



**MANATEE COUNTY FAIR 2025  
FNGLA Plant Show and Sale**

**FAIR LIVESTOCK DIRECTORS: Gene Wingate, Robert (Bob) Gause  
AREA SUPERINTENDENT: Caitlyn Greene**

**Failure to complete the mandatory meeting, on-line registration, and plant tagging/check-in will result in disqualification.**

**SCHEDULE**

**On-line Registration**

**October 1 - 11, 2024, midnight**

- Go to [Youth Ag Exhibits \(manateecountyfair.com\)](https://manateecountyfair.com) then click on ShoWorks to complete on-line registration/purchase passes
- Entry Fee \$5.00 per lot at time of online registration.
- Exhibitor Pass \$30.00 due at time of initial registration. Extra family member passes (limit 4) may be purchased for \$25 each on or before October 27<sup>th</sup>, midnight.

**Mandatory Meeting**

**Tuesday, October 1, 2024, 7:00pm, Manatee County Fairgrounds or Zoom  
(Link will be sent to all advisors/club leaders at a later date)**

- Exhibitor and parent or legal guardian must be present even if the exhibitor is 18
- FFA advisors & 4-H club leaders, with chapter plants, must attend the mandatory meeting

**Plant Tagging ALL classes**



**Tuesday, October 15, 2024, 3:00-6:30pm, Mosaic Arena, enter gate 9**  
All exhibitors must have or turn in the following completed:

- Plants must be present with the exhibitor
- Notarized MCF Exhibitor Liability/Photo Release
- MCF Code of Conduct form
- Plant entries inspected for pests/diseases by FDACS Plant Inspector
- Photo taken of exhibitor with plant entries

**FFA/4-H Clubs**

**Plant Exhibitors must be named/assigned by December 1, 2024, Club/Chapter Declaration form emailed to [yquattlebaum@manateecountyfair.com](mailto:yquattlebaum@manateecountyfair.com)**

**Plant Check-In & Setup**

**Tuesday, January 14, 2025, 2:00-6:30pm, Stewart Building, enter gate 1**

**Plant Judging**

**Thursday, January 16, 2025, 8:00am-1:00pm, Judges Only in Stewart Building**

**People's Choice Award Voting** January 16-17, 2025, 5:00-10:00pm, Stewart Building  
**Youth Steer Judging** Saturday, January 18, 2025, Registration 7:30am, Start 8am, Mosaic Arena  
 Breakfast afterwards for participants  
**FNGLA Horticulture Challenge** Saturday January 18, 9:30-11am, in front of the Mosaic Arena  
**FNGLA Plant Auction** Saturday, January 18, 2025, 6:00pm, Mosaic Arena  
**Youth Goat & Swine Judging** Saturday, January 25, 2025, Registration 7:30am, Start 8am, Mosaic Arena  
 Breakfast afterwards for participants  
**Awards Ceremony** Saturday, January 25, 2025, 7:30pm, Mosaic Arena

## FNGLA SHOW AND SALE RULES & REGULATIONS

1. All exhibitors must be a *bona fide* member of a Manatee County 4-H Club or FFA Chapter, which is related to your project. No one who has graduated from High School will be eligible to show.
2. Exhibitors must be in good standing with their respective clubs to exhibit at the Manatee County Fair. All exhibitors will show in the 4-H Club or FFA Chapter in which they registered their plant at the initial registration.
3. All exhibitors must be 8 years of age as of September 1, 2024. Exhibitor age as of September 1, 2024, will determine the showmanship class in which the exhibitor will show. (Juniors ages 8-10, Intermediates ages 11-13, Seniors ages 14 and up.)
4. Each plant must be purchased/donated to or planted, grown, and maintained by the exhibitor.
5. Before Plant Tagging, plants must have been already repotted into a different pot that will be used for the show and sale. **★ Plants CANNOT be shown in the container in which they were originally purchased; plants in this container will be rejected.** Plant containers within the same lot should be similar in appearance. Only tagged plants are allowed in the show & sale.
6. During Plant Tagging, plants will be screened for pest and disease problems. Pest infested or disease infected plants may be rejected at to the discretion of the FDACS Plant Inspector, Barn Superintendent, or Director. Additionally, plants that are invasive (Appendix 2) WILL BE REJECTED.
7. Exhibitors are not allowed to change plant exhibits after Plant Tagging. Exhibitors found to change their plant **★ exhibit in any way will result in disqualification and forfeiture of all premiums, awards, add-on's and sale proceeds.** Upon disqualification, the affected plants shall be immediately removed from the fairgrounds.
8. No Substitute exhibitors are allowed unless there are extreme reasons and granted permission by the Manatee County Fair Livestock Committee.
9. All Exhibitors participating in their respective division must utilize only the plant that was registered under their name.
10. Exhibitors must be present to check in their tagged plants on Tuesday, January 14, 2025. Only plant exhibitors will be allowed in Stewart Building to set up their plant display area, with the assistance of Plant Project Volunteers, if needed. Exhibitors must be able to lift all individual plants and pots with only minor assistance.
11. Each exhibitor may have a maximum of two entries/lots, both of which must fit in a 2 ½ x 5 ft rectangular area (size of plant display area per exhibitor). Each lot is accepted, judged, and sold separately.

