POSER COMPETITION ELIGIBILITY

The Poster Competition is open to any currently enrolled M.S. or Ph.D. student, or recent M.S. or Ph.D. graduates (graduating Summer 2017 or later), working on an OARDC or CFAES supported project. Postdocs and Research Assistants/Associates, including Visiting Scholars that are not currently enrolled in an advanced degree program, are also invited to participate. Research Scientists are not eligible to participate. Entrants may present only posters on original research they have conducted while at The Ohio State University. **Each entrant may submit only one poster and must register separately to attend the Conference.**

REVIEW PROCESS & AWARDS

Separate competitions will be held for Masters, Doctoral students, Postdocs and Research Assistants/ Associates. **All posters will undergo a peer-review process prior to the Conference during which they will be scored.** Evaluations will be based on poster content and design according to a rubric developed by the Conference Committee, which can be found at [oardc ohio-state edu/annualconference/postercall.asp](http://oardc ohio-state edu/annualconference/postercall.asp). Posters judges are recruited from a variety of fields within the CFAES so it is recommended that content is clearly explained for the non-technical audience. Following the conference, each participant will receive an email with the feedback provided by the judges on their poster submission.

First, second, and third place winners in each competition will receive cash awards of $500, $300 and $150, respectively. Winners will be announced at the conference and **must be present at the conference in order to receive the award.** Excused absences for non-moveable obligations (e.g., a final exam) will be allowed with written explanation from the entrant’s advisor or supervisor. All abstracts will be published in the Conference Proceedings, which will be made available online, allowing the abstracts to be listed in the authors’ *curriculum vitae*.
POSTER SUBMISSION
Participants in the Poster Competition must complete their submission by filling out an online poster registration form, uploading their abstract, as well as the pdf of their poster at oardc.ohio-state.edu/annualconference/postercall.asp, by 5:00 pm on Monday, March 12, 2018. An e-mail confirmation will be sent to the entrant to acknowledge receipt of submission. The website will be closed for submission by the deadline and no late submissions will be accepted.

The following will be required during the submission process:

• Poster registration form: Participants must submit their name, degree sought, department, advisor’s name and email address.

• Abstract: To include title, authors, and a maximum 250-word summary of the study and findings.

• Poster: All posters must use a university approved poster template, which can be found at oardc.ohio-state.edu/annualconference/postercall.asp. Failing to use the pre-approved template will result in elimination from the competition. Each poster should be uploaded in pdf format.
  For more information, follow the “Poster preparation guidelines” below.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION
All participants must also register themselves separately for the conference at oardc.ohio-state.edu/annualconference/registration.asp by 5:00 pm on Monday, April 9, 2018. Participants must be present at the conference in order to receive the awards. If a participant is unable to attend the conference, their advisor needs to provide a justification by emailing Loren Harper (harper.202@osu.edu) or they will be excluded from the competition.

POSTER PREPARATION GUIDELINES
• Poster Size - one sided: no larger than 42” x 36” displayed horizontally or vertically.

• Format: All posters must use the university approved poster template, which can be found at oardc.ohio-state.edu/annualconference/postercall.asp. Failing to use the pre-approved template will result in elimination from the competition.

• Each poster should include:
  1. Title Banner - with title, author(s), and department(s) - Entrant must be first author.
  2. Introduction - a clear and concise statement of the rationale, hypothesis, and justification for the project, the objectives of the research, and general approach.
  3. Materials and Methods - an outline of the key materials and methods defining how the experiment or study was conducted.
  4. Results - tables, figures, photos, etc., showing and documenting experimental findings and analyses.
  5. Conclusions and Discussion - statement of the conclusions from the study results and a brief explanation of the study’s scientific rigor, discoveries and their significance, and congruence or lack of with the body of scientific knowledge.
  6. Acknowledgments and References - brief acknowledgment of other contributors who are not authors, and key literature references to the study, if required.
• Legibility: All text and figures should be readable from a distance of 1 meter, including captions and figure legends. Illustrations should be relatively large with heavy lines. Colors may be used to accent features or visibility.

• Continuity: The presentation should be a coherent series of statements and supporting illustrations, with each leading to the next, which show the flow of the presentation and the progression of the study.

DAY OF THE CONFERENCE

Posters must be set up by 9:00 a.m. on Friday, April 27, 2018. Posters will be displayed in the Shisler Conference Center, 1680 Madison Avenue, Wooster Campus. Access to the area will be from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Display boards and 1-inch straight pins for mounting will be provided for display of posters. Posters must remain up until 3:15 p.m. Posters must be removed immediately following the conference.

Important Dates:
All poster submissions must be completed by March 15, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. All participants must be registered by April 9, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.