



September 8, 2026

TO: Missouri Vo-Ag Instructors

FROM: Stacy Dohle, Midwest Dairy Farmer Relations Sr. Manager

RE: 2026 Fall FFA Public Speaking Contest

We are excited to offer a dairy related topic to the 2026 Missouri FFA Fall Speaking contest. Midwest Dairy and Missouri Dairy hope contestants will develop and enhance their individual public speaking skills and gain knowledge and interest about the dairy industry.

The theme for this year is ***“Dairy Farming: More Than Milk”***. The dairy industry is about much more than the milk in your glass. This broad topic gives contestants the opportunity to explore the many people, practices, products, and innovations that make up today’s dairy industry.

Students may choose to explore areas such as **dairy nutrition, environmental stewardship, animal care, rural communities, careers and jobs, dairy products, technology and innovation**, or other topics that demonstrate the diversity and impact of dairy farming.

These are only starting points. Be creative! Find an aspect of dairy that sparks your curiosity, research it, and tell us the story.

We look forward to hearing your speeches and learning what “More Than Milk” means to you!

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Stacy Dohle at 417-298-2780 or sdohle@midwestdairy.com.

2026 Fall FFA Dairy Speaking Contest

Contest Rules

- The general rules and regulations of the National FFA Public Speaking Contests will govern the district and state contests.
- As soon as the district winner is selected, the local advisor must mail the following material to: Stacy Dohle, Midwest Dairy, 1936 E. 515th Rd. Halfway, MO 65663.
 - Four (4) double-spaced type-written copies of the speech on 8.5" x 11" white paper.
 - A signed statement that the contestant's speech is the result of their own work.
 - Bibliography must be included.
- The contest will include a 6-to-8-minute presentation with a 5-minute question session. Questions about the national and state dairy organizations and current dairy industry issues may be asked during question time along with questions about the speech.
- **The 2026 State FFA Dairy Speaking Contest Finals will be held Friday, January 22, 2027, at the Missouri Dairy Expo at the Oasis Hotel and Convention Center in Springfield, MO.**
- The state winner will present their speech to the attendees at the Missouri Dairy Expo.

Each district winner will receive a plaque and the following cash awards will be presented to the state contest winners:

1 st Place	\$200
2 nd Place	\$150
3 rd Place	\$100
Other participants	\$50