



Youth Crops & Vegetables

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2024 Schedule

Deadline for Entries	Midnight Friday September 6th
Deliver Crops and Vegetables	Wednesday, Sept. 25, 3pm – 7pm
	Thursday, Sept. 26, 8 am – 11am
Pick up	Monday, Oct. 7, 2pm – 6pm
	Tuesday, Oct. 8, 10am - 2pm
	Wednesday, Oct. 9, Noon - 2pm

THERE IS NO ENTRY FEE FOR THE YOUTH DIVISION
ages 5 to 18 as of September 1

NO Sunday pick-up

****Please note that we are not responsible for crops & vegetables that are delivered on Wednesday and have deteriorated past their prime by judging time on Thursday. Judges will be instructed to rate entries on their condition at the time of judging and will not be told which items were delivered Wednesday & which were delivered on Thursday. *Items not picked up by 2pm of Wednesday Oct 9th will be discarded.***

Please review all information in the Competition Guide before entering items in the competition. **Delivery instructions and maps will be provided online and by emails to those who share an email address.**

Enter on-line at www.statefairva.org. Mail-in entries may be sent to State Fair of Virginia, Horticulture, 13191 Dawn Blvd., Doswell, VA 23047. Faxed entries will not be accepted. Tags will be picked up at delivery of products.

Guidelines:

1. All State Fair General Rules and Crops and Vegetables Department Rules apply. By making an entry, you agree to read and abide by these rules. Competitors must be age 5 to 18 as of September 1.
2. An email will be sent to all exhibitors who provide an email address reminding them of instructions for delivery. Tags will be held until delivery of items.
- 3 Each entry shall be composed of specimens of only one variety or strain except where indicated. All vegetable and fruit specimens should be mature. All fruit and vegetables should be in their natural state. No waxing or altering the product in any way will be allowed. Please enter the name and the plant variety in the “description” field online or paper entry form.
4. All produce must be grown by an individual competitor (no groups or teams) during the current calendar year, unless otherwise specified.
5. A competitor shall be permitted to make only one entry in each class, but may enter in as many individual classes as desired.
6. The Fair assumes no responsibility in case of loss or damage to exhibits.
7. No crops may be removed until release time and must be checked out with Superintendent. Tag stubs (claim checks) must be presented before entries are released.
8. Prize-winning exhibits removed by the competitor prior to the official release time will forfeit monetary awards.
9. It is the competitor’s responsibility to pick up or dispose of entries. After the last scheduled pick-up time, all remaining products will be considered abandoned and the Fair will in no way be responsible for them.
10. Perishable products may be removed from display by the Superintendent after judging if the product reaches a state of decomposition.

All entries are subject to spraying with fire retardant, as required by the Fire Marshall.

**\$50 Sweepstakes Award for the Winner of the Most Blue Ribbons
in the Youth Crops & Vegetables Competition!**

Awards	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
Each Class	\$12	\$9	\$7	\$5	\$3

**BE SURE TO CHECKOUT THE SCARECROW COMPETITION
DETAILS ON PAGE 6 OF THIS PACKET.**

General Judging Criteria

1. **Quality**
 - a. **Color**—deep, clear, intense
 - b. **Marketable size**—size most consumers want at the supermarket or average size
 - c. **Trueness to type or shape**—as true as possible to the type or shape of the variety
 - d. **Maturity or stage development**—in prime condition for eating
2. **Condition**
 - a. **Freshness**—shows no signs of shriveling or decline
 - b. **Cleanliness**—clean and bright in appearance
 - c. **Trimming**—neatly and properly trimmed, much like market produce
3. **Freedom from injury**
 - a. **Insects, diseases**—no damage shown from either
 - b. **Mechanical injuries**—caused by weather or rough treatment during harvest
 - c. **Transportation**—pack carefully to transport to the fair.
4. **Uniformity**
 - a. **Size**—the size of all specimens should be similar
 - b. **Shape**—shape most typical of that vegetable variety
 - c. **Color**—uniform for all vegetables in grouping
 - d. **Maturity**—all specimens should be at the same level of maturity
 - e. **Type**—vegetables should all be of the same variety unless the class requires a mixed variety

Division 1: Field Corn

1001. Field corn, best ten ears (any variety)
1002. Field corn, shelled (any variety) one gallon.
1003. Silage corn, five stalks, tied below ears
1004. Field corn, tallest stalk of corn with ear

Division 2: Cereals

2001. Wheat, 1 gallon
2002. Oats, 1 gallon
2003. Barley, 1 gallon
2004. Rye, 1 gallon

Division 3: Nuts

3001. Peanuts, six vines, Virginia Runner
3002. Peanuts, six vines, Bunch Peanuts
3003. Walnuts, 6 specimens
3004. Hickory, 6 specimens
3005. Pecan, 6 specimens
3006. Other, 6 specimens

