

Contest Teams Please Note: The complete results including first place winners will be available after the conclusion of the Awards Banquet on [landjudging.com](http://landjudging.com) and [rangejudging.com](http://rangejudging.com). Fill in the blanks below with the information found there, or access the completed news release.

## *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*

May 7, 2009

*For Immediate Release*

### **National Land Judging Contestants Return Home**

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK — The \_\_\_\_\_ (chapter or club) from \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ has returned home after participating in the 58th 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 approximately 170 other land and range judging teams from 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.

In Land Judging, FFA competition, the \_\_\_\_\_ (Chapter name), (home state) \_\_\_\_\_, chapter won in the team category and the first place individual winner was \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_ (home town), \_\_\_\_\_ (state) \_\_\_\_\_. In the 4-H competition the \_\_\_\_\_ (Chapter name), (home state) \_\_\_\_\_, chapter, was the winning team, and \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_ (home town), \_\_\_\_\_ (state) \_\_\_\_\_, was the individual winner.

In the Range Judging Contest, the \_\_\_\_\_ (Chapter name), (home state) \_\_\_\_\_, chapter won the FFA team competition, and \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_ (home town), \_\_\_\_\_ (state) \_\_\_\_\_, took the first place individual FFA award. The \_\_\_\_\_ (Chapter name), (home state) \_\_\_\_\_, chapter, won the 4-H team category, and \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_ (home town), \_\_\_\_\_ (state) \_\_\_\_\_, placed first in the individual category.

In Homesite Evaluation, the \_\_\_\_\_ (Chapter name), (home state) \_\_\_\_\_, chapter won the FFA team competition, and \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_ (home town), \_\_\_\_\_ (state) \_\_\_\_\_, took the first place individual FFA award. The \_\_\_\_\_ (Chapter name), (home state) \_\_\_\_\_, chapter won the 4-H team category, and \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_ (home town), \_\_\_\_\_ (state) \_\_\_\_\_, placed first in the individual category.

(MORE)

Oklahoma Conservation Commission Executive Director Mike Thralls welcomed all the participants at the Awards Banquet following the contest. The awards ceremony was held at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City in the evening of May 7. Contest cochairman Trey Lam, president of the Oklahoma Association of Conservation Districts, presented the 2009 National Land and Range Judging Contest Honoree Award to Wadell Altom of Ardmore. Altom recently retired from the Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation where he played an important role in that organization becoming a principal sponsor in the contest.

Following the presentation of the honoree award, contest cochairman and co-emcee Russell Pierson, 97, was recognized with a standing ovation for participating in 57 of the 58 years of the contest. He 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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