

Agriscience Application Notes

- Application – READ and follow the rubric
- There is a template on the National website – use it!
- Suggestions
 - Title Page and Other overall suggestions
 - Table of contents pages is helpful
 - No catchy titles – they should explain what you did/studied
 - Title is no more than 3 lines and 15 words
 - Put the application in rubric order
 - Abstract
 - Should include a brief synopsis of the results
 - No more than one page!
 - Introduction
 - Background knowledge should go in the introduction
 - If you use literature in your introduction – CITE THEM
 - Should explain why you researched this
 - Literature Review
 - Should be several paragraphs or even pages long.
 - Google Scholar is a great resource to find sources
 - CITE YOUR SOURCES in the literature review
 - Material and Methods – be specific. Can this be duplicated by ANYONE, not just an ag person
 - List Materials
 - List Methods or number them in order, no paragraphs
 - Separate Materials from Methods
 - INCLUDE HYPOTHESIS in this SECTION (can be in others too, but MUST BE HERE)
 - Social systems – include questions as appendix
 - Animal systems – include animals, pens, pasture, water, etc in your materials
 - Social Systems – make sure to include survey participants in your materials
 - APA
 - Must be double spaced – entire paper
 - Make sure to cite your sources correctly
 - List resources in alphabetical order and in APA format.
 - Discussion
 - What to do with the data?
 - This study showed similar results as
 - My results differed than XXXX study because
 - I know I was only able to conduct my study on 2 horses because XXX and this study needs to be redone on a larger to compare results for validity.
 - Also include problems with your study, future research, and validity statements

- Others
 - Avoid conversation – “I decided to” “After pondering” - use consistent language throughout
 - Each Section should stand alone on a page. Don’t lump together.
 - Social Systems – make sure to acknowledge survey participants in your acknowledgements.
- Ideas
 - Animal Systems
 - Horse Height in Relation to Force when Lunging
 - Speed of Milking in Relation to # of Lactations
 - Milk Replacers Value
 - Can Music increase egg production
 - Increased production with expensive or inexpensive feed
 - Effectiveness of soap to kill insects (gray area – can also be environmental)
 - Temperature for thawing semen
 - Hay Quality and its digestibility
 - AI semen types
 - New Livestock product testing
 - Chicken feeds for growth
 - Growth rates on chickens under different colored lights
 - GMO vs Non GMO feeds
 - Egg Washing Procedure and amount of bacteria left
 - Fish levels in ponds/creeks
 - Medicated vs Non-medicated feeds
 - Weather’s effect on feed intake
 - Weather’s effect on egg production
 - Tests on mouse/gerbils for memory, speed
 - Blood testing for diseases
 - Comparing EPDs
 - Techniques to lower a horse’s pulse rate
 - Pattern and stride of a horse
 - Swab test for bacteria
 - Parasite control methods for goats and sheep
 - Pesticide (Natural and Commercial) use
 - Reducing Hog Oder
 - Dyed Wool Test
 - Prevention methods to increase heart rate when loading in a trailer or working
 - Goats – cattle feed or goat feed
 - Nutrient levels in colostrum
 - Free range vs Cooped chickens
 - Feeding Grits to chickens
 - Alternative feeds – nutrition value and weight gain in livestock

- Leather conditions effect on leather
 - Chicken watering systems → growth
 - Cooled vs Non-cooled eggs – which last the longest
 - Digestibility of dog and cat treats
 - Social Systems
 - **Only section where polling and surveys is allowed.**
 - Taste Preference on brands
 - Biosolids perception
 - GMO vs Non-GMO Preference or perception
 - Perception of FFA
 - Animal Rights vs Animal Welfare
 - Influence of PETA and HSUS on their purchases
 - Ag Power
 - Solar Panels Effectiveness
 - Plant Science
 - Effectiveness of homemade bone meal
 - Can giving plants sugar water make the produce sweeter off a plant?
 - Environmental
 - Zebra Mussel Prevention
 - Water Quality
 - Food Systems
 - Pesticides – do they show up in the end product (plant or meat)
 - Amount of mass in food loss when cooked
- Our applications fit the division. If there is any gray area - then it is better to email their abstract to Jenna Jenson at National FFA , allow about 1-2 weeks for a response, and she will give them the definite answer as to what division to put it in. That will help, especially with those that fall on the gray areas or could possibly fall under two different divisions.
 - Make sure our applications are scored using the rubric at state.
 - For example: if the hypothesis isn't list in methods and materials, the most it can receive is a 4 out of 20. I read 5 different Missouri applications and they were all very different. They have to use the rubric and make sure it is followed.
 - Each application is scored by three different individuals at Nationals. Before we ever start, we review the rubric in detail and score a sample application and discuss it to make sure everyone understands and knows what to look for when scoring, so we all stay consistent.

If anyone has any questions, and they want to contact me, I would love to visit with them.

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