

OPEN CLASS HORTICULTURE

Judging on Friday, July 22

**FLOWERS, FRUITS, VEGETABLES, AND
HERBS**

REGULATION AND PREMIUM LIST

EL PASO COUNTY FAIR

July 16-23, 2022

Open Class Horticulture Competition
2022 El Paso County Fair

General Information

Why enter?

- Help keep our agricultural heritage alive in El Paso County
- Dazzle fair attendees with the beauty and bounty from your garden
- Share a favorite flower or super-sized vegetable
- Show off your gardening skills and accomplishments, as well as your artistic talents
- Inspire others to **grow!**
- WIN prize money and ribbons

The 2022 El Paso County Fair is right around the corner! If you grow flowers, fruits, vegetables, or herbs in your home garden, consider entering them in the Open Class Horticulture Competition for adults and youth. Horticulture Day is Friday, July 22nd, 2022.

You do not have to be the best gardener to enjoy entering something in the horticulture competition. Every year, people bring a favorite rose, a fragrant bunch of chocolate mint, or a striking amaranth bloom and they walk away with a ribbon. If it impresses you, it's likely it will impress other people and the judges!

How to enter:

Here are the simple steps you need to follow to enter:

1. Decide which items to enter - You can enter most flowers, fruits, vegetables, houseplants, and herbs that you have **personally** grown.
 - a. Check to see if your item fits into a class listed on what is called the "Premium List." The Premium List is located on-line at <http://www.elpasocountyfair.com> and contains:
 - i. The rules for the competition
 - ii. The judging classes
 - iii. What part of the plant and how many stems or fruits you should bring.
2. Registration occurs the day of competition from 1-2:30, with judging beginning at 3:00 PM. Registration forms will be available at the competition venue which is the Whittemore Building on the Fairgrounds.
 - a. Entry fees - Entry fees are charged based on the number of items that you enter and will be collected at the time of registration. See the rules section for more details. Entry fees are paid to El Paso County Fair.
 - b. Entry forms - List your floral and foliage entries on the "Floriculture" entry form and your edible entries on the "Fruits, Vegetables, and Herbs" entry form. There are check boxes to designate if you are registering as an Adult or a Youth.

- c. **Entry Tags** - Exhibits will be entered and tagged according to Department and Class Code on the premium list. An exhibitor may make multiple entries within a Department but only one entry per Class. (See listings of Departments & Classes below.) Exhibitors are responsible for correct completion of entry tags. Entry tags will be available at the Fair from 1-2:30.
3. **Prepping your entries** - Presentation is very important. Improper presentation can eliminate your entries from competition. Read and follow the entry guidelines listed in the Premium List. Arrive early enough to prepare all your entries. No entries are accepted after 2:30 p.m.
 - a. Flowers and herbs are placed in soda bottles filled with water that are provided for you. If the stem is bigger than 3/4" in diameter, bring your own bottle to display the item.
 - b. Fruits and vegetables are placed on plates that are provided.
4. **Submitting entries on the day of competition** - Entries should be brought to Whittemore Building at the Fairground in Calhan between 1-2:30. Entry into the Fairground must be made VIA THE EAST GATE, where you will pay admission. All processing of horticulture entries must be completed by 2:30 p.m.
5. **Judging** begins at 3:00 p.m. Friday, July 22, 2022, and is open to the public. DECISIONS OF THE JUDGES ARE FINAL.
6. **Prizes:** Ribbons and cash prizes will be given at the time of judging.
 - a. If you will not be present, arrangements must be made for ribbon and prize award pickup.
 - b. You will be required to fill out and submit a W-9 to receive prize money. Your Social Security number will be required.

This event is made possible with the support of Colorado State University Extension in El Paso County, working with the El Paso County Fair Board and El Paso County Community Service Division. Colorado State University Extension volunteers coordinate, manage, and tend the annual Horticulture competition. Their goal is for you to learn from the horticulture exhibit, to enjoy the competition, and to be inspired to grow.

Thank you for participating!

2022 El Paso County Fair Open Class Horticulture Competition

GENERAL RULES

All fruit, vegetables, herbs, and flowers and potted plants are restricted to those grown by exhibitors. Items can be grown at any location in Colorado.

