



2023

**ELKHART COUNTY 4-H AND AGRICULTURAL EXPOSITION, INC.
HORTICULTURE DEPARTMENT**

Director - Kate Rink

**Committee Members: Mary Hesser, Mayrea Reusser, Mary Riggs,
Sherrie Zou, Barb Heeter**

RULES

(No Pre-Registration)

PLEASE NOTE: Exhibits need to be brought in either Wednesday evening, July 19 5-7 p.m. or Thursday morning, July 20, 7-9:30 a.m.! Judging will be open to the public. Starting at 10:30 a.m.

1. All articles to be entered must be brought to the Ag Hall on the fairgrounds between 5:00 and 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 19, 2023 or between 7:00 and 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, July 20, 2023 in entry ready condition.
NO LATE ENTRIES.
2. The public may observe the judging; however, contestants are asked not to converse with the judges or their exhibit will be disqualified.
3. Except as otherwise specified, exhibits will be grown by exhibitor. Accent material for arrangements need not be produced at home.
4. The exhibitor must have grown all flowers and vegetables.
5. Only one entry per person is allowed in each class.
6. **An entry fee of \$1.00 will be charged for the first exhibit in each section and \$.50 for each additional exhibit in that same section.**
7. Department officials reserve the right to determine classification. **No endangered species or noxious weeds shall be exhibited.**
8. "Unclassified" means entry types other than already listed.
9. Containers for cut flowers are the responsibility of the exhibitor. Container must be a clear glass vase or jar. (Label bottom of container with name, address & phone number for safe return.)
10. Cut flower entries requiring more than one flower should be the SAME COLOR and VARIETY (with the exception of arrangements).
11. Maximum width for containers is 18 inches in diameter, weighing no more than 40 lbs.
12. All heights are measured from the soil line.
13. All potted plant containers must have a water saucer underneath the container to prevent leakage. Cookie sheets can be used for large plants. (Label bottom of container with name, address & phone number for safe return.)
14. The building is air-conditioned. Department officials will keep exhibits fresh.
15. **Premiums will be paid for first, second & third places at the rate of \$3.00, \$2.50 & \$2.00 respectively.**
16. Judges are instructed not to award premiums or places unless the exhibits are worthy.
17. Champion ribbons will be awarded. These awards are automatic, based on 3 points for first placing, 2 for second, and 1 for third. Overall trophies and special trophies are also awarded. A Best of Show ribbon and Reserve Champion ribbon will be awarded for sections 1, 2, 3-5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, & 11. (In case of a tie, winner will have the most 1st places.)
18. Winners will be notified and a photo will be taken at 1:00 p.m. the first Saturday of the Fair July 22, 2023.
19. Premiums, ribbons, and trophies may be picked up between 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. on Monday, July 31, 2023 after the Fair. Any premiums, ribbons or trophies not picked up are forfeited unless other arrangements have been made.

20. All exhibits must remain in place throughout the entire Fair week. (Unless discarded due to spoilage.)
21. The Horticulture Department will not be responsible for articles left after 6:00 p.m. Monday, July 31, 2023.
22. The Fair Board or its representatives are not responsible for theft or damage to articles.
23. Plant watering schedule will be as follows: Saturday, July 22nd, Tuesday, July 25th, and Friday, July 28th, 2023.

Categories

Section 1: Potted Plants

(Flowering must have blooms at time of showing)

1 variety per container

Class

1. Double African Violets
2. Single African Violets
3. Ruffled African Violets
4. Miniature African Violets
5. Geraniums
6. Begonias (wax single flower)
7. Begonias (wax double flower)
8. Begonias (other – in bloom)
9. Impatiens (regular)
10. Impatiens (double)
11. New Guinea Impatiens
12. Unclassified plants – (in bloom)
Identify variety on entry card

Section 2: Potted Plants

(Foliage)

1 variety per container

Class

13. Strawberry Begonia
14. Ficus (fig) Family
15. Ivy
16. Sanseveria (Snake Plant, Mother-In-Law's Tongue or Bird's Nest)
17. Philodendron or Pothos
18. Coleus
19. Bromeliads
20. Hoya
21. Baby Tears or Creeping Charlie
22. Ferns
23. Bonsai – may be taken home on 7/24
24. Unclassified Potted Foliage Plants – Identify variety on entry card.

