A MEMORY WORTH MAKING
20 26
THE N.C. State Fair
OCTOBER 15-25
A STORY WORTH TELLING

@NCSTATEFAIR

2026 PREMIUM BOOK

GENERAL ENTRIES

THE N.C. STATE FAIR IS A DIVISION OF THE N.C. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & CONSUMER SERVICES

4285 Trinity Road, Raleigh, NC 27607 | Tel (919) 821-7400

Steve Troxler, Commissioner | G. Kent Yelverton, Director

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NORTH CAROLINA

A DIVISION OF THE NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES

Josh Stein.....Governor
Rachel Hunt.....Lt. Governor

Steve Troxler .....Commissioner
Zane Hedgecock ..... Chief of Staff
David Smith ..... Chief Deputy Commissioner
Chrissy Waggett .....Consumer Protection Assistant Commissioner
Joe French.....Assistant Commissioner of Agricultural Services
Greg Hicks..... N.C. Forest Service Assistant Commissioner
Kaleb Rathbone..... Western N.C. Ag Programs Assistant Commissioner
G. Kent Yelverton.....N.C. State Fair Division Director

NORTH CAROLINA STATE FAIR

Office: (919) 821-7400
Entry Dept: (919) 839-4513
Fax: (919) 733-5079
www.ncstatefair.org

Physical Location:
North Carolina State Fair
4285 Trinity Road
Raleigh, NC 27607

Mailing Address:
North Carolina State Fair
1010 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1010

NORTH CAROLINA BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

Board members are appointed by the Governor for six-year terms and may be reappointed. The Commissioner of Agriculture serves as Chairman of the Board, Ex-Officio.

The N.C. Board of Agriculture members include:

Steve Troxler — Commissioner of Agriculture

Franklin (Ray) Allen

Doug Boyd

Jose Calderon

John W. “Billy” Carter

Anne Faircloth

James Lambeth

Ben Shelton

Bob Sutter

Jeffrey B. Turner

Scott Tyson

Faylene Whitaker

Steven W. Troxler
Commissioner

Dear Fair Friends,

"A Memory Worth Making. A Story Worth Telling."

As we prepare for the 158th edition of the N.C. State Fair, this year's theme speaks to what generations of North Carolinians have experienced with every fair -- making memories that have become part of their personal and family stories.

I happen to think that bringing people together to celebrate what is great about our state and N.C. agriculture is what our State Fair does best!

I hope you will go ahead and mark your calendars and the calendars of your friends and family for Oct. 15-25 in Raleigh, when the grounds will once again fill with family friendly activities, entertainment, agricultural exhibits, music, food, rides and games.

I am also proud that the State Fair continues to offer so many different competitions to highlight the considerable skills and talents of our residents. You will find everything from agricultural competitions to 4-H youth competitions. You can find a competition for just about any hobby, handicraft or special interest, including the always popular cake decorating, Lego creations, amateur and professional photography and home canned goods and baking.

Whatever category you decide to enter, you can find all the details for any of the competitions online under the General Competitions or Livestock Competitions links. I encourage you to look through these pages for more information on how to enter, entry deadlines, drop-off dates to submit your items and judging criteria. If you have additional questions, our Entry Department can be reached at 919-839-4513, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

We are continuing to make improvements and investments in the Fairgrounds, with one of the largest being the opening of the newly constructed Midway Events Center. This is an exciting addition to the Fairgrounds as it will house a number of food vendors during the State Fair and year-round, plus provide rentable meeting space outside Fair time. You will want to check out this new facility while you are at the Fair.

Depending on whether it is warm outside, you may also notice that air conditioning has been added to the Holshouser Building where the Village of Yesteryear is set up. We have also replaced the roof of the Commercial and Education Building, which was long overdue.

I hope you will add to your State Fair story Oct. 15-25 at the State Fairgrounds in Raleigh. I look forward to seeing you there.

Steven W. Troxler, Commissioner

N.C. STATE FAIR ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

Physical Location: 4285 Trinity Road, Raleigh, N.C. 27607
Mailing Address: 1010 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1010
State Fair Administration Office Phone: (919) 821-7400
Entry Department Phone: (919) 839-4513 **Fax:** (919) 733-5079

ADMINISTRATION STAFF

Kent Yelverton	Fair Director
Robert Fogle	Assistant Fair Manager
Renee Atkinson	Business Services Manager
Felecia Little	Administrative Specialist - Business Office
Leslie Wiseman	Administrative Specialist - Business Office
Letrice Midgett	Commercial/Concessions Manager
Vacant	Information & Communications Specialist
Joe Crosby	Maintenance Supervisor
Gretel Kloempken	Assistant Fair Manager - Horse Complex
Ruth Toole	Competitive Exhibits Director
Annette Taylor	Box Office Manager
Deby Russell	Event Specialist
Tony Prignano	Chief of Police

GENERAL COMPETITIONS STAFF

4-H	Sherrie Watkins
Amateur Wine	Nicole Chesney
Apprenticeship Contests	Margaret Spainhour
Art & Photography	Don Gowin
Bees & Honey	Adolphus Leonard
Baking	Debbie O'Brien
Canning	Jeanie Scott
Country Ham	Katie Williams
Ed. Bldg. Superintendent	Debbie Pender
Folk Festival	Jeri Ellen Helms
Forage Crops	Kim Woods
Flowers & Gardens	Dan Danford
Handicrafts	Sandra Dunbar
Heritage Tobacco	Beth Farrell
Home Chef Challenge	Debbie Pender
Needlecraft	Rennie Lovisa
Poultry	Don Edwards
Sewing	Kathy Blalock
Vegetables, Fruits, & Nuts	April Blazich
Youth Market Turkeys	Dr. Mary Fosnaught

HISTORY OF THE N.C. STATE FAIR

1853 State Agricultural Society holds the first State Fair; it was four days long. The largest attendance day had 4,000 fairgoers.

1861 Fair not held due to Civil War and Reconstruction period.

1869 Fair re-opens.

1873 Fair moved to a larger site across from N.C. State University.

1877 N.C. Department of Agriculture created.

1884 Electricity is first used at the fairgrounds.

1891 The first midway ride, the Switchback Railway, is constructed on the fairgrounds.

1894 Photography is a popular exhibit at the fair.

1895 Main attraction is chicken incubators.

1900 First food booths pop up on the fairgrounds, run by churches and civic groups as fundraisers.

1905 President Theodore Roosevelt speaks to Fairgoers.

1910 First airplane exhibit.

1916 Cary United Methodist Church serves its first ham biscuit.

1925 Agricultural Society disbands and no Fair was held in 1926 and 1927.

1928 Fair moves to present site. Commercial and Educational buildings are constructed. The Fair placed under the control of the Department of Agriculture.

1933 Fair leased to George Hamid for operation on a commercial basis.

1936 Earl “Lucky” Teeter and his Hell Drivers make their first appearance.

1937 W. Kerr Scott returns control of the State Fair to the Department of Agriculture when he becomes Commissioner of Agriculture.

1938 The Fair features 40 high-type shows and rides, replacing the carnival outfit of previous years.

1939 World of Mirth Shows requires 35 double-length railway cars to bring its mile-long Midway of 50 shows and rides to Raleigh.

1941 Record-breaking crowds attend Fair and exhibits were so numerous that tents had to be erected to accommodate the overflow of livestock.

1942 State Fair closes due to World War II, reopens in 1946.

1948 James E. Strates provides the Midway at the State Fair. Strates will provide the midway for 53 years. Folk Festival is created as a showcase for traditional North Carolina music and dance.

1950 Village of Yesteryear opens. A model of the “Fair of the Future” was displayed in the main exhibit hall. The model showcased Dorton Arena and Carter Finley Stadium.

1951 Fair opens a new Youth Center with two dormitories to accommodate 128 farm boys and girls who exhibited and participated in judging contests.

1952 The State Fair Livestock Pavilion is completed, boasting the world’s first column free roof. It was renamed the J.S. Dorton Arena in 1961. The cost of Dorton Arena per square foot was estimated at $16.21, which was considered low at the time.

1953 The Fair hosts a Centennial Celebrations

1957 “Know the Meats You Buy” exhibit is one of the most popular, showing the various cuts of pork, beef and lamb.

1960 Adult admission is $.75 and child admission is $0.35.

1961 Fair first operates for six days.

1963 The nightly fireworks show is produced as a narrated program covering more than 300 years of North Carolina history from Virginia Dare’s baptism to the building of the new State House.

1964 James A. Graham appointed Commissioner of Agriculture. The fairgrounds hosted a 14-foot tall mailbox from the Post Office with full daily service to allow fairgoers to send postcards home from the Fair.

1965 African-American and white 4-H groups compete together at the Fair for the first time.

1967 The downtown parade on opening day is revived after it was abandoned when the fairgrounds moved closer to the Capitol. The parade was a feature of opening day for 72 years before it was abandoned.

1969 The Fair is extended to nine days.

1970 Century Family Farm program launched to honor families who maintain the family farm for 100 years or more. Senior citizens ages 65 and older are admitted free (this policy continues today).

1972 The Gov. Kerr Scott Building completed. The fair sponsors the world's largest space-related educational exhibit, the Apollo 12 command module, viewed by about 250,000 people.

1973 J.S. Dorton Arena is placed on the National Registry of Historic Places..

1974 Gov. James E. Holshouser Building, which houses the Village of Yesteryear, is completed.

1975 Jim Graham Building completed. The Arthur K. Pitzer Heritage Circle acquires its first piece, an authentic 18th century school house.

1976 President Gerald Ford speaks to fairgoers.

1978 Fairgrounds acquires additional 144 acres of land adjacent to the grounds. The fairgrounds totals 344 acres. N.C. State Food Science Club serves its first ice cream cone.

1983 Gov. James B. Hunt, Jr. Horse Complex is opened, housing up to 900 horses.

1986 Fair is extended to 10 days.

1991 Harness racing returns to the N.C. State Fair after a nearly 20-year absence.

1992 President George Herbert Walker Bush addressed fairgoers on October 21.

1995 CyberSpace, an exhibit on information technology, begins its 6 year run at the fair.

1996 President Bill Clinton hosts a meeting to address workers who were using the fairgrounds as an emergency staging area to clean up the disaster caused by Hurricane

1997 Wesley V. Wyatt was named Fair Manager following the death of Sam Rand.

1999 A new waterfall is built near Dorton Arena.

2000 Fair posted an attendance record of 846,724 attendees during Commissioner Graham's last Fair. Tickets and ride books are available online at www.ncstatefair.org. Winn Dixie Stores pay a record $41,000 for the Grand Champion Steer at the Jr. Livestock Auction.

2001 Meg Scott Phipps is elected as Commissioner of Agriculture following Graham's retirement. Fair hosts North Carolina biotechnology exhibit

2002 Amusements of America becomes the first new midway company in more than 53 years. Dorton Arena celebrates its 50th anniversary. It is named a National Civil Engineering Landmark by the American Society of Civil

2003 Fair celebrates 150th anniversary. Britt Cobb was appointed as the new Commissioner of Agriculture. Red Cross Building is demolished. The Midway selection is chosen by a competitive bid process. Strates Shows wins the contract and makes 54th appearance at the State Fair.

2004 Midway begins expansion into the area of the old racetrack. Reithoffer Shows wins Midway contract and makes first appearance.

2005 Newly elected Commissioner of Agriculture Steve Troxler and fairgoers fill the old tobacco barn and let it cure throughout the Fair. The Exposition Center is opened next to the Jim Graham Building. Wade Shows opens rides on the newly expanded Midway.

2006 Powers Great American Midway, based out of Burgaw, wins midway contract and brings more than 100 rides. Fair hosts first Military Appreciation Day, allowing active duty military and their families free admittance into the fair. The Gov. James G. Martin Building is opened on the new midway.

2007 State Fair shatters attendance records on three days, as well as the overall attendance record with 858,611 total fairgoers. The second Saturday saw 145,955 fairgoers, the most ever in a single day. Powers Great American Midway returns as the midway provider.

2008

The State Fair opened on Thursday afternoon, making this the first 11-day Fair.

2009

The State Fair helps the N.C. 4-H celebrate its 100th Anniversary.

2010

The Fair surpasses the 1 million visitor mark for the first time, with total attendance of 1,091,887.

2011

The Village of Yesteryear celebrated its 60th anniversary. The Flower & Garden Show experienced a record number of entries and hosted an unusual roaming performer called DiVine, the stilt-walking vine. A new cheese and butter competition category was added, and a large number of out-of-town visitors from fairs across the country came to experience the N.C. State Fair.

2012

The State Fair hosted the Century Farm Family Reunion, honoring farms with 100 years or more of continued family ownership, and introduced the first NC Brewer's Cup Beer Competition, a Kids Cookie Decorating Contest, and three new livestock shows. A new roaming performer, the Tree of Life was introduced to fairgoers in the Flower & Garden Show area, and total attendance was 965,297.

2013

A quilt commemorating the 160th anniversary of the NC State Fair, consisting of squares made by FFA and 4-H chapters was presented to the Department of Agriculture Today was a new exhibit presented by North Carolina's soybean farmers, and the NC State Fair General and Livestock Premium Books were printed for the last time.

2014

The State Fair held the first Military Appreciation Day Parade, hosted a special exhibit. North Carolina in the Great War, commemorating the 100th anniversary of WWI, and celebrated the N.C. Horse Council's Year of the Horse, with multiple vendors and children's activities.

2015

The State Fair surpassed 1 million in visitors, Heritage Circle unveiled the new Tobacco Pavilion, fairgoers were introduced to the Fair's mascot, Casey the Cardinal, the Folk Festival established its new home in Dorton Arena, poultry shows were suspended due to the threat of avian influenza, and Michael's Day was held to host families fighting childhood diseases with an all expense paid day at the Fair.

2016

Despite challenges from Hurricane Matthew just days before the start, the State Fair saw its second largest attendance in history with 1,028,364 guests during the 11 day run. The State Fair Flyer, an aerial lift ride made its debut. A new blacksmith shop was opened, poultry shows returned and a new State Fair record was set as the largest watermelon topped the scales at 318.5 pounds! As well, a new coffee competition was held to the delight of many. Numerous guests enjoyed a new laser light show around the large pond and a fantastic circus.

2017

The NC State Fair celebrated the 150th fair to be held. Though its 150th birthday was in 2003, the fair was not held during the Civil War, Great Depression and World War II. For the first time, visitors to the NC State Fair were able to purchase flights of beer and wine to sample in the new Our State Public House in Heritage Circle, sponsored by Our State Magazine.

2018

Wesley V. Wyatt retires in February. Kent Yelverton was named the new Fair Manager. Despite two hurricanes and closing on opening day for the first time in Fair history, the Fair rebounded with two record setting days. State Fair Cares was also launched, an initiative raising money for victims of Hurricanes Florence and Michael.

2020

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the N.C. State Fair was canceled for the first time since World War II. The announcement was made July 29, 2020, after months of consideration. The decision to cancel the fair was based on: the safety and health of visitors, vendors, competitors and staff, current COVID-10 statistics in North Carolina at the time of the decision, contracts that could not be canceled at the last minute without a financial impact and the long-term financial health of the N.C. State Fair. A "Fair Fun at Home" website was developed, several drive-thru food events were held as well as a walk-up food event during the traditional fair days and a "So Un-Fair" 2020 t-shirt sale in partnership with the N.C. Pork Council, benefiting youth livestock programs was launched to celebrate our fall traditions. The NC State Fair Junior Livestock Shows were allowed to continue in a more spread out form to ensure the safety of competitors. No spectators were allowed, but the competitions were livestreamed to the public.

2021

After a year stuck at home, the N.C. State Fair came back bigger and better than ever. We know it was truly "Worth the Wait" for the 824,328 fairgoers who celebrated being back together again! The biggest move of the year went to the Got To Be NC Agriculture program who found a new home in historic Dorton Arena. With more space to spread out and give fairgoers an agricultural experience, the Got To Be NC Ag Pavilion was home to an all-new cooking stage, plenty of local producers in the retail section and the addition of the N.C. Public House in the south side lobby of the arena. The Stanfield Natural Resources Center opened and will be home to the N.C. Forest Service and N.C. Soil and Water Conservation.

2022

We were all ‘So Happy Together’ at the 2022 N.C. State Fair! Two years after the pandemic the N.C. State Fair’s attendance number jumped to 960,172. An increase of over a hundred thousand people from the year before. The Cardinal and Dogwood auxiliary parking areas got extensive upgrades with shuttles straight to the gate. Speaking of gates, the west side of the Fairgrounds added Gate 7 just across the road from the Hunt Horse Complex. Agri Supply joined up for a 10-year term to name the Agri Supply Exposition Center.

2023

Nothing beats a day at the N.C. State Fair. Whether you were here for one day or enjoyed multiple visits, each day you were here was your ‘Best.Day.Ever!’ The Got to Be NC Pavilion in Dorton Arena expanded the cooking stage demos to give fairgoers a taste of just how to use local North Carolina products in their home kitchens, Field of Dreams welcomed Porkchop the Pig to showcase animal agriculture to our littlest fairgoers and our Arts & Photography competition took center stage with a move to the center of the Kerr Scott Building. Self-serve ticketing kiosks were added to our busiest gates to make entrance to the N.C. State Fair faster for fairgoers and we held two online flash sales as well as Casey’s Big Ticket Weekend in May at the Got to Be NC Festival to provide visitors with additional avenues to purchase tickets at a discount. The State Fair is well known for some pretty creative deep-fried delicacies plus a range of global cuisines offered. Every year, fair vendors try to outdo themselves hoping to connect with fairgoer’s taste buds and 2024 may top all other years in terms of new foods. Over 30 new foods were offered running the gamut from sweet to savory and including world-wide flavors from Africa, South America, Hungary, Jamaica, Mexico, the Mediterranean, Korea and New Orleans. The biggest infrastructure projects of the year included new blacktop across the Fairgrounds, the renovation of the Coastal Credit Union Family Fun Zone at Cotton Park and the announcement of the new Midway Events Center which will be a cornerstone food and activity hall outside Dorton Arena.

2024

“Homegrown Happiness” was the theme for the 2024 N.C. State Fair. Final attendance was 998,926, the sixth largest in the fair’s 156-year history. This year’s fair set a new attendance record for a Tuesday when 85,738 came through the gates for Senior Day. The fair also celebrated 20-year anniversaries for the Tobacco Barn in Heritage Circle and the Field of Dreams exhibit near Dorton Arena. A total of 254,000 meals, or 17 truckloads of food products, were donated during Smithfield Foods Hunger Relief Day. The food collected at this fair went to the MANNA Food Bank in Asheville. MANNA’s warehouse was washed away during flooding from Hurricane Helene. The Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina, the typical recipient of food items during the one-day food drive, chose to send the food collected to MANNA. The N.C. Stillhouse, featuring North Carolina distilleries serving craft cocktails, opened in the Heritage Circle area.

2025

There’s No Time Like Fair Time was the theme for the 2025 N.C. State Fair. Final attendance was 946,811 and include the second largest Monday and third largest Tuesday in fair history. Great participation in competitions with over 27,000 general and livestock entries registered. That included a return to a full display of apple entries in the horticulture competitions, bouncing back after Hurricane Helene limited the number of contestants in 2024. A site-record giant pumpkin exhibited weighed in at 2,244.5 pounds. The fair celebrated the 20th anniversary of Military Appreciation Day on Wednesday with activities and a parade. Thanks to Duke Energy’s sponsorship, military personnel plus one guest received free admission for Miliary Day. The fairgrounds continued with improvement projects including renovation and repair work of bathrooms in Kiddieland and the Grandstand and a newly construction bathroom at Gate 8. The Flower Show operated under a tent this year as that area prepared for a new building to be completed for the 2026 N.C. State Fair.

MAP OF NORTH CAROLINA

2025 EXHIBITOR AND ENTRY TOTALS

DEPARTMENT	NUMBER OF EXHIBITORS	NUMBER OF ENTRIES
4-H	172	906
Apprenticeship Contests	66	66
Art & Photography	1,159	1,572
Baking	781	1,930
Bees & Honey	210	1,085
Canning	247	1,266
Clothing	289	768
Dairy Cattle Special Awards	20	20
Essay Contest	129	129
Flowers & Gardens	687	7,972
Folk Festival	95	128
Forage Crops	16	34
Graphic Design	84	86
Handicrafts	934	2,894
Home Chef Challenge	174	394
Horse Show		4,564
Heritage Tobacco	20	74
Junior Beef Heifer	120	228
Junior Breeding Gilt	36	46
Junior Commercial Meat Goat	102	158
Junior Dairy Cattle	81	288
Junior Ewe Meat Breeds	131	227
Junior Ewe Wool Breeds	25	114
Junior Feeder Calf	35	41
Junior Market Barrow	61	90
Junior Market Lamb	94	138
Junior Market Meat Goats	99	128
Junior Market Steer	21	32
Junior Showmanship	456	608
Needleraft	434	755
Open Beef Cattle	99	286
Open Breeding Gilt	15	15
Open Dairy Cattle	50	224
Open Dairy Goats	43	217
Open Market Barrow	6	6
Open Wether Dam Goats	28	33
Open Wool Breed Sheep	20	113
Poultry	49	583
Vegetables, Fruits, & Nuts + GPC Weigh-Off	310	2,703
Youth Dairy Goats	29	154
Youth Market Turkeys	244	244
TOTAL:	**7,671**	**31,319**

GENERAL COMPETITIONS RULES & REGULATIONS

ADDITIONAL RULES APPLY IN EACH COMPETITION DEPARTMENT.

- Exhibitors are encouraged to make all entries early. The right is reserved to reject any entry.
- In most divisions, competition is limited to residents of North Carolina.
- All entries must be made in the name of the owner, breeder, manufacturer, grower, producer, or one whose skill the exhibit represents. A firm, to be entitled to exhibit as such, must have been organized not less than 30 days prior to the closing date for entries and such firm must have been organized as a bona fide firm for the purpose of producing or buying and selling the articles or animals it proposes to exhibit in the name of such firm. A firm will be regarded as one exhibitor.
- All exhibits must be officially registered with the Fair before the deadline for each department. No article or animal will be entitled to space or considered for judging until proper registration has been made.
- **Late entries will not be accepted.**
- Exhibitors are encouraged to make their entries online by accessing the registration link on the State Fair General Competitions website. If mailing in entry forms, official printed forms or copies of forms must be used in making applications for entry. Be sure to fill out the application form completely, accurately, and legibly.
- Exhibitors must provide a valid Social Security Number (SSN) or Employer Identification Number (EIN) at the time of registration to be able to receive a premium check and cannot be provided at a later time once registration is submitted. Declining to provide a valid SSN or EIN at registration will result in forfeiture of all premiums earned. For online registration, entering 000-00-0000 or any other obviously invalid SSN or TIN will automatically be regarded as a declination to provide a valid number and result in forfeiture of premiums earned from any NC State Fair Competitions.
- Entry fees are required in some departments.
- Each individual entry item may only be entered in one class.
- Unclaimed exhibits from competitive departments will be considered abandoned if not called for within **one week** after the official closing of the Fair and may be disposed of as the Fair Manager sees fit.
- Removal of exhibits before the date and time specified will result in forfeiture of all premiums won, all fees paid, and the right to further participation in Fair competitions.
- All exhibits will be numbered and recorded in the books of the proper department and class. Entry tags with corresponding numbers will be issued. This tag must be securely attached to the exhibit and must remain on the exhibit throughout the Fair.
- The State Fair assumes no responsibility for the incorrect tagging of exhibits.
- Shipped entries must be **received** by Monday, October 5th, 2026. Entries may be shipped via UPS or Fed Ex (signature required) to: NC State Fair Attn Entry Department 4285 Trinity Road Raleigh NC 27607
- The management will not be responsible for delayed shipments which arrive at the Fair too late to be considered for judging.
- All reasonable care will be given to all exhibits; however, exhibits are entered at the **exhibitor's risk**. The Fair and staff are not responsible for damage, theft, or loss at any time.
- Entries made in wrong classes may be moved to the proper class by the Department Superintendent or Competitive Exhibits Director.
- Division Directors and Department Superintendents will have full authority over allocation of space.
- The NC State Fair makes no guarantee that all entries will be displayed.

- The Fair management reserves the right to reject any exhibit which does not reflect merit and which would not be a credit to both the exhibitor and the Fair.
- Division Directors, Department Superintendents, and/or Judges must report disqualification of entries to the Fair Manager immediately after such action is taken. Under no circumstances will judging be considered official and premiums paid in a class where disqualification is recommended until approval of the disqualification(s) is obtained from the Fair Manager.
- Decision of the judges will be final and no appeal will be considered, except in cases of protest in writing, with strong evidence of fraud or violation of the rules of the Fair. Protests must be in writing and filed with the State Fair Competitive Exhibits Director.
- Judges, when requested, may give the reasons for their decisions embracing the value and desirable qualities of the exhibits to which they have awarded premiums.
- Judges will not award premiums or ribbons to any article or animal that does not qualify for one of the classes in the NC State Fair Premium Book.
- Judges may choose to not award any or all placings in a class if entries are not deemed to be of sufficient quality and quantity.
- There will only be one ribbon awarded per placing per class, unless otherwise specified.
- The State of North Carolina will require submission of a NC Substitute W-9 prior to making any payment of $2,000 or greater or any payment that results in a total of $2,000 or more during one calendar year from the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to any individual or entity. All exhibitors expecting earnings above this threshold are strongly encouraged to complete and upload the NC Substitute W-9 form to prevent any delay in receiving premium prize money.
- If any problem develops concerning prize check issuing and mailing, additional paperwork will be required.
- Photographs of exhibits and winners will be taken by official photographers of the NC State Fair. Exhibitors hereby grant the NC State Fair permission to utilize photographs, images, or likenesses in whole or in part for use in official NC State Fair publications and promotions.
- Any participant who wishes to comment on a contest must do so in writing by sending an e-mail to: NCSFCompetitions@ncagr.gov
- The following colors of ribbons will be used to designate awards:

AWARD	RIBBON COLOR
Grand Champion	Purple
Reserve Champion	Lavender
First Place	Blue
Second Place	Red
Third Place	White
Fourth Place	Pink
Fifth Place	Yellow
Sixth Place	Dark Green
Seventh Place	Light Green
Eighth Place	Tan
Ninth Place	Gray
Tenth Place and Above	Light Blue

GENERAL COMPETITIONS REGISTRATION CLOSURE SCHEDULE

APRIL 1ST

Youth Market Turkey Show

JUNE 15TH

Competition Gardens

AUGUST 15TH

Amateur Wine

SEPTEMBER 1ST

ALL mailed entry forms must be postmarked by **September 1st**

SEPTEMBER 4TH

Apprenticeship Contests

SEPTEMBER 15TH

Online Entries Close:

- Art & Photography
- Bees & Honey
- Baking
- Canning
- Country Ham
- Decorated Tables & Trees
- Essay Competition
- Flowers & Gardens
- Folk Festival
- Forage Crops
- Handicrafts
- Home Chef Challenge
- Poultry
- Sewing & Needlecraft
- Vegetables, Fruits, & Nuts

OCTOBER 5TH

Mailed entries must be **received** by October 5th

OCTOBER 7TH

Heritage Tobacco

GENERAL COMPETITIONS TAKE-IN SCHEDULE

4-H.....Saturday, Oct. 10th - Sunday, Oct. 11th from 8 AM-6 PM Education Building
..... Monday, October 12th from 8 AM-12 PM Education Building

AMATEUR WINE..... Please View Department Instructions

ART & PHOTOGRAPHY.....Saturday, Oct. 10th - Sunday, Oct. 11th from 8 AM-6 PM Kerr Scott Building
Plein Air *Check In & Material Stamping*.....Monday, Oct. 19th from 12 PM-1:30 PM Gate 12

BAKING.....Saturday, Oct. 10th - Sunday, Oct. 11th from 8 AM-6 PM Education Building

BEES & HONEY.....Saturday, Oct. 10th - Sunday, Oct. 11th from 11 AM-7 PM Agri Supply Expo Center

CANNING.....Saturday, Oct. 10th - Sunday, Oct. 11th from 8 AM-6 PM Education Building

COUNTRY HAM.....Thursday, Oct. 15 from 8 AM - 11 AM Dorton Arena

DECORATED TABLES & TREES..... Exhibitors will be contacted to schedule setup day/time

ESSAY..... Due by Friday, September 25th at 5 PM

FLOWERS & GARDENS

Gourds, Container Plants .....Sat., Oct. 10th - Tues., Oct. 13th from 8 AM-6 PM Flower House
Competition Gardens.....Deadline: Wednesday, Oct. 14th at 12 PM
Scarecrows, Wheelbarrows...Sat., Oct. 10th - Tues., Oct. 13th from 8 AM-6 PM Flower House
Bonsai.....Wednesday, Oct. 14th from 8 AM-2 PM Flower House
1st Show Cut Specimens .....Sat., Oct. 10th - Tues., Oct. 13th from 8 AM-6 PM Flower House
..... Wednesday, Oct. 14th from 8 AM-2 PM Flower House
2nd Show Cut Specimens .....Sunday, Oct. 18th from 8 AM-2 PM Flower House
3rd Show Cut Specimens .....Thursday, Oct. 22nd from 8 AM-2 PM Flower House

FORAGE CROPS..... Please View Department Instructions

GRAPHIC DESIGN.....Saturday, Oct. 10th - Sunday, Oct. 11th from 8 AM-6 PM Kerr Scott Building

HANDICRAFTS.....Saturday, Oct. 10th - Sunday, Oct. 11th from 8 AM-6 PM Commercial Building

HERITAGE TOBACCO.....Saturday, Oct. 3rd - Tuesday, Oct. 6th from 8 AM - 4 PM Administration Building

HOME CHEF CHALLENGE..... Please View Department Instructions

POULTRY

Egg Show .....Saturday, Oct. 10th - Sunday, Oct. 11th from 8 AM-6 PM Education Building
..... Wednesday, Oct. 14th from 8 AM-5 PM Poultry Tent
First Show..... Wednesday, Oct. 14th from 8 AM-5 PM Poultry Tent
Second Show ..... Wednesday, Oct. 21st from 1 PM-5 PM Poultry Tent

SEWING & NEEDLECRAFT....Saturday, Oct. 10th - Sunday, Oct. 11th from 8 AM-6 PM Education Building

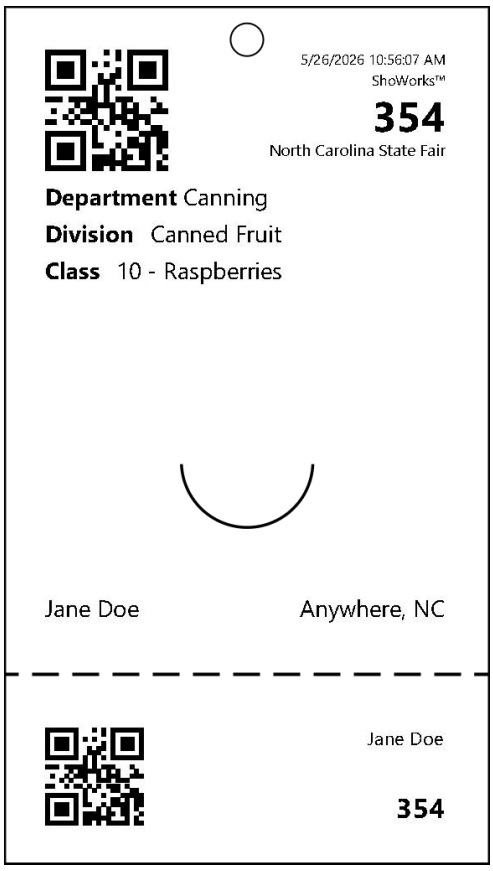
VEGETABLES, FRUITS, & NUTS.....Sat, Oct.10th-Tues, Oct. 13th from 9 AM-5 PM Agri Supply Expo Center
.....Wednesday, Oct. 14 from 9 AM-12 PM Agri Supply Expo Center
Great Pumpkin/Watermelon Weigh-Off.....By Tuesday, Oct. 13 at 1 PM Agri Supply Expo Center

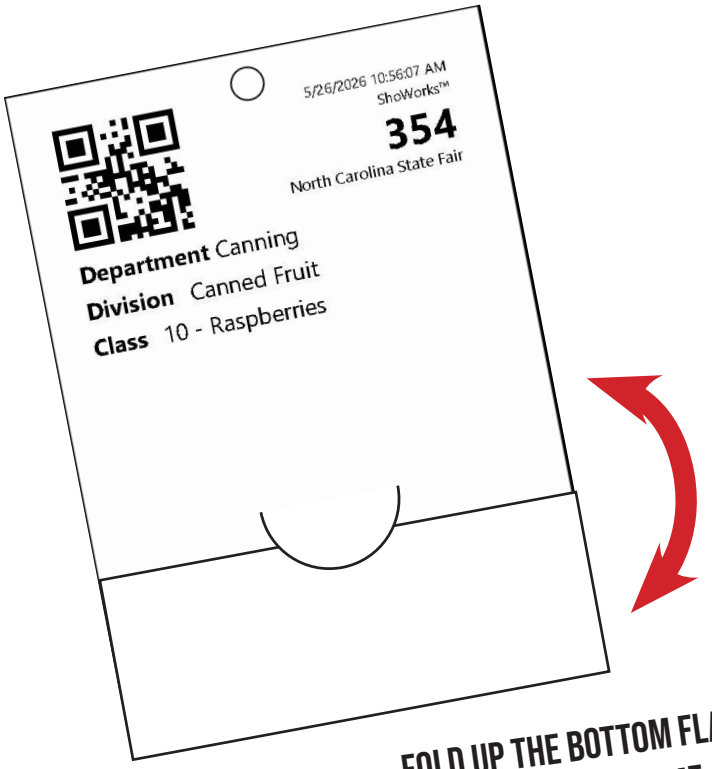
YOUTH MARKET TURKEY SHOW.....Wednesday, Oct. 7th from 9 AM-4 PM Kelley Building

For Livestock Judging Schedules and Competition information, please visit: https://www.ncagr.gov/

ENTRY TAG INSTRUCTIONS FOR TAKE-IN

- Entry tags will be distributed to exhibitors at the time of Take-In, unless otherwise noted.
- When you receive your entry tags at take-in, please abide by the following guidelines:
  - Do not permanently attach entry tags to exhibits. They may need to be moved for judging. Attach your entry tags by using strings, rubber bands, or low-tack tape.
  - Do not write anything on the front of your entry tag. You may write important information on the back.
  - Before attaching your entry tags, please ensure your name is on the entry tag and spelled correctly. If your name needs to be adjusted, please visit the Help Table inside Gate 12 upon arrival for Take-In.
  - Please remove the claim check at the bottom of your entry tag, and fold the bottom flap up to cover your name.
  - You must have your claim check to pick up your items after the fair.

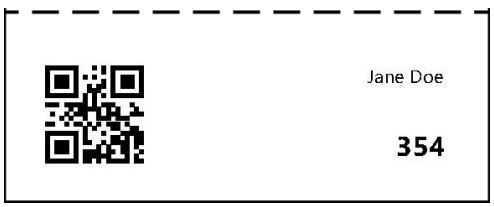




FOLD UP THE BOTTOM FLAP TO HIDE YOUR NAME

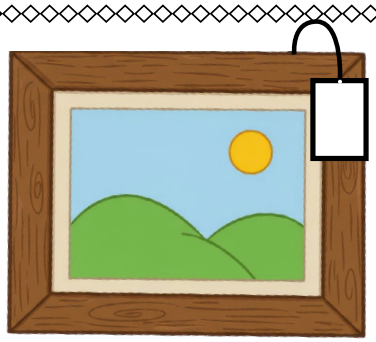
REMOVE THE CLAIM CHECK PORTION AT THE BOTTOM OF YOUR TAG.

YOU WILL NEED THIS TO CLAIM YOUR ENTRIES AFTER THE FAIR.



ENTRY TAG PLACEMENT INSTRUCTIONS

ART & PHOTOGRAPHY



- Tape to the back by the string and hang over the top right corner.
- Unframed school entries will be tagged upon take-in.

BAKING

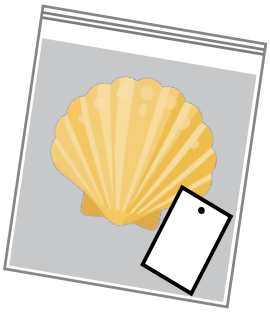
- Tape to containers.
- Decorated Cakes - Attach to the cardboard base on the front side of the cake.

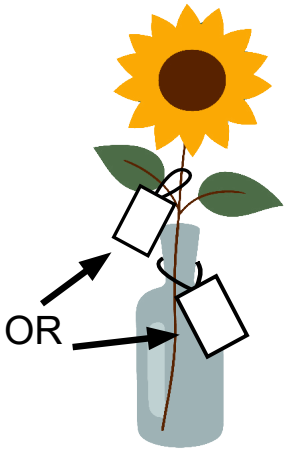
CANNING

- Must be attached to jars with rubber bands touching the jar under the ring.

HANDICRAFTS

- Items with handles - Tie through the handle or tape to the front of the item.
- Small or delicate items - Transport in cardboard or stiff paper inside a zip lock bag. Tape the tag to the cardboard.

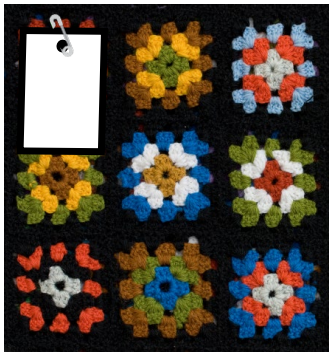




FLOWERS & GARDENS

- Cut Specimens - Attach to the stem of the plant or the neck of the vase.
- Container Grown Plants - Tie to a bamboo skewer so the tag is above the foliage. Skewers are provided at Take-In.

Left Side →



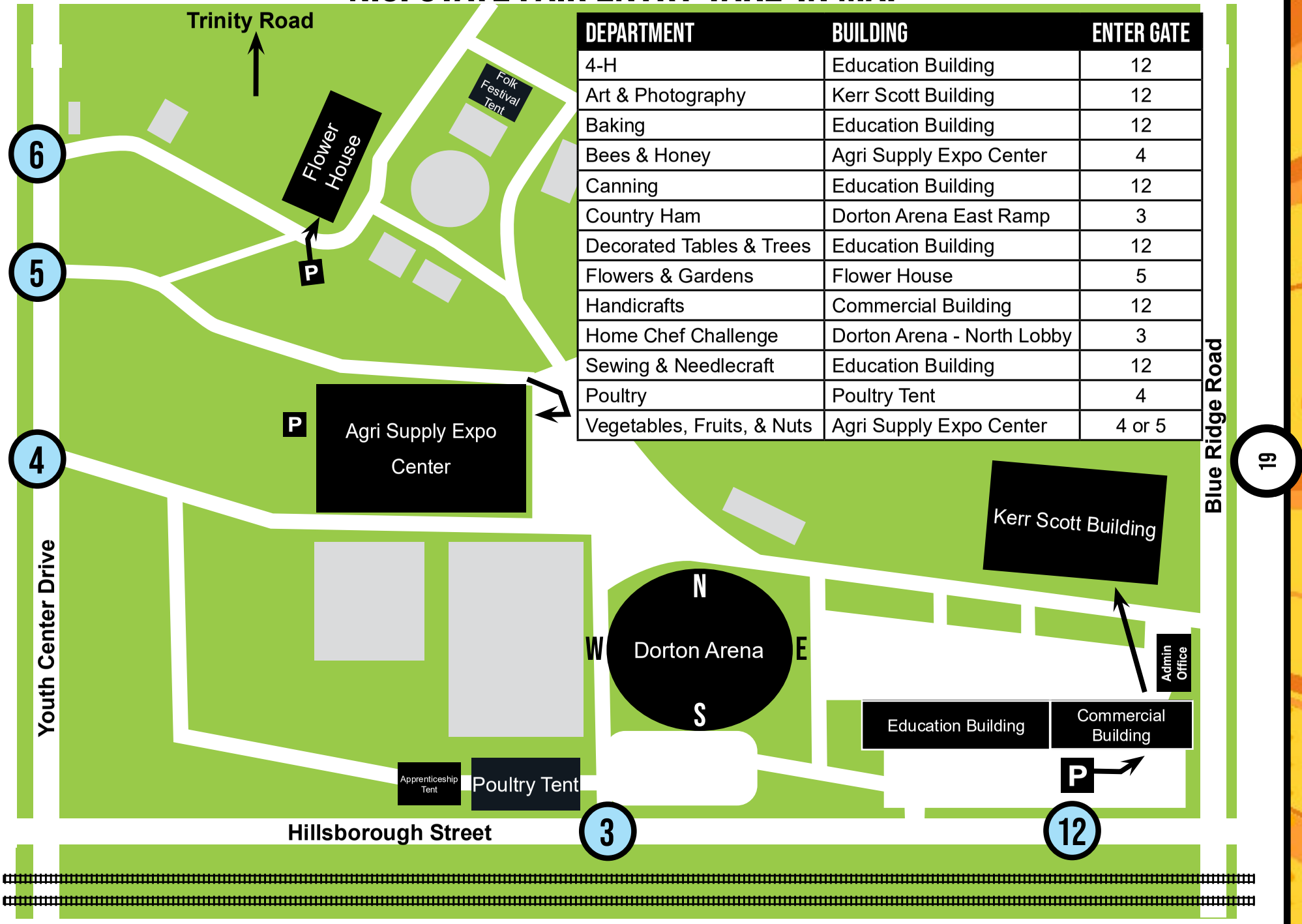
SEWING & NEEDLECRAFT

- Pin tag with safety pins on the LEFT side of the article as it is facing you.

VEGETABLES, FRUITS, & NUTS

- Small Items - Place on a paper plate at Take-In. Entry tag must be tied through the hole in the rim of the provided plate.
- Larger Items - Tie to stem or tape to side of item.

N.C. STATE FAIR ENTRY TAKE-IN MAP



DEPARTMENT	BUILDING	ENTER GATE
4-H	Education Building	12
Art & Photography	Kerr Scott Building	12
Baking	Education Building	12
Bees & Honey	Agri Supply Expo Center	4
Canning	Education Building	12
Country Ham	Dorton Arena East Ramp	3
Decorated Tables & Trees	Education Building	12
Flowers & Gardens	Flower House	5
Handicrafts	Commercial Building	12
Home Chef Challenge	Dorton Arena - North Lobby	3
Sewing & Needlecraft	Education Building	12
Poultry	Poultry Tent	4
Vegetables, Fruits, & Nuts	Agri Supply Expo Center	4 or 5

GENERAL COMPETITIONS JUDGING SCHEDULE

4-H

County Exhibits	Tuesday, Oct. 13 8:00 AM	Education Building
Crafts	Tuesday, Oct. 13 8:00 AM	Education Building
Photography	Wednesday, Oct. 14 8:30 PM	Education Building
Hay Bales	Wednesday, Oct. 14 3:00 PM	

AMATEUR WINE

Friday, Sept. 25 11:00 AM — North Dorton Lobby

APPRENTICESHIP

Masonry	Monday, Oct. 19 1:30 PM	Apprenticeship Tent
Electrical Apprentice	Wednesday, Oct. 21 3:00 PM	Apprenticeship Tent
Carpentry Contest	Thursday, Oct. 22 3:00 PM	Apprenticeship Tent
HVAC-R	Friday, Oct. 23 3:00 PM	Apprenticeship Tent
Plumbing	Friday, Oct. 23 3:00 PM	Apprenticeship Tent
Cosmetology	Saturday, Oct. 24 2:00 PM	Apprenticeship Tent

ART & PHOTOGRAPHY

Tuesday, Oct. 13 9:00 AM — Kerr Scott Building

BAKING

Monday, Oct. 12 - Tuesday, Oct. 13 8:00 AM — Education Building

BEES & HONEY

Monday, Oct. 12 - Tuesday, Oct. 13 1:00 PM — Agri Supply Expo Center

CANNING

Monday, Oct. 12 - Tuesday, Oct. 13 8:00 AM — Education Building

COUNTRY HAM

Thursday, Oct. 15 4 PM — Dorton Arena

FLOWERS & GARDENS

Gourds, Container Plants	Wednesday, Oct. 14 4:00 PM	Flower House
Gardens, Scarecrows, Wheelbarrows	Wednesday, Oct. 14 4:00 PM	Flower House
Bonsai	Wednesday, Oct. 14 4:00 PM	Flower House
1st Show Cut Specimens	Wednesday, Oct. 14 4:00 PM	Flower House
2nd Show Cut Specimens	Sunday, Oct. 18 4:00 PM	Flower House
3rd Show Cut Specimens	Thursday, Oct. 22 4:00 PM	Flower House

FORAGE CROPS

Wednesday, Oct. 13 3:00 PM — Graham Building

HANDICRAFTS

Monday, Oct. 12 8:00 AM — Commercial Building

HERITAGE TOBACCO

Thursday, Oct. 15 8:00 AM — Tobacco Pavilion

NEEDLECRAFT

Monday, Oct. 12 12:00pm - Tuesday, Oct. 13 9:30 AM — Education Building

POULTRY

1st Show & Youth	Thursday, Oct. 15 9:00 AM	Poultry Pavilion
2nd Show	Thursday, Oct. 22 9:00 AM	Poultry Pavilion

SEWING

Monday, Oct. 12 8:00 AM — Education Building

VEGETABLES, FRUITS, & NUTS

Great Pumpkin/Watermelon Weigh-Off	Tuesday, Oct. 13 2:00 PM	Agri Supply Expo Center
Vegetables, Fruits, & Nuts	Wednesday, Oct. 14 2:30 PM	Agri Supply Expo Center

YOUTH MARKET TURKEY SHOW

Thursday, Oct. 8 9:00 AM — Kelley Building

SALE OF CHAMPIONS

Sunday, Oct. 26 2:00 PM — Graham Building

For Livestock Judging Schedule and Competition information, please visit: https://www.ncagr.gov/divisions/ncstatefair/livestock

NEW FOR 2026

As you are looking through the Premium Book, keep an eye out for the “New” sticker. This represents the competitions and classes that are new for 2026!

Below are some of the highlights of the new competitions we have this year:

COUNTRY HAM COMPETITION

AMATEUR WINE COMPETITION

ART & PHOTOGRAPHY:

- Plein Air Art Competition

FLOWERS & GARDENS:

- Wreaths

HANDICRAFTS:

- Diamond Art
- Paper Flowers

FOLK FESTIVAL & PERFORMING ARTS:

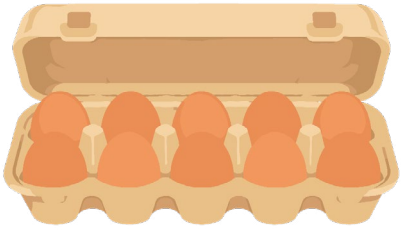
- A Cappella
- Poetry
- Storytelling
- Monologue
- Duo Scene
- Musical Theater
- Show Choir/Glee Club

CANNING:

- Fruit Leather
- Freeze-Dried Foods

POULTRY:

- Egg Show



VEGETABLES, FRUITS, & NUTS:

- Agricultural Products Art Display
- “Taco Salad” Vegetable Display

4-H

North Carolina 4-H is an educational program of NC State University and NC Agricultural and Technical State University and is part of the national 4-H organization. 4-H is best identified by its green four-leaf clover with an “H” on each leaf. The four H's on the emblem stand for head, heart, hands and health. The 4-H motto is "to make the best better". Connect with the 4-H community as a member or as a volunteer today. Visit the 4-H website **www.nc4h.org** to learn more.

Superintendent: Sherrie Watkins

Extension Liason: Dr. Shannon McCollum, Ed. D - Interim State 4-H Program Leader

Registration Deadline: Tuesday, September 15, 2026 at 11:59 PM

**Mailed entry forms must be postmarked by September 1st, 2026*

Entry Take-In:

- Enter through Gate 12.
- Saturday, October 10th, 2026 from 8 AM-6 PM - Education Building
- Sunday, October 11th, 2026 from 8 AM-6 PM - Education Building
- Monday, October 12th from 8 AM-12 PM - Education Building

**Mailed exhibits must be received by Monday, October 5th, 2026*

PROUD SPONSOR:

TSC TRACTOR SUPPLY CO

Judging:

- County Exhibits & Crafts: Tuesday, October 13th, 2026 at 8 AM
- Photography: Wednesday, October 14th, 2026 at 8:30 AM
- Hay Bales: Wednesday, October 14th, 2026 at 3 PM

Entry Pick-Up:

- Monday, October 26th, 2026 from 8 AM-6 PM - Education Building
  - The fair is not responsible for entries left after 6 PM.

**Claim ticket from entry tags are required to claim your entries.*

4-H RULES & REGULATIONS

- The General Rules and Regulations of the Fair will govern this department, except in cases of conflict, where the following Rules and Regulations will prevail. Please read all rules & regulations carefully before submitting your entries.
- Submit questions to: NCSFCompetitions@ncagr.gov.
- Pre-registration is required, either online or by mail. Make your entries early.
- Open to all registered 4-H youth that are residents of North Carolina. All entries must be made by currently enrolled 4-H members.
- Exhibitors are allowed two entries per Class.
- Exhibits released from other fairs will be accepted until 3 PM on Monday, October 12 with entry tag from prior fair. Call 919-839-4513 for details.
- The point system used for judging in each class aids the judges in selecting winners, but is not the sole factor in the awarding of ribbons and placements.

NORTH CAROLINA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

The North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service helps people improve the quality of their lives by providing research-based information and informal educational opportunities focused on issues and needs. The Extension Service is a unique educational system with support from county, state, and federal governments, and close ties to the state’s two land-grant universities: North Carolina State University and North Carolina A&T State University. The important elements contributing to the organization’s success include its unique structure, its use of research-based information, and its use of the strong guidance received from those it serves in setting priorities. The educational philosophy of the Extension Service is to help individuals, families, and communities learn to identify and solve their own problems.

4-H CRAFTS

PREMIUMS

1st - $10 2nd - $5 3rd - $3

Note: Cloverbuds receive Ribbons ***ONLY,*** no premiums

4-H CRAFTS RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. If a date appears on an item, it must fall between October 26th, 2025 and October 12th, 2026.
2. Only articles made since the 2025 State Fair will be eligible.
3. Articles considered not worthy will not be exhibited.
4. Replicas of guns will not be accepted. Weapons or replicas of weapons will not be accepted.
5. The NC State Fair does not permit anything controversial to be entered. This includes anything symbolizing cruelty, oppression, or of a sexual nature.
6. Please be aware that space for exhibits is limited, and we would appreciate your cooperation with limiting the size of your entry. Exhibits deemed too large will not be accepted.
7. 10” x 13” is a general size limit, unless item can be folded.

4-H CRAFTS CRITERIA FOR JUDGING

	POINTS
I. Craftsmanship	40
II. Originality and Creativity	30
III. Practicality and Usefulness	30
TOTAL POINTS:	100

DIVISION 101: 4-H CRAFTS - CLOVERBUD *Ages 5-7*
DIVISION 102: 4-H CRAFTS - JUNIOR *Ages 8-13*
DIVISION 103: 4-H CRAFTS - SENIOR *Ages 14-18*

CLASS

01 - Artwork
02 - Basketry
03 - Bead Jewelry
04 - Block Stamped Printing
05 - Braided Articles
06 - Candle Making
07 - Digital Art
08 - Fabric Painting, Original Design
09 - Fabric Painting, Pattern or Kit
10 - Leather Articles
11 - Mechanical Crafts *Robots, Rockets*
12 - Mosaics *Tile with Grout*
13 - Paper Crafts *Origami, woven paper baskets, scrapbooking*
14 - Pottery *Coil, Slab, Wheel Thrown*
15 - Pottery *Pre-Formed Mold - Ceramic*
16 - Pottery *Sculptured Animals*
17 - Recycled Jewelry
18 - Recycled *Anything but Jewelry*
19 - Soap Making
20 - Stained or Leaded Glass
21 - Stenciling
22 - Tie Dyeing, Batik
23 - Wired Jewelry
24 - Metal *Embossed, Tooled, Etched*
25 - Metal *Tin Punched*
26 - Miscellaneous Crafts
27 - Natural Material *Painted rock, driftwood, etc*
This project features natural materials that have been carefully selected and preserved to ensure longevity without decomposition
28 - Wood Objects from Kit
29 - Woodworking (Animals, toys, accessories, original sculpture)

4-H SEWING & NEEDLECRAFT

PREMIUMS

1st - $10 2nd - $5 3rd - $3

Note: Cloverbuds receive Ribbons ***ONLY,*** no premiums

4-H SEWING & NEEDLECRAFT RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. Only articles made since the 2025 State Fair will be eligible.
2. Articles considered not worthy will not be exhibited.
3. The NC State Fair does not permit anything controversial to be entered. This includes anything symbolizing cruelty, oppression, or of a sexual nature.
4. Please be aware that space for exhibits is limited, and we would appreciate your cooperation with limiting the size of your entry. Exhibits deemed too large will not be accepted.
5. 10” x 13” is a general size limit, unless item can be folded.

4-H SEWNG & NEEDLECRAFT CRITERIA FOR JUDGING	POINTS
I. Craftsmanship	40
II. Originality and Creativity	30
III. Finishing and Presentation	30
TOTAL POINTS:	100

DIVISION 104: 4-H CLOVERBUD SEWING & NEEDLECRAFT *Ages 5-7*
DIVISION 105: 4-H JUNIOR SEWING & NEEDLECRAFT *Ages 8-13*
DIVISION 106: 4-H SENIOR SEWING & NEEDLECRAFT *Ages 14-18*

CLASS

01 - Bags
02 - Crocheted or Knitted Articles
03 - Clothing *Machine Sewn*
04 - Cross-Stitch
05 - Hand-Stitched Item *All elements must be sewn by hand*
06 - Hand Weaving, Hand Spinning
07 - Latch Hook
08 - Needlework
09 - Pillow
10 - Quilted Articles
11 - Stuffed Toy
12 - Upcycled Item *Materials used must be modified or repurposed, not solely repaired.*

4-H PHOTOGRAPHY

PREMIUMS

1st - $10 2nd - $5 3rd - $3

PHOTOGRAPHY RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. All pictures must be securely framed/mounted and prepared for hanging or display.
2. Photographs may be contact prints or enlargements sized 8x10 or smaller.
3. All photographs must have captions.
4. The NC State Fair does not permit anything controversial to be entered. This includes any symbolizing cruelty, weaponry, or of a sexual nature.
5. Maximum frame size cannot exceed 10”x13”. Larger sizes will not be accepted.

4-H PHOTOGRAPHY CRITERIA FOR JUDGING

	POINTS
I. Storytelling Ability • *As suggested by the caption.* • *Contains few or no distracting or unnecessary elements.* • *All the elements within the picture are arranged to tell the story.*	50
II. Photographic Quality • *The photography is clear and sharp and shows detail in areas where appropriate.*	30
III. Mounting • *No larger than 10”x13” framed/mounted.* • *Pictures are mounted neatly and securely.*	10
IV. Captions • *Pictures have appropriate captions.*	10
TOTAL POINTS:	100

DIVISION 107: 4-H JUNIOR PHOTOGRAPHY *Ages 8-13*
DIVISION 108: 4-H SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHY *Ages 14-18*

PREMIUMS

1st - $10 2nd - $5 3rd - $3

CLASS

01 - Color - Animal, Birds, or Insects
02 - Color - Building
03 - Color - Landscape or Seascape
04 - Color - People, Individual, or Group
05 - Color - Miscellaneous
06 - Black & White - Animal, Birds, or Insects
07 - Black & White - Building
08 - Black & White - Landscape or Seascape
09 - Black & White - People, Individual, or Group
10 - Black & White - Miscellaneous
11 - Picture Stories - Computer Enhanced Photography
Using technology to enhance your photographs
12 - Picture Stories - Photos of 4-H Projects/Activities
Submit a series of 4-6 photographs, with captions, of a 4-H project which tells a story: e.g.: crafts, food, safety, horse, electric, etc.

