



Project Title: Weeds

Project Leader: Mark Thomas, 812-667-5453

State Fair Entries:

County only project.

Exhibit Guidelines:

Each notebook should be labeled on the outside of the front cover with name of exhibitor, address, county, and name of club. Each weed specimen in the notebook is to be pressed, dried, and then mounted on 8 ½ x 11 inch poster board. The specimens should be mounted on separate sheets of poster board and covered with transparent plastic or cellophane. Each specimen should show flower and/or fruit, leaf, stem, and root characteristics, all of which are necessary for complete and accurate identification. Every weed mount must have a 1 ½ x 2 inch label containing 1) Common name; 2) Where found (lawn, garden, pasture, etc.); 3) Method or methods of reproduction (seeds, creeping rootstalks, etc.). The 4-H club record sheet should be filled out and inserted into the notebook.

Exhibit Class Guidelines:

Beginner (grades 3-5 suggested)

Collect and identify 15 different weeds from the common and/or invasive plants of Indiana. Your collection of weeds must be taken from the list of common weeds in publication 4-H 247-W. Be aware that some weeds may be more prevalent at different times of the year. Each specimen should show flower and/or fruit, leaf, stem, and root characteristics, all of which are necessary for complete and accurate identification. Press weeds (see page 4, 4-H 247-W). Mount each individual weed on 8 ½" x 11" poster board by either taping or gluing the plant to the poster board. Cover the poster board containing the plant specimen with cellophane or clear sheet plastic or put it in a plastic sheet protector. Place the pages in a three-ring binder (punch holes of adequate size to allow easy turning on the pages of the binder). Label (label size 1 1/2" x 2") each weed as to: Name of the weed (common and scientific names – remember to italicize or underline scientific names). Where found (lawn, garden, pasture, etc). How it reproduces (seed and/or underground root plant). Answer questions on record sheet (4-H 247A-W, and put a copy of the record sheet in your notebook. In year two, exhibit a different set of weeds, not repeating the ones from year one.

Intermediate (grades 6-8 suggested)

Collect and identify 5 noxious and five poisonous weeds of Indiana. Your collection of weeds must be taken from the list of noxious and poisonous weeds in publication 4-H 247-W. Be aware that some weeds may be more prevalent at different times of the year. Each specimen should show flower and/or fruit, leaf, stem, and root characteristics, all which are necessary for complete and accurate identification. Press weeds (see page 4, 4-H 247-W). Mount each individual weed on 8 ½" x 11" poster board by either taping or gluing the plant to the poster board. Cover the poster board containing the plant specimen with cellophane or clear sheet plastic or put it in a plastic sheet protector. Place the pages in a three-ring binder (punch holes of adequate size to allow easy turning of the pages in the binder). Label (label size 1 1/2" x 2") each weed as to: Name of the weed (common and scientific names – remember to italicize or underline scientific names). Where found (lawn, garden, pasture, etc). How it reproduces (seed and/or underground root plant). Answer questions on record sheet (4-H 247B-W, and put a copy of the record sheet in your notebook. In year two, exhibit a different set of weeds, not repeating the ones from year one.

Advanced (grades 9-12 suggested)

Collect and identify 15 different weed seeds from mature plants from the list of common noxious, or poisonous weeds in 4-H-217-W. Five of these weeds must be taken from the list of noxious weeds in 4-H 247-W. Be aware that some weeds may be more prevalent in different times of the year. Clean the seeds and separate from the fruit (see page 3 4-H 247-W). Place one tablespoon of the dried weeds seeds in a plastic zippered bag. Mount the plastic bags on a poster board (22" x 28"). Mounting must be made to exhibit the poster in a horizontal position. Place your name, county, and club name in the lower right corner of the poster. Label (label size 1 1/2" x 2") each weed as to: Name of the weed (common and scientific names – remember to italicize or underline scientific names). Where found (lawn, garden, pasture, etc). How it reproduces (seed and/or underground root plant). Answer questions on record sheet (4-H 247C-W, and pout a copy of the record sheet in your notebook. In each consecutive year, exhibit a different set of weeds, not repeating the ones from the year before.