Auburn Takes First in National Soil Judging Contest

The Auburn University soil judging team took first place in the 2015 National Collegiate Soils Contest, April 18–24 at the University of Arkansas–Monticello. Nearly two dozen teams competed, with contestants examining various soil pits to identify, evaluate, classify, and describe four soil profiles.

The second- and third-place teams were West Virginia and Purdue, respectively. In individual competition, Kristen Pegues (Auburn) took first, followed by Stephen Geib (second, Delaware Valley College), Adrienne Nottingham (third, West Virginia), and Erin Bush (fourth, Kansas State). The top four individuals are invited to represent the U.S. in the international soil judging competition, Sept. 1–5, 2015, in Godollo, Hungary (http://soiljudging-iys2015.com/). Joey Shaw, Auburn University, will be the coach.

Nearly two dozen teams competed in this year’s National Collegiate Soils Contest, examining various soil pits to identify, evaluate, classify, and describe four soil profiles (top). Auburn University took first place (bottom) From l to r: Cassi Savage (assistant coach), Danielle Tadych, Joey Shaw (coach), Kristen Pegues, Bryan Trammell, Jenna Platt, Joe Taylor, Abigail Johnston, and Alex James (assistant coach).