

Prequalifying Scoresheet: Divisions 3–6 (Grades 9–12)

Student Researcher(s)	State
Category	Division

Area		Points Possible	Points Earned
Abstract	Abstract is brief and concisely describes the purpose, methods, results and conclusions. Abstract does not include cited references. Abstract is no longer than one page. Arrangement makes the purpose, procedure, results and conclusions clear.	5	
Introduction	Introduction answers the question "Why was the work done?" It clearly states the problem that justifies conducting the research, the purpose of the research, its impact on agriculture, the findings of earlier work and the general approach and objectives.	10	
Literature Review	The literature review details what information currently exists concerning the research project. The information includes materials used in the research and material cited such as articles about similar studies, similar research methods, history of the research area and other items that support the current knowledge base for the topic and how the project might complement existing information.	10	
Materials and Methods	Clearly written to enable others to replicate the study and results. Section is written in third person, encompasses all materials required, states the hypothesis/research questions and explains the study design. If used, the statistical procedures are included. A narration of the steps taken to complete the experiment is included.	15	
Results	Written results of the project are summarized. Trends and relationships are clearly addressed. No conclusions are made in this section. Data that can stand alone in the form of tables and/or figures are included.	20	
Discussion and Conclusions	Brief recap of the results is included and shows how they were the foundation of the study. Sound reasoning is shown that conclusions are based on results, incorporates previous literature and relates directly to the hypothesis. Discussion refers to or references facts and figures in results section and provides recommendations for practice, future research and the impact on the agriculture industry.	20	
Acknowledgements	Detailed list or paragraph is included acknowledging anyone who assisted with any aspect of the project and how they helped.	5	
References	References contain significant, published and relevant sources.	5	
Skill Development	All five competencies (three from primary pathway, two from any other pathway) demonstrate skills that are appropriate for the scope of the research project. The project demonstrates application of skill attainment with significant measurable impact on the overall project.	5	
APA Style/Spelling	APA citation style writing is used throughout the written report. No spelling or grammar errors are present.	5	
TOTAL SCORE (100 points possible)			
This constitutes 25% of the overall score to determine final ranking.			

**In the event of a tie, qualification for the agriscience fair will be based on the scores received in the following sections in order: discussion and conclusions, results, introduction, abstract.*