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EC84-110 Contest Guide for Ranging Judging

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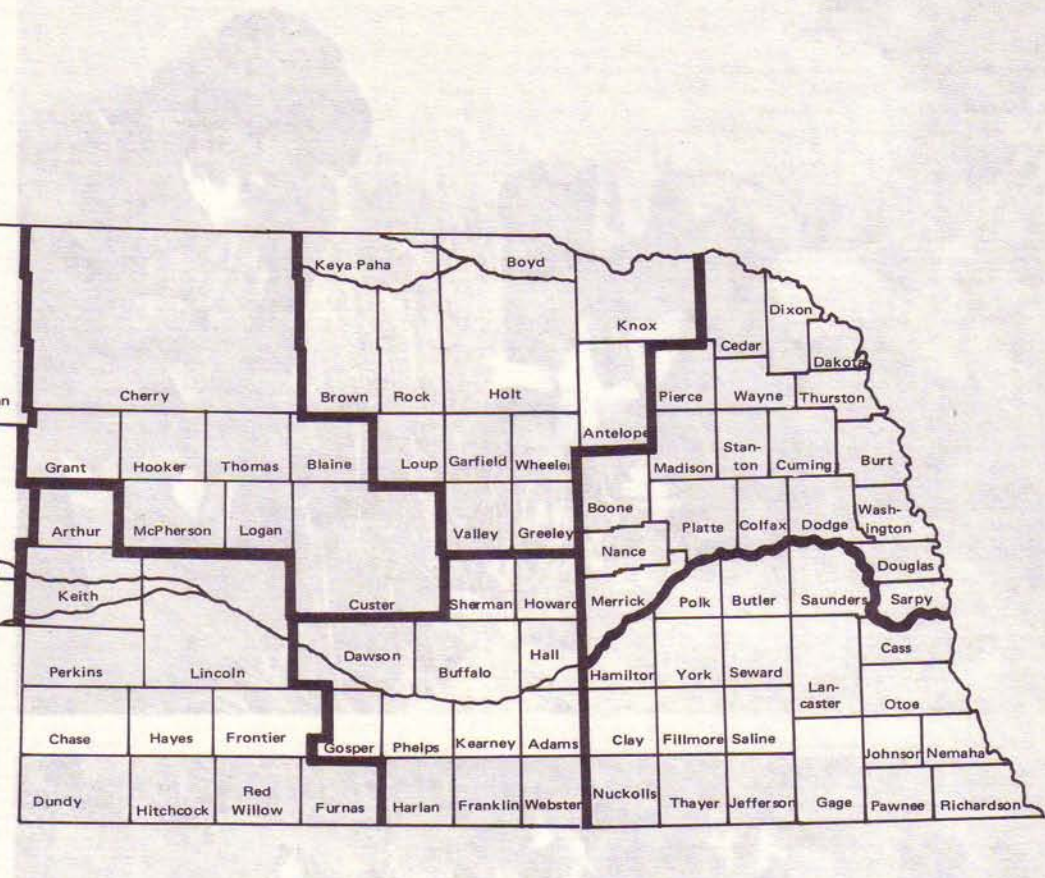
Contest Guide For RANGE JUDGING



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Contest Guide for Range Judging

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This guide has been prepared for use by individuals responsible for planning, preparation, and conducting range judging and plant identification contests. Both area and state contests, sponsored cooperatively by the agencies listed below, should follow these guidelines. This guide is written to be used as a companion publication to the "Range Judging Handbook for Nebraska, EC 84-109.

Range judging in Nebraska was started in 1954 and has been conducted since that time as a joint effort of the following organizations and agencies:

1. University Nebraska Cooperative Extension Service.
2. Soil Conservation Service, USDA.
3. Nebraska Association of Natural Resources Districts.
4. State Department of Education, Vocational Education (FFA).
5. Nebraska Section, Society for Range Management.
6. Natural Resources Commission.

Purposes of range judging contests:

1. To help participants and others recognize the importance of rangeland as a natural resource and to learn how to care for it properly.
2. To encourage youth and adults to identify range plants, range sites, and learn range management practices.
3. To provide an opportunity for participants to become familiar with different types of rangeland in Nebraska and the midwest.
4. To recognize the achievement of youth and adults in range educational programs.
5. To provide an opportunity for communication among those in range conservation, particularly between youth and adults.