Due to space limitations, limit all poster sizes to a maximum of 14” x 20”. Picture stories must be framed/mounted and wired for hanging.

4-H ENTOMOLOGY

Contact: Liz Driscoll, Extension Specialist, NCSU

ENTOMOLOGY RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. The display boxes must be a minimum of 6.5” by 8.5” and a maximum of 19” by 25”, made out of any material and have a glass or plexiglass cover. For more information see: go.ncsu.edu/4-H_Insects
2. The collection must be the work of the exhibitor.
3. Winning first place eliminates the insect collection from further competition in this class.

ENTOMOLOGY CRITERIA FOR JUDGING

I. General appearance and neatness of collection (organized by order and then family).
II. Specimens are correctly pinned, mounted and preserved.
III. Correct placement and completeness of labels.
IV. Number of orders, families and species of insects correctly identified.
V. Insects collected by someone other than the 4-H’er are acceptable, if pinned, labeled, and mounted by the 4-H’er. The true collector’s name should be on the label.
VI. The majority of the insects must be collected by the 4-H’er.

DIVISION 109: 4-H ENTOMOLOGY, INSECT COLLECTION

PREMIUMS

1st - $50 2nd - $20 3rd - $10 4th-5th - $5

Note: Cloverbuds receive Ribbons ***ONLY,*** no premiums

CLASS

01 - Insect Collection - Cloverbud *Ages 5-7*
02 - Insect Collection - Junior *Ages 8-13*
03 - Insect Collection - Senior *Ages 14-18*

DIVISION 110: 4-H ENTOMOLOGY, SPECIAL STUDY

PREMIUMS

1st - $50 2nd - $20 3rd - $10 4th-5th - $5

CLASS

01 - Junior Special Study *Ages 8-13*
02 - Senior Special Study *Ages 14-18*

DECORATED HAY BALE

DECORATED HAY BALE RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. This contest is open to County 4-H groups in North Carolina.
2. 4-H agents or designated representative must register their county by Tuesday, September 15th by 11:59 PM.
3. Each county is allowed to enter **one** hay bale that must be approved and registered by the 4-H agent.
4. The North Carolina State Fair will provide a 5 ft. wide, 4 ft. deep round bale for each participating county to decorate. Counties may bring up to 8 additional small rectangular bales to use in the exhibit.
5. Bales should be designed around promoting NC 4-H.
6. Entries will be judged on eye appeal, construction, use of materials, and creativity.
7. All Designs MUST include the Tractor Supply Logo Somewhere within the Design.
8. Hay bales may be decorated between Saturday, October 10th and Monday, October 12th and will be judged Wednesday, October 14th. The bales should be decorated with a good clean wholesome nature. No vulgar or suggestive decorations will be allowed-this includes people rolled up inside a bale with feet or head sticking out.
9. Please call the State 4-H office with any questions 919-515-8486.
10. Bales can be placed lying on their side. This will be your choice. Please specify position of bale on entry form. If you will be providing a maximum of 8 small rectangular bales for feet or decoration, please list on entry form. For safety purposes round bales will not be stacked on top of each other.
11. The NC State Fair does not permit anything controversial to be entered. This includes any symbolizing cruelty, weaponry, or of a sexual nature.
12. Decorations should be weather and wind-proof. They will be checked and maintained daily.
13. Paint may NOT be applied to the hay bale or grass.
14. No Commercial or Political party signs of any kind are allowed.
15. Decorations may ONLY be removed on Monday, October 26th, 2026 from 8 AM-5 PM. Decorations not removed by 5 PM on Monday, October 26th, will be discarded.
16. All premium checks will be written to county 4-H programs.

DIVISION 111: 4-H DECORATED HAY BALE

PREMIUMS

1st - $375 2nd - $250 3rd - $150 4th - $100 5th - $100

CLASS

01 - 4-H Decorated Hay Bale

4-H COUNTY EXHIBITS

4-H COUNTY EXHIBITS RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. Five 4-H exhibits, one from each extension service district and two from NC 4-H, will be found in this department.
2. The exhibits are the results of ideas and work by youth who have participated in the 4-H program
3. These exhibits will emphasize the social, physical, and mental growth of boys and girls enrolled in 4-H.

4-H COUNTY EXHIBIT CRITERIA FOR JUDGING — POINTS

I. Communication to Viewers — 28
- *Does it expand the visibility of the 4-H?*
- *Does it arouse and hold interest?*
- *Does it tell a coherent, clear-cut story with a logical sequence of thought?*
- *Are title and caption effective in conveying the message?*

II. Education — 24
- *Is there an appeal for behavioral change?*
- *Is information accurate and factual?*
- *Does the exhibit instruct and teach?*

III. Creativity — 20
- *Idea clearly defined and shows understanding of purpose and direction.*
- *Originality in adapting ideas.*
- *Is the idea enthusiastically portrayed?*
- *Does the exhibitor convey the feeling that he knows what he is trying to say?*

IV. Design and Mechanics — 20
- *Is there effective use of color, lighting, sound, and motion?*
- *Is the number of items or materials used appropriate for the exhibit in that they give neither a cluttered nor a bare appearance?*
- *Are design, lettering, posters, figures, and equipment in a relative proportion to area and shape of booth?*
- *Is there a professional-like touch in the effective use of equipment and materials?*

V. Group Involvement — 8
- *Were at least five 4-H members and/or leaders involved in planning, preparing, and erecting the exhibit?*

TOTAL POINTS: 100

DIVISION 112: 4-H COUNTY EXHIBITS

PREMIUMS

1st - $725 2nd - $625 3rd - $525 4th - $500 5th thru 7th - $475

CLASS

01 - 4-H County Exhibits

4-H SPECIAL AWARDS

AWARD	PREMIUMS
Best of Show - Junior	$15 and Ribbon
Best of Show - Senior	$15 and Ribbon
Ashe County Piecemakers Quilt Award - Junior	$25 and Ribbon

The Ashe County Piecemakers Quilt Guild will award $25 to the Junior blue ribbon winner for Class 26

Ashe County Piecemakers Quilt Award - Senior	$25 and Ribbon

The Ashe County Piecemakers Quilt Guild will award $25 to the Senior blue ribbon winner for Class 26

- 4-H County Sweepstakes

1st - $150 2nd - $120 3rd - $90 4th - $60 5th - $30

SWEEPSTAKES RULES AND REGULATIONS:

1. Sweepstakes awards will be made to the counties amassing the highest point scores for individual entries in Junior and Senior Divisions.
2. Scoring will be based on 7 points for each Blue Ribbon, 3 points for each Red Ribbon, and 1 point for each White Ribbon.
3. In the case of a tie, premium money will be divided equally between the counties involved.

AMATEUR WINE

Superintendent: Nicole Chesney (Nicole.Chesney@ncagr.gov)
Registration Opens: July 1st, 2026
Registration Closes: August 15th, 2026
Entries Must Be Received By: September 1st, 2026
Ship or Deliver wine entries to:
NCDA&CS
Attn: Nicole Chesney N.C. Amateur Wine Competition
2 W. Edenton St.
Raleigh, NC 27601

Judging: Friday, September 25th at 11 AM - Dorton Arena - North Lobby

AMATEUR WINE RULES & REGULATIONS

- The General Rules and Regulations of the Fair will govern this department, except in cases of conflict, where the following Rules and Regulations will prevail. Please read all rules & regulations carefully before submitting your entries.
- Pre-Registration is required. Registration must be completed online through the NC State Fair website.
- Only amateur winemakers residing in NC are eligible to enter non-commercial wines in this competition.
- Exhibitors must be the producer of the wine.
- Exhibitors are allowed one entry per Class, with the exception of Divisions 104 and 105. These Divisions are allowed more than one entry per Class; however, each entry must be a different fruit or type of wine.
- Name of Winery/Producer, Name of Wine, Division, Class, Varietals and Percentage (%), and % Residual Sugar must be provided for each entry at the time of registration
- Entrants must submit one (1) 750 ml bottle or two (2) 375 ml bottles for each entry. Bottles must be corked or capped. Wines must be shipped/delivered to address above and be **received by** September 1st, 2026.
- Each bottle of wine **must include** its entry tag (which will be mailed to you) and be labeled with the Name of Winery/Producer, Name of Wine, Division, and Class, Varietals and Percentage (%), and % Residual Sugar prior to submission. Failure to do so may result in disqualification.
- Fruits/juices must be home prepared. Wines from concentrates or kits are ineligible.
- Wines may be recategorized by competition staff without notice.
- By submission of your wines, you are verifying the information entered is correct. Winning wines may be subject to verification by the NC Wine and Grape Council prior to the announcement of awards. Wines entered falsely will be disqualified.
- Entrants may visit ncwine.org or the NC State Fair Amateur Wine Competition page for competition results. Winners will be displayed at the NC State Fair.
- For questions contact Nicole Chesney via e-mail at – Nicole.Chesney@ncagr.gov

JUDGING

- Entries are blinded for judging.Judges are only informed of the content and residual sugar percentages. They do not see the bottle or any identifiable information.
- Entries are evaluated using the American Wine Society 20-point scale:

AMATEUR WINE JUDGING CRITERIA	POSSIBLE POINTS
Appearance	3
Aroma	6
Taste/Texture	6
Finish	3
Overall Impression	2
TOTAL:	20

AMATEUR WINE

PREMIUMS

Double Gold - $15 Gold - $12 Silver - $10 Bronze - $8

Premiums and medals will be awarded to wines in each class for each rating.

DIVISION 101: VINIFERA/HYBRID

CLASS

01 - White Single Varietal - *Any White Vinifera/Hybrid single varietal*
02 - Rose Single Varietal - *Any White or Red Vinifera/Hybrid single varietal*
03 - Red Single Varietal - *Any Red Vinifera/Hybrid single varietal*
04 - White Blend - *Any blend of White Vinifera/Hybrid grapes*
05 - Rose Blend - *Any blend of White or Red Vinifera/Hybrid grapes made into Rose wine*
06 - Red Blend - *Any blend of Red Vinifera/Hybrid grapes*
07 - Fortified/Port Style - *Wines that have been fortified*
08 - Dessert - *Wines that have not been fortified*
09 - Sparkling - *Any method or grape color of sparkling wine made from Vinifera/Hybrids*

DIVISION 102: MUSCADINE - DRY/OFF DRY <3.0% RS

CLASS

01 - White - *Any single varietal or blend of White Muscadine grapes*
02 - Rose - *Any blend of White or Red Muscadine grapes made into Rose wine*
03 - Red - *Any single varietal or blend of Red Muscadine grapes*
04 - Sparkling - *Any single varietal or blend of Muscadine grapes made into sparkling wine*

DIVISION 103: MUSCADINE - SWEET >3.0% RS

CLASS

01 - White - *Any single varietal or blend of White Muscadine grapes*
02 - Rose - *Any blend of White or Red Muscadine grapes made into Rose wine*
03 - Red - *Any single varietal or blend of Red Muscadine grapes*
04 - Fortified/Port Style - *Any single varietal or blend of Muscadine grapes made into non-fortified dessert wine*
05 - Dessert - *Any single varietal or blend of Muscadine grapes made fortified*
06 - Sparkling - *Any single varietal or blend of Muscadine grapes made into sparkling wine*

DIVISION 104: FRUIT WINE

CLASS

01 - Fruit Wine - *Wines made with fruits other than grapes*

DIVISION 105: NON-TRADITIONAL WINE

CLASS

01 - Non-Traditional Wine - *Wines that do not fit into Divisions 101-104*

DIVISION 106: CIDER

Note: Ciders with <2.0% RS will be judged as dry.

CLASS

01 - Modern - *Apple-forward and acid-driven. Typically made from dessert, culinary, or multipurpose apple varieties. Should emphasize freshness and varietal expression with little to no tannin.*

02 - High Tannin - *Made primarily from bittersweet and/or bittersharp apple varieties and exhibit significant tannin structure. Judged on balance, structure, and apple character in addition to freshness and acidity.*

03 - Fruited - *Include cider bases with added fruit or co-fermentation. Fruit character must be identifiable and harmonious with the cider base.*

04 - Natural/Pet-Nat - *Defined by fermentation method and production philosophy rather than sweetness or apple type. Spontaneous and/or mixed fermentation (native yeast, possible MLF). Minimal intervention. May be still or petillant. May be finished as Petillant naturel. Cloudiness, volatility, or rustic character are not faults if balanced. Apple-only or lightly fruited ciders are permitted.*

05 - Specialty - *Serves as a controlled catch-ll for ciders that do not fit within the defined apple-only, fruited, or natural categories. Includes but is not limited to: Barrel-aged cider (any wood or prior fill), botanical, herb-infused, spiced cider, Perry or apple-pear blends, experimental techniques or unique blends not already categorized.*

DIVISION 107: MEAD

Note: Meads with <2.0% RS will be judged as dry.

CLASS

01 - Traditional - *Made exclusively from honey, water, and yeast. Nutrients, tannins, processing aids, stabilizers, acids, and sugars are allowed. No barrel influence. No added fruit, spices, herbs, or botanicals.*

02 - Melomel - *Made with fruit additions or fruit co-fermentation. Fruit character must be identifiable. Balancing the impact of acid and sweetness from fruit additions is critical to this category.*

03 - Metheglin - *Made with herbs, spices, flowers, or botanicals. Botanical character should compliment, not overwhelm, the honey base.*

04 - Fruit & Spice - *Incorporates both fruit and spice/botanical elements, where neither component alone defines the style. Any combination of fruit, spices, and herbs allowed, but all ingredients must be distinguishable by taste.*

05 - Barrel-Aged - *Process driven category defined by wood contact. All wood types allowed. Chips, staves, barrels, or any other type of wood contact to the point of imparting flavor is allowed.*

AMATEUR WINE SPECIAL AWARDS

All Best in Show winners will be awarded a ribbon.

- **Best in Show - Vinifera/Hybrid** *Selected from Division 101*
- **Best in Show - Muscadine** *Selected from Divisions 102-103*
- **Best in Show - Cider** *Selected from Division 106*
- **Best in Show - Mead** *Selected from Division 107*

APPRENTICESHIPNC
NC COMMUNITY COLLEGES

72nd ANNUAL MASONRY APPRENTICE CONTEST

(Bricklaying & Blocklaying)

DIVISION 101 - APPRENTICE CONTESTS
Class 01 – MASONRY

CONTEST INFORMATION:

- **DATE:** Monday, October 19, 2026, contestant check-in starts promptly at 8:00 a.m.
- **LOCATION:** N.C. State Fair, behind the Jim Graham Building off Hillsborough Street
- **JUDGING:** Upon contest completion, a panel of masons will judge the projects according to an official rubric.
- **AWARDS:** Presented Monday, October 19, 2026, 1:30 p.m., following the completion of judging.
- **PREMIUMS:** 1st Place: $325, 2nd Place: $225, 3rd Place: $175, 4th Place: $125, 5th Place: $100, 6th-10th Places: $75
- Prizes donated by manufacturers and suppliers will be presented to all contestants.
- The first-place winner and their employer will be recognized with plaques at a later date.

REGISTRATION RULES & INFORMATION:

- Contest registration opens at **8:00 a.m.** on **July 15, 2026**, and closes at **11:59 p.m.** on **September 4, 2026**.
- **Access contest information and the contestant registration form: www.apprenticeshipnc.com/events**
- Contestants cannot enter themselves. Their entry forms must be submitted by their employers/program sponsors.
- The contest is limited to Registered Apprentices and Registered Pre-Apprentices enrolled in ApprenticeshipNC-recognized programs.
- Preference will be given to Registered Apprentices through September 4, 2026.
  - After this date, remaining spaces will be filled by Registered Pre-Apprentices on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Contestants must be approved for contest participation by their employer, program sponsor, or the Contest Committee.
- Contestants must have completed **less than 6,000 hours of training** and must not have completed their Registered Apprenticeship or Registered Pre-Apprenticeship Program prior to Monday, October 19, 2026.
- All required documentation must be submitted prior to the start of the contest in order for contestants to compete.
- Previous first place winners are ineligible to compete in future contests.
- **The contest is limited to 30 qualifying contestants.** ApprenticeshipNC will maintain an alternate list of up to five contestants.

CONTEST PLANNING COMMITTEE:

- ApprenticeshipNC
- Calvin Brodie — Contest Committee Chair — Brodie Contractors, Inc., Raleigh
- Danks Burton — Pinnacle Masonry, Inc., Raleigh
- Doug Burton — Master of Ceremony — Whitman Masonry, Inc., Raleigh
- Ryan Shaver — NCMCA, Mount Pleasant

The State of North Carolina will require the submission of a NC Substitute W-9 prior to making any payment of $600 or greater or any payment that results in a total of $600 or more during one calendar year from the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to any individual or entity. All exhibitors are strongly encouraged to complete and upload the NC Substitute W-9 form to prevent any delay in receiving premium prize money.

Due to entry deadline extensions by committees, some contestants, contributors, and/or sponsors may not be listed in the printed program. These individuals and organizations will be acknowledged at the awards presentation. The contest committee reserves the right to make changes prior to the contest date. Updates to any contest will be posted at www.apprenticeshipnc.com/events.

ABOUT THE CONTEST:

Held annually since 1954, the N.C. State Fair Masonry Apprentice Contest promotes interest in skilled trades while showcasing the next generation of North Carolina's workforce. The contest is organized by ApprenticeshipNC, the North Carolina Masonry Contractors Association, and the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. It brings together the state's top masonry apprentices, who compete head-to-head for first prize and the opportunity to represent North Carolina at the World of Concrete in Las Vegas.

APPRENTICESHIPNC
NC COMMUNITY COLLEGES

41st ANNUAL ELECTRICAL APPRENTICE CONTEST

DIVISION 101 - APPRENTICE CONTESTS
Class 02 – ELECTRICAL

CONTEST INFORMATION:

- **DATE:** Wednesday, October 21, 2026, contestant check-in starts promptly at 7:00 a.m.
- **LOCATION:** N.C. State Fair, behind the Jim Graham Building off Hillsborough Street
- **JUDGING:** Upon contest completion, a panel of judges will evaluate the projects according to an official rubric and electrical code.
- **AWARDS:** Presented Wednesday, October 21, 2026, 3:00 p.m., following the completion of judging.
- **PREMIUMS:** 1st Place: $325, 2nd Place: $225, 3rd Place: $175, 4th Place: $125, 5th Place: $100, 6th-10th Places: $75
- Tools donated by manufacturers and suppliers will be presented to all contestants.
- The first-place winner and their employer will be recognized with plaques at a later date.

REGISTRATION RULES & INFORMATION:

- Contest registration opens at **8:00 a.m.** on **July 15, 2026**, and closes at **11:59 p.m.** on **September 4, 2026**.
  - Entries will not be accepted before or after these dates. No exceptions. The date and time of each entry will be recorded when received by ApprenticeshipNC.
- **Access contest information and the contestant registration form: www.apprenticeshipnc.com/events**
- Contestants cannot enter themselves. Their entry forms must be submitted by their employers/program sponsors.
- The contest is limited to Electrician Registered Apprentices enrolled in ApprenticeshipNC-recognized programs.
  - Contestants must have completed at least two years (**4,001 OJT hours and 288 related instruction hours**), but not more than four years **(8,000 OJT hours)** of training and not have received a Certificate of Completion by October 21, 2026, as certified by the Registered Apprenticeship Program sponsor/participating employer, verified by ApprenticeshipNC, and approved by the Contest Committee.
- Contestants cannot compete if they have passed any States Contracting Licensing Boards Exam or have been approved to take such an exam before the date of the competition.
- All required documentation must be submitted prior to the start of the contest in order for contestants to compete.
- Previous first place winners are ineligible to compete in future contests.
- **The contest is limited to 36 qualifying contestants.** ApprenticeshipNC will maintain an alternate list of up to four contestants.

CONTEST PLANNING COMMITTEE:

- ApprenticeshipNC
- Industry partners and employers
- NC Electrical Contractors and Associations
- NC State Board of Examiners of Electrical Contractors
- N.C. Office of State Fire Marshal

The State of North Carolina will require the submission of a NC Substitute W-9 prior to making any payment of $600 or greater or any payment that results in a total of $600 or more during one calendar year from the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to any individual or entity. All exhibitors are strongly encouraged to complete and upload the NC Substitute W-9 form to prevent any delay in receiving premium prize money.

Due to entry deadline extensions by committees, some contestants, contributors, and/or sponsors may not be listed in the printed program. These individuals and organizations will be acknowledged at the awards presentation. The contest committee reserves the right to make changes prior to the contest date. Updates to any contest will be posted at www.apprenticeshipnc.com/events.

ABOUT THE CONTEST:

Held annually for over 40 years, the N.C. State Fair Electrical Apprentice Contest promotes interest in skilled trades while showcasing the next generation of North Carolina's workforce. The contest is organized by ApprenticeshipNC, the North Carolina Association of Electrical Contractors, the NC State Board of Examiners of Electrical Contractors, the N.C. Office of State Fire Marshal, the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and industry partners. It brings together the state's top electrical apprentices to compete head-to-head, demonstrating their skill, knowledge, and precision.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Tenders: Northern Nash High School, Rocky Mount

APPRENTICESHIPNC
NC COMMUNITY COLLEGES

40th ANNUAL CARPENTRY PRE-APPRENTICE CONTEST

DIVISION 101 - PRE-APPRENTICE CONTESTS
Class 03 – PRE-APPRENTICE CARPENTRY

CONTEST INFORMATION:

- **DATE:** Thursday, October 22, 2026, contestant check-in starts promptly at 7:30 a.m.
- **LOCATION:** N.C. State Fair, behind the Jim Graham Building off of Hillsborough Street
- **JUDGING:** Upon contest completion, a panel of judges will evaluate the projects according to an official rubric.
- **AWARDS:** Presented Thursday, October 22, 2026, 3:00 p.m., following the completion of judging.
- **PREMIUMS:** 1st Place: $325, 2nd Place: $225, 3rd Place: $175, 4th Place: $125, 5th Place: $100, 6th-10th Places: $75
- Prizes donated by manufacturers and suppliers will be presented to all contestants.
- The first-place winners and their school will be recognized with plaques at a later date.

REGISTRATION RULES & INFORMATION:

- Contest registration opens at **8:00 a.m.** on **July 15, 2026,** and closes at **11:59 p.m.** on **September 4, 2026**.
- **Access contest information: www.apprenticeshipnc.com/events**
- **NEW REQUIREMENT:** Instructors, please reach out to ApprenticeshipNC Communications Assistant Margaret Spainhour, spainhourm@nccommunitycolleges.edu, to learn about the new student eligibility criteria for this contest. Following the meeting with ApprenticeshipNC, if eligible, you will be provided with a registration link.
- Previous first place winners are ineligible to compete in future contests.
- All required documentation must be submitted prior to the start of the contest in order for contestants to compete.
- To reserve a team spot without finalized Pre-Apprentice information, submit the form by September 4 and enter "TBD" for all contestant details.
- **Instructors must submit the final names of all competing team members by October 1, 2026.**
- **No substitutions will be allowed after October 1, 2026.**
  - If a team member withdraws after this deadline, the entire team will be disqualified. ApprenticeshipNC will then select a replacement team from the waiting list.
- **The contest is limited to 20 qualifying teams, with two contestants per team.** ApprenticeshipNC will maintain an alternate list.

CONTEST PLANNING COMMITTEE:

- ApprenticeshipNC
- Bill Whittaker — Committee Chair, DPR Construction, Raleigh
- Buddy Hughes — NC Home Builders Association, Lexington
- Eddie Reeves — ApprenticeshipNC (Ret.)
- Grayson Williams — Lowe's Companies, Inc.
- Judy Dinelle — 84 Lumber, Asheville
- Kep Paylor — NC Home Builders Association, Raleigh
- Linda Rowland — CooperTools, Raleigh
- Michele Lewter — Connect for Success NC
- Tim Eldridge — Educational Services Unlimited

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Due to entry deadline extensions by committees, some contestants, contributors, and/or sponsors may not be listed in the printed program. These individuals and organizations will be acknowledged at the awards presentation. The contest committee reserves the right to make changes prior to the contest date. Updates to any contest will be posted at www.apprenticeshipnc.com/events.

ABOUT THE CONTEST:

Held annually for 40 years, the N.C. State Fair Carpentry Pre-Apprentice Contest promotes interest in skilled trades and highlights the next generation of North Carolina's workforce. The contest is organized by ApprenticeshipNC, the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and industry partners and employers. It brings together the state's top carpentry pre-apprentices to compete head-to-head to demonstrate their technical skill, knowledge, and precision.

38th ANNUAL PLUMBER APPRENTICE CONTEST

DIVISION 101 - APPRENTICE CONTESTS
Class 04 – PLUMBING

CONTEST INFORMATION:

- **DATE:** Friday, October 23, 2026, contestant check-in starts promptly at 8:00 a.m.
- **LOCATION:** N.C. State Fair, behind the Jim Graham Building off of Hillsborough Street
- **JUDGING:** Upon contest completion, a panel of judges will evaluate the projects according to an official rubric.
- **AWARDS:** Presented Friday, October 23, 2026, 3:00 p.m., following the completion of judging.
- **PREMIUMS:** 1st Place: $325, 2nd Place: $225, 3rd Place: $175, 4th Place: $125, 5th Place: $100, 6th-10th Places: $75
- Tools donated by manufacturers and suppliers will be presented to all contestants.
- The first-place winner and their employer will be recognized with plaques at a later date.

REGISTRATION RULES & INFORMATION:

- Contest registration opens at **8:00 a.m.** on **July 15, 2026**, and closes at **11:59 p.m**. on **September 4, 2026**.
- **Access contest information and the contestant registration form: www.apprenticeshipnc.com/events**
- Contestants cannot enter themselves. Their entry forms must be submitted by their employers/program sponsors.
- The contest is limited to Registered Apprentices and Registered Pre-Apprentices enrolled in ApprenticeshipNC-recognized plumber/pipefitter programs.
- Preference will be given to Registered Apprentices through September 4, 2026.
  - After this date, remaining spaces will be filled by Registered Pre-Apprentices on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Contestants must be approved for contest participation by their employer, program sponsor, or the Contest Committee.
- Contestants must have completed **less than 8,000 hours of training** and must not have completed their Registered Apprenticeship or Registered Pre-Apprenticeship Program prior to Friday, October 23, 2026.
- All required documentation must be submitted prior to the start of the contest in order for contestants to compete.
- Previous first place winners are ineligible to compete in future contests.
- **Contest is limited to the first 20 qualifying applicants**.

CONTEST PLANNING COMMITTEE:

- ApprenticeshipNC
- Dale Dawson — Executive Director of the State Board of Examiners of Plumbing, Heating & Fire Sprinkler Contractors, Raleigh
- Dale Pruitt — Town of Wake Forest Plumbing Inspector, Wake Forest
- Ed Burleson — Guilford Plumbing Supply, Greensboro & Raleigh
- Jim Lawson — City of High Point Chief Plumbing Inspector, High Point
- Paul Sandy — City of Raleigh Chief Plumbing Inspector, Raleigh (Ret.)

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Due to entry deadline extensions by committees, some contestants, contributors, and/or sponsors may not be listed in the printed program. These individuals and organizations will be acknowledged at the awards presentation. The contest committee reserves the right to make changes prior to the contest date. Updates to any contest will be posted at www.apprenticeshipnc.com/events.

ABOUT THE CONTEST:

Now in its 38th year, the N.C. State Fair Plumber Apprentice Contest promotes interest in skilled trades and highlights the next generation of North Carolina's workforce. The contest is organized by ApprenticeshipNC, the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and industry partners and employers. It brings together the state's top plumber apprentices compete head-to-head to demonstrate their technical skill, knowledge, and precision.

APPRENTICESHIPNC
NC COMMUNITY COLLEGES

22nd ANNUAL HVAC/R APPRENTICE CONTEST

DIVISION 101 - APPRENTICE CONTESTS
Class 06 – HV/AC-R

CONTEST INFORMATION:

- **DATE:** Friday, October 23, 2026, contestant check-in starts promptly at 7:30 a.m.
- **LOCATION:** N.C. State Fair, behind the Jim Graham Building off of Hillsborough Street
- **JUDGING:** Upon contest completion, a panel of judges will evaluate the projects according to an official rubric.
- **AWARDS:** Presented Friday, October 23, 2026, 3:00 p.m., following the completion of judging.
- **PREMIUMS:** 1st Place: $325, 2nd Place: $225, 3rd Place: $175, 4th Place: $125, 5th Place: $100, 6th-10th Places: $75
- Tools donated by manufacturers and suppliers will be presented to all contestants.
- The first-place winner and their employer will be recognized with plaques at a later date.

REGISTRATION RULES & INFORMATION:

- Contest registration opens at **8:00 a.m.** on **July 15, 2026,** and closes at **11:59 p.m.** on **September 4, 2026**.
- **Access contest information and the contestant registration form: www.apprenticeshipnc.com/events**
- Contestants cannot enter themselves. Their entry forms must be submitted by their employers/program sponsors.
- The contest is limited to Registered Apprentices and Registered Pre-Apprentices enrolled in ApprenticeshipNC-recognized HVAC/R programs.
- Preference will be given to Registered Apprentices through September 4, 2026.
  - After this date, remaining spaces will be filled by Registered Pre-Apprentices on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Contestants must be approved for contest participation by their employer, program sponsor, or the Contest Committee.
- Contestants must have completed **less than 8,000 hours of training** and must not have completed their Registered Apprenticeship or Registered Pre-Apprenticeship Program prior to Friday, October 23, 2026.
- All required documentation must be submitted prior to the start of the contest in order for contestants to compete.
- Previous first place winners are ineligible to compete in future contests.
- **Contest limited to 12 qualified contestants**. ApprenticeshipNC will maintain an alternate list.

CONTEST PLANNING COMMITTEE:

- ApprenticeshipNC
- Bill Spidel — Mecklenburg County Code Enforcement (Ret.)
- Johnny Smith — Comfort Solutions HVAC Inc.
- John Todaro — Mecklenburg County Code Enforcement
- John Turnage — Umpire Technologies Group
- Kevin Ryan — Town of Cary Inspections

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Due to entry deadline extensions by committees, some contestants, contributors, and/or sponsors may not be listed in the printed program. These individuals and organizations will be acknowledged at the awards presentation. The contest committee reserves the right to make changes prior to the contest date. Updates to any contest will be posted at www.apprenticeshipnc.com/events.

ABOUT THE CONTEST:

Held annually for over 20 years, the N.C. State Fair HVAC/R Apprentice Contest promotes interest in skilled trades and highlights the next generation of North Carolina's workforce. The contest is organized by ApprenticeshipNC, the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and industry partners and employers. It brings together the state's top HVAC/R apprentices compete head-to-head to demonstrate their technical skill, knowledge, and precision.

SkillsUSA COSMETOLOGY CONTESTS

DIVISION 101 - APPRENTICE CONTESTS
Class 07 – COSMETOLOGY

SkillsUSA NORTH CAROLINA

Contestants must register online at Register.SkillsUSA.org on or before October 10, 2026

CONTEST INFORMATION:

- **DATE:** Saturday, October 24, 2026
- **LOCATION:** N.C. State Fair, behind the Jim Graham Building off of Hillsborough Street
- **COMPETITIONS:**
  - Total Look / Fantasy Hair & Make-Up
  - Total Evening Elegance
  - Anything But Hair
  - Nail Art Design
  - Total Style

- **ELIGIBILITY:** Limited to students enrolled in Cosmetology programs in NC Community Colleges and NC Public High Schools
- **JUDGING:** Will occur throughout the competition. A contestant "Runway Show" will take place at approximately 2:00 p.m.
- **AWARDS:** Presented Saturday, October 24, 2026, at 2:00 p.m.
- **FAIR PREMIUMS**: The following fair premiums represent the total premium pool for all 5 Cosmetology contests and will be subdivided accordingly. Each contest will award premiums for 1st and 2nd place.
  - 1st Place: $325, 2nd Place: $225, 3rd Place: $175, 4th Place: $125, 5th Place: $100, 6th-10th Place: $75

CONTEST PLANNING COMMITTEE:

- Morris "Boz" Boswell - Retired Cosmetology Instructor
- Paul Heidepriem - Director, SkillsUSA, North Carolina

The State of North Carolina will require the submission of a NC Substitute W-9 prior to making any payment of $600 or greater or any payment that results in a total of $600 or more during one calendar year from the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to any individual or entity. All exhibitors are strongly encouraged to complete and upload the NC Substitute W-9 form to prevent any delay in receiving premium prize money.

Due to entry deadline extensions by committees, some contestants, contributors, and/or sponsors may not be listed in the printed program. These individuals and organizations will be acknowledged at the awards presentation. The contest committee reserves the right to make changes prior to the contest date.

SKILLSUSA NORTH CAROLINA
PO BOX 88
OXFORD, NC 27565

(919) 675-1241
SKILLSUSANC.ORG

ART & PHOTOGRAPHY

Superintendent: Don Gowin

Registration Deadline: Tuesday, September 15, 2026 at 11:59 PM

**Mailed entry forms must be postmarked by September 1st, 2026*

Entry Take-In:

- Enter through Gate 12.
- Saturday, October 10th, 2026 from 8 AM-6 PM - Kerr Scott Building
- Sunday, October 11th, 2026 from 8 AM-6 PM - Kerr Scott Building

**Mailed exhibits must be received by Monday, October 5th, 2026*

Judging:

- Tuesday, October 13th, 2026 at 9 AM

Entry Pick-Up:

- Monday, October 26th, 2026 from 8 AM-6 PM - Kerr Scott Building

**Claim ticket from entry tags are required to claim your entries.*

ART & PHOTOGRAPHY RULES & REGULATIONS

- The General Rules and Regulations of the Fair will govern this department, except in cases of conflict, where the following Rules and Regulations will prevail. Please read all rules & regulations carefully before submitting your entries.
- Submit questions to: NCSFCompetitions@ncagr.gov
- Pre-registration is required, either online or by mail. Make your entries early.
- Open to all residents of North Carolina.
- Entries not ready to hang with a wire hanger secured by screws **will not be accepted.**
- Entries must be original works, no AI generated artwork permitted.
- No copies or prints of Paintings, Drawings, or Pastel art can be entered as original art.
- Shipped exhibits must be received by Monday, October 5th, 2026. If you want your entry to be returned after the fair, a prepaid postage return address label must be included in your original package. Your work will be returned to you in the same manner and packaging material in which it was mailed to us. Shipped entries will be placed in the mail to be returned to exhibitors by Saturday, October 31st, 2026.
- Unclaimed art will become the property of the NC State Fair if not picked up at the Entry Department by Saturday, October 31, 2026.
- Judging will be based on the following criteria:
  - I. Impact - effect on viewer, catches the eye and holds attention, mood and story telling techniques
  - II. Composition - arrangement, completeness and balance of picture elements
  - III. Technical Quality - sharpness, clarity, etc.
  - IV. Workmanship - prepared, mounted neatly and securely to meet requirements
- The NC State Fair reserves the right to refuse to exhibit any work that it deems inappropriate.
- The NC State Fair is under no obligation to display every entry.
- For concerns about entries released from other fairs, please call the Entry Department 919-839-4513.

ART & PHOTOGRAPHY RULES AND REGULATIONS CONTINUED...

- All categories have an entry fee except Schools and Coloring Book Pages.
- All entries in these categories must be framed and ready to hang with a wire hanger secured by screws.
- Wrapped canvas with finished sides are acceptable (no staples visible, no exposed canvas panels,no clip frames). Metal Print and Acrylic Print do not have to be framed.
- All entries must be original works (no kits or published patterns, no AI generated artwork), except Coloring Book page entries.
- No entry will be accepted that is wet, perishable, or deemed unstable in any way.
- Only artist signatures can be visible on the front of the entry in the Professional class.
- Names and phone numbers must be on the back of entries.

IMPORTANT:

- ALL ENTRIES in Classes 101-103 must be framed and ready to hang with a **WIRE HANGER secured by SCREWS** (as shown below).
- Any other hangers, such as sawtooth hangers, tape, or string, are NOT acceptable. Any entries that do not meet these requirements will **NOT be accepted.** Class 104 School Entries and Class 105 Coloring Book pages are exempt from these requirements.

PROFESSIONAL ARTIST

- **Entry Fee:** $10.00 per entry *(nonrefundable)*
- A **professional** is an artist who has a great amount of experience, earns income from selling their work, or teaches art.
- You may submit up to TWO (2) total entries.
- Paintings/Drawings/Print Entry cannot exceed 36” X 40” including frame.
- Paintings/Drawings/Print Entry must weigh less than 25 lbs
- Photography entry cannot exceed 25” X 25”, length and width including frame.
- Photography entries must weigh less than 25 lbs

DIVISION 101: PROFESSIONAL ARTIST

PREMIUMS

1st - $300 2nd - $200 3rd - $100 4th - $75

CLASS

01 - Paintings - *Oil, Acrylic, & Water Color*

02 - Drawings, Pastels, Print Making - *Lithographs, etchings and other prints made by artist’s hand, and mixed media*

03 - Photography *Single Photo*

AMATEUR ARTIST

- **Entry Fee:** $10.00 per entry *(nonrefundable)*
- An **amateur** is an artist who creates a very limited amount of art, does not earn an income from selling their work, or does not teach art.
- You may submit up to TWO (2) total entries.
- Paintings/Drawings/Print Entry cannot exceed 25” X 25”, including frame.
- Paintings/Drawings/Print Entry must weigh less than 25 lbs
- Photography Entry cannot exceed 25” X 25” length and width including frame.
- Photography Entry must weigh less than 25 lbs

DIVISION 102: AMATEUR ARTIST

PREMIUMS

1st - $120 2nd - $95 3rd - $80 4th - $55

CLASS

01 - Paintings - *Oil, Acrylic & Water Color*

02 - Drawings, Pastels, Print Making - *Lithographs, etchings and other prints made by artist’s hand, and mixed media*

03 - Photography *Single Photo*

YOUTH ARTIST

- **Entry Fee:** $10.00 per entry *(nonrefundable)*
- The Youth Category is open to all individual artists ages 18 and under. School entries for youth are in Division 104.
- Exhibitors may only submit **one** entry in this division.
- No entry may exceed 25” x 25”, including frame.
- Entry Must weigh less than 10 lbs.

DIVISION 103: YOUTH ARTIST

PREMIUMS

1st - $50 2nd - $25 3rd - $10

CLASS

01 - Youth Art (Grades K-2)
02 - Youth Art (Grades 3-5)
03 - Youth Art (Grades 6-8)
04 - Youth Art (Grades 9-12)

SCHOOL ART: PUBLIC, PRIVATE, HOME SCHOOL

- **Entry Fee:** None
- Open to all K-12 schools in North Carolina, Public, Private and Home Schools.
- Registration can be completed by TEACHERS ONLY. Please enter under your SCHOOL’S NAME.
- Each school in North Carolina is invited to enter up to six (6) individual pieces of artwork by six (6) different individual students currently enrolled in the participating school for their entry. Artwork should have been completed as part of a school assignment within the last year.
- No entry may exceed 18” x 24”.
- Entry Must weigh less than 10 lbs.
- All entries must be properly mounted with a wire hanger secured by screws or matted onto heavyweight paper with two hole punches. No glue or tape will be accepted.
- Each work should have the student’s name, age, and grade placed in the lower right front corner of the work.
- School entries must arrive together in a group at one time and should be boxed or wrapped for ease in handling and identification.
- Any entry not in compliance with requirements will not be accepted and/or disqualified.

DIVISION 104: PUBLIC, PRIVATE, HOME SCHOOLS

PREMIUMS

1st - $650 2nd - $550 3rd - $450 4th - $350 5th - $250 6th - $150 7th - $100 8th - $50

CLASS

01 - Elementary School (Grades K-5)
02 - Middle School (Grades 6-8)
03 - High School (Grades 9-12)

ART COLORING PAGES

- **Entry Fee:** None
- Any North Carolina resident of any skill level is eligible to participate.
- Entry tag must be taped to the back of each entry.
- This competition is limited to only the coloring pages provided by the N.C. State Fair. You may access them here, view them on the following pages, or by emailing NCSFCompetitions@ncagr.gov.
- Pages cannot exceed 8½ x 11 inches.
- You can enter as many pages as you wish, but you can only win once.
- Entries in this category do not need to be framed. We will insert them into protective sleeves for display.
- Display space is limited. There is no guarantee that every entry will be displayed.

DIVISION 105: ART COLORING PAGES

CLASS		PREMIUMS		
		1st	2nd	3rd
01	- Child A, Ages 5 -7	$10	$8	$6
02	- Child B, Ages 8 -10	$10	$8	$6
03	- Youth A, Ages 11 - 13	$12	$10	$8
04	- Youth B, Ages 14 - 18	$12	$10	$8
05	- Adult, Ages 19 and over	$15	$12	$10
06	- Special Needs, Any Age	$10	$8	$6
07	- Group Home, Any Age	$10	$8	$6

ART SPECIAL AWARDS

Open to Divisions 101-104 only

AWARD	PREMIUMS
Best of Show	$500 and Ribbon
Commissioner of Agriculture's Choice Award	$200 and Ribbon
Best North Carolina Scene*	$250 and Ribbon
Best NC State Fair Scene*	$250 and Ribbon
Best Agricultural Scene/Still Life*	$250 and Ribbon

**If your artwork qualifies and you wish to submit it for consideration for the Best North Carolina Scene, Best NC State Fair Scene, or Best NC Agriculture Scene/Still Life awards, you need to note the category on the back of your piece along with a brief description.*

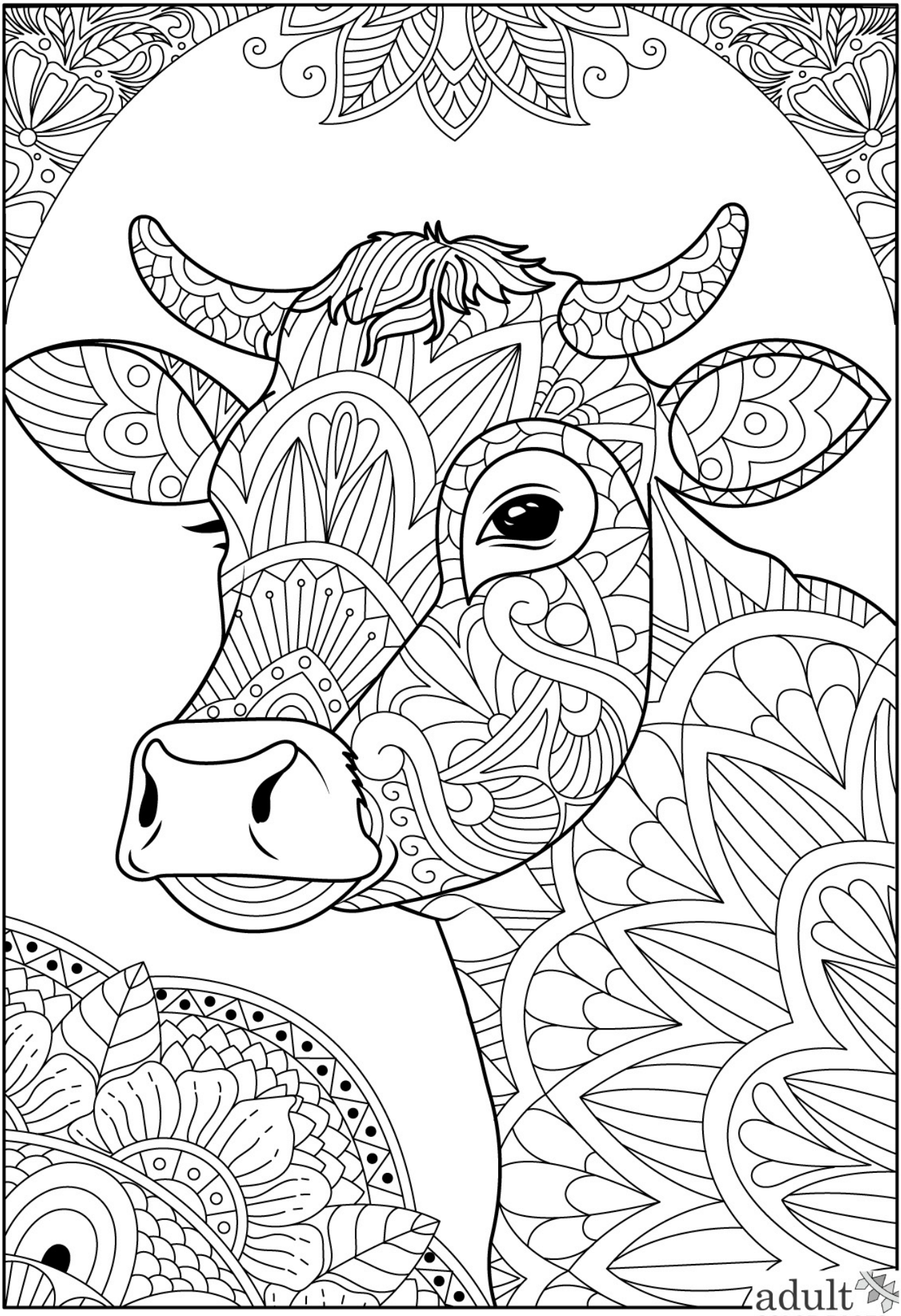
JERRY'S ARTARAMA®
Empowering Artists Since 1968!

Jerry's Artarama Outstanding Young Artist Award

Elementary School *Div. 104 Class 01-02*	$50 Jerry's Artarama Gift Certificate
Middle School *Div. 104 Class 03*	$50 Jerry's Artarama Gift Certificate
High School *Div. 104 Class 04*	$50 Jerry's Artarama Gift Certificate
Non-School Youth *Div. 103*	$50 Jerry's Artarama Gift Certificate

2026 N.C. STATE FAIR COLORING PAGE

2026 N.C. STATE FAIR COLORING PAGE



PLEIN AIR

AT THE NC STATE FAIR

Registration Opens: Wednesday, July 1st, 2026 at 9 AM.

Registration Closes: Tuesday, September 15, 2026 at 11:59 PM or the **first 25 entries.**

Entry Fee: $25

Check-In & Material Stamping:

- Monday, October 19th, 2026 from 12 PM-1:30 PM at Gate 12.

Submission Deadline:

- Monday, October 19th, 2026 before 9 PM - Kerr Scott Building

Judging:

- Tuesday, October 20th, 2026 at 8 AM
- People's Choice: Tuesday, October 20th - Friday, October 23rd, 2026

Entry Pick-Up:

- Monday, October 26th, 2026 from 8 AM-6 PM - Kerr Scott Building
- The fair reserves the right to retain entries for up to 1 year for display before being released to exhibitors.

**Claim ticket from entry tags are required to claim your entries.*

PLEIN AIR ADDITIONAL RULES & REGULATIONS

- Plein Air at the NC State Fair is an opportunity for artists to capture the atmosphere, light, and mood of the NC State Fair by creating artwork in the moment on the fairgrounds during the fair.
- Pre-registration online is required. The first 25 artists to register will be accepted.
- Open to residents of North Carolina.
- Artwork must be completed entirely on the fairgrounds in an area accessible to the general public on the day of the competition between 12 PM and 9 PM on Monday, October 19th, 2026.
- Entries will be disqualified if the artist:
  - Submits artwork that is not stamped.
  - Is found using a photographic device or has photos on their easel.
  - Is not completing artwork in an area on the faigrounds open to the general public.
  - Intentionally impedes the sightlines of other artists.
- Ribbons and premiums will be awarded to the top 5 winners and the People's Choice Award winner.
- Regardless of cause, the artist agrees to bear all risk and expense for any loss, theft, or damage to their artwork or other personal property or injury to their person.
- Participating artists and all paintings submitted may be photographed and videotaped by the NC State Fair for promotional purposes.

CHECK-IN & MATERIAL STAMPING

- An entry tag and parking pass will be mailed to the accepted exhibitors. The entry tag will serve as admission to the fair. Accepted exhibitors will be contacted with more detailed instructions.

- Check-In and Material Stamping will be located at Gate 12 from 12 PM - 1:30 PM. Entry tag is required for check-in.
- Each exhibitor is allowed **one** stamp on the art material of their choice to be used for their artwork. The art material must be blank at the time of stamping.

MATERIALS

- Exhibitors are responsible for providing their own art material, easels, media, frame, hardware for hanging, and any other materials needed for completion and submission of artwork.
- Allowed media: oils, acrylics, watercolors, pastels, gouache, pens, pencils, or inks.
- Submission Size Requirements:
  - Minimum:
    - 154 square inches
  - Maximum:
    - Unframed Art/Canvas Area: 320 square inches
    - Framed Art Area: 480 square inches

For the purposes of this competition, square inches refers to the standard formula of length multiplied by width. For example: 16” x 20” canvas = 320 square inches.

SUBMISSION

- Completed artwork must be taken to the Kerr Scott Building before 9 PM for submission. Artwork submitted after 9 PM will be at risk for disqualification.
- All artwork must be appropriately **framed, mounted, and securely wired for hanging** with the **entry tag attached to the back** upon submission.
  - Framing is required, unless it is a wrapped canvas with finished sides (no visible staples, exposed canvas panels, or clip frames).
  - Any artwork not properly framed or ready to hang with a wire hanger secured by screws will be at risk for disqualification.
- The fair reserves the right to retain entries for up to 1 year for display before being released to exhibitors.

PLEIN AIR

DIVISION 106: PLEIN AIR

PREMIUMS

1st - $300 2nd - $200 3rd - $150 4th - $100 5th - $75

CLASS

01 - Plein Air

PLEIN AIR SPECIAL AWARDS

AWARD	PREMIUMS
People’s Choice Award	$150 and Ribbon

The People’s Choice Award will be determined through online voting and social media. Voting will open Tuesday, October 20th at 9 AM and close on Friday, October 23rd at the close of the Fair.

BAKING

Superintendent: Debbie O'Brien

Registration Deadline: Tuesday, September 15th, 2026 at 11:59 PM

**Mailed entry forms must be postmarked by September 1st, 2026*

Entry Take-In:

- Enter through Gate 12.
- Saturday, October 10th, 2026 from 8 AM-6 PM - Education Building
- Sunday, October 11th, 2026 from 8 AM-6 PM - Education Building

**Mailed exhibits must be received by Monday, October 5th, 2026*

Judging:

- Tuesday, October 13th, 2026 at 9 AM

Entry Pick-Up:

- Monday, October 26th, 2026 from 8 AM-6 PM - Education Building
  - The fair is not responsible for entries left after 6 PM and will be discarded.

**Claim ticket from entry tags are required to claim your entries.*

BAKING RULES & REGULATIONS

- The General Rules and Regulations of the Fair will govern this department, except in cases of conflict, where the following Rules and Regulations will prevail. Please read all rules & regulations carefully before submitting your entries.
- Submit questions to: NCSFCompetitions@ncagr.gov
- Pre-registration is required, either online or by mail. Make your entries early.
- Open to residents of North Carolina only.
- Exhibitors are allowed one entry per Class.
  - Only one individual per household may make an entry under a Class number.
  - The same product may not be shared for entry by more than one individual. Violators will be disqualified.
- Commercially produced entries are not allowed.
- Except where noted, all entries must be made from scratch. No mock products will be accepted as entries.
- Entries needing refrigeration or those with frosting containing cream cheese, cream, and/or raw egg products will be disqualified.
- No product that contains a filling injected after the baking process, such as a cream-filled éclair, will be accepted.
- No product that contains a fresh fruit garnish will be accepted.
- Once your entry has been accepted, judged, and displayed, the display cases will be locked and will not be opened for any reason during hours of fair operation. Any corrections or repairs to the entries will be done before or after Fair hours.

BAKING

- Baked goods can be delivered to the department in any form of disposable covered container. You can use a rigid plastic plate inside a food grade plastic bag (plastic wrap not allowed). Half cake containers, cup cake clam shell containers, and lidded containers no larger than 8 X 10” are permitted. Unlisted containers may lead to disqualification. Containers are **not** returned to exhibitors.
- All entries will be placed on a standard fair plate following judging for display purposes
- Judges may make remarks and attach to the entry tag. The judges’ feedback can be provided upon request by the Entry Office to exhibitors after the conclusion of the fair until November 30th, 2026.

DIVISION 101: BREADS

PREMIUMS

1st - $15 2nd - $12 3rd - $10

CLASS

01 - White Yeast Bread *½ loaf*
02 - Whole Wheat Yeast Bread *½ loaf*
03 - Other Flour Yeast Bread *Rye, oatmeal, or flour mixtures, ½ loaf.*
04 - Sourdough Bread *Any Flour, ½ loaf*
05 - Any Old World Bread *Traditional French, Italian etc. ½ loaf*
06 - Any Fruit, Nuts, or Spice bread *½ loaf*
07 - Skillet or Soda Bread *½ loaf*
08 - Corn Bread, Plain *Muffins, Squares, Wedges or Sticks. 6 items*
09 - Corn Bread, Flavored*: Muffins, Squares, Wedges or Sticks. 6 items*
10 - White Yeast Rolls *6 rolls*
11 - Whole Wheat Rolls *or other flours. 6 rolls*
12 - Sticky Buns/Cinnamon Rolls, Yeast *With white flour or other flours. 6 rolls*
13 - Fruit Muffin *6 muffins*
14 - Vegetable Muffin *6 muffins*
15 - Muffin, Any Other *6 muffins*
16 - Coffee Cake or Tea Ring *9 inches or less*
17 - Quick Bread, Banana *½ loaf*
18 - Quick Bread, Any Other Fruit *½ loaf*
19 - Quick Bread, Vegetable *½ loaf*
20 - Quick Bread, Nut or Other *½ loaf*
21 - Gluten Free Quick Bread, Any Fruit *½ loaf*
22 - Plain or Buttermilk Biscuits *6 biscuits*
23 - Savory Biscuits *Cheese, Garlic, etc. 6 biscuits*
24 - Sweetpotato Biscuits *6 biscuits*
25 - Cheese Straws *2 dozen*
26 - Scones, Any Type or Flavor *6 scones*

BREADS CRITERIA FOR JUDGING

	Good Qualities	Bad Qualities
Appearance 25 points	-Pleasing appearance, with even golden brown color. -Good shape, well proportioned, with an even rounded top.	-Unpleasing appearance, being too pale or brown. -Irregular or poor shape, with cracks or bulges.
Texture 25 points	-Fine, even grain, with small cell walls. -Light for Size -Crisp, dry crust about 1/8” thick.	-Large cells, coarse grain, thick cell walls, tunnels, large holes. -Heavy for size.
Crumb 25 points	-Even color throughout. -Slightly moist, light, elastic, and tender.	-Gray or dark streaks. -Harsh, crumbly, dry, doughy, or tough.

DIVISION 102: CAKES

PREMIUMS

1st - $17 2nd - $14 3rd - $12

CLASS

Tube, Sheet, or Loaf Cakes

01 - Angel Food Cake *½ cake*
02 - Cupcakes *6 See Youth categories for Youth Cupcakes*
03 - Jelly Roll Cake *½ cake*
04 - Spice Cake *½ cake*
05 - Baked Fruit Cake *6 ½ inch slices*
06 - True Pound Cake *½ cake*
07 - Mock Plain Pound Cake *½ cake*
08 - Chocolate Pound Cake *½ cake*
09 - Flavored Mock Pound Cake, Not Listed *½ cake*
10 - Fruit Flavored Tube, Sheet, or Loaf Cake, Not Listed *½ cake*
11 - Any Tube, Sheet, or Loaf Cake, Not Listed *½ cake*

True pound cake contains only butter or margarine, sugar, eggs, and flour. Flavorings permitted. No baking powder, baking soda, or milk is allowed. Mock pound cake can include baking powder, baking soda and milk, but cannot include boxed cake mix.

