Since factors that cannot be determined on-site must be considered in making fertilization decisions, the following information will be given on the conditions poster for the Land Judging Contest (see sample poster on page 20):

A. The interpretation of whether or not the crop to be grown will benefit from liming the soil.
B. The phosphorus soil test rating.
C. The potassium soil test rating.
D. A list of other nutrients interpreted to be deficient for the crop to be grown.

A short discussion of the fertility factors on the contest score card follows:

Number 27. Lime -- Apply agricultural limestone to reduce soil acidity (increase soil pH). Lime need is based upon the crop to be grown and soil test results. The interpretation of whether or not the crop will benefit from liming will be given on the conditions poster.

Number 28. Nitrogen -- Nitrogen (N) fertilizer will almost always be needed for non-legume crops grown on mineral soils. Soil testing is not used for guiding N fertilizer recommendations in Florida. Mark N on the score card if the conditions poster lists N as deficient.

Number 29. Phosphorus -- Addition of P fertilizer is a recommended practice when soil test levels are rated very low, low, or medium (mark P on the score card) but is not recommended when the tests are rated high or very high (do not mark P on the score card). Florida soils range from very low to very high in P. Soil testing is a useful tool in determining the need for P fertilization.

Number 30. Potassium -- Addition of K fertilizer is a recommended practice when soil test levels are very low, low, or medium (mark K on the score card) but is not usually recommended when tests are high or very high (do not mark K on the score card). Potassium leaches in sandy soils and thus must be managed differently there than on fine-textured soils. Build-up of K is not practical on most Florida sands.

Number 31. and 32. Micronutrients -- The nutrient elements manganese (Mn), zinc (Zn), copper (Cu), iron (Fe), boron (B), and molybdenum (Mo) are required by plants in very small quantities. A deficiency of any one of these micronutrients will result in reduced plant performance. Tests are helpful, but experience with the soil and crop are also important in determining if one or more of the micronutrients should be added as fertilizer. Mark No. 31 on the score card if only one of the micronutrients is listed on the conditions poster as deficient. Mark No. 32 on the score card if two or more are listed as deficient.