12. During Check-In, the FDACS Plant Inspector, Barn Superintendent, or Plant Project Committee members reserve the right to reject plants of inferior quality, diseased or infested plants, or invasive plants (Appendix 2).
13. Plant entries will be judged based on the provided rubric and following FDACS quality standards by a group of horticultural professionals as volunteer judges. The following and other criteria will be the basis for arriving at the plant grade or rejecting entries: A) Freedom from insects, disease, nutritional stress and excessive cold injury, B) Sufficiently rooted in the container, C) Acceptable size for the container according to Florida Grades and Standards (Appendix 2), (D) Correct pruning techniques, (E) A proper number of plants to comprise an entry.
14. 4-H and FFA divisions will be shown and judged together. Each entry will be awarded one of three ribbons: Blue Ribbon Award (\$7.00); Red Ribbon Award (\$6.00); and White Ribbon Award (\$5.00). Division and Chapter/Club awards will also be given for Grand Champion, Reserve Champion, People's Choice, and Achievement. The People's Choice Award will be given to the exhibitor whose lot received the most votes from the public. The Achievement Award will be given to the exhibitor with the best tri-fold display board outlining their experiences while stepping-up their plants. A tri-fold display is NOT required to participate in the Plant Show and Sale.
15. A Project Record Book must be completed and included with plants at fair check-in. Record books must be signed by leaders/advisors prior to check-in. Pages can be added as needed. Record books can be found on the Manatee County Fair website.
16. Exhibitors are to seek potential buyers to ensure competitive bidding on their plants for maximum profitability. Relatives, friends, neighbors, and local businesses are examples of potential buyers. Exhibitors must send at least 3 buyer letters.
17. Exhibitors will be required to water their plants, as needed, during fair hours.
18. On-site inspections of plant exhibits may be made by authorized agents of the Manatee River Fair Association at any time, after first check-in or before fair. All plants must be housed in Manatee County for the duration of the project. A request for outside of county housing must be made in writing to the Manatee County Fair Livestock Committee prior to or at registration.
19. Any graphics or wording in the barn or on display boards deemed inappropriate by the Barn Superintendent or the Livestock Committee will be removed.
20. Exhibitors must be present to sell their lot(s) at the FNGLA Plant Sale/Auction on Saturday, January 18, 2025, at 6:00 pm. Otherwise, plants are sold, and proceeds go to support the program.
21. No provision will be made to sell rejected or disqualified plants; only plants that are shown are eligible for auction/sale.
22. During the auction/sale, 4-H exhibitors must wear a collared white long-sleeve button down shirt with or without the 4-H logo (4-H jacket optional), long black pants/black skirt, and closed-toe shoes. FFA exhibitors must wear official dress during the auction/sale.
23. Exhibitors MUST move any display boards/props from the Stewart Building prior to the plant auction. Failure to do so will result in the discarding of displays. Displays will not be sold during the plant auction. It is up to the exhibitor to hold onto the display and give it to the buyer if they wish to do so.