Layer Cakes, Iced (See Rules)

12 - Devil's Food Layer Cake, Any Icing *½ cake*
13 - German Chocolate Layer Cake, Any Icing *½ cake*
14 - Other Chocolate Layer Cake, Any Icing *½ cake*
15 - Coconut Layer Cake, Any Icing *½ cake*
16 - Spice Layer Cake, Any Icing *½ cake*
17 - Yellow Layer Cake, Any Icing *½ cake*
18 - White Layer Cake, Any Icing *½ cake*
19 - Any Fruit Flavored Layer Cake, Any Icing *½ cake*
20 - Any Other Layer Cake, Any Icing *½ cake*

CAKES CRITERIA FOR JUDGING

	Good Qualities	Bad Qualities
Appearance 25 points	-Pleasing, symmetrical appearance, with a slightly rounded top. -Smooth, uniform crust. -Frosting is smooth and evenly spread.	-Unpleasing appearance, with a peaked or sunken top, flat, or higher on one side. -Humps or cracks on top. -Hard, sticky, shiny, or cracked crust. -Frosting is crystallized, sticky, sugar, or coarse; unevenly spread or too thick.
Texture 25 points	-Fine, even grain, with thin cell walls. -Feathery, light, and crumbly when cut. -Crisp, dry crust about 1/8" thick.	-Thick cell walls, tunnels, or large holes. -Coarse or uneven grain. -Heavy for size.
Crumb 25 points	-Smooth and velvety, slightly moist, light and tender, and pleasing color.	-Soggy or sad, harsh or dry, tough, or off color.
Flavor 25 points	-Good, delicate, well-blended, and sweet flavor. -Free from strong flavor.	-Bitter, flat, or off flavor. -Unpleasurable or strong flavor of egg or other ingredients.

DIVISION 103: COOKIES & BROWNIES

PREMIUMS

1st - $12 2nd - $10 3rd - $8

CLASS

01 - Brown Sugar Lace Cookie *Commissioner's Favorite 9*
02 - Chocolate Chip/Chocolate Chunk Cookie *9*
03 - Oatmeal Raisin Cookie *9*
04 - Plain Sugar Cookie, Sprinkles Allowed *9*
05 - Any Drop Cookie, Not Listed *9*
06 - Ice Box or Rolled Cookie *Not decorated. 9*
07 - Shaped Cookie, Pressed or Molded *9*
08 - Royal Icing Decorated Cookies *Not tasted 4*
09 - Bar Cookies *Cooked in sheet, cut in strips. Not brownies. 9*
10 - Sandwich Cookies or Filled Cookies *9 See Rules*
11 - Plain Brownies *No icing, no nuts, no baking chips, etc. 9*
12 - Brownies with Additional Ingredients *Icing, nuts, baking chips, marshmallows, etc. 9*
13 - Fat Free Brownies *9*
14 - Biscotti, Any Type *9*
15 - Cookies, Not Listed *9*

COOKIES & BROWNIES CRITERIA FOR JUDGING

	Good Qualities	Bad Qualities
Appearance **25 points**	-Characteristic of type. -Uniform crust color. -Regular, even, uniform shape. -Attractive, with good proportion.	-Unattractive. -Pale, dull, burned, or off color, -Irregular or poor shape. -Too large or small. -Too thick or thin.
Texture **25 points**	<u>Rolled, Ice Box, or Pressed</u> -Thin, crisp and tender <u>Drop, Sheet, or Bar</u> -Thick, soft, and tender, with even grain.	-Too hard or dry. -Too limp. -Coarse grain. -Heavy or soggy.
Crumb **25 points**	-Tender, but holds together well.	-Tough, rubbery, or crumbly.
Flavor **25 points**	-Characteristic of type. -Good, well-blended flavor. -Free from strong flavor.	-Unpleasant, uneven, or flat flavor. -Strong flavor.

DIVISION 104: CANDY

PREMIUMS

1st - $15 2nd - $12 3rd - $10

CLASS

01 - Cooked Chocolate Fudge *Chocolate only, old fashioned beaten by hand or mixer. 12 pieces*
02 - Quick Chocolate Fudge *Chocolate only, quick methods. 12 pieces*
03 - Any Other Fudge *Other flavors including chocolate combinations. 12 pieces*
04 - Caramels *12 pieces*
05 - Fruit Candy *12 pieces*
06 - Divinity *12 pieces*
07 - Mints, Pulled *12 pieces*
08 - Mints, Other *12 pieces*
09 - Peanut Brittle *12 pieces*
10 - Hand Dipped Candy *12 pieces*
11 - Any Other Candy *12 pieces*

CANDY CRITERIA FOR JUDGING

	Good Qualities	Bad Qualities
Appearance 25 points	-Attractive -Uniform color. -Regular, even, and uniform shape.	-Unattractive. -Poor or inconsistent color. -Irregular or poor shape.
Texture/Tenderness 40 points	<u>Crystalline</u> -Firm, not hard or soft. <u>Non-Crystalline</u> -No crystals and should hold shape.	-Too hard, soft, or tough. -Too sticky or dry. -Crumbly. -Undesirable crystal formation.
Flavor 35 points	-Good, well-blended flavor. -Free from strong flavor.	-Unpleasant, uneven, or flat flavor. -Strong flavor.

YOUTH BAKING

True pound cake contains only butter/margarine, sugar, eggs, and flour. No baking powder, baking soda, or milk is allowed. Liquid flavorings, including vanilla and spices are allowed.

Entries needing refrigeration or those with frosting containing cream cheese, cream and/or raw egg products will be disqualified. No product that contains a filling injected after the baking process, such as a cream-filled éclair, will be accepted.

DIVISION 105: YOUTH BAKING - AGES 6 - 12

PREMIUMS

1st - $12 2nd - $10 3rd - $8

CLASS

01 - Yeast Bread (1/2 loaf or 6 rolls)
02 - Quick Bread (1/2 loaf or 6 rolls)
03 - Biscuits, Plain or Buttermilk (6)
04 - Cupcakes (6)
05 - Cookies (9)
06 - Brownies (9)

DIVISION 106: YOUTH BAKING - BREADS & CAKES - AGES 13 - 17

PREMIUMS

1st - $15 2nd - $12 3rd - $10

CLASS

01 - Yeast Bread (1/2 loaf or 6 rolls)
02 - Holiday Bread (1/2 loaf)
03 - Quick Bread (1/2 loaf or 6 rolls)
04 - Biscuits, Plain or Buttermilk (6)
05 - Muffins (6)
06 - True Pound Cake (1/2 cake)
07 - Cupcakes (6)
08 - Layer Cake (1/2 cake)

DIVISION 107: YOUTH BAKING - COOKIES & CANDY - AGES 13 - 17

PREMIUMS

1st - $12 2nd - $10 3rd - $8

CLASS

01 - Drop Cookies (9)
02 - Rolled Cookies (9)
04 - Fudge, Any Type (12 pieces)
05 - Peanut Brittle (6 pieces)

GROUP HOME & SPECIAL NEEDS BAKING

- *The same entry will not be allowed in more than one Class number or competition*
- *Group home entries must be registered in the group home's name and entered in the group home categories under each class.*
- *The NC State Fair abides by developmental age grouping for individuals with exceptional/special needs.*

PREMIUMS

1st - $12 2nd - $10 3rd - $8

DIVISION 108: GROUP HOME BAKING

CLASS

01 - Group Home, Any Category Listed

DIVISION 109: SPECIAL NEEDS BAKING

CLASS

01 - Special Needs, Any Category Listed

DECORATED CAKES

- *Decorated cakes do not need to be delivered in a plastic bag or covered container.*
- *Designs should be chosen to adhere to category specifications.*
- *Entries that do not adhere to size limitations will be disqualified.*
- *Designs that feature fresh fruit will be disqualified.*
- *Full sized Decorated Cakes must be on a round base that is no larger than 18" in diameter.*
- *Entries may not be over 18" high and 18" in diameter, including all decorations, toppings and pillars.*
- *Miniature Decorated Cakes must be on a round base that is no larger than 6" in diameter and cannot be over 10" high including decorations.*
- *Measurements include the platter on which the cake rests.*
- *Entrants are encouraged to use Styrofoam to shape cakes (round, square, or oblong) and novelty designs. All techniques (including the shape of cake/novelty design) must be possible with real cake. Purchased items used as decoration should be kept to a minimum.*
- *All entries in **Division 111 and Division 112** must be made and submitted by non-professionals only.*
- *A non-professional is defined as a person who does not teach cooking classes, has not taught cooking classes, and/or does not produce any candies, cookies, breads, cakes, or other baked goods included in this department for sale.*
- *Decorated cakes may not be sold on the fairgrounds, by order of the NC Health Department.*

PREMIUMS

1st - $25 2nd - $15 3rd - $10

DIVISION 110: PROFESSIONAL DECORATED CAKES

DIVISION 111: AMATEUR DECORATED CAKES

CLASS

01 - Wedding Cake - Buttercream/Royal Icing Decorations Only
02 - Wedding Cake - Gum Paste Decorations Only
03 - Shaped Cake - Royal Icing Decorations Only
04 - Shaped Cake - Buttercream Decorations Only
05 - Novelty Shape & Design - Your Choice of Decorations
06 - Any Other, Not Listed *Combination of frosting/icing/decorations not listed above*
07 - Decorated Cake - Buttercream Frosting Only
08 - Miniature Decorated Cake *Buttercream frosting, fondant icing, or royal icing; your choice of decoration medium(s)*

DIVISION 112: YOUTH AMATEUR DECORATED CAKES

CLASS

01 - Ages 6-12 - Decorated Cake, Any Style *(Playdough or use of other mediums for decorations are allowed for this age group only.)*
02 - Ages 13-17 - Decorated Cake, Any Style

DECORATED PIE CRUST

- *Bakers can let their imaginations run wild, crusts are judged on their appearance only.*
- *Entries will not be tasted. Recipes not required.*
- *Pies will not be returned to exhibitors.*
- *Any disposable pie pan from 5 to 10 inches can be used.*
- *Pie filling can only be puffed rice marshmallow mixture (rice crispy treats) which can be dyed any normal pie filling color.* *(See instructions below)*
- *Designs should be chosen to adhere to Class specifications.*
- *Entries that do not adhere to size limitations will be disqualified.*

DIVISION 113: DECORATED PIE CRUST

PREMIUMS

1st - $25 2nd - $15 3rd - $10

CLASS

01 - Lattice Design *Any variation of inter-woven pie crust.*

02 - Wild Card *Any design other than lattice.*

INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO MAKE A FAKE FRUIT FILLING FOR YOUR PIE CRUST

- You will need:
  - 6 cups Rice Krispies cereal
  - 10 oz. (1 bag) marshmallows (minis melt faster)
  - Food Coloring (spray works best)
- Soften a bowl full of marshmallows in the microwave in 30 second increments. (marshmallows will puff up when ready to mix)
- Mix in 6 cups of Rice Krispies cereal.
- Spoon mixture into disposable pie pan and allow to dry until hard (2-4 days).
- Apply food coloring by either painting it on with a brush or spraying it on.
- Bake pie crust until golden and then air dry for at least a day.
- You can also use dried beans if you wish. Entry must stay on display 11 days.

BAKING SPECIAL AWARDS

AWARDS	PREMIUMS
Best of Show - Bread *Division 101*	$25
Best of Show - Cakes *Division 102*	$25
Best of Show - Cookies *Division 103*	$25
Best of Show - Candy *Division 104*	$25
Best of Show - Youth Baking *Division 105-107*	$25
Best of Show - Professional Decorated Cakes *Division 110*	$25
Best of Show - Amateur Decorated Cakes *Division 111*	$25
Best of Show - Youth Amateur Decorated Cakes *Division 112*	$25
Best of Show - Decorated Pie Crust *Divisions 113*	$25

BEES & HONEY

Superintendent: Adolphus Leonard (adolphus.leonard@ncagr.gov) – Apiary Inspection, NCDA&CS.

Registration Deadline: Tuesday, September 15, 2026 at 11:59 PM

**Mailed entry forms must be postmarked by September 1st, 2026*

Entry Take-In:

- Enter through Gate 5.
- Saturday, October 10th, 2026 from 11 AM-7 PM - Agri Supply Expo Center
- Sunday, October 11th, 2026 from 11 AM-7 PM - Agri Supply Expo Center

**Mailed exhibits must be received by Monday, October 5th, 2026*

Judging:

- Monday, October 12th, 2026 at 1 PM
- Tuesday, October 13th, 2026 at 1 PM

Entry Pick-Up:

- Monday, October 26th, 2026
  - 9 AM-1 PM - Agri Supply Expo Center
  - 1 PM-6 PM - Administration Building
    - The fair is not responsible for entries left after 6 PM.

**Claim ticket from entry tags are required to claim your entries.*

BEES & HONEY RULES & REGULATIONS

- The NC State Fair General Fair Rules for Exhibitors apply. Except in cases of conflict, in which event the following rules and regulations will prevail, the general rules and regulations of the fair will govern this department.
- Submit questions to: NCSFCompetitions@ncagr.gov
- Pre-registration is required, either online or by mail. Make your entries early.
- Open to all residents of North Carolina.
- All honey and bee products entered in competition must have been produced by the exhibitor, in North Carolina, during the current season, with the exception of mead.
- Exhibitors are allowed one entry per Class.
- The right is reserved to reject entries received after all available space is taken.
- Please take into consideration that entries made and brought to the fair too early may mold before judging and therefore will not be judged.
- All honey displayed must be protected from honeybees and other insects.
- Honey jars should have no labels.
- Exhibitors are urged to personally deliver their exhibits at the Fair. Pre-paid UPS or FedEx shipments will be accepted if addressed to NC State Fair - Entry Dept, 4285 Trinity Road, Raleigh, NC 27609. Mailed exhibits must be received by Monday, October 5th. Mail entry items along with entry tags and any instructions inside the package. Exhibits should be packed with care, so as to arrive in good, clean condition.

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING

The following rubrics are general guides for the use of judges and exhibitors for the classes specified. The assignment of points for each criteria in judging will be at the discretion of the judges. The moisture content of honey entries will be checked by the superintendents upon receipt at the Fair, if requested.

COLLECTION OF 12 NECTAR/POLLEN-PRODUCING PLANTS

Plants Important to Honey Bees - Photos, Models, or Samples	POINTS
Education: Educational Value *(Preference given to plants or regional importance and reason for importance)*	40
Quality: Overall Attractiveness	30
Showmanship: Originality, Choice of Colors, and Arrangement	30
TOTAL POINTS:	100

COMB HONEY AND BULK HONEY FRAMES

	POINTS
1. Uniformity of Appearance *(Between and within sections)*	20
2. Absence of Uncapped Cells	15
3. Uniformity of Color	15
4. Absence of Watery Cappings	15
5. Cleanliness and General Appearance of Sections or Frames	15
6. Freedom from Granulation and Pollen	10
7. Appearance of Cappings and Freedom from Impurities	10
TOTAL POINTS:	100

CUT COMB HONEY

	POINTS
1. Uniformity of Appearance *(Between and within sections)*	25
2. Neatness of Comb Cut: Ragged edges, parallel cuts, and uniformity of size of cuts	30
3. Uniformity of Color	15
4. Absence of Watery cappings	10
5. Appearance of Cappings and Freedom from Impurities	10
6. Cleanliness and General Appearance of Sections or Frames	10
TOTAL POINTS:	100

CHUNK HONEY IN JARS

	POINTS
1. Neatness and Uniformity of Cut (*Upgrade for paralleled and 4-sided cuts; Downgrade for ragged edges)*	22
2. Absence of Watery Cappings, Uncapped Cells, and Pollen	20
3. Cleanliness of Product *(Downgrade for travel stains, foreign matter, wax flakes, foam, or crystallization)*	20
4. Uniformity of Appearance in Capping Structure, Color, and Thickness of Chunks	25
5. Density of Liquid Portion *(Water content above 18.6% will be disqualified)*	13
6. Flavor *(Points will be reduced for honey flavor that has been adversely affected by processing)*	10
Note: There will be disqualification for fermentation	
TOTAL POINTS:	110

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING CONTINUED...

EXTRACTED HONEY

	POINTS
1. Density *(Water content above 18.6% will be disqualified)*	
2. Absence of Crystals	13
3. Cleanliness	34
• *Without lint (8 points)*	
• *Without dirt (11 points)*	
• *Without wax (8 points)*	
• *Without foam (7 points)*	
4. Flavor *(Points will be reduced for honey flavor that has been adversely affected by processing)*	13
5. Accuracy of Filling and Uniformity	25
6. Container Appearance	15
TOTAL POINTS:	100

CREAMED HONEY

	POINTS
1. Fineness of Crystals	30
2. Uniformity and Firmness of Product	25
3. Cleanliness and Freedom from Foam	30
4. Flavor and Color	15
TOTAL POINTS:	100

BEESWAX IN BULK

	POINTS
1. Color *(Straw to canary yellow)*	20
2. Cleanliness *(Absence of honey, propolis, and other impurities)*	30
3. Uniformity of Appearance	15
4. Absence of Cracking and Shrinkage	20
5. Aroma and Texture	10
6. Size/Weight	5
TOTAL POINTS:	100

PURE BEESWAX PRODUCTS (NOVELTIES, CANDLES, FIGURINES, ETC.)

	POINTS
1. Color *(Straw to canary yellow)*	20
2. Cleanliness *(Absence of honey, propolis, and other impurities)*	30
3. Uniformity of Appearance of all Wax in Entry	15
4. Aroma and Texture	5
5. Quality, Craftsmanship, and Appearance of Beeswax Products	30
TOTAL POINTS:	100

NOVELTY ITEMS CONTAINING BEESWAX

	POINTS
1. Cleanliness	20
2. Quality of Wax	20
3. Design, Craftsmanship, and Overall Appearance	35
4. Originality	25
TOTAL POINTS:	100

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING CONTINUED...

COSMETIC ITEMS CONTAINING BEESWAX AND/OR HONEY

	POINTS
1. Cleanliness	20
2. Quality of Wax/Honey	20
3. Design, Craftsmanship, and Overall Appearance	35
4. Originality	25
TOTAL POINTS:	100

BEE-THEMED CRAFTS (HANDMADE)

	POINTS
1. Creativity	30
2. Appearance	25
3. Originality	20
4. Quality	25
TOTAL POINTS:	100

GIFT PACKAGE OF BEE PRODUCTS

	POINTS
1. General Appearance	30
2. Manufactured by Entrant	15
3. Originality	30
4. Quality of Components	10
5. Availability of Components	5
6. Manageability *(Ability to transport)*	10
TOTAL POINTS:	100

MEAD

1. All meads should have been made by the exhibitor by the process of fermentation.
2. The spice(s) used must be listed on the back the entry tag.
3. Entries must not have any identifying labels on the bottle.
4. Natural cork stoppers are preferred for mead entries but screw top wine bottles or synthetic corks may be used. Corks may be straight cork or flanged and machine or hand applied. Corks are to be seated level with the bottle top or slightly below.
5. Wine bottles should be filled so that when the cork is pushed right home, the air space is between ¾" & 1" in depth

PHOTOGRAPHY (BEEKEEPING PRINTS)

	POINTS
1. Subject	25
2. Composition *(Effective arrangement of the visual elements)*	15
3. Creativity *(Unique perspectives or creative techniques)*	10
4. Technical	30
• *Exposure & Contrast: Full tonal range, light to dark (10)*	
• *Focus & Sharpness (10)*	
• *Color Balance: Attractiveness of color or B&W tones (10)*	
5. Presentation *(Matting; quality & design)*	15
6. Caption *(Provides context and/or information on the subject in the image)*	5
TOTAL POINTS:	100

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING CONTINUED...

BEEKEEPING COLORING BOOK	POINTS
1. Overall Quality/General Appearance	30
2. Originality	20
3. Educational Value	40
4. Caption Accompanying each Page/Scene	10
TOTAL POINTS:	100

HONEY COLOR CHART

To enter the correct color category, use this Honey Color chart for reference:

Honey Extra Light Amber and Light Amber will be one category.

Inexpensive color charts are available from honeybee supply companies referencing this color scale. This color chart should be used for an example only. Your computer may not recreate the color accurately.

SENIOR HONEY COMPETITION

Senior Honey classes are open to individual exhibitors ages 18 +.

DIVISION 101: SENIOR HONEY

CLASS		PREMIUMS 1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
01 -	Display of 12 Nectar Plants *Must show bloom. These may include living plants, pictures or other aids suitably mounted or displayed.*	$20	$15	$10	$8	
02 -	One Frame With Comb For Extraction *Plastic, wired or plain foundation.*	$25	$15	$10		
03 -	One Frame With Comb For Chunk Or Cut *No wired or plastic foundation.*	$25	$15	$10		
04 -	Three Sections of Comb Honey *In section boxes or rounds.*	$20	$15	$10		
05 -	Three Sections Cut Comb Honey *In containers. Suitable for retail. No liquid.*	$20	$15	$10		
06 -	Three Jars Light Comb Honey, Chunk *Not less than 14 oz.*	$20	$15	$10		
07 -	Three Jars Amber Comb Honey, Chunk *Not less than 14 oz.*	$20	$15	$10		
08 -	Three Jars Extra Light Amber Extracted Honey *Not less than 14 oz.*	$30	$25	$15	$10	$5
09 -	Three Jars Light Amber Extracted Honey *Not less than 14 oz.*	$30	$25	$15	$10	$5
10 -	Three Jars Amber Extracted Honey *Not less than 14 oz.*	$30	$25	$15	$10	$5
11 -	Three Jars Dark Amber Extracted Honey *Not less than 14 oz.*	$30	$25	$15	$10	$5
12 -	Three Containers Creamed Honey *Not less than 12 oz. Finely granulated. May use tubs or opaque containers. No labels.*	$22	$17	$12		
13 -	Three Containers Flavored Creamed Honey *Not less than 12 oz. May use tubs or opaque containers. No labels.*	$22	$17	$12		

DIVISION 102: SENIOR NON-HONEY BEE PRODUCTS

CLASS		PREMIUMS 1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
01 -	Pure Beeswax Single Block *Not less than 10 lbs., in size and shape commonly on sale by the apiarist (additional blocks will enhance display and be noted in judging)*	$20	$15	$10	$8	
02 -	Pure Beeswax Products *Carvings, models, etc. Must be composed of pure beeswax only--not painted. No candles.*	$20	$12	$10	$8	$6
03 -	Novelty Beeswax Items *Similar to Class 01 but products other than beeswax may be used and items may be painted.*	$15	$12	$10	$8	$6
04 -	Molded or Rolled Candles *Pure beeswax*	$20	$12	$10	$8	$6
05 -	Dipped Tapered Candles *Pure beeswax 8-12 inches. No dyes. Two candles per entry.*	$20	$12	$10	$8	$6
06 -	Beeswax and/or Honey Cosmetic Items - Creams *Three jars/tins (glass or plastic), of hand cream or lotion. Minimum weight 1.5 oz, containing beeswax and/or honey, with ingredients listed on label.*	$15	$12	$10		
07 -	Beeswax and/or Honey Cosmetic Items - Soaps *Three bars of soap, containing beeswax and/or honey, with ingredients listed on label.*	$15	$12	$10		
08 -	Beeswax and/or Honey Cosmetic Items - Lip Balms *Three tins, tubs, or tubes of lip balm containing beeswax and/or honey. Ingredients must be listed.*	$15	$12	$10		
09 -	One Gift Package of Bee Products *Suitable for sale to public*	$16	$14	$12	$10	$8
10 -	Two Bottles of Non-Carbonated Mead - Dry *No flavor added* Approximately 26 oz. capacity each.*	$25	$15	$12	$10	$8

DIVISION 102: SENIOR NON-HONEY, BEE PRODUCTS CONTINUED...

CLASS		PREMIUMS 1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
11 -	Two Bottles of Non-Carbonated Mead- Sweet *No flavor added* Approximately 26 oz. capacity each.*	$25	$15	$12	$10	$8
12 -	Two Bottles of Mead with Fruit - Dry *Approximately 26 oz. capacity each.*	$25	$15	$12	$10	$8
13 -	Two Bottles of Mead with Fruit - Sweet *Approximately 26 oz. capacity each.*	$25	$15	$12	$10	$8
NEW 14 -	Two Bottles of Metheglin Mead - Dry *(Honey, water, spices) Approximately 26 oz. capacity each.*	$25	$15	$12	$10	$8
NEW 15 -	Two Bottles of Metheglin Mead - Sweet *(Honey, water, spices) Approximately 26 oz. capacity each.*	$25	$15	$12	$10	$8
16 -	One Black & White Print *of a honey bee or beekeeping related scene with appropriate caption. Must be mounted and no larger than 8x10 in. Framing optional.*	$15	$12	$10	$8	$6
17 -	One Color Print *of a honey bee or beekeeping related scene with appropriate caption. Must be mounted and no larger than 8x10 in. Framing optional.*	$15	$12	$10	$8	$6

DIVISION 103: SENIOR BEE-THEMED CRAFTS (HANDMADE)

CLASS		PREMIUMS 1st	2nd	3rd	4th
01 -	Quilts - *Fabric Only. Suitable for wall hanging*	$20	$12	$10	$8
02 -	Decorative Items	$20	$12	$10	$8
03 -	Hand Decorated Hive *Painted and/or decorated - functional*	$20	$12	$10	$8
04 -	Painting	$20	$12	$10	$8
05 -	Jewelry	$20	$12	$10	$8

JUNIOR HONEY COMPETITION

Junior classes are open to entries by 4-H, FFA, and FHA members and other North Carolina youth ages 17 and under.

DIVISION 104: JUNIOR HONEY

CLASS		PREMIUMS 1st	2nd	3rd	4th
01 -	Three Jars Chunk, Comb Honey *Not less than 14 oz.*	$15	$10	$8	
02 -	Three Jars Extracted Honey, Light *Not less than 14 oz.*	$15	$10	$8	$5
03 -	Three Jars Extracted Honey, Dark *Not less than 14 oz.*	$15	$10	$8	$5
04 -	Three Sections of Comb *May be square or round*	$15	$10	$8	
05 -	One Black & White Print *of a honey bee or beekeeping related scene with appropriate caption. Must be mounted and no larger than 8x10 in.*	$15	$12	$10	$8
06 -	One Color Print *of a honey bee or beekeeping related scene with appropriate caption. Must be mounted and no larger than 8x10 in.*	$15	$12	$10	$8
07 -	Pure Beeswax Products *Candles, carvings, models, novelties, etc. All products must be composed of pure beeswax only and not painted.*	$15	$12	$10	$8
08 -	Novelty Beeswax Items *May also contain non-beeswax ingredients and the products may be painted.*	$15	$12	$10	$8
09 -	Beekeeping Coloring Book *Contents of at least six pages plus cover, each picture (scene) must include an appropriate caption.*	$15	$12	$10	$8

COUNTY ASSOCIATION DISPLAY BOOTH

RULES & REGULATIONS

- All entries must be submitted **online** using your Association's information. This should include all classes your members expect to generate entries for.
- A NC Substitute W-9 form for your Association must be uploaded at the time of entry.
- Each Association can submit up to **one** (1) entry per class.
- Booth space must be reserved by August 1st by contacting Adolphus Leonard (adolphus.leonard@ncagr.gov). Booths not requested by this date will be assigned by invitation. Booth space will be allocated on basis of show record of applicant if there are more applicants than available space. Booths may be assigned on a first come, first served basis.
- Booth space assignments will be made before 9 AM Saturday, Oct. 10. Exhibitors may begin setting up displays at 10 AM Saturday, Oct 10 and must be in place for judging by 9 PM on Sunday, Oct 11, 2026.
- There will be no peddling, hawking, or selling of any kind in or around booths that is not in keeping with Fair policy.
- Booths must be kept clean and neat. All items not on exhibit must be removed from exhibit area or stored in storage space under the booth. No boxes or other material shall be left on the floor behind the booth.
- County Association Display Booths will be comprehensively judged for the Class 37: Overall County Association Display Booth awards based on the rubric provided. Premiums and ribbons will be awarded. Associations must register for this class to participate.
- The County Association Display Booth Sweepstakes winners in the Special Awards section will be determined by their placings of individual entries in Classes 01-36 within the booth based on a points system. Premiums will **not** be awarded for the individual class entries, only the overall Sweepstakes winners.

DIVISION 105: COUNTY ASSOCIATION DISPLAY BOOTH

All entries included in the display for Classes 01-36 will be awarded ribbons and points towards Sweepstakes consideration based on placings: 1st place - 3 points, 2nd place - 2 points, 3rd place - 1 point

01 - Display Of 12 Nectar Plants *Must show bloom. These may include living plants, pictures or other aids suitably mounted or displayed.*

02 - One Frame With Comb For Extraction *Plastic, wired, or plain foundation.*

03 - One Frame With Comb For Chunk Or Cut *No wired or plastic foundation.*

04 - Three Sections Of Comb Honey *In section boxes or rounds.*

05 - Three Sections Cut Comb Honey *In containers. Suitable for retail. No liquid.*

06 - Three Jars Light Comb Honey, Chunk *Not less than 14 oz.*

07 - Three Jars Amber Comb Honey, Chunk *Not less than 14 oz.*

08 - Three Jars Extra Light extracted honey *Not less than 14 oz.*

09 - Three Jars Light Extracted Honey *Not less than 14 oz.*

10 - Three Jars Amber Extracted Honey *Not less than 14 oz.*

11 - Three Jars Dark Extracted Honey *Not less than 14 oz.*

12 - Three Containers Creamed Honey *Not less than 12 oz. Finely granulated. May use tubs or opaque containers. No labels.*

13 - Three Containers Flavored Creamed Honey *Not less than 12 oz. Finely granulated. May use tubs or opaque containers. No labels.*

14 - Display of Extracted Honey *Not less than 48 lbs., in clear containers with no container exceeding 2 lbs of capacity.*

DIVISION 105: COUNTY ASSOCIATION DISPLAY BOOTH CONTINUED...

CLASS

15 - Pure Beeswax Single Block *Not less than 10 lbs., in size and shape commonly on sale by the apiarist (additional blocks will enhance display and be noted in judging).*

16 - Pure Beeswax Products *Carvings, models, etc, must be composed of pure beeswax only-and not painted. No candles.*

17 - Molded or Rolled Candles *Pure beeswax.*

18 - Two Dipped Tapered Candles *Pure beeswax 8-12 inches. No dyes. 2 per entry.*

19 - Novelty Beeswax Items *Similar to Class 16 but products other than beeswax may be used & may be painted.*

20 - Beeswax and/or Honey Cosmetic Items - Cream *Must have labels. List of ingredients required.*

21 - Beeswax and/or Honey Cosmetic Items - Soap *Must have labels. List of ingredients required.*

22 - Beeswax and/or Honey Cosmetic Items - Lip Balm *Must have labels. List of ingredients required.*

23 - One Gift Package of Bee Products *Suitable for sale to public.*

24 - Two Bottles of Non-Carbonated Dry Mead *No flavor added* Approximately 26 oz. capacity each.*

25 - Two Bottles of Non-Carbonated Sweet Mead *No flavor added* Approximately 26 oz. capacity each.*

26 - Two Bottles of Mead with Fruit - Dry *Approximately 26 oz. capacity each.*

27 - Two Bottles of Mead with Fruit - Sweet *Approximately 26 oz. capacity each.*

NEW 28 - Two Bottles of Metheglin Mead - Dry *(Honey, water, spices) Approximately 26 oz. capacity each.*

NEW 29 - Two Bottles of Metheglin Mead - Sweet *(Honey, water, spices) Approximately 26 oz. capacity each.*

30 - One Black & White Print *Print of a honey bee or beekeeping related scene with appropriate caption. Must be mounted and no larger than 8x10 inches. Framing is optional.*

31 - One Color Print *Print of a honey bee or beekeeping related scene with appropriate caption. Must be mounted and no larger than 8x10 inches. Framing is optional.*

32 - Quilt *Fabric Only Suitable for wall hanging.*

33 - Decorative Items

34 - Hand Decorated Hive *Painted and/or decorated - functional.*

35 - Paintings

36 - Jewelry

37 - Overall County Association Display Booth *(See Below)*

OVERALL COUNTY ASSOCIATION DISPLAY BOOTH

Overall County Association Display Booth will be determined by comprehensive judging of booths based on the rubric below. Associations must register for Class 37 to participate. Premiums and ribbons will be awarded.

PREMIUMS

1st - $150 2nd - $100 3rd - $80 4th - $70 5th - $55 6th - $50 7th - $45

OVERALL COUNTY ASSOCIATION DISPLAY BOOTH CRITERIA FOR JUDGING	POINTS
Education: Educational and advertising value	40
Showmanship: Includes decoration, overall attractiveness, and originality	30
Quality: Includes overall display and component parts (from Classes 01-36)	30
TOTAL POINTS:	100

HONEY FOODS

- All entries in this class must contain honey as one of the principal sweetening ingredients.
- The purpose of this competition is to demonstrate skill in the use of honey in cooking. Therefore, the proportion of honey in the recipe will be a primary consideration in scoring by the judges. There are no other ingredient restrictions, and commercial mixes may be used. Factors such as whether the entry is representative of the entered class and freshness of the product will be considered in the judging. It will be the responsibility of the exhibitor to see that entries are correctly classified and tagged. The score cards used in the Baking Department will be used as guides in judging foods cooked with honey.
- Place cakes on pieces of very heavy cardboard which has been covered with foil or wax paper. Cardboard should extend one inch beyond the cake on all sides. Punch a hole in the cardboard base so an entry tag can be tied through it. Entry tags will be mailed to you around the end of September. Place the unwrapped entry in a large clear food grade plastic bag (plastic wrap is not acceptable) with the entry tag extending outside the bag. You must supply your own plastic bag. Entries may be transferred to clear plastic containers by the judges for display. Any liquid entries should be in disposable containers.
- Entries must be prepared from ingredients compatible with commonly accepted recipes for the class in which are entered. Each entry must be accompanied by a recipe on a 3”x5” or suitable card using only one side of the card (may be placed in a zip lock bag). Exhibitors are required to enter at least ½ of a cake and bread, 7 cookies or enough to cover an 8" plate for judging. Junior and Senior entries cannot be from the same cake. Commercial mixes are acceptable but not ranked as highly as items made from scratch. All entries will be discarded at the end of the Fair unless other arrangements have been made with the superintendent. Assistance may be provided to Junior participants but the entry must be primarily the effort of the entrant.
- Please take into consideration that entries made and brought to the Fair too early may mold before judging and therefore will not be judged.

DIVISION 106: SENIOR HONEY FOODS *Ages 18 +*

CLASS	PREMIUMS 1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
01 - Yeast, White Bread	$9	$6	$5	$4	$3
02 - Yeast, Whole Wheat or Graham Bread *Must use at least 1/2 whole wheat.*	$9	$6	$5	$4	$3
03 - Quick Bread & Bread Pudding	$9	$6	$5	$4	$3
04 - Muffins	$9	$6	$5	$4	$3
05 - Plain Rolls *with honey topping*	$9	$6	$5	$4	$3
06 - Sweet Rolls *Pecan or cinnamon with honey glaze*	$9	$6	$5	$4	$3
07 - Honey Devil’s Food Cake	$11	$8	$7	$4	$3
08 - Honey Spice Cake	$11	$8	$7	$4	$3
09 - Fruit Cake	$12	$9	$7	$6	$5
10 - Cake, Any Variety Not Listed	$11	$8	$7	$4	$3
11 - Fruit Drop Cookies	$9	$6	$5	$4	$3
12 - Cookies, Any Variety Not Listed	$9	$6	$5	$4	$3
13 - Caramel Candy *1/2 lb.*	$9	$6	$5	$4	$3
14 - Seafoam or Divinity Candy *1/2 lb.*	$9	$6	$5	$4	$3
15 - Chocolate Fudge Candy *1/2 lb.*	$9	$6	$5	$4	$3

DIVISION 106: SENIOR HONEY FOODS CONTINUED...

16 -	Penuche Fudge Candy *1/2 lb.*	$9	$6	$5	$4	$3
17 -	Snack Food *Popcorn, peanuts, granola, peanut butter, raisins.*	$9	$6	$5	$4	$3
18 -	Pie *Apple, peach, pecan, etc.*	$11	$8	$7	$4	$3
19 -	Barbecue Sauce *8 oz. minimum in glass half pint jar*	$9	$6	$5	$4	$3
20 -	Salad Dressing *Honey mustard, poppyseed, other. 8 oz. minimum in glass - half pint jar.*	$9	$6	$5	$4	$3

DIVISION 107: JUNIOR HONEY FOODS *Ages 17 and Under*

CLASS		PREMIUMS				
		1st	**2nd**	**3rd**	**4th**	**5th**
01 -	Quick Bread & Bread Pudding	$9	$6	$5	$4	$3
02 -	Muffins	$9	$6	$5	$4	$3
03 -	Honey Devil's Food Cake	$11	$8	$7	$4	$3
04 -	Honey Spice Cake	$11	$8	$7	$4	$3
05 -	Cake, Any Variety Not Listed	$11	$8	$7	$4	$3
06 -	Fruit Drop Cookies	$9	$6	$5	$4	$3
07 -	Chocolate Chip Cookies	$9	$6	$5	$4	$3
08 -	Cookies, Any Variety Not Listed	$9	$6	$5	$4	$3
09 -	Chocolate Fudge Candy *1/2 lb.*	$9	$6	$5	$6	$5
10 -	Penuche Fudge Candy *1/2 lb.*	$9	$6	$5	$4	$3
11 -	Snack Foods *Popcorn, peanuts, granola, peanut butter, raisins.*	$9	$6	$5	$4	$3
12 -	Pie *Apple, peach, pecan, etc.*	$11	$8	$7	$4	$3
13 -	Barbecue Sauce *8 oz. minimum in glass half pint jar*	$9	$6	$5	$4	$3
14 -	Salad Dressing *Honey mustard, poppyseed, other. 8 oz. minimum in glass - half pint jar.*	$9	$6	$5	$4	$3
15 -	Sweet Sauces & Spreads *Ice cream sauce or honey butter spread in glass half pint jar. 8oz. minimum.*	$9	$6	$5	$4	$3

BEES & HONEY SPECIAL AWARDS

COUNTY ASSOCIATION DISPLAY BOOTH SWEEPSTAKES

Premiums and ribbons will be awarded to the top seven County Association Booth exhibitors with the highest overall score, with points based on class placings in Division 105. Points are awarded on the following basis:

1st - 3 points 2nd - 2 points 3rd - 1 point

PREMIUMS

1st - $450 2nd - $400 3rd - $350 4th - $300 5th - $250 6th - $150 7th - $100

SENIOR HONEY SWEEPSTAKES

A ribbon will be awarded to the individual exhibitor with the highest score, with points based on class placings in Divisions 101, 102, 103, and 106. Points are awarded on the following basis:

1st - 3 points 2nd - 2 points 3rd - 1 point

JUNIOR HONEY COMPETITION SWEEPSTAKES

A ribbon will be awarded to the individual exhibitor with the highest score, with points based on class placings in Divisions 104 and 107. Points are awarded on the following basis:

1st - 3 points 2nd - 2 points 3rd - 1 point

SENIOR HONEY FOODS SWEEPSTAKES

A ribbon will be awarded to the individual exhibitor with the highest score, with points based on class placings in Divisions 106. Points are awarded on the following basis:

1st - 3 points 2nd - 2 points 3rd - 1 point

JUNIOR HONEY FOODS SWEEPSTAKES

A ribbon will be awarded to the individual exhibitor with the highest score, with points based on class placings in Divisions 107. Points are awarded on the following basis:

1st - 3 points 2nd - 2 points 3rd - 1 point

BEST OF SHOW

A Best of Show premium and ribbon will be awarded to both the Senior and Junior entry that, in the opinion of the judges, is the best single entry overall (either cooking or honey).

PREMIUMS

Senior - $50

Junior - $50

CANNING

Superintendent: Jeanie Scott

Registration Deadline: Tuesday, September 15, 2026 at 11:59 PM

**Mailed entry forms must be postmarked by September 1st, 2026*

Entry Take-In:

- Enter through Gate 12.
- Saturday, October 10th, 2026 from 8 AM-6 PM - Education Building
- Sunday, October 11th, 2026 from 8 AM-6 PM - Education Building

**Mailed exhibits must be received by Monday, October 5th, 2026*

Judging:

- Monday, October 12th, 2026 at 9 AM
- Tuesday, October 13th, 2026 at 9 AM

Entry Pick-Up:

- Monday, October 26th, 2026 from 8 AM-6 PM - Education Building
  - The fair is not responsible for entries left after 6 PM, and will be discarded.

**Claim ticket from entry tags are required to claim your entries.*

CANNING RULES & REGULATIONS

- The General Rules and Regulations of the Fair will govern this department, except in cases of conflict, where the following Rules and Regulations will prevail. Please read all rules & regulations carefully before submitting your entries.
- Submit questions to: NCSFCompetitions@ncagr.gov
- Pre-registration is required, either online or by mail. Make your entries early.
- Open to residents of North Carolina only.
- Exhibitors are allowed one entry per class.
  - Only one individual per household may make an entry under a Class number.
  - The same product may not be shared for entry by more than one individual.
- For ALL entries, the following information must be provided at the time of registration:
  - Processing Method
  - Processing Time
  - List of Ingredients
- All entries must have been prepared by the exhibitor since the 2025 NC State Fair. Anything that has been entered in a previous NC State Fair will be disqualified.
- Commercially produced entries are not allowed.
- Except where noted, all entries must be made from scratch. No mock products will be accepted as entries.

CANNING

- Exhibits will be disqualified when not in clear undecorated standard canning jars of the specified size. Please include the ring with two-piece lid jars. Incorrect sized jars and jars with spring loaded lids will be disqualified. See individual class for size of jar.
- Lids and rings must be rust-free.
- All Canning entries must be processed according to recognized safe methods found in the current editions of the USDA Complete Guide to Home Canning, the Ball Blue Book, or So Easy to Preserve (Cooperative Extension: The University of Georgia).
- Entry tags should be attached to the canning jar using thin rubber bands. Do not use string or tape. The rubber band should touch the jar under the ring.
- Labels are required in Divisions 103-106 classes only. Labels for dried fruits, vegetables, and herbs should only indicate contents and drying method. No names on labels. Labels should be placed on the side of the jar.
- Once entries have been accepted, judged, and displayed, the display cabinets will be locked and will not be opened for any reason during hours of fair operation. Any corrections or repairs to the entries will be done before or after Fair hours. This is for the protection of your entries.
- Judges may make remarks and attach to the entry tag.

CANNED FRUITS & VEGETABLES

PREMIUMS

1st - $10 2nd - $7 3rd - $5

CANNED FRUITS & VEGETABLES JUDGING CRITERIA		POINTS
Appearance	*Uniform, well-ripened products; no defective or over-ripe fruits or vegetables. Only young fruits and vegetables should be canned.*	40
Color	*That of natural fruit or vegetable.*	20
Liquid	*Appropriate for product and method of processing.*	10
Appropriate Size	*Uniformity of shape and size appropriate for product.*	10
Pack and Fill	*Arrangement of fruit with reference to symmetry of jar and best use of space within the jar; attractiveness of pack should be considered but not time-wasting fancy packs.*	10
Jar Fill	*Containers should be filled to ¼" of top.*	10
	TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE:	**100**

**To ensure safety, pH will be tested in acidified foods prior to tasting.*
***Safe Method Source: USDA Complete Guide to Home Canning, the Ball Blue Book, or So Easy to Preserve (Cooperative Extension: The University of Georgia).*

DIVISION 101: CANNED FRUIT *Pint or Quart Jars Only*

CLASS

01 - Apples *Sliced, halved quartered*
02 - Applesauce
03 - Blackberries, Dewberries
04 - Blueberries, Huckleberries
05 - Cherries *Whole, pitted, unpitted*
06 - Figs
07 - Peaches *Whole, sliced, quarters, halves*
08 - Pears *Halves, slices*
09 - Plums
10 - Raspberries
11 - Other Single Fruit, Not Listed *Specify*
12 - Mixed Fruit *Specify*

DIVISION 102: CANNED VEGETABLES *Pint or Quart Jars Only*

CLASS

01 - Asparagus
02 - Butter or Lima Beans
03 - Beans *Cooked dried beans: Kidney, navy, pinto, etc*
04 - Green Beans *Green, snap, and wax*
05 - Beets
06 - Carrots *Whole or Cut*
07 - Cream Style Corn
08 - Whole Kernel Corn
09 - Greens *Turnips, spinach, mustard, etc.*
10 - Mixed Vegetables *No meat*
11 - Okra
12 - Field Peas *Blackeye, crowder, etc.*
13 - English Green Peas
14 - Sweet Peppers *Water packed, must pressure process*
15 - Hot Peppers *Water packed, must pressure process*
16 - Irish Style Potatoes *Peeled Sm. whole, or cubed*
17 - Sweetpotatoes *Cubes only, no puree*
18 - Pumpkin or Winter Squash *Cubes only, no puree*
19 - Bean Soup *No meat*
20 - Vegetable Soup *Single veg. or mixture, no meat*
21 - Spaghetti Sauce *No meat, must pressure process*
22 - Spaghetti Sauce *With meat, must be pressure process*
23 - Tomatoes, Whole *Water packed*
24 - Tomatoes, Cut *Halved or quartered, water packed*
25 - Tomato Sauce, Plain *No other vegetables, no meat*
26 - Other Single Vegetable, Not Listed *Specify*
27 - Tomato Ketchup

DRIED FOODS

PREMIUMS

1st - $10 2nd - $7 3rd - $5

- *Fruits, vegetables, herbs, and meats may be dried by any method. They should be placed in jars with tight fitting lids.*
- *Labels identifying contents and drying method must be placed on the side of the jar.*
- *Divisions 103-105 include dehydrated foods. Dehydration method involves removing water content from foods using heat and airflow.*
- *Division 106 includes any freeze-dried foods. Freeze-Drying method involves removing water content from foods by freezing them and using a moisture-vaporizing vacuum.*

DRIED FOODS JUDGING CRITERIA		POINTS
Texture	*Dehydrated Foods: Pliable, tough, leathery (fruits or meats); or brittle (vegetables/herbs) Freeze-Dried Foods: Crisp, brittle, and lightweight.*	35
Appearance	*Characteristic of product, free from defects, and no excessive discoloration.*	25
Size/Shape	*Uniform in size and shape. No ragged edges.*	25
Container	*Free of visible moisture, appropriate size for amount of food, and properly labeled.*	15
	TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE:	**100**

No Name On Jar--Exhibitor Number Only

DIVISION 103: DEHYDRATED FRUIT *Half Pint or Pint Jars Only*

CLASS

01 - Apples *Rings or sliced*
02 - Bananas *Slices*
03 - Blueberries
04 - Cherries
05 - Citrus Peel
06 - Figs
07 - Grapes
08 - Peaches
09 - Pears
10 - Plums
11 - Strawberries
12 - Other Single Fruit, Not Listed *Specify*
13 - Fruit Mixture *Specify*
NEW 14 - Fruit Leather

DIVISION 104: DEHYDRATED VEGETABLES *Half Pint or Pint Jars Only*

CLASS

01 - Green or Wax Beans
02 - Dried Beans *Pinto, navy, kidney, etc.*
03 - Carrots
04 - Corn
05 - Mushrooms
06 - Okra
07 - Onions
08 - Green or Field Peas
09 - Peppers
10 - Irish-Type Potatoes
11 - Tomatoes
12 - Summer Squash
13 - Other Single Vegetable, Not listed *Specify*
14 - Vegetable Mixture

DIVISION 105: DEHYDRATED HERBS & MEATS *Half Pint or Pint Jars Only*

CLASS

01 - Dill Weed
02 - Dill Seed
03 - Sage
04 - Thyme
05 - Parsley
06 - Basil
07 - Mint
08 - Other Single Herb, Not Listed *Specify*
09 - Herb Mixture *Specify*
10 - Meat Jerky *Specify*

NEW DIVISION 106: FREEZE-DRIED FOODS *Half Pint or Pint Jars Only*

CLASS

01 - Any Fruit *Specify*
02 - Any Vegetable *Specify*
03 - Any Herbs *Specify*
04 - Any Jerky *Specify*

PRESERVES, JAMS, JELLIES, & JUICES

PREMIUMS

1st - $10 2nd - $7 3rd - $5

These products should be filled to ¼" of top of standard canning jars and must be processed in a boiling water bath for airtight seal (no paraffin). Any artificial flavoring are ***not allowed.***

DIVISION 107: PRESERVES *Half Pint or Pint Jars Only*

No Name On Jar--Exhibitor Number Only

Preserves contain whole fruits or fruit pieces that retain their shape and are clear, shiny, tender and plump. The fruits are suspended in a clear syrup that is the consistency of honey or soft jelly.

PRESERVES JUDGING CRITERIA		POINTS
Flavor	*Natural fruit flavor, not overpowered with too much sugar.*	30
Clarity and Color	*Fruit should be translucent and not too dark; liquid should be clear.*	25
Shape	*Small fruits should be whole and have an original shape as possible; larger fruits should maintain sliced shape.*	10
Texture	*Tender, but firm and plump.*	10
Consistency	*Juice should be of honey consistency or slightly jellied.*	10
Proportion of Syrup to Fruit	*Two-thirds fruit and one-third syrup.*	10
Pack and Fill	*Arrangement of fruit with reference to symmetry of jar; filled to ¼" of top, water bath processed.*	5
	TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE:	**100**

CLASS

01 - Cherry Preserves
02 - Fig Preserves
03 - Peach Preserves
04 - Pear Preserves
05 - Plum Preserves
06 - Strawberry Preserves *No mock strawberry*
07 - Other Single Fruit Preserves, Not Listed *No mock preserves. Specify*
08 - Mixed Fruit Preserves *Specify*
09 - Watermelon Rind Preserves

DIVISION 108: JAMS, CONSERVES, MARMALADES, & BUTTERS *Half Pint or Pint Jars Only*

No Name On Jar--Exhibitor Number Only

- *Jams are made from crushed fruits cooked to a smooth consistency that will mound up on a spoon but not jelly firm.*
- *Conserves are fruit mixtures of jam consistency often containing citrus. A true conserve contains nuts and raisins.*
- *Marmalades contain small pieces of fruit or citrus peel evenly suspended in a transparent soft jelly.*
- *Butters are pureed fruit cooked to a smooth consistency.*

JAMS, CONSERVES, MARMALADES, & BUTTERS JUDGING CRITERIA		POINTS
Flavor	*Natural fruit flavor, not overpowered with added ingredients or spices.*	35
Consistency and Texture	*Tender, smooth texture and will mound in spoon; not tough, sticky, or gummy; spreads easily.*	30
Clarity and Color	*Shiny fruit color; marmalades clear with suspended citrus.*	20
Jar Fill / Process	*Filled jars to ¼" of top of standard canning jars and water bath processed.*	15
	TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE:	**100**

CLASS

01 - Blackberry, Dewberry Jam
02 - Blueberry, Huckleberry Jam
03 - Cherry Jam
04 - Fig Jam
05 - Grape Jam
06 - Peach Jam
07 - Pear Jam
08 - Pepper Jam
09 - Plum Jam
10 - Raspberry Jam
11 - Strawberry Jam *No mock strawberry*
12 - Mixed Fruit Jam *Specify*
13 - Other Single Fruit Jam, Not Listed *Specify*
14 - Blueberry Conserve
15 - Cherry Conserve
16 - Peach Conserve
17 - Pear Conserve
18 - Plum Conserve
19 - Other Conserve, Not Listed *Specify*
20 - Citrus Fruit Marmalade
21 - Peach Marmalade
22 - Pear Marmalade
23 - Other Marmalade, Not Listed *Specify*
24 - Apple Butter
25 - Peach Butter

DIVISION 109: JELLY *Half Pint or Pint Jars Only*

No Name On Jar. Exhibitor Number Only

All juices for jellies must be home prepared. No commercial juice may be used, unless otherwise specified. Commercial or added pectin is allowed if the recipe dictates its use.

PRESERVES JUDGING CRITERIA		POINTS
Consistency	*Tender; breaks with distinct cleavage, angles hold shape; should not be syrupy, sticky, or tough.*	35
Flavor	*Natural fruit flavor, not overpowered with too much sugar.*	30
Clarity	*Transparent and sparkling.*	10
Color	*Pronounced, yet natural color.*	10
Crystals	*Lack of crystals; no sign of crystallization.*	10
Jar Fill / Process	*Fill jars to ¼" of top of standard canning jars and process in boiling water bath.*	5
	TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE:	**100**

CLASS

01 - Apple Jelly
02 - Blackberry or Dewberry Jelly
03 - Blueberry or Huckleberry Jelly
04 - Corn Cob Jelly
05 - Crabapple Jelly
06 - Concord Grape Jelly
07 - Muscadine Grape Jelly *Or Scuppernong*
08 - Herb Jelly *Can have commercial juice base*
09 - Mint Jelly *Can have commercial juice base*
10 - Peach Jelly
11 - Pepper Jelly *Can have commercial juice base*
12 - Plum Jelly
13 - Raspberry Jelly
14 - Strawberry Jelly
15 - Other Single Fruit Jelly, Not Listed *Specify*
16 - Mixed Fruit Jelly *Must be fruit, no vegetables. Specify*

DIVISION 110: JUICES & SYRUPS *Half Pint or Pint Jars Only*

No Name On Jar--Exhibitor Number Only

JUICES & SYRUPS JUDGING CRITERIA		POINTS
Flavor	*Typical ripe tomato or fruit flavor; no objectionable "off" flavor.*	45
Color	*Typical color of well-ripened tomatoes or fruit.*	20
Stability	*Little or no tendency to separate after standing a few minutes.*	15
Absence of Defects	*No particles of fiber, skin, or seed.*	15
Container	*Juices in standard canning jars that have been water bath processed and have airtight seals and two part lids.*	5
	TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE:	**100**

CLASS

01 - Any Fruit Juice *Specify*
02 - Any Fruit Syrup *Specify*

PICKLES, RELISHES, CHUTNEYS, & SAUCES

PREMIUMS

1st - $10 2nd - $7 3rd - $5

PICKLES, RELISHES, CHUTNEYS, & SAUCES JUDGING CRITERIA	POINTS
Texture *Firm, not tough, not soft.*	30
Flavor *Natural flavor, not over-spiced.*	30
Color *As near natural color as possible (unless specified).*	15
Size & Shape *Uniform size and shape.*	10
Proportion of Pickle to Fruit *Jars filled with pickles; liquid to cover and fill spaces.*	10
Jar Fill / Process *Standard canning jars should be filled to ½" of top and processed in boiling water bath.*	5
TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE:	**100**

DIVISION 111: PICKLES *Half Pint, Pint or Quart Jars Only*

No Name On Jar--Exhibitor Number Only

Pickles that have been brined in salt and left to ferment for at least 6 days would qualify as "fermented".

CLASS

01 - Pickled Artichokes
02 - Pickled Asparagus
03 - Pickled Apple Rings *No mock apple*
04 - Pickled Sliced Cinnamon Cucumber Rings
05 - Bread & Butter Pickles
06 - Pickled Beets
07 - Brined/Fermented Cucumber Pickles - Dill
08 - Brined/Fermented Cucumber Pickles - Sour
09 - Brined/Fermented Cucumber Pickles - Sweet
10 - Quick/Fresh Packed Cucumber Pickles - Dill
11 - Quick/Fresh Packed Cucumber Pickles - Sour
12 - Quick/Fresh Packed Cucumber Pickles -Sweet
13 - Pickled Figs
14 - Pickled Green Beans
15 - Pickled Hot Peppers, Small, Whole
16 - Pickled Hot Peppers, Sliced
17 - Pickled Sweet Peppers, Whole or Sliced
18 - Pickled Okra
19 - Pickled Onion, Small, Whole
20 - Pickled Mixed Vegetables *Specify*
21 - Pickled Peaches
22 - Pickled Pears
23 - Sauerkraut
24 - Pickled Green Tomatoes
25 - Watermelon Rind Pickles
26 - Other Fruit Pickles, Not Listed *Specify*
27 - Other Vegetable Pickles, Not Listed *Specify*

DIVISION 112: RELISHES & CHUTNEYS *Half Pint, Pint or Quart Jars Only*

No Name On Jar--Exhibitor Number Only

To ensure safety, pH will be tested in acidified foods prior to tasting.