Division 4: Mature Sheaf Grains

- 4001. Oats in straw, sheaf to be 2" in diameter at centerband
- 4002. Barley in straw, sheaf to be 2" in diameter at centerband
- 4003. Rye in straw, sheaf to be 2" in diameter at centerband
- 4004. Wheat in straw, sheaf to be 2" in diameter at centerband

Division 5: Hay

- 5001. Hay, 100% Alfalfa, 12" sheaf from center of bale
- 5002. Hay, 100% other Legume, 12' sheaf from center of bale
- 5003. Hay, cool season grass (fescue, orchard grass, Timothy, or mixed cool season, etc.) 12" sheaf from center of bale
- 5004. Hay, grass & legume 12" sheaf from center of bale
- 5005. Hay, small grain (oat, wheat, rye, Triticale or small grain mixed with grasses) 12" sheaf from center of bale
- 5006. Hay, warm season grass (Bermuda, sudex, millet, switch grass, tift or other) 12" sheaf from center of bale

**Judging of hay is based on visual observation and overall appearance. No testing is conducted.*

Division 6: Soybeans

- 6001. Soybeans, Utility and Certified, any oil variety, 1 gallon, variety must be designated
- 6002. Soybeans on Stalk, any variety (3 stalks per entry)

Division 7: Tobacco

- 7001. Tobacco, Flue-cured, Best Wrapper, 4 bundles or hands, tied
- 7003. Tobacco, Flue-cured, Best Cutters, 4 bundles or hands, tied
- 7005. Tobacco, Flue-cured, Best Leaf, 4 bundles or hands, tied
- 7008. Tobacco, Dark-Fired, Best Wrapper, 4 bundles or hands, tied
- 7009. Tobacco, Dark-Fired, Best Leaf, 4 bundles or hands, tied
- 7010. Tobacco, Sun-Cured, Best Wrapper, 4 bundles or hands, tied
- 7011. Tobacco, Sun-Cured, Best Leaf, 4 bundles or hands, tied

Division 8: Cotton, Sorghum and Other

- 8001. Cotton, three stalks, open bolls with root structure
- 8002. Cotton, twenty-five locks of seed cotton
- 8003. Cotton, cotton, open bolls
- 8050. Sorghum, any variety, 5 stalks, tied
- 8051. Any field crop, not listed

Division 9: Vegetables & Fruits

- 9001 Apples, red 6 specimens (unwaxed)
- 9002 Apples, yellow 6 specimens (unwaxed)
- 9003 Beets (6, one inch stems)
- 9005 Carrots, 6 roots, inch tops
- 9007 Corn, sweet (unhusked and trimmed, 6 ears)
- 9008 Cucumber, slicing (4 specimens)
- 9009 Cucumber, small pickling, (8 specimens)
- 9010 Eggplants (2 specimens)
- 9011 Fruit, any other not listed
- 9013 Garlic, 3 bulbs
- 9015 Gourds, 6 inches or larger (1 specimen)
- 9016 Gourds, basket arranged attractively (not less than 5 specimens)
- 9017 Gourds, smaller than 6 inches, 3 specimens

- 9019 Heirloom vegetables (3 specimens)
- 9020 Indian Corn, 3 ears
- 9022 Lima beans (large, fresh, unshelled)
- 9023 Lima beans (small, fresh, unshelled)
- 9024 Melon, Cantaloupe, 1 specimen
- 9026 Melon, Honey Dew, 1 specimen
- 9028 Okra, 6 pods
- 9029 Onion sets (10 sets)
- 9030 Onions (mature, 3 bulbs)
- 9032 Parsnips (tops removed, 6 roots)
- 9034 Pears, 6 specimens (non-waxed)
- 9035 Peppers, bell, colored (4 pods)
- 9036 Peppers, bell, green (4 pods)
- 9037 Peppers, Hot Habanero, 6 specimens
- 9038 Peppers, Hot Jalapeno, 6 specimens
- 9039 Peppers, Hot Serrano, 6 specimens
- 9040 Peppers, Ghost, 6 specimens
- 9041 Peppers, Hot, any other not listed greater than 4 inches, 6 specimens
- 9042 Peppers, Hot, any other not listed smaller than 4 inches, 6 specimens
- 9043 Peppers, Sweet, any other not listed, 4 pods
- 9045 Pop Corn, six ears, husked
- 9046 Pumpkin, Basket of peepers, arranged attractively, can be mixed varieties
- 9047 Pumpkin, Large Jack-o-lantern 10lbs or more, 5 sided stem, orange
- 9048 Pumpkin, Mammoth, greater than 30lbs including Pepo and Maxima
- 9049 Pumpkin, mini, less than 1lb, 3 specimens, any color
- 9050 Pumpkin, Not white or orange, any other
- 9051 Pumpkin, Pie, 1lb to less than 10lbs, 5 sided stem, orange
- 9052 Pumpkin, White 10lbs or more
- 9053 Pumpkin, White, less than 10lbs
- 9056 Snap beans (green), 10 pods
- 9057 Snap beans (heirloom), 10 pods
- 9059 Spinach, 6 plants (cut at crown)
- 9060 Squash, Cushaw type
- 9061 Squash, Spaghetti, 2 specimens
- 9062 Squash, Summer, any other 3 specimens
- 9064 Squash, Summer, Zucchini, 3 specimens
- 9065 Squash, Winter, Acorns, 2 specimens
- 9066 Squash, Winter, Butternut, 2 specimens
- 9067 Squash, Winter, Other not listed, 1 specimen
- 9068 Sunflower with seed, largest head (widest diameter + circumference)
- 9069 Sunflower with seed, one head, best quality
- 9070 Tomatoes, cherry type, 5 specimens
- 9071 Tomatoes, grape, 5 specimens
- 9072 Tomatoes, heirloom, 5 specimens
- 9073 Tomatoes, red ripe, 5 specimens
- 9074 Tomatoes, Roma, preserving type (small), 5 specimens
- 9076 Turnip salad, 6 plants with roots
- 9077 Turnips, 3 plants with roots
- 9080 Vegetable, any other not listed
- 9081 Vegetable, mixed basket
- 9082 Watermelon, 10lbs or greater, 1 specimen
- 9083 Watermelon, less than 10lbs, 1 specimen
- 9084 Weird Vegetable – for the weirdest, odd-shaped, 1 specimen 6” or longer