State Range Judging Committee

Members of the State Range Judging Committee will be designated representatives of the sponsoring organizations and agencies listed. Committee responsibilities include:

1. Give leadership to the range judging program in Nebraska.

2. Approve all rules and regulations for range judging contests.

3. Select the host counties for state and area contests.

4. Set the date of the state contest.

5. Help the contest committee plan and conduct range contests, particularly the state contest.

At the annual meeting, the chairman-elect will be confirmed as chairman for the coming year. A new chairman-elect will be selected for the next year. Suggestions for contest improvement should be submitted to the State Contest Committee before the annual meeting which is held the evening before the state contest.

Organization and Function of Contest Committees

County Contest

A county contest is an effective way to inform local people of the benefits of good range management and provide training for those who want to take part in an area or state range judging contest.

A planning committee composed of the extension agent, the SCS district conservationist, a local vocational agriculture teacher, and a representative of the Natural Resources District should assume responsibility of organizing and planning a county contest. The extension agent will normally serve as chairman, but any member of the committee can be elected to serve as chairman.

Area Contest

Seven areas within the state have been set up for holding range judging contests (Figure 1).

The state range judging committee recommends host counties for area contests. Counties desiring to host an area contest are encouraged to contact a member of the state committee before its annual meeting.

The area contest committee should include the following representatives from the host county: (1) extension agent, (2) SCS district conservationist, (3) vocational agriculture teacher, and (4) a representative of the Natural Resources District. An invitation to hold an area contest will be extended to these individuals by the state range judging contest chairman and upon ac-

ceptance will comprise the area committee.

The extension agent will initiate and call the first meeting at which time a committee chairman will be selected.

To host a range judging contest, the following steps are suggested:

1. Finalize the decision to hold a contest with the contest committee.

2. Establish the contest date as early as possible and no later than March 1. Contest should not be held earlier than September 10.

3. Plan the details of the contest.

4. Publicize the event through schools, 4-H clubs, and mass media.

5. Conduct the contest as planned.

6. Evaluate procedures for the contest committees for the following year.

The county or area contest committees may add additional members as needed. Extension range management specialists and SCS range conservationist may be available for help in site selection and official judging.

State Contest

The dates and places of the State Range Judging Contest for two succeeding years are set by the State Range Judging Committee at its annual meeting. The state contest committee consists of the host extension agent, the Soil Conservation Service district conservationist, a vocational agriculture teacher, and a representative of the Natural Resources District. The extension agent is normally the committee chairman, but other members *may be elected* to this position. The division of voca-

tional education will designate a vocational agriculture teacher if more than one is located in the host county. Other individuals may be selected for planning a contest if needed.

The extension range management specialist(s) and the Soil Conservation Service state range conservationist will help select and prepare the contest site and participate in the official judging.

Other Contests

Regional contests involving several states are held each year. The International Land, Pasture and Range Judging Contest is held each year at Oklahoma City. A regional range judging contest is held each year in the Northern Great Plains states of Nebraska, Wyoming, Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota. The contest is rotated each year among these states in a clockwise manner. Nebraska will host the contest in 1987, 1992, etc.

Contest Assignments & Responsibility

The contest committee should designate responsibilities and make assignments to carry out the many details of the event. It is essential that each person clearly understands his or her duties and that coordination exists among everyone involved. Responsibilities may be assigned to anyone within or outside the committee. However, priorities are suggested for the following assignments to specific agencies and organizations. Questions on contest assignments and responsibilities should be referred to the chairman of the state range judging committee.

