

2025

HORTICULTURE

Exhibitor Handbook



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SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

STATE FAIR PARK DIVISION

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www.sdstatefair.com



Thank you for being a part of the 2025 South Dakota State Fair! We are thrilled to invite you back to Huron for the 2025 South Dakota State Fair on August 27-September 1! You are so important to our fair, whether you are a long-time exhibitor or a first-year competitor. We love to see the Horticulture Building brimming with your accomplishments and talents for fairgoers of all ages to enjoy.

In this book you will find familiar and new avenues of showmanship. Review the guidelines to entering your exhibits for display, judging and exciting prize-winning opportunities. This year, we are pleased to announce a variety of exciting additions and changes to the Horticulture Department! These include:

- We're on Facebook! Follow the SD State Fair Horticulture Building Facebook page for the newest details.
- **This year's overall theme for the Horticulture Building will be "A Place in Time"**
- We will be hosting a live judging of the tomatoes this year, in which our judges will be tasting them and giving reasons for placings. Stay tuned to our Facebook page for more details!

We will again be offering the division entitled "Giant Vegetable" (*formerly called the Largest Plant Specimen*). Make sure to view the division information on page 25 for exciting new details and classes that have been added this year! This judging will take place on the first day of the fair and we will show off impressive plant specimens that were grown right here in South Dakota.

The South Dakota State Fair exists to showcase the best of the great state of South Dakota and bring people together. Thank you in advance for sharing your ideas and talents with us. It is amazing every year to see how much creativity there is in our great state! We will be looking for you at the 2025 South Dakota State Fair.

The South Dakota State Fair will accept Horticulture Exhibit entries between April 1-August 15.

Sincerely,

The South Dakota State Fair Staff and Commission & Horticulture Building Management Team

- Michael Bishop (Superintendent)
- Rita Hilgedick (Assistant Superintendent)
- Marty Christian
- Callee Bauman Wachter
- Cindy Eilers
- Sidney Trio
- Karen Roudabush – Students of the Mitchell CTE Academy

2025 NEW/FEATURED AREAS:

1. Scarecrow Contest - Show us your creative talents and make a scarecrow from scratch! See page 26 for more details.

ENTRY TAGS: Starting in 2025, Horticulture entry tags will be printed on-site instead of being mailed out in advance. Tags will be printed when checking exhibits in. Varieties or other descriptions typically written in by the exhibitor may be entered before printing. One reason for this change is that it allows us to push back the entry deadline, so you know best what produce your garden will provide for you to show. We are excited for this change and increase in efficiency for the Horticulture department, and appreciate your patience as we work through the transition together!

PREMIUMS & ENTRY FEES: Upon review, it was discovered that the entry fees and premiums for many of our static exhibit departments have not been changed for over 30 years. We're excited to announce that the premiums in Divisions 1-13 of the Horticulture Department have been raised! After careful review, the State Fair has imposed a new sliding scale entry fee for the Horticulture Department and Horizons Hall. Please see page 5 for updated premium and entry fee rates.

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2025 Horticulture Department Theme: *A Place in Time*

Thank You to our sponsors!



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Sunbird Inc.

South Dakota Farmers Union

DEPARTMENT 377: HORTICULTURE

Superintendent: Michael Bishop, Alexandria, SD

Phone: 608.345.1822

Email: michael@mbgenetics.com

Online Entries: <https://sdsf.fairwire.com>

Horticulture Website: <https://www.sdstatefair.com/participate/competitive-exhibits/open-class-static/>

Horticulture Building Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/sdstatefairhorticulture>



SCHEDULE		
Tuesday, April 1	8 AM	Entries open
Friday, August 15	11:59 PM	Entries Close
Sunday, August 24	2 PM – 7 PM	Exhibit Check-In – <i>please be sure to allow sufficient time for entering exhibits</i>
Monday, August 25	9 AM – 7 PM	Exhibit Check-In – <i>please be sure to allow sufficient time for entering exhibits</i>
Wednesday, August 27	1 PM	Live Tomato Judging
Thursday, August 28	4 PM	Live Giant Vegetable Judging
Sunday, August 31	2 PM	Contestant Meeting – wrap up & new ideas! <i>(optional)</i>

Upon review, it was discovered that the entry fees and premiums for many of our static exhibit departments have not been changed for over 30 years. We're excited to announce that the premiums in Divisions 1-13 of the Horticulture Department have been raised! After careful review, the State Fair has imposed a new sliding scale entry fee for the Horticulture Department and Horizons Hall.

ENTRY FEES

<i>Total entry fees owed is based on the total number of entries in the building per exhibitor.</i>
1-5 entries: \$5
6-15 entries: \$10
16-25 entries: \$15
26-40 entries: \$25
41+ entries: \$30

Required 5% processing fee to be added to total amount due for each exhibitor. (Updated to 5% instead of \$5)

Refund Policy: The fair may refund entry fees paid by an exhibitor if the exhibitor requests the refund in writing two weeks prior to the opening day of the fair and states the reason for requesting the refund. Following that timeframe, NO refunds will be issued.

PREMIUM SCHEDULE – *different premium schedule for Division 16. See page 28 for details.*

DIVISIONS 1-13	
1 st Place - \$7	2 nd Place - \$5
DIVISIONS 14-15	
1 st Place - \$9	2 nd Place - \$7.50
DIVISION 16	
1 st Place - \$50	
CLASS 15:	
1 st Place - \$100	2 nd Place - \$50

DEPARTMENT RULES

1. Entries must be grown by South Dakota exhibitor.
2. Only one entry may be made in each class per exhibitor.
3. Check-in area is marked. Exhibitors, vendors, and staff are allowed in the check-in area prior to judging. Please allow sufficient time for entering exhibits.
4. Variety of fruits and vegetables must be printed on the entry tag. If variety is known at the time of entry, it can be put in the "Description" box during online entry. If not, have the variety name ready at check in to be printed on the tag. If variety is unknown, enter "unknown variety" on online entry or in "Description" box during online entry.
5. Exhibit must contain the exact number of fruits, vegetables, cut flowers etc. required as stated in the class.
6. Horticulture Building will provide vases for fresh-cut flowers and paper plates for fruits and vegetables.
7. Potted plant weight limit is 40 pounds.
8. Division 8 - Arrangements must be the work of the exhibitor. Plant materials need not be grown by exhibitor.
9. Entries of an exhibitor cannot be used as part of a garden club, professional, florist, or greenhouse exhibit.
10. Care instructions may be included with each exhibit. Exhibitor cannot tamper, alter, or damage any exhibit.
11. Decayed, injured, or inferior specimens may not be exhibited. Horticulture superintendent and judge may determine if the exhibit is ineligible for competition.
12. Judging will take place on Tuesday, August 26 at 10 AM. Judges will consider the following:
 - Taste in arrangements and attractiveness of collections.
 - One 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place ribbon may be awarded in each class.
 - Ribbons will not be awarded on inferior entries.
 - If competition in a class is less than the number of awards offered, the judge has discretion to award lower ribbons and not award higher ribbons.
 - Individual pieces, baskets of flowers, entries or parts of entries may not be taken from exhibit to be judged separately in any other class.
 - Scoring assists in the preparation of exhibits and helpful when judging exhibits. Judges at their discretion may use the following guidelines:

