

Highlands County Youth Citrus Project Rules, Eligibility & Specifications

Eligibility

1. Open to **3rd through 12th** grade students (grade at time of registration into the project) in Highlands County during the 2008/09 school year. A Registration Fee of \$5.00 must accompany the Registration Form

General Project Specifications

1. The Youth Citrus Project will include **four** categories:
 - a. Participation in Informational Workshops
 - b. Citrus Informational Display Boards
 - c. Exhibit of a Citrus Tree, and
 - d. Citrus Tree Record Book
2. Exhibitors **MUST** compete in all four categories and turn in “thank you” letters to sponsors and buyers of the project citrus tree to receive the participation premiums.
3. Overall placing will be based on the following points:
 - 10 points** - Workshop Participation (**5 points per workshop**) (**minimum two workshops, additional workshops attended are worth 5 bonus points each**)
 - 40 points** – Citrus Tree Exhibit Placing
 - 25 points** – Citrus Informational Display Board Placing
 - 25 points** – Citrus Record Book Placing
4. Participants may raise more than one citrus tree, but they may display and auction only one tree. **The Silent Auction will be each day during the fair and will close on Thursday evening. The Grand and Reserve Champion citrus trees will be sold in the Live Auction on Thursday evening,**
5. Exhibitors may choose whether or not to sell their citrus tree in the auction. Those choosing “NOT to auction” their tree must declare this upon bring their tree to the fairgrounds.
6. Exhibitors must declare their topic in writing one week after the mandatory citrus field trip. Exhibitors may NOT submit a Citrus Informational Display Board **using the same topic previously used by the member in previous years.** The extension office will monitor this and will act as the final authority in this matter.
7. **All exhibitors who attend two of the four workshops and enter a Citrus Informational Display Board for judging may exhibit their citrus tree in the fair.**

Tree Specifications

1. Citrus trees for the project must be picked up at the Highlands County Extension Office, located at 4509 George Boulevard, Sebring, at the first workshop.
2. Exhibitors may pick up two tree packages to grow for the project. A citrus tree package includes a citrus tree, a pot, and pre-mixed potting soil. The cost is \$5.00 per package.
3. One citrus tree for exhibit must be delivered to the Highlands County Fairgrounds, Exhibit Building B on Thursday, January 22, 2009, 4 – 6 p.m.

4. Citrus Trees not to be sold in the silent or live auction must be picked up on Sunday, February 1, 2009, Noon – 2:00 p.m. at the fairgrounds.

Citrus Informational Display Board Specifications

1. **Citrus Informational Display Board displays must be based on information researched by the entrant. Display Boards must be constructed by the entrant.**
2. Citrus Informational Display Boards must be completed, clean and in good condition, and suitable for public display.
3. No staples or tacks may be used.
4. Text may be typed or computer generated
5. Citrus Informational Display Boards must be brought to the extension Office NO LATER THAN Friday, January 9, 2009, 5:00 p.m. for judging.
6. Citrus Informational Display Boards must be picked up on Sunday, February 1, 2009, between Noon – 2:00 p.m. at the fairgrounds.

Judging

1. Each entry (informational display boards, citrus trees, and record books) will be judged on its own merit, receiving a blue, red, or white ribbon denoting superior, good, or fair respectively.
2. Entries are compared only after all initial judging to determine junior, senior, and overall winners.
3. All judges' decisions are final.

Citrus Informational Display Board Topics

Division I *

Juniors, 8 – 10 years old (at time of registration)

1. History of Citrus In Florida
Using text and photos, describe the history of Citrus In Florida. Include how citrus was introduced in Florida and how the industry has changed over the years.
2. Varieties of Citrus In Florida
Using text and photos, describe the commercial varieties of citrus grown in Florida. Include why each variety is grown and what the primary use is.
3. Florida Citrus – More Than Just Part of Breakfast
Using text and photos, describe the common uses of citrus, citrus products and the numerous by-products.

Division II *

Intermediate 11 – 13 Years of Age

1. How has technology affected the Florida Citrus Industry?
2. Explain the need for water conservation in today's citrus groves.
3. How would you market your citrus tree for a profit?

(Use photos and text on all displays)

Division III *

Seniors 14 years and up

1. How has Canker, Citrus Greening, and freezes affected the Florida Citrus Industry?
2. Describe the need for Better Management Practices (BMP's) and their regularity value towards the Florida Citrus Industry.
3. How has the Agricultural Engineering shaped the development of the Florida citrus Industry?
4. How has today's technology such as GPS systems, variable rate technology, and computer satellite imagery served the Florida Citrus Industry?

(Use photos and text on all displays)

* Division age is determined a age as of April 15, 2008

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