Exceptions:

- Items used in Dept. B- Artistic Arranged Floral Designs entries need not be grown by the exhibitor.
- Dept. F-Potted plants (non-blooming) must be grown by the exhibitor for a minimum of 6 months prior to the competition.
- Dept. G -Potted plants (blooming) must be grown by the exhibitor for a minimum of 45 days prior to the competition.

Entry forms are available at the Whittemore Building on July 22, 2022. Registration fees must be paid at the time of registration. **Registration fees are non-refundable.**

1-5 items..... \$5.00
Each additional item.....\$1.00
Maximum entry fee....\$30.00

Exhibits will be judged according to trueness to variety and type, uniformity, quality, and maturity rather than judging perfection. Correct naming of genus, species and variety of cultivar increases the value of the exhibit. The decision of the judges is final. Entries can be disqualified at the judges' or superintendent's discretion if the entry does not conform to the specification described in the premium list. Disqualified entries will not be judged.

Exhibitors may submit a protest to an entry or judges' decision by filing a protest in writing with the Horticulture Superintendent within 24 hours of the judging decision in question. All protests must be accompanied by a \$15 cash deposit. Upon receipt of a properly presented protest, the Superintendent will appoint a committee of three disinterested, qualified persons to review the protest and evidence and render a decision. If the protest is sustained, the deposit will be returned to the complainant. If the protest is not sustained, the deposit shall be forfeited to the El Paso County Fair Board.

If you don't want your entry back, you don't need to do anything. Unclaimed entries will be disposed of after **10 am on Saturday** unless other arrangements have been made. **RIBBONS MUST BE PICKED UP BY THE EXHIBITOR** unless prior arrangements are made.

The Fair Board, clerks or superintendents will not be responsible for loss or damage to any exhibit or ribbons.

AWARDS:

Entries will be judged on merit, regardless of the number of entries in a class. No premium or distinction of any kind shall be given an entry which is not deserving or is improperly entered.

Awards: Youth (under 18) and adults will be judged separately. Judges may award up to three places in each class, in any combination warranted by the quality of the entries. For example, three First place and no Second or Third place may be awarded. Or one First and two Second may be awarded. Only three places per class may be awarded.

Each award winner in both youth and adult groups will receive a ribbon and a monetary award in the following amounts:

- 1st place - \$5.00
- 2nd place - \$3.00
- 3rd place - \$2.00

Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champions awards will be given in each Division based on the judge's discretion. All blue ribboned entries within each Division will compete against each other for Grand Champion of that Division. Once the Grand Champion is selected, the red ribbon winner from that same Department/Class will move up to compete for the Reserve Grand Champion Award. Awards will be based on overall horticultural excellence and presentation.

DIVISION 1 Floriculture

Grand Champion Division 1	\$20.00
Reserve Grand Champion Division 1	\$10.00

DIVISION 2 Vegetables, Herbs and Fruits

Grand Champion Division 2	\$20.00
Reserve Grand Champion Division 2	\$10.00

Premier Exhibitor awards are presented to those individuals who entered the most, highest quality entries into the competition based on point accumulation. These awards are presented by the Horticulture Superintendent. These awards will be given to the exhibitors with the highest number of points earned in either the Adult or Youth categories, plus points earned by the individuals in All Ages categories. Premier Exhibitor points will be summed based on the following system:

- 1st place..... 4 points for each
- 2nd place.....3 points for each
- 3rd place 2 points for each.

The Premier Exhibitors will receive a monetary award in the following amounts:

Premier Exhibitor	\$25.00
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DIVISION 1 - FLORICULTURE

ADDITIONAL RULES

- All entries must have a properly completed Entry Card affixed before being placed on exhibit.
- The exhibitor is responsible for assigning the correct department and class to each entry.
- Exhibitor is responsible for knowing the proper scientific name of each entry (genus and species).
- Exhibitor is responsible for entering it in the correct class based on genus, species, and plant form. Those entries not in the correct department and class may be reassigned by the superintendent or disqualified by the judge.
- The exhibitor is responsible for the presentation. Those entries not presented properly, based on stated requirements in the Premium list, will not be judged. **Final decisions are at the discretion of the judge.**
- Double potting is permitted. Containers should be inconspicuously marked with the exhibitor's name.
- All specimens are inspected on arrival. No diseased or insect-infected specimens will be accepted as entries, subject to the superintendent decision.
- Leaves of entries should not be touching the water in the container.
- Entries may be disqualified from competition for any of the reasons listed above, but disqualification is not limited to the above.