FRUITS & VEGETABLES <i>(besides tomato classes)</i>	Points	TOMATOES	Points	OTHER DIVISIONS	Points
Stage of maturity	45	Stage of maturity	30	Originality	45
Uniformity of specimen	30	Uniformity of specimen	30	Design	20
Free of disease, blemishes, and bruises	20	Free of disease, blemishes, and bruises	20	Suitable combination of materials	20
Variety name, true to type	5	Variety name, true to type	5	Adherence to theme	15
		Taste	15		

13. After judging is completed, exhibitor may replace fruits, vegetables, and fresh-cut flowers that have deteriorated. When replacing exhibit, exhibitor must seek permission from Horticulture superintendent or Horticulture assistant.
14. Entire exhibits or parts of exhibits may not be taken from the Horticulture Building during the South Dakota State Fair.

15. Horticulture superintendent and Horticulture assistants may discard whole or parts of entries that detract from display. Entry tags, ribbons, containers, and accessories are removed from the exhibit and stored until the end of the South Dakota State Fair.
16. Exhibit pick up: for exhibitors living 120 miles or more from Huron may pick up their exhibits starting at 3 PM on Monday, September 2. Exhibitors that live within 120 miles from Huron may pick up their exhibits starting at 5 PM on Monday, September 2. Pick up will also be available on Tuesday, September 3 from 8 AM – 4 PM for all exhibitors. If personally unable to pick-up exhibit, exhibitor must sign a release authorizing an individual to pick-up exhibit.
17. Starting in 2024, entries must be completed online at <https://sdsf.fairwire.com>. A step-by-step video with instructions on how to navigate the online entry platform, ShoWorks, can be found here (<https://vimeo.com/922566991/66f0110c64?share=copy>). If you require further assistance after watching the instructional video, please contact the SD State Fair Office. **For those with no access to a computer to make entries, please contact the State Fair office for a paper entry form.** If using a paper entry form, please keep to 25 entries or less.
18. The South Dakota State Fair office will accept entries between April 1-July 31 in all static departments. Horticulture entries will be accepted until August 15.
19. Youth is defined as 18 years of age and under prior to the 2024 State Fair. Youth may also enter adult categories. Exhibits will be judged according to division rules.
- 20. Starting in 2025, Horticulture entry tags will be printed on-site instead of being mailed out in advance. Tags will be printed when checking exhibits in. Varieties or other descriptions typically written in by the exhibitor may be entered before printing.**
21. The South Dakota State Fair is not responsible for any loss or damage that may occur.
22. Exhibits may not be sold. Sales tags or advertising logos on exhibits will not be allowed.
23. Superintendents of the Horizons Hall, Horticulture, and Arts/Education Buildings may determine the eligibility of exhibits and may disqualify exhibits.
24. A division or class may be deleted if no entries are made for three years.
25. Items not claimed by December 31 will become property of the South Dakota State Fair.
26. On-grounds parking is prohibited without permits. Parking passes issued to campers are valid only for the campsites. They are not a valid anywhere else. If the vehicle does not fit within the boundaries of the campsite, the vehicle must be parked off the grounds. Any vehicle found on-grounds without the proper credential for the area in which it's parked is subject to towing. There will be zero tolerance for parking violations; we will no longer be making PA announcements or giving warnings. Violators will be towed.
27. The South Dakota State Fair has an electronic system at the gates for admission. All exhibitors must have an admission pass when entering the fairgrounds during the fair. It is recommended to purchase passes in advance to make for efficient entry into the fair. The majority of admission passes will have bar codes on them that will be scanned upon entry. Parking passes will be checked upon entry to the fairgrounds. Passes are only valid for the area and terms listed on the pass.
28. Fire Lanes: For safety purposes, any vehicle blocking a fire-lane will be towed at the owner's expense. There will be zero tolerance.
29. Premium checks will be mailed to exhibitors within 60 days of the State Fair. If an exhibitor's earnings total \$600 or over, a W-9 must be completed by the exhibitor before their check will be issued. Premium checks for the amount of \$5 and under will not be mailed out (some exceptions apply). Affected exhibitors will receive instructions on how to collect premium winnings.

Sponsored by South Dakota State Horticulture Society
Best of Show ribbon and \$25 cash

Sponsored by Stark Bro's Nurseries & Orchards, Co.
Best of Show ribbon and \$50 gift certificate for first place exhibit in Div 1 Class 6 &
Class 7

DIVISION 1 – FRUITS

General Rules for Exhibiting Fruits

- Include variety name on online entry. If variety is unknown, then write "unknown". This can be updated at check-in before printing tags.
- Select specimens in top quality and prime maturity.
- Clean and neatly trim specimens, to ensure uniformity.
- Select specimens free from disease, insect, or mechanical injury.
- Select correct number of specimens typical for variety.
- Specimens are free from soil, dust, spray residues, and other foreign matter.

CLASS #	CLASS DESCRIPTION	CLASS INSTRUCTIONS
1	Apple (Crab)	<i>3 specimens of 1 variety with stem</i>
2	Apple (Golden/Yellow)	<i>3 specimens of 1 variety (must be golden/yellow variety with stem)</i>
3	Apple (Green)	<i>3 specimens of 1 variety (must be green variety with stem)</i>
4	Apple (Red)	<i>3 specimens of 1 variety (must be red variety with stem)</i>
5	Peck of Apples	<i>1 variety (any 1 variety) with stems</i>
6	Grapes	<i>1 bunch of 1 variety</i>
7	Pear	<i>3 specimens of 1 variety with stem</i>
8	Fruit not listed above	<i>3 specimens of 1 variety</i>

Sponsored by Heartland Garden Club - Huron, SD
Best of Show plaque and a \$25 cash award

DIVISION 2 – VEGETABLES

For instructions on how to prepare your vegetable exhibits, refer to the book “Preparing Horticultural Exhibits” by Dr. David Graper, Former Extension Horticulture Specialist, South Dakota State University <https://extension.sdstate.edu/sites/default/files/2019-06/P-00120.pdf>.

Refer to page 3 for general instructions on how to prepare exhibits (all classes must follow this). Instructions for preparing each specific crop are listed throughout the book. Crops not listed in the book have additional instructions listed below.

Contact the State Fair office or your local county extension office to request a hard copy of this book.

