



2026 Premium Book

***Online entries will be required for all exhibitors. You must have the confirmation email with your entries listed. Complete checkout even though there is no fee!**

<http://rowancounty.fairentry.com>

Deadline to Enter: September 2, 11:59pm

Enter and drop-off 5 items, get 1 free entry ticket into the fair!

Exhibit Drop-off: September 20, 2pm-4pm **Exhibits must be tagged and in place by 4pm.**

Judging: September 21, 9am

Exhibit Pick-up: September 27, 2pm-4pm

A-G Premiums: Best of Show-\$15, 1st-\$5, 2nd-\$3, 3rd-\$2

H Premiums: Best of Show-\$100, 1st-\$25, 2nd-\$15, 3rd-\$10

Index

Content

Exhibit Rules

Department A – Field Crops

Department B – Horticulture

Department C – Plants and Flowers

Department D – Food Preservation

Department E – Bakery Goods

Department F – Home Furnishings, Crafts and Apparel

Department G – Photography & Fine Arts

Department H – Specialty Goods

Exhibit Rules

- 1) The Management of the Rowan County Fair Agricultural and Industrial Fair reserves the right to rule on any questions not covered by these rules.
- 2) Disregard of any rule or misrepresentation by exhibitors forfeits all premiums, rights, and privileges without recourse.
- 3) The Management will use diligence to ensure the safety of the articles entered for exhibition after their arrival on the grounds. Under no circumstances will Rowan County Agricultural and Industrial Fair or North Carolina Cooperative Extension be responsible for loss, injury, theft or damage by fire, lightning or wind of articles on exhibit or display.
- 4) Exhibitors must place all exhibits under the Department Directors in charge.
- 5) No article for exhibit will be entitled to space until proper entry has been made. Once an article has been entered for a premium, it cannot be removed until pickup day unless permission granted from the Fair Manager, Department Director or designated person. Without such permission, exhibitor forfeits all claims to premiums.
- 6) Each Department is under the special charge of the Department Director. Each Director will oversee the arrangement of exhibits and have control of the space assigned to them. Directors will receive all exhibits, take personal charge of them and deliver the articles on presentation of entry exhibit ticket stubs at the close of the Fair.
- 7) Competition is open to Rowan County Residents ONLY.
- 8) NO entry will be taken at any time at the Fair. If records are altered and do not conform to those entries on file, payment of premium will be withheld.
- 9) Exhibitors must first pick-up their item exhibit tickets from the Registration table. Attach the appropriate item exhibit ticket to entry; then, present the item to the appropriate Department Director. Each Department Director will return the item exhibit ticket stub to the Exhibitor. Please return these stubs when picking up entries. Exhibit Hall will be closed to the public during judging.
- 10) All articles must be delivered to the grounds. No charge for transportation, freight or drayage shall be paid by the Fair.
- 11) When there is no competition in a class or an exhibit in a department, no premium will be awarded unless in the opinion of the judges and directors that the exhibit is sufficiently meritorious.
- 12) All exhibits are under the direct supervision of the Department Directors and are on exhibit as a part of the Fair's attractions. It is agreed by the exhibitors in making their entries that they will comply with the rules of Rowan County Agricultural and Industrial Fair. The Department Directors must see that all exhibits are in place until time for removal as designated.
- 13) **Entries not picked up at designated time will become the property of Rowan County Agricultural and Industrial Fair, and award money will be forfeited.**
- 14) Protests must be made in writing and filed with the Manager by noon of the day following the award, accompanied by a protest fee of \$10.00 which will not be returned by the Rowan County Agricultural and Industrial Fair if protest is not sustained.
- 15) All protests will be considered at an appropriate time by the management of the Fair; all parties interested will be notified.

