2018 Florida State Fair

REV1 9/6

Horticulture Competition Handbook

PROGRAM CALENDAR

Online or Paper Entry Form deadline	**Friday, January 5, 2018**
Deliver items to the Florida Center — located at the Florida State Fair. (see page 9)	**Friday, February 2, 2018** 10:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. **Saturday, February 3, 2018** 10:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Items exhibited	February 8 - 19, 2018
Entry pickup	**Tuesday, February 20, 2018** 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

For more information, contact Competitive Exhibit Coordinator

Brenda Gregory
Phone: 813-734-2810
Email: brenda.gregory@freshfromflorida.com

Why Compete?

Floridians are truly fortunate to have such a long growing season and the climate to grow a wide variety of plants all-year round. What better way to celebrate the great horticulture traditions than to host and showcase our healthiest, finest, prettiest, most exotic and interesting plants in the state?

Competition Overview

Entry Fee: Adult Division $3 per entry
Youth Division $1 per entry

Entry Fees are non-refundable

All information regarding **Family Living Competitive Exhibits** can be found at www.floridastatefair.com.

How to enter online – page 6
Paper entry form is available on the last page.
General Rules – page 7

All online & paper entries must be completed on or before January 5, 2018.

Exhibitors are encouraged to read this handbook in its entirety.

Eligibility

- **The Horticulture Adult Divisions** are open to all Florida residents ages 18 and older.
- **The Horticulture Youth Division** is open to Florida residents in grades 1 – 12, as of September 1, 2017.
- **There are nine (9) divisions in the Horticulture Competition for Adults and one (1) for Youth.**
  - Bromeliads – page 3
  - Flowering Plants – page 3
  - Cacti & Succulents – page 3
  - Foliage Plants – page 4
  - Ferns – page 4
  - Palm & Cycads – page 4
  - Orchids – page 4
  - Bonsai – page 5
  - Containers & Collections – page 5
  - Horticulture (Youth) – page 5

Entry Rules

1. No more than **10 plants** per person may be submitted for judging.
2. Exhibitors can enter a variety of different species in one genus. No duplication of species allowed.
3. Plants should be entered in the correct Division and Class on the entry form. Assistance will be available for plant identification when delivering the plants to the Fair.

   If you do not know the botanical name of your plant, the **USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service has a helpful plant database:** http://plants.usda.gov/java/
4. All plants must be of exhibition quality. The Fair reserves the right to reject any plant that is substandard, either in quality or maturity.
5. The maximum plant size cannot be any larger than 48 inches in diameter, and must weigh less than 40 pounds (Plant and container weight).
6. Plants and flowers must be cleaned, trimmed, and free from insects or disease; they must be submitted in proper clean containers (Free of mold, moss, leaves and acorns)
7. **No double pots, stands or saucers may be used**. Clean clay pot & nursery pots are acceptable for display. Absolutely no cans will be accepted. Hanging plants must be hanging from a secure device.
8. **Water plants well before bringing to the Fairgrounds.** Plants will be watered regularly during the Fair. Special watering instructions for individual plants must be provided when plants are submitted.
9. The Fair reserves the right to reject additional entered items when all available exhibit display space is filled.
10. Every precaution will be taken to protect your plants; however, the Florida State Fair Authority, its officers and agents are not responsible for any accident, loss or damage.

The Horticulture Exhibition will be held in the Florida Center during the Florida State Fair. The exhibit will be open for your viewing pleasure.

Judging & Awards

The Fair ensures that the judges we employ are knowledgeable in the division in which they are judging and will be impartial. Judging will be done using a scorecard to assist in keeping the decisions as objective as possible. Judges reserve the right to decide proper classification of entries. The decision of the judge(s) is final.

If, at the Judge's discretion, an entry does not merit a placing, the Judge shall give no award under any circumstance. This rule applies whether there is one or more exhibits in the Class.

Awards Information

First Place – State Fair Ribbon **$12**

Second Place – State Fair Ribbon **$7**

Third Place – State Fair Ribbon **$4**

Best of Division – State Fair Ribbon **$20**
Best of Division awards will be chosen from the First Place winners in each class within that division. (Adult)

Best of Show – State Fair Ribbon **$50**
Best of Show awards will be chosen from the Best of Division winners.

Honorable Mention Ribbons may be awarded, at the discretion of the judge(s).