CLASS #	CLASS DESCRIPTION	CLASS INSTRUCTIONS
1	Beans, Lima (small or large seeded)	Refer to pg 4 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
2	Beans, Snap (bush, pole, green, wax, purple or red-podded)	Refer to pg 4 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
3	Beets	Refer to pg 4 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
4	Broccoli	Refer to pg 5 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
5	Brussel Sprouts	3 specimens
6	Cabbage (flat-head)	Refer to pg 5 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
7	Cabbage (red)	Refer to pg 5 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
8	Cabbage (round-head)	Refer to pg 5 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
9	Cabbage (savory or pointed)	Refer to pg 5 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
10	Carrot (minimum 3 inches)	Refer to pg 5 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
11	Cauliflower	Refer to pg 6 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
12	Celery, stalks	3 ribs
13	Celery, plant	1 plant
14	Cucumber (pickling types)	Refer to pg 6 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
15	Cucumber (slicing types)	Refer to pg 6 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
16	Eggplant (cylindrical)	Refer to pg 6-7 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
17	Eggplant (globular)	Refer to pg 6-7 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
18	Garlic	Refer to pg 7 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
19	Kale, leaves	3 leaves, including center ribs
20	Kale, plant	1 plant
21	Kohlrabi	Refer to pg 7 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
22	Melon (honeydew)	1 specimen
23	Melon (muskmelon/cantaloupe)	Refer to pg 7 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
24	Melon (watermelon)	Refer to pg 13 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
25	Okra	Refer to pg 8 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
26	Onions (market package, any variety)	5 lbs. displayed in standard mesh bag
27	Onions (red)	Refer to pg 8 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
28	Onions (white)	Refer to pg 8 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
29	Onions (yellow)	Refer to pg 8 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
30	Parsnips	Refer to pg 8 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
31	Peas	Refer to pg 8 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
32	Peppers (green hot)	Refer to pg 9 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
33	Peppers (green sweet)	Refer to pg 9 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
34	Peppers (red hot)	Refer to pg 9 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
35	Peppers (red sweet)	Refer to pg 9 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits

36	Peppers (yellow or orange hot)	Refer to pg 9 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
37	Peppers (yellow or orange sweet)	Refer to pg 9 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
38	Potato (market package, any variety)	8 lbs. displayed in standard mesh bag
39	Potato (red)	Refer to pg 9 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
40	Potato (russet)	Refer to pg 9 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
41	Potato (sweet)	1 specimen
42	Potato (white)	Refer to pg 9 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
43	Potato (yellow)	Refer to pg 9 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
44	Pumpkin (large field type)	Refer to pg 10 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
45	Pumpkin (miniature, 4" or smaller)	3 specimens; stems trimmed to ½ to 1 inch
46	Pumpkin (small pie type)	Refer to pg 10 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
47	Radish	Refer to pg 10 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
48	Rhubarb	Refer to pg 10 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
49	Squash (straight neck)	Refer to pg 10-12 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
50	Squash (summer crookneck)	Refer to pg 10-12 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
51	Squash (summer scallop)	Refer to pg 10-12 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
52	Squash (summer zucchini)	Refer to pg 10-12 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
53	Squash (turk's turban)	Refer to pg 10-12 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
54	Squash (winter acorn)	Refer to pg 10-12 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
55	Squash (winter buttercup)	Refer to pg 10-12 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
56	Squash (winter butternut)	Refer to pg 10-12 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
57	Squash (winter hubbard)	Refer to pg 10-12 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
58	Squash (winter spaghetti)	Refer to pg 10-12 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
59	Sweet Corn	Refer to pg 12 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
<p>TOMATO CLASSES (56-59): One specimen will be used for a tasting as part of the new LIVE tomato judging! This judging will take place in the Horticulture Building on Wednesday at 1 pm. First and second place entries in these classes will receive an additional premium of \$10 and \$5, respectively. The Overall Best Tomato from these four classes will also receive a plaque and an additional \$20 premium.</p>		
60	Tomato (cherry or pear types)	6 specimens; remove stems
61	Tomato (roma)	4 specimens; remove stems
62	Tomato (standard red)	4 specimens; remove stems
63	Tomato (standard yellow)	4 specimens; remove stems
64	Turnips	Refer to pg 13 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits
65	Cornucopia	1 specimen of 8-12 varieties displayed in decorative basket
66	Salsa Basket with Recipe	1 specimen of each vegetable/fruit listed in recipe; fruits not grown may be included
67	Braided onion rope	minimum of 18 inches long, suitable for hanging and braided with tops, not tied with cord, twine or string
68	Braided garlic rope	minimum of 18 inches long, suitable for hanging and braided with tops, not tied with cord, twine or string
69	Pepper ristra (fresh pepper drying)	min. 12 inches long, braided or strung, may be tied/strung with fish line, string, etc.
70	First Year Exhibitor Class	A round tin or decorative plate with one large type tomato, one sweet pepper and two other kinds of vegetables of exhibitor's choice.

Sponsored by Heartland Garden Club - Huron, SD
Best of Show ribbon and a \$25 cash award

DIVISION 3 – HEIRLOOM VEGETABLES

Heirloom vegetables are vintage varieties that have been preserved by passing seed down from generation to generation. These varieties are generally 50 to 100 years old, although many are much older. The demand for heirloom vegetables is rapidly increasing especially among consumers looking for unique flavor and freshness.

General Rules for Exhibiting Heirloom Vegetables

- Must include history or background of specimen on 3" x 5" note card and attached to exhibit.
- For instructions on how to prepare your vegetable exhibits, refer to the book “Preparing Horticultural Exhibits” by Dr. David Graper, Former Extension Horticulture Specialist, South Dakota State University <https://extension.sdstate.edu/sites/default/files/2019-06/P-00120.pdf>
 - Refer to page 3 for general instructions on how to prepare exhibits (all classes must follow this). Instructions for preparing each specific crop are listed throughout the book. Crops not listed in the book have additional instructions listed below.

Contact the State Fair office or your local county extension office to request a hard copy of this book.

CLASS #	CLASS DESCRIPTION	CLASS INSTRUCTIONS
1	Heirloom Bean (Snap)	<i>Refer to pg 4 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits</i>
2	Heirloom Beet	<i>Refer to pg 4 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits</i>
3	Heirloom Cabbage	<i>Refer to pg 5 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits</i>
4	Heirloom Carrot	<i>Refer to pg 5 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits</i>
5	Heirloom Corn	<i>Refer to pg 12 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits</i>
6	Heirloom Cucumber	<i>Refer to pg 6 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits</i>
7	Heirloom Muskmelon	<i>Refer to pg 7 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits</i>
8	Heirloom Onion	<i>Refer to pg 8 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits</i>
9	Heirloom Pea	<i>Refer to pg 8 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits</i>
10	Heirloom Pepper (Hot)	<i>Refer to pg 9 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits</i>
11	Heirloom Pepper (Sweet)	<i>Refer to pg 9 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits</i>
12	Heirloom Potato	<i>Refer to pg 9 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits</i>
13	Heirloom Pumpkin	<i>Refer to pg 10 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits</i>
14	Heirloom Squash	<i>Refer to pg 11 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits</i>
15	Heirloom Tomato	<i>Refer to pg 12 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits</i>
16	Heirloom Watermelon	<i>Refer to pg 13 of Preparing Horticultural Exhibits</i>
17	Heirloom Vegetable not listed above	<i>Refer to Preparing Horticultural Exhibits</i>

Sponsored by Rainbow Flower Shop - Huron, SD
Best of Show plaque and \$25 gift certificate

Sponsored by Huron Garden Club - Huron, SD
Classes 33-37– Best of Show Ribbon and \$25 cash award
Class 38 – Best of Show Ribbon and \$25 cash award

DIVISION 4 – FRESH-CUT FLOWERS

The art and literature of the world testify to the universal love of flowers, as well as to the desire to possess them and have them near. Flowers provide color to liven up almost any garden. Many people enjoy bringing fresh-cut flowers indoors to brighten up a room and add a touch of color to the home.

