

2015 National FFA Extemporaneous Public Speaking

Preliminary A - Agriscience and Technology

What new apps have had the biggest impact on agricultural operations in the past five years?

Preliminary A - Agriscience and Technology

Are U.S. agriculturalists making progress in the conversation about GMO misinformation? Explain.

Preliminary A - Agriscience and Technology

If genetically modified crops were banned from the U.S., what impact would that have on the agriculture industry both in the U.S. and worldwide?

Preliminary A - Agriscience and Technology

How can technology help farmers and ranchers endure natural disasters and unfavorable weather conditions?

Preliminary A - Agrimarketing and International Agriculture

How will the 2016 presidential election affect international agriculture relations?

Preliminary A - Agrimarketing and International Agriculture

What segments of agriculture will benefit from restored trade with Cuba?

What segments might be hurt?

Preliminary A - Agrimarketing and International Agriculture

What are innovative ways farmers/ranchers can market their produce locally, nationally, etc.?

Preliminary A - Food and Fiber Systems

How are lower fuel prices affecting agriculture?

Preliminary A - Food and Fiber Systems

Should international borders be closed when a case of animal illness such as avian influenza or BSE is discovered?

Preliminary A - Food and Fiber Systems

Should right to farm laws be determined on a national or state level?

Preliminary A - Food and Fiber Systems

How can we maintain ecological biodiversity while ensuring that we have enough food and fiber for the growing population?

Preliminary A - Urban Agriculture

How should we measure the viability of urban agriculture?

Preliminary A - Urban Agriculture

How do CSAs affect consumers' relationship with production agriculture?

Preliminary A - Urban Agriculture

Vertical farming involves growing more produce in a confined area.

What are some potential concerns about this farming method?

2015 National FFA Extemporaneous Public Speaking

Preliminary B - Agriscience and Technology

How is big data affecting farmers and ranchers? What are the pros and cons when used in the agricultural industry?

Preliminary B - Agriscience and Technology

Should farmers interested in using drones be required to obtain a pilot's license? Why or why not?

Preliminary B - Agriscience and Technology

How has technology advanced safety procedures and mechanisms on the farm? What steps can be taken to further improve farm safety?

Preliminary B - Agrimarketing and International Agriculture

What are the pros and cons of COOL labeling?

Preliminary B - Agrimarketing and International Agriculture

Should agritourism be classified as an agricultural enterprise? Should agrotourism have the same regulations and exemptions as production farms and ranches?

Preliminary B - Agrimarketing and International Agriculture

What are some advantages/disadvantages to marketing produce locally such as farmers markets and local vendors?

Preliminary B - Food and Fiber Systems

Describe the discussion around the recent Waters of the U.S./Corp of Engineers rule and how passage could affect how farmers produce food.

Preliminary B - Food and Fiber Systems

How can agriculturists help the public discern between marketing propaganda and legitimate healthy food choices?

Preliminary B - Food and Fiber Systems

How can we attract future farmers and ranchers from non-agriculture backgrounds?

Preliminary B - Food and Fiber Systems

How can animal agriculture help improve the land and improve the environment, and protect other natural resources?

Preliminary B - Urban Agriculture

What are the biggest barriers to the success of urban agriculture?

Preliminary B - Urban Agriculture

What is a food shed? In what ways does urban agriculture affect it?

Preliminary B - Urban Agriculture

If vertical farming continues to grow, will there be a need for any regulations specific to this form of farming?

2015 National FFA Extemporaneous Public Speaking

Semi Finalist - Agriscience and Technology

What biotechnology advances will have the greatest impact on production agriculture in the next 50 years?

Semi Finalist - Agriscience and Technology

Should livestock be implanted with a microchip so meat can be traced back to the producer? Why or why not?

Semi Finalist - Agriscience and Technology

How will technology affect the job security of the agriculture labor force in the future?

Semi Finalist - Agrimarketing and International Agriculture

What international trade relations have changed U.S. agriculture over the past 50 years? What have we learned for future trade relations?

Semi Finalist - Agrimarketing and International Agriculture

In 2015, nearly two billion people worldwide have social media accounts.

What social media strategies and tools most effectively promote agriculture's cause?

Which strategies are ineffective and on their way out?

Semi Finalist - Agrimarketing and International Agriculture

Should a mandatory national GMO labeling law be enforced? Why or why not?

Semi Finalist - Food and Fiber Systems

How can niche market and conventional agricultural producers come together with one voice?

Semi Finalist - Food and Fiber Systems

What policies could potentially protect livestock producers from false animal welfare accusations?

Semi Finalist - Food and Fiber Systems

What are some changes that could be made to the educational system to potentially improve the knowledge and understanding of the agriculture industry?

Semi Finalist - Urban Agriculture

What unique marketing options are available to urban agriculture?

Semi Finalist - Urban Agriculture

Should small urban producers be required to operate under the same regulations as larger producers?

Semi Finalist - Urban Agriculture

What steps can be taken to educate students about agriculture in urban classrooms?

2015 National FFA Extemporaneous Public Speaking

Finalist - Agriscience and Technology

How can we better inform suppliers and consumers about the great strides farmers have made in reducing nutrient runoff from the farm and improving water quality?

Finalist - Agriscience and Technology

Does agriscience and technology used to create hybrid and/or improved varieties of produce decrease the quality and nutritional value, etc.? Explain.

Finalist - Agriscience and Technology

Water is a limited resource that we all need. Is technology the answer to our water issues? Why or why not?

Finalist - Agrimarketing and International Agriculture

Should foreign countries be required to follow the same pesticide regulation as those that American producers follow, in order for them to ship their products to the U.S.?

Finalist - Agrimarketing and International Agriculture

How can immigration be reformed to ensure agriculture maintains a reliable work force?

Finalist - Agrimarketing and International Agriculture

How is food waste and loss affecting our global economy and environment?

Finalist - Food and Fiber Systems

Should industrial hemp be legalized? What are the pros and cons?

Finalist - Food and Fiber Systems

Should producers be held liable for foodborne illnesses? How can we further educate the public to establish safer cooking practices and eliminate occurrences of cross-contamination?

Finalist - Food and Fiber Systems

How do current government regulations within the food and fiber systems affect consumers? Advantages/ disadvantages?

Finalist - Urban Agriculture

What are the similarities and differences between conventional agriculture and urban agriculture?

Finalist - Urban Agriculture

How can programs such as FFA and 4-H be used to move urban agriculture forward?

Finalist - Urban Agriculture

Should new urban agriculture operations receive a tax break?