Section 3: Cactus or Succulent
(Container no more than 18" diameter)

Class

- | | |
|--|---|
| 25. Dish Garden – Multiple Variety | 29. Aloe-Vera |
| 26. Cacti – 1 variety per container | 30. Hens & Chicks |
| 27. Succulents – 1 variety per container | 31. Unclassified – Identify variety on entry card |
| 28. Holiday Cactus | |

Section 4: Planter or Dish Garden

(Maximum 18" in diameter - maximum weight 40 lbs)

Class

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------|
| 32. Terrariums | 34. Flowering |
| 33. Foliage – no buds or blooms | |

Section 5: Hanging Baskets

(1 variety per container)

Class

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| 35. Wandering Jew | 41. Unclassified, flowering – Identify variety on entry card. |
| 36. Swedish Ivy | 42. Unclassified, foliage no blooms or buds – Identify variety on entry card. |
| 37. Spider Plant | |
| 38. Geranium | |
| 39. Impatiens | |
| 40. Philodendron or Pothos | |

Section 6: Arrangement of Cut Flowers

(Combination of flowers & foliage & MUST BE GROWN BY EXHIBITOR)

(Stem lengths to best present flowers)

Class

43. Arrangement using flowers with driftwood and/or shells or coral.
44. Arrangement of fresh wild flowers, grasses, etc. (not endangered species)
45. Arrangement of Daisies
46. Arrangement of cut foliage (no buds or blooms)
47. Arrangement of vegetables or fruit with flowers
48. Arrangement of Zinnias
49. Arrangement of Marigolds
50. Arrangement in a kitchen container
51. Arrangement, all white (including accessories)(green foliage allowed)
52. Arrangement of dried flowers, herbs, weeds, and grain
53. Miniature arrangement 4" high or less, including container
54. Arrangement using red, white, and blue flowers
55. Arrangement of Gladiolus – may be larger than 24" wide
56. Holiday Arrangement
57. Centerpiece maximum 24" width – 12" height
58. Arrangement – unclassified

Section 7: Cut Flowers

(Stem length and leaves to best show flowers)

- A. *Each exhibit should be same variety & color per container, with leaves*
- B. *Daylilies must be 1 stem with at least 3 buds with at least 1 bloom open, without leaves*
- C. *Displayed in clear (uncolored) vase or jars*
- D. *Label bottom of container with name, address, & phone number for safe return*
- E. *No leaves required on other Lilies, Gladiolus, or Gerbera Daisy.*

Class

- 59. Snapdragons, 3 spikes per container
- 60. Miniature Zinnia, 3 blooms per container
- 61. Regular Zinnias, 3 blooms per container
- 62. Large Marigolds, 3 blooms same variety per container
- 63. Small Marigolds, 3 blooms same variety per container
- 64. Gladiolus, 3 stems same variety per container
- 65. Rose, 3 individual blooms same variety per container
- 66. Daisy, 3 blooms per container (Small under 2")
- 67. Daisy, 3 blooms per container (large over 2")
- 68. Lilies (remove pollen)
- 69. Daylilies (cut stamens before displaying) see B above
- 70. Sunflowers, 3 small
- 71. Sunflowers, 1 large
- 72. Dahlias, 3, 1" to 6" blooms
- 73. Dahlias, 1, 6" and greater bloom
- 74. Unclassified garden flowers, 3, 3" and under blooms, labeled with name of variety
- 75. Unclassified garden flowers, 3, 3" to 6" blooms, labeled with name of variety
- 76. Unclassified garden flowers, 1, 6" and over bloom, labeled with name of variety

Section 8: Grains and Hay

(CLEAR UNCOLORED GLASS CONTAINER - GRAINS WILL NOT BE RETURNED)