General Rules for Exhibiting in Fresh-Cut Flowers

- Include variety name on online entry. If variety is unknown, then write "unknown". This can be updated at check-in before printing tags.
- Horticulture Building will provide vases for exhibits.
- Flower should be free of insects.
- Choose blossoms same size.
- Foliage should be included with each stem but not below water line.

CLASS #	CLASS DESCRIPTION	CLASS INSTRUCTIONS
1	Ageratum, annual	3 stems
2	Allium	No foliage required, 1 stem
3	Aster, double: any color	3 stems
4	Aster, single: any color	3 stems
5	Bachelor Button	3 stems
6	Calendula: annual	3 stems
7	Canna	no foliage required; 1 stem
8	Chrysanthemum: perennial	1 spike with foliage
9	Clematis	1 vine, 12 to 15 inches with flower or seed head
10	Cleome	1 stem
11	Cockscomb (Celosia), any variety	3 stems
12	Coreopsis, perennial	3 stems
13	Cosmos, single: any color	3 stems
14	Cosmos, double: any color	3 stems
15	Dahlias, large (210-260mm)	1 stem
16	Dahlias, medium (160-210mm)	1 stem
17	Dahlias, small (120-160mm)	1 stem
18	Dahlias, miniature pompom (under 120mm)	1 stem
19	Dahlia, other than listed	
20	Dianthus: annual	3 stems
21	Echinacea: any color	3 stems
22	Gaillardia	3 stems
23	Gladiolus: warm colors	no foliage required; 1 spike no less than 5 inches; reds, oranges and yellows
24	Gladiolus: cool colors	no foliage required; 1 spike no less than 5 inches; greens, blues, violets, whites
25	Hibiscus: hardy	1 stem
26	Hydrangea: any color	1 stem
27	Lantana: any color	3 stems
28	Marigold, double: any color	3 stems
29	Marigold, single: any color	3 stems

30	Petunia, single: any color	<i>unlimited bloom count per stem; 3 stems</i>
31	Petunia, double: any color	<i>unlimited bloom count per stem; 3 stems</i>
32	Phlox: perennial	<i>1 stem</i>
33	Rose, floribunda: polyanthus or shrub spray	<i>1 stem</i>
34	Rose, moss heirloom	<i>1 stem, any color</i>
35	Rose, any other heirloom	<i>1 stem; variety suggestions: Gallica, Alba, Damask, Portland, China, Tea, Bourbon, Rugosa, etc.</i>
36	Rose, miniature spray	<i>1 stem</i>
37	Rose, grandiflora/hybrid tea: any color	<i>1 stem</i>
38	Rose: most pleasing fragrance, any variety	<i>1 stem</i>
39	Flower: most pleasing fragrance, other than rose	<i>1 stem</i>
40	Rudbeckia, other than native	<i>3 stems</i>
41	Salvia	<i>3 stems</i>
42	Sedum	<i>3 stems, flower head need not be open</i>
43	Snapdragon: any variety	<i>3 stems</i>
44	Sunflower: any variety	<i>3 stems</i>
45	Verbena: annual	<i>3 stems</i>
46	Vinca	<i>3 stems</i>
47	Zinnia: warm colors	<i>3 stems; reds, oranges and yellows</i>
48	Zinnia: cool colors	<i>3 stems; greens, blues, violets, whites</i>
49	Fresh-Cut Flower: other than listed above	<i>3 stems; Indicate variety name on online entry. Write "unknown variety" on online entry if variety is unknown</i>
50	Flower Bouquet that will attract butterflies & bees	<i>No more than 5 stems. Bouquet fillers are allowed. Must indicate variety names on tag.</i>
51	Flower Bouquet: mixed varieties and colors	<i>No more than 5 stems. Bouquet fillers are allowed. Must indicate variety names on tag.</i>

Sponsored by Farmer's Cashway Do It Center - Huron, SD
Best of Show Ribbon and \$25 cash award

DIVISION 5 – DRIED FLOWERS

General Rules for Exhibiting Dried Flowers:

- Exhibit should be fully dry.
- Exhibit should be collected in a bundle and wrapped in tissue paper
- Exhibit may be dried by air, water, or microwave. Glycerin and silica gel may be used. Freeze-dry materials, artificial colors, sprays, and dyes are not permitted.

CLASS #	CLASS DESCRIPTION	CLASS INSTRUCTIONS
1	Baby's Breath (<i>Gypsophila paniculata</i>)	1 stem
2	Balloon Flower (<i>Platycodon grandifloras</i>)	3 stems with seed pods
3	Bells-of-Ireland (<i>Moluccella laevis</i>)	3 stems
4	Chinese Lantern (<i>Physalis alkekengi</i>)	3 stems
5	Cockscomb (<i>Celosia</i>), any variety; any shade	3 stems
6	Common Immortelle/Everlasting Flower (<i>Xeranthemum annuum</i>); any shade	3 stems
7	Delphinium; any color	3 stems; Write variety name on online entry. If variety is unknown, then write "unknown" on online entry.
8	Drumsticks (<i>Allium sphaerocephalum</i> or <i>Craspedia globosa</i>); any shade	1 stem
9	False Indigo/Wild Indigo (<i>Baptisia australis</i>)	3 flowers or 1 stem pod
10	Feverfew or Chamomile (<i>Chrysanthemum parthenium</i> or <i>Matricaria recutita</i>)	3 stems
11	Globe Amaranth (<i>Gomphrena globosa</i>)	3 stems
12	Globe Thistle (<i>Echinops exaltatus</i>)	3 stems
13	Goat's Beard (<i>Aruncus dioicus</i>)	1 stem
14	Heirloom Flower	3 stems of 1 variety; write common name on online entry
15	Hydrangea, any variety	1 stem
16	Money Plant (<i>Lunaria annua</i>)	3 stems
17	Peony, pink double (<i>Peonia</i>)	1 stem
18	Peony, red single (<i>Peonia</i>)	1 stem
19	Peony, white double (<i>Peonia</i>)	1 stem
20	Pussy Willow (<i>Salix discolor</i>)	1 stem
21	Russian Sage (<i>Salvi yangi</i>)	3 stems
22	Salvia, Mealycup Sage (<i>Salvia farinacea</i>)	3 stems
23	Sea Holly (<i>Eryngium amethystinum</i>)	3 stems
24	Sea Lavender (<i>Limonium platyphyllum</i> / <i>Limonium latifolium</i>)	1 stem
25	Statice, Annual (<i>Limonium sinuatum</i>); any color	3 stems
26	Strawflower (<i>Helichrysum bracteatum</i>)	3 stems
27	Sweet Autumn Clematis (<i>Clematis terniflora</i> or <i>Clematis dioscoreifolia</i>)	3 seed heads with stems attached
28	Yarrow (<i>Achillea</i>)	3 stems
29	Dried Flower not listed above	3 stems of one variety. Write common name on online entry. Write "unknown" on online entry if common name is unknown.
30	Dried Seed Head not listed above	3 stems of one variety of ornamental seed pod/seed heads. Write common name on online entry. Write "unknown" on online entry if common name is unknown.
31	Pressed Exhibit	Collection of 3 to 10 varieties of flowers or leaves; attractively displayed on a solid background in 8 x 10" standing picture frame. Mat not required.

