

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

VEGETABLES, FRUITS, & NUTS

shipped in time to reach the Fairgrounds no later than Monday, October 12th, 2026, and should be addressed 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

- 🍅 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

Arkansas
Braeburn
Fuji
Gala
Golden Delicious
Granny Smith
Jonagold
Jonathan
Red Delicious and named bud sports
Rome and named bud sports
York and named bud sports

DIAMETER

3 to 3½ inches
2¾ to 3 inches
2¾ to 3¼ inches
2¾ to 3¼ inches
2¾ to 3¼ inches
3¼ to 3¾ inches
2¾ to 3½ inches
2¾ to 3 inches
2¾ to 3¼ inches
3 to 3¾ inches
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



VEGETABLES, FRUITS, & NUTS

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 - <i>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)</i>	\$100	\$90	\$80	\$75	\$70	\$65	\$60	\$55	\$50	\$45	\$40	\$35
02 - Best Single Apple Box (Tray Pack) - <i>Display in box with side cut out for viewing. Display of any one named variety or bud sport.</i>	\$75	\$70	\$65	\$60	\$55	\$50	\$45	\$40	\$37	\$35	\$33	\$31
03 - Three Tray Apple Display - <i>To consist of one tray each of 3 different varieties.</i>	\$35	\$25	\$23	\$21	\$19	\$18	\$17	\$16	\$15	\$14	\$13	\$12
04 - Consumer Apple Package - <i>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.</i>	\$50	\$45	\$40	\$35	\$30	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$12	\$10	\$8	\$6
05 - Commercial Apple Gift Package - <i>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.</i>												

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.

VEGETABLES, FRUITS, & NUTS

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 - <i>Free from blemish</i>	25
Uniformity	25
Color & Finish	15
Trueness to Variety	5
Size	5
TOTAL:	100

COMMERCIAL APPLE BEST SINGLE BOX JUDGING CRITERIA

	POINTS
Package - <i>Compactness, appropriate trays for fruit size</i>	30
Condition of Fruit - <i>Free from blemish</i>	30
Color & Finish	20
Size & Uniformity	10
Trueness to Variety	10
TOTAL:	100

COMMERCIAL APPLE TRAYS & PLATES JUDGING CRITERIA

	POINTS
Condition of Fruit - <i>Free from blemish</i>	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 - <i>Free from blemish</i>	30
Size & Uniformity	10
Color & Finish	10
Trueness to Variety	10
TOTAL:	100

VEGETABLES, FRUITS, & NUTS

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

PREMIUMS

DIVISION 106: OTHER FRUITS

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.*

VEGETABLES, FRUITS, & NUTS

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

PREMIUMS

Nuts must be edible. No acorns or horse chestnuts. Quality may be tested by cracking. No artificial coloring.

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.*

VEGETABLES, FRUITS, & NUTS

	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 - <i>Any one named variety - for fresh market.</i>										
	\$35	\$31	\$27	\$24	\$21	\$19	\$17	\$16	\$15	\$14
05 - Best Single Tray, Canning Sweetpotatoes - <i>Any one named variety - canning size.</i>										
	\$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 - <i>Organically grown sweetpotatoes</i>										
	\$15	\$13	\$12	\$11	\$10					
08 - Largest Sweetpotato - <i>Largest sweetpotato by weight.</i>										

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

- 01 - Single Tray, Light Skin Potato
- 02 - Single Tray, Kennebec Potato
- 03 - Single Tray, Any Other Potato *Any variety*
- 04 - Plate Of Five Potatoes

PREMIUMS

1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
\$15	\$13	\$12	\$11	\$10
\$15	\$13	\$12	\$11	\$10
\$15	\$13	\$12	\$11	\$10
\$10	\$9	\$8	\$7	\$6

VEGETABLES, FRUITS, & NUTS

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*
-  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.*
-  02 - Red or Multi-Colored Okra *Plate of five.*

VEGETABLES, FRUITS, & NUTS

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.*

 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.*

 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.*

 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.*

 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.*

VEGETABLES, FRUITS, & NUTS

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.*
-  09 - Sorghum Seed Heads *Plate of three.*
-  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.*
-  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.
-  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.

VEGETABLES, FRUITS, & NUTS

DIVISION 124: SPECIAL DISPLAYS CONTINUED...

CLASS

PREMIUMS

05- Market Display Continued... 1st 2nd 3rd 4th 5th 6th 7th 8th 9th 10th

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.

 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 3'x3' 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.*

VEGETABLES, FRUITS, & NUTS

DIVISION 127: PUMPKINS & MELONS

CLASS

PREMIUMS

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
01 - Heaviest Pumpkin <i>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.</i>	\$300	\$275	\$250	\$240	\$230	\$220
02 - Largest Pumpkin <i>Largest by size. True to type, best shape and condition.</i>	\$50	\$35	\$30	\$25	\$20	\$15
03 - Small Pumpkin <i>True to type, best shape and condition. Under ten pounds.</i>	\$40	\$30	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$10
04 - White Pumpkin <i>True to type, best shape and condition. Under thirty pounds.</i>	\$40	\$30	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$10
05 - Mini Pumpkin <i>One pound and smaller. Three per plate.</i>	\$15	\$13	\$12	\$11	\$10	\$9
06 - Heaviest Watermelon <i>Largest by weight. Any variety, good condition.</i>	\$135	\$115	\$95	\$75	\$55	\$45
07 - Best Large Watermelon <i>Largest by size. True to type, best shape and condition.</i>	\$40	\$30	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$10
08 - Best Small Watermelon <i>Under ten pounds. True to type, best shape and condition.</i>	\$40	\$30	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$10
09 - Cantaloupe or Melon <i>Any other, true to type, best shape, color and condition.</i>	\$40	\$30	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$10
10 - Best Field Pumpkin <i>True to type. No Atlantic Giant.</i>	\$40	\$30	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$10

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.

VEGETABLES, FRUITS, & NUTS

DIVISION 128: GPC WEIGH OFF \$5 Entry Fee

PREMIUMS (BY THE POUND)

CLASS	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

Howard Dill Award

NC State Fair Record Watermelon Incentive Bonus *Currently 327.5 lbs*

World Record Watermelon Incentive Bonus *Currently 350.5 lbs*

PREMIUMS

\$100

\$250

\$2,500

ALL WATERMELON CATEGORIES SPONSORED BY:



\$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.