

Agri-Bee Competition Supplemental Word & Definition List

Word	Definition	Sentence
agrarian	relating to land or the ownership of land	Farming is an agrarian life.
amendment	any material added to soil to improve water retention, drainage, and overall structure	The farmer used compost as a soil amendment.
ammonia	a strong-smelling gas formed naturally when bacteria decompose nitrogen-containing compounds, such as manure	I wrinkled my nose because it smelled like ammonia as I drove by the cow pasture.
arable	Suitable for producing crops	There is a lot of arable land in this valley.
berm	a bank of earth	One side of our pond has a berm.
blacksmith	a person who forges iron	Horseshoes can be made by a blacksmith
blight	any weather or soil condition, parasite, disease or insect that kills, withers, or stops the growth of plants	Late spring rains caused blight that ruined the cherries last year.
bluetongue	an insect-borne viral disease of sheep, cattle, goats and wild ruminant animals	Three of the farmer's sheep were taking medication for bluetongue.
boar	male or father pig	A boar is used in the breeding of pigs.
boll	a type of seed pod	When the cotton boll opens, it is getting ready for harvest.
brand	an identification mark burned into the hide of livestock	All the cattle had the AAA Ranch brand on them.
broiler	a young chicken, usually 6-8 weeks old, that is raised for meat	Broiler chickens have been bred to gain weight rapidly.
broker	someone who is paid to negotiate contracts or who buys and sells products	My father works as a rice broker.
butcher	person that cuts meat into pieces for purchase	Most of animals sold at the Fair Auction will go to the butcher.
butterfat	the natural fat in milk	The butterfat content in whole milk is higher than in lowfat milk.
canal	an artificial waterway	We get our water for irrigation from the canal.
canker	dead, discolored and often sunken area on a root, stem or branch	The farmer was worried that a canker had formed on the walnut tree.
cell	the hexagon-shaped unit which honeybees make for storage	Honeybees construct a special cell for the queen larvae.
chevre	cheese made from goat's milk	I like to eat chevre spread on crackers.
chlorophyll	the green colored matter of plants that functions in photosynthesis	Chlorophyll in a plant makes the leaves green.
combine	a self-propelled machine that cuts, threshes, and winnows a crop while moving across the field	The antique combine harvested the wheat at the Patrick Ranch.
commodity	basic items or staple products of agriculture	Wheat is a very important and versatile commodity.
cultivator	a tool attached to a tractor drawn between rows of growing plants to loosen the earth and destroy weeds	Fertilizer can be mixed into the soil using a rotary cultivator.
curd	milk solids used in cheese making	In cheese making, the curd is separated from the whey.
dairy	a farm that is devoted to producing milk	The cows are milked at 5:00 AM at the dairy up the street.
deadhead	to remove spent flowers or unwanted growth from a plant to encourage more flowering and/or bushier foliage	I need to deadhead my roses to keep them blooming all summer long.
dibble	a pointed gardening tool used for making holes in soil, especially for planting bulbs and seedlings	After tilling the soil, the gardener used a dibble to plant her flower seedlings.

