6. Manuscripts must be typed, double spaced, and target 1000 to 1500 words. Margins must be a minimum of 2.5 cm (1 inch) on all sides, and 12-point font should be used. Title pages, tables, illustrations, and captions are not counted as text and should be on separate pages. Manuscripts with more 1500 words will be disqualified. The title page is required and must give the name of author, university, title of the entry, the words “Darrell S. Metcalfe Journalism Contest”, and the year.

7. At least one, and preferably more, digital photographs, tables, graphs, or line drawings (or combination thereof) that illustrate the subject matter of the manuscript must be included. Original artwork is preferred, but free-stock photo sites are also acceptable (e.g., Unsplash, Pexels, Pixabay, Shutterstock, iStock) with appropriate citation and permissions granted. All photographs, graphs, and/or drawings must be at least 300 dpi.

Submission
Manuscripts and certification must be submitted online by the deadline at: agronomy.org/awards under “Metcalfe Journalism Contest”. The faculty member/advisor listed on the student manuscript submission will receive a separate email requiring them to complete a certification form. All certifications must be received by October 8 or the manuscript will be disqualified.

Judging
Please reference the judging rubric located at acsmeetings.org/program/undergraduates/journalism-contest

1. Content—50 Points
   Topic (5), Title (5), Lead/Introduction (5), Focus (5), Writing Style/Voice (5), Balance (5), Conclusion (10), Graphic (10)

2. Structure—50 Points
   Organization (15), Sentence/Paragraph Structure (10), Word Choice (5), Sources (5), Grammar (15)

3. BONUS—Fits Meeting Theme- Up to 5 Points

Contest Chair Contact:
Lisa Durson, USDA, lisa.durso@usda.gov

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