

February 2, 2026

Advisors

**THE NATIONAL FFA MILK QUALITY CDE HAS BEEN UPDATED.
PLEASE READ THE UPDATED NATIONAL FFA MILK QUALITY &
PRODUCTS CDE GUIDE FOUND ON FFA.ORG**

The 2026 MD State Contest will include the following:

Milk Flavor Identification and Evaluation (10 Flavors) There **should be a NEW Flavor this year!!!, providing the scantron sheets have been updated.**

Product Identification & Milk Fat (Dairy Vs Non-Dairy) 10 samples

Cheese Identification – 10 samples

Written Exam

Problem Solving Exam

THERE WILL NOT BE A TEAM ACTIVITY!!!!!! There just isn't enough time in the afternoon to get all the chapters completed and home by a decent hour.

Practicums and Written tests will be held in the morning prior to lunch. Once a contest is finished and turned in their scantron they are dismissed from the contest area.

Participants are not to use strong deodorant, perfume, chewing gum or other detractors to the taste and smell senses on the day of the contest.

There will be a contest review immediately after the contest. In the past we have completed our contest by lunch time. The review will be set up for approximately 30 minutes

Also, a reminder, NO advisors or coaches will be allowed in the practicum area of the contest.

We will be using the scantron score sheets for the entire contest. Please download one of these sheets from the National Website, so your students are familiar with the score sheet. Students will be required to “bubble” in their NAME, CHAPTER# (team #) and CODE#. Please make sure your students know how to do this!!! Once their Scantron is turned into a volunteer, it CAN NOT be given back for changes. (As of this letter, the new scantron sheet is not available with the updated changes)

Students will need two no.2 pencils (always good to have spares), a clean clip board, a non-programmable calculator, bottled water and/or palette cleanser (apples work good for this). Clipboards, calculators, and palette cleansers will be checked so please make sure that there is no writing on the clipboards and calculators are non-programmable or they will be taken and held until after the contest.

NO CELL PHONES or ELECTRONIC DEVICES during the contest, this includes while using the restroom!!!!!! If a member is caught on their cell phone at any time during the contest, their scantron will be pulled and the member will be disqualified!!!!

If a member has an emergency please have them see the superintendent or one of the helpers and then they can contact the appropriate person.

THERE WILL BE NO TALKING AT ANYTIME BETWEEN CONTESTANTS DURING THE CONTEST!!!

WE WILL PULL SCANTRONS AFTER ONE WARNING!!!!

We will do our best to see that teammates are not in the same practicum areas. If it happens that teammates are in the same areas, teammates are not to be at the same stations at the same time, please help with advising your students of this ahead of time. We be emphasizing this the contest as well.

I look forward to seeing you in March.

Sincerely,
Laura Ramsburg
Chairperson

Written Exam – study past national tests & Study the Youth Quiz found on the Hoards Dairyman Website www.hoards.com

The quiz] is in the Youth Section. There is only one quiz

This is what I use to make Milk Samples – I use pasteurized whole milk to make samples

Acid – butter milk

Bitter – tonic water

Cooked – burnt hair/feathers – new!!!!

Feed – silage/feed

Flat - water

Foreign - vanilla

Garlic/Onion – fresh garlic/onion

Malty - cereal

Oxidized – cardboard/pennies

Rancid – soak ¼ cup Freshly Grated Romano Cheese in 1 cup of milk overnight, strain cheese. I found this to be a Great and safer way to make Rancid!!!!

Salty - salt