dieback	progressive death of branches or shoots beginning at the tips	Insufficient watering and feeding can cause dieback in many perennial plants.
drone	an adult male bee	The drone mates with the queen bee.
drought	a long period of time with no rain	Texas had a three year drought until it started raining this Spring.
eggplant	a large fruit with purple skin, eaten cooked as a vegetable	I like to grill eggplant unpeeled, with salt and pepper.
elevator	tall warehouse facility using vertical conveyors to raise and elevate grain	The elevator at the rice dryer is used to load the trucks with rice to take to the rice mill.
fever	a body temperature above normal for the species	The lamb had a fever so we called the veterinarian to check its health.
flourish	to grow vigorously	Her rosebushes will flourish in the sunny part of her backyard.
fodder	feed for livestock, especially coarsely chopped hay or straw	Maize is a variety of corn used as fodder.
foreman	a person who is in charge of a group of workers	George is the foreman of the ranch.
fruit	any plant product, such as grain, flax, vegetables	Peaches and oranges are two types of fruit grown in Yuba County.
fungicide	any chemical used to kill fungus	We spray fungicide on our crops to prevent mildew.
giblets	the edible organs of poultry, such as the heart, gizzard and liver	Some cooks like to add the giblets to turkey stuffing.
gilt	a young female swine that has not produced a litter	The 3-month old gilt laid close to her mother to sleep.
gondola	a flat-bottomed car with low sides, pulled by a tractor and used in the harvest of crops such as tomatoes and grapes	The picked tomatoes were placed in the gondola and taken to the grading station.
groundwater	water within the earth that supplies wells and springs	In some places there is not enough groundwater, so the farmer must get irrigation water from a river or stream.
harness	the straps and metal pieces used to fasten a horse or mule to a plow	The farmer put the harness on his mule so it could pull the plow.
harvest	gathering a crop from a field or orchard	Almond harvest is in the fall.
heartwood	The dense inner part of a tree trunk, yielding the hardest timber.	The heartwood of a tree acts like a steel beam, providing strength to endure harsh wind.
herb	an aromatic plant used fresh or dried for seasoning food	Basil is the traditional herb used in pesto.
honey	a thick, sweet, syrupy substance that bees make as food from the nectar of flowers	Honey is used to sweeten some beverages.
hull	the outer covering of a seed on fruit or nuts	The hull of a walnut is green.
huller	a machine that separates the hulls from the nuts	After harvesting, the nuts go into the huller.
injection	insertion of a substance into the body by means of a needle	cattle are given an injection to prevent and treat disease
insectary	a place to keep or raise insects	The Smith Insectaries Company produces thousands of good bugs such as praying mantises, ladybugs, and lacewing flies.
lactose	A type of sugar that is found in milk.	Some people are allergic to the lactose in dairy foods.
lanolin	grease that is on the fleece of sheep	Lanolin from sheep is used in hand lotion to heal dry skin.
lease	a written agreement allowing someone to use your land	The farmer has leased the orchard from his neighbor for 25 years.
lemon	a small, egg-shaped citrus fruit with a yellow skin	I like to add a slice of lemon to my ice water.
macadamia	a nut, native to Australia, now grown in California	Macadamia nuts have a soft buttery texture.
microorganisms	living creatures of microscopic size	Millions of microorganisms can be found in just a handful of soil.

mole	a small burrowing rodent that feeds on insects, and whose tunnels can cause problems in farm fields and gardens	I found a mole hole right in the middle of my lettuce bed!
mottling	a series of blotches, streaks, or spots on fruit or leaves of a plant	Leaf mottling is typical of many viruses, such as the watermelon mosaic virus.
mycology	a branch of botany dealing with fungi	Growers use information learned from mycology to produce bigger and better mushrooms.
nematicides	chemicals that destroy nematodes	The farmer treated his infected beet crop with nematicides.
niche	a distinct segment of a market, focused on a particular service or product	With his unique crop of melons, he was able to carve a niche in the marketplace.
nodule	a small knot or lump on the stem or root of a plant	Bacteria enter the root hairs of a plant, and as they multiply, a nodule forms.
nutrients	a substance or ingredient that provides nourishment	Fruit that is eaten raw gives the body many nutrients.
nutrition	the science or study of a healthy diet	She wanted to learn more about nutrition in order to become more healthy herself.
organic	grown without chemical fertilizers or sprays	The organic apple farmer grows very sweet and juicy apples.
ornamental	a plant grown for its beauty rather than for food	The fruit of an ornamental plum tree isn't good to eat, but the purple foliage is lovely.
payment	An amount paid	The bank has loaned us money to buy property, so we make an annual payment to the bank.
perennial	a plant that lives for more than two years	my daisy has continued to thrive after two years of blooming, because it is a perennial
phloem	the food-conducting tissue of plants	Aphids suck on the phloem of plant tissues.
pistachio	an edible nut with a green kernel	The pistachio tree was developed for commercial use in Chico in the 1930's.
plant	vegetation that grows by using sunlight, water, and nutrition in a process called photosynthesis	The process of photosynthesis makes the plant grow.
pollard	to cut back the branches of a tree to its trunk	The rancher chose to pollard the trees in his meadow to increase sunlight for the pasture grasses.
potassium	one of the 17 mineral elements essential for plant growth and reproduction	Farmers often apply potassium as fertilizer for optimum plant growth.
predator	an animal that survives by eating other animals	The coyote is a natural predator of sheep.
production	the creation of something of economic value	California almond growers are responsible for 100% of the commercial supply of almonds in the United States and 80% of the worldwide production of almonds.
progeny	the offspring of animals	The progeny of the prize ram will grow to be champions of the show ring.
prune	a plum preserved by drying	This prune is delicious!
ridges	long narrow raised strips of soil which direct the flow of irrigation water in an orchard	The entire orchard was watered by using ridges.