- 16) The Rowan County Agricultural and Industrial Fair has adopted the rules of the International Association of Fairs and Expositions governing appeals.
- 17) The Department Director in charge shall attend the Judges when making the examination in his or her respective Department and furnish them with any desired information. Premiums will not be paid to individuals having exhibits where it is proven that they accompanied the Judges when awarding the premiums. As the awards are made, the Director will attach the ribbon indicating the award and record information.
- 18) Decision of Judges is final, and no appeal will be considered except in cases of protest/appeal in writing with strong evidence of fraud or violation of the rules of the Fair.
- 19) Reports must be signed by each Judge in their own handwriting.
- 20) Judges may not award premiums to articles not in the regular Premium List.
- 21) With the permission of the Department Director, Judges may have entries re-classed that have been wrongly entered.
- 22) Only ONE entry per person per category.
- 23) Each item entered can only be entered ONCE.
- 24) No previous year winners can be entered.
- 25) All entries must be numbered & recorded by Department and Class with corresponding tags placed on exhibits.
- 26) No person shall be allowed to see the entries until after judging.
- 27) Fair management has the right to discard any items that are unsightly & will not be returned to the Exhibitor.
- 28) All Judges will be instructed to DISQUALIFY articles entered under the wrong class or entry category.
- 29) AGE GROUP IS BY THE DATE OF THE JUDGING.
- 30) There will be a **Best of Show** award in each Department.
- 31) **Any Exhibit or Food Item that becomes unsuitable for display, showing signs of decay or rot, will be disposed of as necessary.** Your Exhibit tag and any ribbon will be left on display.

Department A-Field Crops

*All items entered should be well selected as to uniformity, free from blemishes and trueness to type. Special emphasis will be placed on quality. All entries SHOULD have been produced by the Exhibitor in ROWAN COUNTY during the past year.

Class

- 1) Adult: 18 Years of Age & Over
- 2) Youth: 17 Years of Age & Under

Category

- 1) Barley (Seeds in Quart Jar)
- 2) Corn, Yellow (8 Ears)
- 3) Corn, White (8 Ears)
- 4) Corn, OTHER Popcorn (8 Ears)
- 5) Corn, OTHER Indian Corn (8 Ears)
- 6) Hay, Alfalfa (1/4 bale, neatly tied)
- 7) Hay, Fescue (1/4 bale, neatly tied)
- 8) Hay, Orchard Grass (1/4 bale, neatly tied)
- 9) Oats (Seeds in Quart Jar)
- 10) Soybeans (Plant)
- 11) Soybeans (Seeds in Quart Jar)
- 12) Wheat (Seeds in Quart Jar)
- 13) Sorghum (3 Stems & Head in a Bundle)
- 14) TALLEST CORN STALK (1ST-\$50, 2ND-\$30, 3RD-\$20)**

Department B-Horticulture

*All items entered should be well selected as to uniformity, free from blemishes and trueness to type. Special emphasis will be placed on quality. All entries SHOULD have been produced by the Exhibitor in ROWAN COUNTY.

Class

- 1) Adult: 18 Years of Age & Over
- 2) Youth: 17 Years of Age & Under

Category

- 1) Apples (Plate of 3)
- 2) Cantaloupe
- 3) Muscadine, dark (Plate of 6)
- 4) Muscadine, bronze (Plate of 6)
- 5) Grapes, bunch (1 Bunch)
- 6) Pumpkin, non-decorated
- 7) Pumpkin, Jack-o-Lantern type
- 8) Pumpkin, Pie or Heirloom type
- 9) Winter Squash (Plate of 1)
- 10) Squash, Zucchini (Plate of 3)
- 11) Squash, Yellow (Plate of 3)
- 12) Squash, Any Other (Plate of 3)
- 13) Watermelon, best of any type (label with variety)
- 14) Other Melon
- 15) Other fruit (label with variety)
- 16) Pecans (Pint Jar)
- 17) Peanuts (Pint Jar)
- 18) Sunflower Seeds (1/2 Pint Jar)
- 19) Chestnuts (Pint Jar)
- 20) Carrots (Plate of 3)
- 21) Onions (Plate of 3 Bulbs)
- 22) Potatoes, Irish (Plate of 3)
- 23) Potatoes, Largest
- 24) Sweet Potatoes, best (Plate of 3)
- 25) Sweet Potatoes, Largest Single Specimen
- 26) Beans, Green (Plate of 5)
- 27) Beans, Lima (Plate of 5)
- 28) Beans, October, Dried (Plate of 5)

