team member will be given one Identification Tally Sheet. Event judges will grade sheets by awarding 10 points for each correct answer. If it is observed that an individual uses the same answer on their paper twice, neither answer will be counted as correct. The Team score for the competition will be the average score for the team participants in the Plant ID event.

Part 2: Pest Identification (50 points)

Five pictures or samples of pest/disease/disorder will be chosen from the current state FFA Introduction to Horticulture Practicum – State Pest ID List. Each individual team member will identify the 5 pest/disease/disorders and will have a total of 30 minutes to complete this activity. Each correct identification will be worth 10 points and no pest/disease/disorder will be used twice. Each team member will be given a Practicum Tally Sheet. Event judges will grade sheets by awarding 10 points for each correct answer. If it is observed that an individual uses the same answer on their paper twice, neither answer will be counted as correct. The Team score for the competition will be the average score for the team participants in the Pest ID event.

Part 3: Landscape Layout Practicum (200)

Each team of 4 will accurately layout plants in a 10x10' plot as dictated by a provided plan. Students will be judged on placement, facing, handling, viewpoint, safety, productivity, and teamwork. (see the FFA Plant Layout Scorecard).

The Team score for the competition will be the total points earned by the team in the Landscape Layout Practicum event.

Scoring for Event		
Part	Possible Points	Team Points Earned
Plant ID (Team Average)	150	
Pest ID (Team Average)	50	
Landscape Layout Practicum (Team Points Earned)	200	
Total	400	