PREPARING FLOWERS FOR EXHIBITION

To condition cut flowers: in the early morning or late afternoon the day **before** judging, re-cut stems under water and plunge immediately into warm water (110°F). Keep in a cool dark place overnight.

Each class entry should be of one variety unless otherwise stated. Each color is a different variety.

Definitions:

A **scape** refers to a leafless flowering stem terminating in a solitary flower.

A **spray** refers to a stem terminating in a branched inflorescence (a group of florets/flowers).

A **head** refers to the defining inflorescence for the Sunflower family (*Asteraceae*). It may include ray and/or disc florets.

A **stalk** refers to a vegetative stem with leaves attached, e.g., herbs.

A **stem** refers to the structure that supports a flower, inflorescence, or fruit, e.g., the stem on a berry.

RULES FOR ARTISTIC ARRANGED DESIGNS

- All exhibits must contain and emphasize fresh and/or living plant material. Judging will focus primarily on plant material.
- Plant material need not have been grown by the exhibitor but must have been willfully arranged by the exhibitor.
- NO artificial flowers or foliage may be used. The following are also not allowed: natural bird's nests, stuffed birds, butterflies or other insects, fish, animals; however, feathers are permitted.
- Bases, accessories, backgrounds, frames, etc. are allowed in Artistic Classes but should enhance or support the overall artistic theme and design.
- Containers and accessories are to be provided by the exhibitor and must be left for the duration of the fair. Containers and accessories must also be removed by the designated date, or they will be discarded along with the arrangement.
- Designs must not exceed a maximum of 28" in width, with height and depth to be governed by proportion.
- All plant material should be named on the entry tag.**

- Exhibits may not be in a closed or sealed container for judging but may be sealed after judging.
- Entries may be disqualified from competition for any of the reasons listed above, but disqualification is not limited to the above.

**NATIVE PLANTS ON THE FOLLOWING STATE CONSERVATION LIST
ARE PROHIBITED FROM ENTRY IN THE COMPETITION.**

THE COLORADO WILDFLOWER CONSERVATION LIST
(Pikes Peak Council of Federated Garden Clubs leaflet)

All Columbine	Birdfoot violet
Tulip-gentian	Twinflower
Rocky Mt. fringed gentian	All ball cacti
Wood lily	Creeping wintergreen
Fairy slipper	All paintbrush
Glacier lily (avalanche lily)	All bog orchids and coralroots
Mariposa lily	All alpines
Woody nymph	All ferns except bracken
Bog or swamp laurel	Yellow lady's slipper
Dwarf cornel	Little Lewisia
Parry's primrose	Any other flower if rare where found
Leather flower	Barrel cactus
Rocky Mt. clematis	Parachute penstemon
Blue clematis	Pagosa skyrocket
Princess plume	Debeque phacelia
Pipsissewa	
Purple saxifrage	
Great spurred violet	

**2022 El Paso County Fair
Open Class Horticulture Competition
Premium List**

DIVISION I – FLORICULTURE

DEPARTMENT A – SHRUBS

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All roses to be exhibited with at least two (2) full sets leaves. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultivar names should be listed on the entry tag. |

Class

- 3001 Roses, 3 stalks
3002 Any other flowering shrub, 3 stalks

DEPARTMENT B – ARTISTIC ARRANGED
FLORAL DESIGNS

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant material need not be grown by the exhibitor. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entries will be judged on creative and artistic use of plant materials. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Containers and accessories are to be considered as secondary elements, an enhancement to the floral display. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All plant material should be named on the entry tag. |

Class Theme

- 3025 Cut annuals
3026 Container planting and troughs
3027 Cut Perennials
3028 Mixed annuals and perennials
3029 Edible arrangement (May be a cornucopia-like display including herbs, edible flowers, may be a humorous arrangement of vegetables, herbs, and fruits on a tray in the form of a face, etc.