Class

- | | |
|---|---|
| 77. Legume hay, one 6" center section of bale or equivalent | 82. Corn, 1qt. |
| 78. Grass hay, one 6" center section of bale or equivalent | 83. Soy Beans, 1qt. |
| 79. Mixed hay, one 6" center section of bale or equivalent | 84. Field Corn, 5 ears |
| 80. Wheat, 1qt. | 85. Indian Corn, 5 ears |
| 81. Oats, 1qt. | 86. Popcorn, 5 ears |
| | 87. Unclassified grains, 1 qt. –
Identify variety on entry card. |

Section 9: Above Ground Vegetables

(All entries become the property of the fair and will not be returned)

- A. *Tomatoes must be ripe*
- B. *Leave wrapper on cabbage (no more than 6)*
- C. *Do not husk corn*
- D. *Do not put dill in a vase*

Class

- 88. Horticulture beans, shelled, 12 beans
- 89. Green bush beans, round pod, group of 12
- 90. Green bush beans, flat pod, group of 12
- 91. Yellow beans, group of 12
- 92. Pole beans, group of 12
- 93. Purple beans, group of 12
- 94. Broccoli, 3 heads
- 95. Brussels sprouts, group of 12
- 96. Cabbage, 1 head round and/or Wakefield type
- 97. Cabbage, 1 head Savoy
- 98. Cabbage, 1 head flat type
- 99. Cabbage, red, 1 head
- 100. Cauliflower, 1 head
- 101. Corn, sweet, roasting ears, group of 5
- 102. Cucumbers, 5 green for slicing
- 103. Cucumbers, 5 pickling, 4" or less
- 104. Cucumbers, 5 burpless
- 105. Dill, 1 stem
- 106. Kohlrabi, group of 5
- 107. Herbs, best collection of 5, potted and labeled
- 108. Okra, group of 5
- 109. Peppers, green sweet, group of 5
- 110. Peppers, banana type, group of 5
- 111. Hot peppers, Hungarian type, group of 5
- 112. Hot peppers, Chile type, group of 5
- 113. Rhubarb, 5 stalks (trim to approximately 12" in length)
- 114. Squash, summer, group of 3, 1" stem
- 115. Squash, winter, 1, 1" stem
- 116. Zucchini, green, group of 3, 1" stem
- 117. Zucchini, yellow, group of 3, 1" stem
- 118. Tomatoes, cherry type, red or yellow, 1-1/4" diameter or less, group of 10
- 119. Tomatoes, pear type, group of 5
- 120. Tomatoes, red, other than cherry type, group of 5
- 121. Tomatoes, Italian type, group of 5
- 122. Tomatoes, other, group of 5
- 123. Eggplant, exhibit 1, with 1" stem
- 124. Peas in a pod, group of 12 pods
- 125. Edible pea pods, group of 12
- 126. Unclassified vegetable above ground, group of 5 small or 1 large Identify variety on entry card

Section 10: Below Ground Vegetables

In group of 5 unless otherwise stated.

(All entries become the property of the fair and will not be returned.)

Class

- | | |
|---|--|
| 127. Beets, Table, with top 1" long | 137. Potatoes, Russet |
| 128. Carrots, with top 1" long | 138. Potatoes, Yukon Gold |
| 129. Onions, green | 139. Radishes, red or white |
| 130. Onions, white globe, 3" top | 140. Garlic bulbs |
| 131. Onions, red globe, 3" top | 141. Turnips |
| 132. Onions, yellow globe, 3" top | 142. Unclassified below ground
vegetable, group of 5 small or 1
large – Identify variety on entry
card. |
| 133. Onions, flat type, 3" top, any color | |
| 134. Potatoes, Irish Cobbler | |
| 135. Potatoes, red | |
| 136. Potatoes, Kennebec | |

Section 11: Miscellaneous

(All entries must be recreated after last year's fair)