Judging Criteria

Form – 25%

Color – 25%

Size – 25%

Condition – 25%

Divisions & Classes

Bromeliads – Adult Division 50.101

Class Description

1 Aechmea
2 Guzmania
3 Billbergia
4 Cryptanthus
5 Dyckia
6 Neoregelia
7 Tillandsia
8 Vriesea
9 Genera not listed

Flowering Plants – Adult Division 50.102

Class Description

1 Annual
2 African Violet
3 Anthurium
4 Azalea
5 Beaucarnea
6 Camelia
7 Episcia
8 Geranium
9 Gardenia
10 Gloxinia
11 Heliconia
12 Hibiscus
13 Iris
14 Ixora
15 Lily
16 Poinsettia
17 Rose
18 Genera not listed

Cacti & Succulents – Adult Division 50.103

Class Description

1 Aeonium
2 Agave
3 Aloe
4 Ariocarpus
5 Astrophytum
6 Cephalocereus
7 Cereus
8 Ceropegia
9 Crassula
10 Cryptocereus
11 Echeveria
12 Echinocactus
13 Epiphylum
14 Euphorbia
15 Ferocactus
16 Gasteria
17 Gymnocalycium
18 Haworthia
19 Hoya
20 Kalanchoe
21 Mammillaria
22 Notocactus
23 Opuntia.
24 Oreocereus.
25 Pedilanthus
26 Rhipsalis
27 Sedum
28 Stapelia
29 Genera not listed

Divisions & Classes – continued

Foliage Plants – Adult Division 50.104

Class Description

1 Acanthus
2 Aglaonema
3 Alocasia
4 Anthurium
5 Aphelandra
6 Aralia
7 Araucaria
8 Asparagus
9 Aspidistra
10 Begonia
11 Calathea
12 Chlorophytum
13 Cissus
14 Codiaeum
15 Cordyline
16 Dieffenbachia
17 Dracaena
18 Fatsia
19 Ficus
20 Hedera
21 Herbs
22 Ilex
23 Iresine
24 Maranta
25 Monstera
26 Philodendron
27 Plectranthus
28 Pothos
29 Sansevieria
30 Scindapsus
31 Spathiphyllum
32 Syngonium
33 Tradescantia
34 Genera not listed

Ferns – Adult Division 50.105

Class Description

1 Asplenium
2 Cytomium
3 Davillia
4 Nephrolepsis
5 Platycerium
6 Polypodium
7 Genera not listed

Palms & Cycads – Adult Division 50.106

Class Description

1 Caryota
2 Chamaedorea
3 Cycas
4 Phoenix
5 Rhapis
6 Genera not listed

Orchids – Adult Division 50.107

Class Description

1 Ascocentrum and Hybrids
2 Brassavola and Hybrids
3 Cattleya
4 Cymbidium
5 Cypripedium-Paphiopedilum
6 Dendrobium
7 Epidendrum and Hybrids
8 Oncidium and Hybrids
9 Phaius
10 Phalaenopis
11 Vanda
12 Genera not listed

Divisions & Classes – continued

Bonsai – Adult Division 50.108

Class Description

1 Bonsai – upright
2 Bonsai – slanting
3 Bonsai – cascade or semi-cascade
4 Bonsai – multiple trunk of any of the above
5 Bonsai – any other style

Judging Criteria

Age or the appearance of age, general health and vigor, and adherence to classic styles will be the main factors for judging.

Containers & Collections – Adult – Adult Division 50.109

Class Description

1 Dish Gardens
2 Terrariums
3 Ornamental Planters – plants in attractive container or weathered wood
4 Collections – in one container

Containers & Collections Guidelines

- Only one (1) entry allowed per class.
- Entered item(s) may not be more than two (2) feet in any direction.
- **Dish gardens** must be in attractive containers only. No aluminum tins.
- **Terrariums** must have lids.
- Entered item(s) must have an aesthetically pleasing design, contrast of color and a variety of plants.
- All plants must be growing and well established.
- Do not use colored sand or gravel.
- Feature the plants, not accessories.
- **Collections** must be six different species of one genera, in one container.

Judging Criteria

Judging will be for overall beauty and interest.

