



FFA Floriculture CDE Event Information

Four 35-minute rotations. Events will be grouped appropriately to allow for enough time.

1-Written Exam (35 questions for High School & 20 questions for Middle School)

TIPS: Each year we have a focus on several areas, so you know what material to teach from and how to prepare your students. Don't forget, there will general horticulture questions as well that the students should already know from being in your class.

This year's written exam will cover the following areas:

* Best Management Practices

http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu/pdf/GIBMP_Manual_WEB_2_17_11.pdf

Reference material for the BMP portion of the written exams is the *Florida Friendly Best Management Practices for Protection of Water Resources by the Green Industries*. December 2008. Florida Department of Environmental Protection Nonpoint Source Management Section, 850-245-7508.

- Study the Introduction Chapter, pages 1-5

* Making Sales & other business questions

And

* Product Displays

<http://www.fngla.org/certification/FCHP.asp>

Reference material for the both portion of the written exams is *FNGLA Certified Horticulture Professional Manual*, 8th Edition 2010. Florida Nursery Growers and Landscape Association, 1533 Park Center Drive, Orlando, FL 32835, 800-375-3642 or www.fngla.org.

- Go to above website and download Chapter 1 Business Issues and study pages 11-14 (beginning with 'Selling Plants')
- <http://extension.umass.edu/floriculture/print/63>

SAMPLE QUESTIONS:

S-1. What is the major difference between true insects and mites?

- Mites have 4 legs and one body region
- Mites have 6 legs and 3 body regions
- Mites have 8 legs and 2 body regions**
- Mites have 4 legs and 2 body regions

S-2. What is Fertigation?

- a. Irrigating with water that is leaving your property
- b. Fertilizing immediately prior to applying irrigation
- c. Fertilizing immediately after applying irrigation
- d. Fertilizing through irrigation water**

S-3. What part of horticulture focuses on the production of foliage or flowering plants in the field or greenhouse production?

- a. Agronomy
- b. Arboriculture
- c. Olericulture
- d. Floriculture**

S-4. What is nutrient uptake?

- a. The ability of a plant to use available water
- b. The ability of a plant to use available fertilizer**
- c. The ability of a plant to use available sunlight
- d. The ability of a plant to use available growth regulators

S-5. What type of herbicides are taken in by weeds?

- a. Adjuvant
- b. Contact
- c. Phytotoxic
- d. Systemic**

2-Problem Solving Practicums (the following 2 practicums will be part of the 2013 CDE – each normally has 15 – 25 questions per exam.)

** Handling a Hazardous Situation*

Students will answer multiple choice questions based on safety issues that could take place in a nursery and/or landscape setting.

TIPS: These practicums are designed to present real-life situations, whether heat-related illnesses, dealing with insects, or handling a chemical spill. The student must be familiar with how to read (and find information on) product labels or other guides.

** Handling a Customer Complaint*

Students will be presented with one or more customer complaints. They will answer multiple choice questions to provide the best remedy to satisfy the customer. The situation could be in a floral shop or a retail nursery.

TIPS: The below reference is just a short introduction into customer care. This practicum allows the student to use their leadership skills learned through FFA to find the best solution to solve customer concerns. <http://www.fngla.org/certification/FCHP.asp>

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3-Live Practicum

**Bud Vase*

Students will be provided all the materials necessary to create a bud vase.

TIPS: Students should pay attention to the instructions given to them at the beginning of the Practicum. While other sections grade students on preparation, this section grades them on the ability to follow directions and creativity.

4-Pricing

Students will be presented with a project and they must determine the costs involved in completing that project. A list of all the materials, costs, mark-up, and labor used in the project will be provided.

TIPS: This project is a heavy mathematics exercise that shows the student how math and science is directly related to the Floriculture industry.

5-Plant ID (40 specimens – all teams)

This portion of the exam is based on the specimen list available at the Florida FFA website www.flaffa.org in the CDE Handbook under Floriculture. 40 plants must be identified.

This plant list ties into both the national CDE as well as the plant list for FNGLA’s Certified Horticulture Professional (FCHP) exam. Be aware that the list is arranged alphabetically by botanical name, rather than by common name. This was done because it is standard within the industry to rely on botanical names when identifying plants.

The Plant Identification portion of the CDE is administered as a multiple choice exam – with a little bit of a twist. Students will be provided with the Floriculture Plant List, just as it is displayed online. They will be presented with live specimen of the plants. They will be arranged on tables with a number in front of them 1 through 40.

Let’s say the plant with the number 1 in front of it is a Daylily. The student will look at their list and find Daylily. They must remember that Daylily is *Hemerocallis spp.* to find it alphabetically on the list. Beside the plant *Hemerocallis spp.* is a C. They will mark the correct answer for number 1 as C. It seems complicated, but it makes sense when you practice!

TIPS: Be aware that plants are alphabetized by botanical name, not common name. You really can only practice practice practice to prepare for this section.

For more information, contact Merry Mott at FNGLA at mmott@fngla.org or 800-375-3642 or 407-295-7994.