DEPARTMENT C – ANNUALS

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The show committee will furnish containers for floriculture and vegetable/herb specimens, except for large stemmed floral entries with a stem diameter of over 3/4"; these containers should be supplied by the exhibitor, and they should be transparent. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaves should not be touching the water in the container. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use plastic wrap to support flowers as needed to enhance display. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every entry should be of three stalks. Slightly vary the height of blooms. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use only the containers provided unless size prohibits. For larger stems, (ex: sunflowers), bring a clear, plain container for display. |

Class (see preparing flowers for exhibition for definitions)

- 3041 Vining (i.e., sweet pea, hyacinth bean)
3042 Spray (i.e., baby's breath, spider flower)
3043 Spike (i.e., larkspur, snapdragon)
3044 Single flower (i.e., sunflower, cosmos)

D – BIENNIALS AND PERENNIALS

- | |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaves should not be touching the water in the container. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use plastic wrap to support flowers as needed to enhance display. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every entry should be of three stalks. Slightly vary the height of blooms. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use only the containers provided unless size prohibits. For larger stems, (ex: sunflowers), bring a clear, plain container for display. |

Class

- 3109 Vining (i.e., trumpet vine, honeysuckle).
- 3110 Spray (i.e., yarrow)
- 3111 Spike (i.e., Delphinium, catmint)
- 3112 Single flower (i.e., Echinacea)
- 3113 Outdoor succulents

DEPARTMENT E – BULBS, CORMS, TUBERS AND TUBEROUS ROOTS

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaves should not be touching the water in the container. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use plastic wrap to support flowers as needed to enhance display. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every entry should be of three stalks. Slightly vary the height of blooms. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use only the containers provided unless size prohibits. For larger stems, (ex: sunflowers), bring a clear, plain container for display. |

Class (Dept E cont.)

- 3186 All kinds (i.e., Crocosmia, Dahlia, Daylily, Lily, Blackberry Lily, Gladiolus)

DEPARTMENT F – INDOOR POTTED PLANTS

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entry must be grown by the owner for at least six months. • Double potting is allowed. • Entries will be judged primarily on plant material. Containers and accessories are to be supporting and complementary to the living plant. |
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Class

- 3227 Non-blooming (foliage. i.e., Philodendron, indoor succulents/cactus)
- 3228 Blooming (i.e. African violet, orchid)

DEPARTMENT G – NATIVE PLANTS

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entry must be grown by owner and NOT wild-collected. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entry must be native to Colorado (check here for native status if unsure: https://plants.sc.egov.usda.gov/) |

Class

- 3300 All native plants

DEPARTMENT H – FRAGRANT PLANTS

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Leaves should not be touching the water in the container. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Any variety of fragrant plant will be accepted. Judging is based on most fragrant. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 stalks |

Class

3400 All varieties

***DIVISION II –
VEGETABLES, HERBS & FRUITS***

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Specimens must be free of insects, disease, malformations, and mechanical damage.• Carefully remove the soil without damaging the root.• DO NOT WASH. Use a soft dry brush to clean.• All exhibits are to be clean, but not polished with polishes or waxes.• Light buffing is permitted with a dry cloth or brush.• A plate will be provided to display the exhibits.• Two vegetables or leaves per entry, except cabbage (1).• Herbs: <u>Three stalks/stems</u> fresh cut; should be in proportion to the size and variety of the herb. Stems should be approximately 6” to 10” unless otherwise indicated. |
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DEPARTMENT A – VEGETABLES and HERBS

Class

- 4001 Legumes – beans and peas
- 4002 Root vegetables (potatoes, beets, turnips, radishes, carrots, garlic, and onions)
- 4003 Leafy greens (lettuce, kale, spinach, chard, cabbage)
- 4004 Warm season vegetables (corn, peppers, tomatoes, summer squash, cucumbers)
- 4005 Any other vegetable
- 4006 Herbs in containers
- 4007 Fresh cut herbs

DEPARTMENT B – FRUITS

- Entry must be grown by the owner for at least six months.
- Bring one half pint of small fruits.

Class

4131 All kinds (i.e., cherries, strawberries, raspberries)

EL PASO COUNTY FAIR

Entry Form -Horticulture

Division I –Floriculture

Including All Ages Floriculture

(Please use a separate form for each exhibitor.)

<i>For Office Use:</i>	Exhibitor #
Exhibitor Name:	
Address:	
City	State Zip
Telephone (H)	(C)
Email	
Youth entry	Adult entry _____

Department	Class Code	Plant name	Your Notes