Sponsored by East River Nursery - Huron, SD
Best of Show ribbon and \$25 gift certificate

DIVISION 6 – HERBS

General Rules for Exhibiting Herbs:

- Herbs are exhibited in potted plant form.
- To make an attractive exhibit, more than one specimen of that herb may be planted in pot.
- Include variety name on online entry. If variety is unknown, then write "unknown". This can be updated at check-in before printing tags.

CLASS #	CLASS DESCRIPTION	CLASS INSTRUCTIONS
1	Aloe; any species or cultivar	
2	Anise (Pimpinella anisum)	
3	Basil/Sweet Basil (Ocimum)	
4	Catnip (Nepeta cataria)	
5	Chamomile (Anthemis nobilis)	
6	Chives (Allium schoenoprasum)	
7	Coriander/Cilantro (Coriandrum sativum)	
8	Fennel/Sweet Fennel (Foeniculum vulgare)	
9	Lavender (Lavendula)	
10	Lemon Balm/Sweet Balm (Mellissa officinalis)	
11	Marjoram/Sweet Marjoram (Origanum majorana)	
12	Mint (Mentha)	
13	Nasturtium (Tropaeolum)	
14	Oregano (Origanum vulgare)	
15	Parsley (Polyscias)	
16	Rosemary (Rosmarinus officinalis)	
17	Sage, Garden (Salvia officinalis)	
18	Savory (Satureja)	
19	Tarragon (Artemisia dracunculus)	
20	Thyme (Thymus vulgaris)	
21	Herb not listed above	<i>Write common name on online entry.</i>
22	Healing/Medicinal Collection	<i>3 to 6 herbs for therapeutic healing. Write common names on online entry.</i>
23	Kitchen Collection	<i>3 to 6 herbs to enhance cooking. Write common names on online entry.</i>
24	Tea Collection	<i>3 to 6 herbs for making tea. Write common names on online entry.</i>
25	Potpourri	<i>flower petals and leaves preserved for fragrant qualities; arranged in attractive container.</i>
26	Wreath	<i>an assortment of herbs, fresh or dried woven into a wreath suitable for hanging, wreath support can be used</i>

DIVISION 7 – HOUSEPLANTS AND PLANTERS

General Rules for Exhibiting Houseplants and Planters:

- Include variety name on online entry. If variety is unknown, then write "unknown". This can be updated at check-in before printing tags.
- Plants should be healthy and free from defects, insects, and diseases.
- Plant and planter weight limit is 40 pounds.
- Care instructions may be written on 3x5" note card and attached to exhibit. Let building employees know if you want your plant watered.

CLASS #	CLASS DESCRIPTION	CLASS INSTRUCTIONS
1	African Violet	<i>any one variety</i>
2	Begonia, Rex	<i>any one variety</i>
3	Begonia, Tuberous	<i>any one variety</i>
4	Begonia, Wax Variety with Green Leaves	<i>any one variety</i>
5	Begonia, Wax Variety with Bronze Leaves	<i>any one variety</i>
6	Begonia, other variety than listed above	<i>any one variety</i>
7	Bromeliad	<i>any one variety</i>
8	Cactus	<i>any one variety</i>
9	Caladium	<i>any one variety</i>
10	Christmas Cactus	<i>any one variety</i>
11	Coleus	<i>any one variety</i>
12	Fern	<i>any one variety</i>
13	Geranium	<i>any one variety</i>
14	Impatiens	<i>any one variety</i>
15	Orchid	<i>any one variety</i>
16	Sansevieria	<i>any one variety</i>
17	Succulent	<i>any one variety</i>
18	Vinca	<i>any one variety</i>
19	Vine, Ivy	<i>any one variety</i>
20	Vine, Philodendron or Pothos	<i>any one variety</i>
21	Any Other Houseplant Grown for Bloom	<i>any one variety</i>
22	Any Other Houseplant Grown for Foliage	<i>any one variety</i>
23	Terrarium	<i>planter or bottle with 3 to 5 varieties of plants containing 1 to 3 ornaments for artistic quality</i>
24	Topiary	<i>may include ornamental support</i>
25	Unusual Planter with Plants	<i>incorporate artistic or creative ingenuity</i>
26	Unusual Indoor Plant	<i>attach 3x5" note card stating why plant is unusual</i>
27	Hanging Planter with Flowers	<i>one variety per planter</i>
28	Hanging Planter with Colorful Foliage	<i>one variety per planter</i>
29	Hanging Planter with Assortment	<i>mixture of trailing foliage and flowering plants</i>
30	Pedestal with Vine Plant	<i>indoor or outdoor setting; include trellis or support</i>
31	Climbing Plant	<i>suitable for indoor or outdoor setting; include trellis or support</i>
32	Strawberry Planter	<i>include variety of plants in planter's holes</i>
33	Dish Collection	<i>dish container with group of miniature and small plants</i>
34	Flowering Patio Planter	<i>planter filled with flowers placed in an outdoor setting</i>
35	Foliage Patio Planter	<i>planter filled with foliage placed in an outdoor setting</i>
36	Mixed Patio Planter	<i>grouping of 3 to 10 varieties of plants in an attractive outdoor display</i>
37	Conifer Patio Garden	<i>container displaying dwarf conifers; moss or rocks may be used for cover, observe weight restrictions</i>

Sponsored by Walker's Flower Shop - Huron, SD
Best of Show ribbon and \$20 gift certificate

Sponsored by Michael Bishop, Horticulture Superintendent
\$100 Superintendent Special awarded to the entry that best depicts the 2025 building theme, "A Place in Time" between Division 8 Class 1 & Division 9 Class 1

DIVISION 8 – FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS

You are challenged to explore styles of floral arrangements. Incorporate elements of design, simplicity, harmony, and expression to create interesting and beautiful works of art. The elements of design are color, form, line, light, pattern, size, space, and texture. The principles of design are balance, contrast, dominance, proportion, rhythm, and scale.

General Rules for Exhibiting Floral Arrangements:

- Not all materials need to be grown by exhibitor.
- Fresh plant material with blooms must be used. No artificial flowers or foliage are allowed. Refinement is desired.
- Dried natural materials used in moderation may be dyed, painted, gilded, varnished, or otherwise treated. Fresh plant materials cannot be sprayed except for evergreens.
- Embellishments may be added to the design to bring out the theme.
- While all possible care will be taken, South Dakota State Fair is not responsible for loss/damage to exhibits or property of the exhibitor.

