**School Steer Spectacular Assessment Tasks**

**Part A. Report Presentation**

*A Report Presentation must be completed for each school, ie one report per school entered in the Spectacular.*

**Briefing notes:**

Presentation teams will be allocated 5 minutes to present their Report to the judging panel. They will be assessed on both delivery and content of the Presentation and the Report (Hard Copy). Delivery method is at the discretion of the teams. Content of the Presentation and the Report will tell their story as experienced by the school team and must analyse both the science and economics of the project.

The oral presentation should be an **EXECUTIVE** **SUMMARY** of your cattle’s progress, and any issues you had along the way. The written report is where you provide detailed information and data.

The report should highlight the following headings with **suggested topics:**

* Animal management: preparation, health and welfare:

 Training and grooming

 Diseases / conditions noted

 Treatments for any disease or disorder

 Treatments administered

 Withholding period from slaughter if any

 Records kept

 Any welfare concerns eg hot weather/shade/water availability

* Science of the project may include but not limited to:

 Steer starting live weight

 Desired growth rate (graphed)

 Desired finish live weight/carcass weight (dressing percentage)

 Target Market Category – carcass weight and fat

 Kg of feed (pellets) consumed per day

 Kg of hay consumed per day

 Total feed over feeding period

 Nutrients provided in feed – energy and protein

 Feed conversion efficiency

* Economics may include but not limited to:

 Value of steer at commencement of the project

 Cost of feeding

 Cost of other treatments

 Value of steer at completion of project

 Profit or loss of the project

**Allocation of points**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Report -Oral Presentation | **10** |
| Report – Hard Copy | **10** |
| Animal management | **5** |
| Science of the project | **5** |
| Economics of the project | **5** |
| **TOTAL** | **35** |

**PART B. Ruminant Digestion and its Role in Producing Beef**

These questions are to be answered in relation to your steer project. Ie. Inducting young cattle on to your property (school AG Farm) and feeding them a grain based diet to meet the specifications of the competition.

* You ***must*** answer question d) as well as your choice of ***ONE*** of questions, a), b) or c).
* You are to provide answers to your selected question and question d) on no more than a single A4 page.
* You are to produce a single poster on, no larger than standard 594 cm x 841 cm ( A1) cardboard, to help explain or highlight your understanding of **one** of the sections, a), b) or c).
* You will provide an oral presentation to the judges. It shall be no longer than 5 mins in duration and should provide a summary of your understanding of your chosen question and part d). Your poster is to be used to help explain, demonstrate, or highlight one particular aspect that you consider is significant.

*The Judges are looking to assess your understanding of how the Ruminant Digestive system functions, and the implications when feeding cattle.*

* At the completion of your presentation you will provide the judges with the poster and your page of answers.

**Questions** (select **ONE** only from a, b, c. You must do part d.)

1. Name the significant parts of the ruminant digestive system and outline the function of each part.
2. Describe the fate of energy consumed by the animal, including the role of the digestive system and how that relates to production of quality beef.
3. Explain the relevance of microorganisms to the ruminant digestive system, with specific regard to protein, and how the animal’s diet needs to be carefully managed to maximise production.
4. Manildra Stockfeeds have generously donated a bulk bag of DDG to feed your steer. Evaluate the role of DDG in meeting the requirements discussed in parts a), b) & c)

This presentation will be marked in two parts.

1. *Your presentation.* How you dress, how you speak, your understanding of your subject matter, the visual appeal of your poster as well as its effectiveness in helping explain the topic being discussed.
2. *The accuracy and relevance of your answers*, both on the poster and on the written page.

**Allocation of points**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Assessment criteria** | **Points allocation** |
| **Personal presentation** (how you dress) | **5** |
| **Verbal presentation** (how you Speak) | **8** |
| **Understanding** of the topic presented | **10** |
| **Effectiveness and Visual appeal** of the poster in explaining your topic | **5** |
| **Report and poster**. Accuracy and relevance | **7** |
| **TOTAL** | **35** |