Assignment	Responsibility
Publicity, Registration, Finance and Refreshments	Contest Committee Chairman, Extension Agent, Voc. Ag. Inst., Natural Resources District Personnel
1. Notify 4-H members (through extension agent), vocational agriculture students, (through Voc. Ag. Inst.), SCS field offices and Natural Resources Districts about details of the contest.	
2. Contact media (radio, TV, newspapers) to publicize contest.	
3. Order scorecards, range condition guides and ribbons for contestants. Two copies of scorecard I should be ordered for each contestant if the first card is to be picked up after Station 2 for scoring.	
4. Record the name, address and contestant number for each participant.	
5. Distribute the scorecards.	
6. Collect registration fee to cover contest expenses (printing, postage, scorecards and awards) and forward to the Nebraska Section Society for Range Management treasurer.	
7. Provide refreshments or lunch after contest while tabulations are being made.	
Field Site Preparation	Soil Conservation Service-USDA and/or University of Nebraska Range Specialists.
1. Select field site for contest and obtain permission from the landowner or operator to hold contest.	
2. Prepare field site for the contest:	
a. Identify and number plants for identification.	

- b. Enclose range site boundaries with lath and cord or survey tape. Dig hole to indicate soil characteristics (depth, texture, water table, etc.).
- c. Prepare a ranch map, including improvement practices for Station 8.
- d. Prepare questions for Station 9.
3. Prepare official scorecards.
4. Explain contest rules and scorecards at the contest site and designate a field timer.

Field Operations

Natural Resources District personnel and individuals appointed to specific tasks by contest committee.

1. Transportation—Determine best route to contest site, arrange for transportation, supervise parking at contest site, guard safety of contestants, and provide guide for latecomers to contest site.
2. Group leaders—Guide contestants from station to station at contest site and discourage talking and copying among contestants. One guide is required per group.
3. Runners—Collect scorecards at contest site and transport to scorers. Two or more runners are needed to bring cards in after half the plant identification; following remainder of plant identification and at the end of contest.
4. Station judges—One judge should be at each station for contest supervision, to explain ranch map problem, to give questions, and to provide post contest explanation. This should be the same person that prepared the field site location.
5. Timer and field contest official—Preside over the field contest activities and act as timer to coordinate moving of contestants from station to station. This individual should be located so the entire contest can be viewed and should be equipped with an amplifier so he or she can be heard.

Scoring and Tabulation

State Department of Vocational Education,
Vocational Agriculture Instructors and County
Extension Agents.

1. Determine how many scorers and tabulators are needed and arrange for their help. The number of scorers will vary from 8-20 depending on time available and number of contestants.
2. An official scoring supervisor should be designated to rule on questionable answers.
3. Grade and score each contestant's cards and determine the winners in each division. Official scorecards are provided by field site preparation personnel.
4. Prepare a summary of ratings.

Awards

Nebraska Section, Society for Range Management;
Natural Resources District; other organizations for
special awards.

1. Provide ribbon awards for area and state contests.
2. Arrange for special awards, i.e., plaques, books, etc.
3. Arrange for presentation of awards after contest.
4. Provide entertainment or educational program to occupy contestants after contest until awards are presented.

Registration Fees and Expenses

A \$1.00 registration fee will be charged to all contestants. The total amount of the registration fees will be sent by the chairman of the contest committee to the secretary-treasurer of the Nebraska Section, Society for Range Management, to be deposited in a special account. This account will cover costs for ribbons and other expenses associated with range judging. If additional contest expenses are anticipated (lunches, etc.) costs should be covered from sources other than the registration fee or by increasing the registration fee above the \$1.00 amount.

Preparing and Conducting a Range Judging Contest

Range judging contests are to be based on information found in the "Range Judging Handbook," EC 84-109 which is to be used in conjunction with this guide.

Selecting the Contest Site

The exact contest site must be selected far enough in advance of the contest that it can be prepared before the contest. The SCS range conservationist on the contest committee normally will take the lead in selecting the contest site. He will be familiar with the different range

sites used in range judging, their condition, and degree of use.

Select a site that is readily available on an all-weather road and reasonably close to facilities for registration, scoring, and tabulation. It should include two or three common range sites in the area. If possible, select a site that has not been grazed by the time of the contest for the plant identification portion of the contest. The portion of the contest on range sites may include grazed range and be in any condition class.