Horticulture (Youth)

Youth (age 6-10)	Division 50.310
Youth (age 11-13)	Division 50.410
Youth (age 14-18)	Division 50.510

Class Description

Individual Plants

1 Bromeliads (any genera)
2 Flowering Plants (any genera)
3 Cacti & Succulents (any genera)
4 Foliage Plants (any genera)
5 Ferns (any genera)
6 Palms & Cycads (any genera)
7 Orchids (any genera)
8 Bonsai

Containers

9 Foliage Plants in Containers
10 Flowering Plants in Containers
11 Hanging Containers
12 Dish Gardens
13 Terrariums

Horticulture (Youth) Guidelines

No more than **10 entries** per person may be submitted for judging.

Guidelines for Classes 1 – 8 ONLY

- Use Entry Rules & Judging Criteria on Page 2.

Guidelines for Classes 9 – 13 ONLY

- Only one (1) **container entry** allowed per class.
- Entered item(s) may not be more than two (2) feet in any direction.
- **Dish gardens** must be in attractive containers only. No aluminum tins.
- **Terrariums** must have lids.
- Entered item(s) must have an aesthetically pleasing design, contrast of color and a variety of plants.
- Do not use colored sand or gravel.
- **Judging will be for overall beauty and interest.**

How to Enter Online

We encourage you to enter online, using ShoWorks. The Florida State Fair has implemented ShoWorks, an on-line entry program. ShoWorks is an industry standard used by over 50 fairs nationally. This user-friendly program can be trusted to accurately enter you into our competitions and allows for efficient communications via e-mail. We are excited to have ShoWorks to better facilitate entering Florida State Fair competitions.

- **Take a moment to look through this Competition Handbook to see which division and class your entry is eligible to compete in.** Then, follow the easy steps listed below to enter the competition you have chosen.
- **To Enter Online using ShoWorks.**
  Go to **www.floridastatefair.com** and at the top of the home page select the **State Fair** TAB and you will see in the dropdown list a link for the **2018 Family Living Competitive Exhibits.** Select the **Enter Online** button at the top of that page.
- **Everyone must register as a new exhibitor each year.**
- **Note that sessions expire after 20 minutes** of inactivity, so "save the cart" if you plan on leaving the computer for more than 20 minutes.
- When registering, please verify that all information that you entered into ShoWorks is correct. Please pay special attention and use proper spelling, capitalization, full names of cities/counties, no abbreviations and correct contact and mailing outlets.
- You can pay fees with a credit card or mail in a check.

Mailing Paper Entry Forms

- **Entry Forms must be postmarked by Friday, January 5th, 2018.**
  Failure to complete any portion of entry form may result in disqualification.

  Mail Entry Form to:
  Family Living Competition – Horticulture
  Florida State Fair
  P.O. Box 11766
  Tampa, FL 33680

  Make checks payable to: Florida State Fair Authority

Delivery of Entries

- **All entries must be delivered to the Florida State Fair Authority on either:**
  Friday, February 2, 10:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
  Saturday, February 3, 10:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

  Deliver entries to:
  Florida State Fair Authority
  Florida Center Bldg.

  Enter off of Orient Road thru the Service entrance on the west side of the fairgrounds.

  Map with directions to the Florida Center available on the Competitive Exhibits webpage.
- Entries arriving at the Fairgrounds after Delivery and Shipping Deadlines may be disqualified.

Retrieving Entries

- See the calendar for Pick Up dates, times and locations (page 1).
- Entries not picked up on designated dates can be arranged for special pick up appointment by emailing Brenda.gregory@floridastatefair.com.
- All entries not claimed by April 1, 2018 will be recycled or donated through our program department.

General Rules

Disclaimer

Please be advised that competitive exhibits are entered at the exhibitor's risk. The Florida State Fair does not insure and is not responsible for any loss, damage, or theft of entries, even if the loss, damage, or theft occurs as the result of the handling of the exhibit by staff, volunteers, contractors and/or visitors. If the exhibitor desires insurance coverage, this coverage should be secured from a personal insurance agent prior to entry and the policy written to cover the period of exhibition and transportation. Reasonable care will be taken to prevent loss or damage to exhibits. Unauthorized persons are not permitted in the building after closing hours.

Division/Class Cancellation

The Florida State Fair management reserves the right to return entries and cancel any division or class in which, in its judgment, the entries are insufficient to secure adequate competition.

