

## 2022 Pennsylvania Grasslands Evaluation Contest hosted by SW Project Grass

The 2022 Pennsylvania Grasslands Evaluation Contest was hosted by Southwest Project Grass (SWPG) on September 29 at Rock Springs. The Grassland Evaluation Contest is an educational opportunity for PA high school students enrolled in FFA and 4-H programs, or members of a high school affiliated club. The contest is aimed at educating youth about the value and benefits of grazing and other conservation practices. The Grassland Evaluation contest is hosted by SWPG each fall. Each participant answers questions about Soils, Wildlife, Plant Identification, and Grassland Condition. This year, 15 teams from across the state competed in the completion. The members of the first-place team each received a \$500 scholarship, the second-place team members each receive a \$250 scholarship, and the high scoring individual receives a \$500 scholarship. The winning team has the opportunity to compete in the national contest held in June in Missouri. Sponsors for the event include: Somerset Conservation District, Centre County Conservation District, Pennsylvania Livestock Association, Indian County Conservation District, Huntingdon Conservation District, Greene County Conservation District, Washington Conservation District, Pennsylvania GLC, and the Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds.



Congratulations to the team from Sugar Valley Rural Charter School FFA from Clinton County for placing first in the state at the 2022 Grasslands Evaluation Competition.

Team members include: Advisor Chuck Bechdel, Dakota Holdren, Madysin Garcia, Olivia Chester, and Isaiah Conway. Isaiah Conway was also the high scoring individual.



Congratulations to the team from Carmichaels Area High School from Greene County for placing second in the state at the 2022 Grasslands Evaluation Competition.

Team members include: Spencer Conard, Sophia Zalar, Faith Willis, Alex Lawrence and Advisor Kevin Willis..

Since 2003, Southwest Project Grass has been sponsoring this educational contest for high school students to learn practical and profitable ways to graze livestock. \$41,000 in scholarships have been awarded to date. For additional information on the contest, or to be a contest sponsor, please contact Southwest Project Grass at (724) 438-4497 and ask for Pierce Willson.