CLASS

01 - Artichoke Relish
02 - Beet Relish
03 - Chow-Chow or Green Tomato Relish
Tomatoes, pepper, onion, cabbage, etc.
04 - Cabbage Relish
05 - Red Tomato Relish
06 - Corn Relish
07 - Sour Cucumber Relish
08 - Sweet Cucumber Relish
09 - Onion Relish
10 - Other Mixed Vegetable Relish, Not Listed *Specify*
11 - Fruit Relish
12 - Fruit Chutney
13 - Vegetable Chutney

DIVISION 113: SALSAS & SAUCES *Half Pint, Pint or Quart Jars Only*

No Name On Jar--Exhibitor Number Only

CLASS

01 - Green Salsa
02 - Red Salsa
03 - Barbecue Sauce
04 - Hot Chili Sauce
05 - Taco Sauce
06 - Any Other Meatless Spicy Sauce *Specify*

YOUTH PRESERVED FOODS

Youth Preserved Foods classes are open to youth ages 9-17.

PREMIUMS

1st - $10 2nd - $7 3rd - $5

DIVISION 114: YOUTH CANNED FRUITS & VEGETABLES *Pint or Quart Jars Only*

No Name On Jar--Exhibitor Number Only

CLASS

01 - Apples
02 - Applesauce
03 - Blackberries, Dewberries, Blueberries
04 - Whole Cherries *Pitted or un-pitted*
05 - Peaches *Whole or slices*
06 - Pears *Halves or slices*
07 - Other Fruit, Not Listed *Specify*
08 - Fruit Juice
09 - Tomatoes *Whole or Quartered. Water packed*
10 - Tomato Juice
11 - Green, Snap, or Wax Beans
12 - Cooked Dried Beans *Kidney, Pinto, Navy, etc.*
13 - Sweet Peppers *Not pickled*
14 - Hot Peppers *Not pickled*
15 - Other Vegetable, Not Listed *Specify*

DIVISION 115: YOUTH DRIED FOODS Half Pint or Pint Jars Only

No Name On Jar--Exhibitor Number Only

CLASS

01 - Dried Apples, Rings, or Slices
02 - Dried Beans *Kidney, Pinto, Navy, etc.*
03 - Dried Peppers
04 - Dried Culinary Herb or Herb Mixture *Specify*
05 - Dried Tomatoes

DIVISION 116: YOUTH JELLIES, JAMS, & BUTTERS *Half Pint or Pint Jars Only*

No Name On Jar--Exhibitor Number Only

CLASS

01 - Apple Jelly *Homemade Juice*
02 - Grape Jelly *Homemade Juice*
03 - Pepper Jelly or Jam
04 - Other Jelly, Not Listed *Specify*
05 - Pear Preserves
06 - Strawberry Preserves
07 - Other Preserves, Not Listed *Specify*
08 - Peach Jam
09 - Blueberry Jam
10 - Blackberry Jam
11 - Strawberry Jam
12 - Other Jam, Not Listed *Specify*
13 - Apple Butter
14 - Other Fruit Butter, Not Listed *Specify*

DIVISION 117: YOUTH PICKLES & RELISHES *Half Pint, Pint, or Quart Jars Only*

No Name On Jar--Exhibitor Number Only

CLASS

01 - Bread & Butter Pickles
02 - Sweet Cucumber Pickles
03 - Sour Cucumber Pickles
04 - Other Vegetable Pickles *Specify*
05 - Relish, All Types
06 - Pickled Peaches
07 - Salsa

CANNING SPECIAL AWARDS

AWARDS	PREMIUMS
Best of Show - Canned Fruit *Division 101*	$25
Best of Show - Canned Vegetable *Divisions 102*	$25
Best of Show - Dried Foods *Divisions 103-106*	$25
Best of Show - Preserves, Jams, & Jellies *Divisions 107-109*	$25
Best of Show - Pickles *Divisions 111*	$25
Best of Show - Youth Preserved Foods *Divisions 114-117*	$25

COUNTRY HAM

Superintendent: Katie Williams - Marketing Specialist, NCDA&CS.

Registration Deadline: Tuesday, September 15, 2026 at 11:59 PM

**Mailed entry forms must be postmarked by September 1st, 2026*

Entry Fee: $10 per entry

Entry Take-In & Weigh-In:

- Enter through Gate 3.
- Thursday, October 15th, 2026 from 8 AM-11 AM - Dorton Arena - East Ramp Entrance

**Mailed exhibits must be received by Tuesday, October 13th, 2026*

Judging:

- Thursday, October 15th, 2026 from 1 PM-4 PM

Entry Pick-Up:

- **Cut Hams (Div. 101, Class 03):** Thursday, October 15th, 2026 from 4 PM-7 PM - Dorton Arena
- **Whole Hams (All Other Classes):** Monday, October 26th, 2026 from 8 AM-12 PM - Dorton Arena
  - All unclaimed entries will become property of the N.C. State Fair and be donated to a food bank of their choice.

**Claim ticket from entry tags are required to claim your entries.*

COUNTRY HAM RULES & REGULATIONS

- The General Rules and Regulations of the Fair will govern this department, except in cases of conflict, where the following Rules and Regulations will prevail. Please read all rules & regulations carefully before submitting your entries.
- Submit questions to: NCSFCompetitions@ncagr.gov
- Pre-registration online is required. Make your entries early.
- Each exhibitor is allowed one entry per Class but may only enter one Division.
- Division 101 is open to any Commercial producers residing in the United States of America. If a Commercial exhibitor has more than one unique brand, each brand may enter as a separate exhibitor.
- Division 201 is open to any Amateur (non-commercial) producers residing in North Carolina only. Amateur producers are allowed one exhibitor per household.
- All entries must be cured, aged, registered, and entered by the exhibitor.
- The right is reserved to reject entries not properly entered.
- All entries must meet a **minimum show weight of 14 pounds**, as determined by a scale during entry take-in.
- Display space is limited; there is no guarantee that all exhibits will be displayed.
- All entries, except in Division 101, Class 03, will be displayed in Dorton Arena for the duration of the Fair.
- For mailed entries:
  - Each entry must arrive in an individual cardboard box that includes the entry tag and has the exhibitor name and address clearly labeled on the box exterior.
  - Please proceed to the next page for further instructions regarding mailed entries...

- If you want your entry to be returned after the fair, a prepaid postage return address label must be included in your original package. Your entry will be returned to you in the same manner and packaging material in which it was mailed to us. Shipped entries will be placed in the mail to be returned to exhibitors by Saturday, October 31st, 2026.
- Mailed entries must be **received** by Tuesday, October 13th, 2026 at one of the following addresses:

USPS	UPS or FedEx:
NC State Fair Country Ham Contest	NC State Fair Country Ham Contest
C/O: Katie Williams	C/O: Katie Williams
1020 Mail Service Center	2 West Edenton St.
Raleigh, NC 27699-1010	Raleigh, NC 27601

- Any ham declared "spoiled" by the judge shall be disqualified and discarded at the conclusion of judging.
- Claim tickets from entry tags are required to claim entries. Exhibitors may have another individual pick-up their entries, as long as the official claim ticket is presented.
- The Country Ham Competition Department Committee will rule on all questions or situations not definitively addressed in the Country Ham Rules & Regulations.

COUNTRY HAM JUDGING CRITERIA

CUT HAM (DIV. 101, CLASS 03)

	POINTS
1. General Appearance *Includes conformation, workmanship, meatiness, and color.*	20
2. Aroma *Will be evaluated both before and after cooking.*	10
3. Texture *High moisture content or too coarse of a grain is undesirable.*	10
4. Inside Color *A uniform color of the cut surface is desirable. Hams will not be discounted based on the cure ingredients used.*	10
5. Flavor *Exhibits the desirable tang and mellowness of a true country ham. Detection of off flavors will be penalized.*	50
TOTAL POINTS:	100

WHOLE HAM (ALL OTHER CLASSES)

	POINTS
1. Conformation *Refers to general shape of the ham.*	20
2. Workmanship *Neatness and attractiveness of the trim.*	20
3. Meatiness *Ratio of lean-to-fat.*	20
4. Color *Desirability and uniformity of outside color. Hams showing evidence of excessive saltiness, moldiness, or smoke will be discounted.*	20
5. Aroma *Desirability of aroma as determined by probing.*	20
TOTAL POINTS:	100

COUNTRY HAM

DIVISION 101: COMMERCIAL COUNTRY HAM

- For exhibitors actively involved in larger scale production of country hams with federally or state inspected facilities, who reside anywhere in the United States of America.
- All entries in Classes 01 & 02 are required to be displayed for the duration of the fair.

PREMIUMS

National Grand Champion - 1st - $200 2nd - $50 3rd - $25

CLASS

01 - Unsmoked Whole Ham *Whole hams placed in a climate-controlled cure no earlier than January 1, 2026.*

02 - Smoked Whole Ham *Smoked whole hams placed in a cure no earlier than January 1, 2026.*

03 - Cut Ham *Whole hams placed in cure no earlier than January 1, 2026. Hams may be smoked and should not be cut or sliced prior to entry. Hams will be cut during judging.*

DIVISION 102: AMATEUR COUNTRY HAM

- For Amateur producers (non-commercial) who reside in North Carolina.
- All entries are required to be displayed for the duration of the fair.

PREMIUMS

Got to Be NC Champion - 1st - $150 2nd - $50 3rd - $25

CLASS

01 - Whole Ham *Whole hams placed in a cure no earlier than January 1, 2026. May use any method of curing and may be smoked or unsmoked.*

COUNTRY HAM SPECIAL AWARDS

AWARDS	PREMIUMS
• Got to Be NC Champion - Unsmoked Whole Ham *Highest scoring North Carolina-produced ham in Division 101, Class 01*	$150
• Got to Be NC Champion - Smoked Whole Ham *Highest scoring North Carolina-produced ham in Division 101, Class 02*	$150
• Got to Be NC Champion - Cut Ham *Highest scoring North Carolina-produced ham in Division 101, Class 03.*	$150
• Commissioner's Choice Award *Awarded to the Commissioner's favorite-tasting North Carolina-produced Cut Ham entry in Division 101, Class 03.*	Ribbon Only

DECORATED TABLES & TREES

Superintendent: Sandra Dunbar

Registration Deadline: Tuesday, September 15, 2026 at 11:59 PM

**Mailed entry forms must be postmarked by September 1st, 2026*

Entry Setup:

- If selected to participate, you will be contacted to schedule your entry setup day and time.
- Enter through Gate 12.
- Entries must be set up on the of the following days:
  - Saturday, October 10th, 2026 - Education Building
  - Sunday, October 11th, 2026 - Education Building

Judging:

- Monday, October 12th, 2026 at 9 AM

Entry Pick-Up:

- Monday, October 26th, 2026 from 8 AM-6 PM - Education Building
  - The fair is not responsible for decorations left after 6 PM.

**Claim ticket from entry tags are required to claim your entries.*

DECORATED TABLES & TREES RULES & REGULATIONS

- The General Rules and Regulations of the Fair will govern this department, except in cases of conflict, where the following Rules and Regulations will prevail. Please read all rules & regulations carefully before submitting your entries.
- Submit questions to: NCSFCompetitions@ncagr.gov
- Pre-registration is required, either online or by mail. Make your entries early.
- Open to residents of North Carolina only.
- Exhibitors are allowed one entry per Class.
- Exhibitors in both divisions will be selected through a **lottery** system. All exhibitors will be contacted by phone or email on September 16th regarding the status of their entry and to schedule a setup time.
- Exhibitors assume all liability. The fair and its staff are not responsible for any damage or loss.
- Due to fire codes, no electric decorations are allowed. No lights or turning devices.
- The fair does not permit any items that resemble or symbolize violence (no guns or anything weapon-related), or anything provocative or sexual in nature.
- The following rubric will be used for judging all divisions:

DECORATED TABLES & TREES JUDGING CRITERIA		POINTS
Overall Effect	*Visually appealing & interesting.*	35
Creativity	*Creative use of material & design.*	25
Theme Conformance	*Adheres well to the theme.*	25
Craftsmanship	*Exhibits high quality design & technique.*	15
	TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE:	**100**

DECORATED TABLES

The NC State Fair will furnish 3 ft round tables to be decorated according to the theme with a place setting for two. ALL decorations ware the responsibility of the exhibitor.

PREMIUMS

1st - $100 2nd - $75 3rd - $50 4th - $25

DIVISION 101: DECORATED TABLES

CLASS

01 - Brunch on the Farm *Decorate the table for Brunch on the Farm.*

DECORATED TREES

The NC State Fair will furnish tree stands and 5-6 foot live trees to be decorated according to the theme. Tree skirts and ALL decorations are the responsibility of the exhibitor.

PREMIUMS

1st - $100 2nd - $75 3rd - $50 4th - $25

DIVISION 102: DECORATED TREES

CLASS

01 - Lights, Camera, Christmas! *Decorate the tree according to your favorite Christmas movie.*

ESSAY

Sponsored By:

North Carolina PTA
everychild. onevoice.®

Registration Deadline: Tuesday, September 15, 2026 at 11:59 PM

**Mailed entry forms must be postmarked by September 1st, 2026*

Essay Submission Deadline:

- Friday, September 25th, 2026 by 5 PM
- Essays may be submitted by:
  - Delivering to the NC State Fair Administration Building at 4285 Trinity Rd, Raleigh, NC 27607
  - Mailing to NC State Fair Entry Department at 1010 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699

**Mailed entries must be received by Monday, September 21st, 2026*

ESSAY RULES & REGULATIONS

- The General Rules and Regulations of the Fair will govern this department, except in cases of conflict, where the following Rules and Regulations will prevail. Please read all rules & regulations carefully before submitting your entries.
- Submit questions to: NCSFCompetitions@ncagr.gov
- Pre-registration is required, either online or by mail. Make your entries early.
- Open to all residents of North Carolina that are currently enrolled in a K-12 school.
- Exhibitors are allowed one entry per class.

ESSAY

DIVISION 101: ESSAY

CLASS		PREMIUMS 1st	2nd	3rd	4th
01 -	Kindergarten through 2nd Grade *Explain in 40 words or less what your favorite fair food is and draw a picture to go with it.*	$50	$35	$25	$15
02 -	3rd through 5th Grade *Essay - 150 words or less. "A Memory Worth Making. A Story Worth Telling" Write an essay about a memory or story you have from the N.C. State Fair.*	$60	$45	$30	$20
03 -	6th through 8th Grade *Essay - 500 words or less, must cite sources. Write an essay about the importance of how the N.C. State Fair connects urban and rural communities.*	$75	$60	$45	$25
04 -	9th through 12th Grade *Essay - 500-650 words, must cite sources. Write an essay about the importance of and how the N.C. State Fair can better educate fairgoers about agriculture.*	$100	$75	$50	$30

FLOWERS & GARDENS

Superintendent: Dan Danford

Registration Deadline: Tuesday, September 15, 2026 at 11:59 PM

**Mailed entry forms must be postmarked by September 1st, 2026*

Entry Take-In Schedule:

- The Flower and Garden Show consists of three shows over the course of the 11 day fair. Each show has its own entry and judging schedule. *Please review the next page for a more detailed take-in and judging schedule.*
- Enter through Gate 5. Parking available for unloading purposes only.
- **First Show:**
  - Saturday, October 10th-Tuesday, October 13th, 2026 from 8 AM-6 PM - Flower House
  - Wednesday, October 14th, 2026 from 8 AM-2 PM - Flower House
- **Second Show:**
  - Sunday, October 18th, 2026 from 8 AM-2 PM - Flower House
- **Third Show:**
  - Thursday, October 22nd, 2026 from 8 AM-2 PM - Flower House

Judging:

- **First Show:**
  - Wednesday, October 14th, 2026 at 4 PM - Flower House
- **Second Show:**
  - Sunday, October 18th, 2026 at 4 PM - Flower House
- **Third Show:**
  - Thursday, October 22nd, 2026 at 4 PM - Flower House

Entry Pick-Up:

- Monday, October 26th, 2026 from 8 AM-6 PM - Flower House
  - The fair is not responsible for entries left after 6 PM.

**Claim ticket from entry tags are required to claim your entries.*

FLOWERS & GARDENS RULES & REGULATIONS

- The General Rules and Regulations of the Fair will govern this department, except in cases of conflict, where the following Rules and Regulations will prevail. Please read before submitting your entries.
- Submit questions to: NCSFCompetitions@ncagr.gov
- Pre-registration is required, either online or by mail. Make your entries early.
- Open to residents of North Carolina only.
- Exhibitors are allowed one entry, per Class, per Show.
- There are no age restrictions except for the Youth Exhibits.
- All entries must be the work of the exhibitor and grown (except for those used in floral design) or made (including designs) in the current year.
- Container-grown plants must have been in exhibitor's possession **at least 90 days**, except for multiple and combination plantings, which must have been in the exhibitor's possession and growing together **at least six weeks.**

- All horticultural specimens must be clearly labeled with correct names.
- No artificial flowers or foliage are allowed without prior approval of the Flower Show Superintendent.
- **Vases are provided upon Take-In** to place cut specimens in. Any personal vases used for entries will not be returned to exhibitors.
- Floral Design entries that feature controversial subject matter will be disqualified.
- Every effort will be made to prevent theft and/or damage.
- The NC State Fair and the Flower Show Superintendent assume no responsibility for the loss of personal property of the exhibitors. Dead flowers or cut foliage may be discarded during each show. Unsightly exhibits may be removed at the discretion of the Show Superintendent. Any horticultural exhibit determined to be a hazard to other horticultural exhibits due to insect or disease problems may be rejected, disqualified, and/or removed.
- Awards and premiums will be paid based on the judges' books and not from ribbons or entry tags.
- Premium checks and un-retrieved ribbons will be mailed.

ENTRY TAKE-IN SCHEDULE:

Container Plants (Div. 130–134)	Saturday Oct. 10 - Tuesday, Oct.13 8 AM-6 PM
Gourds (Div. 135)	Saturday Oct. 10 - Tuesday, Oct.13 8 AM-6 PM
Garden Decorations (Div. 136)	Saturday Oct. 10 - Tuesday Oct. 13 8 AM-6 PM
Competition Gardens (Div. 138)	Deadline: Wednesday Oct. 14 12 PM
Bonsai Show (Div. 137)	Wednesday Oct. 14 8 AM - 2 PM
First Show - Cut Specimens, Floral Design, & Youth (Div. 101–129)	Saturday Oct. 10 - Tuesday Oct.13 8 AM-6 PM Wednesday, Oct. 14 8 AM - 2 PM
Second Show - Cut Specimens, Floral Design, & Youth (Div. 201–229)	Sunday, Oct. 18 8 AM - 2 PM
Third Show - Cut Specimens, Floral Design, & Youth (Div. 301–329)	Thursday, Oct. 22 8 AM - 2 PM

JUDGING SCHEDULE:

Container Plants (Div. 130–134)	Wednesday, Oct. 14 4 PM
Gourds (Div. 135)	Wednesday, Oct. 14 4 PM
Garden Decorations (Div. 136)	Wednesday, Oct. 14 4 PM
Competition Gardens (Div. 138)	Wednesday, Oct. 14 4 PM
Bonsai Show (Div. 137)	Wednesday, Oct. 14 4 PM
First Show - Cut Specimens, Floral Design, & Youth (Div. 101–129)	Wednesday, Oct. 14 4 PM
Second Show - Cut Specimens, Floral Design, & Youth (Div. 201–229)	Sunday, Oct. 18 4 PM
Third Show - Cut Specimens, Floral Design, & Youth (Div. 301–329)	Thursday, Oct. 22 4 PM

FLOWER & GARDENS SPECIAL AWARDS

AWARDS GIVEN IN ALL THREE FLOWER & GARDEN SHOWS

	PREMIUMS
Award of Merit Divisions 101-105 *Awarded to the best Blue Ribbon exhibit.*	$25
Award of Merit Divisions 106-110 *Awarded to the best Blue Ribbon exhibit.*	$25
Award of Merit Division 111 *Awarded to the best Blue Ribbon exhibit. Winner must include scientific name on back of entry tag.*	$25
Award of Merit Division 112 *Awarded to the best Blue Ribbon exhibit. Winner must include scientific name on back of entry tag.*	$25
Award of Merit Division 113 *Awarded to the best Blue Ribbon exhibit. Winner must include scientific name on back of entry tag.*	$25
Award of Merit Divisions 114-116 *Awarded to the best Blue Ribbon exhibit. Winner must include scientific name on back of entry tag.*	$25
Award of Merit Division 119 *Awarded to the best Blue Ribbon exhibit.*	$25
Award of Merit Division 120 *Awarded to the best Blue Ribbon exhibit.*	$25
Award of Merit Division 121 *Awarded to the best Blue Ribbon exhibit.*	$25
Award of Merit Division 122 *Awarded to the best Blue Ribbon exhibit.*	$25
Design Excellence Award - Fresh Floral Design Division 123 *Awarded to the best Blue Ribbon exhibit in Fresh Floral Design.*	$25
Designer's Choice - Dried Floral Design Division 124 *Awarded to the best Blue Ribbon exhibit in Dried Floral Design.*	$25
Petite Award - Small Floral Design Division 125 *Awarded to the best Blue Ribbon exhibit in Small Floral Design.*	$25
Petite Award - Miniature Floral Design Division 126 *Awarded to the best Blue Ribbon exhibit in Miniature Floral Design.*	$25
Junior Achievement Award Division 127 *Awarded to the best Blue Ribbon exhibit.*	$25
Junior Achievement Award Division 128 *Awarded to the best Blue Ribbon exhibit.*	$25
Junior Achievement Award Division 129 *Awarded to the best Blue Ribbon exhibit.*	$25
Witherspoon Rose Culture Grand Champion Rose *Awarded to one rose exhibit in each show. This award recognizes the dedication, technical skill, patience and expertise required to cultivate a rose that represents excellence among steep, statewide competition. Witherspoon Rose Culture recognizes the grower and their beautiful rose for meeting exceptional standards in quality, providing detailed care, and for their commitment to excellence.*	$100

AWARDS ONLY GIVEN ONCE

	PREMIUMS
Award of Merit Division 130 *Awarded to the best Blue Ribbon exhibit.*	$25
Award of Merit Division 131 *Awarded to the best Blue Ribbon exhibit.*	$25
Award of Merit Division 132 *Awarded to the best Blue Ribbon exhibit.*	$25
Award of Merit Division 133 *Awarded to the best Blue Ribbon exhibit.*	$25
Award of Merit Division 134 *Awarded to the best Blue Ribbon exhibit.*	$25
Award of Merit Division 136 *Awarded to the best Blue Ribbon exhibit.*	$25
Bonsai Best of Show *Division 137*	$25
Bonsai People's Choice Award *Division 137*	$25
Best School Garden Award *Awarded to the best School Competition Garden in Division 138.*	$100

FLOWER & GARDENS SPECIAL AWARDS CONTINUED...

AWARDS ONLY GIVEN ONCE	PREMIUMS
Arthur K. Pitzer Award *Awarded to the best Blue Ribbon winning Competition Garden in Division 138 selected by the judges.*	$100
Commissioner Of Agriculture Award *Awarded to the best exhibit among all three Flowers & Garden Shows. The exhibit is not required to win other awards. The recipient is determined by the Commissioner of Agriculture and the Department Superintendent.*	$200
North Carolina Gourd Society Award *Division 135*	$25

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR FLOWERS & GARDENS SPONSORS:

DADDY PETE'S
PLANT PLEASER®
Superior Soil Products from Our Historic North Carolina Farm

Campbell Road Nursery inc.
Raleigh, NC

FLOWERS & GARDENS - FIRST SHOW

PREMIUMS

1st - $8 2nd - $6 3rd - $4

Dahlias have no height restrictions.

DIVISION 101: DAHLIAS - SIZE AA GIANT

CLASS

01 - White or Blush (One Bloom)
02 - Light Blend or Flame Blend, Variegated or Bi-Color (One Bloom)
03 - Three Blooms, One Cultivator (Any Color)

AA GIANT
Over 10 inches in diameter

DIVISION 102: DAHLIAS - SIZE A LARGE

CLASS

01 - Yellow, Orange, or Bronze (One Bloom)
02 - Light Blend or Flame Blend, Variegated or Bi-Color (One Bloom)
03 - Three Blooms, One Cultivar (Any Color)

A LARGE
8 to10 inches in diameter

DIVISION 103: DAHLIAS - SIZE B MEDIUM

CLASS

01 - Pink, Dark Pink, Red, Lavender, Purple (One Bloom)
02 - Light Blend or Flame Blend, Variegated or Bi-Color (One Bloom)
03 - Three Blooms, One Cultivar (Any Color)

B MEDIUM
6 to 8 inches in diameter

DIVISION 104: DAHLIAS - SIZE BB SMALL

CLASS

01 - White or Blush (One Bloom)
02 - Pink, Dark Pink, Red, Lavender, Purple (One Bloom)
03 - Light Blend or Flame Blend, Variegated or Bi-Color (One Bloom)
04 - Three Blooms, One Cultivar (Any Color)

BB SMALL
4 to 6 inches in diameter

DIVISION 105: DAHLIAS - SIZE M MINIATURE

CLASS

01 - Yellow, Orange, or Bronze (One Bloom)
02 - Light Blend or Flame Blend, Variegated or Bi-Color (One Bloom)
03 - Three Blooms, One Cultivar (Any Color)

M MINIATURE
Up to 4 inches in diameter

DIVISION 106: DAHLIAS - SIZE BA BALL

CLASS

01 - White or Blush (One Bloom)
02 - Light Blend or Flame Blend, Variegated or Bi-Color (One Bloom)
03 - Three Blooms, One Cultivar (Any Color)

BA BALL
Over 3 inches in diameter

DIVISION 107: DAHLIAS - SIZE MB MINIATURE BALL

CLASS

01 - Yellow, Orange, or Bronze (One Bloom)
02 - Light Blend or Flame Blend, Variegated or Bi-Color (One Bloom)
03 - Three Blooms, One Cultivar (Any Color)

MB MINIATURE BALL
2 to 3 inches in diameter

DIVISION 108: DAHLIAS - SIZE P POMPOM

P POMPOM
Up to 2 inches in diameter

CLASS

01 - Pink, Dark Pink, Red, Lavender, Purple (One Bloom)
02 - Light Blend or Flame Blend, Variegated or Bi-Color (One Bloom)
03 - Three Blooms, One Cultivar (Any Color)

DIVISION 109: DAHLIAS - SIZE MS MIGNON SINGLE

MS MIGNON SINGLE
Up to 2 inches in diameter

CLASS

01 - Yellow, Orange, or Bronze (One Bloom)
02 - Light Blend or Flame Blend, Variegated or Bi-Color (One Bloom)
03 - Three Blooms, One Cultivar (Any Color)

DIVISION 110: DAHLIAS - SIZE S SINGLE

S SINGLE
Over 2 inches in diameter

CLASS

01 - Pink, Dark Pink, Red, Lavender, Purple (One Bloom)
02 - Light Blend or Flame Blend, Variegated or Bi-Color (One Bloom)
03 - Three Blooms, One Cultivar (Any Color)

DIVISION 111: CUT PERENNIAL FLOWERS

CLASS

01 - Ageratum (1 Stem)
02 - Angel Trumpet (1 Stem)
NEW 03 - Chrysanthemum (Daisy Type, Multiple Blooms, 1 Stem)
NEW 04 - Chrysanthemum (Daisy Type, Multiple Blooms, 3 Stems)
NEW 05 - Chrysanthemum (Any Type, >3" Flower, One Stem)
NEW 06 - Echinacea, Coneflower (Purple, Pink, or White, 1 Stem)
07 - Gaillardia (1 Stem)
08 - Russian Sage (1 Stem)
09 - Red, Pink Salvia (1 Stem)
10 - Salvia, Any Color (3 Stems)
11 - Tropical Flower, Not Listed

DIVISION 112: CUT ANNUAL FLOWERS

CLASS

01 - Begonia, Dragon Wing (1 Stem)
02 - Castor Bean (1 Stem)
03 - Celosia, Plumed (Not Red/Rose) (1 Stem)
04 - Cosmos (3 Stems)
05 - Marigold, Orange (1 Stem)
06 - Marigold, Yellow (3 Stems)
07 - Marigold, Dwarf Orange (1 Stem)
08 - Ornamental Pepper (1 Stem)
09 - Annual Salvia, Any Color (3 Stems)
10 - Tithonia (1 Stem)
11 - Zinnia, Bi-Color (1 Stem)
12 - Zinnia, Cactus (3 Stems)
13 - Zinnia, Red/Pink (3 Stems)
14 - Zinnia, Any Color (Over 3", 1 Stem)

DIVISION 113: CUT FOLIAGE

CLASS

01 - Coleus, Single Color (3 Stems)
02 - Croton (1 Stem)
03 - Fern (1 Stem)
04 - Heuchera, Same Variety (Three Leaves)
05 - Any Plant Foliage, Not Listed (1 Stem)

DIVISION 114: CULINARY HERBS

CLASS

01 - Basil, Green
02 - Lavender
03 - Lemon Balm
04 - Lemon Grass
05 - Dill
06 - Tarragon
07 - Chives (3 Stems)

DIVISION 115: TREES & SHRUBS

CLASS

01 - Beauty Berry, White or Pink (Single Branch)
02 - Butterfly Bush, Pink or Red (1 Stem)
03 - Eucalyptus (Single Branch)
04 - Pyracantha (Single Branch)

DIVISION 116: ORNAMENTAL GRASSES

CLASS

01 - Pampas Grass (1 Stem)
02 - Cyperus (3 Stems)
03 - Grass Not Listed, 3 Plumes (24" Max.)

ROSES

PREMIUMS

1st - $8 2nd - $6 3rd - $4

- *Cultivar name required.*
- *A spray consists of at least two open roses with buds.*
- *All rose categories are eligible to win Witherspoon Rose Culture Grand Champion Rose.*

SPONSORED BY:

Premier Rose Gardeners
Witherspoon Rose Culture
75th Anniversary
Since 1951

DIVISION 117: MINIATURE ROSES

CLASS

01 - Named Miniature Rose A-M (1 Stem)

DIVISION 118: MINIFLORA ROSES

CLASS

01 - Named Miniflora Rose A-M (1 Stem)

DIVISION 119: HYBRID TEA OR GRANDIFLORA ROSES

CLASS

01 - Named Rose A-B (1 Stem)
02 - Named Rose C-D (1 Stem)
03 - Named Roses E-F (1 Stem)
04 - Named Rose G-H (1 Stem)

DIVISION 120: FLORIBUNDA ROSES

CLASS

01 - Named Rose A-B (1 Stem)
02 - Named Rose C-D (1 Stem)
03 - Named Roses E-F (1 Stem)
04 - Named Rose G-H (1 Stem)
05 - Named Rose I-J (1 Stem)
06 - Named Rose K-L (1 Stem)

DIVISION 121: MISCELLANEOUS ROSES

CLASS

01 - Old Garden Rose, Cultivar A-J
02 - Old Garden Rose, Cultivar K-Z
03 - Polyantha Rose, Cultivar A-J
04 - Polyantha Rose, Cultivar K-Z

DIVISION 122: SPECIAL ROSE EXHIBITS

CLASS

01 - Cycle of Bloom, Miniature or Miniflora Rose (3 stems, same variety, with 1 bud 1/4 open showing color, 1 exhibition stage 1/2 to 3/4 open, 1 fully open bloom showing stamens)
02 - Miniature Rose Collection of Three (3 miniature or miniflora in same container, different cultivars)
03 - Pink Hybrid Tea Collection (3 pink or pink blend hybrid tea roses in same container, one cultivar)

FLORAL DESIGN

PREMIUMS

1st - $25 2nd - $15 3rd - $10

- *No fresh plant material is to be treated in any way (e.g. with vegetable oil, leaf shine).*
- *If using fruit, only whole fruit is permitted (no cut fruit).*
- *A sturdy base is recommended.*
- *Wreaths must be ready to hang. Maxium form dimension of 18 in.*
- *Exhibits may not exceed maximum dimensions listed for specific class(es).*
- *Designs that feature controversial subject matter will be disqualified, including anything sexual, discriminatory, or related to guns or weapons.*

DIVISION 123: FRESH FLORAL DESIGN *(12" wide x 24" tall x 12" deep)*

CLASS

01 - "A Memory Worth Making" *Design that includes fair-themed memorabilia*

02 - "Hit Me Like a Hurricane" *Carolina Hurricanes-themed design*

03 - "Go Wild!" *Design using wildflowers or wild-looking flowers*

04 - "Red, White, and Bloom" *American flag-themed design*

DIVISION 124: DRIED FLORAL DESIGN *(15" wide x 24" tall x 15" deep)*

CLASS

01 - "A Story Worth Telling" *Design that includes a book or book pages*

02 - "Bloomin' Blue Jeans" *Design that includes denim*

03 - "Going Out on a Limb" *Design that includes twigs or branches*

04 - Wreath - "Be My Honey Bee" *Bee-themed design using a 18" support frame.*

DIVISION 125: SMALL FLORAL DESIGN - 8 INCHES *(Above 5" but not to exceed 8" in any dimension)*

CLASS

01 - "Dump It Out" *Design in a toy dump truck*

02 - "Soup for the Soul" *Design in a soup can*

03 - "Blue Ribbon Blooms" *Design using only blue flowers*

04 - "Potful of Petals" *Design in a flower pot*

DIVISION 126: MINIATURE FLORAL DESIGN - 5 INCHES *(Not to exceed 5" in any dimension)*

CLASS

01 - "With This Ring" *Design in a hinged ring box*

02 - "Stop and Smell the Roses" *Design in a perfume bottle*

03 - "Sunny-Side Up" *Design in a real egg shell*

04 - "Salt of the Earth" *Design in a salt shaker*

YOUTH

DIVISION 127: YOUTH, AGES 5-7

PREMIUMS

CLASSES: 1- 3	**1st - $7**	**2nd - $5**	**3rd - $4**
CLASSES: 5 - 6	**1st - $10**	**2nd - $8**	**3rd - $5**
CLASS: 7	**1st - $15**	**2nd - $10**	**3rd - $6**

CLASS

01 - Marigold

02 - Zinnia

03 - Other Annual Flowers

05 - Craft Made from Natural Products (Max. 15" any dimension)

06 - Dish Garden (Max. 15" any dimension)

07 - Fresh Floral Design (Max. 15" any dimension)

DIVISION 128: YOUTH, AGES 8-12

PREMIUMS

CLASSES: 1- 4	1st - $7	2nd - $5	3rd - $4
CLASSES: 5 - 8	1st - $10	2nd - $8	3rd - $5
CLASSES: 9 - 10	1st - $15	2nd - $10	3rd - $6

CLASS

01 - Marigold
02 - Zinnia
03 - Other Annual Flower
04 - Perennial Cut Flower
05 - Coffee Mug of Flowers
06 - Craft Made From Natural Products (Max. 15" any dimension)
07 - Terrarium (Max. 15" any dimension)
08 - Dish Garden (Max. 15" any dimension)
09 - Fresh Floral Design (Max. 15" any dimension)
10 - Fresh Floral Design with Gourds (Max. 15" any dimension)

DIVISION 129: YOUTH, AGES 13-17

PREMIUMS

CLASSES: 1- 4	1st - $7	2nd - $5	3rd - $4
CLASSES: 5 - 8	1st - $10	2nd - $8	3rd - $5
CLASSES: 9 - 10	1st - $15	2nd - $10	3rd - $6
CLASS: 11	1st - $20	2nd - $15	3rd - $10

CLASS

01 - Marigold
02 - Zinnia
03 - Other Annual Flower
04 - Perennial Cut Flower
05 - Coffee Mug of Flowers
06 - Craft Made From Natural Products (Max. 15" any dimension)
07 - Terrarium (Max. 15" any dimension)
08 - Dish Garden (Max. 15" any dimension)
09 - Fresh Floral Design (Max. 15" any dimension)
10 - Fresh Floral Design with Gourds (Max. 15" any dimension)
11 - Large Mixed Container (Max. weight 30 lbs., 20" diameter pot)

TERRARIUMS, DISH, & CONTAINER GARDENS

These items will remain on display for the duration of the fair.

DIVISION 130: DISH GARDENS & TERRARIUMS

PREMIUMS

1st - $12 2nd - $8 3rd - $5

CLASS

01 - Dish Garden Using Cactus or Succulents (Max. 15" any dimension)
02 - Combination Planter Bowl (Max. 15" any dimension)
03 - Miniature Terrarium (Under 8" any dimension)
04 - Large Terrarium (Over 8" any dimension)

DIVISION 131: CONTAINER GARDENS

PREMIUMS

1st - $30 2nd - $25 3rd - $20

CLASS

01 - Miniature or Fairy Garden (Max. 15" any dimen.)
02 - Window Box Planter (Max. dimensions 12" x 36")
03 - Large Mixed Container (Max. weight 30 lbs., Max. 24" any dimension)

SUCCULENTS & CACTI

These items will remain on display for the duration of the fair.

PREMIUMS

1st - $12 2nd - $8 3rd - $5

DIVISION 132: SUCCULENTS & CACTI *(20" Maximum Pot Diameter, Maximum 30 lbs.)*

CLASS

01 - Agave, Any Species
02 - Mangave, Any Form
03 - Aloe Vera
04 - Aloe, Any Other Species
05 - Senecio, Any Succulent Species
06 - Jade Plant
07 - Any Other Crassula Variety
08 - Cacti, Any Species
09 - Hoya, Any Species
10 - Echeveria, Any Species
11 - Epiphyllum, Any Species
12 - Crown of Thorns
13 - Any Other Euphorbia Variety
14 - Portulaca & Portulacaria Species
15 - Florist Kalanchoe *(Kalanchoe blossfeldiana)*
16 - Any Other Kalanchoe Variety
17 - Any Tall Sansevieria Species
18 - Any Small Sansevieria Species
19 - Sedum, Any Species
20 - Stapelia or Relatives
21 - Succulent with Caudex
22 - Crested Succulent or Cacti
23 - Variegated Succulent or Cactus
24 - Succulent Not Listed (No Cacti)

CONTAINER GROWN PLANTS

These items will remain on display for the duration of the fair.

PREMIUMS

1st - $12 2nd - $8 3rd - $5

- *No Maximum height or width.*
- *Maximum weight of 30 pounds.*
- *20" maximum pot diameter.*

DIVISION 133: CONTAINER GROWN PLANTS

CLASS

01 - African Violet, Single
02 - African Violet, Double
03 - African Violet, Miniature (6" diameter or less)
04 - Anthurium, Alocasias, etc.
05 - Asparagus Fern
06 - Begonia, Wax
07 - Begonia, Angel Wing
08 - Begonia, Rex
09 - Begonia, Dragon Wing
10 - Begonia, Not Listed
11 - Bromeliad, Any Other Variety
12 - Carnivorous Plant (Not Collected)
13 - Citrus
14 - Coleus
15 - Croton
16 - Dieffenbachia
17 - Dracaena, Cordyline
18 - Earth Star or Cryptanthus
19 - Edible Fruiting Plant
20 - Fern, Birds Nest (Asplenium nidus)
21 - Fern, Boston (Nephrolepsis spp.)
22 - Fern, Not Listed
23 - Ficus
24 - Flowering Plant, Not Listed
25 - Foliage Plant, Not Listed
26 - Geranium
27 - Gesneriad, Any Other
28 - Herb
29 - Impatiens
30 - Orchid

DIVISION 133: CONTAINER GROWN PLANTS CONTINUED...

31 - Ornamental Pepper
32 - Peace Lily
33 - Peperomia
34 - Petunia
35 - Philodendron or Monstera (Not Pothos)
36 - Pilea, Any Species
37 - Pineapple Plant
38 - Plectranthus
39 - Ponytail Palm
40 - Pothos
41 - Prayer Plant or Calathea, Maranta, etc.
42 - Schefflera
43 - Syngonium
44 - Most Unusual Plant, Not Listed

HANGING BASKETS & MOUNTED PLANTS

These items will remain on display for the duration of the fair.

PREMIUMS

1st - $12 2nd - $8 3rd - $6

- *No Maximum height or width.*
- *Maximum weight of 20 pounds.*
- *18" maximum pot diameter.*

DIVISION 134: HANGING BASKETS & MOUNTED PLANTS

CLASS

01 - Begonia, Any Variety
02 - Creeping Inch Plant
03 - Bromeliad, Any Variety
04 - Fern, Asparagus
05 - Ferns, Footed
06 - Fern, Staghorn
07 - True Fern, Not Listed
08 - Impatiens
09 - Ivy, Swedish *(Plectranthus Verticillatus)*
10 - Plectranthus, Any Other
11 - Mandevilla
12 - Petunia/Calibrachoa
13 - Pothos
14 - Spider Plant
15 - Syngonium
16 - Tradescantia
17 - Flowering Plant, Not Listed
18 - Foliage Plant, Not Listed
19 - Mixed Hanging Basket

GOURDS

These items will remain on display for the duration of the fair.

PREMIUMS

1st - $10 2nd - $8 3rd - $6

- All classes eligible to win the North Carolina Gourd Society Award.

DIVISION 135: GOURDS

CLASS

01 - Largest New Crop Gourd (Circumference)
02 - Longest New Crop Gourd
03 - Six New Crop Gourds
04 - Three Small Ornamental Gourds (New Crop, displayed on paper plate)
05 - Six Small Ornamental Gourds (New crop, displayed in a basket)
06 - New Crop Long Handle Gourd
07 - Turban Gourd, New Crop
08 - Luffa
09 - Cured Gourd
10 - Most Unusual Natural Cucurbit
11 - Most Unusual Manipulated Cucurbit (Typing in knots, use of forms, etc.)
12 - Gourds In A Basket (New Crop, max. 15" x 20")
13 - Six Miniature Pumpkins

GARDEN DECORATIONS

These items will remain on display for the duration of the fair.

PREMIUMS

1st - $20 2nd - $15 3rd - $10

- *Scarecrows will be mounted on one of our t-posts. Use only wooden or plastic pipe for back support.*
- *A limited supply of State Fair wheel-barrows are available to use for this competition and will only be available 3 days before judging.*

DIVISION 136: GARDEN DECORATIONS

CLASS

01 - Scarecrow - Adults (Ages 18 and older)
02 - Scarecrow - Teen (Ages 13 to 17)
03 - Scarecrow - Child (Ages 5 to 12)
04 - Scarecrow - Special Needs (Any age)
05 - Planted Wheelbarrow - Adults (Ages 18 and older)
06 - Planted Wheelbarrow - Teens (Ages 13 to 17)
07 - Planted Wheelbarrow - Special Needs (Any age)

BONSAI SHOW

PREMIUMS

1st - $25 2nd - $15 3rd - $10

- *Bring exhibit on Wednesday, October 14, 8 AM - 2 PM.*
- *Novice - Less than 10 years Bonsai experience.*
- *Experienced - More than 10 years Bonsai experience.*
- *These items will remain on display for the duration of the fair.*

DIVISION 137: BONSAI

CLASS

01 - Evergreen Bonsai, Novice (Any bonsai tree which maintains its foliage throughout the change of seasons. Some example species would be pine, juniper, boxwood, azalea and tropical species)
02 - Deciduous Bonsai, Novice (Any bonsai tree which loses its leaves and becomes dormant during the winter)
03 - Shohin Bonsai, Novice (A bonsai under 10” in height of any species)
04 - Evergreen Bonsai, Experienced (Any bonsai tree which maintains its foliage throughout the change of seasons. Some examples species would be pine, juniper, boxwood, azalea and tropical species)
05 - Deciduous Bonsai, Experienced (Any bonsai tree which loses its leaves and becomes dormant during the winter)
06 - Shohin Bonsai, Experienced (A bonsai under 10” in height and any species)

BONSAI SPECIAL AWARDS

- **Best of Show** - Best Overall Tree in the Competition $25
- **Peoples Choice Award** - As voted on by fair attendees $25

For additional information on bonsai, send an email to: statefair@trianglebonsai.com

COMPETITION GARDENS

RULES & REGULATIONS

1. This division is open to adults, professionals, organizations, or schools. Those who wish to participate must register online to be placed in a **lottery** to receive a garden plot.
2. Registration will be available online at the link on the Flowers & Gardens page of the NC State Fair website between **May 1st, 2026** at 9 AM and **June 15th, 2026** at 11:59 PM. During registration, you will be asked to provide your top three choices for your plot location. The plot map is located on the next page.
3. Upon closing of registration, 26 exhibitors will be chosen, at random, to receive a garden plot for the 2026 competition. All exhibitors will be notified regarding the status of their entry by June 30th, 2026.
4. Gardens may be started on July 1st and must be completed by 12 PM October 14th, 2026. Gardens are to be started no later than Labor Day unless an extension has been granted in writing by the Flowers and Gardens Superintendent.
5. All gardens in each class will be judged against one another regardless of plot locations. Final scores will determine placing, with no more than four of each premium awarded per class.
6. The gardens are to be educational, artistic, and functional. No artificial plant material is allowed. All exhibitors must install at least two spotlights in each garden for night lighting.
7. A 24" x 18" plot board will be provided. Information to include on the board: garden theme, garden concept statement, name of exhibitor, plot plant, list of plants, and exhibitor's entry tag. Correct common names of plants must be provided. Botanical names should be included. The Garden Concept Statement (100 words or more) should explain what the gardener is trying to accomplish. The exhibitor's name must be masked from the judges'view prior to judging. Masking will be removed after judging is completed.
8. An appropriate sign may be used to acknowledge suppliers and donors. The sign is to be placed in the garden after judging and in a manner not distracting to the garden. NO signs will be allowed on the fence(s). Any sign or material deemed distracting and/or inappropriate by the Superintendent will be removed.
9. Exhibitors must clean, water, and replace dead material in the gardens daily during the fair. Pumps, fountains, and lights are to be maintained in good working order. All maintenance should occur prior to the fair opening. If done during fair hours, water will have to be carried, as NO hoses can be pulled across the walkways.
10. No exhibitor may enter the grounds for garden clean-out before 10 AM on Monday, October 26th, 2026. Removal of garden exhibit materials must be completed by 5 PM on Sunday, November 1st, 2026, unless otherwise permitted by the Superintendent. All bark and soil amendment materials are to be removed from contact with the fence and the remaining ground leveled.
11. Premium checks will be mailed after the gardens have been cleaned and approved by the Superintendent. Any exhibitor who fails to clean out their garden by December 31st, 2026 will forfeit all premiums.

COMPETITION GARDENS JUDGING CRITERIA

Design (45)	Construction (20)	Materials (35)
• Scope (degree of difficulty)	• Quality of Construction	• Overall Quality of Plant Material (color, luster, free of insects & disease)
• Utilization of Theme	• Structural Integrity	
• Attention to Detail	• Attention to Drainage and Finished Grade	• Selection (appropriateness of plant material)
• Overall Appearance		
• Creativity	• Quality of Installation	• Placement of plant material (spacing)
• Landscape Design, Graphics, & Labeling		• Appropriate Use of Mulch
		• Proper Maintenance

PREMIUMS

1st - $800 2nd - $700 3rd - $600 4th - $500

DIVISION 138: COMPETITION GARDENS

CLASS

01 - Adult/Professional/Organization

02 - School

WREATHS

These items will remain on display for the duration of the fair.

PREMIUMS

1st - $25 2nd - $15 3rd - $10

- *All wreaths must be constructed with any combination of natural conifer greens, and may include broadleaf evergreen tree or shrub foliage.*
- *All wreaths must have a hanger loop firmly affixed to the top of the form frame.*
- *Form frames used to create wreaths must meet the following dimensions:*
  - *Minimum: 12 inches*
  - *Maximum: 18 inches*
- *No flowers are allowed.*
- *Decorations that feature controversial subject matter will be disqualified, including anything sexual, discriminatory, or related to guns or weapons.*

DIVISION 139: WREATHS

CLASS

01 - Undecorated Wreath *Greenery only.*

02 - Decorated Wreath *Wreaths with any type of added decorations.*

FLOWERS & GARDENS - 2ND SHOW

PREMIUMS

1st - $8 2nd - $6 3rd - $4

Dahlias have no height restrictions.

DIVISION 201: DAHLIAS - SIZE AA GIANT

CLASS

01 - Yellow, Orange, or Bronze (One Bloom)
02 - Light Blend or Flame Blend, Variegated or Bi-Color (One Bloom)
03 - Three Blooms, One Cultivar (Any Color)

AA GIANT
Over 10 inches in diameter

DIVISION 202: DAHLIAS - SIZE A LARGE

CLASS

01 - Pink, Dark Pink, Red, Lavender, Purple (One Bloom)
02 - Light Blend or Flame Blend, Variegated or Bi-Color (One Bloom)
03 - Three Blooms, One Cultivar (Any Color)

A LARGE
8 to10 inches in diameter

DIVISION 203: DAHLIAS - SIZE B MEDIUM

CLASS

01 - White or Blush (One Bloom)
02 - Light Blend or Flame Blend, Variegated or Bi-Color (One Bloom)
03 - Three Blooms, One Cultivar (Any Color)

B MEDIUM
6 to 8 inches in diameter

DIVISION 204: DAHLIAS - SIZE BB SMALL

CLASS

01 - Yellow, Orange, or Bronze (One Bloom)
02 - Pink, Dark Pink, Red, Lavender, Purple (One Bloom)
03 - Light Blend or Flame Blend, Variegated or Bi-Color (One Bloom)
04 - Three Blooms, One Cultivar (Any Color)

BB SMALL
4 to 6 inches in diameter

DIVISION 205: DAHLIAS - SIZE M MINIATURE

CLASS

01 - White or Blush (One Bloom)
02 - Light Blend or Flame Blend, Variegated or Bi-Color (One Bloom)
03 - Three Blooms, One Cultivar (Any Color)

M MINIATURE
Up to 4 inches in diameter

DIVISION 206: DAHLIAS - SIZE BA BALL

CLASS

01 - Pink, Dark Pink, Red, Lavender, Purple (One Bloom)
02 - Light Blend or Flame Blend, Variegated or Bi-Color (One Bloom)
03 - Three Blooms, One Cultivar (Any Color)

BA BALL
Over 3 inches in diameter

DIVISION 207: DAHLIAS - SIZE MB MINIATURE BALL

CLASS

01 - Pink, Dark Pink, Red, Lavender, Purple (One Bloom)
02 - Light Blend or Flame Blend, Variegated or Bi-Color (One Bloom)
03 - Three Blooms, One Cultivar (Any Color)

MB MINIATURE BALL
2 to 3 inches in diameter

DIVISION 208: DAHLIAS - SIZE P POMPOM

CLASS

01 - Yellow, Orange, or Bronze (One Bloom)
02 - Light Blend or Flame Blend, Variegated or Bi-Color (One Bloom)
03 - Three Blooms, One Cultivar (Any Color)

P POMPOM
Up to 2 inches in diameter

DIVISION 209: DAHLIAS - SIZE MS MIGNON SINGLE

CLASS

01 - Pink, Dark Pink, Red, Lavender, Purple (One Bloom)
02 - Light Blend or Flame Blend, Variegated or Bi-Color (One Bloom)
03 - Three Blooms, One Cultivar (Any Color)

MS MIGNON SINGLE
Up to 2 inches in diameter

DIVISION 210: DAHLIAS - SIZE S SINGLE

CLASS

01 - White or Blush (One Bloom)
02 - Light Blend or Flame Blend, Variegated or Bi-Color (One Bloom)
03 - Three Blooms, One Cultivar (Any Color)

S SINGLE
Over 2 inches in diameter

DIVISION 211: CUT PERENNIAL FLOWERS

CLASS

01 - Asclepias (1 Stem)
02 - Chelone, Turtlehead, (1 Stem)
NEW 03 - Chrysanthemum (Any Type, >3" Flower, 3 Stems)
NEW 04 - Chrysanthemum (Garden Spray, One Stem)
NEW 05 - Chrysanthemum (Garden Spray, 3 Stems)
NEW 06 - Echinacea, Coneflower (Red, Orange, or Coral, 1 Stem)
07 - Re-Blooming Iris (1 Stem)
08 - Tricyrtis, Toad Lily (1 Stem)
09 - Salvia, Blue/Purple (1 Stem)
10 - Solidago, Goldenrod (3 Stems)

DIVISION 212: CUT ANNUAL FLOWERS

CLASS

01 - Begonia, Wax (1 Stem)
02 - Crested Celosia, Cockscomb (1 Stem)
03 - Celosia, Plumed (3 Stems)
04 - Global Amaranth (3 Stems)
05 - Marigold, Orange (3 Stems)
06 - Marigold, Dwarf Yellow (3 Stems)
07 - Marigold, Dwarf Orange (3 Stems)
08 - Penta (1 Stem)
09 - Sunflower, Annual (1 Stem)
10 - Zinnia, Solid Color, Under 3 inches (1 Stem)
11 - Zinnia, Bi-Color (3 Stems)
12 - Zinnia, Mexican (1 Stem)
13 - Zinnia, Yellow/Orange, Over 3 inches (1 Stem)
14 - Annual Flower, Not Listed in Div. 112 & 312 (1 Stem)

DIVISION 213: CUT FOLIAGE

CLASS

01 - Coleus, Two Colors (3 Stems)
02 - Brunnera (1 Stem)
03 - Elephant Ear, Any Size or Length (1 Stem)
04 - Ginger, Variegated (1 Stem)
05 - Persian Shield (1 Stem)

DIVISION 214: CULINARY HERBS

CLASS

01 - Basil, Purple
02 - Catnip
03 - Fennel
04 - Lemon Verbena
05 - Monarda (Bergamot/Bee Balm)
06 - Oregano
07 - Stevia

DIVISION 215: TREES & SHRUBS

CLASS

01 - Purple or Blue Beauty Berry (Single Branch)
02 - Butterfly Bush, Yellow (1 Stem)
03 - Euonymus, Variegated (Single Branch)
04 - Tree or Shrub Not Listed in Div. 115 or 315 (Single Branch)

DIVISION 216: ORNAMENTAL GRASSES

CLASS

01 - Horsetail (3 Stems)
02 - Miscanthus, 36 inches Max. (3 Stems)
03 - Grass Not Listed, 3 Plumes (48" Max.)

