



Agribusiness Public Speaking



District & State O-Rama – Junior & Senior 4-H'ers
Agribusiness

OBJECTIVES

1. Development of targeted life skills: Communication and Decision Making
2. Opportunity for faculty to share information about related college degree programs in Agricultural Business and career options in Agricultural Marketing, Farm Management, Agricultural Business Management and Pre-Law.
3. Development of public speaking skills.
4. Reinforcement of 4-H project work relevant to the agribusiness issues and the use of chemicals as they relate to the environment and food safety.
5. Encouragement of participants to become familiar with scientific research on the benefits of proper chemical use in agricultural production, marketing and processing.

ELIGIBILITY

District 4-H O-Rama: Each county may enter one Junior and one Senior member. From the four first-place district Junior winners, three will be invited to compete at the Mid-South Fair and the fourth will be invited to serve as an alternate. Seniors placing in the top five in each District 4-H O-Rama contest are eligible to compete in that activity at the Arkansas 4-H O-Rama.

ACTIVITY

Juniors will be allowed two to five minutes and Seniors five to eight minutes for their presentations. Notes may be used during your speech (preferably notes should be on 3-inch x 5-inch cards). You should not state your name, county, or club at the beginning of your speech, and you should not use props or charts during the speech. Use of props will result in disqualification.

The speech must be factual and supported by at least three references that are cited during the speech. Topics for this activity will be determined each year in October by the Mid-South Fair Agribusiness Committee. The current selected list of subject topics is as follows:

Senior Topics:

Food Safety, Whose Responsibility?

Balancing Agriculture with Industry

Pesticides and Our Environment

Are U.S. Farmers Overburdened with Environmental Regulations?

The Future of the Family Farm

Open Topic (*it must be agriculture-related*)

Junior Topics:

Balancing Agriculture Production and Environmental Concerns

Affordable Food at What Cost?

America's Food – Safe and Good

Crop Protection Chemicals – Friend or Foe?

Open Topic (*it must be agriculture-related*)

The suggested reference guides are the Communications – Express Yourself Series: BU8156 – Picking Up the Pieces, BU8157 – Putting it Together and BU8158 – The Perfect Fit. Do not use C-428, "The 4-H Guide to Method Demonstrations and Illustrated Talks."

JUDGING

This activity will be judged on the standard "4-H Public Speaking Rating Sheet," CES-611. However, content that is scientific, research-based and unbiased information will be emphasized with the use of CES-611. (CES-611 can be found in the O-Rama Public Speaking section.)

AWARDS

District 4-H O-Rama:

Juniors – The first-place winner will receive a trophy, \$25 and a ribbon. The \$25 cash prize is awarded only after participation at the Mid-South Fair. Second-, third-, fourth- and fifth-place winners will receive ribbons respective of place. Other participants will receive participation ribbons.

Seniors – The first-place winner will receive a trophy and a ribbon. Second-, third-, fourth-, and fifth-place winners will receive ribbons respective of place. All other participants will receive participation ribbons. First-place through fifth-place winners are eligible and are invited to participate in the Arkansas State O-Rama.

Arkansas State 4-H O-Rama:

The first-place winner will receive a trophy and a ribbon. Second-place through fifth-place winners will receive ribbons respective of their place. All other participants will receive participation ribbons. Additionally, the top scoring Seniors will receive cash awards as follows:

- 1st - \$50
- 2nd - \$40
- 3rd - \$30
- 4th - \$20
- 5th - \$10

These cash awards are based on funding from the Mid-South Fair and will be awarded only after participation in that event. These funds are prorated according to the number of Arkansas contestants who participate at the Mid-South Fair. The first-, second-, and third-place winners will be invited to participate at the Mid-South Fair and the fourth-place winner will serve as an alternate.

Mid-South Fair:

Mid-South Fair cash awards are: \$300 for first place, \$200 for second place and \$100 for third place. Note that at Mid-South, Juniors are allowed two to three minutes and Seniors are allowed three to five minutes. Each 4-H member invited to participate at Mid-South should consult the rules and regulations as prescribed in the Premium List Catalogue. Particular attention should be given to the requirement for a written copy of the speech and the deadline. 4-H'ers selected to compete in the Mid-South Fair competition must submit a written copy of their speech to the Little Rock state office (event coordinator) by early September.

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