Entry Errors

Florida State Fair management is not responsible for finding errors in entries. Exhibitors are responsible for any and all errors which were submitted online or on entry and summary forms. No exhibitor shall be entitled to an award which has been disallowed as the result of his own error. The Florida State Fair management shall withhold the payment of awards for exhibits that are ineligible and may recover awards that have been paid for ineligible entries that are disclosed during post audits of Fair records. However, exhibitors with cause are entitled to question the validity of any disallowance. Such exhibitors should inform the Florida State Fair management immediately, in writing, giving their name, address, complete description of the entry and the reason for requesting reconsideration. Requests will not be considered later than ninety (90) days after receiving notice of disallowance.

Substitution

Substitutions may be made in still exhibits only in the same division of the original entry class of the original exhibitor, and may be made only if completed by the entry delivery date. Substitutions must be made at time of delivery check in. The Florida State Fair or the judge may disqualify or transfer to the correct class any entry which is not a true representative of the division or class in which it is entered.

Verification

Exhibitors wishing to verify that the Florida State Fair has received submitted entry forms and fees must include a self-addressed/stamped envelope when submitting entry forms. Online submissions will receive a confirmation code once entries are submitted.

Responsibility

The Florida State Fair shall not be responsible for exhibits remaining on the fairgrounds after designated release times. All still exhibits or display elements remaining on the Fairgrounds after the designated release time will be treated as abandoned property and will be disposed of on or before September 1st of the same year.

Removal of Entries

An exhibitor may not remove his or her entry from the Florida State Fair once it has been accepted. Entries must be on exhibit at the official opening of the Fair or at any other time specified in the Competition Handbook and shall not be removed from the Fairgrounds prior to the release date printed in the handbook, except (at the discretion of the Florida State Fair management) in cases of positive evidence of sickness, accident and/or death, or other circumstances that are in the best interests of the Fair.

Dishonored Checks

A penalty of $25.00 per dishonored check must be paid if a check in payment of entry fees or other applicable fees is refused by the bank. Only cash, certified check or money orders are acceptable for penalty payment.

Design

The Florida State Fair assumes total design control over the presentation of the exhibits. Entries designed for hanging and not so equipped will be hung in a manner deemed appropriate by the Fair. No exhibit changes will be made once the entries have been displayed. Once an entry has been received by the Florida State Fair, no further handling of entry by exhibitor shall be permitted. Relocation and final placement shall be accomplished by Florida State Fair personnel. Entries requiring assembly/disassembly must include detailed instructions and sketches for assembly/disassembly. Instructions should indicate lifting points, unsecured parts and any other information required for such handling. Where necessary, bank pins will be utilized to attach exhibits for display.

2018 Florida State Fair

Horticulture Competition Entry Form

OFFICE USE ONLY	
Exhibitor #	
Total Fee	
Paid	❑ YES ❑ NO
Type	❑ Cash ❑ MO
	❑ Check Ck No.

Entry Forms must be postmarked by Friday, January 5th, 2018. *Failure to complete any portion of entry form may result in disqualification.*

Please print legibly

Exhibitors Name (First, Last)		Organization
Mailing Address		County
City	State	Zip Code
Phone ( )	Email	

Please indicate Age Group **Age as of SEPT 1, 2017 _____** **Date of Birth _____**

❑ Adult (18 +) ❑ Youth (age 6-10) ❑ Youth (age 11-13) ❑ Youth (age 14-over)

Entry Fee: Adult Division $3 per entry | Youth Division $1 per entry

Exhibitors may enter no more than 10 plants per person for judging.

#	DIVISION #	CLASS #	Name of Plant (Botanical & Common Name)	FEE
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
			Total Amount Due	**$**

I hereby certify that I have read the Florida State Fair General Rules for the Competitive Exhibits Program (Page 7) and the above item(s) is/are entered for exhibition strictly in accordance with these rules, by which I agree to be governed. I also agree that the Florida State Fair may use my name, likeness, or photograph (including, but not limited to photographs of my entry), in any manner relating to my participation in the Competitive Exhibits Program, free of charge and without further notice or consultation.

Signature of exhibitor Date

Signature of parent/guardian (Youth ONLY) Date

Mail Entry Form to: Family Living Competition – Horticulture
Florida State Fair
P.O. Box 11766
Tampa, FL 33680

Make checks payable to: Florida State Fair Authority