A range judging contest normally includes eight or nine stations. The first four stations are used for plant identification and evaluation. At each of the next three stations, the range site will be identified, the range condition judged, and degree of use estimated. At station 8 the ranch map will be explained for which possible treatment on Scorecard II will be based. Questions will be asked at Station 9. Station 9 may be combined with station 8 or run as a separate station with the entire group participating at one time. All stations must be close enough together to permit contestants to walk between locations within two or three minutes.

Plant Identification Site Preparation (Stations 1-4)

At each of the four plant identification stations, six range plants must be present and suitable for contestants to identify. Each plant should be marked by a numbered tag or stake. A total of 24 plants are normally tagged. Clipping other plants from around the specimens to be identified may be necessary. A minimum distance of 10 feet between plants to be identified is suggested. One line of plants for identification will be needed for each 40 contestants. If more than one set of plants is used, lath and twine should be used to form "lanes" delineating the line of plants. Plants in each line should be in the same sequence. All plants included for identification and evaluation in range judging contests must be selected from the publication, "Range Judging Handbook."

It is desirable for the plants marked for identification to be growing naturally on the contest site. However, in some situations it may be necessary to transplant some individual plants to avoid scattering the contestants over too large an area. Grazing response is based on information in the "Range Judging Handbook". Two responses may be elected when appropriate.

Range Site Preparation (Stations 5-7)

At each location for determining range site, range condition, and degree of use, areas about 20 x 20 feet should be delineated with lath and twine. A hole should be dug on the plot boundary to indicate soil and site characteristics. An acid bottle (0.1% HCl solution) should be provided for contestants to check for soil lime. On ungrazed sites, degree of use can be manipulated by clipping vegetation to attain a desired degree of utilization. A plot 4 x 4 feet in the corner of the range site area can be delineated and clipped for estimating

utilization. Only range sites described in the publication "Range Judging Handbook" can be used for a contest.

Ranch Plan and Questions (Stations 8 and 9)

A ranch map which portrays different ranch features and conditions which can be viewed by contestants to determine what range improvement should be made can be sketched on a piece of paper or posterboard. The problem should include natural situations found common to the range area where the contest is located, whenever possible. The problem may be supplemented with hypothetical additions. The correct answer for proper stocking rate (Part 1, Station 8) on Scorecard II will be based on degree of use, length of grazing season, stocking rate tables or on other information given at the contest site.

Questions on range management for Scorecard II can be given orally or handed out on paper. All questions must be based on information contained in the "Range Judging Handbook."

Conducting the Contest

Before the contest begins, an explanation of the scorecards and rules to be followed should be made. The general contest rules should be covered. Contest officials may provide practice judging sessions or expanded discussion sessions for contestants before the contest.

Group leaders should be thoroughly instructed as to the order their groups will visit the various contest stations. A contest plan suitable for large contests including 8 stations and 4 groups is shown in Table 1. Stations 8 and 9 can be combined or station nine run as a separate station with the entire group of contestants given the questions at one time, allowing about 5 minutes for completion. Stations should be numbered and clearly marked.

Contestants will complete the plant identification and evaluation section using Scorecard I before proceeding to the latter part of the contest. After all contestants have turned in Scorecard I to their group leaders, each contestant will be provided an appropriate range condition guide. This guide is to be used only in conjunction with Scorecard II. The contest committee will be responsible for providing the range condition guides. On Scorecard II, kind of range site, range condition, and degree of use will be based on plots roped off for this purpose. Questions should be given at the final station as the last part of the contest.

Ten minutes will normally be sufficient time to allow contestants at each station. Each group must stay together and move to a new location when instructed to do so. If questions are used at Station 8, additional time must be allowed for this activity.

A full explanation of the correct answers on both scorecards should be made following the contest, after the scorecards have been collected. Scorecards are not returned to contestants.

Table 1. Judging schedule for large contests. Letters refer to groups of contestants.

Time Period	Plants 1-6 STATION 1	Plants 7-12 STATION 2	Plants 13-18 STATION 3	Plants 19-24 STATION 4	Range Site Condition Use STATION 5	Range Site Condition Use STATION 6	Range Site Condition Use STATION 7	Treatment Questions STATIONS 8 and 9
First	A	B	C	D				
Second	Bx	Ax	Dx	Cx				
Third	C	D	A	B				
Fourth	Dx	Cx	Bx	Ax				
Fifth					A	B	C	D
Sixth					B	A	D	C
Seventh					C	D	A	B
Eighth					Dx	Cx	Bx	Ax

x Pick up score sheets.

