

**2008 NACTA
Horticulture Judging Contest**

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Location – Tarleton State Horticulture Center - 1333 W. Washington

RULES

1. There will be a 4-year and 2-year division, with each evaluating the same components.
2. A team will consist of four members. The official team's score will be determined by the highest three member scores.
3. Each school may enter two teams, one official and one unofficial. Only the official teams are considered for the sweepstakes award. The official participating team must be designated prior to the start of the contest. Unofficial teams/members are not eligible for awards, and their placings will NOT enter into the determination of the sweepstakes award.
4. Contestants are only eligible to compete one time in the 2-year division and only one time in 4-year division.
5. Contestants must bring a #2 lead pencil, and may want to bring an engineer scale as well as a NON-PROGRAMABLE calculator. All other materials required will be provided. No notes, reference materials, etc. will be allowed.
6. Announcements made of the day of the contest will take precedent over the written rules.
7. No cell phones, pagers or conferring during the contest will be allowed. Contestants observed in violation WILL be eliminated from the competition.

8. Tie Breaker:
 - a. The contestant/team with the highest technical knowledge score will be awarded the higher placing.
 - b. The contestant/team with the highest identification score will be awarded the higher placing.
9. Results are FINAL after they are announced!

CONTEST

The contest will be composed of the following components:

- a. Identification – 200 points
 - b. Technical Knowledge Exam – 100 points
 - c. Landscape Practicum – 100 points
 - d. Four Placing Classes - From the area of floral design and landscape design – 100 points
1. The identification section will have 50 items worth four points each. Contestants will be allowed 50 minutes for this phase of the contest.
 - Identification item may include, but NOT limited to:
 - a. Trees and shrubs displayed as they appear outside or in a garden center at contest time.
 - b. Perennials, annuals and vines displayed as they appear outside or in a garden center at contest time.
 - c. Foliage plants typically used in the interior landscape industry displayed as they currently appear indoors at contest time.
 - d. Fruit, nut trees, and vegetables as they currently appear outside or on a garden center at contest time.
 - e. Weeds, plant pests, or disorders – chosen from common weeds, pests or disorders in the industry with particular attention to the Stephenville area.
 2. The technical knowledge exam will be a multiple choice exam consisting of 100 questions worth 1 point each. The contestants' will be allowed 50 minutes to complete the exam. Questions will come from the following areas:
 - a. General Plant Science
 - b. Basic Horticultural Practices
 - c. Floriculture and Greenhouse Management
 - d. Fruit and vegetable production
 - e. Turf Management and Pest Control
 - f. Landscape design, construction and maintenance
 3. The landscape practicum is designed to test the individual's knowledge of practical landscape principals and practices. The ability to determine fertilizer rates, seeding rates, irrigation rates, volume of fill mulch, recommend soil replacement and adjustment, and proper plant selection etc. will be involved.

Contestants will have 50 minutes to complete 10 tasks in this section of the contest.

4. The 4 placing classes may come from areas of landscape design, floral arrangements, plant selection, cut flower selection, and fruit and vegetable selection, but NOT limited to these areas. The contestant will place each class in their order of preference with 50 points allowed for each class. Contestants will be allowed 12 minutes per class to make their decisions.