- 29) Beans, October, Not Dried (Plate of 5)
- 30) Eggplant (Plate of 1)
- 31) Gourds, Functional
- 32) Gourds, Ornamental
- 33) Okra (Plate of 5)
- 34) Peas, Field, Dried (Plate of 5)
- 35) Peas, Field, Not Dried (Plate of 5)
- 36) Pepper, Bell (Plate of 3)
- 37) Pepper, Any Other Non-Bell Sweet (Plate of 3)
- 38) Pepper, Hot (Plate of 3)
- 39) Tomatoes, Red Slicing (Plate of 3)
- 40) Tomatoes, Any Other Color Slicing (Plate of 3)
- 41) Tomatoes, Cherry or Grape (Plate of 10)
- 42) Beets (Plate of 3)
- 43) Cucumbers (Plate of 3)
- 44) Other vegetable (label with variety)
- 45) Most Unusual Fruit/Vegetable (describe)
- 46) Eggs, White (1/2 dozen)
- 47) Eggs, Brown (1/2 dozen)
- 48) Eggs, Blue/Green (1/2 dozen)
- 49) LARGEST PUMPKIN OVER 25 POUNDS (1ST-\$50, 2ND-\$30, 3RD-\$20)**

Department C-Plants and Flowers

*All flowers must be live or fresh cut material, except for dried Category. Best Single Specimens must have a minimum of two leaves on the stem.

Class

- 1) Adult: 18 Years of Age & Over
- 2) Youth: 17 Years of Age & Under

Category

- 1) Hanging Baskets, Flowering
- 2) Hanging Baskets, Foliage
- 3) Potted, Flowering
- 4) Potted, Foliage
- 5) Chrysanthemum, Best Single Specimen
- 6) Cockscomb, Best Single Specimen
- 7) Dahlia, Best Single Specimen
- 8) Gladiolus, Best Single Specimen
- 9) PINK Rose, Best Single Specimen
- 10) RED Rose, Best Single Specimen
- 11) YELLOW Rose, Best Single Specimen
- 12) Sunflower, Best Single Specimen
- 13) Zinnia, Best Single Specimen
- 14) Any Other Flower Not Listed, Best Single Specimen
- 15) Best Arrangement, Holiday Theme
- 16) Best Arrangement, Miniature (No larger than a 3" x 3")
- 17) Best Arrangement, Centerpiece
- 18) LARGEST SUNFLOWER HEAD, DRIED (1ST-\$50, 2ND-\$30, 3RD-\$20)**

Department D-Food Preservation

*All low acid foods must be processed in a pressure canner using recipes from a current canning guide. Fruits and acidified foods may be processed in a boiling water bath using recipes from a current canning guide, such as USDA Complete Guide to Home Canning. No rusty rings, and jars must be clean. Canning jars must be standard quart, pint or half-pint sized, clear and have an airtight seal. Judging will be based on clearness, color, texture, ripeness, size and pack. For health safety reasons, jars will not be opened for tasting.

Class

- 1) Adult: 18 Years of Age & Over
- 2) Youth: 17 Years of Age & Under

Category

- 1) Fruit (1 Jar)
- 2) Strawberry Preserve (1 Jar)
- 3) Blackberry Preserve (1 Jar)
- 4) Blueberry Preserve (1 Jar)
- 5) Any Other Preserve (1 Jar)
- 6) Strawberry Jelly (1 Jar)
- 7) Blackberry Jelly (1 Jar)
- 8) Blueberry Jelly (1 Jar)
- 9) Any Other Jelly (1 Jar)
- 10) Strawberry Jam (1 Jar)
- 11) Blackberry Jam (1 Jar)
- 12) Blueberry Jam (1 Jar)
- 13) Any Other Jam (1 Jar)
- 14) Apple Butter (1 Jar)
- 15) Apple Sauce (1 Jar)
- 16) Juice (1 Jar)
- 17) Cucumber Pickles (1 Jar)
- 18) Any Other Pickles (1 Jar)
- 19) Relish (1 Jar)
- 20) Tomatoes (1 Jar)
- 21) Any Other Tomato Product (1 Jar)
- 22) Salsa (1 Jar)
- 23) Sauerkraut (1 Jar)
- 24) Green Beans (1 Jar)
- 25) Corn (1 Jar)
- 26) Okra (1 Jar)
- 27) Any Other Vegetable (1 Jar)

Department E-Bakery Goods

*Items should be placed on a white plate and sealed in a zip lock bag. Bakery goods that need refrigeration must be marked as such when dropped off. Judging will be based on shape, size, crust, flavor, texture and grain, color and lightness.

