



Giant Veggie Weigh-Off

2023 Schedule

Entry Deadline.....Thursday, August 31, 11:59 p.m.
Deliver Entries.....Saturday, September 23, 9-10:00 a.m.
Weigh-Off.....Saturday, September 23, 12 NOON
Release.....Monday, October 2, 10 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Department: Open Crops & Vegetables, Division 13

Class: **1301 Giant Pumpkin**
 1302 Giant Watermelon
 1303 Bushel Gourd
 1304 Heaviest Squash
 1305 Field Pumpkin
 1306 Long Gourd
 1307 Heaviest Tomato
 1308 Butternut Squash* (*not part of GPC)

Rules

1. All State Fair General rules and Crops and Plants Department rules will apply.
2. Enter on-line at www.statefairva.org. Please note that all entries are charged \$5.00 per entry. Mail-in entries must be accompanied by a check payable to the State Fair of Virginia.
3. The specimens must be grown and cared for by the exhibitor. Growers from any state can compete.
4. Entries will be judged on weight. Weights will be recorded in half-pound increments. Exhibitor/grower must be present for weigh-off and judging.
5. Specimens that have been previously weighed at a weigh-off contest other than the State Fair of Virginia's will not be eligible for the State Fair of Virginia Competition.
6. Each specimen must be sound, healthy and undamaged. Entries must be free of rot, holes
7. and/or cracks through to the interior cavity, chemical residues and serious soft spots. Cracks, holes and openings shall be free of any foreign material. The judges will probe any crack, hole or opening into the specimen which visually appears to extend into the interior cavity. A 36" by 1/16" probe will be provided to the judge to probe any suspect cracks, openings or holes. An opening where the probe meets no resistance into the interior cavity will disqualify the specimen from the competition. The decision of the judges is final.
8. Chemical residues and soil must be cleaned from the specimen before arrival at the State Fair of Virginia for the protection of judges, lifters and spectators.
9. The judges have the right to fully inspect each specimen before the official weight is announced. Refusal to allow a thorough inspection of the specimen will result in disqualification.
10. Specimens must clear the scale in sound condition for the weight to be official and grower eligible for prize money.
11. In the event of ties, the prize money for that placing and the placing below will be combined and split equally.
12. Delivery instructions, parking and maps will be sent by email once entry forms are received.
13. Contestants must be present to help weigh their pumpkin.
14. Ribbons will be presented after the judging is complete.
15. Giants stay on site through the remainder of fair.



Pumpkin Premiums:

1st* - \$450 2nd - \$350 3rd - \$250 4th - \$150 5th - \$100 6th - \$50

Current Pumpkin record set in 2015 at 1,340.7 by Hank Houston

Rosettes will be given for the top ten giant pumpkin winners.
Special Awards for the Prettiest and Ugliest Giant Pumpkins!

**Premiums as of current, may increase*

****Break the State Fair of Virginia Record and collect a \$100 bonus!***

Select to Compete in the Virginia Pumpkin Pick of the Patch Award:

Winner - \$600.00

This award is a huge honor. Pumpkins must be grown in Virginia. This pumpkin will go to the Virginia Capitol to be on display through the season following fair. Seeds will be collected and returned to grower. The grower will be invited to the Governor's mansion as part of this honor.

Sponsored by VDACS

Watermelon Premiums:

1st* - \$75 2nd - \$50 3rd - \$25

Current Watermelon record set in 2022 at 259.5 pounds by Luke Williams

****Break the State Fair of Virginia Record and collect a \$100 bonus!***

Classes 1303 – 1308 Premiums:

1st: \$20 2nd: \$15 3rd: \$10