Class

143. Wreaths made from plant products (artificial accessories permitted)
144. Garden Figures – made from vegetables, grains, etc. Judged on originality, decorativeness
145. Seed Craft Display – a craft using dried seeds
146. Collection of 5 dried and labeled (packaged) herbs
147. Best display of 5 or more kinds of vegetables (edible only). Container to be furnished by exhibitor
148. Ornamental Gourds, fresh or dried, exhibit 3 of each
149. Birdhouse – functional, made from dried gourd
150. Horticulture photography colored; 1 photo 8" x 10" framed under glass, no matte
151. Horticulture photography black and white; 1 photo 8" x 10" framed under glass, no matte
152. Birdhouse – homemade, functional
153. Pressed Flower – no larger than 8" x 10", framed under glass, no matte
154. Old fashioned scarecrow. Must be shown on base that will allow it to stand unsupported for use in a garden.
155. Largest dried gourd – Judges discretion
156. Largest tomato (does not have to be ripe) – by weight
157. Longest cucumber
158. Longest bean
159. Largest sunflower head, 3" or less stem – by diameter
160. Largest head of cabbage measured by largest circumference
161. Largest potato – by weight
162. Largest onion – by weight
163. Tallest stalk of corn from ground level, roots in container. (Label the height) – in a 5 gallon plastic bucket
164. Tallest sunflower, including flower head, from ground level, roots in container.
165. Odd or distorted vegetable – not altered or decorated.
166. Miscellaneous Fruit – produce smaller than 9" diameter needs to be a group of 5
167. Artistic Herb Arrangement, fresh or dried. Listing of herbs should accompany arrangement.
168. Fairy Garden – maximum 40 lbs., maximum 24" diameter x 24" high

Section 12: Trial Categories

(Trial categories are in place for 2-3 years before being added to regular categories or being deleted. No charge for entering. No points or premiums will be awarded to trial categories. These categories do not have a bearing on trophy winners. Only ribbons will be awarded. Judging criteria will follow the Section 11: Miscellaneous Categories.)

Class

169. Decorative Garden Stepping Stone – No greater than 15 in. across. Maximum weight of 40 lbs. Maximum height of 3 in.

THANK YOU TO OUR FOLLOWING SPONSORSHIP PARTNERS

Corporate Levels

Golden Rose

Stanger Group
Michiana Master Gardeners
Tycol Excavating

Sunflower

Knepp Sand and Stone
The Stofleth Family

Daring Dahlia

Sweet Corn Charlie Produce
Dogwood Hills Tree Farm
Charles and Beth Phillips

Zesty Zinnia

Phillips & Son Irrigation, LLC

Bountiful Begonia

McKinley Garden Center
R&R Regulators
Ted and Katie Sautter
Aaron and Sherrie Zou
Kercher Sunrise Orchard
Turkey Creek Garden Center
Bailey's Auto Parts

Rink Farms
Mary Riggs
Willow View Farms
Bill Evans Insurance
Countryscapes
Old Hoosier Meats

Climbing Ivy

Marilyn Miles
Stan & Marcia Palmer
Barb Heeter

2023 GUIDELINES – (These suggestions may help your exhibit win)

Cut Flowers

1. Flowers are free from injury or damage.
2. Shape and size of flowers are typical for the variety.
3. Flowers are clean, fresh, and free of pollen on petals.
4. Flowers are one variety and uniform in size.
5. Stems are straight, clean, and undamaged.
6. Leaves are clean, healthy, and undamaged.

Vegetables

Do not peel onion or remove leaves from cabbage.

Do not clean vegetables by harsh washing or vigorous scrubbing.

1. Overall attractiveness. Clean, roots trimmed.
2. Uniformity: Size, shape, color, type, and variety development.
3. Prime, edible condition, fresh. Best usable size and maturity.
4. Freedom from injury or damage: Insects, weather, growth, handling, and sunburn.

Plants Growing in a Container

Foliage plants must have no buds or blooms whatsoever. Flowering plants must be flowering. Avoid leaf cleaners or shines that contain heavy oils or waxes, except for dried gourds.

1. Plant is attractive, clean, and undamaged.
2. Plant is healthy, well established, and growing vigorously.
3. Container is compatible with size.
4. Container is clean and suitable for growing a plant.
5. Container does not mean nursery pot.

Flower Arrangements

Geometric (triangle or cone) shaped flower arrangement is preferred over other shapes by most judges.

1. Lines establish a strong focal point (preferably the center).
2. Flowers are in scale with container and each other.
3. Flowers are fresh and undamaged.
4. Foliage and accessories supplement and enhance flowers.
5. Flowers should not be crowded.

