

March 8, 2017

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** County Extension Agents and Agricultural Sciences Teachers

**SUBJECT:** 2017 Hackamore Ranch Open Invitational Contests – **NOTE: Time, Location and Award Changes**

Saturday, April 8, 2017 – Thorndale Volunteer Fire Department (TVFD) Hall located at 304 E. Moerbe Drive, Thorndale

- 4-H and FFA Range and Pasture Plant Identification Contest
- 4-H and FFA Range Evaluation Contest

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These are the 5th Annual Open Invitational 4-H and FFA Contests sponsored by Cody and Albina Fowler - Hackamore Ranch in Milam County. Cody and Albina Fowler have an interest in youth and ecology, so their non-profit organization is providing scholarships to high point senior participants.



### **Range and Pasture Plant Identification Contest**

- A \$5,000 scholarship to the high point senior individual in Range and Pasture Plant Identification

### **Range Evaluation Contest**

- A \$5,000 scholarship to the high point senior individual in Range Evaluation

Come join us at the contests and be a part of the educational training provided by Dr. Barron Rector, Associate Professor and Extension Range Specialist. Dr. Rector will also coordinate the contests.

### **Mark your calendar!!!!**

Date: Saturday, April 8, 2017

Location: Thorndale Volunteer Fire Department Hall located at 304 E. Moerbe Drive, Thorndale

Who Can Participate: All 4-H and FFA members in the following age divisions

- Junior Division (3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade)
- Senior Division (9<sup>th</sup> – 12 grade)

Entry Fee: Registration Fee received by March 31, 2017

- Teams -- \$40
- Individuals -- \$20

On Site Registration Fee

- Team -- \$60
- Individuals -- \$30

Range and Pasture Plant  
I.D. Contest Schedule:

Registration	9:30 – 10:00 a.m. at TVFD Hall
Orientation	10:00 a.m. at TVFD Hall
Contests Start	10:30 a.m. at TVFD Hall
Review of Contests	At the close of contest
Lunch	11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.
Awards Program	2:00 p.m.

Range Evaluation  
Contest Schedule:

Registration	8:30 – 9:00 a.m. at TVFD Hall
Orientation	9:00 a.m. at TVFD Hall
Contests Start	9:30 a.m. at a location off-site
Review of Contests	At the close of contest
Lunch	11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.
Awards Program	2:00 p.m.

Entry Materials:

Entry Materials are available from the  
Milam County Extension Office – 100 E. 1<sup>st</sup> Street  
Cameron, Texas 76520 --- 254-697-7045  
Website – [www.milam.agrilife.org](http://www.milam.agrilife.org)  
Email: [mrfelton@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:mrfelton@ag.tamu.edu)

Awards:

- Range and Pasture Plant I.D. Junior Division:
  - Junior High Point Individual – Belt Buckle and a \$1,000 savings bond
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> place Individual - \$500 savings bond
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> place Individual - \$250 savings bond
  - Junior 1<sup>st</sup> Place Team – Team Trophy
- Range and Pasture Plant I.D. Senior Division:
  - Senior High Point Individual – Belt Buckle and \$5,000 Scholarship
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> place Individual - \$500 savings bond
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> place Individual - \$250 savings bond
  - Senior 1<sup>st</sup> Place Team – Team Trophy
- Range Evaluation Junior Division:
  - Junior High Point Individual – Belt Buckle and a \$1,000 savings bond
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> place Individual - \$500 savings bond
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> place Individual - \$250 savings bond
  - Junior 1<sup>st</sup> Place Team – Team Trophy
- Range Evaluation Senior Division:
  - Senior High Point Individual – Belt Buckle and \$5,000 scholarship
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> place Individual - \$500 savings bond
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> place Individual - \$250 savings bond
  - Senior 1<sup>st</sup> Place Team – Team Trophy
- Other awards will recognize the top 2<sup>nd</sup> thru 5<sup>th</sup> place teams and 4<sup>th</sup> thru 20<sup>th</sup> individuals for each age division.

Contest Guidelines: Pages 3 and 4 attached

Contest Entry Form: Page 5 attached

If you have questions or need additional information. Please contact the Milam County Extension Office at 254-697-7045.

**Hackamore Ranch Invitational 4-H and FFA  
Range and Pasture Plant Identification Contest**

This contest involves identification of a minimum of 60 grass samples and range plants. Their value, either beneficial or detrimental to livestock and wildlife, is determined and recorded by each contestant.

