

News Release

National Land & Range Judging Contest

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

*Sponsored by the Oklahoma Association of Conservation Districts
in cooperation with the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce, Conservation Districts, State Conservation
Associations and Agriculture Groups across the nation*

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For Immediate Release

National Land Judging Contestants Return Home

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK — The _____ (chapter or club) from _____ has returned home after participating in the 54th annual National Land and Range Judging Contest in Oklahoma City. The group competed in the nation's top land judging event at a site near Oklahoma City.

Members of the _____ (chapter or club) tested their individual and team skills against other land judging teams from approximately 35 states across the nation by evaluating land characteristics like topsoil, subsoil slope and plant life. They were also required to recommend treatment to improve the land's adaptability for certain purposes like producing crops, raising cattle or building homes.

Six teams and nine individuals took top honors. The team winners included: (see winner info sheet)

Top individual winners in the land judging contest were: (see winner info sheet)

Contest cochairman Dan Lowrance, president of the Oklahoma Association of Conservation Districts, presented the 2005 National Land and Range Judging Contest Honoree Award to Mark Moseley. Moseley has been one of the key players in the National Range Judging Contest since he transferred to Oklahoma in 1987 as state range conservationist for the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. As cochair of the Range Contest Steering Committee, he was instrumental in modernizing the contest in 1990. He also conducted numerous training sessions for team leaders and coaches before he transferred to Texas in late 2004.

Following the presentation of the honoree award, contest cochairman Russell Pierson urged teens and adults alike to commit themselves to a better environment for future generations. "I ask you to apply these land and range judging skills in ways that will help ensure this country remains "America the Beautiful," said Pierson.

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