sagebrush	a bush that grows in dry regions with silvery wedge-shaped leaves and large flower clusters	Sagebrush is an excellent forage for honeybees.
sapling	a young tree	The sapling needs to be transplanted so it has more room to grow.
saturated	to be completely soaked with liquid	The rainstorms caused the ground to be fully saturated.
scarecrow	object for scaring birds away in a field or garden	I want to put a red hat on my scarecrow.
season	a traditional division of the year based on distinctive weather conditions	We usually end the harvest season with a moonlight bonfire.
sell	offer a product in exchange for money	The farmer will sell his broccoli at the Farmer's Market.
shaker	a machine that shakes fruit off the tree	When the shaker works in the orchard, I can feel the ground shaking.
siphon	a bent tube used for carrying liquid from a reservoir over the top edge of its container to a point below the surface of the reservoir	The peach farmer uses a siphon to transfer water from one ditch to another.
sprout	to begin to grow from a seed	It won't take long for the bean seeds to sprout.
steer	a castrated male bovine	A steer cannot breed.
straw	dried plant matter used as bedding	Dad laid straw down in the chicken coop.
sushi	Japanese delicacy consisting of cooked rice and vegetables, seafood and/or egg	California grows nearly 85% of America's sushi rice.
tailgate	a gate at the back of a wagon or truck	My dad's new pickup truck has a removable tailgate.
tensiometer	an instrument for measuring the surface tension of a liquid	A tensiometer can help the farmer to know when to irrigate and for how long.
transplant	to lift and reset a plant in another soil or situation	I need to transplant these daisies since they have become completely rootbound.
trowel	a hand tool with a short handle and a curved blade used for light digging	A trowel is perfect for making holes to plant garden seedlings.
tuber	a swollen, fleshy underground stem with multiple buds which produce new growth	A potato is a good example of a tuber.
vacuum	to pick up by suction	We vacuum the orchard for fallen nuts.
ventilation	a system to provide fresh air without causing drafts	Dad needed to adjust the ventilation in the shop since it was so hot inside.
weaning	time when young mammals are taken away from their mother and not allowed to drink her milk	During weaning I was busy separating the calves from their mothers.
weed	a plant growing in an unwanted place, often hindering the growth of other desirable plants	No matter what I do, I cannot kill that weed growing in my lawn!
weevil	an insect that feeds on cotton, fruits, and grains	Mother found a weevil in the cornmeal box in the cupboard.
welding	a process of joining pieces of metal by using a torch	Jennifer enjoyed welding and made a new trailer to carry farm equipment.
wetlands	swampy, marshy land mass; lands saturated with water	Wetlands are habitats for ducks, snow geese and cranes.
yarrow	a plant in the daisy family with leaves like ferns	I grow bright yellow yarrow in my flowerbeds.
zucchini	a variety of summer squash, which can have different shapes and colors	Grandpa grows zucchini in his garden every year.