Class

- 1) Adult: 18 Years of Age & Over
- 2) Youth: 11-17 Years of Age
- 3) Junior: 5-10 Years of Age

Category

- 1) Biscuits (1/2 dozen)
- 2) Cornmeal Muffin (1/2 dozen)
- 3) Bread, White
- 4) Bread, Whole Wheat
- 5) Bread, Sourdough
- 6) Bread, Artisan
- 7) Rolls, Sweet (1/2 dozen)
- 8) Rolls, Dinner (1/2 dozen)
- 9) Any Other Biscuit, Muffin, Bread or Rolls
- 10) Layer Cake, Chocolate (1/4 of Cake)
- 11) Layer Cake, Vanilla (1/4 of Cake)
- 12) Layer Cake, Any Other (1/4 of Cake)
- 13) Coffee Cake (1/4 of Cake)
- 14) Pound Cake, No Icing, Chocolate (1/4 of Cake)
- 15) Pound Cake, No Icing, Vanilla (1/4 of Cake)
- 16) Pound Cake, No Icing, Any Other (1/4 of Cake)
- 17) Cake, Iced, Chocolate (1/4 of Cake)
- 18) Cake, Iced, Vanilla (1/4 of Cake)
- 19) Cake, Iced, Any Other (1/4 of Cake)
- 20) Brownies (1/2 dozen)
- 21) Blondies (1/2 dozen)
- 22) Chocolate Fudge (1/2 dozen pieces)
- 23) Fudge, Other (1/2 dozen pieces)
- 24) Peanut Brittle (1/2 dozen pieces)
- 25) Pulled Mints, $\frac{3}{4}$ inch long each piece (1/2 dozen pieces)
- 26) Chocolate Candy (1/2 dozen pieces)

- 27) Any Other Candy NOT Listed Above (1/2 dozen pieces)
- 28) Drop Cookies, Chocolate (1/2 dozen)
- 29) Drop Cookies, Plain (1/2 dozen)
- 30) Chocolate Chip Cookies (1/2 dozen)
- 31) Peanut Butter Cookies (1/2 dozen)
- 32) Sugar Cookies (1/2 dozen)
- 33) Any Other Cookie (1/2 dozen)
- 34) Pie, Fruit
- 35) Pie, Chocolate
- 36) Pie, Any Other
- 37) CAKE, DECORATED (1ST-\$50, 2ND-\$30, 3RD-\$20)**

Department F-Home Furnishings, Crafts and Apparel

*All entries must be made by Exhibitor within the past year. Exhibitor must provide appropriate materials to display each Exhibit (ornaments with hangers, flags with dowels, etc.). All hangers must have a swivel neck hook. Jewelry and Apparel items must be wearable. All Garments and Exhibits must be clean. 4-H'ers who represent Rowan County at the State Clothing Competition are NOT eligible to enter their county's WINNING garment in competition. Doll outfit must be presented on a doll with a display stand. Judging will be based on general appearance, workmanship and economic aspect.

Class

- 1) Adult: 18 Years of Age & Over
- 2) Youth: 11-17 Years of Age
- 3) Junior: 5-10 Years of Age

Category

- 1) Birdhouse
- 2) Handmade Basket
- 3) Ceramics/Pottery
- 4) Wood Craft
- 5) Clay Craft
- 6) Metal Craft
- 7) Stone Craft
- 8) Leather Craft
- 9) Paper Craft
- 10) Crafts made with Recycled Products
- 11) Best 4-H Clover
- 12) Origami
- 13) Glass, Stained
- 14) Glass, Mosaic
- 15) Any Other Glass
- 16) String Art
- 17) Lego Creation (original work)
- 18) Lego Creation (kit)
- 19) Homemade Toy

