

**36th Annual Student Career Days
March 22 – 25, 2012
Kansas State University**

PLANT PROBLEM DIAGNOSIS

Description: The student (maximum of two individuals per school) will be required to identify 25-50 plant problems that may occur for a variety of causes including phytotoxicity, as well as direct damage from insects or disease. Where appropriate, the student will be asked to identify the pest's common name, scientific name, type of metamorphosis, if a biological control agent is available, season damage occurs, type of mouthpart, stage of life cycle to target chemical applications, what is a common host for this pest, etc. The plant problems will be selected from the master list of pests posted to the Student Career Days Web site prior to the event.

Time: 1 hour and 50 minutes (55 minutes per participant, as participants are split into two groups)

JUDGING CRITERIA

Points: 100 possible points per individual; individual scores are combined toward the team score for a total of 200 possible points.

Each plant will be worth a maximum of 3-5 points:

- 1-2 points for correct identification of the plant problem by common name
- 1-4 points for correctly answering follow-up questions such as those listed in the description

Time will only be used as a tiebreaker.

Students are required to bring the following materials to the event: Two sharpened pencils with erasers, clipboard, and magnifying glass. No scratch paper will be allowed into the event.

Sponsor is required to supply the following materials for the event:

- Specimens for identification (selected from the master list provided by PLANET)
- 130 answer sheets with cover page
- Stopwatches
- Laminated numbers for each specimen
- Sufficient number of judges and event monitors
- Final solution ready for scoring the students' solutions
- Any other items deemed necessary for this event