ROSES

PREMIUMS

1st - $8 2nd - $6 3rd - $4

- *Cultivar name required.*
- *A spray consists of at least two open roses with buds.*
- *All rose categories are eligible to win Witherspoon Rose Culture Grand Champion Rose.*

SPONSORED BY:

DIVISION 217: MINIATURE ROSES

CLASS

01 - Named Miniature Rose N-Z (1 Stem)

DIVISION 218: MINIFLORA ROSES

CLASS

01 - Named Miniflora Rose N-Z (1 Stem)

DIVISION 219: HYBRID TEA OR GRANDIFLORA ROSES

CLASS

01 - Named Rose I-J (1 Stem)
02 - Named Rose K-L (1 Stem)
03 - Named Roses M-N (1 Stem)
04 - Named Rose O-P (1 Stem)

DIVISION 220: FLORIBUNDA ROSES

CLASS

01 - Named Rose M-N (1 Stem)
02 - Named Rose O-P (1 Stem)
03 - Named Roses Q-R (1 Stem)
04 - Named Rose S-T (1 Stem)
05 - Named Rose U-V (1 Stem)
06 - Named Rose W-X (1 Stem)
07 - Named Rose Y-Z (1 Stem)

DIVISION 221: MISCELLANEOUS ROSES

CLASS

01 - Knockout Rose, Red (1 Stem)
02 - Knockout Rose, Pink (1 Stem)
03 - Knockout Rose, Yellow or White (1 Stem)

DIVISION 222: SPECIAL ROSE EXHIBITS

CLASS

01 - Cycle of Bloom, Floribunda Rose (3 stems, same variety, with 1 bud 1/4 open showing color, 1 exhibition stage 1/2 to 3/4 open, 1 fully open bloom showing stamens)
02 - Miniature Rose Collection of Five (5 miniature or miniflora in same container, different cultivars)
03 - White Hybrid Tea Collection (3 white or near white hybrid tea roses in same container, one cultivar)

FLORAL DESIGN

PREMIUMS

1st - $25 2nd - $15 3rd - $10

- *No fresh plant material is to be treated in any way (e.g. with vegetable oil, leaf shine).*
- *If using fruit, only whole fruit is permitted (no cut fruit).*
- *A sturdy base is recommended.*
- *Wreaths must be ready to hang. Maxium form dimension of 18 in.*
- *Exhibits may not exceed maximum dimensions listed for specific class(es).*
- *Designs that feature controversial subject matter will be disqualified, including anything sexual, discriminatory, or related to guns or weapons.*

DIVISION 223: FRESH FLORAL DESIGN *(12" wide x 24" tall x 12" deep)*

CLASS

01 - "Jackpot!" *Design that includes lottery tickets*

02 - "Tee Time" *Golf-themed design*

03 - "Buttery Blooms" *Design in a popcorn box or bowl*

04 - "What in Carnation?" *Design using only carnations*

DIVISION 224: DRIED FLORAL DESIGN *(15" wide x 24" tall x 15" deep)*

CLASS

01 - "Pocketful of Posies" *Design in a pocket*

02 - "Farm Charm" Design for a country dinner table

03 - "Stir It Up" *Design that includes a wooden spoon*

04 - Wreath - "Delicious!" *Food-inspired design using a 18" support frame.*

DIVISION 225: SMALL FLORAL DESIGN - 8 INCHES *(Above 5" but not to exceed 8" in any dimension)*

CLASS

01 - "Fizz and Pop" *Design in a small glass soda bottle*

02 - "What a Catch" *Design that includes fishing tackle and lures*

03 - "Jar of Joy" Design in a mason jar

04 - "Paperclips & Petals" *Design that includes office supplies*

DIVISION 226: MINIATURE FLORAL DESIGN - 5 INCHES *(Not to exceed 5" in any dimension)*

CLASS

01 - "Nailed It!" *Design in a nail polish bottle*

02 - "In a Nut Shell" *Design in any nut shell*

03 - "Sew Small" *Design in a thimble*

04 - "A Cut Above" *Design in a Bandaid box*

YOUTH

DIVISION 227: YOUTH, AGES 5-7

PREMIUMS

CLASSES: 1- 3	1st - $7	2nd - $5	3rd - $4
CLASSES: 5 - 6	1st - $10	2nd - $8	3rd - $5
CLASS: 7	1st - $15	2nd - $10	3rd - $6

CLASS

01 - Marigold
02 - Zinnia
03 - Other Annual Flower
04 - Coffee Mug of Flowers
05 - Craft Made from Natural Products (Max. 15" any dimension)
06 - Dish Garden (Max. 15" any dimension)
07 - Fresh Floral Design (Max. 15" any dimension)

DIVISION 228: YOUTH, AGES 8-12

PREMIUMS

CLASSES: 1- 4	1st - $7	2nd - $5	3rd - $4
CLASSES: 5 - 8	1st - $10	2nd - $8	3rd - $5
CLASSES: 9 - 10	1st - $15	2nd - $10	3rd - $6

CLASS

01 - Marigold
02 - Zinnia
03 - Other Annual Flower
04 - Perennial Cut Flower
05 - Coffee Mug of Flowers
06 - Craft Made From Natural Products (Max. 15" any dimension)
07 - Terrarium (Max. 15" any dimension)
08 - Dish Garden (Max. 15" any dimension)
09 - Fresh Floral Design (Max. 15" any dimension)
10 - Fresh Floral Design with Gourds (Max. 15" any dimension)

DIVISION 229: YOUTH, AGES 13-17

PREMIUMS

CLASSES: 1- 4	1st - $7	2nd - $5	3rd - $4
CLASSES: 5 - 8	1st - $10	2nd - $8	3rd - $5
CLASSES: 9 - 10	1st - $15	2nd - $10	3rd - $6
CLASS: 11	1st - $20	2nd - $15	3rd - $10

CLASS

01 - Marigold
02 - Zinnia
03 - Other Annual Flower
04 - Perennial Cut Flower
05 - Coffee Mug of Flowers
06 - Craft Made From Natural Products (Max. 15" any dimension)
07 - Terrarium (Max. 15" any dimension)
08 - Dish Garden (Max. 15" any dimension)
09 - Fresh Floral Design (Max. 15" any dimension)
10 - Fresh Floral Design with Gourds (Max. 15" any dimension)
11 - Large Mixed Container (Max. 20" diameter pot)

FLOWERS & GARDENS - 3RD SHOW

PREMIUMS

1st - $8 2nd - $6 3rd - $4

Dahlias have no height restrictions.

DIVISION 301: DAHLIAS: SIZE AA GIANT

CLASS

01 - Pink, Dark Pink, Red, Lavender, Purple (One Bloom)
02 - Light Blend or Flame Blend, Variegated or Bi-Color (One Bloom)
03 - Three Blooms, One Cultivar (Any Color)

AA GIANT
Over 10 inches in diameter

DIVISION 302: DAHLIAS: SIZE A LARGE

CLASS

01 - White or Blush (One Bloom)
02 - Light Blend or Flame Blend, Variegated or Bi-Color (One Bloom)
03 - Three Blooms, One Cultivar (Any Color)

A LARGE
8 to10 inches in diameter

DIVISION 303: DAHLIAS: SIZE B MEDIUM

CLASS

01 - Yellow, Orange, or Bronze (One Bloom)
02 - Light Blend or Flame Blend, Variegated or Bi-Color (One Bloom)
03 - Three Blooms, One Cultivar (Any Color)

B MEDIUM
6 to 8 inches in diameter

DIVISION 304: DAHLIAS: SIZE BB SMALL

CLASS

01 - White or Blush (One Bloom)
02 - Yellow, Orange, or Bronze (One Bloom)
03 - Light Blend or Flame Blend, Variegated or Bi-Color (One Bloom)
04 - Three Blooms, One Cultivar (Any Color)

BB SMALL
4 to 6 inches in diameter

DIVISION 305: DAHLIAS: SIZE M MINIATURE

CLASS

01 - Pink, Dark Pink, Red, Lavender, Purple (One Bloom)
02 - Light Blend or Flame Blend, Variegated or Bi-Color (One Bloom)
03 - Three Blooms, One Cultivar (Any Color)

M MINIATURE
Up to 4 inches in diameter

DIVISION 306: DAHLIAS: SIZE BA BALL

CLASS

01 - Yellow, Orange, or Bronze (One Bloom)
02 - Light Blend or Flame Blend, Variegated or Bi-Color (One Bloom)
03 - Three Blooms, One Cultivar (Any Color)

BA BALL
Over 3 inches in diameter

DIVISION 307: DAHLIAS: SIZE MB MINIATURE BALL

CLASS

01 - White or Blush (One Bloom)
02 - Light Blend or Flame Blend, Variegated or Bi-Color (One Bloom)
03 - Three Blooms, One Cultivar (Any Color)

MB MINIATURE BALL
2 to 3 inches in diameter

DIVISION 308: DAHLIAS: SIZE P POMPOM

CLASS

01 - White or Blush (One Bloom)
02 - Light Blend or Flame Blend, Variegated or Bi-Color (One Bloom)
03 - Three Blooms, One Cultivar (Any Color)

P POMPOM
Up to 2 inches in diameter

DIVISION 309: DAHLIAS: SIZE MS MIGNON SINGLE

CLASS

01 - White or Blush (One Bloom)
02 - Light Blend or Flame Blend, Variegated or Bi-Color (One Bloom)
03 - Three Blooms, One Cultivar (Any Color)

MS MIGNON SINGLE
Up to 2 inches in diameter

DIVISION 310: DAHLIAS: SIZE S SINGLE

CLASS

01 - Yellow, Orange, or Bronze (One Bloom)
02 - Light Blend or Flame Blend, Variegated or Bi-Color (One Bloom)
03 - Three Blooms, One Cultivar (Any Color)

S SINGLE
Over 2 inches in diameter

DIVISION 311: CUT PERENNIAL FLOWERS

CLASS

01 - Anemone (1 Stem)
02 - Aster (3 Stems)
NEW 03 - Chrysanthemum (Football Type, No Visible Center, 1 Stem)
NEW 04 - Chrysanthemum (Football Type, No Visible Center, 3 Stems)
NEW 05 - Chrysanthemum (Spider/Quill Type, 1 Stem)
NEW 06 - Chrysanthemum (Spider/Quill Type, 3 Stems)
07 - Coreopsis (1 Stem)
NEW 08 - Echinacea, Coneflower (Yellow, Gold, or Multi-Colored, 1 Stem)
09 - Joe Pye Weed, Eupatorium (1 Stem)
10 - Pineapple Sage
11 - Salvia, White/Yellow (1 Stem)
12 - Sunflower, Perennial (3 Stems)
13 - Flowering Perennial Not Listed in Div.111 or 211 (1 Stem)

DIVISION 312: CUT ANNUAL FLOWERS

CLASS

01 - Begonia, Not Previously Listed (1 Stem)
02 - Celosia, Plumed Red/Rose (1 Stem)
03 - Cleome (3 Stems)
04 - Impatiens (1 Stem)
05 - Marigold, Yellow (1 Stem)
06 - Marigold, Dwarf Yellow (3 Stems)
07 - Marigold, Dwarf Red Blend (1 Stem)
08 - Salvia, Annual (Any Color, 1 Stem)
09 - Sunflower, Annual (3 Stems)
10 - Zinnia, Solid Color (Under 3 inches, 1 Stem)
11 - Zinnia, Cactus (1 Stem)
12 - Zinnia, Red/Pink (Over 3 inches, 1 Stem)
13 - Zinnia, Yellow/Orange (Over 3 inches, 3 Stems)
14 - Angelonia, Any Color (1 Stem)

DIVISION 313: CUT FOLIAGE

CLASS

01 - Aspidistra (3 Stems)
02 - Coleus, Three Colors (1 Stem)
03 - Copperleaf (1 Stem)
04 - Foliage, Variegated, Any Other (1 Stem)
05 - Aquatic Plant (1 Stem)

DIVISION 314: CULINARY HERBS

CLASS

01 - Bay
02 - Marjoram
03 - Mint
04 - Non-Culinary Herb
05 - Parsley
06 - Rosemary
07 - Sage
08 - Thyme

DIVISION 315: TREES & SHRUBS

CLASS

01 - Aucuba (1 Stem)
02 - Butterfly Bush, Blue (1 Stem)
03 - Camellia (1 Branch)
04 - Osmanthus (1 Branch)

DIVISION 316: ORNAMENTAL GRASSES

CLASS

01 - Carex (24" Max., 3 Stems)
02 - Cyperus (36" Max., 1 Stem)
03 - Grass, Not Listed, 3 Plumes (36" Max.)

ROSES

PREMIUMS

1st - $8 2nd - $6 3rd - $4

- *Cultivar name required.*
- *A spray consists of at least two open roses with buds.*
- *All rose categories are eligible to win Witherspoon Rose Culture Grand Champion Rose.*

SPONSORED BY:

DIVISION 317: MINIATURE ROSES

CLASS

01 - Any Named Miniature Rose (Single Spray)

DIVISION 318: MINIFLORA ROSES

CLASS

01 - Any Named Miniflora Rose (Single Spray)

DIVISION 319: HYBRID TEA OR GRANDIFLORA ROSES

CLASS

01 - Named Rose Q-R (1 Stem)
02 - Named Rose S-T (1 Stem)
03 - Named Rose U-V (1 Stem)
04 - Named Roses W-X (1 Stem)
05 - Named Rose Y-Z (1 Stem)

DIVISION 320: FLORIBUNDA ROSES

CLASS

01 - Full Blown, Stamens Must Show (1 Stem)
02 - Named Rose A-D (Spray)
03 - Named Roses E-H (Spray)
04 - Named Rose I-L (Spray)
05 - Named Rose M-P (Spray)
06 - Named Rose Q-T (Spray)
07 - Named Rose U-Z (Spray)

DIVISION 321: MISCELLANEOUS ROSES

CLASS

01 - Any Shrub Rose Not Listed A-F
02 - Any Shrub Rose Not Listed G-L
03 - Any Shrub Rose Not Listed M-Z
04 - Any Climber, Except Miniatures

DIVISION 322: SPECIAL ROSE EXHIBITS

CLASS

01 - Cycle of Bloom, Hybrid Tea Rose (3 stems, same variety, with 1 bud 1/4 open showing color, 1 exhibition stage 1/2 to 3/4 open, 1 fully open bloom showing stamens)
02 - Yellow Hybrid Tea Collection (3 yellow or yellow blend hybrid tea roses in same container, one cultivar)
03 - Hybrid Tea Collection (5 hybrid tea roses in same container,different cultivars)
04 - Floribunda Collection (3 floribunda roses in same container, different cultivars)

FLORAL DESIGN

PREMIUMS

1st - $25 2nd - $15 3rd - $10

- *No fresh plant material is to be treated in any way (e.g. with vegetable oil, leaf shine).*
- *If using fruit, only whole fruit is permitted (no cut fruit).*
- *A sturdy base is recommended.*
- *Wreaths must be ready to hang. Maxium form dimensionof 18 in.*
- *Exhibits may not exceed maximum dimensions listed for specific class(es).*
- *Designs that feature controversial subject matter will be disqualified, including anything sexual, discriminatory, or related to guns or weapons.*

DIVISION 323: FRESH FLORAL DESIGN *(12" wide x 24" tall x 12" deep)*

CLASS

01 - "In the Bag " *Design in a purse*

02 - "Birthday Bash" *Birthday-themed design*

03 - "Hogs & Kisses" *Pig-themed Valentines Day design*

04 - "Baby In Bloom" *Design for a baby shower*

DIVISION 324: DRIED FLORAL DESIGN *(15" wide x 24" tall x 15" deep)*

CLASS

01 - "If the Shoe Fits" *Design in a shoe*

02 - "Bless You Blooms" *Design in a tissue box*

03 - "Wine & Dine" *Design in a wine glass*

04 - Wreath - "Happy Harvest" *Autumn-inspired design using a 18" support frame*

DIVISION 325: SMALL FLORAL DESIGN - 8 INCHES *(Above 5" but not to exceed 8" in any dimension)*

CLASS

01 - "Cone Sweet Cone" *Design in an ice cream cone*

02 - "A Few of My Favorite Things" *Design up to exhibitor's interpretation*

03 - "Keep on Truckin" *Design that includes a toy truck*

04 - "You Are My Sunshine" *Design using yellow, orange, and gold flowers*

DIVISION 326: MINIATURE FLORAL DESIGN - 5 INCHES *(Not to exceed 5" in any dimension)*

CLASS

01 - "Pucker Up!" Design in a lipstick tube

02 - "Color My World" Design in a crayon box

03 - "Teeny Tiny" *Design in a tiny vase*

04 - "Brewed to Bloom" *Design in an espresso cup*

YOUTH

DIVISION 327: YOUTH , AGES 5-7

PREMIUMS

CLASSES: 1- 3	1st - $7	2nd - $5	3rd - $4
CLASSES: 5 - 6	1st - $10	2nd - $8	3rd - $5
CLASS: 7	1st - $15	2nd - $10	3rd - $6

CLASS

01 - Marigold
02 - Zinnia
03 - Other Annual Flower
04 - Coffee Mug of Flowers
05 - Craft Made From Natural Products (Max. 15" any dimension)
06 - Dish Garden (Max. 15" any dimension)
07 - Fresh Floral Design (Max. 15" any dimension)

DIVISION 328: YOUTH, AGES 8-12

PREMIUMS

CLASSES: 1- 4	1st - $7	2nd - $5	3rd - $4
CLASSES: 5 - 8	1st - $10	2nd - $8	3rd - $5
CLASSES: 9 - 10	1st - $15	2nd - $10	3rd - $6

CLASS

01 - Marigold
02 - Zinnia
03 - Other Annual Flower
04 - Perennial Cut Flower
05 - Coffee Mug of Flowers
06 - Craft Made From Natural Products (Max. 15" any dimension)
07 - Terrarium (Max. 15" any dimension)
08 - Dish Garden (Max. 15" any dimension)
09 - Fresh Floral Design (Max. 15" any dimension)
10 - Fresh Floral Design with Gourds (Max. 15" any dimension)

DIVISION 329: YOUTH, AGES 13-17

PREMIUMS

CLASSES: 1- 4	1st - $7	2nd - $5	3rd - $4
CLASSES: 5 - 8	1st - $10	2nd - $8	3rd - $5
CLASSES: 9 - 10	1st - $15	2nd - $10	3rd - $6
CLASS: 11	1st - $20	2nd - $15	3rd - $10

CLASS

01 - Marigold
02 - Zinnia
03 - Other Annual Flower
04 - Perennial Cut Flower
05 - Coffee Mug of Flowers
06 - Craft Made From Natural Products (Max. 15" any dimension)
07 - Terrarium (Max. 15" any dimension)
08 - Dish Garden (Max. 15" any dimension)
09 - Fresh Floral Design (Max. 15" any dimension)
10 - Fresh Floral Design with Gourds (Max. 15" any dimension)
11 - Large Mixed Container (Max. 20" diameter pot)

FOLK FESTIVAL & PERFORMING ARTS

Superintendent: Jeri-Ellen Helms
Registration Deadline: Tuesday, September 15, 2026 at 11:59 PM
Location: The large tent next to the church near Heritage Circle on the west side of the fairgrounds.

The N.C. State Fair Folk Festival was founded in 1948 to preserve and showcase the music and dance traditions of Southern Appalachia, celebrating the beauty and dignity of the region's culture. Click here to learn more about the history of the N.C. State Fair Folk Festival.

FOLK FESTIVAL & PERFORMING ARTS RULES & REGULATIONS

- The General Rules and Regulations of the Fair will govern this department, except in cases of conflict, where the following Rules and Regulations will prevail. Please read all rules & regulations carefully before submitting your entries.
- Submit questions to: NCSFCompetitions@ncagr.gov.
- Open to residents of the United States of America.
- Pre-registration is required. All entries are required to be made online for this department.
- Registration is first come, first served. Once the time slots fill up, no additional performances will be scheduled.
- All performances have a maximum time limit of **8 minutes.** A performance refers to each individual division entry.
- Judges will be provided for each Division on specific days. **Any performances outside of the specific judging days for each Division will be considered a showcase performance**. Showcase performances are not judged and are ineligible for winning ribbons and premiums.
- Professional sound engineers will be on hand every day.
- A House Band and Professional Clogging Judges are only provided on Folk Festival days.
- For performances not utilizing the House Band, all music must be provided by the exhibitor.
- All performances, attire, and music must be appropriate for ALL audiences. The Competition Staff reserves the right to immediately end and disqualify performances that include any aspects deemed inapprocpriate or suggestive.
- Please plan to arrive early to ensure you are prepared for your performance. Any exhibitors who are not ready to perform during their allotted time may be disqualified.
- 1st-3rd place ribbons will be awarded to judged performances in each Class. Additionally, premiums will be awarded where designated.

PARKING OPTIONS:

The Folk Festival & Performing Arts tent is closest to Gate 7 on Youth Center Road.

1. **Cardinal Lot:** Is walkable or has FREE transportation from your vehicle to the road across from Gate 7.
2. **Gate C Parking Lot:** Located on Trinity Road, but you must request a parking pass in advance. The free shuttle from Gate C drops you off at Gates 3 or 12 on the other side of the fairgrounds. We encourage carpooling as much as possible since parking can be limited.
3. **Unloading Passes:** You must request an unloading pass in advance to be able to unload close to the Folk Festival tent on the day of your performance. Vehicle access to the tent to unload is available before 9 AM only. Unloading passes cannot be used for long term parking.

REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS:

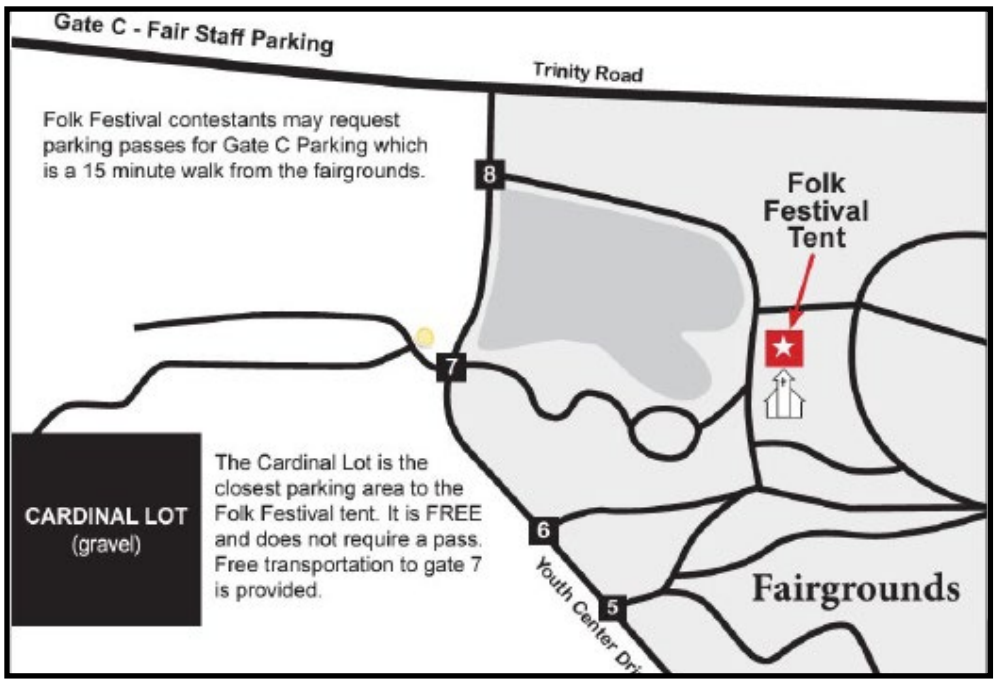
- All registrations in this department must be completed online.
- Please ensure that your registration is completely accurate upon submission. Registrations **cannot be adjusted** once the deadline closes on Septeber 15th, 2026.
- When entering exhibitor information, please use **a valid mailing address** for your address since we will be mailing your tickets and parking passes.
- **For groups**, each team/individual must be entered as a separate exhibitor. It is recommended to use the Quick Group registration feature to enter all of your team's performances at one time.
- For all Group Performances, please determine your class based on the group's average age.
- During registration, you will be asked to provide the following related to each performance. A performance refers to each individual division entry:
  - **Preferred Performance Date/Time -** Please list your preferred day and session during which you would like to perform.
    - Session 1: 10 AM - 1 PM
    - Session 2: 2 PM and later

      *On Sunday, October 18th & Sunday, October 25th, performances will start at 12 PM.
    - After registration closes, you will be contacted directly about your specific time slot.
  - **Song or Performance Title -** List the title of the song you plan to perform or what the title of your performance is.
  - **Number of Performers -** List the number of participating performers.
  - **Format -** List the format of the music that will need to accompany your performance. Ex: House Band, MP3, flash drive, smart phone, etc.
  - **Duration** - List how long your performance will be. Maximum of 8 minutes.
  - **Lineup Order Number** - List where the performance will fall in your overall lineup if you or your group has more than one performance entry.
  - Credentials - If registering multiple acts, please only include total credential amounts on one entry for the entire group.
    - **Number of Performer Tickets** - These are only for the individuals who are performing.
    - **Number of Instructor Tickets** - These are only for instructors who are bringing performing groups. Maximum limit of 4.
    - **Number of Gate C Parking Passes**
    - **Number of Unloading Passes** - To be used for loading/unloading for the day of performance only. Cannot be used to park.
  - **Additional Notes** - Please include an introduction for the MC to announce you on stage and list any equipment or accomodations needed for your performance. Please also note if you would like to perform the same performance twice.

FOLK FESTIVAL & PERFORMING ARTS JUDGING SCHEDULE

♫ Judges will be provided for each Division on specific days. **Any performances outside of the specific judging days for each Division will be considered a showcase performance**. Showcase performances are not judged and are ineligible for winning ribbons and premiums.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				15 OPENING DAY! NO PERFORMANCES.	16 FOLK FESTIVAL DIV. 101-115	17 FOLK FESTIVAL DIV. 101-115
18 FOLK FESTIVAL DIV. 101-115 *PERFORMANCES START AT 12 PM*	19 FOLK FESTIVAL DIV. 101-115	20 NOVELTY & CONTEMPORARY DANCE DIV. 201-207	21 DRAMATIC ARTS DIV. 214-219	22 INSTRUMENTAL & VOCAL DIV. 111-115, 208-212	23 SCHOOL & YOUTH SHOWCASE DIV. 111-115, 201-219	24 INSTRUMENTAL & VOCAL DIV. 111-115, 208-212
25 A CAPPELLA DAY DIV. 213 *PERFORMANCES START AT 12 PM*						



FOLK FESTIVAL

The Folk Festival includes Divisions 101-115. A House Band and professional clogging judges will only be available during the Folk Festival on Friday, October 16th-Monday, October 19th, 2026. Clogging performances outside of these dates will not be judged.

HERITAGE DANCE

Performances that celebrate traditional styles from North Carolina and beyond, including Appalachian flatfooting, clogging, Bollywood, tango, Irish step, African and Indigenous dances, and global folk traditions. These performances focus on storytelling, technique, and cultural expression.

DIVISION 101: TRADITIONAL FREE-STYLE CLOGGING

Four or more couples dancing as a team using traditional figures. Choose your Class from the list below using your group's average age.

CLASS *Based on your group's average age.*

01 - Ages 5-7
02 - Ages 8-13
03 - Ages 14-18
04 - Ages 19-30
05 - Ages 31-50
06 - Ages 51 & Older

DIVISION 102: PRECISION CLOGGING

Four or more couples performing traditional figures as a team. Choose your Class using your group's average age.

CLASS *Based on your group's average age.*

01 - Ages 5-7
02 - Ages 8-13
03 - Ages 14-18
04 - Ages 19-30
05 - Ages 31-50
06 - Ages 51 & Older

DIVISION 103: TRADITIONAL SMOOTH DANCE

Four or more couples dancing as a team performing traditional figures as a team.

CLASS *Based on your group's average age.*

01 - Ages 5-7
02 - Ages 8-13
03 - Ages 14-18
04 - Ages 19-30
05 - Ages 31-50
06 - Ages 51 & Older

DIVISION 104: CLOGGING LINE

Four or more people standing line or formation line, no facing in same line, no personal contact.

CLASS *Based on your group's average age.*

01 - Ages 5-7
02 - Ages 8-13
03 - Ages 14-18
04 - Ages 19-30
05 - Ages 31-50
06 - Ages 51 & Older

DIVISION 105: CLOGGING DUO/DUET

Male/female couple, or 2 males, or 2 females dancing as partners – do not separate from partner. Join hands as much as possible. As a couple move into a 4-corner pattern. Bluegrass or country music is required.

CLASS *Based on your group's average age.*

01 - Ages 5-7
02 - Ages 8-13
03 - Ages 14-18
04 - Ages 19-30
05 - Ages 31-50
06 - Ages 51 & Older

DIVISION 106: INDIVIDUAL CLOGGING - MALE

Individual free-style clogging for Males.

CLASS

01 - Ages 5-7
02 - Ages 8-13
03 - Ages 14-18
04 - Ages 19-30
05 - Ages 31-50
06 - Ages 51 & Older

DIVISION 107: INDIVIDUAL CLOGGING - FEMALE

Individual free-style clogging for Females.

CLASS

01 - Ages 5-7
02 - Ages 8-13
03 - Ages 14-18
04 - Ages 19-30
05 - Ages 31-50
06 - Ages 51 & Older

DIVISION 108: MISCELLANEOUS CLOGGING ROUTINES

Anything that does not fall into other traditional clogging divisions.

CLASS *Based on your group's average age.*

01 - Ages 5-7
02 - Ages 8-13
03 - Ages 14-18
04 - Ages 19-30
05 - Ages 31-50
06 - Ages 51 & Older

DIVISION 109: GLOBAL FOLK DANCE (SHOWCASE ONLY)

Includes traditional dances from cultures around the world, showcasing unique steps, rhythms, and styles. This division preserves and shares cultural heritage through performance.

CLASS

01 - Ages 5-7
02 - Ages 8-13
03 - Ages 14-18
04 - Ages 19-30
05 - Ages 31-50
06 - Ages 51 & Older

DIVISION 110: INDIGENOUS DANCE (SHOWCASE ONLY)

Features traditional dances from Indigenous cultures, showcasing authentic movements, rhythms, and storytelling passed down through generations.

CLASS

01 - Ages 5-7
02 - Ages 8-13
03 - Ages 14-18
04 - Ages 19-30
05 - Ages 31-50
06 - Ages 51 & Older

HERITAGE MUSIC

Includes instrumental and vocal performances characterized by Appalachian folk, bluegrass, gospel, and blues blend African, European, and Indigenous influences. Often includes the use of fiddles, banjos, and soulful harmonies. Ribbons and premiums will be awarded to Divisions 111-115.

DIVISION 111: INSTRUMENTAL SOLO

CLASS

01 - Ages 5-7
02 - Ages 8-13
03 - Ages 14-18
04 - Ages 19-30
05 - Ages 31-50
06 - Ages 51 & Older

PREMIUMS

1st	2nd	3rd
$75	$50	$40

DIVISION 112: GROUP INSTRUMENTAL

CLASS *Based on your group's average age.*

01 - Ages 5-7
02 - Ages 8-13
03 - Ages 14-18
04 - Ages 19-30
05 - Ages 31-50
06 - Ages 51 & Older

PREMIUMS

1st	2nd	3rd
$100	$75	$50

DIVISION 113: VOCAL SOLO

CLASS

01 - Ages 5-7
02 - Ages 8-13
03 - Ages 14-18
04 - Ages 19-30
05 - Ages 31-50
06 - Ages 51 & Older

PREMIUMS

1st	2nd	3rd
$75	$50	$40

DIVISION 114: GROUP VOCALS - NON-SCHOOL

CLASS *Based on your group's average age.*

01 - Ages 5-7
02 - Ages 8-13
03 - Ages 14-18
04 - Ages 19-30
05 - Ages 31-50
06 - Ages 51 & Older

PREMIUMS

1st	2nd	3rd
$100	$75	$50

DIVISION 115: GROUP VOCALS - SCHOOL

CLASS *Based on your group's average age.*

01 - Ages 5-7
02 - Ages 8-13
03 - Ages 14-18

PREMIUMS

1st	2nd	3rd
$100	$75	$50

PERFORMING ARTS

Performing Arts includes Novelty and Contemporary music and dance, along with our new Dramatic Arts performance divisions.

NOVELTY & CONTEMPORARY DANCE

DIVISION 201: JAZZ/TAP

Includes performances in jazz and tap dance styles. Dancers showcase rhythmic footwork, musicality, and movement in both traditional and modern routines.

CLASS

01 - Ages 5-7
02 - Ages 8-13
03 - Ages 14-18
04 - Ages 19-30
05 - Ages 31-50
06 - Ages 51 & Older

DIVISION 202: BALLET

Includes classical and contemporary ballet performances, showcasing technique, grace, and artistic expression through movement.

CLASS

01 - Ages 5-7
02 - Ages 8-13
03 - Ages 14-18
04 - Ages 19-30
05 - Ages 31-50
06 - Ages 51 & Older

DIVISION 203: COUNTRY LINE DANCE

No clogging. Features choreographed group dances performed in lines, set to country and western music, emphasizing rhythm, coordination, and footwork.

CLASS

01 - Ages 5-7
02 - Ages 8-13
03 - Ages 14-18
04 - Ages 19-30
05 - Ages 31-50
06 - Ages 51 & Older

DIVISION 204: INTERPRATIVE DANCE

Focuses on expressive movement that conveys emotions, themes, or storytelling. Performances may blend various dance styles to create unique, artistic interpretations.

CLASS

01 - Ages 5-7
02 - Ages 8-13
03 - Ages 14-18
04 - Ages 19-30
05 - Ages 31-50
06 - Ages 51 & Older

DIVISION 205: ETHNIC DANCE

Showcases traditional dances from specific cultural backgrounds, highlighting unique movements, music, and storytelling.

CLASS

01 - Ages 5-7
02 - Ages 8-13
03 - Ages 14-18
04 - Ages 19-30
05 - Ages 31-50
06 - Ages 51 & Older

DIVISION 206: NOVELTY DANCE

Features fun, quirky, and unconventional performances, including trend-based, theatrical, and comedic routines.

CLASS

01 - Ages 5-7
02 - Ages 8-13
03 - Ages 14-18
04 - Ages 19-30
05 - Ages 31-50
06 - Ages 51 & Older

DIVISION 207: CONTEMPORARY DANCE

Blends elements of ballet, modern, and jazz dance, emphasizing fluid movement, creativity, and emotional expression.

CLASS

01 - Ages 5-7
02 - Ages 8-13
03 - Ages 14-18
04 - Ages 19-30
05 - Ages 31-50
06 - Ages 51 & Older

NOVELTY & CONTEMPORARY MUSIC

Includes any instrumental or vocal performances that are **NOT** classified as Heritage Music, which includes Appalachian folk, bluegrass, gospel, and blues blend African, European, and Indigenous influences.

DIVISION 208: INSTRUMENTAL SOLO

CLASS

01 - Ages 5-7
02 - Ages 8-13
03 - Ages 14-18
04 - Ages 19-30
05 - Ages 31-50
06 - Ages 51 & Older

PREMIUMS

1st	2nd	3rd
$75	$50	$40

DIVISION 209: GROUP INSTRUMENTAL

CLASS *Based on your group's average age.*

01 - Ages 5-7
02 - Ages 8-13
03 - Ages 14-18
04 - Ages 19-30
05 - Ages 31-50
06 - Ages 51 & Older

PREMIUMS

1st	2nd	3rd
$100	$75	$50

DIVISION 210: VOCAL SOLO

CLASS

01 - Ages 5-7
02 - Ages 8-13
03 - Ages 14-18
04 - Ages 19-30
05 - Ages 31-50
06 - Ages 51 & Older

PREMIUMS

1st	2nd	3rd
$75	$50	$40

DIVISION 211: GROUP VOCALS - NON-SCHOOL

PREMIUMS

1st	2nd	3rd
$100	$75	$50

CLASS *Based on your group's average age.*

01 - Ages 5-7
02 - Ages 8-13
03 - Ages 14-18
04 - Ages 19-30
05 - Ages 31-50
06 - Ages 51 & Older

DIVISION 212: GROUP VOCALS - SCHOOL

PREMIUMS

1st	2nd	3rd
$100	$75	$50

CLASS *Based on your group's average age.*

01 - Ages 5-7
02 - Ages 8-13
03 - Ages 14-18

NEW DIVISION 213: A CAPELLA

Vocal groups who perform unaccompanied by instruments, using only their voices to create harmony, melody, and rhythm.

CLASS *Based on your group's average age.*

01 - Youth Male Group - Ages 18 & Under
02 - Youth Female Group - Ages 18 & Under
03 - Youth Co-Ed Group - Ages 18 18 & Under
04 - Adult Male Group - Ages 19 & Older
05 - Adult Female Group - Ages 19 & Older
06 - Adult Co-Ed Group - Ages 19 & Older

DRAMATIC ARTS

Includes performances related to dramatic arts and theater. Groups should determine their class based on the group's average age.

DIVISION 214: POETRY PERFORMANCE

Spoken word, slam poetry, traditional, or original poetry.

CLASS

01 - Ages 5-7
02 - Ages 8-13
03 - Ages 14-18
04 - Ages 19 & Older

DIVISION 215: STORYTELLING PERFORMANCE

Folktales, personal narratives, cultural, or heritage stories.

CLASS

01 - Ages 5-7
02 - Ages 8-13
03 - Ages 14-18
04 - Ages 19 & Older

DIVISION 216: MONOLOGUE PERFORMANCE

Dramatic or comedic solo theatrical performance.

CLASS

01 - Ages 5-7
02 - Ages 8-13
03 - Ages 14-18
04 - Ages 19 and older

DIVISION 217: DUO SCENE PERFORMANCE

Two-person scripted or original scene.

CLASS *Based on your group's average age.*

01 - Ages 5-7
02 - Ages 8-13
03 - Ages 14-18
04 - Ages 19 & Older

DIVISION 218: MUSICAL THEATER PERFORMANCE

Soloist or small group presenting a musical theater selection. Combines strong vocals with theatrical expression, stage presence, and appropriate choreography.

CLASS

01 - Ages 5-7
02 - Ages 8-13
03 - Ages 14-18
04 - Ages 19 & Older

DIVISION 219: SHOW CHOIR/GLEE CLUB PERFORMANCE

Show Choir or Glee Club group performance. ***The N.C. State Fair reserves the right to further divide this division into additional classes based on registered entries.***

CLASS *Based on your group's average age.*

01 - Show Choir/Glee Club Performance

FOLK FESTIVAL & PERFORMING ARTS SPECIAL AWARDS

Ribbons only.

AWARDS

- Best of Show - Youth Heritage Dance *Div. 101-110, Classes 1-3*
- Best of Show - Adult Heritage Dance *Div. 101-110, Classes 4-6*
- Best of Show - Youth Novelty & Contemporary Dance *Div. 201-207, Classes 1-3*
- Best of Show - Adult Novelty & Contemporary Dance *Div. 201-207, Classes 4-6*
- Best of Show - Youth Instrumental *Div. 111-112, 208-209, Classes 1-3*
- Best of Show - Adult Instrumental *Div. 111-112, 208-209, Classes 4-6*
- Best of Show - Youth Vocal *Div. 113-115, 210-213, Classes 1-3*
- Best of Show - Adult Vocal *Div. 113-115, 210-213, Classes 4-6*
- Best of Show - Youth Dramatic Arts *Div. 213-218, Classes 1-3*
- Best of Show - Adult Dramatic Arts *Div. 213-218, Classes 4-6*
- Annette Pulley Award *Awarded to an individual or group in Div. 101-108 for outstanding talent, sportsmanship, audience appeal, and continuing support of the Folk Festival. The performance should be entertaining, appropriate, and enhancing for the Folk Festival.*
- Bascom Lamar Lunsford Award *Awarded in memory of the founder of the N.C. State Fair Folk Festival to a group or individual in Div. 111-115 whose musical performance best exemplifies the historical and entertainment purposes of the Folk Festival.*
- Curtis Lee Award *Awarded to an outstanding individual instrumental performance in Div. 111 that is characteristic of the N.C. State Fair Folk Festival tradition.*

FORAGE CROPS

Superintendent: Kim Woods, Area Extension Agent - Person & Granville Counties (336) 599-1195
Assistant Coordinator: Bailee Sheffield, Livestock Extension Agent - Caswell County
Judges & Advisors: Miguel S. Castillo, Forage Specialist, Crop and Soil Sciences Dept., NCSU
Charles Young, NC Cooperative Extension Service, Retired

Registration Deadline: Tuesday, September 15, 2026 at 11:59 PM

**Mailed entry forms must be postmarked by September 1st, 2026*

Entry Submission:

- Please refer to the Entry Process below for more details on submitting your entries.

Judging:

- Wednesday, October 13th, 2026 at 3 PM

FORAGE CROPS RULES & REGULATIONS

- The General Rules and Regulations of the Fair will govern this department, except in cases of conflict, where the following Rules and Regulations will prevail. Please read all rules & regulations carefully before submitting your entries.
- Submit questions to: NCSFCompetitions@ncagr.gov.
- Pre-registration is required, either online or by mail. Make your entries early.
- Open to hay-producing residents of North Carolina only.
- Exhibitors are allowed **one** entry per class.
- Display space is limited, only the first six places in each category will be displayed.
- The NC State Fair retains all entries for teaching purposes at NCSU.
- Not all placings will be awarded if entries are not deemed to be of sufficient quality and quantity.
- Entires will be judged on chemical analysis and visual criteria that are indicative of relative feed value. The final score is weighted as follows: 40% Visual, 40% TDN and 20% Crude protein, with deductions for the nitrates.
- Hay not at or below the safe storage moisture level of less than 20% moisture, will be disqualified
- Participation in this competition has multiple steps. Please thoroughly read the Entry Process:

ENTRY PROCESS

The entry process has multiple steps.

1. **ENTER ONLINE** with the NC State Fair by September 15th at 11:59 PM
2. **SUBMIT YOUR ANALYSIS SAMPLE**

- A small core sample for chemical analysis must be sent to the NCDA Forage Lab. This Analysis Sample along with a completed analysis form and $10 payable to the NCDA&CS must arrive to the lab by September 15th. Write NC State Fair Sample on top of paper form. Analysis form is available at https://www.ncagr.gov/food-drug/fdpd-forage-analysis-form/download?attachmentor you may complete it online digitally at https://apps.ncagr.gov/AgRSysPortalV2/forageanalysisreport

- The Anaylsis Sample can be sent to the lab one of 2 ways

1. Hand delivered to the lab - you can work with your Extension Agent.
2. Mail the Analysis Sample directly to the Forage Testing Lab:
   a. USPS - Forage Testing, NCDA&CS, 1070 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27607-1070
   b. UPS or FedEx - Forage Testing, NCDA&CS, 4400 Reedy Creek Rd. Raleigh, NC 27607

3. SUBMIT YOUR VISUAL SAMPLE

- **A 6" THICK SECTION FROM THE SAME BALE** is needed for visual analysis. The lab report from your Analysis Sample and 6" Visual Sample must arrive at the fairgrounds by Monday, October 5th. Hay sample can come from a square or round bale, and should be tied well with baler twine.
- Visual sample can be sent to the Fair 4 ways:

1. You can hand deliver your sample to the fairgrounds Admin office by Friday, October 9, between 8 AM and 5 PM. You will **NOT** be able to enter the fairgrounds after Friday, October 9 while the fair is being set up.
2. Work with your Extension Agent to get your visual sample to fairgrounds by Friday, October 9th.
3. Mail the visual sample. It must be **received** by Monday, October 5th.
   a. USPS - NC State Fair - Entry Office 1010 Mail Service Center Raleigh NC 27699-1010
   b. FedEx or UPS - NC State Fair - Entry Office 4285 Trinity Road Raleigh NC 27607
4. Enter through Gate 4 on Youth Center Road and drop off at the Jim Graham Building on the fairgrounds during any of the following times:
   - Monday, October 12th between 9 AM and 3 PM
   - Tuesday, October 13th between 9 AM and 3 PM
   - Wednesday, October 14th before 10 AM

DIVISION 101: FORAGE CROPS

PREMIUMS

1st - $55 2nd - $45 3rd - $35 4th - $30 5th - $25 6th - $20

Jim Green Award - Best of Show - $50

CLASS

01 - Alfalfa
02 - Bermudagrass
03 - Fescue
04 - Orchardgrass
05 - Other Legumes
(Pure Clover, Soybeans, Kudzu, Lespedeza)
06 - Grass - Legume Mixture
(Any grass with any legume in the bale)
07 - Other Warm Season Grasses *(Millet, Sudan, Crabgrass, Sorghum-sudan, johnsongrass, or mixtures with less than 50% Bermudagrass)*
08 - Small Grains
09 - Other Cool Season Grasses
(Ryegrass, Bluegrass, Matua, Prairiegrass)
10 - Mixed Cool Season Grasses

GRAPHIC DESIGN

Registration Deadline: Tuesday, September 15, 2026 at 11:59 PM

**Mailed entry forms must be postmarked by September 1st.*

Entry Take-In:

- Enter through Gate 12.
- Saturday, October 10th from 9 AM-6 PM - Kerr Scott Building
- Sunday, October 11th from 9 AM-6 PM - Kerr Scott Building

*****Mailed entries must be received by Monday, October 5th.*

GRAPHIC DESIGN RULES AND REGULATIONS

- The General Rules and Regulations of the Fair will govern this department, except in cases of conflict, where the following Rules and Regulations will prevail. Please read all rules & regulations carefully before submitting your entries.
- Pre-registration is required, either online or by mail. Make your entries early.
- Send any questions to: NCSFCompetitions@ncagr.gov
- Open to North Carolina schools and residents.
- Exhibitors are allowed one entry.
- Exhibitors will **design and print** an 11”x17” poster that promotes North Carolina Agriculture.
  - All entries must incorporate the text “A Memory Worth Making. A Story Worth Telling” and “North Carolina State Fair 2026”.
  - Entries MUST be designed in **portrait** orientation. No landscape oriented entries will be accepted.
  - Exhibitor’s name must be included on the back of each entry.
  - Poster designs must be original.
- Any entry signed on the front will have the name blocked for judging.
- Entries will be judged based on: Quality of Concept, Design Elements, Creativity, Originality, and Innovations
- Winners will be displayed in the Kerr Scott Building during the Fair.
- Entries in this competition are separate from the Arts and Photography Department entries and are not framed for display.
- Mailed entries can be sent to:

USPS:
NC State Fair
Attn: Entry Department
1010 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1010

UPS or FedEx:
NC State Fair
Attn: Entry Department
4285 Trinity Rd
Raleigh, NC 27607

SCHOOLS

- Each school can submit **up to 6** posters per entry.
- Each poster must be designed by a different student.

DIVISION 101: PUBLIC SCHOOLS

PREMIUMS

1st - $140 2nd - $120 3rd - $100 4th - $80 5th - $60

CLASS

01 - Elementary School Students
02 - Middle School Students
03 - High School Students

DIVISION 102: HOME SCHOOLS

PREMIUMS

1st - $100 2nd - $80 3rd - $60 4th - $40 5th - $20

CLASS

01 - Elementary School Students
02 - Middle School Students
03 - High School Students

INDIVIDUALS

- Each exhibitor is allowed **one** entry.

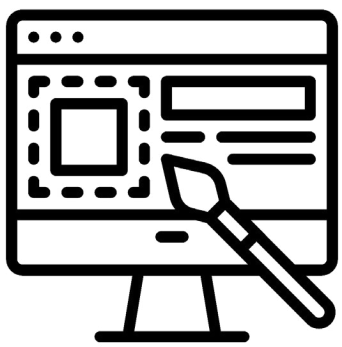
DIVISION 103: INDIVIDUALS

PREMIUMS

1st - $100 2nd - $80 3rd - $60 4th - $40 5th - $20

CLASS

01 - Youth Designers *Ages 17 and younger*
02 - Adult Designers *Ages 18 and older*



HANDICRAFTS

Superintendent: Sandra Dunbar

Registration Deadline: Tuesday, September 15, 2026 at 11:59 PM

**Mailed entry forms must be postmarked by September 1st, 2026*

Entry Take-In:

- Enter through Gate 12.
- Saturday, October 10th, 2026 from 8 AM-6 PM - Commercial Building
- Sunday, October 11th, 2026 from 8 AM-6 PM - Commercial Building

**Mailed exhibits must be received by Monday, October 5th, 2026*

Judging:

- Monday, October 12th, 2026 at 8 AM

Entry Pick-Up:

- Monday, October 26th, 2026 from 8 AM-6 PM - Commercial Building
  - The fair is not responsible for entries left after 6 PM.

**Claim ticket from entry tags are required to claim your entries.*

HANDICRAFTS RULES & REGULATIONS

- The General Rules and Regulations of the Fair will govern this department, except in cases of conflict, where the following Rules and Regulations will prevail. Please read all rules & regulations carefully before submitting your entries.
- Submit questions to: NCSFCompetitions@ncagr.gov.
- Call 919-839-4513 for details concerning entries released from other fairs.
- Pre-registration is required, either online or by mail. Make your entries early.
- Open to residents of North Carolina only.
- Exhibitors are allowed **one** entry per Class.
- Entrant status definitions:
  - **Professional** - Any exhibitor ages 18+ as of January 1st, 2026 who earns income from selling or teaching their craft. This designation also includes being an expert, master craftsman, or repeat blue ribbon winner (winning a blue ribbon 3 consecutive years in the same Class).
  - **Amateur** - Any exhibitor ages 18+ as of January 1st, 2026 who does not earn income from selling or teaching their craft and is not an expert, master craftsman, or repeat blue ribbon winner.
  - **Teen** - Any exhibitor ages 13-17 as of January 1st, 2026.
  - **Youth** - Any exhibitor ages 10-12 as of January 1st, 2026.
  - **Child** - Any exhibitor ages 5-9 as of January 1st, 2026.
- Entries must be original works made by the exhibitor and completed since the 2025 Fair. No purchased items will be accepted.

- All entries including the following prohibited qualities will be denied entry:
  - No perishable components (i.e. foods, undried gourds, boiled eggs, raw eggs, etc.)
  - No banned components (i.e. Feathers from federally protected species, etc.)
  - No guns or replicas of guns.
  - No weapons or symbols of weapons.
  - No nudity or anything controversial in nature.
  - No advertising is permitted on exhibits.
- All entries must meet the following size limits, unless otherwise noted:
  - Less than 24 inches in any dimension
  - Less than 30 lbs.
- Any items used for displaying entries must have exhibitor **number** labeled on them.
- Typically hung exhibits must be ready to hang with a wire hanger secured by screws (pictured below). Alligator hooks, sawtooth hangers, or any other hanging method are not permitted.
- Entering items in the correct category is the responsibility of the exhibitor. Items entered incorrectly may be subject to disqualification.
- Display space for exhibits is limited. Some categories will have specific size limits. The NC State Fair does not guarantee that all entries will be displayed.
- To allow for impartial judging, remove or cover any names or other identifying personal information on the entry.
- Since entries will be moved several times prior to and after judging, exhibitors are responsible for securing the stability of their entry or entries to prevent damage and loss.
- Security Guard service is provided in this department and every precaution is taken to protect all articles. The North Carolina State Fair nor any of its employees will be held responsible for loss or damage to any articles, properties, or persons participating in this department.

PROFESSIONAL HANDICRAFTS

Any exhibitor ages 18+ as of January 1st, 2026 who earns income from selling or teaching their craft. This designation also includes being an expert, master craftsman, or repeat blue ribbon winner (winning a blue ribbon 3 consecutive years in the same Class).

PREMIUMS

1st - $15 2nd - $12 3rd - $10

DIVISION 101: PROFESSIONAL - BASKETRY & CANING

CLASS

01 - Flat Reed Basket *18 inch Maximum Dimension.*

02 - Hand-Processed Natural Materials Basket *18 inch Maximum Dimension.*
Bark, willow, ash, vines, splint (not reeds). Mold woven not included.

03 - Miniature Basket *5 inch Maximum Dimension.*

04 - Mold Woven Basket *18 inch Maximum Dimension.*

05 - Natural Materials Coiled Basket *18 inch Maximum Dimension.*
Pine needles,sweet grass, leaves of iris, cattails, corn husks, rush, any other coiled natural materials.

06 - Pine Needle Basket *8 inch Maximum Dimension.*

07 - Ribbed Basket *18 inch Maximum Dimension.*

08 - Round Reed Basket *18 inch Maximum Dimension.*

09 - Small Basket *10 inch Maximum Dimension.*

10 - Waxed Linen Basket *18 inch Maximum Dimension.*

11 - Furniture Caning, 7-Step, Hole-To-Hole

12 - Furniture Caning, Any Other Method

All entries must be less than 24 inches in any dimension & less than 30 lbs unless otherwise noted.

DIVISION 102: PROFESSIONAL - DECORATED ITEMS

CLASS

01 - Decorated Seashells *1 lb. or less.*

02 - Decorated Wood/Glass/Furniture *Including mixed media.*

03 - Fabric Painting, Original *Original design. Must be ready to hang.*

04 - Fabric Painting, Stenciled *Stenciled design. Must be ready to hang.*

05 - Painted Rock, Plant Or Animal *Look like a plant or animal. 1 lb. or less.*

06 - Stenciling *Any surface except fabric, including mixed media.*

Typically hung items must be ready to hang with a wire secured by screws. No alligator hooks or sawtoothed hangers.

DIVISION 103: PROFESSIONAL - DECORATIONS

CLASS

01 - Holiday Decoration *Any holiday, includes mixed media. No ornaments or wreaths.*

02 - Ornaments *Includes Gourd Ornaments.*

03 - Wreaths *36 inch Maximum Dimension. Must be made with artificial materials.*

DIVISION 104: PROFESSIONAL - GOURDS

All gourds must be dried. No plastic gourds. Must be less than 24 inches in any dimension.

CLASS

01 - Carved Gourd *Can also be painted. No plastic gourds. Less than 24 inches.*
02 - Embellished Gourd *Can also be painted & carved.*
03 - Gourd Birdhouse *Any technique.*
04 - Painted Gourd *Paint only.*

All entries must be less than 24 inches in any dimension & less than 30 lbs unless otherwise noted.

DIVISION 105: PROFESSIONAL - HOBBIES

CLASS

01 - Any Heritage Craft *36 inch Maximum Dimension.*
02 - Artist Trading Cards *Set of four, 2½ in. X 3½ in., securely displayed in one clear envelope.*
03 - Barn Quilt *36 inch Maximum Dimension.*
04 - Mosaic *No paper, plastic or foam tiles.*
05 - Mosaic, Mixed Media *Pebbles, seashells, beach glass, etc.*

DIVISION 106: PROFESSIONAL - JEWELRY *Stands not provided.*

CLASS

01 - Metalsmithing Jewelry
02 - Mixed Media Jewelry
03 - Strung Bead Jewelry
04 - Wirework Jewelry
05 - Woven Beaded Jewelry

Typically hung items must be ready to hang with a wire secured by screws. No alligator hooks or sawtoothed hangers.

DIVISION 107: PROFESSIONAL - METAL, GLASS, & LEATHER CRAFTING

CLASS

01 - Hammer-Formed Metal Craft *Any metal. No jewelry.*
02 - Hand-Formed Metal Craft *Any metal. No jewelry.*
03 - Power Hammer-Formed Metal Craft *36 inch Maximum Dimension.*
04 - Flame-Worked, Blown Glass *Any item. 24 inch Maximum Dimension.*
05 - Kiln-Formed Glasswork *Any item. 24 inch Maximum Dimension.*
06 - Stained Glass *Any item using lead or copper-foil method. 36 inch Maximum Dimension.*
07 - Leatherwork Item, Original Design
08 - Leatherwork Item, Tooled

DIVISION 108: PROFESSIONAL - PAPERCRAFT

CLASS

01 - Creative Hand-Cut Card *Embossed, crimped or folded by hand.*
02 - Hand-Lettered Card *Calligraphy*
03 - Holiday Hand-Made Card
04 - Origami And Quilling
NEW 05 - Paper Flower

All entries must be less than 24 inches in any dimension & less than 30 lbs unless otherwise noted.

DIVISION 109: PROFESSIONAL - POTTERY & CERAMICS

CLASS

01 - Clay Sculpture *Fired clay, any subject.*
02 - Hand-Formed Pottery *Glazed or stained.*
03 - Slip Cast Ceramics *Glazed or stained.*
04 - Wheel-Thrown Pottery *Glazed, stained, embellished.*

DIVISION 110: PROFESSIONAL - SCULPTURES

CLASS

01 - Traditional Sculpture *Subtractive, in-the-round, wax, modeling clay, wood or stone. Not listed elsewhere.*
02 - Mixed Media Sculpture *Any technique. Not listed elsewhere.*
03 - 3D Printed Model Or Figure *No AI generated sculpture allowed. Include original CAD specifications.*

DIVISION 111: PROFESSIONAL - WOODWORKING

Must use true wood. No gourds.

CLASS

01 - Carved Wood Walking Stick *Any technique. Any size.*
02 - Hand-Carved Wood *Any item.*
03 - Lathe-Worked Wood *Any item.*
04 - Power-Carved Wood *Any item.*
05 - Wood Joinery *Any item.*
06 - Wooden Toy, Original Design
07 - Woodburning *Flat boards, decorated objects, etc.*

Typically hung items must be ready to hang with a wire secured by screws. No alligator hooks or sawtoothed hangers.

