



UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE
**COOPERATIVE
EXTENSION**



2019-2020 HORTICULTURE JUDGING LEADER'S GUIDE

The Horticulture Judging Contest is an opportunity for 4-H horticulture project members to demonstrate the skills and knowledge they have learned in the horticulture project area. This contest helps teach youth to recognize and identify some of the most important horticultural crops, to learn criteria influencing quality and to be able to answer questions and solve problems relating to the art and science of horticulture. There are four portions of the test that include knowledge, judging, identification, and skill demonstration at the state contest. The top 10 senior participants from each county will be invited to participate in the State Horticulture Contest held at the Delaware State Fair. Should ten seniors not be available, juniors may be named to the County team.

Knowledge

The knowledge section tests the youth's understanding of basic horticulture principles. Questions that form the knowledge test come from the Purdue Horticulture Project Book series. The challenge level of the questions will be reflective of the age division. The Junior division will cover the first two levels, book A and B. The Senior division will cover information from all four levels, Level A, B and C.

Junior Division: 10 questions, true-false, multiple choice type, short answer

Senior Division: 20 questions, true-false, multiple choice type, short answer

Project Books

Level A- See Them Sprout

Level C- Take Your Pick

Level B- Let's Get Growing

Identification

The identification section will include samples from each of the following groups

- Vegetables, Herb, Fruits and Berries
- Annual and Perennial Flowers and Indoor Plants
- Landscape Plants and Trees
- Pest insects and Beneficial insects – 2019 Contest Only
- Weeds and Disorders – 2020 Contest Only
- Equipment

During the contest, Junior participants will be given a complete list of all items which could potentially appear. Senior participants will not be given a list. Specimens may be alive or preserved plant parts such as, but not limited to: stems, twigs, leaves, flowers, fruits, roots, bulbs, or plant products, or photos. Samples for each age division will also be reflective of their age ability.

Junior Division: Identify 5 samples from each category for a total of 25 samples

Senior Division: Identify 10 samples from each category for a total of 50 samples

Judging

Participants will judge one class of vegetables and one class that is a horticulture item (ex. flowers, plants, vegetables). Seniors will be expected to provide written reasons for one designated class. Plates in each class will be numbered and participants will be expected to judge the specimens and rank the plates from first (best plate) to last (worst plate). Oral reasons will not be required of contestants. Each class is worth 50 points and written reasons will be worth 50 points.

Skill Demonstration – Senior Level at County and State level

1. Transplant a vegetable/flower from a cell pack to a small container
2. Explain and draw out how to plant a garden

TRAINING

Training 4-H'ers to participate in Horticulture Judging should be fun for all, as well as educational.

Suggested training activities include:

1. Take field trips to supermarkets, roadside stands, garden centers, county office gardens, or gardening events to study vegetable, flower, and landscape plant quality judging and identification. You can also identify horticultural tools and supplies.
2. Hold training sessions in neighborhood gardens. Use these sessions to teach identification of vegetables, flowers, landscape plants, and pests in a hands-on setting. You can also harvest vegetables and flowers and use them to teach and practice judging. Consider using a well-landscaped area to teach about landscaping principles. Also, take this as an opportunity to practice horticultural skills.
3. Collect various flowers, vegetables, landscape plant, and pest samples or have members bring in specimens from home for a training session.
4. Collect garden catalogs and use the photographs to teach identification. Make use of reference books, extension materials, and trade publications as training materials.
5. Invite Master Gardeners, garden club members, or horticulture professionals to speak to 4-H'ers.
6. Involve older 4-H'ers and teens in assisting with training. They can bring items to meetings, assist in teaching, arrange tours and make phone calls.
7. Use the Judging kit that is located in each county office with flash cards, tools and ways to learn and study for the contest.

NOTE:

*Junior 2019

◆Junior 2020

Juniors will be provided the entire word bank listed here (without the yearly marks.) Seniors will not be given a word bank.

Identification Study Lists

Vegetables, Herb, Fruits and Berries:

Asparagus*	Grapefruit*	Oregano*
Basil♦	Honeydew♦	Purple Potatoes♦
Broccoli*	Kale*	Raspberries*
Cherry Tomato♦	Lima Beans♦	Rhubarb♦
Eggplant*	Mint*	Spaghetti Squash♦

Annual and Perennial Flowers and Indoor Plants:

Asters♦	Cone Flower (Echinacea)♦	Petunia*
Blackeyed-	Daffodil *	Rubber Plant♦
Susan(Rudbeckia)*	Geranium♦	Spotted Dumb Cane*
Butterfly Weed♦	Goldenrod*	Zinnia*
Chrysanthemum*	Joe-pye Weed♦	
Common Milkweed♦	Marigold *	

Landscape Plants and Trees:

American Holly♦	Flowering Dogwood♦	Sourwood♦
Bald Cypress*	Kentucky Coffeetree*	Sycamore*
Blackgum *	Magnolia♦	Willow♦
Cherry Tree*	Red Maple*	Winterberry *
Crabapple♦	River Birch♦	White Pine*

2019 Pests Insects and Beneficial Insects:

Assassin Bug♦	Ground Beetle♦	Praying Mantis♦
Bag Worm *	Ground Spider*	Spotted Lantern Fly*
Borer♦	Honey Bee♦	White Grub♦
Cabbageworm (adult) *	Lady Beetle (adult)*	Whitefly*
Goldeneye Lacewing (adult)*	Leaf Hopper (adult)♦	Wireworms*

2020 Weeds and Disorders:

Apple Scab♦	Chickweed♦	Nutsedge*
Annual Blue Grass*	Crabgrass*	Oxalis*
Black Spot♦	Dandelion♦	Powdery Mildew♦
Botrytis*	Frost*	Root Rot*
Canker♦	Leaf Scorch♦	White Clover*

Equipment:

Bulb Planter♦	Hose-end Sprayer♦	Pruning Saw*
Brick Paver*	Landscape Edging*	Resin Coated Fertilizer ♦
Erosion Netting♦	Landscape Fabric♦	Safety Goggles*
Ground Limestone*	Nursery Container*	Sand♦
Hoe♦	Pump Sprayer*	Soaker Hose*