- 20) Doll or Toy Crocheted or Knitted, Hand Work
- 21) Doll or Toy Stuffed or Fake Fur, Hand Work
- 22) Doll Outfit, Any Size
- 23) Christmas Tree Ornaments (Set of 6)
- 24) Christmas Tree Skirt
- 25) Christmas Stocking, Homemade (6" or Larger from Heel to Cuff)
- 26) Holiday Decoration, Christmas
- 27) Holiday Decoration Other Than Christmas
- 28) Wreath, Any Theme
- 29) Pumpkin, Painted Only-Not Cut Out
- 30) Cross-Stitch ANY Item, Hand Work
- 31) Embroidery, ANY Item, Hand Work
- 32) Afghan
- 33) Pieced Quilt, Crib Size or Larger
- 34) Tacked Quilt, Crib Size or Larger
- 35) Pillowcase
- 36) Pillow
- 37) Table Runner
- 38) Apparel Item, Hand or Machine Stitched
- 39) Accessory, Hand or Machine Stitched
- 40) Any Other Hand or Machine Stitched
- 41) Apparel Item, Hand Crocheted
- 42) Accessory, Hand Crocheted
- 43) Any Other Crochet
- 44) Apparel Item, Hand Knitted
- 45) Accessory, Hand Knitted
- 46) Any Other Knitting
- 47) Tie-Dying
- 48) Decorated Clothing
- 49) Earrings
- 50) Necklace
- 51) Bracelet
- 52) Ring
- 53) Any Other Handmade Jewelry
- 54) Any Other Handmade Item Not Listed
- 55) ARTIFICIAL CHRISTMAS TREE, ADULT 3-7', YOUTH UP TO 3', JUNIOR UP TO 3' (1ST-\$75, 2ND-\$50, 3RD-\$25)**

Department G-Photography and Fine Arts

*All entries must be made by Exhibitor within the past year. All entries MUST be original work (NO KITS). All Exhibits MUST be submitted and entered hangable in some way. Photographs must be 4x6, 5x7, 8x10 or 11x14 only. Oil and Canvas works can be any size, not necessary to frame but ready to hang. No signatures should be visible; please cover any identifying signatures or marks. Exhibitors need to display age on back of Exhibit. Presentation of Finished Work is Important. Judging will be based on aesthetics, workmanship and originality.

Class

- 1) Adult: 18 Years of Age & Over
- 2) Youth: 11-17 Years of Age
- 3) Junior: 5-10 Years of Age

Category

- 1) Drawing (Pencil, Charcoal, Pastels and Chalk)
- 2) Drawn & Colored Picture (Colored Pencil, crayon, marker)
- 3) Sketching, Pen & Ink, Black & White, Animals
- 4) Sketching, Pen & Ink, Black & White, Scenery
- 5) Sketching, Pen & Ink, Black & White, People
- 6) Painting (Watercolor)
- 7) Painting (Acrylic)
- 8) Painting (Oil)
- 9) Painting (All Other)
- 10) Scratch Art
- 11) Mixed Media (a combination of media)
- 12) Collage
- 13) Photograph, Black & White
- 14) Photograph, Color, Animals
- 15) Photograph, Color, Landscape
- 16) Photograph, Color, People
- 17) Photograph, Color, Seascape
- 18) Photograph: 4-H in Action
- 19) Photograph: Special Effects
- 20) Photograph, Color, All Other

Department H-Specialty Goods

*All items entered should be well selected as to uniformity, free from blemishes and trueness to type. Special emphasis will be placed on quality. All entries SHOULD have been produced by the Exhibitor in ROWAN COUNTY.

Class

- 1) Adult: 18 Years of Age & Over
- 2) Youth: 17 Years of Age & Under

Category

- 1) Honey, Light (One Pint or One Pound Clear Glass Jar)
- 2) Honey, Amber (One Pint or One Pound Clear Glass Jar)
- 3) Honey in Black Jar, Judged on Taste Only (One Pint or One Pound)
- 4) Comb Honey (One Pint or One Pound Clear Glass Jar)
- 5) Any Other Honey-by-Product (Candy, Polish, etc.)
- 6) Beeswax Display, One-Half Pound or Larger
- 7) Molasses