



2023-2024 Charlotte County 4-H

Citrus Project Rules & Regulations

Eligibility:

This project is open to all youth aged 5-18 who are enrolled in Charlotte County 4-H through 4honline.com. Age for the project this year is determined as of April 1, 2023.

Requirements

1. Entries shall be limited to one tree per individual. Contestants may only show the tree issued to them by Charlotte County 4-H in June 2023.
2. Charlotte County 4-H and/or the Charlotte County Fair has the right to reject entries of inferior quality or diseased plants, as well as those missing identification tags. If an identification tag is issued in June, the original tag must be present on the tree at the time of the fair.
3. Transplanting your citrus tree into the ground or using a hydroponic system is not permitted.
4. **The citrus tree must be planted in a pot provided by the exhibitor.** If you choose to decorate your pot when exhibited at the Fair, it will not reflect (negatively or positively) in your overall score when judged. Decorations may not exceed the top of the container, and nothing may be placed under the container to make the tree taller.
5. All participants in the citrus tree project will be **required** to participate in at least 70 percent of the citrus club meetings and activities including citrus related workshops, citrus field trip, buyers letter workshop, and any other 4-H Citrus club events.
6. The following projects must also be completed in order to enter your tree into the fair: (1) record book, (1) educational backboard or presentation and (2) sets of buyer's letters (three unsealed, stamped and addressed buyers' letters will be due for each set) to be turned in to the 4-H Office. In addition, all members must participate in individual Interview Judging at the fair. Late entries of any projects or failure to make-up any activities will result in disqualification.*
7. All record books must be completed in the exhibitor's handwriting.
8. Each exhibitor is solely responsible for caring for their tree both at home and during the fair.
9. All citrus exhibits as well as the required record book and backboard/presentation will be delivered to the Charlotte County Fairgrounds at tree drop off (date tbd).
10. **All trees will be inspected by the Florida Department of Agriculture when dropped off at the fair. Any tree that possesses greening or any other disease determined risky by the inspectors will be disqualified and must be removed immediately. All decisions made by FDACS are final and may not be challenged.**
11. Judging will consist of a different class for each variety of tree. There must be 4 trees in each class or multiple varieties will be combined to form a class. Cloverbuds may exhibit their tree but will automatically receive a participation ribbon.
12. First place winners from the specified classes will be considered for overall grand champion tree. The class receiving the grand champion citrus tree will then be represented by the second-place tree of that class. From those classes the Reserve Grand Champion will be chosen.
13. Contestants selling their tree will be required to: Provide written care instructions for the buyer, as well as write a personalized thank-you letter to the buyer. All thank you letters must be turned into the 4-H Agent, 4-H Program Assistant, or the Citrus Club Leader at Fair Clean-Up. The letter must be in an unsealed envelope, stamped, and addressed to your buyer.
14. Exhibitors are responsible for recruiting their own buyers.

15. At any time, exhibitors may be disqualified by Charlotte County 4-H or the Charlotte County Fair due to inappropriate behavior.
16. In the event of extenuating circumstances which are beyond the 4-H'ers control, (such circumstances might include but would not be limited to: accidents, illness, school activities, and other 4-H activities) Charlotte County 4-H reserves the right to review and make final determination as to whether or not a 4-H'er has met the requirements to participate.
17. Any member who receives a tree but does not complete all requirements may not be eligible to raise a tree in the coming year as they will not be considered a member in good standing. **Even if your tree does not make it to the fair, you still need to complete the record book and educational backboard/presentation as well as Interview judging.

Please remember that the purpose of the Charlotte County 4-H Citrus program is to conduct activities which are educational and promote good citizenship.

Please sign below if you have read and fully understand the stated rules and requirements of the Charlotte County 4-H Citrus Project. I have also read and fully understand the Charlotte County 4-H Citrus Rules and Regulations. All members are required to follow these rules as stated. Failure to do so may result in disqualification from exhibition or participation in Charlotte County 4-H and/or the Charlotte County 4-H Citrus Program.

Exhibitor/Date

Exhibitor's Parent/Guardian/Date