

## **Van Zandt County Fair Agriscience Fair**

Entries Due: March 1, 2026

When: Monday, March 30, 2026

Time: 8 am

Where: Show Arena

Paper entries must be postmarked OR submitted online by Google Sheet AND payments postmarked by March 1, 2026. Late fees are \$100/entry until March 11, 2026.

To be eligible to compete you must be a member of a 4H club or FFA chapter in Van Zandt county and be enrolled in Van Zandt County school or home school program.

### Purpose

The purpose of the agriscience fair competition is to encourage FFA and 4H members in Van Zandt County to use the scientific method to answer a research question. Students entered in this competition will have the opportunity to write a research paper, prepare a visual display, and give an oral presentation of their research project.

### Entries

Students may enter one agriscience fair project for judging at the county show. Entries may consist of an individual or two students only.

Contest entries must be post marked and mail by March 1, 2020

Sandy Scheu  
P O Box 120  
Grand Saline, TX  
75140-4327

Students must pay a \$20 entry fee at the time of entry.

FFA Chapters and 4H Clubs may have as many entries as they would like.

## Van Zandt County Fair

### Agriscience Fair

1. The competition will include an oral presentation, a visual display, and a written report.
2. The agriscience project must either be completed by an individual student or entered as a team of two students only. A team of two students must consist of two students in the same grade level division.
3. Students may present a research project under any of the following categories:

#### Animal Systems (AS):

The study of animal systems, including life processes, health, nutrition, genetics, management and processing, through the study of small animals, aquaculture, livestock, dairy, horses and/or poultry.

#### Environmental Services/Natural Resource Systems (ENR):

The study of systems, instruments and technology used in waste management; the study of the management of soil, water, wildlife, forests and air as natural resources and their influence on the environment.

#### Food Products and Processing Systems (FPP):

The study of product development, quality assurance, food safety, production, sales and service, regulation and compliance and food service within the food science industry.

#### Plant Systems (PS):

The study of plant life cycles, classifications, functions, structures, reproduction, media and nutrients, as well as growth and cultural practices, through the study of crops, turf grass, trees and shrubs and/or ornamental plants.

#### Power, Structural and Technical Systems (PST):

The study of agricultural equipment, power systems, alternative fuel sources and precision technology, as well as woodworking, metalworking, welding and project planning for agricultural structures.

#### Social Systems (SS):

The study of human behavior and the interaction of individuals in and to society, including agricultural education, agribusiness economic, agricultural communication, agricultural leadership and other social science applications in agriculture, food and natural resources.

4. All six agriscience categories will be judged together.

5. Entries will be divided up into the following divisions:

Division I: Individuals in grades 7-9

Division II: Individuals in grades 10-12

Division III: Team of two in grades 7-9

Division IV: Team of two in grades 10-12

6. Each exhibit should include information relevant to the study. Agriscience fair participant' displays show the results of the study utilizing a display board not to exceed the dimensions of:

- 36 inches high (from top of table to top of display)
- 48 inches (width)
- 30 inches deep (the distance from back to front)

Failure to meet these requirements will result in disqualification. Please note that the width of tables are generally 24" wide.

7. The student researcher(s) may also have the log book and a copy of the written report as part of the display. The log book is optional. No additional props, handouts or electronics are permitted. No tablets, iPads, cell phones or other electronic devices will be permitted.

8. All projects must have the following information attached to the exhibit: Name of Agriscience fair participant(s), chapter name, title of category, and division (1, 2, 3, or 4).

9. Students may only present their agriscience fair topic one time at the county fair. If the students enter the following year, it must be a new topic.

10. FFA members should be in official dress and 4H members should be in business professional dress.

11. Interview time with the judge will be limited to 15 minutes per agriscience fair project.

# Van Zandt County Fair Agriscience Fair Judging Criteria

Area	Description	Points
Oral Presentation	(50 Points)	
	Student display of knowledge gained through the research experience.	/10
	Evidence is clear understanding of the steps of the scientific method.	/10
	Thoroughness of background information and research procedures.	/10
	Clear communication of results and any limitations.	/10
	Appropriate conclusions drawn about the research and impact of research.	/10
Visual Display	(20)	
	Display board has all sections present including: Introduction, Literature Review, Materials & Methods, Results, and Conclusion.	/10
Written Paper	(30 points)	
	Thoroughness and presence of an Introduction, Literature Review, and Research Methods.	/10
	Thoroughness and presence of Results and Conclusions.	/10
	Appropriate references listed	/5
	APA formatting/spelling/grammar	/5
	Total:	/100

Van Zandt County Fair  
Agriscience Fair Entry Form

Student Name (s): \_\_\_\_\_

FFA Chapter or Club Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Student(s) Grade Level: \_\_\_\_\_

Contest Division: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Category: \_\_\_\_\_

Entries are \$20 each. Total Due: \$\_\_\_\_\_

\*Manuscripts do not need to be turned in at time of entry.