**What is it?**
This CDE helps you learn to evaluate beef cattle, sheep, and swine and defend your decisions. At the competition, participants complete a written exam and cooperatively determine keep/cull classes for market and breeding usage, based on physical characteristics and records. They also give oral reasons explaining their placing of various classes.

**Career Opportunities**

Career Clusters:
- Agricultural and Forestry Production
- Management and Financial Specialties
- Marketing, Merchandising and Sales
- Science and Engineering
- Education and Communication

Career opportunities found in the career cluster areas:
- **Agricultural and Forestry Production** – animal breeder, cattle rancher, farm manager, livestock producer, feed ration developer and analyst, animal health products distributor, field sales representative-animals and feed products
- **Management and Financial Specialties** – export sales manager, agricultural extension specialist
- **Marketing, Merchandising and Sales** – livestock buyer, USDA meat inspector, livestock yard supervisor
- **Science and Engineering** – animal nutritionist, animal geneticist
- **Education and Communication** – editorwriter for livestock publication, farm broadcaster, postsecondary teacher, veterinarian

**Educational Requirements**
- **Bachelor Degree** – animal breeder, cattle rancher, farm manager, livestock producer, animal health products distributor, field sales representative-animals and feed products, livestock buyer, editorwriter for livestock publication, farm broadcaster, livestock yard supervisor, export sales manager
- **Graduate Degree** – USDA meat inspector, agricultural extension specialist, feed ration developer and analyst, animal nutritionist, animal geneticist, postsecondary teacher, veterinarian

**SAE Opportunities**
Producing and marketing swine, produce and market lambs, sheep, or wool, produce and market beef, job placement at a feedlot or ranch, learning artificial insemination techniques and becoming a certified technician

**Proficiency Award Areas**
- Beef Production
- Sheep Production
- Swine Production
- Diversified Livestock Production

**Curriculum Resources**
- Agriscience 332 – Animal Science (8831B). Instructional Materials Service, Texas A & M University Mail Stop 2588, College Station TX 77843-2588
- Agriscience 336 – Advanced Animal Science (8846B). Instructional Materials Service, Texas A & M University Mail Stop 2588, College Station TX 77843-2588