

Soil judging 2021

Written by: Kaylee Smith

Edited By: Emma Bennett

On September 28th I participated in the district soil judging competition. Six other students competed with me. We had four people competing in the rural category and 3 competing in the urban category. I was one of the 4 students that was in the rural portion of the competition. We left for soil judging around 8:00 in the morning. It was just a little under an hour drive from the school to the farm that soil judging was held at. When arriving we were split into a number of groups. Once separated we all walk to our assigned pit. Once all groups were where they needed to be we finally started judging. We had 15 minutes at each station. At all of the pits there was a paper with some information on it and three buckets containing dirt from the surface soil, topsoil and subsoil. We had to look at the soil and see if the land was flat, does it have good drainage qualities, and look at the compaction in the soil layer. Then we had to go to the three buckets and get a handful of soil and answer some questions: does it ribbon, are there any rocks in the soil, what is the texture of the soil. When I completed judging all of the pits I had to go take two written tests. A lot of the questions were questioning your knowledge of soil. Some of the questions were vocab and other questions were asking why we do soil judging. After the competition was over we got on our bus and we went and got a late lunch. After we finished eating we got back on the bus and headed back to Greenon. By the time we got back to school. School was just finishing. Then that week we just had to wait for the results on how our team did. When we got the scores back we were quite happy with the way we did, especially after having only a week to learn everything we needed to know since school only started just two weeks before this competition. We unfortunately did not move on after districts.