CLASS #	CLASS DESCRIPTION
1	It's About Time – <i>includes timepiece element</i>
2	Showtime – <i>include showbiz or movie element</i>
3	Sports Fanatic – <i>an arrangement of your interpretation</i>
4	Prairie Grass – <i>includes prairie grass</i>
5	Stork Delivery – <i>include a baby element</i>
6	Mason Jar Marvel – <i>arranged in a mason jar</i>
7	Snowmen and Snow globes – <i>a wintry arrangement of your interpretation</i>
8	3 of a Kind – <i>use a mix of 3 kinds of blooms</i>
9	Feathers and Florals – <i>an arrangement of your interpretation</i>
10	Black Cats and Black Hats – <i>Halloween theme</i>
11	'Til the Cows Come Home – <i>farm theme</i>
12	To Honor and Serve – <i>in honor of a Veteran</i>
13	Garden Variety – <i>an arrangement of your interpretation</i>

Sponsored by Don't Spill the Beans - Huron, SD
Best of Show ribbon and \$25 gift certificate

Sponsored by South Dakota Corn
\$50 Premium for the Best Table Setting
\$50 Premium for the Best Place Setting

Sponsored by Michael Bishop, Horticulture Superintendent
\$100 Superintendent Special awarded to the entry that best depicts the 2025 building theme, "A Place in Time" between Division 8 Class 1 & Division 9 Class 1

DIVISION 9 – TABLE-SETTINGS AND PLACE SETTINGS

General Rules for Exhibiting in Table-Settings and Place-Settings:

- May include dinner plate, salad plate, bowl, glassware, cup, saucer, tableware, and napkin.
- Centerpiece must include horticulture theme (real plant, flower, fruit, vegetable, and herb).
- While all possible care will be taken, the South Dakota State Fair is not responsible for loss or damage to exhibits or property of the exhibitor.
- Check-in and set-up: Sunday, August 24 from 2 PM - 7 PM and Monday, August 26 from 9 AM - 7 PM.

CLASS #	CLASS DESCRIPTION
TABLE-SETTING CLASSES	
<i>Bring standard card table (34"x34") with table covering. Provide theme set for two. May include accessories (menu, beverage, candles, etc.). If appropriate to theme, it is permissible to use paper plates, paper napkins, and plastic.</i>	
1	"Stuck in Time" - setting from another era
2	Book Club
3	Sideline Celebration - Sports theme
4	Pizza Party!
5	Wonderland
6	Other than named - A Creative Place Setting not listed above
PLACE-SETTING CLASSES	
<i>18"x24" area is marked for set-up. Bring a placemat. If appropriate to theme, it is permissible to use paper plates, paper napkins, and plastic.</i>	
7	Garden Variety – includes garden produce/flowers
8	In My ____ Era – a setting of your interpretation
9	Lunch with my Lucky Charm
10	Southern Comfort & Cornbread – include Cornbread in Menu in the design (Sponsored by SD Corn)
11	Odds N Ends – A mix n match design
12	Seaside Picnic
13	Rainy Day Dinner
14	Baptismal Brunch
15	Breakfast in Bed
16	Other Than Named – A Creative Place Setting not listed above

DIVISION 10 – NATIVE WILDFLOWERS, GRASSES, AND OTHER PLANTS

Why is native landscaping important? Native landscaping provides an attractive, environmentally friendly landscape while reducing water and maintenance requirements. Native prairie grasses and wildflowers are excellent alternatives to traditional landscaping.

General Rules for Exhibiting Native Wildflowers, Grasses, and Other Plants:

Resource: Grassland Plants of South Dakota and the Northern Great Plains, by James R. Johnson and Gary E. Larson, (South Dakota State University, 2007).

https://openprairie.sdstate.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1764&context=agexperimentsta_bulletins

- These can be collected in the wild or grown in your yard.
- Dried exhibits should be fully dry by air, water, or microwave. Glycerin and silica gel may be used.
- Freeze-dry materials, artificial colors, sprays, and dyes are not permitted. Exhibits should be collected in a bundle and wrapped in tissue paper.
- Fresh-cut flower blooms should be approximately the same size. Foliage should be included with each bloom but not below the water line. The Horticulture Building will provide vases.
- Live-potted plants should be free from defects, insects, and diseases. Care instructions may be written on 3"x5" card and attached to exhibit.
- Maximum stem length of 3' for all classes.

Note: In accordance with South Dakota Codified Law 38-22 (Noxious Weed Law), noxious weed and invasive plants are not permitted in exhibits. Please refer to the South Dakota Weeds Revised Edition 2017 for a listing of South Dakota noxious weeds.

Contact the State Fair office or your local county extension office to request a hard copy of this book.

Classes continued on page 20

CLASS #	CLASS DESCRIPTION	CLASS INSTRUCTIONS
1	Big Bluestem Grass (<i>Andropogon gerardi</i>)	3 dried seed-head stems
2	Blackeyed Susan (<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>)	3 fresh-cut blooming stems
3	Blue grama (<i>Bouteloua gracilis</i>)	3 dried seed-head stems
4	Prairie Cord Grass (<i>Spartina pectinata</i>)	3 dried seed-head stems
5	Canada wildrye (<i>Elymus Canadensis</i>)	3 dried seed-head stems
6	Common Sunflower (<i>Helianthus annuus</i>)	3 fresh-cut blooming stems
7	Common Yarrow (<i>Achillea millefolium</i>)	3 dried flower stems
8	Cudweed sagewort (<i>Artemisia ludoviciana</i>)	3 dried seed-head stems
9	Gayfeather or Blazing Star (<i>Liatris</i> species), dried	3 dried flower stems
10	Gayfeather or Blazing Star (<i>Liatris</i> species), fresh	3 fresh flower stems
11	Goldenrod (<i>Solidago</i> species), dried	3 dried flower stems
12	Goldenrod (<i>Solidago</i> species), fresh	3 fresh flower stems
13	Green Needlegrass (<i>Nassella viridula</i>)	3 dried seed-head stems
14	Heath aster (<i>Aster ericoides</i>)	3 fresh-cut blooming stems
15	Indiangrass (<i>Sorghastrum avenaceum</i>)	3 dried seed-head stems
16	Leadplant (<i>Amorpha canescens</i>)	3 dried seed-head stems
17	Little Bluestem Grass (<i>Andropogon scoparius</i>)	3 dried seed-head stems
18	Maximillan Sunflower (<i>Helianthus maximiliana</i>)	3 fresh-cut blooming stems
19	Milkweeds (<i>Asclepias</i> species)	3 dried seed-head stems
20	Prairie Coneflower (<i>Ratibida columnifera</i>)	3 dried flower stems
21	Prairie Sandreed (<i>Calamovilfa longifolia</i>)	3 dried seed-head stems
22	Purple Coneflower (<i>Echinacea augustifolia</i>)	3 fresh-cut blooming stems
23	Purple Coneflower (<i>Echinacea augustifolia</i>)	3 dried flower stems
24	Purple Prairieclover (<i>Petalostemum purpureum</i>)	3 dried flower stems
25	Scarlet Globemallow (<i>Sphaeraicea coccinea</i>)	3 dried seed head
26	Side-oats Grama (<i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i>)	3 dried seed-head stems
27	Switchgrass (<i>Panicum virgatum</i>)	3 dried seed-head stems