Contest Divisions, Rules and Regulations

There are four contest divisions recognized for competition in range judging: (1) Junior Youth; (2) Senior Youth; (3) Adult; and (4) Professional. Whenever possible and feasible, each range judging contest should include these separate divisions. However, where number of participants is limited, divisions may be grouped together. For example, youth and adult divisions could be used to include all contestants.

Contestants or teams may compete in only one division. However, any number of teams or individuals may participate from a particular 4-H club, FFA chapter, or other organization, but must compete within the designated contest divisions.

Contestants from one range judging contest area may not compete for awards in another area unless approved by the State Range Judging Contest Committee.

Contestants should not make use of bulletins, notes, books, or drawings while judging. Talking, copying or comparing scores during the contest is prohibited. Contestants can be disqualified for breaking contest rules.

Youth Division

The Youth Division is divided into two different age categories: (1) Junior (Jr.) Youth Division and (2) Senior (Sr.) Youth Division. Teams or individuals in these two divisions will compete as separate groups. Teams can compete as 4-H, FFA or other teams or clubs within the proper age groups, but all members of the teams must adhere to the age limitations. Although separate divisions are not set up for 4-H or FFA competition, teams of 4-H and FFA are encouraged to compete representing their respective affiliation. All teams must consist of three members. Team members must be designated at the time of registration.

To compete in the Jr. Youth group either individually or as a team, a person must be less than 15 years of age

as of January 1.

To qualify for the Sr. Youth group an individual must be more than 15 years of age but less than 19 years old as of January 1. Attending college automatically disqualifies an individual from the Sr. Youth Division and he or she then must compete in the Adult Division.

In order for a 4-H or FFA team to be eligible to compete in the Oklahoma Land, Pasture and Range Judging Contest, they must be the high scoring team within their particular affiliation in the State Range Judging Contest and can be from either the Jr. or Sr. Youth Division. Although a 4-H or FFA team may not be the first place team in a particular age category (Jr. Youth or Sr. Youth), they still may be the high scoring team within the 4-H or FFA groups. Only one team each from 4-H and FFA can represent the state. The high scoring team in each affiliation category becomes first in eligibility to attend the Oklahoma contest. If the first place team becomes ineligible or unable to attend, the next eligible alternate team will receive the invitation to represent the state. All members of a 4-H team that represents the state must be at least 12 years old and not over 19 on January 1 of the current year. For FFA team members to represent the state, they must not have graduated from high school.

Adult Division

Contestants in the adult division will compete as individuals only. Men and women compete in the same division. In the adult division, an individual may win the top award in the state contest only once. Upon winning the top award, that person is eligible to participate in the professional division in subsequent county, area, or state contests. State contest winners from the adult division must compete in the professional division. There is no limitation on the number of times an individual may win the professional division at any contest.

Professional Division

Men and women can compete in the professional division. Staff members of the Soil Conservation Service, University of Nebraska, Division of Vocational Education, Farmers Home Administration, Bureau of Reclamation, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Army Corps of Engineers, Federal Fish and Wildlife Service, Natural Resources Districts, Nebraska Game & Parks Commission, and other related agencies are considered eligible only for the professional division.

Awards

The Nebraska Section, Society for Range Management, will order and provide the ribbon awards for contest winners. The cost of ribbons will be covered by contest registration fees. The secretary-treasurer of the Nebraska Section, SRM, should be contacted to make arrangements for contest ribbons. A representative of the Nebraska Section, preferably the president or Nebraska Section officer, should present the ribbon awards.

Additional awards (plaques, books, etc.) may be presented by organizations such as the Natural Resources Districts or other organizations that want to recognize winning teams and individuals. This is especially appropriate for the state contest where plaques are suggested for the purple ribbon winners listed in Table 2. Only one plaque should be awarded per team.

