



Professional Skills Assessment for Graduate Students

(to be completed by major advisor just prior to student's graduation)



This instrument is to be used for outcomes assessment only. It is not intended as part of your evaluation of this student's qualifications. It will not become part of their student records. Records of your responses will be kept anonymous with respect to the student. Please return the completed form to the Academic Program Coordinator. Thank you for your cooperation in assessing our educational effectiveness.

Evaluator's Name			
Student's Name			
Month/Year Student Entered Program			Month/Year of Assessment
Degree Program of Student	M.S.		Ph.D. (Crop Science)
	(Crops Emphasis)	(Soil Emphasis)	

Please give one score per row using the 1 to 5 scale. Add an asterisk (*) if noticeable improvement has been made since the beginning of his/her graduate education.

SCORE		LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT				
		1	2	3	4	5
PROFESSIONAL DISPOSITIONS						
	Judgment	Makes poor decisions	Exhibits most characteristics of "1" and some characteristics of "3".	Has common sense	Exhibits most characteristics of "3" and some characteristics of "5".	Tactful and consistently makes good decisions
	Enthusiasm	Disinterested		Even-tempered		Positive and enthusiastic
	Courtesy	Rude		Usually shows basic courtesy and respect		Always courteous and respectful
	Personal Appearance	Sloppy and unprofessional		Acceptable		Neat and professional
	Ability to Work with Others	Aloof, not a team player		Usually gets along with co-workers		Respected and well-liked
	Integrity	Dishonest, blames others for his/her own poor performance, hides mistakes		Generally honest, usually takes responsibility for his/her actions, usually admits when a mistake has been made		Completely honest, takes full responsibility for his/her actions, freely admits mistakes and tries to rectify the situation
PROFESSIONAL SKILLS						
KNOWLEDGE:						
	Understands the history and fundamentals of plant and/or soil sciences.	Unsatisfactory		Basic competency		Excellent
	Able to generate new knowledge	No interest or "knows it all"		Has some desire for new knowledge		Intellectually curious and eager to learn
COMMUNICATION:						
	Able to transform that knowledge to a variety of audiences.	Unsatisfactory		Basic competency		Excellent

		LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT				
SCORE		1	2	3	4	5
	Able to represent and communicate ideas effectively.	Unsatisfactory		Basic competency		Excellent
	Able to defend knowledge against challenges and criticisms	Unsatisfactory		Basic competency		Excellent
CRITICAL THINKING/PROBLEM SOLVING:						
	Able to conserve most important findings from past and current work and can judge which ideas are worth keeping and which are outmoded.	Unsatisfactory		Basic competency		Excellent
	Able to ask interesting and important questions.	Unsatisfactory		Basic competency		Excellent
	Able to formulate appropriate strategies for investigating these questions.	Unsatisfactory		Basic competency		Excellent
	Able to conduct investigations with high degree of competence.	Unsatisfactory		Basic competency		Excellent
	Able to analyze and evaluate results of investigations.	Unsatisfactory		Basic competency		Excellent
PROFESSIONAL SERVICE/LIFELONG LEARNING:						
	Understands differences between disciplinary views of the world.	Unsatisfactory		Basic competency		Excellent
	Responsibly applies knowledge, skills, findings, and insights when solving problems and looking for greater understanding.	Unsatisfactory		Basic competency		Excellent
	Has adapted a sense of purpose that is larger than oneself (i.e., steward of the discipline rather than just a manager of one's own career).	Unsatisfactory		Basic competency		Excellent
	Actively participates in appropriate professional organizations.	Unsatisfactory		Basic competency		Excellent
	Is prepared to be a lifelong learner.	Unsatisfactory		Basic competency		Excellent

Adapted from OSU Horticulture and Plant Sciences Departments and "Preparing Stewards of the Discipline" (Chris Golde, Carnegie Perspectives, July 2006)