AMATEUR HANDICRAFTS

Any exhibitor ages 18+ as of January 1st, 2026 who does not earn income from selling or teaching their craft and is not an expert, master craftsman, or repeat blue ribbon winner.

PREMIUMS

1st - $15 2nd - $12 3rd - $10

DIVISION 201: AMATEUR - BASKETRY & CANING

CLASS

01 - Flat Reed Basket *18 inch Maximum Dimension.*
02 - Hand-Processed Natural Materials Basket *18 inch Maximum Dimension.*
Bark, willow, ash, vines, splint (not reeds). Mold woven not included.
03 - Miniature Basket *5 inch Maximum Dimension.*
04 - Mold Woven Basket *18 inch Maximum Dimension.*
05 - Natural Materials Coiled Basket *18 inch Maximum Dimension.*
Pine needles,sweet grass, leaves of iris, cattails, corn husks, rush, any other coiled natural materials.
06 - Pine Needle Basket *8 inch Maximum Dimension.*
07 - Ribbed Basket *18 inch Maximum Dimension.*
08 - Round Reed Basket *18 inch Maximum Dimension.*
09 - Small Basket *10 inch Maximum Dimension.*
10 - Waxed Linen Basket *18 inch Maximum Dimension.*
11 - Furniture Caning, 7-Step, Hole-To-Hole
12 - Furniture Caning, Any Other Method

All entries must be less than 24 inches in any dimension & less than 30 lbs unless otherwise noted.

DIVISION 202: AMATEUR - DECORATED ITEMS

Typically hung items must be ready to hang with a wire secured by screws. No alligator hooks or sawtoothed hangers.

CLASS

01 - Decorated Seashells *1 lb. or less.*
02 - Decorated Wood/Glass/Furniture *Including mixed media.*
03 - Fabric Painting, Original *Original design. Must be ready to hang.*
04 - Fabric Painting, Stenciled *Stenciled design. Must be ready to hang.*
05 - Painted Rock, Mandala *Repeated design. 1 lb. or less.*
06 - Painted Rock, Plant Or Animal *Look like a plant or animal. 1 lb. or less.*
07 - Stenciling *Any surface except fabric, including mixed media.*

DIVISION 203: AMATEUR - DECORATIONS

CLASS

01 - Holiday Decoration *Any holiday, includes mixed media. No ornaments or wreaths.*
02 - Ornaments *Includes Gourd Ornaments.*
03 - Wreaths *36 Inch Maximum Dimension. Must be made with artificial materials.*

DIVISION 204: AMATEUR - GOURDS

All gourds must be dried. No plastic gourds. Must be less than 24 inches in any dimension.

CLASS

01 - Carved Gourd *Can also be painted. No plastic gourds. Less than 24".*
02 - Embellished Gourd *Can also be painted & carved.*
03 - Gourd Birdhouse *Any technique.*
04 - Painted Gourd *Paint only.*

All entries must be less than 24 inches in any dimension & less than 30 lbs unless otherwise noted.

DIVISION 205: AMATEUR - HOBBIES

CLASS

01 - Any Heritage Craft *36 inch Maximum Dimension.*
02 - Artist Trading Cards *Set of four, 2½ in. X 3½ in., securely displayed in one clear envelope.*
03 - Barn Quilt *36 inch Maximum Dimension.*
NEW 04 - Diamond Art
05 - Legos, Original Design *Maximum 15 inches any direction. No guns or weapons.*
06 - Legos, North Carolina-Themed Design *Maximum 15 inches any direction. No guns or weapons.*
07 - Mosaic *No paper, plastic or foam tiles.*
08 - Mosaic, Mixed Media *Pebbles, seashells, beach glass, etc.*
09 - Polymer Clay *Sculpy, Bread Dough, Model Magic, etc.*

DIVISION 206: AMATEUR - JEWELRY *Stands not provided.*

Typically hung items must be ready to hang with a wire secured by screws. No alligator hooks or sawtoothed hangers.

CLASS

01 - Metalsmithing Jewelry
02 - Mixed Media Jewelry
03 - Strung Bead Jewelry
04 - Wirework Jewelry
05 - Woven Beaded Jewelry

DIVISION 207: AMATEUR - METAL, GLASS, & LEATHER CRAFTING

CLASS

01 - Hammer-Formed Metal Craft *Any metal. No jewelry.*
02 - Hand-Formed Metal Craft *Any metal. No jewelry.*
03 - Power Hammer-Formed Metal Craft *Maximum 36 inch Dimension.*
04 - Flame-Worked, Blown Glass *Any item. 24 inch Maximum Dimension.*
05 - Kiln-Formed Glasswork *Any item. 24 inch Maximum Dimension.*
06 - Stained Glass *Any item using lead or copper-foil method. 36 inch Maximum Dimension.*
07 - Leatherwork Item, From Kit
08 - Leatherwork Item, Original Design
09 - Leatherwork Item, Tooled

DIVISION 208: AMATEUR - PAPERCRAFT & SCRAPBOOKING

CLASS

01 - Creative Hand-Cut Card *Embossed, crimped or folded by hand.*
02 - Hand-Lettered Card *Calligraphy*
03 - Holiday Hand-Made Card
04 - Origami And Quilling
NEW 05 - Paper Flower
06 - Papier-Mâché *18 inch Maximum Dimension.*
07 - Baby/Kids Scrapbooking Page
08 - Heritage Scrapbooking Page *Old pictures, family tree.*
09 - Pet Scrapbooking Page
10 - Travel/Vacation/Holiday Scrapbooking Page
11 - Tribute/Military Scrapbooking Page

Scrapbooking entries are for single pages. If your entry has two sides, you must indicate which side is to be judged.

DIVISION 209: AMATEUR - POTTERY & CERAMICS

CLASS

01 - Clay Sculpture *Fired clay, any subject.*
02 - Hand-Formed Pottery *Glazed or stained.*
03 - Slip Cast Ceramics *Glazed or stained.*
04 - Wheel-Thrown Pottery *Glazed, stained, embellished.*

All entries must be less than 24 inches in any dimension & less than 30 lbs unless otherwise noted.

DIVISION 210: AMATEUR - SCULPTURES

CLASS

01 - Traditional Sculpture *Subtractive, in-the-round, wax, modeling clay, wood or stone. Not listed elsewhere.*
02 - Mixed Media Sculpture *Any technique. Not listed elsewhere.*
03 - 3D Printed Model Or Figure *No AI generated sculpture allowed. Include original CAD specifications.*

DIVISION 211: AMATEUR - WOODWORKING

Must use true wood. No gourds.

CLASS

01 - Carved Wood Walking Stick *Any technique. Any size.*
02 - Hand-Carved Wood *Any item.*
03 - Lathe-Worked Wood *Any item.*
04 - Power-Carved Wood *Any item.*
05 - Wood Joinery *Any item.*
06 - Wooden Toy, From Kit *Design from a pre-cut kit.*
07 - Wooden Toy, Original Design
08 - Woodburning *Flat boards, decorated objects, etc.*

Typically hung items must be ready to hang with a wire secured by screws. No alligator hooks or sawtoothed hangers.

TEEN HANDICRAFTS

Any exhibitor ages 13-17 as of January 1st, 2026.

PREMIUMS

1st - $12 2nd - $10 3rd - $8

DIVISION 301: TEEN - BASKETRY & CANING

CLASS

01 - Flat Reed Basket *18 inch Maximum Dimension.*

02 - Hand-Processed Natural Materials Basket *18 inch Maximum Dimension.*
Bark, willow, ash, vines, splint (not reeds). Mold woven not included.

03 - Miniature Basket *5 inch Maximum Dimension.*

04 - Mold Woven Basket *18 inch Maximum Dimension.*

05 - Natural Materials Coiled Basket *18 inch Maximum Dimension.*
Pine needles,sweet grass, leaves of iris, cattails, corn husks, rush, any other coiled natural materials.

06 - Pine Needle Basket *8 inch Maximum Dimension.*

07 - Ribbed Basket *18 inch Maximum Dimension.*

08 - Round Reed Basket *18 inch Maximum Dimension.*

09 - Small Basket *10 inch Maximum Dimension.*

10 - Waxed Linen Basket *18 inch Maximum Dimension.*

11 - Furniture Caning, 7-Step, Hole-To-Hole

12 - Furniture Caning, Any Other Method

All entries must be less than 24 inches in any dimension & less than 30 lbs unless otherwise noted.

DIVISION 302: TEEN - DECORATED ITEMS

CLASS

01 - Decorated Footwear *Shoe, boot, sandal, etc.*

02 - Decorated Seashell *1 lb. or less.*

03 - Decorated Wood/Glass/Furniture *Including mixed media.*

04 - Fabric Painting, Original *Original design. Must be ready to hang.*

05 - Fabric Painting, Stenciled *Stenciled design. Must be ready to hang.*

06 - Painted Rock, Mandala *Repeated design. 1 lb. or less.*

07 - Painted Rock, Message *Words in design. 1 lb. or less.*

08 - Painted Rock, Plant Or Animal *Look like a plant or animal. 1 lb. or less.*

09 - Stenciling *Any surface except fabric, including mixed media.*

Typically hung items must be ready to hang with a wire secured by screws. No alligator hooks or sawtoothed hangers.

DIVISION 303: TEEN - DECORATIONS

CLASS

01 - Holiday Decoration *Any holiday, includes mixed media. No ornaments or wreaths.*

02 - Ornaments *Includes Gourd Ornaments.*

03 - Wreaths *36 Inch Maximum Dimension. Must be made with artificial materials.*

DIVISION 304: TEEN - GOURDS

All gourds must be dried. No plastic gourds. Must be less than 24 inches in any dimension.

CLASS

01 - Carved Gourd *Can also be painted. No plastic gourds. Less than 24 inches.*
02 - Embellished Gourd *Can also be painted & carved.*
03 - Gourd Birdhouse *Any technique.*
04 - Painted Gourd *Paint only.*

All entries must be less than 24 inches in any dimension & less than 30 lbs unless otherwise noted.

DIVISION 305: TEEN - HOBBIES

CLASS

01 - Any Heritage Craft *36 inch Maximum Dimension.*
02 - Artist Trading Cards *Set of four, 2½ in. X 3½ in., securely displayed in one clear envelope.*
03 - Barn Quilt *36 inch Maximum Dimension*
NEW 04 - Diamond Art
05 - Legos, Original Design *Maximum 15 inches any direction. No guns or weapons.*
06 - Legos, North Carolina-Themed Design *Maximum 15 inches any direction. No guns or weapons.*
07 - Mosaic *No paper, plastic or foam tiles.*
08 - Mosaic, Mixed Media *Pebbles, seashells, beach glass, etc.*
09 - Polymer Clay *Sculpy, Bread Dough, Model Magic, etc.*

DIVISION 306: TEEN - JEWELRY *Stands not provided.*

CLASS

01 - Metalsmithing Jewelry
02 - Mixed Media Jewelry
03 - Strung Bead Jewelry
04 - Wirework Jewelry
05 - Woven Beaded Jewelry

Typically hung items must be ready to hang with a wire secured by screws. No alligator hooks or sawtoothed hangers.

DIVISION 307: TEEN - METAL, GLASS, & LEATHER CRAFTING

CLASS

01 - Hammer-Formed Metal Craft *Any metal. No jewelry.*
02 - Hand-Formed Metal Craft *Any metal. No jewelry.*
03 - Power Hammer-Formed Metal Craft *Maximum 36 inches Dimension.*
04 - Flame-Worked, Blown Glass *Any item. 24 inch Maximum Dimension.*
05 - Kiln-Formed Glasswork *Any item. 24 inch Maximum Dimension.*
06 - Stained Glass *Any item using lead or copper-foil method. 36 inch Maximum Dimension.*
07 - Leatherwork Item, From Kit
08 - Leatherwork Item Original Design
09 - Leatherwork Item, Tooled

DIVISION 308: TEEN - PAPERCRAFT & SCRAPBOOKING

CLASS

01 - Creative Hand-Cut Card *Embossed, crimped or folded by hand.*
02 - Hand-Lettered Card *Calligraphy*
03 - Holiday Hand-Made Card
04 - Origami And Quilling
NEW 05 - Paper Flower
06 - Papier-Mâché *18 inch Maximum Dimension.*
07 - Baby/Kids Scrapbooking Page
08 - Heritage Scrapbooking Page *Old pictures, family tree.*
09 - Pet Scrapbooking Page
10 - Travel/Vacation/Holiday Scrapbooking Page
11 - Tribute/Military Scrapbooking Page

Scrapbooking entries are for single pages. If your entry has two sides, you must indicate which side is to be judged.

DIVISION 309: TEEN - POTTERY & CERAMICS

CLASS

01 - Clay Sculpture *Fired clay, any subject.*
02 - Hand-Formed Pottery *Glazed or stained.*
03 - Slip Cast Ceramics *Glazed or stained.*
04 - Wheel-Thrown Pottery *Glazed, stained, embellished.*

All entries must be less than 24 inches in any dimension & less than 30 lbs unless otherwise noted.

DIVISION 310: TEEN - SCULPTURES

CLASS

01 - Traditional Sculpture *Subtractive, in-the-round, wax, modeling clay, wood or stone. Not listed elsewhere.*
02 - Mixed Media Sculpture *Any technique. Not listed elsewhere.*
03 - 3D Printed Model Or Figure *No AI generated sculpture allowed. Include original CAD specifications.*

DIVISION 311: TEEN - WOODWORKING

Must use true wood. No gourds.

CLASS

01 - Carved Wood Walking Stick *Any technique. Any size.*
02 - Hand-Carved Wood *Any item.*
03 - Lathe-Worked Wood *Any item.*
04 - Power-Carved Wood *Any item.*
05 - Wood Joinery *Any item*
06 - Wooden Toy, From Kit *Design from a pre-cut kit.*
07 - Wooden Toy, Original Design
08 - Woodburning *Flat boards, decorated objects, etc.*

Typically hung items must be ready to hang with a wire secured by screws. No alligator hooks or sawtoothed hangers.

YOUTH HANDICRAFTS

Any exhibitor ages 10-12 as of January 1st, 2026.

PREMIUMS

1st - $10 2nd - $8 3rd - $6

DIVISION 401: YOUTH - BASKETRY & CANING

CLASS

01 - Flat Reed Basket *18 inch Maximum Dimension.*

02 - Hand-Processed Natural Materials Basket *18 inch Maximum Dimension.*
Bark, willow, ash, vines, splint (not reeds). Mold woven not included.

03 - Miniature Basket *5 inch Maximum Dimension.*

04 - Mold Woven Basket *18 inch Maximum Dimension.*

05 - Natural Materials Coiled Basket *18 inch Maximum Dimension.*
Pine needles,sweet grass, leaves of iris, cattails, corn husks, rush, any other coiled natural materials.

06 - Pine Needle Basket *8 inch Maximum Dimension.*

07 - Ribbed Basket *18 inch Maximum Dimension.*

08 - Round Reed Basket *18 inch Maximum Dimension.*

09 - Small Basket *10 inch Maximum Dimension.*

10 - Waxed Linen Basket *18 inch Maximum Dimension.*

11 - Furniture Caning

All entries must be less than 24 inches in any dimension & less than 30 lbs unless otherwise noted.

DIVISION 402: YOUTH - DECORATED ITEMS

CLASS

Typically hung items must be ready to hang with a wire secured by screws. No alligator hooks or sawtoothed hangers.

01 - Decorated Footwear *Shoe, boot, sandal, etc.*

02 - Decorated Seashell *1 lb. or less.*

03 - Decorated Wood/Glass/Furniture *Including mixed media.*

04 - Fabric Painting, Original *Original design. Must be ready to hang.*

05 - Fabric Painting, Stenciled *Stenciled design. Must be ready to hang.*

06 - Painted Rock, Mandala *Repeated design. 1 lb. or less.*

07 - Painted Rock, Message *Words in design. 1 lb. or less.*

08 - Painted Rock, Plant Or Animal *Look like a plant or animal. 1 lb. or less.*

09 - Stenciling *Any surface except fabric, including mixed media.*

DIVISION 403: YOUTH - DECORATIONS

CLASS

01 - Holiday Decoration *Any holiday, includes mixed media. No ornaments or wreaths.*

02 - Ornaments *Includes Gourd Ornaments.*

03 - Wreaths *36 Inch Maximum Dimension. Must be made with artificial materials.*

DIVISION 404: YOUTH - GOURDS

All gourds must be dried. No plastic gourds. Must be less than 24 inches in any dimension.

CLASS

01 - Carved Gourd *Can also be painted. No plastic gourds. Less than 24 inches.*
02 - Embellished Gourd *Can also be painted & carved.*
03 - Gourd Birdhouse *Any technique.*
04 - Painted Gourd *Paint only.*

All entries must be less than 24 inches in any dimension & less than 30 lbs unless otherwise noted.

DIVISION 405: YOUTH - HOBBIES

CLASS

01 - Any Heritage Craft *36 inch Maximum Dimension.*
02 - Artist Trading Cards *Set of four, 2½ in. X 3½ in., securely displayed in one clear envelope.*
03 - Barn Quilt *36 inch Maximum Dimension.*
NEW 04 - Diamond Art
05 - Legos, Original Design *Maximum 15 inches any direction. No guns or weapons.*
06 - Legos, North Carolina-Themed Design *Maximum 15" inches any direction. No guns or weapons.*
07 - Mosaic *No paper, plastic or foam tiles.*
08 - Mosaic, Mixed Media *Pebbles, seashells, beach glass, etc.*
09 - Polymer Clay *Sculpy, Bread Dough, Model Magic, etc.*

DIVISION 406: YOUTH - JEWELRY *Stands not provided.*

CLASS

01 - Metalsmithing Jewelry
02 - Mixed Media Jewelry
03 - Strung Bead Jewelry
04 - Wirework Jewelry
05 - Woven Beaded Jewelry

Typically hung items must be ready to hang with a wire secured by screws. No alligator hooks or sawtoothed hangers.

DIVISION 407: YOUTH - METAL, GLASS, & LEATHER CRAFTING

CLASS

01 - Hammer-Formed Metal Craft *Any metal. No jewelry.*
02 - Hand-Formed Metal Craft *Any metal. No jewelry.*
03 - Flame-Worked, Blown Glass *Any item. 24 inch Maximum Dimension*
04 - Kiln-Formed Glasswork *Any item. 24 inch Maximum Dimension.*
05 - Stained Glass *Any item using lead or copper-foil method. 36 inch Maximum Dimension.*
06 - Leatherwork Item, From Kit
07 - Leatherwork Item, Original Design
08 - Leatherwork Item, Tooled

DIVISION 408: YOUTH - PAPERCRAFT & SCRAPBOOKING

CLASS

01 - Creative Hand-Cut Card *Embossed, crimped or folded by hand.*
02 - Holiday Hand-Made Card
03 - Origami And Quilling
NEW 04 - Paper Flower
05 - Papier-Mâché *18 inch Maximum Dimension.*
06 - Baby/Kids Scrapbooking Page
07 - Heritage Scrapbooking Page *Old pictures, family tree.*
08 - Pet Scrapbooking Page
09 - Travel/Vacation/Holiday Scrapbooking Page
10 - Tribute/Military Scrapbooking Page

Scrapbooking entries are for single pages. If your entry has two sides, you must indicate which side is to be judged.

DIVISION 409: YOUTH - POTTERY & CERAMICS

CLASS

01 - Clay Sculpture *Fired clay, any subject.*
02 - Hand-Formed Pottery *Glazed or stained.*
03 - Slip Cast Ceramics *Glazed or stained.*
04 - Wheel-Thrown Pottery *Glazed, stained, embellished.*

All entries must be less than 24 inches in any dimension & less than 30 lbs unless otherwise noted.

DIVISION 410: YOUTH - SCULPTURES

CLASS

01 - Traditional Sculpture *Subtractive, in-the-round, wax, modeling clay, wood or stone. Not listed elsewhere.*
02 - Mixed Media Sculpture *Any technique. Not listed elsewhere.*

DIVISION 411: YOUTH - WOODWORKING

Must use true wood. No gourds.

CLASS

01 - Carved Wood Walking Stick *Any technique. Any size.*
02 - Hand-Carved Wood *Any item.*
03 - Power-Carved Wood *Any item.*
04 - Wood Joinery *Any item.*
05 - Wooden Toy, From Kit *Design from a pre-cut kit.*
06 - Wooden Toy, Original Design
07 - Woodburning *Flat boards, decorated objects, etc.*

Typically hung items must be ready to hang with a wire secured by screws. No alligator hooks or sawtoothed hangers.

CHILD HANDICRAFTS

Any exhibitor ages 5-9 as of January 1st, 2026.

PREMIUMS

1st - $10 2nd - $8 3rd - $6

DIVISION 501: CHILD - BASKETRY & CANING

CLASS

01 - Hand-Processed Natural Materials Basket *18 inch Maximum Dimension. Bark, willow, ash, vines, splint (not reeds). Mold woven not included.*
02 - Miniature Basket *5 Inch Maximum Dimension.*
03 - Pine Needle Basket *8 Inch Maximum Dimension.*
04 - Small Basket *10 Inch Maximum Dimension.*
05 - Furniture Caning

All entries must be less than 24 inches in any dimension & less than 30 lbs unless otherwise noted.

DIVISION 502: CHILD - DECORATED ITEMS

CLASS

01 - Decorated Footwear *Shoe, boot, sandal, etc.*
02 - Decorated Seashell *1 lb. or less.*
03 - Decorated Wood/Glass/Furniture *Including mixed media.*
04 - Fabric Painting, Original *Original design. Must be ready to hang.*
05 - Fabric Painting, Stenciled *Stenciled design. Must be ready to hang.*
06 - Painted Rock, Mandala *Repeated design. 1 lb. or less.*
07 - Painted Rock, Plant Or Animal *Look like a plant or animal. 1 lb. or less.*
08 - Painted Rock, Single Color *One-color design. 1 lb. or less.*
09 - Stenciling *Any surface except fabric, including mixed media.*

Typically hung items must be ready to hang with a wire secured by screws. No alligator hooks or sawtoothed hangers.

DIVISION 503: CHILD - DECORATIONS

CLASS

01 - Holiday Decoration *Any holiday, includes mixed media. No ornaments or wreaths.*
02 - Ornaments *Includes Gourd Ornaments.*
03 - Wreaths *36 inch Maximum Dimension. Must be made with artificial materials.*

DIVISION 504: CHILD - GOURDS

All gourds must be dried. No plastic gourds. Must be less than 24 inches in any dimension.

CLASS

01 - Embellished Gourd *Can also be painted & carved.*
02 - Gourd Birdhouse *Any technique.*
03 - Painted Gourd *Paint only.*

DIVISION 505: CHILD - HOBBIES

CLASS

01 - Any Heritage Craft *36 inch Maximum Dimension.*
02 - Diamond Art
03 - Legos, Original Design *Maximum 15 inches any direction. No guns or weapons.*
04 - Legos, North Carolina-Themed Design *Maximum 15 inches any direction. No guns or weapons.*
05 - Mosaic *No paper, plastic or foam tiles.*
06 - Mosaic, Mixed Media *Pebbles, seashells, beach glass, etc.*
07 - Polymer Clay *Sculpy, Bread Dough, Model Magic, etc.*

DIVISION 506: CHILD - JEWELRY *Stands not provided.*

CLASS

01 - Mixed Media Jewelry
02 - Strung Bead Jewelry

All entries must be less than 24 inches in any dimension & less than 30 lbs unless otherwise noted.

DIVISION 507: CHILD - GLASS & LEATHER CRAFTING

CLASS

01 - Flame-Worked, Blown Glass *Any item. 24 inch Maximum Dimension.*
02 - Stained Glass *Any item, real or fake stained glass. 36 inch Maximum Dimension.*
03 - Leatherwork Item, From Kit
04 - Leatherwork Item, Original Design

DIVISION 508: CHILD - PAPERCRAFT & SCRAPBOOKING

CLASS

01 - Holiday Hand-Made Card
02 - Origami And Quilling
03 - Paper Flower
04 - Papier-Mâché *18 inch Maximum Dimension.*
05 - Heritage Scrapbooking Page *Old pictures, family tree.*
06 - Pet Scrapbooking Page
07 - Travel/Vacation/Holiday Scrapbooking Page

Scrapbooking entries are for single pages. If your entry has two sides, you must indicate which side is to be judged.

DIVISION 509: CHILD - POTTERY & CERAMICS

CLASS

01 - Clay Sculpture *Fired clay, any subject.*
02 - Hand-Formed Pottery *Glazed or stained.*
03 - Slip Cast Ceramics *Glazed or stained*

Typically hung items must be ready to hang with a wire secured by screws. No alligator hooks or sawtoothed hangers.

DIVISION 510: CHILD - SCULPTURES

CLASS

01 - Traditional Sculpture *Subtractive, in-the-round, wax, modeling clay, wood or stone. Not listed elsewhere.*
02 - Mixed Media Sculpture *Any technique. Not listed elsewhere.*

DIVISION 511: CHILD - WOODWORKING

Must use true wood. No gourds.

All entries must be less than 24 inches in any dimension & less than 30 lbs unless otherwise noted.

CLASS

01 - Carved Wood Walking Stick *Any technique. Any size.*
02 - Wooden Item, From Kit *Design from a pre-cut kit.*
03 - Wooden Toy *Original design or from a pre-cut kit.*

SPECIAL NEEDS HANDICRAFTS

PREMIUMS

1st - $10 2nd - $8 3rd - $6

DIVISION 601: SPECIAL NEEDS - BASKETRY & CANING

CLASS

01 - Flat Reed Basket *18 inch Maximum Dimension.*
02 - Hand-Processed Natural Materials Basket *18 inch Maximum Dimension.*
Bark, willow, ash, vines, splint (not reeds). Mold woven not included.
03 - Miniature Basket *5 inch Maximum Dimension.*
04 - Mold Woven Basket *18 inch Maximum Dimension.*
05 - Natural Materials Coiled Basket *18 inch Maximum Dimension.*
Pine needles,sweet grass, leaves of iris, cattails, corn husks, rush, any other coiled natural materials.
06 - Pine Needle Basket *8 inch Maximum Dimension.*
07 - Ribbed Basket *18 In inch ch Maximum Dimension.*
08 - Round Reed Basket *18 inch Maximum Dimension.*
09 - Small Basket *10 inch Maximum Dimension.*
10 - Waxed Linen Basket *18 inch Maximum Dimension.*
11 - Furniture Caning, 7-Step, Hole-To-Hole
12 - Furniture Caning, Any Other Method

Typically hung items must be ready to hang with a wire secured by screws. No alligator hooks or sawtoothed hangers.

DIVISION 602: SPECIAL NEEDS - DECORATED ITEMS

CLASS

01 - Decorated Seashell *1 lb. or less.*
02 - Decorated Wood/Glass/Furniture *Including mixed media.*
03 - Fabric Painting, Original *Original design. Must be ready to hang.*
04 - Fabric Painting, Stenciled *Stenciled design. Must be ready to hang.*
05 - Painted Rock, Mandala *Repeated design. 1 lb. or less.*
06 - Painted Rock, Message *Words in design. 1 lb. or less.*
07 - Painted Rock, Plant Or Animal *Look like a plant or animal. 1 lb or less.*
08 - Painted Rock, Single Color *One-color design. 1 lb or less.*
09 - Stenciling *Any surface except fabric, including mixed media.*

DIVISION 603: SPECIAL NEEDS - DECORATIONS

CLASS

01 - Holiday Decoration *Any holiday, includes mixed media. No ornaments or wreaths.*
02 - Ornaments *Includes Gourd Ornaments.*
03 - Wreaths *36 Inch Maximum Dimension. Must be made with artificial materials.*

DIVISION 604: SPECIAL NEEDS - GOURDS

All gourds must be dried. No plastic gourds. Must be less than 24 inches in any dimension.

CLASS

01 - Carved Gourd *Can also be painted. No plastic gourds. Less than 24 inches.*
02 - Embellished Gourd *Can also be painted & carved.*
03 - Gourd Birdhouse *Any technique.*
04 - Painted Gourd *Paint only.*

All entries must be less than 24 inches in any dimension & less than 30 lbs unless otherwise noted.

DIVISION 605: SPECIAL NEEDS - HOBBIES

CLASS

01 - Any Heritage Craft *36 inch Maximum Dimension.*
02 - Artist Trading Cards *Set of four, 2½ in. X 3½ in., securely displayed in one clear envelope.*
03 - Barn Quilt *36 Inch Maximum Dimension.*
NEW 04 - Diamond Art
05 - Legos, Original Design *Maximum 15 inches any direction. No guns or weapons.*
06 - Legos, North Carolina-Themed Design *Maximum 15 inches any direction. No guns or weapons.*
07 - Mosaic *No paper, plastic or foam tiles.*
08 - Mosaic, Mixed Media *Pebbles, seashells, beach glass, etc.*
09 - Polymer Clay *Sculpy, Bread Dough, Model Magic, etc.*

DIVISION 606: SPECIAL NEEDS - JEWELRY *Stands not provided.*

CLASS

01 - Metalsmithing Jewelry
02 - Mixed Media Jewelry
03 - Strung Bead Jewelry
04 - Wirework Jewelry
05 - Woven Beaded Jewelry

Typically hung items must be ready to hang with a wire secured by screws. No alligator hooks or sawtoothed hangers.

DIVISION 607: SPECIAL NEEDS - METAL, GLASS, & LEATHER CRAFTING

CLASS

01 - Hammer-Formed Metal Craft *Any metal. No jewelry.*
02 - Hand-Formed Metal Craft *Any metal. No jewelry.*
03 - Flame-Worked, Blown Glass *Any item. 24 inch Maximum Dimension.*
04 - Kiln-Formed Glasswork *Any item. 24 inch Maximum Dimension.*
05 - Stained Glass *Any item, real or fake stained glass. 36 inch Maximum Dimension.*
06 - Leatherwork Item, From Kit
07 - Leatherwork Item, Original Design
08 - Leatherwork Item, Tooled

DIVISION 608: SPECIAL NEEDS - PAPERCRAFT & SCRAPBOOKING

CLASS

01 - Creative Hand-Cut Card *Embossed, crimped or folded by hand.*
02 - Hand-Lettered Card *Calligraphy*
03 - Holiday Hand-Made Card
04 - Origami And Quilling
NEW 05 - Paper Flower
06 - Papier-Mâché *18 inch Maximum Dimension.*
07 - Baby/Kids Scrapbooking Page
08 - Heritage Scrapbooking Page *Old pictures, family tree.*
09 - Pet Scrapbooking Page
10 - Travel/Vacation/Holiday Scrapbooking Page
11 - Tribute/Military Scrapbooking Page

Scrapbooking entries are for single pages. If your entry has two sides, you must indicate which side is to be judged.

DIVISION 609: SPECIAL NEEDS - POTTERY & CERAMICS

CLASS

01 - Clay Sculpture *Fired clay, any subject.*
02 - Hand-Formed Pottery *Glazed or stained.*
03 - Slip Cast Ceramics *Glazed or stained.*
04 - Wheel-Thrown Pottery *Glazed, stained, embellished.*

All entries must be less than 24 inches in any dimension & less than 30 lbs unless otherwise noted.

DIVISION 610: SPECIAL NEEDS - SCULPTURES

CLASS

01 - Traditional Sculpture *Subtractive, in-the-round, wax, modeling clay, wood or stone. Not listed elsewhere.*
02 - Mixed Media Sculpture *Any technique. Not listed elsewhere.*
03 - 3D Printed Model Or Figure *No AI generated sculpture allowed. Include original CAD specifications.*

DIVISION 611: SPECIAL NEEDS - WOODWORKING

Must use true wood. No gourds.

CLASS

01 - Carved Wood Walking Stick *Any technique. Any size.*
02 - Hand-Carved Wood *Any item.*
03 - Lathe-Worked Wood *Any item.*
04 - Power-Carved Wood *Any item.*
05 - Wood Joinery *Any item.*
06 - Wooden Toy, From Kit *Design from a pre-cut kit.*
07 - Wooden Toy, Original Design
08 - Woodburning *Flat boards, decorated objects, etc.*

Typically hung items must be ready to hang with a wire secured by screws. No alligator hooks or sawtoothed hangers.

GROUP HOME HANDICRAFTS

PREMIUMS

1st - $10 2nd - $8 3rd - $6

DIVISION 701: GROUP HOME - BASKETRY & CANING

CLASS

01 - Flat Reed Basket *18 Inch Maximum Dimension.*
02 - Hand-Processed Natural Materials Basket *18 Inch Maximum Dimension.*
Bark, willow, ash, vines, splint (not reeds). Mold woven not included.
03 - Miniature Basket *5 Inch Maximum Dimension.*
04 - Mold Woven Basket *18 Inch Maximum Dimension.*
05 - Natural Materials Coiled Basket *18 Inch Maximum Dimension.*
Pine needles,sweet grass, leaves of iris, cattails, corn husks, rush, any other coiled natural materials.
06 - Pine Needle Basket *8 Inch Maximum Dimension.*
07 - Ribbed Basket *18 Inch Maximum Dimension.*
08 - Round Reed Basket *18 Inch Maximum Dimension.*
09 - Small Basket *10 Inch Maximum Dimension.*
10 - Waxed Linen Basket *18 Inch Maximum Dimension.*
11 - Furniture Caning, 7-Step, Hole-To-Hole
12 - Furniture Caning, Any Other Method

All entries must be less than 24 inches in any dimension & less than 30 lbs unless otherwise noted.

DIVISION 702: GROUP HOME - DECORATED ITEMS

Typically hung items must be ready to hang with a wire secured by screws. No alligator hooks or sawtoothed hangers.

CLASS

01 - Decorated Seashell *1 lb. or less*
02 - Decorated Wood/Glass/Furniture *Including mixed media.*
03 - Fabric Painting, Original *Original design. Must be ready to hang.*
04 - Fabric Painting, Stenciled *Stenciled design. Must be ready to hang.*
05 - Painted Rock, Mandala *Repeated design. 1 lb. or less.*
06 - Painted Rock, Message *Words in design. 1 lb. or less.*
07 - Painted Rock, Plant Or Animal *Look like a plant or animal. 1 lb. or less.*
08 - Stenciling *Any surface except fabric, including mixed media.*

DIVISION 703: GROUP HOME - DECORATIONS

CLASS

01 - Holiday Decoration *Any holiday, includes mixed media. No ornaments or wreaths.*
02 - Ornaments *Includes Gourd Ornaments.*
03 - Wreaths *36 Inch Maximum Dimension. Must be made with artificial materials.*

DIVISION 704: GROUP HOME - GOURDS

All gourds must be dried. No plastic gourds. Must be less than 24 inches in any dimension.

CLASS

01 - Carved Gourd *Can also be painted. No plastic gourds. Less than 24 inches.*
02 - Embellished Gourd *Can also be painted & carved.*
03 - Gourd Birdhouse *Any technique.*
04 - Painted Gourd *Paint only.*

All entries must be less than 24 inches in any dimension & less than 30 lbs unless otherwise noted.

DIVISION 705: GROUP HOME - HOBBIES

CLASS

01 - Any Heritage Craft *36 inch Maximum Dimension.*
02 - Artist Trading Cards *Set of four, 2½ in. X 3½ in., securely displayed in one clear envelope.*
03 - Barn Quilt *36 Inch Maximum Dimension.*
NEW 04 - Diamond Art
05 - Legos, Original Design *Maximum 15 inches any direction. No guns or weapons.*
06 - Legos, North Carolina-Themed Design *Maximum 15 inches any direction. No guns or weapons.*
07 - Mosaic *No paper, plastic or foam tiles.*
08 - Mosaic, Mixed Media *Pebbles, seashells, beach glass, etc.*
09 - Polymer Clay *Sculpy, Bread Dough, Model Magic, etc.*

DIVISION 706: GROUP HOME - JEWELRY *Stands not provided.*

CLASS

01 - Metalsmithing Jewelry
02 - Mixed Media Jewelry
03 - Strung Bead Jewelry
04 - Wirework Jewelry
05 - Woven Beaded Jewelry

Typically hung items must be ready to hang with a wire secured by screws. No alligator hooks or sawtoothed hangers.

DIVISION 707: GROUP HOME - METAL, GLASS, & LEATHER CRAFTING

CLASS

01 - Hammer-Formed Metal Craft *Any metal. No jewelry.*
02 - Hand-Formed Metal Craft *Any metal. No jewelry.*
03 - Flame-Worked, Blown Glass *Any item. 24 inch Maximum Dimension.*
04 - Kiln-Formed Glasswork *Any item. 24 inch Maximum Dimension.*
05 - Stained Glass *Any item using lead or copper-foil method. 36 inch Maximum Dimension.*
06 - Leatherwork Item, From Kit
07 - Leatherwork Item, Original Design
08 - Leatherwork Item, Tooled

DIVISION 708: GROUP HOME - PAPERCRAFT & SCRAPBOOKING

CLASS

01 - Creative Hand-Cut Card *Embossed, crimped or folded by hand.*
02 - Hand-Lettered Card *Calligraphy*
03 - Holiday Hand-Made Card
04 - Origami And Quilling
NEW 05 - Paper Flower
06 - Papier-Mâché *18 inch Maximum Dimension.*
07 - Baby/Kids Scrapbooking Page
08 - Heritage Scrapbooking Page *Old pictures, family tree.*
09 - Pet Scrapbooking Page
10 - Travel/Vacation/Holiday Scrapbooking Page
11 - Tribute/Military Scrapbooking Page

Scrapbooking entries are for single pages. If your entry has two sides, you must indicate which side is to be judged.

DIVISION 709: GROUP HOME - POTTERY & CERAMICS

CLASS

01 - Clay Sculpture *Fired clay, any subject.*
02 - Hand-Formed Pottery *Glazed or stained.*
03 - Slip Cast Ceramics *Glazed or stained.*
04 - Wheel-Thrown Pottery *Glazed, stained, embellished.*

All entries must be less than 24 inches in any dimension & less than 30 lbs unless otherwise noted.

DIVISION 710: GROUP HOME - SCULPTURES

CLASS

01 - Traditional Sculpture *Subtractive, in-the-round, wax, modeling clay, wood or stone. Not listed elsewhere.*
02 - Mixed Media Sculpture *Any technique. Not listed elsewhere.*
03 - 3D Printed Model Or Figure *No AI generated sculpture allowed. Include original CAD specifications.*

DIVISION 711: GROUP HOME - WOODWORKING

Must use true wood. No gourds.

CLASS

01 - Carved Wood Walking Stick *Any technique. Any size.*
02 - Hand-Carved Wood *Any item.*
03 - Lathe-Worked Wood *Any item.*
04 - Power-Carved Wood *Any item.*
05 - Wood Joinery *Any item.*
06 - Wooden Toy, From Kit *Design from a pre-cut kit.*
07 - Wooden Toy, Original Design
08 - Woodburning *Flat boards, decorated objects, etc.*

Typically hung items must be ready to hang with a wire secured by screws. No alligator hooks or sawtoothed hangers.

EGG ART

SPONSORED BY:

NORTH CAROLINA EGG ASSOCIATION
Representing NC Farmers.

- Exhibitors will decorate a blown chicken egg that reflects the theme.
- Small end of the egg should face up.
- Egg should be free standing, without a base or stand (stand will be provided).
- First place winning entries become property of the N.C. Egg Association.
- Theme: “Eggs in Every Season”
  - Eggs are great any time of the year! Decorate your blown chicken egg to include any or all of the four seasons (Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter).

DIVISION 801: EGG ART

CLASS	PREMIUMS 1st	2nd	3rd
01 - Egg Art - Youth *Ages 17 & under*	$50	$25	$10
02 - Egg Art - Adult *Ages 18+*	$200	$150	$75

HANDICRAFTS SPECIAL AWARDS

AWARDS	PREMIUMS
Best of Show - Professional *Divisions 101-111*	$25
Best of Show - Amateur *Divisions 201-211*	$25
Best of Show - Teen *Divisions 301-311*	$25
Best of Show - Youth *Divisions 401-411*	$25
Best of Show - Child *Divisions 501-511*	$25
Best of Show - Special Needs *Divisions 601-611*	$25
Best of Show - Group Home *Divisions 701-711*	$25

CHAPEL HILL BASKETRY GUILD AWARDS

The Chapel Hill Basketry Guild will provide monetary awards to a piece in each of the following divisions that demonstrate the mastery of basketry technique including complexity of design, workmanship and overall aesthetics used in weaving.

Professional *Division 101*	$25
Amateur *Division 201*	$25
Teen *Division 301*	$15
Youth *Division 401*	$15
Child *Division 501*	$10

NORTH CAROLINA GOURD SOCIETY AWARDS

The North Carolina Gourd Society will provide monetary awards to an outstanding piece in each of the following divisions:

Professional *Division 104*	$25
Amateur *Division 204*	$25
Teen *Division 304*	$10
Youth *Division 404*	$10
Child *Division 504*	$5

HERITAGE TOBACCO

Superintendent: Beth Farrell beth.farrell@ncagr.gov

Registration Deadline: Tuesday, October 6th, 2026 at 11:59 PM

**Mailed entry forms must be postmarked by September 1st.*

Entry Take-In:

- Saturday, October 3rd - Friday, October 9th, 2026 from 8 AM-4 PM - Administration Building

Judging:

- Closed to public and will occur prior to opening day of the Fair - Tobacco Pavilion

HERITAGE TOBACCO RULES & REGULATIONS

- The General Rules and Regulations of the Fair will govern this department, except in cases of conflict, where the following Rules and Regulations will prevail. Please read all rules & regulations carefully before submitting your entries.
- Submit questions to: NCSFCompetitions@ncagr.gov.
- Pre-registration is required, either online or by mail. Make your entries early.
- Exhibitors must be 18 years of age or older to compete, residents of North Carolina, and an active tobacco grower.
- This competition is for flue cured, North Carolina-grown tobacco only.
- Each exhibitor is allowed **one** entry per Class.
- Only entries from individual exhibitors are allowed. If the exhibitor wants the farm name listed, it needs to be added after the exhibitor's legal name on the entry form.
- Each entry must be displayed in silver dollar size hand ties, but entries will not be judged on this technique.
- Entries in each Class number will be judged based on the overall best tobacco exhibited.
- One first, second, and third place winner will be selected in each Class number for the best tobacco for each designated stalk position
- All entries will become property of the NC State Fair.
- The decision of the judges will be final.

SPONSORED BY:

Tobacco Growers Association of North Carolina

TGANC
Tobacco Growers Association of North Carolina

HERITAGE TOBACCO

PREMIUMS

1st - $250 2nd - $150 3rd - $100

DIVISION 101: HERITAGE TOBACCO

CLASS

01 - Lug/Primings
02 - Cutters
03 - Leaf
04 - Tips

DIVISION 102: ORGANIC HERITAGE TOBACCO

CLASS

01 - Organic Lug/Primings
02 - Organic Cutters
03 - Organic Leaf
04 - Organic Tips

HERITAGE TOBACCO SPECIAL AWARDS

AWARD	PREMIUMS
Commissioner of Agriculture Award	$500 and Ribbon

SPONSORED BY:

Tobacco Growers Association of North Carolina

TGANC
Tobacco Growers Association of North Carolina

2026 N.C. STATE FAIR

HOME CHEF CHALLENGE

The NC State Fair Home Chef Challenges encourage the continued advancement of and love for cooking. The Home Chef Challenges are meant to be fun, family-friendly competitions, and while cash prizes are awarded, the contests are not intended to be profitable ventures for anyone.

Registration Deadline: Tuesday, September 15, 2026 at 11:59 PM
**Mailed entry forms must be postmarked by September 1st.*
Entry Take-In and Judging - Dorton Arena - North Lobby. Dates and times are specified for each Division in the following pages.

HOME CHEF CHALLENGE RULES AND REGULATIONS

- The General Rules and Regulations of the Fair will govern this department, except in cases of conflict, where the following Rules and Regulations will prevail. Please read all rules & regulations carefully before submitting your entries.
- Pre-registration is required, either online or by mail.
- Exhibitors are limited to one entry per Class, per Division.
- Open to residents of North Carolina.
- Participants will prepare their entry at home and bring it to the Fair on the day of the challenge to be assessed by a panel of judges.
- A different challenge category will be held each day of the Fair. Please enter the Division(s) that correspond with the day and challenge you intend to enter.
- Check-In windows and Judging times are listed under each Division. Any entry not received during the Check-In window is at risk of refusal for acceptance and judging.
- Participants will enter either the Amateur Home Cook or Professional Class per Division. Entry in both Classes is not allowed. The Classes are defined as:
  - Amateur Home Cook: Someone who is an ordinary home cook and has no formal culinary training, does not earn income from any culinary-related pursuits (including working at or owning a food-related business), and does not teach culinary arts.
  - Professional: Someone who has formal culinary training, earns income from any culinary-related pursuits (including working at or owning a food-related business), or teaches culinary arts.
- Anyone found to intentionally enter the incorrect Class may be subject to disqualification.
- **Exhibitors must be present to win on the day of competition.**
- Sponsor reserves the right to make modifications to any part of the contest as necessary. Decisions of the coordinators and sponsors are final.
- Any containers, equipment, or other items used to carry, prepare, or present entries must be retrieved at the conclusion of judging each day. The Fair is not responsible for any items left behind.

- Exhibitors must bring **<u>two printed copies</u>** of the recipe with their entry.
  - Recipes must be typed on a 8½" x 11" sheet of paper.
  - DO NOT include your name, address, or other personal information on the front of your recipe.
  - Mailed or emailed recipes will not be accepted.
- All recipes submitted become the property of the North Carolina State Fair and the sponsor of the contest. By participating, contestants agree that we may edit, adapt, copyright, publish and use any or all of them including for publicity, promotion, or advertising in any form of media, including websites, without compensation to you. This includes publishing winner names, images and city/state of residence, in any form of media, including websites,
- While the live-action nature of these contests may include spectators and supporters, all Home Chef Challenge participants and their family members are expected to conduct themselves with honesty, good sportsmanship, and show respect for fellow competitors and judges at all times. Any overtly displeased participants who display out-of-line or rude behavior towards other participants, coordinators, or judges will be excluded from further competition.
- The following rubric outlines how entries will be judged:

HOME CHEF CHALLENGE JUDGING CRITERIA	POINTS
Flavor *Dish includes appropriate balance of flavors and textures.*	15
Creativity *Dish offers a unique take on the theme.*	10
Presentation *Dish is presented in a visually appealing way.*	5
TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE:	30

ENTRY TAKE-IN INFORMATION

- Each exhibitor will be mailed their entry tag and a parking pass around the end of September.
- **Contest Site:** The Home Chef Challenge is held in the North Dorton Lobby. Exhibitors will check-in their entries at the contest site. Please review each Division for entry check-in window and judging times.
- **Parking:** Registered exhibitors will be mailed a parking pass for Lot C off of Trinity Road at Carter Finley Stadium along with their entry tag. There is a free shuttle service to the fairgrounds, where you will get off at the second stop at Gate 3, which is the closest stop to the competition. You will have to carry your entry to the contest. Please **PLAN AHEAD** and give yourself plenty of time to get to the contest site since you will have to shuttle over.
- **Fairgrounds Entry:** ***<u>You must enter Gate 3.</u>*** Your competition entry tag and entry/dish will serve as admission into the fairgrounds for you and one other person <u>present with you at the time of gate entry</u> to help you carry your dish, if needed. If you do not enter Gate 3, you will be denied entry into the fairgrounds unless you have an admission ticket.

WRITING YOUR HOME CHEF CHALLENGE RECIPE

- Recipes for Home Chef Challenges **must be typed.**
- **Do not put your name on the recipe.**
- Do not include photos or drawings with the text.
- You must include:

1. **Title** (give your dish a creative name)
   - If the recipe is adapted from another recipe, a credit is due
2. **Servings and Serving Size**
3. **Ingredient List**
   - List all ingredients in order of use.
   - Any ingredients used at the same time, list them in descending order according to volume.
   - Include measurements such as cups, tablespoons, ounces, etc.
   - If the recipe has different elements, make a different ingredient list for each element.
   - Don't use two numerals together, list second number in parenthesis. Ex: "1 (8-ounce) package cream cheese."
   - Capitalize the first letter of any ingredient that begins a sentence.
   - If preparation of an ingredient is simple, include technique in the ingredient list. Ex: "1 stick butter, softened."
   - If ingredient is used more than once, list the total amount where it is first used, then add "divided." Indicate the amount used at each step.
   - Use generic names of ingredients except when mentioning sponsored ingredients
4. **Preparation Method**
   - Indicate the size of bowls and cookware - "large mixing bowl."
   - Be as concise as possible.
   - With instructions for the stove-top, indicate level of heat - "Simmer over low heat."
   - State exact or approximate cooking times.
   - Separate each step into a different paragraph.
   - Include serving instructions - how to plate, how to garnish.
   - The last instruction should be regarding storage, if applicable.

Test your recipes to make sure they work, the amounts and serving sizes are correct, and that they taste as great as you think they do!

HOME CHEF CHALLENGE JUDGING SCHEDULE

Thursday, October 15th, 2026 at 4 PM
BLUE RIBBON BRUNCH BOARD CHALLENGE
Presented By: N.C. State Fair

Friday, October 16th, 2026 at 11 AM
HOLY GUACAMOLE! CHALLENGE
Presented By: N.C. State Fair

Saturday, October 17th, 2026 at 11 AM
BOO-ZY SWEET TREAT CHALLENGE
Presented By: The Distillers Association Of North Carolina

Sunday, October 18th, 2026 at 11 AM
DELIGHTFUL DIPS CHALLENGE
Presented By: N.C. State Fair

Monday, October 19th, 2026 at 11 AM
SWEETPOTATO SHOWDOWN CHALLENGE
Presented By: N.C. State Fair

Tuesday, October 20th, 2026 at 11 AM
"CHEEZ-Y DOES IT" CHEEZ-IT CHALLENGE
Presented By: N.C. State Fair

Wednesday, October 21st, 2026 at 11 AM
BLESS YOUR TART! CHALLENGE
Presented By: N.C. State Fair

Thursday, October 22nd, 2026 at 11 AM
"EAST TO WEST" PORK BBQ CHALLENGE
Presented By: *Smithfield Foods*

Friday, October 23rd, 2026 at 11 AM
"NUTTY BY NATURE" PEANUT CANDY CHALLENGE
Presented By: N.C. State Fair

Saturday, October 24th, 2026 at 11 AM
"STEW-PENDOUS" BRUNSWICK STEW CHALLENGE
Presented By: N.C. State Fair

Sunday, October 25th, 2026 at 11 AM
"LAYER IT UP" LASAGNA CHALLENGE
Presented By: N.C. State Fair

2026 N.C. STATE FAIR
HOME CHEF CHALLENGE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15TH, 2026

BLUE RIBBON BRUNCH BOARD CHALLENGE

ENTRY TAKE-IN: 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

JUDGING: 4 PM

DIVISION 101: THURSDAY, OCT 15 - BLUE RIBBON BRUNCH BOARD

CLASS	PREMIUMS 1st	2nd	3rd
01 - Amateur Home Cook	$250	$150	$100
02 - Professional	$250	$150	$100

Bring us your most artistic brunch-themed charcuterie board design, with at least 50% of your board being comprised of homemade treats. Let the judges decide whose brunch board is deserving of the blue ribbon.

Please read through the Rules & Regulations and the Entry Take-In instructions prior to entry.

2026 N.C. STATE FAIR
HOME CHEF CHALLENGE

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16TH, 2026

HOLY GUACAMOLE! CHALLENGE

ENTRY TAKE-IN: 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

JUDGING: 11 AM

DIVISION 102: FRIDAY, OCT 16 - HOLY GUACAMOLE!

PREMIUMS

CLASS	1st	2nd	3rd
01 - Amateur Home Cook	$250	$150	$100
02 - Professional	$250	$150	$100

Holy Guacamole! It's time to bring us your best guacamole recipe that will bring the fiesta to the judges' taste buds. Be sure to bring your best dipping tool to dish it out with.

Please read through the Rules & Regulations and the Entry Take-In instructions prior to entry.

2026 N.C. STATE FAIR HOME CHEF CHALLENGE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17TH, 2026

BOO-ZY SWEET TREAT CHALLENGE

PRESENTED BY:

DISTILLERS ASSOCIATION OF NORTH CAROLINA

ENTRY TAKE-IN: 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

JUDGING: 11 AM

DIVISION 103: SATURDAY, OCT 17- BOO-ZY SWEET TREAT

CLASS	PREMIUMS 1st	2nd	3rd
01 - Amateur Home Cook	$250	$150	$100
02 - Professional	$250	$150	$100

Everyone loves a good sweet treat during the spooky Halloween season. Bring us your boo-ziest Halloween-themed dessert that features one of North Carolina's best spirits.

All entries & recipes must include a product from an eligible distillery listed on the next page.
Please read through the Rules & Regulations and the Entry Take-In instructions prior to entry.

2026 N.C. STATE FAIR HOME CHEF CHALLENGE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17TH, 2026

BOO-ZY SWEET TREAT CHALLENGE

PRESENTED BY:

DISTILLERS ASSOCIATION OF NORTH CAROLINA

ONLY PRODUCTS FROM THE FOLLOWING DISTILLERIES ARE ELIGIBLE FOR THE BOO-ZY SWEET TREAT CHALLENGE:

1 - 712 Vodka
2 - Biltmore Estate Wine Co.
3 - Bogue Sound Distillery, Inc.
4 - BHAWK
5 - Broad Branch Distillery
6 - Buffalo City Distillery
7 - Call Family Distillers
8 - Cape Fear Winery and Distillery
9 - Cedar Mountain Moonshine
10 - City Walk Brewing & Distilling
11 - Crush Vodka
12 - Defiant Whisky
13 - Durham Distillery
14 - Eda Rhyne Distilling Company
15 - End of Days Distillery
16 - Fair Game Beverage Company
17 - Hidden Ships Distillery
18 - Liberty & Plenty Distillery
19 - Muddy River Distillery
20 - Murto Made Distillery
21 - Mystic Farm and Distillery
22 - Old Nick Williams Company
23 - Olde Raleigh Distillery
24 - Outer Banks Distilling
25 - Pulse Vodka
26 - Seven Jars Distillery
27 - Southern Distilling Company
28 - Southern Grace Distilleries
29 - Vetus Distillery
30 - Walton's Distillery
31 - Warehouse Distillery

2026 N.C. STATE FAIR HOME CHEF CHALLENGE

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18TH, 2026

DELIGHTFUL DIPS CHALLENGE

ENTRY TAKE-IN: 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

JUDGING: 11 AM

DIVISION 104: SUNDAY, OCT 18- DELIGHTFUL DIPS

CLASS

PREMIUMS

CLASS	1st	2nd	3rd
01 - Amateur Home Cook	$250	$150	$100
02 - Professional	$250	$150	$100

Whether savory or sweet, bring your most Delightful Dip recipe, and something to dish it out with.

Please read through the Rules & Regulations and the Entry Take-In instructions prior to entry.

2026 N.C. STATE FAIR HOME CHEF CHALLENGE

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19TH, 2026

SWEETPOTATO SHOWDOWN CHALLENGE

ENTRY TAKE-IN: 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

JUDGING: 11 AM

DIVISION 105: MONDAY, OCT 19 - SWEETPOTATO SHOWDOWN

CLASS	PREMIUMS 1st	2nd	3rd
01 - Amateur Home Cook	$250	$150	$100
02 - Professional	$250	$150	$100

Whether it's a favorite Thanksgiving sweetpotato dish or one that's delicious any time of the year, we challenge you to bring us your best sweetpotato side dish.

Please read through the Rules & Regulations and the Entry Take-In instructions prior to entry.