6. Each flower contributes to the arrangement.

Agriculture Products

1. Uniformity of produce.
2. Condition (old, young, wilted, dirty).
3. Appetizing - appearance
4. Proper handling.
5. Insect free and disease free.

Miscellaneous

1. Overall attractiveness
2. Uniformity; Size, shape, color, type, and variety development.
3. Freedom from injury or damage: Insects, weather, growth, handling & sunburn.
4. Height
5. Length
6. Width
7. Balance
8. Use of Color
9. Originality
10. General attractiveness
11. Workmanship (if applicable)
12. Choice of material

Exhibitor No. _____

Total No. of Entries _____ **Amount Paid** _____

HORTICULTURE DEPARTMENT ENTRY BLANK

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____ **Zip Code** _____

Phone _____ **Email** _____

Section 1 - Potted Plants (flowering)

1. _____	4. _____	7. _____	10. _____
2. _____	5. _____	8. _____	11. _____
3. _____	6. _____	9. _____	12. _____

Section 2 - Potted Plants (foliage)

13. _____	16. _____	19. _____	22. _____
14. _____	17. _____	20. _____	23. _____
15. _____	18. _____	21. _____	24. _____

Section 3 - Cactus or Succulents

25. _____	27. _____	29. _____	31. _____
26. _____	28. _____	30. _____	

Section 4 - Planter or Dish Garden

32. _____	33. _____	34. _____
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Section 5 - Hanging Baskets

35. _____	37. _____	39. _____	41. _____
36. _____	38. _____	40. _____	42. _____

Section 6 - Arrangement of Cut Flower

43. _____	47. _____	51. _____	55. _____
44. _____	48. _____	52. _____	56. _____
45. _____	49. _____	53. _____	57. _____
46. _____	50. _____	54. _____	58. _____

Section 7 - Cut Flowers

- | | | | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 59. _____ | 64. _____ | 69. _____ | 74. _____ |
| 60. _____ | 65. _____ | 70. _____ | 75. _____ |
| 61. _____ | 66. _____ | 71. _____ | 76. _____ |
| 62. _____ | 67. _____ | 72. _____ | |
| 63. _____ | 68. _____ | 73. _____ | |

Section 8 - Grains and Hay

- | | | | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 77. _____ | 80. _____ | 83. _____ | 86. _____ |
| 78. _____ | 81. _____ | 84. _____ | 87. _____ |
| 79. _____ | 82. _____ | 85. _____ | |

Section 9 - Above Ground Vegetables

- | | | | |
|-----------|------------|------------|------------|
| 88. _____ | 98. _____ | 108. _____ | 118. _____ |
| 89. _____ | 99. _____ | 109. _____ | 119. _____ |
| 90. _____ | 100. _____ | 110. _____ | 120. _____ |
| 91. _____ | 101. _____ | 111. _____ | 121. _____ |
| 92. _____ | 102. _____ | 112. _____ | 122. _____ |
| 93. _____ | 103. _____ | 113. _____ | 123. _____ |
| 94. _____ | 104. _____ | 114. _____ | 124. _____ |
| 95. _____ | 105. _____ | 115. _____ | 125. _____ |
| 96. _____ | 106. _____ | 116. _____ | 126. _____ |
| 97. _____ | 107. _____ | 117. _____ | |

Section 10 - Below Ground Vegetable

- | | | | |
|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 127. _____ | 131. _____ | 135. _____ | 139. _____ |
| 128. _____ | 132. _____ | 136. _____ | 140. _____ |
| 129. _____ | 133. _____ | 137. _____ | 141. _____ |
| 130. _____ | 134. _____ | 138. _____ | 142. _____ |

Section 11 - Miscellaneous

- | | | | |
|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 143. _____ | 150. _____ | 157. _____ | 164. _____ |
| 144. _____ | 151. _____ | 158. _____ | 165. _____ |
| 145. _____ | 152. _____ | 159. _____ | 166. _____ |
| 146. _____ | 153. _____ | 160. _____ | 167. _____ |
| 147. _____ | 154. _____ | 161. _____ | 168. _____ |
| 148. _____ | 155. _____ | 162. _____ | |
| 149. _____ | 156. _____ | 163. _____ | |

Section 12 - Trial Category

169. _____