Number of Teams:	No limit on the number of 4-H or FFA teams entered by a County Extension Agent or Agricultural Science teacher.
Age Divisions:	All 4-H and FFA members in the following age divisions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Junior Division (3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade)</li> <li>➤ Senior Division (9<sup>th</sup> – 12 grade)</li> </ul>
Participants:	4-Hers and FFA members can compete as an individual or as a team <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Team consists of three (3) or four (4) members in the same age division. Scores of the three highest scoring team members will comprise a team score.</li> <li>➤ Individual participants may compete and contend for individual awards.</li> <li>➤ Current 4-H and FFA membership is required for participation.</li> <li>➤ The High Point Senior Division Participant is not eligible to compete in future Hackamore Ranch Invitational 4-H and FFA Range and Pasture Plant Identification Contests.</li> </ul>
Entry Fees:	Entry Fee - postmarked by March 9, 2016 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Teams -- \$40</li> <li>➤ Individuals -- \$20</li> </ul> On Site Entry Fee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Team -- \$60</li> <li>➤ Individuals -- \$30</li> </ul>
Entry Materials:	Entry Materials are available from the Milam County Extension Office – 100 E. 1 <sup>st</sup> Street Cameron, Texas 76520 --- 254-697-7045 Website – <a href="http://www.milam.agrilife.org">www.milam.agrilife.org</a> Email: <a href="mailto:mrfelton@ag.tamu.edu">mrfelton@ag.tamu.edu</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ All entries must be signed and sent in together with one check by the Agricultural Science Teacher or County Extension Agent. Entries will NOT be accepted from other individuals.</li> </ul>
Contest Study Resource:	Plants may be mounted specimens or live specimens. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ For a master plant list and characteristics of each plant, contact Dr. Barron Rector, Contest Coordinator, Extension Range Specialist Office, Texas AgriLife Extension Service, Room 225, Ag Bldg., TAMU, College Station, Texas 77843-2126, (979) 845-2755.</li> <li>➤ Participants will identify 60 plants</li> <li>➤ Resource materials on plants available on the following website: <a href="http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/project_range">http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/project_range</a></li> </ul>
Scoring:	Each participant will use a Scantron to score the contest. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Contestants will have 60 seconds per plant to identify the plant and record their answer.</li> </ul>
What to Bring to Contest:	Participants must bring a legal size clipboard and two (2) pencils.

## Hackamore Ranch Invitational 4-H and FFA Range Evaluation Contest

This contest involves the following Contest Components and will follow the 4-H Range Evaluation Contest Rules:

- Part I Youth will identify 20-40 plants from the Master Plant List.
- Part II Youth will evaluate a marked range site.
- Part III Youth will judge 4 marked range plots evaluating plot range health and answering questions.

Number of Teams:	No limit on the number of 4-H or FFA teams entered by a County Extension Agent or Agricultural Science teacher.
Age Divisions:	All 4-Hers and FFA members in the following age divisions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Junior Division (3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade)</li> <li>➤ Senior Division (9<sup>th</sup> – 12 grade)</li> </ul>
Participants:	4-H and FFA members can compete as an individual or as a team <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Team consists of three (3) or four (4) members in the same age division. Scores of the three highest scoring team members will comprise a team score.</li> <li>➤ Individual participants may compete and contend for individual awards.</li> <li>➤ Current 4-H and FFA membership is required for participation.</li> <li>➤ The High Point Senior Division Participant is not eligible to compete in future Hackamore Ranch Invitational 4-H and FFA Range Evaluation Contests.</li> </ul>
What to Bring to Contest:	Participants must bring a legal size clipboard, standard calculator, and two (2) pencils.
Entry Fees:	Entry Fee – postmarked by March 31, 2016 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Teams -- \$40</li> <li>➤ Individuals -- \$20</li> </ul> On Site Entry Fee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Team -- \$60</li> <li>➤ Individuals -- \$30</li> </ul>
Entry Materials:	Entry Materials are available from the Milam County Extension Office – 100 E. 1 <sup>st</sup> Street Cameron, Texas 76520 --- 254-697-7045 Website – <a href="http://www.milam.agrilife.org">www.milam.agrilife.org</a> Email: <a href="mailto:mrfelton@ag.tamu.edu">mrfelton@ag.tamu.edu</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ All entries must be signed and sent in together with one check by the Agricultural Science Teacher or County Extension Agent. Entries will NOT be accepted from other individuals.</li> </ul>
Contest Study Resources:	The Master Plant list, rules, Range Evaluation Contest manual, description of plans and more can be found on the Projects Publications page on the Texas 4-H website at the following link: <a href="http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/project_range">http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/project_range</a> .
Scoring:	Each participant will use a scorecard for each part of the contest. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Contestants will have 60 seconds per plant to identify the plant and record answer on Part I of the contest.</li> <li>➤ Contestants will have 20 to 30 minutes to complete Parts II and III.</li> </ul>
What to Bring to Contest:	Participants must bring a legal size clipboard and two (2) pencils.
Results:	Results, as announced, are final. Contestants must be present to receive their awards. Pictures will be taken of participants and award winners.

# 2017 Hackamore Ranch Invitational

## 4-H and FFA Contest Entry Form

Name of County Extension Agent or Agricultural Sciences Teacher			
Email for CEA/AST			
County 4-H Club/FFA Chapter			
Address			
	City	Texas	Zip Code
Coach's Name			

*Individuals/Teams can enter one Invitational Contest*

Entries Summary for Range and Pasture Plant I.D. Contest	
Number of Youth Teams Entered	
Number of Youth Individuals on Teams	
Number of Youth Individuals Entered	

Entries Summary for Range Evaluation Contest	
Number of Youth Teams Entered	
Number of Youth Individuals on Teams	
Number of Youth Individuals Entered	

Lunch Count	
Total Number of Persons for Lunch Count (youth & adults)	

Return Entry Form and Fees to:  
Milam County Extension Office  
100 E. 1<sup>st</sup> Street  
Cameron, Texas 76520  
(254) 697-7045

Entry Fee – postmarked by March 10, 2017  
 ➤ Teams -- \$40  
 ➤ Individuals -- \$20  
 On Site Entry Fee  
 ➤ Team -- \$60  
 ➤ Individuals -- \$30

No Refunds After March 10, 2017

Checks Payable To: Hackamore Ranch Scholarship, Inc.

Local Hotel with Breakfast Bar:

**Budget Host** – [www.budgethost.com](http://www.budgethost.com)  
 254-605-0610 - 102 Lafferty Ave. – Cameron, Texas 76520  
**Comfort Inn-Rockdale**  
 512-446-3600 - 702 W. Highway 79 – Rockdale, Texas 76567