



AGRI-BEE COMPETITION

GENERAL RULES FOR THE AGRI-BEE COMPETITION

The Agri-Bee Competition is a spelling bee, using agriculturally related words, for 4th & 5th grade students in San Joaquin County. The procedure is much like a standard spelling bee, with one major difference – each word **must be properly defined & spelled**. The official Word Lists and Definitions will be provided to the student contestants.

Standard spelling bee rules apply to the spelling of words in the Agri-Bee Competition. The one unique difference is that the participant must also provide the agricultural definition of the word.

Once the speller has started, the order of letters named may not be changed although the speller may start over the spelling of the word, with a limit of three times per word. Any altering of the order previously given will disqualify the speller.

The speller must indicate the following where appropriate:

- Use of a hyphen
- Use of an apostrophe
- Use of a capital letter

The speller may ask the Word Caller to say the word and/or sentence again.

The definition given by the speller does not have to be the same wording as that provided with the distributed words/definitions lists. However, the definition they give must demonstrate an understanding of the word's meaning. The Judges will be called upon as needed to make a decision to accept or reject a speller's definition.

This competition promotes agriculture education & gives students a rewarding opportunity to learn about California agriculture. Prizes will be awarded to the finalists.



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CONTEST PROCEDURES

To assure impartiality, we have randomly selected the order of participation, and the order in which words will be given has been pre-determined for the Word Caller.

Practice Round:

An initial round will be a practice round. Each contestant will have the opportunity to spell and define a word but will not be eliminated if they are unable to spell or define the word.

Round One:

The contestant is to **spell and/or define** the word. If they are able to spell and define the word, two points are awarded. If the student is able to spell and **not** define the word, the contestant stays in the contest and receives just one point. If the student is able to define and **not** spell the word, the contestant stays in the contest and receives just one point. (Points are awarded and tracked and used in the case of a tie.)

- The word caller will say the word, uses it in a sentence, and repeats the word.
- The student says the word, spells it, then gives the definition provided. (This must be the definition provided, but need not be in the exact same words as long as the meaning is clearly the same as the definition provided.)
- The judge/scorekeeper records points earned: one for correct spelling and one for correct definition. If the contestant can neither spell nor define the word given, he/she is eliminated.

Round Two & All Subsequent Rounds:

At the end of Round One, after each student has had one opportunity to spell and/or define a word, the pattern changes. **The remaining students in the Agri-Bee Competition must spell and define each word given. If unable to do both, they are eliminated.**

- The judge/scorekeeper continues to record points.

Final Round:

When just two contestants remain, the rules change. **Each contestant must both spell and define the word correctly to remain in the contest.** If one contestant misses a spelling or a definition, the other remaining contestant must provide the correct response for that word, and then spell and define the next given word correctly to win the Agri-Bee Competition. If they are unable to do so, the other contestant returns to the contest, and this procedure continues until a winner is determined.

- The judge/scorekeeper continues to record points.

The logo features a stylized green tractor on a yellow field, surrounded by a green laurel wreath. To the right of the logo, the text "AGRI-BEE" is written in a bold, yellow, sans-serif font, and "COMPETITION" is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font below it.

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Miscellaneous:

In the event that both of the final two contestants are able to correctly spell and define all of the words, the Word Caller will move to a list of words which were not distributed to the contestants prior to the Final Agri-Bee Competition. Using this list, and the procedure described above, the Agri-Bee Competition will continue until a winner is determined.

In the event that a tie-breaker should be needed, the Scorekeeper will total the scores for each of the two final contestants. The one with the highest points will be First Place Winner and the other will be Second Place.