28	Western Wheatgrass (<i>Agropyron smithii</i>)	<i>3 dried seed-head stems</i>
29	Wooly Verbena or Hoary Vervain (<i>Verbena stricta</i>)	<i>3 dried flower stems</i>
30	Native Wildflower, Grass, and Other Plant not listed above: 3 dried seed-head stems	<i>Write common name on online entry. If common name is unknown, then write "unknown" on online entry.</i>
31	Native Wildflower, Grass, and Other Plant not listed above: 3 fresh-cut blooming stems	<i>Write common name on online entry. If common name is unknown, then write "unknown" on online entry.</i>
32	Native Wildflower, Grass, and Other Plant not listed above: live-potted plant.	<i>Write common name on online entry. If common name is unknown, then write "unknown" on online entry.</i>
33	Native Plant Arrangement	<i>Groups of 3 to 6 varieties of fresh cut or dried native plants in a container suitable for gifting.</i>

Sponsored by Huron Area Master Gardeners - Huron, SD
Best of Show ribbon and \$50 cash award

DIVISION 11 – JUNIOR DIVISION

Encourages youth to explore the natural world with activities that encourages personal pride and responsibility. Designed to stimulate an interest in horticulture, a love of gardening, develop an appreciation for the environment, and cultivate the mind.

General Rules for Exhibiting in Junior Division:

- Open to youth ages 18 years and younger.
- Work must be done by the Junior exhibitor with minimal assistance from an adult.
- Include variety name on online entry. If variety is unknown, then write "unknown". This can be updated at check-in before printing tags.
- Fresh-cut flower blooms should be approximately the same size. Foliage should be included with each bloom but not below the water line. The Horticulture Building will provide vases.
- Vegetables should be top quality and prime maturity. Select specimens that are uniform and free from disease, insect, or mechanical injury.

CLASS #	CLASS DESCRIPTION	CLASS INSTRUCTIONS
1	Red Apple with stem	1 specimen of any 1 variety
2	Cucumber (slicing types)	1 specimen; stems trimmed ¼ to ½ inch
3	Pumpkin, Miniature: (4" or smaller)	3 specimens, stems ½ to 1 inches
4	Marigold (any variety)	3 fresh-cut blooming stems
5	Petunia (any variety)	3 fresh-cut blooming stems
6	Coneflower: any color(s)	3 fresh-cut blooming stems
7	Broad-Leaved Cattail (<i>Typha latifolia</i>)	3 preserved stems (For rules, please refer to Division 10 Native Wildflowers, Grasses, and other Plants)
8	Fairy Garden	create miniature landscape in single container
9	Bird Feeder or Bird House	dimensions to be correct for actual use and outdoor sturdy. Indicate species of bird on online entry.
10	Vegetable (any not listed above)	Enter common name on exhibitor tag (For rules please refer to Division 2 Vegetables)
11	Herb (any one kind)	Enter common name on exhibitor tag (For rules, please refer to Division 6 Herbs)
12	Houseplant (any one kind)	Enter common name on exhibitor tag (For rules, please refer to Division 7 Houseplants & Planters)
13	Vegetable Animal or Person	Make a vegetable animal or person, decorate with items of choice-items do not need to be garden produce
14	Mr. or Mrs. Potato Head	Use a real potato, decorate with items of choice-items do not need to be garden produce
15	Decorated Pumpkin	Decorate a pumpkin no larger than 8 inches with items of choice.
16	Gourd Collection	3 to 6 small gourds attractively displayed in a container
17	Garden Ornament	Made of recycled materials
18	Bug Catcher	Child made bug catcher
JUNIOR FLORAL ARRANGEMENT CLASSES		
<i>Not all materials need to be grown by exhibitor. Fresh plant material with blooms or dried natural materials must be used. No artificial flowers or foliage are allowed. Embellishments may be added to the design to bring out the theme. Please see page 17 for additional rules on the Floral Arrangement classes.</i>		
19	Perfect Timing	Includes a timepiece element
20	Ruby Red	Includes red blooms
21	Spring Fling	Your own interpretation
JUNIOR PLACE-SETTING CLASSES		
<i>18"x24" area is marked for set-up. Bring a placemat. If appropriate to theme, it is permissible to use paper plates, paper napkins, and plastic. Please see page 18 for additional rules on the Place Setting classes.</i>		
22	American Girl	
23	Snow Day Snack	Winter theme
24	St. Patrick's Celebration	

Sponsored by Walmart - Huron, SD
Best of Show ribbon and \$25 gift certificate

DIVISION 12 – GARDEN ART

Gardens today incorporate more than just plants. Modern horticulture must also draw knowledge from related fields. Garden art includes a variety of interests that help gardeners grow along with their gardens. Any class arrangement with dimensions no larger than five-foot-wide by seven foot tall.

CLASS #	CLASS DESCRIPTION	CLASS INSTRUCTIONS
1	Bird Feeder	Dimensions should be correct for actual use and outdoor sturdy. Indicate species of bird on online entry.
2	Wildlife House	House for birds, bats, bees, butterflies, ladybugs, toads; dimensions should be correct for actual use and outdoor sturdy. Indicate species of wildlife on online entry
3	Lawn Ornament	May be single item or group
4	Gourd	Dried and painted or carved
5	Decorated wreath for your garden	Live or artificial
6	Crop art or arrangement using seeds & grains	No weed seeds
7	Decorative item made of straw, cornhusks or cornstalks	Ornamental corn may be used
8	Scarred pumpkin or winter squash	Scarring is healed-over cuts made while growing in the field
9	Arrangement of vintage or antique garden tools	
10	Truly odd fruit, vegetable or plant	May be decorated as desired
11	Decorated Pumpkin	May be decorated as desired
12	Team Spirit	May be decorated as desired

Sponsored by Runnings - Huron, SD
People's Choice Award - Best of Show ribbon and \$20 gift certificate

DIVISION 13 –DECORATION CONTEST

People's Choice Judging

Exhibit a door decoration in the Horticulture Building during the South Dakota State Fair. Theme suggestions: Welcome, Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter, any holiday.

General Rules for Exhibiting in the Decoration Contest

- Open to Juniors, Adults, and Organizations/Groups.
- Must use live, dried or artificial materials for at least 25% of exhibit.
- Ballots provided for People's Choice voting.

