DEPARTMENT 240: 4-H EVENT JUDGING DAY

Thank you for participating in the 2026 North Florida Fairs 4-H Judging Day Event, which will be held on **Saturday, November 14, 2026**. Below is important information regarding the overall event and individual contests. Teams and individual participants are strongly encouraged to **preregister by October 30th, 2026**. Preregistration allows contest chairs to ensure adequate supplies and materials are available for each participant.

Chairperson
Valerie M. Stansly
valeriemendez@ufl.edu

Chairperson
Dr. Camille Lewis
Camille.lewis@ufl.edu

EVENT SCHEDULE

Check-In and Registration
November 14, 2026
8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

4-H Judging Contests
November 14, 2026
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

4-H Awards Program
November 14, 2026
2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Event	Chair	Contact	Event Hours (EST)
Consumer Choices	Judy Corbus	jlcorbus@ufl.edu	9AM-12PM
Livestock	Emily Nolen Shelby Howell	emily.nolen@famu.edu showell96@ufl.edu	11AM-12PM
Horticulture	Mark Tancig	tancig00@ufl.edu	9AM-12PM
STEM	Dr. Sabrina Hayes	sabrina.hayes@famu.edu	10AM-11AM
Forest Ecology	Valerie Stansly, Grady Graham	g.graham@ufl.edu	9AM – 12PM
Awards Ceremony	Valerie Stansly, Dr. Camille Lewis	camille.lewis@ufl.edu	Starts at 2:00PM

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Eligibility

- All youth participants must be enrolled as a Florida 4-H member in their county.
- The 4-H year begins September 1 and ends August 31.
- Age divisions are as follows:

Division		Ages
Division A	Junior	8-10

Division B	Intermediate	11-13
Division C	Senior	14-18

Team Composition

- Teams must consist of three or four members, unless otherwise specified for a contest.
- Teams must compete within the same age division; age divisions may not be combined.
- All team members must be from the same county.
- Individuals are eligible for individual awards.

Registration, Scoring, and Awards

- Teams that do not preregister by the deadline may participate but are not eligible for awards or premium money.
- Team ties will be broken using the fourth individual score or other pre-determined tie-breaking criteria. *No duplicate awards will be given*.
- 4-H participation ribbons may be picked up at the Awards Ceremony Tent by one designated county representative immediately following the ceremony. Counties must provide the total number of judging participants at pickup.

Team Premium Schedule		
Placement	Price	Award
1st Place Team	$100.00	Rosette
2nd Place Team	$75.00	Rosette
3rd Place Team	$50.00	Rosette
4th Place Team	$25.00	Rosette
5th Place Team	$25.00	Rosette

Individual Premium Schedule		
Placement	Price	Award
1st Place	$40.00	Rosette
2nd Place	$20.00	Rosette
3rd Place	$15.00	Rosette

Contest Procedures

- Judging teams must bring their own No. 2 pencils.
- Written materials are not permitted in the contest area.
- No assistance from coaches, leaders, or parents is allowed during the contest.
- A designated reader will be approved for youth with prior authorization. Requests must be submitted in advance to the contest chairperson.

Admission and Parking

- All 4-H members, leaders, and agents will be admitted to the fairgrounds at no charge until 2:00 p.m. on the day of the event.
- Adults must present a valid 4-H card for entry.
- Youth Participants and supporting adults will park in General Parking.

LIVESTOCK

CLASS 1: LIVESTOCK JUDGING – TEAM
CLASS 2: LIVESTOCK JUDGING – INDIVIDUAL

Counties may enter up to six teams and unlimited individual participants.

Youth Guide: Contact chairperson. Topics will be chosen from the categories below.

1. Market Beef (Steers)
2. Breeding Beef (Heifers)
3. Past Production Poultry
4. Market Goats
5. Market Sheep
6. Breeding Sheep

HORTICULTURE

CLASS 3: HORTICULTURAL JUDGING – TEAM
CLASS 4: HORTICULTURAL JUDGING – INDIVIDUAL

Counties may enter up to four teams in the Horticultural Contest.

Youth Guide: Contact Chairperson.

Ornamental Plants			
Age Division	Specimens	Time (Min)	Points
Division A	10	7	100
Division B	15	7	150
Division C	20	15	200
Fruits			
Age Division	Specimens	Time (Min)	Points
Division A	10	7	100
Division B	15	7	150
Division C	20	15	200
Vegetables			
Age Division	Specimens	Time (Min)	Points
Division A	10	7	100

Division B	15	7	150
Division C	20	15	200
Flowers and Foliage			
Age Division	Specimens	Time (Min)	Points
Division A	10	7	100
Division B	15	7	150
Division C	20	15	200

FOREST ECOLOGY

CLASS 5: FOREST ECOLOGY- TEAM
CLASS 6: FOREST ECOLOGY – INDIVIDUAL

Counties may enter up to four teams in the Forest Ecology Contest.

Youth Guide: Contact Chairperson.

Tree Identification			
Age Division	Specimens	Time (Min)	Points
Division A	15	15	150
Division B	20	15	200
Division C	30	15	300
Mammal Identification			
	Specimens	Time (Min)	Points
All Division	15	15	150
Birds, Reptiles, and Amphibians			
	Specimens	Time (Min)	Points
Division A	15	15	150
Division B	20	15	200
Division C	25	15	250

CONSUMER CHOICE

CLASS 7: CONSUMER CHOICES – TEAM
CLASS 8: CONSUMER CHOICES – INDIVIDUAL

Counties may enter two teams per age division in the Consumer Choice Contest. A maximum of 24 participants will be allowed per county.

Youth Guide: Contact Chairperson. The 2026 class topics are:

1. Meats
2. Jackets
3. Pizza
4. Pets (Oral Reasons Class)

STEM

CLASS 9: STEM CHALLENGE – TEAM

Only teams can compete in this contest. Each age division will be given age-appropriate criteria for their challenge as well as a supply kit. Challenges will not be released until 10:00 AM.

Youth Guide: https://canva.link/58hho71e7kzfimh

During demonstrations, teams should address the following:

- What materials were incorporated into the design and why
- What modifications were made and the reasoning behind them
- How the team worked together to plan, design, and build the item
- The team's prediction of the car's performance and the reasoning supporting that prediction

The official scoring rubric is available on the STEM Challenge resource website and will also be provided to each team when the challenge is released.