

Students from 11 schools participated in the Area III Range Judging Contest in McCook last week.

Ninety-five students participated in the Senior Division (grades 11 and 12) and 126 students participated in the Junior Division (grades 9 and 10). Participants competed as individuals and in teams.

The contest included identification of range plants, evaluation of three sites in terms of type of site, condition of the site and degree of use, evaluation of a ranch plan and general questions about grazing land management.

Schools competing in the Area III contest included Amherst, Arapahoe, Cambridge, Dundy County-Stratton, Hayes Center, Imperial, McCook, Medicine Valley, SEM, Southern Valley, and Perkins County.

The 2011 Area III Range Judging contest was sponsored by the Nebraska Section-Society for Range Management, Middle Republican NRD, Natural Resources Conservation Service and Red Willow County Cooperative Extension.