CLASS #	CLASS DESCRIPTION
1	Door Decoration, other
2	Seasonal
3	Holiday
4	Team Spirit

Sponsored by South Dakota Farmers Union - Huron, SD
Best of Show ribbon and \$50 cash award

Sponsored by South Dakota Corn
Classes 3 & 4 premiums - \$50 first place, \$25 second place
Plaque for Best Corn Grain Exhibit

DIVISION 14 – AGRICULTURE GRAINS AND SEEDS

General Rules for Exhibiting in Agriculture Grains and Seeds:

- Grains and seeds must be grown by exhibitor during 2024 or 2025.
- Include variety name on online entry. If variety is unknown, then write "unknown". This can be updated at check-in before printing tags.

CLASS #	CLASS DESCRIPTION	CLASS INSTRUCTIONS
1	Barley, feed	<i>2 quarts</i>
2	Barley, malting	<i>2 quarts</i>
3	Corn, yellow dent	<i>5 ears</i>
4	Corn, yellow dent	<i>2 quarts</i>
5	Millet, Proso	<i>2 quarts</i>
6	Oats	<i>2 quarts</i>
7	Pulse Crop, peas, lentils, chickpeas, etc.	<i>2 quarts</i>
8	Rye	<i>2 quarts</i>
9	Sorghum, Grain	<i>2 quarts</i>
10	Soybeans	<i>2 quarts</i>
13	Wheat, spring	<i>2 quarts</i>
14	Wheat, winter	<i>2 quarts</i>

Sponsored by South Dakota Farmers Union - Huron, SD
Best of Show ribbon and \$50 cash award

Sponsored by South Dakota Corn
Classes 3 & 4 premiums - \$50 first place, \$25 second place
and a plaque for the winner of each class.

Sponsored by South Dakota Soybean Processors - Volga, SD
Class 10, Best Soybean Plant - Ribbon and \$50 cash award

Sponsored by Sunbird Inc. - Huron, SD
Class 11, Best Sunflower Stalk - Ribbon and \$50 cash award

DIVISION 15 – AGRICULTURE PLANTS/BUNDLES/BALES

General Rules for Exhibiting in Agriculture Plants/Bundles/Bales:

- Grains and Forage must be grown by exhibitor during 2024 or 2025. Sheaves are exhibited as unharvested grain, 3-inches in diameter at the center band. Use of 3 bands recommended.
- Include variety name on online entry. If variety is unknown, then write "unknown". This can be updated at check-in before printing tags.

CLASS #	CLASS DESCRIPTION	CLASS INSTRUCTIONS
1	Alfalfa Bale, Grass Mixture	<i>1/3 bale tied; minimum 12" compressed; maximum 24"</i>
2	Alfalfa, Hay	<i>1/3 bale tied; minimum 12" compressed; maximum 24"</i>
3	Corn, 4 individual stalks	<i>2025 field corn with ear attached. Not necessarily from one hill. Roots are burlapped or bagged</i>
4	Corn, tallest stalk	<i>2025 field corn with ear attached. Not necessarily from one hill. Roots are burlapped or bagged</i>
5	Hay Bale, Native/Tame Grass Mixture	<i>1/3 bale tied; minimum 12" compressed; maximum 24"</i>
6	Hemp	<i>4 individual stalks with leaves and seeds</i>
7	Oats	<i>1 sheave</i>
8	Sorghum, Forage	<i>5 heads</i>
9	Sorghum, Forage Bundle	<i>8" diameter</i>
10	Soybean	<i>1 plant with pods</i>
11	Sunflower	<i>1 stalk with head, may be immature</i>
12	Wheat, spring	<i>1 sheave</i>
13	Wheat, winter	<i>1 sheave</i>

Sponsored by South Dakota Corn
 \$50 premium for each first place exhibit
 Class 15: \$100 first place, \$50 second place
 Plaque for Largest Ear of Field Corn
 Plaque for Largest Tomato

DIVISION 16 – GIANT VEGETABLE

Live judging of 1st place winners!

A trophy will be awarded to the best exhibit in Division 16

General Rules for entering:

- An award will be given for 1st place in each class.
- Exhibitors must write the name of variety on online entry.
- Giant Pumpkin Commonwealth rules will be followed in this division. Refer to the SD State Fair Horticulture Building Facebook page for reference to GPC rules or visit www.greatpumpkincommonwealth.com.
- Judging rules for vegetables not covered by the GPC will follow the rules for judging from the EGVGA (European Giant Vegetable Growers Association), which can be found at www.egvga.com.
- Not more than one entry per class per exhibitor
- The winner will be determined by the judge's measurement of length, circumference and/or weight considerations.
- Registering ahead of time is **REQUIRED** via the online entry platform used for all other Open Class entries (<https://sdsf.fairwire.com>).

Classes indicates how each will be judged - W= weight; L= length

CLASS #	CLASS DESCRIPTION
1	Giant Pumpkin (W)
2	Giant Watermelon (W)
3	Large Gourd (L)
4	Onion (W)
5	Carrot (W)
6	Beet (W)
7	Celery (W)
8	Tomato (W)
9	Squash (W)
10	Cucumber (L)
11	Leek (W)
12	Field Pumpkin (<i>curcurbita pepo</i>) (W)
13	Rutabaga/Sweda (W)
14	Cabbage (W)
15	Ear of Field Corn (L + W)
16	Potato (W)
17	Kohlrabi (W)
18	Eggplant (W)
19	Other Not Listed Above

Sponsored by South Dakota Corn
\$25 premium for each first place exhibit

DIVISION 17 – HORTICULTURE PHOTO CONTEST

This contest is designed to showcase horticulture across South Dakota. Capture your story to share, entertain, and educate!

General Rules for entering:

- Photos must be attached to a 16x20 firm matte or Styrofoam board, any color. No poster board.
- Entries in class 5 must be exhibited on a tri-fold poster board
- Entries can be made under an individual or as a garden club.

CLASS #	CLASS DESCRIPTION
1	Winter/Snowy Gardens
2	Spring/Flowers (April-May blooms)
3	Summer/Gardens (June-July-August blooms)
4	Fall/Harvest
5	Progression/Photo story of a project including four seasons (winter, spring, summer, fall)
6	People's Choice/Horticulture Failures

DIVISION 18 – SCARECROW CONTEST

New in 2025! Show us your creative talents and make a scarecrow from scratch! Check our Facebook page for example photos.

General Rules for entering:

- Scarecrows must be 2'-6' tall and freestanding.
 - Miniature class (class 4) must be 2' tall or less.
- Must use live, dried, or artificial materials for at least 25% of exhibit.
- Must include a description of how you made it on 3" x 5" note card or 8.5" x 11" paper attached to exhibit.

CLASS #	CLASS DESCRIPTION	CLASS INSTRUCTIONS
1	Ag	<i>Majority of live, dried, or artificial materials used must be Ag based (i.e. native plants, crops, hay/straw, etc.)</i>
2	Garden	<i>Majority of live, dried, or artificial materials used must be Garden based (i.e. fruits, vegetables, flowers, potted plants, etc.)</i>
3	Other/Creative	
4	Miniature	

EDUCATION SEMINARS AND ACTIVITIES – Check back
later for the 2025 schedule!