

National FFA 2016 CDE

Agricultural Communications Editing Quiz Key

Contestant Name: _____ Score: _____

FFA Chapter: _____ Contestant Number: _____

Instructions: Twenty five words or phrases are underlined in the news story below. Some are correct and others contain errors. Indicate in the space to the right if the words or phrases are correct (**C**) or incorrect (**I**). If they are incorrect, correct them using standard editing marks in the sentence. You may find errors related to grammar, punctuation, word usage, spelling and other Associated Press style issues.

Tapping Sorghum's Genetic Potential

Written By:
AgResearch Magazine

1	Sorghum offers something for <u>just about everyone</u>	1. I – use a period
2	For health-conscious consumers, <u>its</u> a good source of fiber and antioxidants and is gluten free.	2. C
3	For growers, it's productive under heat and drought and can thrive in soils where most <u>other Cereal Grains cannot.</u>	3. I – lowercase cereal grains
4	For historians, Benjamin Franklin is credited with <u>succesfully</u> introducing sorghum to the United States in 1757.	4. I – spelling
5	Decades of breeding has produced sorghum suitable <u>for an area extending to fourteen states</u> extending from Texas to South Dakota.	5. I – Use number
6	Sorghum is growing on 8.8 million U.S. acres this year, <u>which represents a 24% increase</u> from last year.	6. I – The percentage needs to be spelled out
7	The crop is worth an estimated <u>one point nine billion dollars.</u>	7. I - \$1.9 billion
8	<u>Diseases and pests however, continue</u> to evolve and threaten sorghum's future.	8. I – Need comma after pests
9	Because sorghum originated in tropical regions, there are challenges to breeding new <u>varieties for temperate region's.</u>	9. I – remove the apostrophe in regions
10	<u>Many tropical plants flower</u> when day lengths are short.	10. I – C

11	By the time the days are short enough for flowering in <u>temperate regions</u> , it is often too <u>cold</u> for producing a sorghum crop with sufficient grain.	11. C
12	Agricultural Research Service (ARS) plant geneticist Robert Klein, with the <u>Crop Germplasm Research Unit in College Station, TX</u> , and his colleagues have developed new genetic resources for sorghum breeders:	12. I – Spell out Texas
13	“Converted tropical sorghum lines that thrive in temperate climates and have the genetic potential for high grain yields in the <u>United States</u> ” Klein said.	13. I – Comma after States
14	The work is <u>important because with Climate Change and water shortages</u> , sorghum is becoming a critical option for staving off hunger overseas and an attractive alternative to U.S. crops that require more water.	14. I – climate change should be lowercased
15	Like other producers, sorghum growers are <u>always interested in high yeilding crops</u> .	15. I – yielding
16	" <u>sorghum growers face constant challenges</u> , and we want to make sure sorghum stays economically viable in areas where it's become an important cash crop as well as in areas where it's a vital source of food," Klein says.	16. I – Capitalize Sorghum
17	For breeding trials, Klein and his colleagues selected sorghum lines from the ARS Plant Genetic Resources Conservation Unit in Griffin, Georgia, that were known for producing <u>high grain yields in countries such as, Sudan and Ethiopia</u> .	17. I – remove comma after as
18	Because they were originally from <u>sorghum's center of origin in africa</u> , the lines selected would not flourish in temperate regions.	18. – Africa should be capitalized
19	They had the potential to produce high grain yields while offering resistance to <u>some of natures' most daunting threats</u> .	19. I – Apostrophe needs to be after the e
20	The researchers used <u>molecular and traditional cross-breeding techniques</u> .	20. C
21	Essentially, <u>they converted tall, late flowering tropical sorghum plants</u> into lines that will mature faster and come equipped with genes for combatting future generations of pests and diseases.	21. I – There needs to be a hyphen in between late and flowering
22	Along with <u>helping to insure sorghum's future</u> , the work demonstrates the value of the ARS collection in Griffin, where sorghum lines from around the world are kept viable.	22. I – ensure
23	"This work wouldn't have been possible without the <u>USDA-ARS collection</u> and the efforts of those who maintain it," Klein said.	23. C

24	The reserach was <u>partially funded by the sorghum checkoff program</u> , which is supported by growers.	24. I - Spelling
25	The results were published in the <u>Journal of Plant Registrations</u> in Jan. 2016.	25. I – January