



Missouri Teach Ag FFA Fall Public Speaking Contest

Sponsored by: Missouri Vocational Agriculture Teachers' Association,
Missouri FFA Foundation, MFA Foundation, and CHS.

Objective: To promote Ag Education, encourage students to consider a career in Ag Ed, recruit potential teachers, keep the great teachers we have, and emphasize the important role ag teachers play in the lives of students, their community, and the industry of agriculture.

2025 Contest Guidelines:

Subject: Balancing the Load: Promoting Wellness and Sustainability in the Ag Education Profession.

Agricultural educators often wear many hats, leading to stress and burnout. What challenges do educators face in maintaining a healthy work-life balance and what strategies can be implemented to support their well-being and longevity in the profession?

The title of the speech can be the same as the subject or students can choose their own related title.

- 1. Rules:** All speeches must fall within the guidelines for the Missouri FFA Advanced Public Speaking LDE, including time (6-8 minutes), questions (5 minutes), format, bibliography, etc. Each contestant's manuscript will be the result of his/her own efforts and speeches must sufficiently address the topic. Please refer to the most recent Missouri FFA CDE bulletin for speech guidelines, scoring breakdown, and scorecard. This contest is open to any FFA member in grades 9-12. Official dress is required.
- 2. Competition:** Contests will be held first at the area, then district level at the same time and place as the other fall public speaking contests. Area guidelines will dictate how many advance from the area to the district level. The 1st place winner at each of the 6 district levels will advance to the state contest. The state finals will be held at Margaritaville (Tan-Tar-A) during the Missouri Farm Bureau Convention on Sunday, December 7th.
- 3. Sources:** Students must have at least 3 different sources included in their bibliography. One of those sources must be a personal (by phone is encouraged) interview with a current or retired FFA Advisor other than their own. For the 6 state finalists, this personal interview will be verified by an emailed statement from the advisor interviewed. Other source suggestions: www.moteachag.org and www.naae.org/teachag
- 4. Awards:** Plaques will be awarded to each of the state finalists, with cash awards of:
1st place- \$200
2nd place-\$150
3rd place- \$100
\$50 each to the other 3 competitors.

Good luck! For more information, please contact Pam Rowland, Missouri Teach Ag Coordinator at pprowland@icloud.com.