Ribbon awards will follow a standard format for all contests, both area and state contests (Table 2). This format has been adopted by the State Range Judging Contest Committee and should be followed. For county contests the local committee may alter the ribbon distribution to fit local needs and conditions. Ribbons for county contests are not provided.

Table 2. Ribbon distribution for area and state range judging contests.

	Purple	Blue	Red	White	Green	Area	State
Individual							
Junior Youth	1	1	1	1	Awarded		
Senior Youth	1	1	1	1	to 30%		
Adult	1	1	1	1	of the youth		
Professional	1	1	1	1	contestants only*		
Grand Champion Youth						1	1
Grand Champion Adult						1	1
Team (3 individuals/team)							
Junior Youth	3	3	3	3			
Senior Youth	3	3	3	3			
Grand Champion Team						3	3
Total	10	10	10	10		5	5

* Calculated as follows: Total number of youth contestants x 30% (-) minus the individuals receiving purple, blue, red and white ribbons (any fraction rounded to the next highest number).

Grading and Scoring

Grading scorecards is made easier by preparing cutout overlays that have been made from the official scorecards prepared by field contest officials. Each official scorecard should indicate the total points possible based on a perfect score. These should be indicated for Station 8 (Parts 2 & 3) and the total possible points for both Range Judging Cards I & II. This is needed to calculate individual and team scores. This score is entered in the space provided for Station 8 and on the top of both Scorecards I and II and is determined by the people who set up the contest.

Scorers should work in groups of two. One grades and scores the sheet while the other checks it to see that no errors were made. Accuracy is essential. The number of scorers needed will depend upon the size of the contest.

The following points will be allowed for each answer:

Card I. — Plant identification and plant characteristics (Stations 1 - 4).

- Correct plant name = 5 points.
- Correct plant characteristics = 1 point, each characteristic.

Card II. — Range sites, ranch map and range questions (Stations 5 - 9).

- Range site name = 20 points.
- Range condition = 20 points.
- Degree of use = 10 points.
- Part 1, proper stocking rate = 20 points.
- Part 2, for more uniform use and range improve-

ment = 5 points for each correct answer (total points variable).

- Part 3, appropriate deferment practice = 5 points for each correct answer (total points variable).
- Questions on range = 5 points, each question.

Graders should mark only the points deducted next to each wrong answer directly on the scorecard.

Deduct the full point value of the question if:

- a. answer is wrong.
- b. left blank.
- c. wrong blank checked (Station 8, Ranch Map)

Note: It is possible to potentially lose more points in parts 2 & 3 than the total possible correct points because more blanks were checked than needed.

However, in no case should the points deducted for incorrectly checked blanks exceed the points possible.

In some cases there may be more than one correct answer for a question. If full credit is given for more than one answer, the official contest field committee should mark the acceptable answers on the official scorecards supplied to the card graders. Points lost should be totaled and recorded at the top of each scorecard on the appropriate line. The difference between the total possible points and the points lost become the score of the individual. Enter scores from each card on a master sheet listing each contestant and team and totaled for final score. Calculate the final score for each contestant and team by subtracting the total points lost from the total points possible from both Scorecards I and II.

Rangeland is one of Nebraska's most important and extensive natural resources. Learn more about rangeland through participation and helping conduct range judging contests.

Contestants number _____

RANGE JUDGING CARD I—PLANT IDENTIFICATION

Total possible points* _____

Points lost _____

Contestants Name _____

Score _____

Plant Characteristics (1 point for each correct answer)

Plant Names (5 points for each complete and correct name)	A Life Form	B Life Span	C Season of Growth	D Grazing Response	E Other Characteristics
		1 = Grass 2 = Forb 3 = Grass-like 4 = Shrub	1 = Annual 2 = Biennial 3 = Perennial	1 = Cool Season 2 = Warm Season	1 = Decreaser 2 = Increaser 3 = Invader
Place the number for the appropriate terms from above in the space below for each plant identified. For columns A, B, C, & D, use only one (1) number for each blank. For column E use as many as apply.					
Example—Big bluestem	1	3	2	1	2, 5
Station 1					
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
Station 2					
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12					
Station 3					
13					
14					
15					
16					
17					
18					
Station 4					
19					
20					
21					
22					
23					
24					

*Total possible points for Card I determined by field contest officials for official grading of scorecards only.

