

2012 Highlands Youth Citrus Program Rules & Regulations

Eligibility

Open to 3rd through 12th grade students 2011-12 school years. Age for the project for this year is determined as of [April 15, 2011](#).

2012 General Project Specifications

1. The Youth Citrus Project will include **four** project categories:

- a. Participation in Informational Workshops
- b. Citrus Informational Display Boards
- c. Exhibit of a Citrus Tree,
- d. Citrus Tree Record Book

2. Exhibitors **MUST** complete all four categories and turn in “thank you” letters to sponsors and buyers of the project citrus tree to receive the participation premiums.

3. **For Judging** in each of the Informational Display Board, Citrus Tree, and Record Book categories entrants will be divided into two divisions, Juniors and Seniors. Juniors will be all entrants between ages 8 & 13 at the time they enter the project; and Seniors will be all entrants ages 14 and older at the time they enter the project. There will be a Top Junior and a Top Senior Display Board, based on age division. There will be a Top Junior and a Top Senior Tree based on age division. There will be a Top Junior and a Top Senior Record Book based on age division. In addition there will be a Grand and Reserve Champion Citrus Tree for all of the citrus trees regardless of age division.

4. **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)
- 30 points – Citrus Tree Exhibit Placing
- 30 points – Citrus Informational Display Board Placing
- 30 points – Citrus Record Book Placing

In determining Overall Winners the Top Junior places 1 to 3 and Top Senior places 1 to 3 will be determined based on highest total points in each of the project categories in each age divisions for Juniors and Seniors. Other Overall placings will be based on total points as defined in rule number 1 above.

5. Participants may raise more than one citrus tree, but they may display and auction only one tree.

6. Late entries in any of the three categories: display board, citrus tree, or record book, will not be accepted.

7. All Citrus trees shall be treated at least one time during the project year with Imidacloprid to prevent Citrus Greening (see “Tips on Growing Potted Citrus Trees”).
8. All exhibitors who attend two of the four workshops and enter a Citrus Informational Display Board for judging may exhibit and sell their citrus tree in the fair.

2012 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 \$10.00 per package.
3. The citrus tree must remain in the five gallon pot provided to be shown. If soil needs to be later added to the pot, contact the Extension office to get more certified soil.
4. One citrus tree for exhibit must be delivered to the Highlands County Bert J. Harris, Jr. Ag Center on **Wednesday, February 8, 2012, 4 – 6 p.m.** (all accepted trees will be delivered to the fairgrounds on the following day for exhibit and sale).
5. Trees being entered in the fair must be in show condition and representative of a saleable tree in the nursery trade. Trees with sparse foliage, excessive pest damage, cold damage, or symptoms of Citrus Canker or Greening will be disqualified. **Trees that are disqualified** must be picked up at the Bert Harris Ag Center by **Friday, February 9, 2012.**
6. Citrus Trees will be sold in a Silent Auction during the fair. The auction will close on Thursday evening. The Grand and Reserve Champion citrus trees will be sold in the Live Auction on **Thursday evening February 16, 2012.**
7. 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 bringing their tree to the **Ag Center on February 8th.** Citrus Trees not to be sold in the silent or live auction must be picked up at the Bert Harris Ag Center on **Monday, February 20, 2012,** following the fair.
8. Citrus Trees exhibiting symptoms of Citrus Canker as determined by state inspection will be destroyed. Citrus Trees will be inspected upon arrival at the Ag Center on **February 8th,** by state inspectors, leaf samples for Citrus Greening will be taken, and lab tests run. Citrus Trees testing positive for Citrus Greening by law will be destroyed.

2012 Record Books

1. Due to be turned in **Friday, February 24, 2012, 5:00 p.m.,** at the Extension Office at the Bert Harris Ag Center. Late entries will not be accepted.
2. All record book entries must be in legible handwriting by the entrant. Typing of information is only allowed in the Project Story. Typed Project Stories can be inserted in to the record book.

2012 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. Display Boards must be on a Tri-Fold Display Board no larger than 3 feet wide and 4 feet tall when fully displayed.
3. Exhibitors must declare their Informational Display Board topic to the Extension Office in writing by **Friday October 28, 2011 at 5:00 p.m.** using the Display Board Topic Registration Form. Late forms will not be accepted. 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.
4. Citrus Informational Display Boards must be completed, clean and in good condition, and suitable for public display. Informational Display Boards must be brought to the Extension Office NO LATER THAN **Friday, January 6, 2012, 5:00 p.m.** for judging. Late entries will not be accepted.
5. All materials must be fully attached to the display board. No staples or tacks may be used. Text may be typed or computer generated. Extra items not attached to the Display Board will not be accepted.
6. Citrus Informational Display Boards must be picked up at the Bert Harris Ag Center the week of **February 20 - 24, 2012.** Any Display Boards that are not picked up prior to premium and sale checks being mailed; you must pick up your check at the Highlands County Extension office.

2012 Judging all categories

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, top, junior, senior, and overall winners.
3. All judges' decisions are final.