2026 N.C. STATE FAIR HOME CHEF CHALLENGE

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20TH, 2026

"CHEEZ-Y DOES IT"
CHEEZ-IT CHALLENGE

ENTRY TAKE-IN: 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

JUDGING: 11 AM

DIVISION 106: TUESDAY, OCT 20 - CHEEZ-Y DOES IT

CLASS	PREMIUMS 1st	2nd	3rd
01 - Amateur Home Cook	$250	$150	$100
02 - Professional	$250	$150	$100

Cheez-y Does It! Made right down the road in Cary, we challenge you to get creative with this favorite cheez-y snack. Bring us your best recipe that includes at least 1/2 cup of Cheez-Its.

Please read through the Rules & Regulations and the Entry Take-In instructions prior to entry.

2026 N.C. STATE FAIR
HOME CHEF CHALLENGE

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21ST, 2026

BLESS YOUR TART! CHALLENGE

ENTRY TAKE-IN: 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

JUDGING: 11 AM

DIVISION 107: WEDNESDAY, OCT 21- BLESS YOUR TART!

CLASS	PREMIUMS 1st	2nd	3rd
01 - Amateur Home Cook	$250	$150	$100
02 - Professional	$250	$150	$100

A sweet take on the southern saying, Bless Your Tart! challenges competitors to bring their best tart recipe to sweeten the judges' taste buds.

Please read through the Rules & Regulations and the Entry Take-In instructions prior to entry.

2026 N.C. STATE FAIR
HOME CHEF CHALLENGE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22ND, 2026

"EAST TO WEST" PORK BBQ CHALLENGE

PRESENTED BY:

Smithfield
Good food. Responsibly.®

SMITHFIELD FOODS

ENTRY TAKE-IN: 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

JUDGING: 11 AM

DIVISION 108: THURSDAY, OCT 22 - EAST TO WEST PORK BBQ

CLASS	PREMIUMS 1st	2nd	3rd
01 - Amateur Home Cook	$250	$150	$100
02 - Professional	$250	$150	$100

From the East to the West, pork barbeque is an iconic staple food in North Carolina. Whether you prefer the vinegar-style of the East or the tomato based-style of the West, we challenge you to bring your best pork barbeque recipe to settle the debate. May the best style win!

Please read through the Rules & Regulations and the Entry Take-In instructions prior to entry.

2026 N.C. STATE FAIR HOME CHEF CHALLENGE

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23RD, 2026

"NUTTY BY NATURE" PEANUT CANDY CHALLENGE

ENTRY TAKE-IN: 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

JUDGING: 11 AM

DIVISION 109: FRIDAY, OCT 23 - NUTTY BY NATURE

CLASS

PREMIUMS

CLASS	1st	2nd	3rd
01 - Amateur Home Cook	$250	$150	$100
02 - Professional	$250	$150	$100

Many favorite sweet treats are "Nutty By Nature." We challenge you to bring us your most delicious candy recipe that includes peanuts. Recipes must include at least 1/2 cup of peanuts or peanut butter.

Please read through the Rules & Regulations and the Entry Take-In instructions prior to entry.

2026 N.C. STATE FAIR
HOME CHEF CHALLENGE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24TH, 2026

"STEW-PENDOUS" BRUNSWICK STEW CHALLENGE

ENTRY TAKE-IN: 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

JUDGING: 11 AM

DIVISION 110: SAT, OCT 24- STEW-PENDOUS BRUNSWICK STEW

CLASS	PREMIUMS 1st	2nd	3rd
01 - Amateur Home Cook	$250	$150	$100
02 - Professional	$250	$150	$100

A classic Southern comfort food, bring your best Brunswick Stew recipe for the judges to decide whose version is the most Stew-pendous.

Please read through the Rules & Regulations and the Entry Take-In instructions prior to entry.

2026 N.C. STATE FAIR
HOME CHEF CHALLENGE

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25TH, 2026

"LAYER IT UP" LASAGNA CHALLENGE

ENTRY TAKE-IN: 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

JUDGING: 11 AM

DIVISION 111: SUNDAY, OCT 25 - LAYER IT UP LASAGNA

CLASS	PREMIUMS 1st	2nd	3rd
01 - Amateur Home Cook	$250	$150	$100
02 - Professional	$250	$150	$100

Whether your lasagna features hearty meats, flavorful veggies, or melty cheeses, we challenge you to Layer It Up and bring us your best mouth-watering lasagna recipe.

Please read through the Rules & Regulations and the Entry Take-In instructions prior to entry.

POULTRY

Both the Open and Youth Poultry Shows are separate departments that use the same Divisions, Classes, & Premiums. The Egg Show is housed in the Open Poultry Show.

Exhibit Manager: Don Edwards

Registration Deadline: Tuesday, September 15, 2026 at 11:59 PM or until coop spaces are filled.

**Mailed entry forms must be postmarked by September 1st, 2026*

Entry Fee: $3 per entry to maintain coop during the show

Entry Take-In & Pick-Up Schedule:

- Enter through Gate 4 to access the Poultry Tent.
- **Egg Show Take-In:**
  - October 10th - October 11th, 2026 from 8 AM-6 PM - Education Building (Enter Gate 12)
  - October 14th, 2026 from 8 AM-5 PM - Poultry Tent
- **First Show -** Youth Show and All Open Show Large Fowl and Guineas:
  - **Birds will be received:** Wednesday, October 14th from 8 AM-5 PM - Poultry Tent
  - **Birds will be released:** Tuesday, October 20, 2026 after 4 PM - Poultry Tent
- **Second Show -** All Open Show Bantams and Turkeys:
  - **Birds will be received:** Wednesday, October 21st from 1 PM-5 PM - Poultry Tent
  - **Birds will be released:** Sunday, October 25th after 6 PM - Poultry Tent

**Claim ticket from entry tags are required to claim your entries.*

POULTRY RULES & REGULATIONS

- The General Rules and Regulations of the Fair will govern this department, except in cases of conflict, where the following Rules and Regulations will prevail. Please read all rules & regulations carefully before submitting your entries.
- Submit questions to: NCSFCompetitions@ncagr.gov.
- Open to residents of North Carolina only.
- Pre-registration is required, either online or by mail. Make your entries early.
- There is a required $3 fee per entry for the cost of maintaining the bird's coop during the show.
- Paper entry forms are limited to a total of 20 entries, all departments combined. Payment for entry fees must be included. Please mail to: NC State Fair, Attn: Entry Department, 1010 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1010
- Online entries are unlimited except where specified otherwise.
- Entries are not consider complete until entry fees are received. The right is reserved to reject entries received after all space is taken.
- The Youth Show is only open to youth ages 9-18.
- The Open Show is open exhibitors of any age.
- Individual, family, or farm exhibitors are allowed **two** entries per Class.

POULTRY

- Entries will be limited to total 125 birds across both the Junior and Open Show from any exhibitor, family, or farm.
  - Youth Exhibitors may enter up to 30 total birds in the Youth Show, but may make additional entries in the Open Show with different birds.
- Ribbons and premiums will be awarded to 1st-3rd place in each Class.
- All birds must be entered in the name of the owner, who must have owned the birds for at least 60 days before the closing date for entries.
- All N.C. State Fair Poultry Show entries are to be banded with a North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services band. The band number must be entered at the time of registration unless testing will occur onsite at the State Fair. The band number will be recorded in the competition software and displayed on the entry's coop card. Random checks will be made throughout the show to confirm the entry on display and the band number match.
- Coops used in transporting live birds to the fair are not be allowed inside the exhibit tent. Out-of-State birds will not be admitted.
- The right is reserved to coop two or more birds of the same variety, and belonging to the same person, together if absolutely necessary. In no case will two male birds be placed in the same coop.
- The American Standard of Perfection will be the guide of the judges in awarding premium. The premiums will be paid only on standard varieties listed in this catalog, and then only to worthy specimens. To win first premium, a bird must score at least 88 points; for second premium, 87 points. For less than 87 points, third premium will be awarded.
- All birds are entered at the risk of the owner, and the State Fair management will not be responsible for any loss or damage, but will exercise all possible vigilance in the care of exhibits. No one will be allowed to handle fowl on display except the owners and officials of the show, without permission of the directors.
- All chickens and turkeys for exhibition at the Fair will originate from U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean or equivalent flocks or have a negative pullorum-typhoid test within 90 days of admission to the Fair. The test requirements may be satisfied by a negative test conducted by an official state tester at the time the birds are brought to the Fair. The fee for pullorum-typhoid testing at the fairgrounds will be ten cents per bird, with a minimum fee of $1.00 per exhibitor.
- No poultry shall have received a live virus vaccine within 45 days prior to entering the Fair. It is recommended that all birds be vaccinated for laryngotracheitis with a modified live virus vaccine at least 45 days and not more than one year before the show.
- All chickens, turkeys, and guineas must be identified with numbered tamper-proof bands. Bands placed on birds tested by state testers will satisfy this requirement. Poultry entered at the Fair are subject to examination (including blood test and swabs by a representative of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture). Birds will not be accepted which are infected with or showing any clinical signs of an infectious or communicable disease, or are infested with lice and/or mites.
- The Fair staff works diligently to prevent diseased animals from entering the fairgrounds, though owners should consider that animals may be exposed to infectious agents while at the Fair. It is a Best Management Practice to keep animals returning from the Fair separate from your animals at home for 2-3 weeks. By isolating exhibited animals for this time you have the opportunity to see if they were exposed to disease and infected while at the Fair.
- Poultry not properly registered will be turned away and must leave the fairgrounds immediately.

- Premiums will be forfeited if animals are removed prior to release.
- There will be no Waterfowl classes at the 2026 N.C. State Fair Poultry Show. Waterfowl are not to be brought onto the N.C. State Fairgrounds during the event. Any waterfowl brought to the fairgrounds will be turned away and must leave the fairgrounds immediately
- Decision of the judges will be final and no appeal will be considered except in cases of protest in writing, with strong evidence of fraud or violation of the rules of the Fair. Protests must be in writing and filed with the Competitive Exhibits Director.
- The NC State Fair Poultry Show is sanctioned by both the American Bantam Association (ABA) and American Poultry Association (APA).
- **All birds must remain in the possession of the exhibitor for the entire duration of the fair. Any exchanging of birds during the fair on the fairgrounds is strictly prohibited. Any exhibitor caught exchanging birds on the fairgrounds will forfeit all earned premiums.**

TERMINOLOGY

Cock: Male bird, one year old or older
Tom: Male turkey, one year old or older
Cockerel: Male bird, less than one year old
Jake: Male turkey, less than one year old
Hen: Female bird/turkey, one year old or older
Pullet: Female bird, less than one year old
Jenny: Female turkey, less than one year old

ABBREVIATIONS

AOB: All Other Breeds; Any Other Breed
AOCCL: All Other Comb Clean Legged
AOSB: All Other Standard Breeds
AOV: All Other Varieties; Any Other Variety
RCCL: Rose Comb Clean Legged
SCCL: Single Comb Clean Legged

PREMIUMS FOR DIVISIONS 101-1305

1st - $15 2nd - $14 3rd - $13

LARGE FOWL

DIVISIONS 101-136: Large Fowl - American

CLASSES: 01 - Cock 02 - Hen 03 - Cockerel 04 - Pullet

DIVISION	BREED/VARIETY
101	Buckeye
102	Chantecler - Partridge
103	Chantecler - White
104	Delawares
105	Dominique
106	Holland - Barred
107	Holland - White
108	Java - Black
109	Java - Mottled
110	Jersey Giant - Black
111	Jersey Giant - Blue
112	Jersey Giant - White
113	Jersey Giant - AOV
114	Lamona - White
115	New Hampshire
116	Plymouth Rock - Barred
117	Plymouth Rock - Blue
118	Plymouth Rock - Buff
119	Plymouth Rock - Columbian
120	Plymouth Rock - Partridge
121	Plymouth Rock - Silver Penciled
122	Plymouth Rock - White
123	Plymouth Rock - AOV
124	Rhode Island Red - Rose Comb
125	Rhode Island Red - Single Comb
126	Rhode Island White - Rose Comb
127	Wyandotte - Black
128	Wyandotte - Blue
129	Wyandotte - Buff
130	Wyandotte - Columbian
131	Wyandotte - Golden Laced
132	Wyandotte - Partridge
133	Wyandotte - Silver Laced
134	Wyandotte - Silver Penciled
135	Wyandotte - White
136	Wyandotte - AOV

DIVISIONS 201-275: Large Fowl - AOSB

CLASSES: 01 - Cock 02 - Hen 03 - Cockerel 04 - Pullet

DIVISION	BREED/VARIETY
201	Ameraucana - Black
202	Ameraucana - Blue
203	Ameraucana - Blue Wheaten
204	Ameraucana - Brown Red
205	Ameraucana - Buff
206	Ameraucana - Self Blue
207	Ameraucana - Silver
208	Ameraucana - Wheaten
209	Ameraucana - White
210	Ameraucana - AOV
211	Araucana - Black
212	Araucana - Black Breasted Red
213	Araucana - Golden Duckwing
214	Araucana - Silver Duckwing
215	Araucana - White
216	Aseel - Black Breasted Red
217	Aseel - Dark
218	Aseel - Spangled
219	Aseel - Wheaten
220	Aseel - White
221	Aseel - AOV
222	Cubalaya - Black
223	Cubalaya - Black Breasted Red
224	Cubalaya - White
225	Malay - Black
226	Malay - Black Breasted Red
227	Malay - Red Plye
228	Malay - Spangled
229	Malay - Wheaten
230	Malay - White

DIVISION	BREED/VARIETY
231	Malay - AOV
232	Modern Game - Birchen
233	Modern Game - Black
234	Modern Game - Black Breasted Red
235	Modern Game - Blue Red
236	Modern Game - Brown Red
237	Modern Game - Golden Duckwing
238	Modern Game - Red Pyle
239	Modern Game - Silver Duckwing
240	Modern Game - Wheaten
241	Modern Game - White
242	Modern Game - AOV
243	Naked Neck - Black
244	Naked Neck - Blue
245	Naked Neck - Blue Wheaten
246	Naked Neck - Buff
247	Naked Neck - Red
248	Naked Neck - White
249	Naked Neck - AOV
250	Old English Game - Black
251	Old English Game - Black Breasted Red
252	Old English Game - Blue Breasted Red
253	Old English Game - Blue Golden Duckwing
254	Old English Game - Blue Silver Duckwing
255	Old English Game - Brown Red
256	Old English Game - Crele
257	Old English Game - Golden Duckwing
258	Old English Game - Lemon Blue
259	Old English Game - Red Pyle
260	Old English Game - Self Blue
261	Old English Game - Silver Duckwing
262	Old English Game - Spangled
263	Old English Game - White
264	Old English Game - AOV
265	Phoenix - Golden
266	Phoenix - Silver
267	Shamo - Black
268	Shamo - Black Breasted Red
269	Shamo - Dark
270	Shamo - Wheaten
271	Shamo - AOV
272	Sultan - White
273	Sumatra - Black
274	Sumatra - Blue
275	Yokohama - Red Shoulder
276	Yokohama - White

DIVISIONS 301-317: Large Fowl - Asiatic

CLASSES: **01 - Cock** **02 - Hen** **03 - Cockerel** **04 - Pullet**

DIVISION	BREED/VARIETY
301	Brahma - Buff
302	Brahma - Dark
303	Brahma - Light
304	Brahma - AOV
305	Cochin - Barred
306	Cochin - Black
307	Cochin - Blue
308	Cochin - Brown
309	Cochin - Buff
310	Cochin - Golden Laced
311	Cochin - Partridge
312	Cochin - Silver Laced
313	Cochin - White
314	Cochin - AOV
315	Langshan - Black
316	Langshan - Blue
317	Langshan - White

DIVISIONS 351-385: Large Fowl - Continental

CLASSES: **01 - Cock** **02 - Hen** **03 - Cockerel** **04 - Pullet**

DIVISION	BREED/VARIETY
351	Barnevelders
352	Campine - Golden
353	Campine - Silver
354	Crevecoeur - Black
355	Faverolles - Salmon
356	Faverolles - White
357	Hamburg - Black
358	Hamburg - Golden Penciled

DIVISION	BREED/VARIETY
359	Hamburg - Golden Spangled
360	Hamburg - Silver Penciled
361	Hamburg - Silver Spangled
362	Hamburg - White
363	Houdan - Mottled
364	Houdan - White
365	La Fleche - Black
366	Lakenvelder
367	Marans - Black
368	Marans - Black Copper
369	Marans - Wheaten
370	Marans - White
371	Marans - AOV
372	Polish - Non-Bearded Black Crested White
373	Polish - Bearded Buff Laced
374	Polish - Non-Bearded Buff Laced
375	Polish - Bearded Golden
376	Polish - Non-Bearded Golden
377	Polish - Bearded Silver
378	Polish - Non-Bearded Silver
379	Polish - Bearded White
380	Polish - Non-Bearded White
381	Polish - Non-Bearded White Crested Black
382	Polish - Non-Bearded White Crested Blue
383	Polish - AOV Bearded
384	Polish - AOV Non-Bearded
385	Welsummer

DIVISIONS 401-426: Large Fowl - English

CLASSES: **01 - Cock** **02 - Hen** **03 - Cockerel** **04 - Pullet**

DIVISION	BREED/VARIETY
401	Australorps - Black
402	Cornish - Buff
403	Cornish - Dark
404	Cornish - White
405	Cornish - White Laced Red
406	Cornish - AOV
407	Dorking - Single Comb Colored
408	Dorking - Rose Comb Cuckoo
409	Dorking - Single Comb Cuckoo
410	Dorking - Single Comb Red
411	Dorking - Single Comb Silver Gray
412	Dorking - Rose Comb White
413	Dorking - AOV
414	Orpington - Barred
415	Orpington - Black
416	Orpington - Black Breasted Red
417	Orpington - Blue
418	Orpington - Blue Quail
419	Orpington - Brown Red
420	Orpington - Buff
421	Orpington - Chocolate
422	Orpington - Chocolate Cuckoo
423	Orpington - Crele
424	Orpington - Cuckoo
425	Orpington - White
426	Orpington - Mottled
427	Orpington - Quail
428	Orpington - Self Blue
429	Orpington - Splash
430	Orpington - AOV
431	Redcap
432	Sussex - Light
433	Sussex - Red
434	Sussex - Speckled

DIVISIONS 451-477: Large Fowl - Mediterranean

CLASSES: **01 - Cock** **02 - Hen** **03 - Cockerel** **04 - Pullet**

DIVISION	BREED/VARIETY
451	Ancona - Rose Comb
452	Ancona - Single Comb
453	Anadalusians - Blue
454	Catalana - Buff
455	Leghorn - Rose Comb Black
456	Leghorn - Single Comb Black
457	Leghorn - Rose Comb Buff
458	Leghorn - Single Comb Buff
459	Leghorn - Rose Comb Dark Brown
460	Leghorn - Single Comb Dark Brown
461	Leghorn - Rose Comb Light Brown
462	Leghorn - Single Comb Light Brown

DIVISION	BREED/VARIETY
463	Leghorn - Rose Comb Silver
464	Leghorn - Single Comb Silver
465	Leghorn - Rose Comb White
466	Leghorn - Single Comb White
467	Leghorn - Rose Comb AOV
468	Leghorn - Single Comb AOV
469	Minorca - Rose Comb Black
470	Minorca - Single Comb Black
471	Minorca - Single Comb Buff
472	Minorca - Rose Comb White
473	Minorca - Single Comb White
474	Minorca - Rose Comb AOV
475	Minorca - Single Comb AOV
476	Sicilian Buttercup
477	Spanish - White Faced Black

DIVISION 499: Large Fowl - Rare Breed Showcase

CLASSES: **01 - Cock** **02 - Hen** **03 - Cockerel** **04 - Pullet**

DIVISION	BREED/VARIETY
499	Any Breed Not Listed, Any Size Bird

BANTAMS

DIVISIONS 501-593: Bantams - AOCCL

CLASSES: **01 - Cock** **02 - Hen** **03 - Cockerel** **04 - Pullet**

DIVISION	BREED/VARIETY
501	Ameraucana - Black
502	Ameraucana - Blue
503	Ameraucana - Blue Wheaten
504	Ameraucana - Brown Red
505	Ameraucana - Buff
506	Ameraucana - Silver
507	Ameraucana - Wheaten
508	Ameraucana - White
509	Ameraucana - AOV
510	Araucana - Black
511	Araucana - Black Breasted Red
512	Araucana - Blue
513	Araucana - Buff
514	Araucana - Golden Duckwing
515	Araucana - Silver Duckwing
516	Araucana - White
517	Aseel - Black Breasted Red
518	Aseel - Dark
519	Aseel - Spangled
520	Aseel - Wheaten
521	Aseel - White
522	Aseel - AOV
523	Buckeye - Black Tailed Red
524	Buttercup - Barred
525	Chantecler - Partridge
526	Chantecler - White
527	Chantecler - Buff
528	Cornish - Black
529	Cornish - Blue
530	Cornish - Blue Laced Red
531	Cornish - Buff
532	Cornish - Columbian
533	Cornish - Dark
534	Cornish - Jublilee
535	Cornish - Mottled
536	Cornish - Silver Laced
537	Cornish - Spangled
538	Cornish - White
539	Cornish - White Laced Red
540	Cornish - AOV
541	Crevecoeur - Black
542	Cubalaya - Black
543	Cubalaya - Black Breasted Red
544	Cubalaya - White
545	Houdan - Mottled
546	Houdan - White
547	Ko Shamo - Wheaten
548	Ko Shamo - AOV
549	La Fleche - Black
550	Malay - Black
551	Malay - Black Breasted Red
552	Malay - Mottled

DIVISION	BREED/VARIETY
553	Malay - Spangled
554	Malay - White
555	Orloff - Black Tailed Red
556	Orloff - Spangled
557	Orloff - White
558	Polish - Blue, Bearded
559	Polish - Blue, Non-Bearded
560	Polish - Buff Laced, Bearded
561	Polish - Buff Laced, Non-Bearded
562	Polish - Golden, Bearded
563	Polish - Golden, Non-Bearded
564	Polish - Silver, Bearded
565	Polish - Silver, Non-Bearded
566	Polish - White, Bearded
567	Polish - White, Non-Bearded
568	Polish - White Crested Black, Bearded
569	Polish - White Crested Black, Non-Bearded
570	Polish - White Crested Blue, Bearded
571	Polish - White Crested Blue, Non-Bearded
572	Polish - White Crested Chocolate, Non-Bearded
573	Polish - White Crested Cuckoo, Non-Bearded
574	Polish - White Crested Khaki, Non-Bearded
575	Polish - AOV, Bearded
576	Polish - AOV, Non-Bearded
577	Shamo - Black Breasted Red
578	Shamo - Brown Red
579	Shamo - Buff Columbian
580	Shamo - Dark
581	Shamo - Spangled
582	Shamo - Wheaten
583	Shamo - AOV
584	Sumatra - Black
585	Sumatra - Blue
586	Sumatra - White
587	Sumatra - AOV
588	Yokohama - Dark Brown
589	Yokohama - Light Brown
590	Yokohama - Red Shoulder
591	Yokohama - Silver
592	Yokohama - White
593	Yokohama - AOV

DIVISIONS 601-679: Bantams - Feather-Legged

CLASSES: **01 - Cock** **02 - Hen** **03 - Cockerel** **04 - Pullet**

DIVISION	BREED/VARIETY
601	Cochin - Barred
602	Cochin - Birchen
603	Cochin - Black
604	Cochin - Black Tailed Red
605	Cochin - Blue
606	Cochin - Brown Red
607	Cochin - Buff
608	Cochin - Buff Columbian
609	Cochin - Columbian
610	Cochin - Golden Laced
611	Cochin - Lemon Blue
612	Cochin - Mottled
613	Cochin - Partridge
614	Cochin - Red
615	Cochin - Self Blue
616	Cochin - Silver Laced
617	Cochin - Silver Penciled
618	Cochin - Splash
619	Cochin - White
620	Cochin - AOV
621	Faverolle - Black
622	Faverolle - Blue
623	Faverolle - Buff
624	Faverolle - Salmon
625	Faverolle - White
626	Faverolle - AOV
627	Langshan - Black
628	Langshan - Blue
629	Langshan - White
630	Sultan - Black
631	Sultan - Blue
632	Sultan - White
633	Sultan - AOV
634	Belgian d'Uccle - Black
635	Belgian d'Uccle - Blue
636	Belgian d'Uccle - Buff

DIVISION	BREED/VARIETY
637	Belgian d'Uccle - Golden Neck
638	Belgian d'Uccle - Gray
639	Belgian d'Uccle - Mille Fleur
640	Belgian d'Uccle - Mottled
641	Belgian d'Uccle - Porcelain
642	Belgian d'Uccle - Self Blue
643	Belgian d'Uccle - White
644	Booted - Black
645	Booted - Blue
646	Booted - Buff
647	Booted - Golden Neck
648	Booted - Gray
649	Booted - Mille Fluer
650	Booted - Mottled
651	Booted - Porcelain
652	Booted - Self Blue
653	Booted - White
654	Brahma - Black
655	Brahma - Buff
656	Brahma - Dark
657	Brahma - Light
658	Brahma - White
659	Brahma - AOV
660	Silkie - Black, Bearded
661	Silkie - Black, Non-Bearded
662	Silkie - Blue, Bearded
663	Silkie - Blue, Non-Bearded
664	Silkie - Buff, Bearded
665	Silkie - Buff, Non-Bearded
666	Silkie - Gray, Bearded
667	Silkie - Gray, Non-Bearded
668	Silkie - Paint, Bearded
669	Silkie - Partridge, Bearded
670	Silkie - Partridge, Non-Bearded
671	Silkie - Self Blue, Bearded
672	Silkie - Self Blue, Non-Bearded
673	Silkie - Splash, Bearded
674	Silkie - Splash, Non-Bearded
675	Silkie - White, Bearded
676	Silkie - White, Non-Bearded
677	Silkie - White Naked Neck, Bearded
678	Silkie - AOV, Bearded
679	Silkie - AOV, Non-Bearded

DIVISIONS 701-702: Bantams - Frizzled

CLASSES: **01 - Cock** **02 - Hen** **03 - Cockerel** **04 - Pullet**

701	Frizzled - Clean Legged	702	Frizzled - Feather Legged

DIVISIONS 711-724: Bantams - American Game

CLASSES: **01 - Cock** **02 - Hen** **03 - Cockerel** **04 - Pullet**

DIVISION	BREED/VARIETY
711	Am Game - Birchen
712	Am Game - Black
713	Am Game - Black Breasted Red
714	Am Game - Blue
715	Am Game - Blue Red
716	Am Game - Brassy Black
717	Am Game - Brown Red
718	Am Game - Golden Duckwing
719	Am Game - Quail
720	Am Game - Red Pyle
721	Am Game - Silver Duckwing
722	Am Game - Wheaten
723	Am Game - White
724	Am Game - AOV

DIVISIONS 751-792: Bantams - Old English Game

CLASSES: **01 - Cock** **02 - Hen** **03 - Cockerel** **04 - Pullet**

DIVISION	BREED/VARIETY
751	Old English Game - Barred
752	Old English Game - Birchen
753	Old English Game - Black
754	Old English Game - Black Breasted Golden
755	Old English Game - Black Breasted Red
756	Old English Game - Black Tailed Buff

DIVISION	BREED/VARIETY
757	Old English Game - Black Tailed Red
758	Old English Game - Black Tailed White
759	Old English Game - Blue
760	Old English Game - Blue Brassy Back
761	Old English Game - Blue Golden Duckwing
762	Old English Game - Blue Red
763	Old English Game - Blue Silver Duckwing
764	Old English Game - Blue Silver Wheaten
765	Old English Game - Blue Wheaten
766	Old English Game - Brassy Back
767	Old English Game - Brown Red
768	Old English Game - Buff
769	Old English Game - Columbian
770	Old English Game - Crele
771	Old English Game - Cuckoo
772	Old English Game - Fawn Red
773	Old English Game - Fawn Silver Duckwing
774	Old English Game - Ginger Red
775	Old English Game - Golden Duckwing
776	Old English Game - Lemon Blue
777	Old English Game - Mille Fleur
778	Old English Game - Mottled
779	Old English Game - Opal
781	Old English Game - Quail
782	Old English Game - Red Pyle
783	Old English Game - Self Blue
784	Old English Game - Silver Duckwing
785	Old English Game - Silver Ginger
786	Old English Game - Silver Wheaten
787	Old English Game - Spangled
788	Old English Game - Splash
789	Old English Game - Splash Wheaten
790	Old English Game - Wheaten
791	Old English Game - White
792	Old English Game - AOV

DIVISIONS 801-820: Bantams - Modern Game

CLASSES: **01 - Cock** **02 - Hen** **03 - Cockerel** **04 - Pullet**

DIVISION	BREED/VARIETY
801	Modern - Barred
802	Modern - Birchen
803	Modern - Black
804	Modern - Black Breasted Red
805	Modern - Blue
806	Modern - Blue Red
807	Modern - Brown Red
808	Modern - Crele
809	Modern - Cuckoo
810	Modern - Ginger Red
811	Modern - Golden Duckwing
812	Modern - Lemon Blue
813	Modern - Red Pyle
814	Modern - Self Blue
815	Modern - Silver Blue
816	Modern - Silver Duckwing
817	Modern - Splash
818	Modern - Wheaten
819	Modern - White
820	Modern - AOV

DIVISIONS 901-1000: Bantams - RCCL

CLASSES: **01 - Cock** **02 - Hen** **03 - Cockerel** **04 - Pullet**

DIVISION	BREED/VARIETY
901	Ancona - Mottled
902	Belgian D'Anver - Black
903	Belgian D'Anver - Black Breasted Red
904	Belgian D'Anver - Blue
905	Belgian D'Anver - Blue Quail
906	Belgian D'Anver - Buff
907	Belgian D'Anver - Buff Columbian
908	Belgian D'Anver - Columbian
909	Belgian D'Anver - Cuckoo
910	Belgian D'Anver - Mille Fleur
911	Belgian D'Anver - Mottled
912	Belgian D'Anver - Porcelain
913	Belgian D'Anver - Quail
914	Belgian D'Anver - Self Blue

DIVISION	BREED/VARIETY
915	Belgian D'Anver - Splash
916	Belgian D'Anver - White
917	Belgian D'Anver - AOV
918	Dominique - Barred
919	Dorking - Rose Comb Colored
920	Dorking - Rose Comb Cuckoo
921	Dorking - Rose Comb White
922	Hamburg - Black
923	Hamburg - Golden Penciled
924	Hamburg - Golden Spangled
925	Hamburg - Silver Penciled
926	Hamburg - Silver Spangled
927	Hamburg - White
928	Leghorn - Barred
929	Leghorn - Buff
930	Leghorn - Buff Columbian
931	Leghorn - Columbian
932	Leghorn - Dark Brown
933	Leghorn - Dominique
934	Leghorn - Exchequer
935	Leghorn - Light Brown
936	Leghorn - White
937	Leghorn - AOV
938	Minorca - Black
939	Minorca - Buff
940	Minorca - Self Blue
941	Minorca - White
942	Minorca - AOV
943	Nankin - Black Tailed Red
944	Watermaal - Black
945	Watermaal - Blue
946	Watermaal - Buff
947	Watermaal - Mottled
948	Watermaal - Quail
949	Watermaal - White
950	Rhode Island Red - Rose Comb
951	Rosecomb - Barred
952	Rosecomb - Birchen
953	Rosecomb - Black
954	Rosecomb - Black Breasted Red
955	Rosecomb - Black Tailed Red
956	Rosecomb - Blue
957	Rosecomb - Blue Red
958	Rosecomb - Brown Red
959	Rosecomb - Buff
960	Rosecomb - Buff Columbian
961	Rosecomb - Columbian
962	Rosecomb - Crele
963	Rosecomb - Exchequer
964	Rosecomb - Ginger Red
965	Rosecomb - Golden Duckwing
966	Rosecomb - Lemon Blue
967	Rosecomb - Mille Fleur
968	Rosecomb - Mottled
969	Rosecomb - Procelain
970	Rosecomb - Quail
971	Rosecomb - Red
972	Rosecomb - Red Pyle
973	Rosecomb - Silver Duckwing
974	Rosecomb - Splash
975	Rosecomb - Wheaten
976	Rosecomb - White
977	Rosecomb - AOV
978	Sebright - Golden
979	Sebright - Silver
980	Wyandotte - Barred
981	Wyandotte - Birchen
982	Wyandotte - Black
983	Wyandotte - Black Breasted Red
984	Wyandotte - Blue
985	Wyandotte - Blue Red
986	Wyandotte - Brown Red
987	Wyandotte - Buff
988	Wyandotte - Buff Columbian
989	Wyandotte - Chocolate
990	Wyandotte - Columbian
991	Wyandotte - Golden Laced
992	Wyandotte - Lemon Blue
993	Wyandotte - Mottled
994	Wyandotte - Partridge
995	Wyandotte - Silver Laced
996	Wyandotte - Silver Penciled
997	Wyandotte - Splash
998	Wyandotte - White
999	Wyandotte - White Laced Red
1000	Wyandotte - AOV

POULTRY

DIVISIONS 1001-1116: Bantams - SCCL

CLASSES: **01 - Cock** **02 - Hen** **03 - Cockerel** **04 - Pullet**

DIVISION	BREED/VARIETY
1001	American Serama - Black
1002	American Serama - Exchequer
1003	American Serama - AOV
1004	Ancona - Mottled
1005	Anadalusian - Blue
1006	Australorp - Black
1007	Barnevelder - Black
1008	Barnevelder - Double Laced
1009	Campine - Golden
1010	Campine - Silver
1011	Delaware - Barred
1012	Dorking - Single Comb Colored
1013	Dorking - Single Comb Red
1014	Dorking - Single Comb Silver Gray
1015	Dutch - Black
1016	Dutch - Blue
1017	Dutch - Blue Cream Light Brown
1018	Dutch - Cream Light Brown
1019	Dutch - Cuckoo
1020	Dutch - Golden
1021	Dutch - Light Brown
1022	Dutch - Self Blue
1023	Dutch - Silver
1024	Dutch - Wheaten
1025	Dutch - White
1026	Dutch - AOV
1027	Japanese - Barred
1028	Japanese - Black
1029	Japanese - Black Breasted Red
1030	Japanese - Black Tailed Buff
1031	Japanese - Black Tailed Red
1032	Japanese - Black Tailed White
1033	Japanese - Blue
1034	Japanese - Blue Tailed White
1035	Japanese - Brown Red
1036	Japanese - Buff
1037	Japanese - Gray
1038	Japanese - Mottled
1039	Japanese - Self Blue
1040	Japanese - Silver Duckwing
1041	Japanese - Silver Laced
1042	Japanese - Wheaten
1043	Japanese - White
1044	Japanese - White Bearded
1045	Japanese - AOV
1046	Junglefowl - Red
1047	Lakenvelder
1048	Leghorn - Barred
1049	Leghorn - Black
1050	Leghorn - Black Tailed Red
1051	Leghorn - Blue
1052	Leghorn - Buff
1053	Leghorn - Buff Columbian
1054	Leghorn - Columbian
1055	Leghorn - Dark Brown
1056	Leghorn - Exchequer
1057	Leghorn - Golden
1058	Leghorn - Light Brown
1059	Leghorn - Mille Fleur
1060	Leghorn - Red
1061	Leghorn - Silver
1062	Leghorn - White
1063	Leghorn - AOV
1064	Minorca - Black
1065	Minorca - Blue
1066	Minorca - Buff
1067	Minorca - Self Blue
1068	Minorca - White
1069	Minorca - AOV
1070	Naked Neck - Black
1071	Naked Neck - Blue
1072	Naked Neck - Buff
1073	Naked Neck - Cuckoo
1074	Naked Neck - Red
1075	Naked Neck - White
1076	Naked Neck - AOV
1077	Nankin - Black Tailed Red
1078	New Hampshire - Black Tailed Red
1079	Orpington - Black
1080	Orpington - Blue
1081	Orpington - Blue Quail
1082	Orpington - Buff
1083	Orpington - Chocolate
1084	Orpington - Mauve
1085	Orpington - Quail
1086	Orpington - Splash

DIVISION	BREED/VARIETY
1087	Orpington - White
1088	Orpington - AOV
1089	Phoenix - Golden
1090	Phoenix - Golden Duckwing
1091	Phoenix - Light Brown
1092	Phoenix - Silver
1093	Phoenix - Silver Duckwing
1094	Phoenix - White
1095	Phoenix - AOV
1096	Plymouth Rock - Barred
1097	Plymouth Rock - Black
1098	Plymouth Rock - Blue
1099	Plymouth Rock - Buff
1100	Plymouth Rock - Columbian
1101	Plymouth Rock - Partridge
1102	Plymouth Rock - Silver Penciled
1103	Plymouth Rock - White
1104	Plymouth Rock - AOV
1105	Pyncheon - Mille Fleur
1106	Rhode Island Red - Single Comb
1107	Spanish - White Faced Black
1108	Spanish - White Faced Blue
1109	Sussex - Birchen
1110	Sussex - Buff
1111	Sussex - Dark Brown
1112	Sussex - Light
1113	Sussex - Red
1114	Sussex - Speckled
1115	Sussex - White
1116	Sussex - AOV
1117	Vorwerk
1118	Welsummer - Plumage
1119	Welsummer - Silver Duckwing

DIVISIONS 1201-1209: Turkeys

CLASSES: **01 - Tom** **02 - Hen** **03 - Jake** **04 - Jenny**

DIVISION	BREED/VARIETY
1201	Beltsville Small White
1202	Black
1203	Bourbon Red
1204	Bronze
1205	Narragansett
1206	Royal Palm
1207	Slate
1208	White Holland
1209	Turkey - AOV

DIVISIONS 1301-1305: Guineas

CLASSES: **01 - Cock** **02 - Hen** **03 - Cockerel** **04 - Pullet**

DIVISION	BREED/VARIETY
1301	Lavender
1302	Pearl
1303	White
1304	Pied
1305	Guinea - AOV

POULTRY SPECIAL AWARDS - OPEN SHOW

AWARDS	PREMIUMS
LARGE FOWL	
Champion - American	$10
Reserve Champion - American	$10
Champion - Asiatic	$10
Reserve Champion - Asiatic	$10
Champion - English	$10
Reserve Champion - English	$10
Champion - Mediterranean	$10
Reserve Champion - Mediterranean	$10
Champion - Continental	$10
Reserve Champion - Continental	$10
Champion - AOSB	$10
Reserve Champion - AOSB	$10
Champion - Large Fowl	**$50**
Reserve Champion - Large Fowl	**$25**
BANTAMS	
Champion - Modern Game	$10
Reserve Champion - Modern Game	$10
Champion - Game (Old English & American)	$10
Reserve Champion - Game (Old English & American)	$10
Champion - SCCL	$10
Reserve Champion - SCCL	$10
Champion - RCCL	$10
Reserve Champion - RCCL	$10
Champion - Feather-Legged	$10
Reserve Champion - Feather-Legged	$10
Champion - AOCCL	$10
Reserve Champion - AOCCL	$10
Champion - Bantam	**$50**
Reserve Champion - Bantam	**$25**
OVERALL OPEN SHOW (Large Fowl & Bantams)	
Overall Open Show Champion	**Banner**
Overall Open Show Reserve Champion	**Banner**
TURKEYS	
Best Male - Turkey	$10
Best Female - Turkey	$10
Champion - Turkey	**$50**
Reserve Champion - Turkey	**$25**

GUINEAS

Best Male - Guinea	$10
Best Female - Guinea	$10
Champion - Guinea	**$50**
Reserve Champion - Guinea	**$25**

POULTRY SPECIAL AWARDS - YOUTH SHOW

AWARDS	PREMIUMS
Champion - Large Fowl	$10
Reserve Champion - Large Fowl	$10
Champion - Bantam	$10
Reserve Champion - Bantam	$10
Champion - Turkey	$10
Reserve Champion - Turkey	$10
Champion - Guinea	$10
Reserve Champion - Guinea	$10
Overall Youth Show Champion	**$50**
Overall Youth Show Reserve Champion	**$25**

EGG SHOW

Entry Take-In:

- October 10th - October 11th, 2026 from 8 AM-6 PM - Education Building (Enter Gate 12)
- October 14th, 2026 from 8 AM-5 PM - Poultry Tent (Enter Gate 4)

EGG SHOW ADDITIONAL RULES & REGULATIONS

- The Egg Show is housed in the Open Poultry Show Department.
- Pre-registration is required. There is no entry fee.
- Exhibitors are allowed one entry per Class.
- All entries must be fresh and produced from the exhibitor's flock.
- No store-bought eggs are allowed.
- No commercial exhibitors are allowed.
- Eggs must be placed in a standard egg carton.
- Eggs must be pre-weighed by the exhibitor to be placed in the correct Class. Entries will be weighed upon judging. If entries are registered in the wrong Class, they will not be judged.
- Judging is based on the USDA Shell Egg Grading and Standards.
- All entries are required to be displayed for the duration of the fair.
- All entries become property of the N.C.State Fair.

SIZE REQUIREMENTS

- **Small:** 18 - 20 oz. per dozen
- **Medium:** 21- 23 oz. per dozen
- **Large:** 24 - 26 oz. per dozen
- **Extra-Large:** 27 - 29 oz. per dozen

EGG SHELL COLOR DESCRIPTIONS

- **White:** As reasonably close to white as possible.
- **Brown:** As resonably close to brown as possible, including dark and light brown.
- **Pastel:** Includes blues, greens, pinks, beiges, or cream-colored eggs.

PREMIUMS

1st - $10 2nd - $6 3rd - $4

DIVISION 1401: EGG SHOW

CLASS

01 - White - Small or Medium
02 - White - Large or Extra-Large
03 - Brown - Small or Medium
04 - Brown - Large or Extra-Large
05 - Pastel - Small or Medium
06 - Pastel - Large or Extra-Large

EGG SHOW SPECIAL AWARDS

- Best of Show *Ribbon only.*

SEWING & NEEDLECRAFT

Sewing Superintendent: Kathy Blalock

Needlecraft Superintendent: Rennie Lovisa

Registration Deadline: Tuesday, September 15, 2026 at 11:59 PM

**Mailed entry forms must be postmarked by September 1st, 2026*

Entry Take-In:

- Enter through Gate 12.
- Saturday, October 10th, 2026 from 8 AM-6 PM - Education Building
- Sunday, October 11th, 2026 from 8 AM-6 PM - Education Building

**Mailed exhibits must be received by Monday, October 5th, 2026*

Judging:

- Monday, October 12th, 2026 at 9 AM
- Tuesday, October 13th, 2026 at 9 AM

Entry Pick-Up:

- Monday, October 26th, 2026 from 8 AM-6 PM - Education Building
  - The fair is not responsible for entries left after 6 PM.

**Claim ticket from entry tags are required to claim your entries.*

SEWING & NEEDLECRAFT RULES & REGULATIONS

- The General Rules and Regulations of the Fair will govern this department, except in cases of conflict, where the following Rules and Regulations will prevail. Please read before submitting your entries.
- Submit questions to: NCSFCompetitions@ncagr.gov
- Pre-registration is required, either online or by mail. Make your entries early.
- Open to residents of North Carolina only.
- Exhibitors are allowed one entry per Class.
  - One entry from only one individual per household will be allowed under a single Class number.
  - Each exhibitor may only enter up to 15 total items in the Sewing Divisions (101-111)
- It is the exhibitor's responsibility to enter their items under the appropriate categories.
- All garments must be of 100% new construction.
- All entries must be the sole work of the exhibitor and completed since the 2025 State Fair. If a date appears on an item, it must fall between the accepted dates of completion. Exceptions would be a wedding date, birth date, etc.
- Exhibits released from other fairs will be accepted with prior approval from the Entry Department.
- Display space is limited. We do not guarantee that all entries will be on display. Non-ribbon winners may be rotated on and off exhibit.
- The Fair reserves the right to reject any article because of odor, cleanliness, or pet dander.

- Pin entry tags with safety pins, **on the left side of item facing you**. Bring your own pins.
- To allow for impartial judging, please remove or cover any names or other identifying personal information on the article. Initials are acceptable. Exception: Framed needlework showing exhibitor's full name will be accepted, but the name will be covered on the glass by competition staff before judging.
- Quality workmanship must be evident before ribbons and awards will be given.
- All articles must be complete: For example, pillow tops must have been made into a pillow; wall hangings must be ready to hang; pictures must be framed, wired and ready for hanging. Framed entries cannot exceed 24" x 36" total including the frame.
- The NC State Fair has strict guidelines concerning controversial items entered in competitions. Anything made with controversial fabric patterns or designs will be disqualified. Also know that the NC State Fair has a 'No Guns' policy where anything representing a firearm or a part of a firearm will NOT be accepted.
- Once entries are accepted, judged and displayed, the display cabinets will be locked and not opened for any reason. Any corrections or adjustments will be made before or after fair hours. This is for the protection of the entries.
- **"Garment"** is defined broadly as a single or multiple pieces of wearing apparel (any type) that fits under the stated category.
- **"Decorative Trim"** is defined broadly to include any creative stitching (embroidery, french hand/machine sewing, etc.) or fabric embellishment (quilting/applique, etc.) to enhance the beauty of an item of clothing. The term "novelty" is also broadly defined to include decorative design stitches and yarns.
- Wall hangings must be ready to hang with a sleeve attached at the top.
- Framed entries are not allowed in Sewing Divisions (101-111).
- Any framed Needlecraft (Divisions 201-227) entries must be **ready to hang with a wire hanger secured by screws** (as shown below).

SEWING
(DIVISIONS 101-111)

ITEMS CRAFTED BY ADULTS

Ages 19 And Older

DIVISION 101: SEWN BY ADULT

CLASS		PREMIUMS 1st	2nd	3rd
01 -	Apron	$7	$6	$5
02 -	Woman's Blouse	$12	$10	$8
03 -	Adult Dress	$12	$10	$8
04 -	Dress & Jacket *Any fabric*	$15	$12	$10
05 -	Wedding Attire	$30	$25	$20
06 -	Skirt	$10	$8	$6
07 -	Pants *Any style, any fabric*	$12	$10	$8
08 -	Pants & Top *Vest, jacket. Must be 2 pieces.*	$15	$12	$10
09 -	Coat or Cape	$20	$15	$12
10 -	Tailored Suit, Skirt or Pants	$20	$15	$12
11 -	Active Wear	$15	$12	$10
12 -	Adult Costume *Any fabric*	$20	$18	$15
13 -	Youth Costume *Any fabric*	$20	$18	$15
14 -	Stage Wear Dress *Any fabric*	$20	$18	$15
15 -	Stage Wear Other Garment *Any fabric*	$20	$18	$15
16 -	Lingerie Gown *Any fabric*	$10	$9	$8
17 -	Pajama Set *Any fabric*	$10	$9	$8
18 -	Infant's Christening Gown	$15	$12	$10
19 -	Infant's Garment *Any fabric*	$10	$9	$8
20 -	Infant's Garment With Smocking	$13	$12	$11
21 -	Children's Garment *Any fabric*	$10	$9	$8
22 -	Children's Garment With Smocking	$12	$11	$10
23 -	Hand Sewn Child's Garment	$14	$12	$10
24 -	Machine Sewn Child's Garment	$12	$10	$8
25 -	Purse *Must be sewn*	$8	$7	$6
26 -	Other Accessory *Must be sewn*	$8	$7	$6

DIVISION 102: MACHINE KNITTED BY ADULT

CLASS		PREMIUMS 1st	2nd	3rd
01 -	Machine Knitted Garment for Child	$9	$7	$5
02 -	Machine Knitted Garment for Adult	$9	$7	$5
03 -	Machine Knitted Accessories *Hats, scarves, socks, etc.*	$9	$7	$5

DIVISION 103: HAND KNITTED BY ADULT

CLASS	PREMIUMS 1st	2nd	3rd
01 - Hand Knitted Garment for Child	$10	$8	$6
02 - Hand Knitted Garment for Adult	$10	$8	$6
03 - Hand Knitted Adult Sweater, Vest	$10	$8	$6
04 - Hand Knitted Garment *Not Listed*	$15	$12	$10
05 - Hand Knitted Shawls Or Ponchos	$10	$8	$6
06 - Hand Knitted Socks	$8	$7	$6
07 - Hand Knitted Accessory *Not Listed*	$8	$7	$6

DIVISION 104: HAND CROCHETED BY ADULT

CLASS	PREMIUMS 1st	2nd	3rd
01 - Crocheted Baby Booties	$8	$7	$6
02 - Crocheted Accessories for Child	$8	$7	$6
03 - Crocheted Sweater for Child	$10	$8	$6
04 - Crocheted Dress for Adult	$10	$8	$6
05 - Crocheted Vest for Adult *Or Sleeveless Sweater*	$10	$8	$6
06 - Crocheted Shawl, Cape, Poncho, Sweater	$8	$7	$6
07 - Crocheted Accessory for Adult *Not Listed*	$8	$7	$6

DIVISION 105: HANDSPUN YARN GARMENTS

Handspun yarn and garment must be the sole work of the entrant.

CLASS	PREMIUMS 1st	2nd	3rd
01 - Handspun Yarn Shawl, Cape, Poncho	$10	$9	$8
02 - Handspun Yarn Knitted, Crocheted, Woven, Felted	$10	$9	$8
03 - Handspun Yarn Accessories	$10	$9	$8

DIVISION 106: HAND LOOMED & FELTED FABRICS

CLASS	PREMIUMS 1st	2nd	3rd
01 - Any Hand Loomed Garment	$13	$12	$9
02 - Needle Felted Wearable Item	$8	$7	$6
03 - Needle Felted Non-Wearable Item *Such as a Doll or Toy, but not a Home Furnishing item.*	$8	$7	$6

DIVISION 107: DOLLS, DOLL CLOTHING

CLASS	PREMIUMS 1st	2nd	3rd
01 - Baby Doll Outfit, Not On Doll	$7	$6	$5
02 - Baby Doll Outfit, On Doll	$7	$6	$5
03 - Doll Outfit, Not On Doll	$7	$6	$5
04 - Doll Outfit, On Doll	$7	$6	$5
05 - Costume Outfit, On Doll	$7	$6	$5
06 - Crocheted Outfit, On Doll	$7	$6	$5
07 - Other Doll Clothing	$7	$6	$5

DIVISION 108: STUFFED DOLLS & TOYS

CLASS	PREMIUMS 1st	2nd	3rd
01 - Stuffed Doll, Dressed, Not Crocheted or Knitted *Under 15 inches.*	$7	$6	$5
02 - Stuffed Doll, Dressed, Not Crocheted or Knitted *Over 15 inches.*	$7	$6	$5
03 - Stuffed Doll, Crocheted or Knitted	$7	$6	$5
04 - Stuffed Animal, Not Crocheted or Knitted *Under 15 inches.*	$7	$6	$5
05 - Stuffed Animal, Not Crocheted or Knitted *Over 15 inches.*	$7	$6	$5
06 - Stuffed Animal, Crocheted or Knitted *Under 15 inches.*	$7	$6	$5
07 - Stuffed Animal, Crocheted or Knitted *Over 15 inches.*	$7	$6	$5

ITEMS CRAFTED BY YOUTH

Categories open to any youth.

DIVISION 109: YOUTH - AGES 9 AND UNDER

CLASS	PREMIUMS 1st	2nd	3rd
01 - Wearable Item or Accessory, Sewn	$8	$7	$6
02 - Wearable Item or Accessory, Crocheted or Knitted	$10	$9	$8
03 - Handcrafted Item *Sewn, crocheted, knitted, or felted*	$10	$9	$8

DIVISION 110: YOUTH - AGES 9-13

CLASS	PREMIUMS 1st	2nd	3rd
01 - Wearable Item or Accessory, Sewn	$8	$7	$6
02 - Wearable Item or Accessory, Crocheted or Knitted	$10	$9	$8
03 - Handcrafted Item *Sewn, crocheted, knitted, or felted*	$10	$9	$8

DIVISION 111: YOUTH - AGES 14-18

CLASS	PREMIUMS 1st	2nd	3rd
01 - Wearable Item or Accessory, Sewn	$8	$7	$6
02 - Wearable Item or Accessory, Crocheted or Knitted	$10	$9	$8
03 - Handcrafted Item *Sewn, crocheted, knitted, or felted*	$10	$9	$8

SEWING SPECIAL AWARDS (DIVISIONS 101-111)

AWARDS	PREMIUMS
Best of Show - Adult	$25
Best of Show - Youth	$25
Charlotte Wyatt Award *Youth Made Garment in Divisions 109-111*	$40
Triangle Machine Knitters Award *Division 102*	$25

Sponsored by The Triangle Machine Knitters.
Awarded to a First Place winner in the Machine Knitting categories Division 102

NEEDLECRAFT
(DIVISIONS 201-227)

NEEDLECRAFT SIZE REQUIREMENTS	DIMENSIONS
Baby/Crib	36” x 52”
Lap/Throw	39” x 75”
Afghan	50” x 65”
Twin	39” x 75”
Full/Double	54” x 75”
Queen	60” x 80”
King	76” x 80”

QUILTING JUDGING CRITERIA	POINTS
Craftsmanship *Quality of precision, construction, techniques.*	40
Degree of Difficulty	25
Design *Proportion, line, color, originality.*	25
Presentation *Quality of finishing.*	15
TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE:	**100**

QUILTING

DIVISION 201: ADULT BED QUILTS *Ages 18 and over*

PREMIUMS **1st - $40 2nd - $30 3rd - $20 4th - $10 5th - $5**

CLASS

01 - Applique Bed-Quilt, Hand Quilted
02 - Applique Bed-Quilt, Machine Quilted
03 - Pieced Bed-Quilt, Hand Quilted
04 - Pieced Bed-Quilt, Machine Quilted *Combination of piecing & applique*
05 - Mixed Technique Bed-Quilt, Hand Quilted *Combination of piecing & applique*
06 - Mixed Technique Bed-Quilt, Machine Quilted *Combination of piecing & applique*
07 - Other Technique Bed-Quilt *Embroidery, punchneedle, Crazy Quilts, novelty such as Cathedral Window, Yo-Yo or whole cloth*
08 - Duet Quilt, Hand Quilted *Made by two adults*
09 - Duet Quilt, Machine Quilted *Made by two adults*
10 - Group Quilt, Hand Quilted *Made by more than two adults*
11 - Group Quilt, Machine Quilted *Made by more than two adults*
12 - Original Pattern Quilt *Any technique. Must be Twin size or larger. Must be the exhibitor’s original pattern.*
13 - Modern Quilt, Hand Quilted
14 - Modern Quilt, Machine Quilted

DIVISION 202: ADULT SMALL QUILTS *Ages 18 and over*

CLASS — **PREMIUMS** 1st - $35 2nd - $25 3rd - $15 4th - $10 5th - $5

01 - Baby/Crib or Twin Quilt

02 - Beginners Quilt *First time entrant. Any technique*

DIVISION 203: ADULT QUILTED ITEMS *Ages 18 and over*

CLASS — **PREMIUMS** 1st - $20 2nd - $15 3rd - $10 4th - $5 5th - $2

01 - Wall Hanging, Hand Quilted *Ready to hang*

02 - Wall Hanging, Machine Quilted *Ready to hang*

DIVISION 204: TEEN QUILTED ITEMS *Ages 13-17*

CLASS — **PREMIUMS** 1st - $35 2nd - $25 3rd - $20 4th - $10 5th - $5

01 - Hand Quilted Item

02 - Machine Quilted Item

DIVISION 205: CHILD QUILTED ITEMS *Ages 6-12*

CLASS — **PREMIUMS** 1st - $20 2nd - $15 3rd - $10 4th - $5 5th - $2

01 - Hand Quilted Item

02 - Machine Quilted Item

THREADED NEEDLECRAFT

PREMIUMS

1st - $25 2nd - $20 3rd - $15

- Any threaded needlecraft item (picture, pillow, bell pull, tray, footstool, chair bottom, table linen, Christmas stocking, ornament or decoration, etc.).
- Framed entries cannot exceed 24” x 36” total, including the frame. Entries must be ready to hang with wire hanger secured by screws.
- Cross-stitch entries should consist predominately of cross-stitch and/or back stitch. May contain a very limited amount of other stitches as accents.