RANGE JUDGING CARD II—RANGE SITES, RANCH MAP AND RANGE QUESTIONS

Contestant Number _____

Total possible points* _____

Contestant's Name _____

Points lost _____

Score _____

Note: See back side of card for Range Site, Range Condition and Degree of Use information.

Station 5—Range Site

Range Site Name (20 points)	
Range Condition (Percent)..... (20 points)	
Degree of Use (Percent)..... (10 points)	

Station 6—Range Site

Range Site Name (20 points)	
Range Condition (Percent)..... (20 points)	
Degree of Use (Percent)..... (10 points)	

Station 7—Range Site

Range Site Name (20 points)	
Range Condition (Percent)..... (20 points)	
Degree of Use (Percent)..... (10 points)	

Station 8—Ranch Map

Part 1. For proper stocking rate: Decrease stocking rate (check one—20 points) Increase stocking rate Keep stocking rate the same			
Part 2. For more uniform use and range improvement check as many as apply (5 points for each correct answer). Total possible points* _____	Part 3. Check the appropriate deferment practice pertaining to the range improvement on the left (5 points for each correct answer). Total possible points* _____		
	Defer part of growing season	Defer one full growing season	Defer two or more growing seasons
a. Install or relocate well or pipeline			
b. Build livestock dam or dugout			
c. Relocate fence			
d. Divide pasture (cross fence)			
e. Change salting locations			
f. Reseed specific areas			
g. Control blowouts			
h. Control brush or weeds			
i. Initiate planned grazing system			
j. Initiate none of the above			

Station 9—Questions on Range

Questions will be handed out at Contest Site (5 points for each correct answer).									
Question									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

*Total possible points for Card II determined by field contest officials for official grading of scorecards only. For parts 2 & 3 the points lost by a contestant cannot exceed the total possible points for that part.

County Number _____
 Range Number _____
 Section _____
 Township _____
 Range _____
 Section _____

Range Site Descriptions

1. WET LAND—Poorly drained. Water table within 36 inches of soil surface.
2. SUBIRRIGATED—Water table within 10-60 inches of surface during major part of growing season.
3. SALINE SUBIRRIGATED—Subirrigated lands affected by salt accumulations.
4. SILTY OVERFLOW—Receive additional water from stream overflow or run-in.
5. SANDS—Loamy sands and sands on nearly level to rolling slopes.
6. SANDY—Fine sandy loams to loamy sands on nearly level to gently rolling slopes.
7. SILTY—Loams, silt loess, and silts on nearly level to rolling slopes.
8. CLAYEY—Clay loams, silty clay loams, and clays.
9. CHOPPY SANDS—Sands on steep, irregular slopes.
10. LIMY UPLAND—Sandy loams, silt loams, loams and silty clay loams. Calcareous (limy) in the surface soil.
11. SHALLOW—All soils 0-20 inches deep over rock, shale, or coarse gravel.
12. THIN LOESS—Silt loam on very steep, rough broken slopes.

Range Conditions

1. EXCELLENT—76-100% climax vegetation, mostly decreaser plants.
2. GOOD—51-75% climax vegetation, some decreaser plants with increaser plants more common.
3. FAIR—26-50% climax vegetation, mostly increaser plants, some invaders.
4. POOR—0-25% climax vegetation, mostly low growing plants and invaders.

Degree of Use

1. UNUSED—No livestock use.
2. SLIGHT—1 to 20% of primary forage plants grazed. Practically undisturbed.
3. MODERATE—21 to 40% use of primary forage plants. Most of the range being grazed. Little or no use of poor plants.
4. FULL—41 to 60% use of primary forage plants. All of the range being grazed. Little or no use of poor plants.
5. CLOSE—61 to 80% use of primary forage plants. All of the range shows use and major sections are closely grazed. Some use of low value plants.
6. SEVERE—81 to 100% use of primary forage plants. Low value plants carrying the grazing load.
7. EXTREME—Appears stripped of all vegetation.