

# **FLORICULTURE**

## **(State Fair Exhibit)**

**State Fair Entries:** 8 floral exhibits per county, 2 per level; 4 educational exhibits per county, 1 per level

**General Exhibit Guidelines & References:** See page 47 for more information

**Manual Information:** See page 11 for more information.

### **Overall Exhibit Guidelines:**

Floral arrangements can be constructed using fresh flowers and greenery grown yourself or purchased, flowers and greenery dried yourself or purchased, or artificial flowers or greenery.

#### **Level A (Grade 3-4 suggested)**

Floral Option - Create a simple bud vase (1-3 stems of main flower plus appropriate filler and/or greenery) or simple round arrangement (small, compact round cluster of flowers plus appropriate filler and/or greenery).

Educational Display Option – Create a poster, notebook or display about one of the following:

- Chronicle your work in your flower garden (planning, planting, care, harvest, arrangement made with your flowers)
- Describe how you planned or designed your garden, including how you chose the kinds of flowers.
- Explain how you harvested your flowers, cared for them, and used them in an arrangement.
- Explore and explain pollination - what it is, why important, different ways it occurs or transplanting - what, how, things to watch out for; or role of insects with flowers (good, bad or both).
- Explore and explain seed germination.
- Explore and explain how to care for a 'sick' plant.
- Report on interview with a floriculture professional (what do they do, types of jobs, type of training, hours worked, etc.)
- Describe an experiment you did and the results.
- Describe a community service project you did related to your flowers project.
- Another similar activity.

#### **LEVEL B (grades 5-6 suggested):**

Floral Option – Create a mixed planter that includes 3 or more kinds of plants, make an item from dried plants, or display a house plant (flowering or non-flowering) you have grown.

Educational Display Option – Create a poster, notebook or display about one of the following:

- Report how you harvested your flowers and/or herbs, cared for them, dried them, and used them.
- Explore and explain insects and your flowers and/or herbs.
- Explore and explain starting seeds indoors - the process and pros and cons.
- Explore and explain perennials - what are they, how are they used, benefits or drawbacks.

- Investigate and describe a butterfly garden- what types of plants, benefits to insects and butterflies, etc.
- Describe how you planned or designed your garden, including how you chose the kinds of plants, any problems, successes.
- Describe your houseplant - how you cared for, transplanted to larger pot, any problems, or successes.
- Explore and explain plant biology -- form and function, growth, photosynthesis, etc.
- Explore and explain how to grow plants indoors -- things to consider, common problems and solutions.
- Explore and explain environmental effects related to plants (such as light, water, soil, or temperature).
- Describe an experiment you did and the results.
- Explore and explain topics from "Imagine That" -- plants around the world, information about different cultural uses of plants, different ways you used your plants/herbs/flowers.
- Another similar activity.

**LEVEL C (grades 7-9 suggested):**

Floral Option – Create a terrarium, combination, or European planter (3 or more kinds of plants), corsage, boutonniere, or specialty arrangement in a container (using dried flowers, roses, or lilies as the primary content).

Educational Display Option – Create a poster, notebook or display about one of the following:

- Explore and explain vegetative propagation -- how to, different types, problems and solutions, different uses of.
- Explore and explain plant nutrients -- what are they, why does the plant need them, what happens if the plant has too much or too little, planters or containers vs. garden.
- Investigate the design of multiple plant containers -- how to, things to consider, selecting plant materials, uses of.
- Describe how you created your corsage or boutonnieres, or dried arrangement. Be sure to include appropriate information on design principles and how they are used to create your arrangement.
- Explore and explain floral tools and materials (how to use, what they are, care of tools, different uses of a tool or material).
- Explore and explain preserving cut flowers - how, problems, uses of and/or diseases related to cut flowers.
- Illustrate, explore, and explain how your dry flowers or other plant materials and/or describe different methods and/or how, why use them.
- Explore and explain medicinal uses and toxicity of fresh and dried flowers and plants.
- Describe an experiment you did and the results.
- Describe a career exploration activity you did, such as job shadow, interview with a professional.

- Describe a community service activity you did related to your flowers project
- Another similar activity.

**LEVEL D (grades 10-12 suggested):**

Floral Option – Create a seasonal arrangement, modern or contemporary arrangement, bridal bouquet, special occasion centerpiece, or plant you have propagated and grown yourself.

Educational Display Option – Create a poster, notebook or display about one of the following:

- Describe how you created your arrangement, include information on the design principles utilized.
- Explore and explain how you utilize different flowers to make a similar style arrangement for different seasons (tulips in spring, mums in fall, etc.) or how to utilize similar flowers to make different styles of arrangements.
- Explore and explain: the cost of arrangement and/or a cost comparison with flowers (different types of flowers, different time year, etc.).
- Explore and explain forcing flowers (bulbs, branches, etc.).
- Explore and explain marketing in the floral industry (large or small business) and/ or a market survey and results, and how they can benefit the floral industry.
- Explore and explain how to start a business related to the floral industry and may include a business plan.
- Explore and explain the origins of flowers and/or the floriculture industry around the world.
- Explore and explain tissue culture, biotechnology, or traditional breeding of new flower types -- what are they, how are they used, pros and cons.
- Explore and explain be a plant detective -- what kinds of problems might you have in growing and caring for flowers, and how to solve them.
- Describe an experiment you did and the results.
- Describe a community service activity you did related to your flowers project: how, why, results.
- Another similar activity