24. All plants must be shown and sold by the registered exhibitor. All qualified plant lots must be sold in the sale. Each lot will be auctioned separately. The auction order will be based on division and registration order. Once the plants are sold, the exhibitor must place them in a holding area designated by buyer number for buyers to pick up at the end of the sale. Exhibitors are expected to assist buyers in picking up and loading their plants.
25. All plants must be picked up immediately after sale. Any plant that is not claimed after the sale will be donated.
26. Exhibitors are required to send their buyers “Thank You” letters. It is strongly suggested that a small token of appreciation be given to the buyer of your plants as a thank you, in most circumstances.
27. Fair premium money must be picked up from the Manatee County Fair Office within 90 days of the end of the fair or it will be forfeited.
28. Sales proceeds will not be distributed until payment is received from Buyer(s). Checks are mailed after April 1, 2025.
29. The Manatee River Fair Association will only handle add-ons totaling \$25.00 or more. Add-On forms can be printed from Manatee County Fair’s website under Livestock Records (<https://www.manateecountyfair.com/p/getconnected/livestock-records>). Add-ons must be received by February 15, 2025. Add-On checks will be mailed after April 1, 2025, after each exhibitor’s add-on monies are received by the fair office.
30. Saleable exhibits including Plants, Steers, Swine, Rabbit and Poultry Meat Pens will have six percent (6%) of each exhibitor’s sale price and any add-ons deducted by the Fair Association to help defray expenses.
31. Violation of any of these rules may result in expulsion, suspension, loss of premium and or sale proceeds.
32. All deviations from any rule will be requested in writing to the Manatee River Fair Board Livestock Committee as soon as possible, but at least two weeks before first check-in. Each request will be handled on an individual basis.
33. All protests must be in writing and accompanied by \$100.00. Monies to be refunded if protest is decided in petitioner’s favor. Only violations of rules by participants in the Fair will be considered as a protest. Protest to be decided upon by the Manatee River Fair Board Livestock Committee.
34. The Manatee County Fair and the committee shall not be held responsible for loss or damage to plants.
35. ***Final Interpretation and intent of these rules will be vested in the Manatee River Fair Board Livestock Committee. This includes, but is not limited to, violating the code of conduct and all previous rules. The Manatee River Fair Association has the right to “No Trespass” and disqualify any individual or exhibitor.***

### PLANT ENTRY SPECIFICATIONS

1. Plant entries will be separated by classes. These classes are: Class A – Woody Ornamentals, Class B – Foliage Plants, Class C – Ground Cover, and Class D – Miscellaneous. For more details about each class, see Appendices 1 & 2.
2. Some plants will have multiple common names; use the most famous common name of the plant.

3. In case of entries with multiple species, identify the type of plants as the common name (e.g., succulents or Herbs), and use “Mixed Species” instead of the scientific name.
4. Some plants can be entered in different classes depending on the presentation/display and containers.
5. Visually different varieties within the same species (known cultivars/varieties) are only allowed in Class D. Additionally, mixing species is accepted only in Class D (Driftwood, Planters, Gardens).
6. **YOU MAY NOT SHOW ANY INVASIVE PLANTS that are on Appendix 2 Links.**

### Container Sized - Classes A, B, & C

<i>Container Size</i> <i>Gallon</i>	<i>Diameter</i> <i>Approximate inches</i>	<i>Minimum #</i> <i>Per Entry</i>	<i>Maximum #</i> <i>Per Entry</i>
1	6 – 8 ½	8	15
3 – 5	9 – 12	2	5
7	12 ½ – 14	1	2
15	15 – 17	1	2

### Container Sizes - Class D

<i>Container Type</i>	<i>Minimum #</i> <i>Per Entry</i>	<i>Maximum #</i> <i>Per Entry</i>
Pots (5-gallon max.)	4	10
Driftwood	2	5
Hanging Planter	2	10
Planter, Dish Garden, Herb Garden	1	5
Topiary	1	5
Terrarium, Water Garden	1	5
*Orchids	2	4

### Exhibitor and Parent Security Passes

Exhibitors will be required to make a one-time purchase of a \$30 Exhibitor Security Entrance Pass that will give unlimited access for the ten days of the fair. Families will be allowed to purchase (4) additional Security Entrance Passes at \$25 each which also gives unlimited access to the fair.