Division 11: Potatoes

- 1101. Potatoes, Irish, Red, 5 specimens
- 1102. Potatoes, Irish, Kenebec, 5 specimens
- 1103. Potatoes, Irish, any other white skin, 5 specimens
- 1104. Potatoes, Irish, any other color than red or white, 5 specimens
- 1105. Sweet Potatoes, any variety, 5 specimens

Division 12: Culinary Herbs

- 1201 Basil, Green - container grown
- 1202 Basil, Purple - container grown
- 1203 Chives - container grown
- 1204 Herbs, any other not listed - container grown
- 1205 Herbs, display of dried
- 1206 Herbs, display of fresh cut (in water)
- 1207 Herbs, display of potted (3 or more kinds)
- 1208 Mint - container grown
- 1209 Oregano - container grown
- 1210 Parsley - container grown
- 1211 Rosemary - container grown
- 1212 Sage- container grown
- 1213 Sage, fresh cut (in water)
- 1214 Stevia- container grown
- 1215 Thyme - container grown

Division 13: Special Contests (Ages as of Sept. 1)

Vegetable Come Alive! Get a durable vegetable (something that will not likely rot, sitting out at the Fair for 10 days!) Deck it out to make it look like it is a living creature. Maybe like a person or an animal. Any materials may be used. For this contest only, a purchased vegetable may be used as well. The Vegetable creature must be constructed by the youth. Every year the entries become more and more amazing!

Class 1301: Ages 5 – 12

Class 1302: Ages 13 – 18

Corn Creation Contest:

Construct an amazing corn creation utilizing any parts of a dried corn plant (cob, husk, stalk, silk, roots...) The corn parts do not need to be grown by the contestant, but the creativity and construction should be the contestant. Adults may help and supervise for class 1303 where any danger is involved such as in cutting.

Class 1303: Ages 5 – 12

Class 1304: Ages 13 – 18

Where Home Grown Happens:

Create a miniature scene on a cardboard or wood base that depicts your or your family's vegetable garden. The scene should be 3 dimensional, be made of all natural materials, and not exceed 24" x 24" .

Class 1305: Ages 5 – 12

Class 1306: Ages 13 – 18

Scarecrow Contest: Enter as an individual as a family or as a club or group. \$50 premium award for the scarecrow chosen as BEST by fairgoers!

***Enter in the Open Crops and Vegetables under Division 14 and class 1401 ***

RULES: All scarecrows entries must be the following:

- Must be Free-standing/Anchored
- All scarecrows must be suitable for viewing by all members of the community and the Fair has the right to disqualify any deemed inappropriate for public display
- All scarecrows will be displayed in the Horticulture Pavilion (therefore entries may be limited)
- Only entries created in the current Fair year will be accepted
- Cannot exceed a height of 6ft. and a width of 4ft.
- Animatronic/electric parts not permitted
- Any limbs, accessories, etc. must be securely fastened
- Open to all ages, however only one entry per household



JUDGING: This is a People's choice contest. Voters will be able to choose their overall favorite. Ballots and ballot boxes will be located in the Horticulture Pavilion. Winners will be announced and notified by the Tuesday after the Fair (Tuesday, October 8th), by email and Facebook.