



More than 200 students from 12 schools in southwest and central Nebraska were in Chase County Tuesday for the Area III Range Judging Contest hosted by the Nebraska Section of the Society for Range Management. After weeks of 90 and 100-degree weather, the participants in Tuesday's contest had much cooler conditions as they identified plants and judged a range site, south of Enders Lake. Above, the four groups of students are moved to a new contest station by staff members working the contest. At right, Chase County Schools junior MaKenna Ketter, one of the 18 Imperial FFA members competing on five teams, takes a closer look at one of the plants to identify. More than 20 employees from area offices of the Natural Resources and Conservation Service (NRCS), the Upper Republican NRD and SW4 Extension Service staffed the contest on site and at Enders Lake Golf Course, where the tallying was being done and was also site for the awards. More on Imperial FFA's performance in the contest will be in next week's issue. (Republican photos)