Only one gate 8 parking pass per family will be issued for the time their animals are on exhibit, NO EXCEPTIONS. Parking is on a first come basis.

Passes can be purchased when you register your animal on-line through ShoWorks  
 If not purchased by October 27, 2024, additional family member passes will be \$30 each with same limits as above at the Livestock Office starting on Saturday, January 11, 2025, at 9:00am.

**\*\*THERE WILL BE NO REFUNDS ON PASSES\*\***

## Plant Check-In & Parking

**Fair Check-In:** Classes A/B/C/D Tuesday, **January 14, 2025**, 2:00-6:30pm in the Stewart Building. Enter fairgrounds at gate 1 on the corner of 14<sup>th</sup> Ave W and 17<sup>th</sup> St W. Areas around the Mosaic Arena and Stewart Building are for drop off only.

**Any vehicle without a proper parking pass or in an unauthorized area will be towed at the owner's expense.**

1. Vehicles blocking any gate will be towed at the owner's expense.
2. There will be no parking along the west end of Mosaic Arena or Stewart Building at any time!
3. Essentials may be dropped off and then vehicles will proceed to the livestock parking area. Areas around the Mosaic Arena and the Stewart Building are for drop-off and pick-up only.

## Manatee County Fair Web-Site

Rule books and Record books are posted and can be printed from ([manateecountyfair.com](http://manateecountyfair.com)).

Please check the web page periodically to see if there are any updates that pertain to your livestock area.

Registration paperwork for all plant/animal areas is located on the Fair website.

## **QUESTIONS:**

If you have a question about your entry into the Manatee County Fair, please follow the chain-of- command as listed below:

1<sup>st</sup> – Contact your **ADVISOR/CLUB LEADER**; if they are unable to answer your question, then...

2<sup>nd</sup> – Contact your **AREA SUPERINTENDENT – Caitlyn Greene** 941-527-9487 (Text)  
GreeneC4@Manateeschools.net

3<sup>rd</sup> – Contact a **FAIR LIVESTOCK DIRECTOR – Gene Wingate** 941-915-8974  
**Robert (Bob) Gause** 941-713-0782

## APPENDIX 1 - Plant Classes

This list provides examples/recommendations of what to grow for the Plant Show and Sale. Some plants on this list may have low toxicity to or can cause allergic reactions, so we encourage you to research the plant you select for such properties. Florida Friendly plants are highly recommended.

### Class A: Woody Ornamentals

<b>Trees</b>	
<i>Acer rubrum</i>	Red Maple
<i>Conocarpus erectus</i>	Buttonwood
<i>Delonix regia</i>	Royal Poinciana
<i>Ilex</i> spp.	East Palatka, Dahoon, Nellie Stevens Hollies
<i>Juniperus chinensis</i>	Chinese Juniper
<i>Lagerstroemia indica</i>	Crepe Myrtle
<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i>	Southern Magnolia
<i>Pinus</i> spp.	Pine
<i>Podocarpus</i> spp.	Podocarpus
<i>Quercus</i> spp.	Oaks
<i>Terminalia buceras</i>	Black Olive
<i>Ulmus</i> spp.	Elm
<b>Shrubs and Vines</b>	
<i>Bougainvillea</i> spp.	Bougainvillea
<i>Buxus microphylla japonica</i>	Japanese boxwood
<i>Callistemon</i> spp.	Bottle Brush
<i>Camellia japonica</i>	Camellia
<i>Camellia sasanqua</i>	Sasanqua Camellia
<i>Codiaeum variegatum</i>	Croton
<i>Hibiscus rosa-sinensis</i>	Hibiscus
<i>Gardenia</i> spp.	Gardenia
<i>Ilex</i> spp.	Dahoon Holly, Carissa, Yaupon and Dwarf Yaupon Hollies
<i>Ixora coccinea</i>	Ixora
<i>Jasminum multiflorum</i>	Star Jasmin
<i>Ligustrum</i> spp.	Ligustrum or Privet
<i>Loropetalum chinense</i>	Loropetalum
<i>Pittosporum</i> spp.	Pittosporum
<i>Plumbago auriculata</i>	Plumbago
<i>Raphiolepis indica</i>	Indian Hawthorn
<i>Rhododendron</i> spp.	Azalea
<i>Trachelospermum asiaticum</i>	Asian Star Jasmine
<i>Trachelospermum jasminoides</i>	Confederate Jasmine
<i>Viburnum</i> spp.	Viburnum
<b>Palms and Palm-like Plants</b>	
<i>Acoelorrhape wrightii</i>	Paroutis or Everglades Palm
<i>Dyopsis lutescens</i>	Areca Palm
<i>Wodyetia bifurcata</i>	Foxtail Palm
<i>Zamia integrifolia</i>	Coontie Plant