DIVISION 206: ADULT EMBROIDERY & NEEDLEPOINT *Ages 18 and over*

Items worked on canvas (mono, interlock, or penelope/double, silk gauze) or Congress Cloth, including Christmas items.

CLASS

01 - Canvas Embroidery *No embellishments.*

02 - Japanese Embroidery *Must include the phase of Japanese embroidery on tag.*

NEW 03 - Cloth Needlepoint

DIVISION 207: ADULT CROSS-STITCH - FIRST TIME ENTRANT *Ages 18 & over*

Entrant has not previously entered cross-stitch at the NC State Fair.

CLASS

01 - Cross-Stitch On Aida *7, 11, 14, 16, 18 count, etc.*

02 - Cross-Stitch, One Fabric Thread On Evenweave *(e.g. davos, floba, hardanger, linen, lugana, jobelan, etc.)*

03 - Cross-Stitch, Two Fabric Threads On Evenweave *(e.g. davos, floba, hardanger, linen, lugana, jobelan, etc.)*

DIVISION 208: ADULT CROSS-STITCH - REPEAT ENTRANT, NON-WINNER *Ages 18 & older*

Entrant has entered cross-stitch in a previous NC State Fair, but has not received a ribbon.

CLASS

01 - Cross-Stitch On Aida *7, 11, 14, 16, 18 count, etc.*

02 - Cross-Stitch, One Fabric Thread On Evenweave *(e.g. davos, floba, hardanger, linen, lugana, jobelan, etc.)*

03 - Cross-Stitch, Two Fabric Threads On Evenweave *(e.g. davos, floba, hardanger, linen, lugana, jobelan, etc.)*

DIVISION 209: ADULT CROSS-STITCH - REPEAT ENTRANT, PAST WINNER *Ages 18 & older*

Entrant has entered cross-stitch in a previous NC State Fair, and received a ribbon.

CLASS

01 - Cross-Stitch On Aida *7, 11, 14, 16, 18 count, etc.*

02 - Cross-Stitch, One Fabric Thread On Evenweave *(e.g. davos, floba, hardanger, linen, lugana, jobelan, etc.)*

03 - Cross-Stitch, Two Fabric Threads On Evenweave *(e.g. davos, floba, hardanger, linen, lugana, jobelan, etc.)*

DIVISION 210: MISCELLANEOUS THREADED NEEDLECRAFT

CLASS

01 - Hardanger, Pulled Thread, Blackwork, Drawn Work, etc. *or a combination thereof. May include cross-stitch but may not be predominately cross-stitch.*

02 - Beaded Work *Must be predominately beadwork*

03 - Any Other Threaded Needlecraft *Such as crewel, stamped work, candlewick, stumpwork, including miniatures. No more than five pieces per set and no larger than 18"x12"x10".*

DIVISION 211: TEEN THREADED NEEDLECRAFT ITEMS *Ages 13-17*

PREMIUMS

CLASS

1st - $20 2nd - $15 3rd - $10

01 - Cross-Stitch *Any count, any fabric*

02 - Needlepoint *Any fabric*

03 - Embroidery *Any style*

DIVISION 212: CHILD THREADED NEEDLECRAFT ITEMS *Ages 6-12*

PREMIUMS

CLASS

1st - $15 2nd - $10 3rd - $10

01 - Cross-Stitch *Any count, any fabric*

02 - Needlepoint *Any fabric*

03 - Embroidery *Any style*

NON-THREADED NEEDLECRAFT

- To allow for proper judging, no backings are allowed on afghans.
- Variegated yarns are considered one color.

DIVISION 213: ADULT HAND CROCHETED ITEMS *Ages 18 and older*

PREMIUMS

CLASS

1st - $25 2nd - $15 3rd - $10

01 - One Color Afghan *Dimensions must be 50 inches by 65 inches*

02 - Multi-Color Afghan *Dimensions must be 50 inches by 65 inches*

03 - One Color Baby Afghan *Maximum 36 inches by 40 inches.*

DIVISION 213: ADULT HAND CROCHETED ITEMS CONTINUED... *Ages 18 and older*

04 - Multi-Color Baby Afghan *Maximum 36 inches by 40 inches.*
05 - Tablecloth
06 - Table Linens *4 place mats, 4 napkins, table runner, doily*
07 - Crocheted Enhanced Linens
08 - Any Above Item Enhanced With Embroidery, Cross-Stitch, etc.

DIVISION 214: ADULT HAND CROCHETED BEDSPREAD *Ages 18 and older*

CLASS	PREMIUMS		
	1st - $35	2nd - $25	3rd - $15

01 - One Color Bedspread, Coverlet *Fit a Twin bed at least*
02 - Multi-Color Bedspread, Coverlet *Fit a Twin bed at least*

DIVISION 215: ADULT HAND KNITTED ITEMS *Ages 18 and older*

CLASS	PREMIUMS		
	1st - $25	2nd - $15	3rd - $10

01 - One Color Afghan *Dimensions must be 50 inches by 65 inches*
02 - Multi-Color Afghan *Dimensions must be 50 inches by 65 inches*
03 - One Color Baby Afghan *Maximum 36 inches by 40 inches.*
04 - Multi-Color Baby Afghan *Maximum 36 inches by 40 inches.*

DIVISION 216: ADULT MACHINE KNITTED ITEMS *Ages 18 and older*

CLASS	PREMIUMS		
	1st	2nd	3rd
01 - Afghans, Baby Afghans, Lap Robes, Prayer Shawls	$25	$15	$10
02 - Table Linens *4 place mats, 4 napkins, table runner, tablecloth, 2 doilies, table scarf, etc.)*	$25	$15	$10
03 - Bedspread *Fit a Twin bed at least*	$35	$25	$15
04 - Any Above Item Enhanced With Embroidery, Cross-Stitch, etc. *Cross-stitch or other technique.*	$25	$15	$10

DIVISION 217: OTHER ADULT NON-THREADED NEEDLECRAFT ITEMS *Ages 18 and older*

CLASS	PREMIUMS		
	1st	2nd	3rd
01 - Framed Or Mounted Bobbin Lace, Tatting	$25	$15	$8
02 - Bobbin Lace, Tatting, Hand-Tied Fringe *Attached to home furnishing item such as bedspreads, bed linens, pillowcases, tablecloths, napkins, towels, pillows.*	$15	$10	$8

DIVISION 218: TEEN NON-THREADED NEEDLECRAFT *Ages 13-17*

CLASS	PREMIUMS		
	1st - $20	2nd - $15	3rd - $10

01 - Hand Crocheting
02 - Hand Knitting

DIVISION 219: CHILD NON-THREADED NEEDLECRAFT *Ages 6-12*

CLASS	PREMIUMS		
	1st - $15	2nd - $10	3rd - $8

01 - Hand Crocheting
02 - Hand Knitting

WEAVING

DIVISION 220: ADULT HANDWOVEN ON 1-4 HARNESS LOOM *Ages 18 and over.*

Woven on a loom with no more than 4 harnesses

CLASS	PREMIUMS 1st	2nd	3rd
01 - Afghans & Throws *Please refer to sizing requirements on page 174*	$30	$18	$15
02 - Bedspreads & Coverlets	$35	$25	$15
03 - Table Linens *4 placemats, 4 napkins, table runner, tablecloth*	$25	$15	$10
04 - Kitchen & Bath Linens *Hand towel, dish towel,potholders, mug rugs, etc.*	$15	$10	$8
05 - Pillow	$20	$15	$10
06 - Rug	$20	$15	$10
07 - Wall Hanging *Tapestry or other techniques*	$15	$10	$8
08 - Inkle Woven Home Furnishings Item *Including trim*	$20	$15	$10
09 - Card Woven Home Furnishings Item *Including trims, cords with/without tassels, wall hanging, etc*	$20	$15	$10

DIVISION 221: ADULT HANDWOVEN ON 4+ HARNESS LOOM *Ages 18 and over.*

Woven on a loom with more than 4 harnesses

CLASS	PREMIUMS 1st	2nd	3rd
01 - Multi-Harness Small Home Furnishing Item *Less than 14 inches*	$20	$15	$10
02 - Multi-Harness Large Home Furnishing Item *More than 14 inches*	$35	$25	$15

DIVISION 222: ADULT HANDWOVEN, OFF LOOM *Ages 18 and over.*

CLASS	PREMIUMS 1st	2nd	3rd
01 - Braided, Wool or Fabric *Rug, chair seat, etc.*	$35	$25	$15
02 - Hooked, Wool or Acrylic *Picture, wall hanging, etc.*	$35	$25	$15
03 - Hooked, Wool Pillow	$35	$25	$15
04 - Knotted, Rya, Latch,Tufted *Any home furnishing item*	$25	$15	$10

DIVISION 223: TEEN HANDWOVEN CATEGORIES *Ages 13-17*

CLASS	PREMIUMS 1st - $25	2nd - $15	3rd - $10
01 - Any Item Woven On A Loom			
02 - Braided Rug			
03 - Hooked Rug Or Wall Hanging			

DIVISION 224: CHILD HANDWOVEN CATEGORIES *Ages 6-12*

CLASS	PREMIUMS 1st - $15	2nd - $10	3rd - $5
01 - Any Of The Above Categories			

HANDSPINNING

Each skein will consist of 1-2 ounces of fiber. Skeins should have a circumference of 1–1½ yard and be neatly wound and tied in at least 3 places. Must identify the type of fiber for entries in Divisions 225-227. Failure to do so will disqualify the skein.

DIVISION 225: ADULT HANDSPINNING CATEGORIES *Ages 18 and over*

PREMIUMS

CLASS **1st - $15 2nd - $10 3rd - $8**

01 - Singles Sheep Wool Yarn, White or Natural *Thick or thin, even twist, good handle, white wool, or natural colored wool.*
02 - Singles Sheep Wool Yarn, Dyed *Thick or thin, even twist, dyed (natural or chemical) by the spinner*
03 - Singles Non-Sheep Wool Animal Fiber Yarn, White or Natural *Thick or thin, even twist, good handle, white or natural color.*
04 - Singles Non-Sheep Wool Animal Fiber Yarn, Dyed *Thick or thin, even twist, dyed (natural or chemical) by the spinner*
05 - Singles, Silk Yarn *Even twist, good handle, white, natural color or dyed*
06 - Singles, Non-Animal Fiber Yarn *Thick or thin, even twist, good handle, dyed*
07 - Plied Wool Yarn, White or Natural
08 - Plied Wool Yarn, Dyed
09 - Plied Non-Wool, Non-Animal Yarn, White or Natural
10 - Plied Non-Wool, Non-Animal Yarn, Dyed
11 - Plied Silk Yarn *White, natural, or dyed*
12 - Blended Yarn *Consisting of Wool and Any Other Fiber*
13 - Novelty Yarn *Wool and other fiber permitted*
14 - Novice Spinner, Single or Plied Yarn *Spinning one year or less,*
15 - Exotic Fiber Yarn *Chinchilla, dog hair, etc.*
16 - Handspun Weaving *Any item handcrafted using handspun yarn or fiber*

DIVISION 226: TEEN HANDSPINNING CATEGORIES *Ages 13-17*

PREMIUMS

CLASS **1st - $10 2nd - $6 3rd - $3**

01 - Plied Animal Wool Yarn *White, natural, or dyed*
02 - Plied Non-Animal, Non-Wool Yarn, White or Natural
03 - Plied Silk Yarn *White, natural, or dyed*
04 - Blended Yarn *Consisting of Wool and Any Other Fiber*
05 - Novelty or Exotic Fiber Yarn *Chinchilla, dog hair, etc.*
06 - Handspun Weaving *Any item handcrafted using handspun yarn or fiber*

DIVISION 227: CHILD HANDSPINNING CATEGORIES *Ages 6-12*

PREMIUMS

CLASS **1st - $10 2nd - $6 3rd - $3**

01 - Plied Animal Yarn *White, Natural, or Dyed Wool*
02 - Plied Non-Animal, Non-Wool Yarn, White or Natural
03 - Plied Silk Yarn *White, natural, or dyed*
04 - Blended Yarn *Consisting of Wool and Any Other Fiber*
05 - Novelty or Exotic Fiber Yarn *Chinchilla, dog hair, etc.*

NEEDLECRAFT SPECIAL AWARDS (DIVISIONS 201-227)

AWARDS	PREMIUMS
Best Of Show - Adult Quilt *Div. 201-203*	$25
Best Of Show - Adult Needlecraft *Div. 206-210, 213-217*	$25
Best Of Show - Weaving/Handspinning *Div. 220-227*	$25
Best Of Show - Youth Quilt *Div. 204-205*	$25
Best Of Show - Youth Needlecraft *Div. 211-212, 218-219*	$25
ANG Award	$25

The Raleigh Chapter of the American Needlepoint Guild will award to the piece of canvas embroidery (needlepoint) designated "Judges' Choice" in Division 201.

Capital Quilters Guild Award of Excellence - Hand Quilted $25

Awarded by the Capital Quilters to one quilt from ribbon winners including honorable mention, in any hand quilting Class.

Capital Quilters Guild Award of Excellence - Machine Quilted $25

Awarded by the Capital Quilters to one quilt from ribbon winners including honorable mention, in any machine quilting Class.

Capital Quilters Guild Golden Needle Award $25

Capital Quilters Guild judges will award a Golden Needle prize to an exceptional quilt entry in any quilting class.

Cardinal Chapter EGA First Time Entrant Award $50

The Cardinal Chapter of the Embroiderer's Guild of America will award to an exceptional cross-stitch first time entrant entry in Division 207.

Cardinal Chapter EGA Award - Adult $50

The Cardinal Chapter of the Embroiderer's Guild of America will award to an exceptional Adult embroidery entry in Division 206.

Cardinal Chapter EGA Award - Child or Teen $25

The Cardinal Chapter of the Embroiderer's Guild of America will award to an exceptional Child or Teen embroidery entry in Divisions 111-112.

Triangle Machine Knitters Award $25

The Triangle Machine Knitters will award to an exceptional machine-sewn entry in Division 216.

VEGETABLES, FRUITS, & NUTS

Superintendent: April Blazich aprilb@bellsouth.net
Registration Deadline: Tuesday, September 15, 2026 at 11:59 PM

**Mailed entry forms must be postmarked by September 1st.*

Entry Take-In:

- Saturday, October 10th - Tuesday, October 13th from 9 AM-5 PM - Agri Supply Expo Center
- Wednesday, October 14th from 9 AM-12 PM - Agri Supply Expo Center

**Mailed exhibits must be received by Monday, October 12th, 2026*

Judging:

- Tuesday, October 13th at 2 PM - GPC Weigh-Off - Agri Supply Expo Center
- Wednesday, October 14th at 2:30 PM - All other entries.

Entry Pick-Up:

- Monday, October 26th from 8 AM-6 PM - Agri Supply Expo Center
  - The fair is not responsible for entries left after 6 PM.

**Claim ticket from entry tags are required to claim your entries.*

VEGETABLES, FRUITS, & NUTS RULES AND REGULATIONS

- The General Rules and Regulations of the Fair will govern this department, except in cases of conflict, where the following Rules and Regulations will prevail. Please read all rules & regulations carefully before submitting your entries.
- Pre-registration is required, either online or by mail. Make your entries early.
- Exhibitors are limited to one entry per Class.
- All products exhibited in this department must have been grown in North Carolina by the exhibitor, unless otherwise noted.
- Divisions 101-127 are open to all residents of North Carolina.
- The GPC Weigh Off (Divisions 128) is open to any resident of the United States of America.
- Exhibitors with large pumpkins or watermelons may choose to enter the same item in both the N.C. State Fair categories for (Division 127, Class 01 & 06) and the GPC Weigh-Off (Division 128, Class 01 and 02).
- The right is reserved to reject entries not properly entered.
- No award will be made for unworthy specimens, where quality is lacking, or where any of the Rules and Regulations governing these exhibits are disregarded.
- Discussion with judges, before, during, or after judging, regarding the exhibits is prohibited.
- Display space is limited, there is no guarantee that all exhibits will be displayed.
- Any exhibit that rots, is unsightly, or becomes unsightly, will be removed from the display (after judging) at the discretion of the Superintendent.
- Entry Tags will be mailed to you after registration closes. An Entry Tag must be attached to each exhibit before it is presented in the Department for display. Variety names are to be written on the backs of the tags. If possible, it is urged that all horticulture products be brought in and prepared for exhibit by the exhibitor. Where it is not possible, shipments, with entry tags included, should be

shipped in time to reach the Fairgrounds no later than Monday, October 12th, 2026, and should be addressed to:

<u>USPS:</u>
NC State Fair
Attn: Entry Department
1010 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1010

<u>UPS or FedEx:</u>
NC State Fair
Attn: Entry Department
4285 Trinity Rd
Raleigh, NC 27607

- Where it is not possible to personally bring the products to the Fair and arrange them, Superintendents will be glad to arrange the products in the most attractive manner possible. However, they will not pack, plate, box or basket entries for exhibit. Exhibits mailed or shipped to the Fair should be carefully labeled to show the name and address of the exhibitor, and the nature, and class in which entered, and the contents of the package.
- The State Fair will furnish plates, trays, and boxes for exhibits, but no other containers. The number of specimens for each plate display is specified in the premium list.
  - Standard size tray, 11½ x 18 inches inside measurements and 6 inches deep will be used.
  - Standard size box, 11½ x 18 inches inside measurements and 6 inches deep will be used for commercial sweet potato categories.
  - All other commercial categories will use the 3 inch deep tray.
- Exhibitors should make a tray of the required dimensions and pack the exhibit to determine the number of specimens required. At least one extra specimen for each plate, and three or four extra specimens for each tray, should be brought or shipped to the Fair to allow for possible damage in transit.
- To ensure uniformity in exhibit material and to facilitate judging, the following sizes for apple varieties will be recognized. This list is not exclusive. The Superintendent may add or delete varieties in order to maintain the overall quality of products on display.

VARIETY	DIAMETER
Arkansas	3 to 3½ inches
Braeburn	2¾ to 3 inches
Fuji	2¾ to 3¼ inches
Gala	2¾ to 3¼ inches
Golden Delicious	2¾ to 3¼ inches
Granny Smith	3¼ to 3¾ inches
Jonagold	2¾ to 3½ inches
Jonathan	2¾ to 3 inches
Red Delicious and named bud sports	2¾ to 3¼ inches
Rome and named bud sports	3 to 3¾ inches
York and named bud sports	3¼ to 3¾ inches

- Fruits and vegetables to be exhibited in plates and trays should be carefully wrapped and packed for shipment to the Fair. Wrap separately in paper and pack firmly in a box, taking care to avoid bruising. Label each variety plainly and put in dividers to keep varieties separated. Do not use hay, fodder, excelsior, or any other dusty packing material.

QUALITY - NOT QUANTITY

- In selecting horticultural products for exhibit, choose only those specimens that are:
  - Uniformly good quality, form, and color.
  - True to type.
  - Free from all insect and disease blemishes.
  - Free from cuts and bruises.
- Premiums offered for the best collection of fruits or vegetables will be awarded mainly on the basis of quality. Do not knock or shake fruit from the tree, but pick each specimen by hand. Products should be exhibited as nearly as possible in their natural state, and no preference will be given for highly polished fruits or vegetables.
- Entries of “Commercial” containers of apples and sweet potatoes should be graded to uniform marketable size, high color, smoothness, trueness to type, freedom from cuts and bruises, and free from insect and fungus blemishes. They should be properly packed and placed in containers provided by the N.C. State Fair.
- Entries of “Collections” and under “Any Other Variety” must be correctly named on the entry tag by the exhibitor. In the nomenclature of fruits, the names adopted by the American Pomological Society shall rule, and no variety will be accepted that has not been admitted to their catalog, except in the case of seedlings never before exhibited.
- Entries of heirloom apples and heirloom tomatoes are limited to named varieties known to have been grown for at least 100 years. Name of variety must be on the back of the entry tag. Grower’s

DIVISION 101: COMMERCIAL APPLES

PREMIUMS:	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
CLASS	$220	$200	$180	$160	$140	$120	$110	$100	$95	$90	$85	$80

01 - Commercial Apple Display - *To consist of 6 trays each of 1 variety or 6 trays of two or more varieties. Fruits to be unwrapped and on trays. Fruit to come from any named variety or its bud sport. (Note scorecard)*

$100 $90 $80 $75 $70 $65 $60 $55 $50 $45 $40 $35

02 - Best Single Apple Box *(Tray Pack) - Display in box with side cut out for viewing. Display of any one named variety or bud sport.*

$75 $70 $65 $60 $55 $50 $45 $40 $37 $35 $33 $31

03 - Three Tray Apple Display - *To consist of one tray each of 3 different varieties.*

$35 $25 $23 $21 $19 $18 $17 $16 $15 $14 $13 $12

04 - Consumer Apple Package - *Consumer packs are whatever the grower uses to market about 5 to 10 pounds of product in grocery stores or roadside stands. Grower provides their own bags, basket, or box which may be open or closed. Grower labels and trademarks may be visible but not required. One or more varieties may be included.*

$50 $45 $40 $35 $30 $25 $20 $15 $12 $10 $8 $6

05 - Commercial Apple Gift Package - *3 or more varieties of fresh apples must be displayed in bowls or baskets, other fresh or prepared fruit or fruit products may be included. Maximum size limited to 18 inches.*

DIVISION 102: APPLES, SINGLE TRAY

PREMIUMS

1st - $18 2nd - $13 3rd - $11 4th - $10 5th - $9

CLASS

01 - Single Tray Red Delicious & Named Bud Sport
02 - Single Tray Golden Delicious & Named Bud Sport
03 - Single Tray Rome & Named Bud Sport
04 - Single Tray Pink Lady
05 - Single Tray Fuji
06 - Single Tray Gala
07 - Single Tray Granny Smith
08 - Single Tray Jonagold
09 - Single Tray Cameo
10 - Single Tray Gold Rush
11 - Single Tray Arkansas Black
12 - Single Tray Any Other Named Yellow Variety
13 - Single Tray Any Other Named Red Variety
14 - Single Tray Any Other Named Bi-Colored Variety

APPLE GROWERS SWEEPSTAKES

- Growers Sweepstakes Award - Determined based on highest amount of points earned by growers. Ribbons will be awarded to 1st - 10th places.
- County Sweepstakes Award - Determined based on highest amount of points earned by growers from each county. Ribbons will be awarded to 1st - 5th places.

APPLE GROWERS SWEEPSTAKES SCORECARD

DIVISION	CLASS	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
101	01	1600	1460	1320	1180	1010	900	760	620	480	340	220	110
101	02	1200	1100	1000	900	800	700	600	500	400	300	200	100
101	03	600	550	500	450	400	350	300	250	200	150	100	50
101	04	120	110	100	90	80	70	60	50	40	30	20	10
101	05	600	550	500	450	400	350	300	250	200	150	100	50
102	01-14	100	90	80	70	60							

COMMERCIAL APPLE DISPLAY JUDGING CRITERIA	POINTS
Overall Display Appearance & Originality	25
Condition of Fruit - *Free from blemish*	25
Uniformity	25
Color & Finish	15
Trueness to Variety	5
Size	5
TOTAL:	100

COMMERCIAL APPLE BEST SINGLE BOX JUDGING CRITERIA	POINTS
Package - *Compactness, appropriate trays for fruit size*	30
Condition of Fruit - *Free from blemish*	30
Color & Finish	20
Size & Uniformity	10
Trueness to Variety	10
TOTAL:	100

COMMERCIAL APPLE TRAYS & PLATES JUDGING CRITERIA	POINTS
Condition of Fruit - *Free from blemish*	30
Uniformity	25
Color & Finish	15
Size	15
Trueness to Variety	15
TOTAL:	100

COMMERCIAL APPLE GIFT PACKAGE JUDGING CRITERIA	POINTS
Overall Package Appearance, Originality, & Attractiveness	40
Condition of Fruit - *Free from blemish*	30
Size & Uniformity	10
Color & Finish	10
Trueness to Variety	10
TOTAL:	100

DIVISION 103: APPLES, SINGLE PLATE, FIVE APPLES

PREMIUMS

CLASS

1st - $10 2nd - $9 3rd - $7 4th - $6 5th - $5

01 - Single Plate Red Delicious & Named Bud Sport
02 - Single Plate Golden Delicious & Named Bud Sport
03 - Single Plate Rome & Named Bud Sport
04 - Single Plate Honey Crisp
05 - Single Plate Fuji
06 - Single Plate Gala
07 - Single Plate Granny Smith
08 - Single Plate Jonagold
09 - Single Plate Cameo
10 - Single Plate Gold Rush
11 - Single Plate Arkansas Black
12 - Single Plate Any Other Named Yellow Variety
13 - Single Plate Any Other Named Red Variety
14 - Single Plate Any Other Named Bi-Colored Variety

SPECIAL NOTE TO APPLE GROWERS

Due to the extended duration of the NC State Fair, it is assumed that most, if not all, apples will be out of condition by the end of the Fair. The Superintendent in charge of the fruit exhibit shall determine the method of distribution and any money received from the salvage of the apple exhibit.

DIVISION 104: ORCHARD APPLES

PREMIUMS

CLASS

1st - $10 2nd - $9 3rd - $7 4th - $6 5th - $5

01 - Largest Apple *Largest apple in diameter, one specimen.*
02 - Any Red Apple Variety *Any named red variety, five apples per tray.*
03 - Any Yellow Or Green Apple Variety *Five apples per tray*
04 - Any Other Variety *Five apples per tray.*

DIVISION 105: HEIRLOOM APPLES

PREMIUMS

CLASS

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
01 - Best Heirloom Apple, Single Tray.	$18	$13	$11	$10	$9
02 - Best Heirloom Apple, Plate Of Five	$10	$9	$7	$6	$5

DIVISION 106: OTHER FRUITS

PREMIUMS

CLASS

1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
$10	$9	$8	$7	$6	$5	$4	$3	$2	$1

01 - Citrus *Plate of three, same variety*
02 - Pomegranate
03 - Cactus Fruit, Prickly Pear *Plate of 3*
04 - Kiwi Fruit *Plate of 4 or more*
05 - Most Unusual Fruit *Must be edible & labeled*
06 - Any Other Fruit
07 - Fruit Bowl/Basket *18 inches maximum size, 3 or more varieties of fruit grown by exhibitor. Nuts grown by exhibitor may be included.*

DIVISION 107: PEARS, SINGLE PLATES

PREMIUMS

CLASS	1st - $7	2nd - $6	3rd - $5	4th - $4	5th - $3	6th - $2

01 - Keiffer *Five pears*
02 - Any Other Variety *Five pears*

DIVISION 108: GRAPES

PREMIUMS

CLASS	1st - $7	2nd - $6	3rd - $5	4th - $4	5th - $3	6th - $2

01 - Dark Muscadines *Twenty five grapes*
02 - Light Muscadines *Twenty five grapes*
03 - Any Other Grape *Twenty five grapes*

DIVISION 109: PERSIMMONS

PREMIUMS

CLASS	1st - $7	2nd - $6	3rd - $5	4th - $4	5th - $3	6th - $2

01 - American Persimmons *Twenty-five fruits*
02 - Asian Persimmons *Five specimens per plate*

DIVISION 110: NUTS

Nuts must be edible. No acorns or horse chestnuts. Quality may be tested by cracking. No artificial coloring.

PREMIUMS

CLASS	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
	$15	$13	$12	$11	$10	$9	$8	$7	$6	$5

01 - Pecan - Stuart *Twenty-five Nuts in the Shell, not in Husk.*
02 - Pecan - Cape Fear *Twenty-five Nuts in the Shell, not in Husk.*
03 - Pecan - Mahan *Twenty-five Nuts in the Shell, not in Husk.*
04 - Any Other Pecan *Twenty-five Nuts in the Shell, not in Husk, including seedlings.*

Other Nuts:	$8	$6	$5	$4	$3	$2

05 - Black Walnuts *Twenty-five Nuts in the Shell, not in Husk.*
06 - Hickory Nuts *Twenty-five Nuts in the Shell, not in Husk.*
07 - Chinese Chestnuts *Twenty-five Nuts in the Shell, not in Husk.*
08 - Any Other Nut *Twenty-five Nuts in the Shell, not in Husk.*
09 - Peanuts *Twenty-five Peanuts in the Shell.*

DIVISION 111: SWEETPOTATOES

Variety name must be indicated on the entry tag. Display boxes will contain about 30 lbs. Sweetpotatoes may be washed but no wax or oil is permitted.

PREMIUMS:	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
CLASS	$180	$160	$150	$140	$130	$120	$115	$110	$105	$100

01 - Commercial Sweetpotato Display - *To consist of three boxes of any one named orange fleshed variety for fresh market.*

	$50	$47	$44	$41	$38	$35	$32	$30	$26	$23

02 - Best Single Box, Orange Sweetpotatoes - *Orange fleshed variety - for fresh market.*

	$50	$47	$44	$41	$38	$35	$32	$30	$26	$23

03 - Best Single Box, Other Sweetpotatoes - *Any variety, other than orange.*

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
PREMIUMS:	$35	$31	$27	$24	$21	$19	$17	$16	$15	$14

04 - Best Single Tray, Sweetpotatoes - *Any one named variety - for fresh market.*

$35	$31	$27	$24	$21	$19	$17	$16	$15	$14

05 - Best Single Tray, Canning Sweetpotatoes - *Any one named variety - canning size.*

$15	$13	$12	$11	$10	$9	$8	$7	$6	$5

06 - Plate Of Five Sweetpotatoes

$15	$13	$12	$11	$10	$9	$8	$7	$6	$5

07 - Plate Of Five Organic Sweetpotatoes - *Organically grown sweetpotatoes*

$15	$13	$12	$11	$10

08 - Largest Sweetpotato - *Largest sweetpotato by weight.*

SPECIAL NOTE TO SWEETPOTATO EXHIBITORS

Sweetpotato exhibits will be sold at current market price by the NC State Fair, and monies will be sent to exhibitors according to the estimated poundage in their entry. Exhibitors wishing to pick up their sweet potato exhibits must inform the Superintendent at the time of entry, and are responsible for picking up their entries on Monday, October 26 by 5:00 pm

SWEETPOTATO GROWERS SWEEPSTAKES

- Growers Sweepstakes Award - Determined based on highest amount of points earned by growers. Ribbons will be awarded to 1st - 10th places.
- County Sweepstakes Award - Determined based on highest amount of points earned by growers from each county. Ribbons will be awarded to 1st - 10th places.

SWEETPOTATO GROWERS SWEEPSTAKES SCORECARD

DIVISION	CLASS	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
111	01	600	540	480	420	360	300	240	180	120	60
111	02	400	360	320	280	240	200	160	120	80	40
111	03	400	360	320	280	240	200	160	120	80	40
111	04	200	180	160	140	120	100	80	60	40	20
111	05	100	90	80	70	60	50	40	30	20	10
111	06	100	90	80	70	60	50	40	30	20	10

DIVISION 112: IRISH POTATOES

CLASS	PREMIUMS 1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
01 - Single Tray, Light Skin Potato	$15	$13	$12	$11	$10
02 - Single Tray, Kennebec Potato	$15	$13	$12	$11	$10
03 - Single Tray, Any Other Potato *Any variety*	$15	$13	$12	$11	$10
04 - Plate Of Five Potatoes	$10	$9	$8	$7	$6

DIVISION 113: CUCUMBERS

PREMIUMS

CLASS **1st - $15** **2nd - $13** **3rd - $12** **4th - $11** **5th - $10**

01 - Single Tray Cucumber Display *One tray of green slicing cucumbers of any one variety*
02 - Tray Of Pickling Cucumbers
03 - Plate Of Four, Slicing Cucumbers
04 - Plate Of Four, Pickling Cucumbers

DIVISION 114: PEPPERS

CLASS	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
	$15	$13	$12	$11	$10	$9	$8	$7	$6	$5

01 - Single Tray Pepper Display *(1st-6th Place Only). One tray of sweet bell peppers*
NEW 02 - Single Tray Hot Pepper Display *(1st-6th place only). One tray of hot peppers*
03 - Habanero Peppers *Five specimen per entry*
04 - Jalapeno Peppers *Five specimen per entry*
05 - Serrano Peppers *Five specimen per entry*
06 - Hot, Long Peppers *Any variety longer than Four inches. Five specimens per entry*
07 - Hot, Short Peppers *Any variety between Four inches & one inch. Five per entry*
08 - Micro-Peppers *One inch and smaller. Ten specimens per entry*
09 - Green Bell Peppers *Unripe green stage. Four specimens per entry*
10 - Ripe Bell Peppers *Ripe colored stage. Four specimens per entry*
11 - Mini Bell Peppers *Under 3 inches. Four specimens per entry*
12 - Sweet Banana Peppers *Five specimens per entry*
13 - Any Other Sweet Pepper *Any other non-bell pepper. Four specimens per entry*

DIVISION 115: TOMATOES

CLASS	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
	$15	$13	$12	$11	$10	$9	$8	$7	$6	$5

01 - Red Tomato Variety *Plate of four red stage tomatoes*
02 - Large Tomato Variety *Plate of four*
03 - Small Tomato Variety *Plate of four*
04 - Roma/Paste Tomato Variety *Plate of four*
05 - Heirloom Tomato Variety *Plate of four*
06 - Largest Tomato By Weight *(First - Sixth Place Only)*

DIVISION 116: TURNIPS

CLASS	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
	$15	$13	$12	$11	$10	$9	$8	$7	$6	$5

01 - Purple Top Turnips *No greens. Plate of five.*
02 - Any Other Turnip Variety *No greens. Plate of five.*

DIVISION 117: OKRA

CLASS	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
	$15	$13	$12	$11	$10	$9	$8	$7	$6	$5

01 - Green Okra *Plate of five.*
NEW 02 - Red or Multi-Colored Okra *Plate of five.*

DIVISION 118: BEANS & PEAS

CLASS	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
	$15	$13	$12	$11	$10	$9	$8	$7	$6	$5

01 - Snap Beans, Long, Round *Plate of ten, round-podded, longer than four inches.*
02 - Snap Beans, Short, Round *Plate of ten, round-podded, less than four inches.*
03 - Snap Beans, Long, Flat *Plate of ten, flat-podded, longer than four inches.*
04 - Snap Beans, Short, Flat *Plate of ten, flat-podded, less than four inches.*
05 - Shelling Beans *Plate of ten, fresh shelling stage in hulls.*
06 - Southern Peas *Plate of ten. Any fresh variety or color. In hulls.*
07 - Lima Beans *Plate of ten. Any variety.*
NEW 08 - Asian Long Beans

DIVISION 119: SQUASH

CLASS	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
	$15	$13	$12	$11	$10	$9	$8	$7	$6	$5

01 - Bitter Melon *Plate of two.*
02 - Cushaw Squash *Plate of one, any variety.*
03 - Butternut Squash *Plate of two.*
04 - Turban Squash *Plate of one.*
05 - Acorn Squash *Plate of three.*
06 - Spaghetti Squash *Plate of two.*
07 - Yellow Squash *Crook neck or straight neck. Plate of three.*
08 - Zucchini Squash *Any other variety. Plate of three.*
NEW 09 - Luffa Squash *Plate of two*
10 - Small Winter Squash *Plate of three*
11 - Large Winter Squash *Any other variety. Plate of one.*
12 - Summer Squash *Any other variety. Plate of three.*
NEW 13 - Longest Squash

DIVISION 120: GREENS

CLASS	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
	$15	$13	$12	$11	$10	$9	$8	$7	$6	$5

01 - Cabbage *One medium size head trimmed.*
02 - Other Brassica *Any other variety cabbage family. Plate of one or more.*
03 - Cut Collards *One cut head. This vegetable is limited to a three day display. No buckets.*
04 - Potted Collards *Pot size limited to twenty inches.*
05 - Potted Salad Greens, Not Listed *Pot size limited to twenty inches.*
NEW 06 - Potted Heirloom Salad Greens, Not Listed *Pot size limited to twenty inches.*

DIVISION 121: MISCELLANEOUS VEGETABLES

CLASS	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
	$15	$13	$12	$11	$10	$9	$8	$7	$6	$5

01 - Sweet Corn *Plate of two. In Shuck. Judge will shuck*
02 - Cultivated Mushroom *Plate of one.*
03 - Eggplant *Plate of two.*
04 - Oriental Eggplant *Plate of two.*
05 - Root Vegetable *Plate of three.*

DIVISION 121: MISCELLANEOUS VEGETABLES CONTINUED...

06 - Jerusalem Artichoke *Plate of three.*

07 - Popcorn *Plate of three. Any Variety.*

08 - Sorghum Or Sugar Cane *Plate of 3 Stems not to exceed eighteen inches.*

NEW 09 - Sorghum Seed Heads *Plate of three.*

NEW 10 - Hops *Minimum vine length of 6" with leaves and cones.*

DIVISION 122: MOST UNUSUAL VEGETABLES

CLASS	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
	$15	$13	$12	$11	$10	$9	$8	$7	$6	$5

01 - South American Vegetable, Not Listed *One or more. Name of vegetable on entry tag.*

02 - Oriental Vegetable, Not Listed *One or more. Name of vegetable on entry tag.*

NEW 03 - African Vegetable *One or more. Name of vegetable on entry tag.*

04 - Oddest Shaped Vegetable *Plate of one or more. No sweetpotatoes.*

05 - Oddest Shaped Sweetpotato

06 - Rarest Edible Vegetable *Plate of one or more. Must be in good condition. Name of vegetable on entry tag*

DIVISION 123: VEGETABLE DISPLAYS

CLASS	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
	$15	$13	$12	$11	$10	$9	$8	$7	$6	$5

01 - Sunflower Head *Largest and best seed head (one).*

02 - Decorative Corn *Dry bundle of three ears, length over five inches.*

03 - Decorative Mini Corn *Dry, miniature three ears, maximum length of five inches.*

04 - String of Dried Red Peppers *Maximum length 4 feet.*

DIVISION 124: SPECIAL DISPLAYS

PREMIUMS

CLASS	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
01 - Vegetable Display	$15	$13	$12	$11	$10	$9	$8	$7	$6	$5

Vegetable Display in Bowl or Basket, maximum size 18 inches in length and/or width. Display must include at least 6 varieties or types of vegetables, all grown by exhibitor. Other fresh materials may be used. Variety names must be listed on back of entry tag or on an index card.

NEW 02 - "Taco Salad" Vegetable Display	$15	$13	$12	$11	$10	$9	$8	$7	$6	$5

Taco Salad-Themed Vegetable Display in Bowl or Basket, maximum size 18 inches in length and/or width. Display must include at least 6 varieties or types of vegetables that are commonly found in a Taco Salad, all grown by exhibitor. Other fresh materials may be used. Variety names must be listed on back of entry tag or on an index card.

03 - Pepper Display	$15	$13	$12	$11	$10	$9	$8	$7	$6	$5

Pretty Peppers, maximum size 18 inches in length and/or width. Display must include at least six varieties of peppers grown by exhibitor. Variety names must be listed on back of entry tag.

04 - Tomato Display	$15	$13	$12	$11	$10	$9	$8	$7	$6	$5

Terrific Tomatoes, maximum size 18 inches in length and/or width. Display must include at least six varieties of tomatoes grown by exhibitor. Variety names must be listed on back of entry tag.

05 - Market Display	$200	$180	$160	$140	$120	$100	$80	$60	$40	$20

A market display consisting of a minimum of 12 or more different produce items which can include vegetables, fruits and nuts in any combination. Different varieties count as different items. All produce must have been grown in 2026 by the exhibitor(s). Other materials may be used for decorative purposes. Variety names must be listed on back of entry tag. **Information continued on next page.**

DIVISION 124: SPECIAL DISPLAYS CONTINUED...

CLASS		PREMIUMS									
		1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
05-	Market Display Continued...										

Each display table will be approximately 32" wide by 48" long on a slight slant with a back wall extending to six feet above the floor. Hay bales will be available to use on the floor to extend the display area.

This competition is open to families and commercial farms. Only one entry per family or farm will be accepted. Because of size limitations, entries will be limited to 12 exhibitors. If the number of exhibitors who register exceeds 12, market stands will be assigned by lottery by the NC State Fair Entry Department. All exhibitors who are assigned a market stand will be contacted via telephone. Business signs will be displayed after judging. Contact superintendent for questions.

NEW	06 - Agricultural Products Art Display	$150	$125	$100	$80	$70	$60	$50	$40	$30	$20

Exhibitors will create a barn quilt-themed artistic display in a 30 in. x 30 in. display box using agricultural products (Fruits, vegetables, grains, fibers, etc.). 80% of the agricultural products used must be produced by the exhibitor. The remaining 20% must be North Carolina-produced agricultural products. Limited to the first 10 registered exhibitors. Exhibits may be modified by the Department Superintendent, should any items become unfit for display.

DIVISION 125: CHILD DECORATED VEGETABLES

Ages 8 and under.

CLASS	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
	$12	$11	$10	$9	$8	$7	$6	$5	$4	$3

01 - Child Decorated Apple *Apple may be purchased. Fruit must be visible.*
02 - Child Homegrown Pumpkin *Any size, true to type, garden grown.*
03 - Child Decorated Small Pumpkin *Under 5 lbs. May be purchased.*
04 - Child Decorated Sweetpotato *May be purchased.*

DIVISION 126: YOUTH DECORATED VEGETABLES

Ages 9-12.

CLASS	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
	$12	$11	$10	$9	$8	$7	$6	$5	$4	$3

01 - Youth Decorated Apple *Apple may be purchased. Fruit must be visible.*
02 - Youth Homegrown Pumpkin *Any size, true to type, garden grown.*
03 - Youth Decorated Small Pumpkin *Under 5 lbs. May be purchased.*
04 - Youth Decorated Sweetpotato *May be purchased.*

DIVISION 127: PUMPKINS & MELONS

CLASS	PREMIUMS 1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
01 - Heaviest Pumpkin	$300	$275	$250	$240	$230	$220
Any variety. Largest by weight-must be in good condition. Weighed by the NC State Fair. Pumpkins eight hundred pounds and over should arrange transportation assistance.						
02 - Largest Pumpkin	$50	$35	$30	$25	$20	$15
Largest by size. True to type, best shape and condition.						
03 - Small Pumpkin	$40	$30	$25	$20	$15	$10
True to type, best shape and condition. Under ten pounds.						
04 - White Pumpkin	$40	$30	$25	$20	$15	$10
True to type, best shape and condition. Under thirty pounds.						
05 - Mini Pumpkin	$15	$13	$12	$11	$10	$9
One pound and smaller. Three per plate.						
06 - Heaviest Watermelon	$135	$115	$95	$75	$55	$45
Largest by weight. Any variety, good condition.						
07 - Best Large Watermelon	$40	$30	$25	$20	$15	$10
Largest by size. True to type, best shape and condition.						
08 - Best Small Watermelon	$40	$30	$25	$20	$15	$10
Under ten pounds. True to type, best shape and condition.						
09 - Cantaloupe or Melon	$40	$30	$25	$20	$15	$10
Any other, true to type, best shape, color and condition.						
10 - Best Field Pumpkin	$40	$30	$25	$20	$15	$10
True to type. No Atlantic Giant.						

EXHIBITORS PLEASE NOTE:

North Carolina grown pumpkins and watermelons may also be entered in the Great Pumpkin/Watermelon Weigh-Off. See details on the next page.

Exhibitor must provide help to place pumpkin on display and also help to remove it before 5 PM on Monday, October 26th, 2026.

ALL WATERMELON CATEGORIES SPONSORED BY:

THE NC STATE FAIR / GPC GREAT PUMPKIN/WATERMELON WEIGH-OFF

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13TH AT 2 PM - AGRI SUPPLY EXPO CENTER

The North Carolina State Fair welcomes the opportunity to invite growers from both inside and outside the state to compete in a special contest: The Great Pumpkin/Watermelon Weigh-off! This contest will be open to registrants and will be sanctioned by The Great Pumpkin Commonwealth, (GPC) an international group that is typically enlisted to oversee giant pumpkin weigh-off events.

1. Pre-registration is required.
2. Entry Fee: $5 per entry
3. You must provide a completed NC Sub W-9 at the time of registration in order to receive prize money.
4. This competition is open to individuals and farms only. Farms should register under the name associated with their tax identification number.
5. Specimens must have been grown and cared for by the exhibitor.
6. Exhibitor (grower) must be present the day of the weigh-off.
7. Individuals may have one entry per category. Farms may have a total of two entries per category, but only one of the two entries will be eligible for a prize.
8. All entries must be in place before 1 PM on Tuesday, October 13th, 2026.
9. Pumpkin Color: All fruit, not solid green or gray, will be judged as a pumpkin.
10. Watermelon requirements - any variety or shape.
11. Specimens must be sound, healthy and undamaged. Entries must be free of rot, holes/cracks through to the cavity, chemical residue and serious soft spots. Leaking fruit will be disqualified. More details can be located at https://gpc1.org/about/rules/
12. No foreign material is permitted to be included in the weighing. Vines must be trimmed to one inch from the stem of the fruit. The judges reserve the right to fully inspect each specimen before the weigh-off begins and before the weight is announced and becomes official.
13. The decisions of the judges are final.
14. Awards will be given to the first through tenth place in each category, along with the Howard Dill award for the most attractive Giant Pumpkin exhibited.
15. In addition to the 1st place prize money by the pound, an incentive bonus of $250.00 will be awarded if this year's largest watermelon exceeds the NC State Fair's current record of 327.5 pounds. A $2500 bonus for a World Record Watermelon in excess of 350.5 pounds is available. A grower may not collect both the Site and World record bonus.
16. In the event of a tie, the prize money for those placing will be combined and split equally.
17. The Fair takes great care in the receiving and placement of entries; however, the Fair is not responsible for accidental damage or natural deterioration to entries. All entries will remain at the Fair for the duration of the Fair. Entries not picked up by 5:00 PM on Monday, October 26th will be discarded.
18. Growers may place sponsors signage with their entries. Signage is limited to no more than 8.5 inches by 11 inches in portrait or landscape format. Signage will be placed at the base of the display palette. Limit one sign per sponsor per entry. The Fair reserves the right to remove inappropriate signage.

DIVISION 128: GPC WEIGH OFF *$5 Entry Fee*

CLASS	PREMIUMS (BY THE POUND)									
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
01 - Giant Pumpkin	$3	$2	$1.50	$1	75¢	50¢	50¢	50¢	50¢	50¢
02 - Giant Watermelon	$6	$4	$3	$2	$1.50	75¢	75¢	50¢	50¢	50¢

GPC SPECIAL AWARDS

	PREMIUMS
Howard Dill Award	$100
NC State Fair Record Watermelon Incentive Bonus *Currently 327.5 lbs*	$250
World Record Watermelon Incentive Bonus *Currently 350.5 lbs*	$2,500

ALL WATERMELON CATEGORIES SPONSORED BY:

AGRI SUPPLY®

$2,500 BONUS

Paid To Any World Record Breaking Watermelon

Current Record: 350.5 lbs.
Watermelon must be entered in and exhibited at the NC State Fair Giant Pumpkin/Watermelon Weigh-off. World record will have to stand until November 1, 2026.

A MEMORY WORTH MAKING

2026

THE N.C. State Fair

OCTOBER 15-25

A STORY WORTH TELLING

@NCSTATEFAIR

2026 PREMIUM BOOK

LIVESTOCK ENTRIES

LOOKING FOR LIVESTOCK ENTRIES?

Click here to visit the N.C. State Fair Livestock Competitions webpage for more information.

2026 NC STATE FAIR HORSE SHOWS

September 30 - October 4: NC State Fair Hunter Jumper Show

Thursday, October 15
- NC State Fair Saddlebred Show – 9 AM

Friday, October 16
- Trick Riding - 10 AM & 3 PM
- Horseback Archery Exhibition - 1 PM
- High School Rodeo - 7 PM (Ticketed)

Saturday, October 17
- Draft Horse Pull - 2 PM (Ticketed)
- High School Rodeo - 7 PM (Ticketed)

Sunday, October 18
- Miniature Horse Show - 9 AM
- IBRA Barrel Racing Exhibition - 12 PM
- IBRA Barrel Racing Competition - 2 PM

Monday, October 19
- Mounted Shooters - 9 AM
- Open Driving Show - 9 AM
- Draft Horse Show - 10 AM

Tuesday, October 20
- Mounted Shooters - 9 AM

NCSTATEFAIR.ORG

Wednesday, October 21
- Mules and Donkeys Show - 9 AM

Thursday, October 22
- Non-Trotters Show - 9 AM & 5:30 PM
- Extreme Trail – 10 AM

Friday, October 23
- Non-Trotters Show - 9 AM
- Open Horse Show - 2 PM (Halter/Showmanship/Trail/ Dressage)

Saturday, October 24
- Open Horse Show - 9 AM
- Miniature Horse Pull - 7 PM (Ticketed)

Sunday, October 25
- Open Horse Show - 9 AM

Gov. James B. Hunt Jr. Horse Complex ★ North Carolina State Fairgrounds
For more information contact: N.C. State Fair Horse Show
1010 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-1010 ★ Tel (919) 839-4701

Use this form to enter on paper.

NC STATE FAIR ENTRY FORM

DEADLINE SEPTEMBER 15

Have you moved since the 2025 fair?	YES	NO
Has your name changed since 2025?	YES	NO
Did you win money at the 2025 fair?	YES	NO

Exhibitor's Legal Name: *(ONLY provide the information of the exhibitor or participant)*

_____

First Name, Middle Name, Last Name - as it appears on your social security card, driver's license or any government document

Exhibitor's Legal Address:

_____

Street Address - R.F.D., PO Box or Apartment Number)

_____

City, State, Zip

_____ _____

County E-mail address

_____ _____/_____ /_____

Phone Birth Date

Exhibitor's Social Security Number: *(write DECLINE if you do not wish to receive money)*

_____

- Exhibitors are allowed to register for competitions without disclosing their Social Security Number.
- Choosing NOT to disclose their SSN at the time of registration forfeits any and all prize money.
- Prizes such as ribbons, medals, rosettes and plaques will still be awarded.
- State Fair staff WILL NOT contact winning exhibitors following the fair who did not submit their SSN at the time of registration.
- State Fair staff WILL NOT accept any calls/emails/etc. from winning exhibitors who chose not to disclose their SSN.

IMPORTANT IRS INFORMATION: Internal Revenue Service (IRS) regulations require that we have the Social Security Number (SSN) or Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) which corresponds to the name to whom the check for prize money is written. If we are notified by the IRS that the SSN or TIN does not match the name of record, we will have to backup withholding taxes and you may be subject to a $50 penalty by the IRS. A separate form should be used for each SSN/TIN. You must provide this information to be eligible for prize money. Also IRS regulations state that any prize money totaling $2,000 or more in a calendar year must be reported on a Form 1099.

Exhibitor Signature: _____

By signing this form you are agreeing to the terms and conditions concerning social security numbers and all state fair rules and regulations.

MAIL FORM TO: NC State Fair Entry Office 1010 Mail Service Center Raleigh NC 27699-1010

PAPER ENTRY FORMS ARE LIMITED TO 20 ENTRIES

Unlimited Online Entry at www.ncstatefair.org or http://ncsfge.fairwire.com

Exhibitor Name: _____

Paper Entry forms are limited to 20 entries. Online entry at: www.ncstatefair.org or http://ncsfge.fairwire.com

Division Number	Division Description *First three words as found in premium book*	Class Number	Class Description *First three words as found in premium book*

MAIL FORM TO: NC State Fair Entry Office 1010 Mail Service Center Raleigh NC 27699-1010

ENTRY DEADLINE IS SEPTEMBER 15

NC Substitute W-9 forms are required for exhibitors who earn total premiums of $2,000 or more in one calendar year from the State of North Carolina. You won't get paid if the form is incomplete. If you make a mistake, start over on a new form.

GUIDE TO FILLING OUT A NC SUBSTITUTE W-9 FORM

*** All sections marked with a red asterisk are required ***

CONTESTANTS FILLING OUT THE FORM FOR THEMSELVES:

***1.** *Check the TOP BOX for Social Security Number (SSN)*

***2.** *Write your social security number in the blank space*

***4.** *Write your full legal name the same way it appears on your social security card*

***Address line 1:** *Write your street number and street name*

***City** *Write your city* ***State** *Write in your state* ***Zip Code** *Write in your zip code*

***County** *Write your* COUNTY *like "Wake", NOT your country - like USA.*

***8. Contact Name** *Write your name or your parents name*

***9. Phone Number** *Write your phone number*

***11. Email Address** *Write an email address where you can be reached*

***12. Entity Type** *Check the first box for "Individual"*

***13. Entity Classification** *Check "Other" at the bottom of the list*
write "Contest Winner" in the blank space below it.

***Printed Name** *Print your name*

***Printed Title** *Write "Individual"*

***Authorized US Signature** *Sign your name*

***Date** *Write the date you fill out the form*

ASSOCIATIONS OR FARMS FILLING OUT THE FORM:

Fill out the form with your business information, including your tax ID number.

Fill out the form with the exact information as it appears on your tax documents.

Fillable form must be saved to your computer, completed with your information, and returned to the N.C. State Fair. You can also print this form, fill it out and mail it in.

NC Office of the State Controller
(IRS Form W-9 will not be accepted in lieu of this form)
***Denotes a Required Field**

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
SUBSTITUTE W-9 FORM
Request for Taxpayer Identification Number

Section 1 – Taxpayer Identification

***1.** ☐ Social Security Number (SSN),
OR
☐ Employer Identification Number (EIN),
OR
☐ Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN)

***2.**

Please select the appropriate Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN, SSN, or ITIN) type and enter your 9-digit ID number. The U.S. Taxpayer Identification Number is being requested per U.S. Tax Law. Failure to provide this information in a timely manner could prevent or delay payment to you or require The State of NC to withhold 24% for backup withholding tax.

***4. Legal Name** (as registered with the IRS - see instructions):

5. Business Name/DBA/Disregarded Entity Name, if different from Legal Name:

3. Unique Entity Identifier or Dunn & Bradstreet Universal Numbering System (DUNS) (see instructions):

Contact Information

***6. Legal Address**	**7. Remittance Address** (Location specifically used for payment that is different from Legal Address, if applicable)
***Address Line 1:**	**Address Line 1:**
Address Line 2:	**Address Line 2:**
***City** ***State** ***Zip (9 digit)**	**City** **State** **Zip (9 digit)**
***County**	**County**

***8. Contact Name:**	
***9. Phone Number:**	
10. Fax Number:	
***11. Email Address:**	

***12. Entity Type**

☐ Individual/Sole Proprietor/Single-member LLC ☐ C-Corporation ☐ S-Corporation

☐ Partnership ☐ Trust/Estate ☐ Other_____

☐ Limited liability company. Enter the tax classification (C=C corporation, S=S corporation, P=Partnership) _____

Note: Check the appropriate box in the line above for the tax classification of the single-member owner. Do not check LLC if the LLC is classified as a single-member LLC that is disregarded from the owner unless the owner of the LLC is another LLC that is not disregarded from the owner for U.S. federal tax purposes. Otherwise, a single-member LLC that is disregarded from the owner should check the appropriate box for the tax classification of its owner.

***13. Entity Classification**

☐ Medical Services
☐ Legal/Attorney Services
☐ NC Local Govt
☐ Federal Govt
☐ NC State Agency
☐ Other Govt
☐ Other (specify)

14. Exemptions (see instructions)

Exempt payee code (if any):

Exemption from FATCA reporting code (if any):

Section 2 -Certification

Under penalties of perjury, I certify that:

1. The number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me), and
2. I am not subject to backup withholding because: (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that I am subject to backup withholding because of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding, and
3. I am a U.S. citizen or other U.S. person (defined later in general instructions), and
4. The FATCA code(s) entered on this form (if any) indicting that I am exempt from FATCA reporting is correct.

Certification instructions: Please refer to the IRS Form W-9 located on the IRS Website **(https://www.irs.gov/)**:

***Printed Name:**		***Printed Title:**	
***Authorized U.S. Signature:**		***Date:**	