

Western Section, American Society of Animal Science

2009 Graduate Student Competition Written Presentation Presenter _____

1. Journal of Animal Science (JAS) Format (6 points) _____

- 1.1. Abstract length limit (2,500 characters and spaces).
- 1.2. Introduction length limit (2,000 characters and spaces).
- 1.3. Implications length limit (1,000 characters and spaces).
- 1.4. Use of references minimized to those most recent and pertinent (< 3 per concept).
- 1.5. JAS standard abbreviations are used whenever possible.
- 1.6. Non-standard abbreviations defined and used according to JAS style and form guidelines, available at <http://jas.fass.org/cgi/data/86/1/DC2/1>
- 1.7. Literature citations follow JAS style and format guidelines.
- 1.8. Suggested maximum manuscript length limit (4 pages, tables, figures, etc. may go beyond the 4 page limit).

2. Abstract (5 points) _____

- 2.1. Includes clearly identifiable statement of objective(s).
- 2.2. Includes pertinent methodologies and results.
- 2.3. Includes important conclusion(s).
- 2.4. Includes up to six key words or phrases according to JAS guidelines.

3. Introduction (6 points) _____

- 3.1. Research is justified relative to any previous work done (i.e., rationale)
- 3.2. Includes overall research objective(s).
- 3.3. Clearly states or demonstrates hypothesis or hypotheses to be tested.
- 3.4. Avoids extensive review of literature.

4. Materials and Methods (8 points) _____

Should explicitly describe or cite recognized authoritative source(s) for the following:

- 4.1. Biological and analytical procedures.
- 4.2. Statistical procedures (including explicit representation of the statistical model, and associated measures of variability and (or) confidence).
- 4.3. Deviations from standard analytical and statistical procedures.

5. Results and Discussion (can be separate or combined) (10 points) _____

- 5.1. Tables and figures should contain sufficient information to interpret results.
- 5.2. Key points related to data in tables and figures should be explained without excessive repetition.
- 5.3. Should interpret results clearly in terms of underlying mechanisms.
- 5.4. Should integrate pertinent results from the literature.
- 5.5. Should include sufficient evidence in support of or in contrast to the research hypothesis and allow for the reader to infer a conclusion.
- 5.6. Avoids unwarranted extrapolation of results.

6. Implications (5 points) _____

Explains without abbreviations, acronyms, or citations, what the results imply for animal production and (or) biology.

7. Scientific Merit (10 points) _____

The merit of the research will be evaluated on the basis of its rationale, impact on animal production, and (or) the advancement of important scientific principles.

Manuscript Score (maximum 50 points) _____

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2009 Graduate Student Competition Oral Presentation Presenter _____

1. Delivery (10 points) _____

Includes:

- 1.1. Good eye contact with audience.
- 1.2. Distinct voice.
- 1.3. Smooth presentation flow and style (e.g., well organized).
- 1.4. Draws attention to important points during presentation.
- 1.5. Use of notes is minimized.

2. Presentation (15 points) _____

The presentation should:

- 2.1. Follow the manuscript.
- 2.2. Include informative and complete sections:
 - 2.2.1. Introduction,
 - 2.2.2. Research objective(s),
 - 2.2.3. Hypotheses,
 - 2.2.4. Materials and Methods,
 - 2.2.5. Results and Discussion
 - 2.2.6. Conclusions or summary, and
 - 2.2.7. Implications.
- 2.3. Stimulate questions and discussion.
- 2.4. Be 10 to 12 minutes in length.

3. Visual Aids (10 points) _____

- 3.1. Should be easily readable.
- 3.2. Make appropriate use of color and enhancements (e.g., animation).
- 3.3. Should capture the attention of the audience.
- 3.4. Information on single slides should be limited to one or two key points.
- 3.5. Should maximize content without being verbose.

4. Knowledge of Subject Matter & Discussion of Research (15 points) _____

- 4.1. Conclusions and implications are communicated properly within the context of pertinent literature.
- 4.2. Appropriate emphasis is placed on key results.
- 4.3. Adequate explanation is given in support of experimental approach.
- 4.4. Data are interpreted correctly.
- 4.5. Limitations of the research are recognized.
- 4.6. Questions are answered concisely, accurately, and within the scope of the research and pertinent literature.
- 4.7. Potential for future research is identified and acknowledged.

Oral Score (maximum 50 points) _____