**Class B: Foliage Plants**

<i>Aglaonema</i> spp.	Aglaonema or Chinese Evergreen
<i>Araucaria heterophylla</i>	Norfolk Island Pine
<i>Chamaedorea seifrizii</i>	Bamboo Palm
<i>Chlorophytum comosum</i>	Spider Plant
<i>Cordyline terminalis</i>	Ti Plant
<i>Dieffenbachia</i> spp.	Dieffenbachia
<i>Dracaena</i> spp.	Dracaena, Corn Plant, Dragon Tree
<i>Ficus</i> spp.	Weeping Fig, Fiddleleaf Fig, Indian Rubber Tree
<i>Philodendron</i> spp.	Heartleaf, Splitleaf, etc.
<i>Schefflera arboricola</i>	Dwarf Umbrella Tree
<i>Spathiphyllum</i> spp.	Peace Lily

**Class C: Ground Cover**

<i>Agapanthus africanus</i>	Lily of the Nile
<i>Aspidistra elatior</i>	Cast Iron Plant
<i>Caladium x hortulanum</i>	Caladium
---	Ferns
<i>Cuphea hyssopifolia</i>	False Heather
<i>Dianella tasmanica</i>	Flax Lily
<i>Gloxinia sylvatica</i>	Bolivian Sunset Gloxinia
<i>Juniperus</i> spp.	Parsonii, Blue Rug, Shore Juniper
<i>Tulbaghia violacea</i>	Society Garlic
<i>Liriope muscari</i>	Evergreen Giant or Aztec Grass
--- Ornamental Grasses	Muhly, Fakahatchee, Fountain Grasses
<i>Pelargonium</i> spp.	Geranium
<i>Pentas lanceolata</i>	Pentas

**Class D: Miscellaneous**

- Orchids
- Bromeliads
- Cactus
- Herbs
- Staghorn fern
- Flowering house plants
- Mixed species



## APPENDIX 2

### Quality and Standards

“Florida Grades and Standards for Nursery Plants 2015” by Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

- <https://www.fdacs.gov/ezs3download/download/103635/2714017/Media/Files/Plant-Industry-Files/florida-grades-and-standards-for-nursery-plants-2022/grades-and-standards-for-nursery-plants-2022.pdf>

### Plant Resources

Plant Selection: Florida Friendly Landscaping, Plant Selection & Landscape Design Manual

- [https://ffl.ifas.ufl.edu/pdf/FYN\\_Plant\\_Selection\\_Guide\\_2015.pdf](https://ffl.ifas.ufl.edu/pdf/FYN_Plant_Selection_Guide_2015.pdf) Plant

Care Information: EDIS UF/IFAS

- <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/>

### Do-Not-Grow Plants

**Do not grow invasive, prohibited, or noxious plants.** Use the UF/IFAS Assessment of Non-Native Plants in Florida’s Natural Areas and the FDACS Noxious Weed List to determine whether your plant is invasive, prohibited, or noxious in any Florida region. Plants found on EITHER list to be invasive, prohibited, or noxious will be REJECTED.

- <https://assessment.ifas.ufl.edu/>
- <https://www.fdacs.gov/Agriculture-Industry/Pests-and-Diseases/Plant-Pests-and-Diseases/Noxious-Weeds>

### Other Prohibited Plants

- Citrus or Orange jasmine or any other citrus greening host plants (<https://www.fdacs.gov/content/download/24041/file/hostlist.pdf>)
- Sago palm