

Sumter County

Peach Tree Project Book



Name: _____

Age (as of September 1st): _____

Number of Completed Years in Peach Tree Contest: _____

4-H Club or FFA Chapter: _____

I hereby certify that as an exhibitor of this project, I have personally been responsible for the care of this peach tree, have personally kept records on this project, and have personally completed this record book.

4-H Member Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

4-H Agent or FFA Advisory Signature: _____

Date: _____

This project book is designed for use with the Sumter County 4-H and FFA Peach Tree growing project. Participants should be keeping records as soon as they obtain their trees. It is not necessary to write records in this book right away. It is encouraged to keep records in a separate notebook/journal until the end of the project.

This project book is a “living document” meaning that you will be adding to it every year. For example, if you have been in the project for 10 years you would have 10 years’ worth of projects and tree care records included in your project book.

Annually the completed project book should include:

- A cover page of your own design that reflects your personality
- Tree care records from throughout the year
- Project pictures from throughout the year
- Project story
- Signature page (with signatures) for completed peach tree project activities
- Your peach tree project activities

Information regarding the fair and project book:

1. Your project book **must** be completed and turned in the Monday after the completion of the Sumter County Fair.
2. It is the responsibility of the participants to obtain the totals from their premium monies and from the silent auction in order to record in and complete their project books.
3. Project books must be signed either by your FFA Advisor or your 4-H Agent before you turn them in during check-in.
4. Project books will be returned to the participants during the Sumter County Fair Awards Banquet.

Peach Tree Contest

Project Activities

You must complete a minimum of two (2) activities, the peach tree record book and participate in the judging contest. Everything must be completed before the record books are turned in at the Sumter County Fair.

****You cannot repeat the same activity until all of the below projects have been completed****

1. Conduct a science project related to peach trees or the peach tree industry and write a minimum one (1) page report include data, pictures, etc. This can be a science fair project for school. **Must be on a tri-fold science display board.**
 - a. Must be submitted into the Family Living Exhibit (Educational Exhibits) during the Sumter County Fair.
2. Give a demonstration/Illustrated talk on a peach tree topic. Attach notes cards, outline and/or any other notes at the end of your Peach Tree Record Book. Juniors (ages 8-10) or Intermediates (11-13) 3 -12 minutes, Seniors (14-18) 5-12 minutes.
 - a. 4-H Members: Present to your 4-H club or at County Events Day
 - b. FFA Members: Present to you peers during class or a FFA Advisory approved event.
3. On 22" X 28" poster board or a 20" x 30" foam board draw and label the parts of a peach **and** a peach tree with foliage. These posters will be displayed during the County Fair. **Posters must be creative! Do not just cut and paste information.** Poster requirements:
 - a. Name, 4-H Club or FFA Chapter, Age in back of poster
 - b. Title
 - c. Labeling/Easy to read
 - d. Content/ Accuracy
 - e. Attractiveness
 - f. Grammar/spelling
 - g. Effort /Originality
4. **[Ages 8-10 only]** Read the book, *James and the Giant Peach*, and write a one page summary of the book. Attach the one page summary of the book at the end of your Peach Tree Record Book.
5. **[Ages 8-10 only].** Find a recipe that includes peaches. Prepare the recipe. Take a photo of the final product and write a summary of how it tasted and what you would do differently next time if you were to make it again. Include other people's comments on how it tasted. Attach recipe, photo, and summary at the end of you Peach Tree Record Book.
6. Research the different Florida peach varieties and create a chart of 6 peach varieties with the following: Name, chill hours, fruit size and when to expect the first harvest. Visit <http://www.ffsp.net/varieties/peach/> to complete the activity. [Make sure you cite the information from this website]. Attach the chart at the end of your Peach Tree Record Book.
7. Visit edis.ifas.ufl.edu and search "peach". Read and write a one page summary on one of the peach articles provided by the University of Florida. Attach a copy of the article and your summary at the end of the Peach Tree Record Book.

Peach Topics:

- **Diseases-** Describe current diseases in Florida peaches, their effect on trees and fruit, how they are controlled in the home and commercial setting, challenges they present to the industry/production. What is pesticide resistance and how is it managed? Include photos. Diseases include: Bacterial Spot, Brown Rot, Fungal Gummosis (*Botryosphaeria*), Armillaria Root and crown rot (oak root rot), Peach Scab, Peach Rust *Xylella Fastidiosa* (Phony Peach Disease), Peach Tree Short life.
- **Pests-** Describe current pests in Florida peaches, their effects on trees and fruit, how they are controlled in the home and commercial setting, challenges they present to the industry/production. If they are vectors (carriers) of any diseases. What is pesticide resistance and how is it managed? What is Integrated Pest Management (IPM)? Insects include: Scale, Stink bugs (plant bugs), Peach Tree Borer, Lesser Peach Tree Borer, Mites (technically arachnids), Thrips, Plum Curculio, Oriental Fruit Moth, and Caribbean Fruit Fly.
- **Varieties and Rootstocks-** Describe the varieties of peach trees grown in Florida. Include why each variety is grown and what it is used for. Describe peach tree plant improvement. What types of breeding techniques are being used in the genetic improvement of peach trees? Include information about any new or recently released varieties. Include any information on older varieties that are no longer used in the peach industry and the reasons why they fell out of favor.
- **Fertilization-** Discuss current fertilization practices in peach production. Include information on peach best management practices (BMP's) and why they are important. Discuss different types of irrigation systems such as drip, micro-sprinkler, overhead, etc. Review information on slow release fertilizers, fertigation and granular fertilizers.
- **Irrigation-** Discuss current irrigation scheduling techniques for peach production. Discuss different types of irrigation systems such as drip, micro-sprinkler, overhead, etc. Explain the need for water conservation in today's orchards.
- **Cold and Freeze Production-** The historical influence of cold weather on the peach industry in Florida. What are critical temperatures for Florida peaches? How do peach growers combat cold weather?

INTRODUCING MY PEACH TREE

1. Date of purchase _____
2. My tree was purchased from _____
3. Root stock of tree _____
4. Scion _____
5. My training system used _____
6. Pot type and size _____
7. Potting soil used _____
8. Cost of tree _____
9. Cost of potting material _____
10. Number of Chill Hours is _____
11. About the fruit:
 - a. Development will take _____ days
 - b. The flesh color will be _____
 - c. Fruit size is _____
 - d. The fruit will be _____

Peach Tree Progress Chart

This chart begins the day of the mandatory workshop in May. Once a month, on about the same day, measure your tree and record the information requested.

	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER
CIRCUMFERENCE OF TREE TOP							
LENGTH OF MAIN SCAFFOLD LIMBS							
COLOR OF PLANT/LEAVES							
GENERAL APPEARANCE							
SIGNS IF INSECTS							
OTHER COMMENTS							

	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	JANUARY	FEBRUARY
CIRCUMFERENCE OF TREE TOP				
LENGTH OF MAIN SCAFFOLD LIMBS				
COLOR OF PLANT/LEAVES				
GENERAL APPEARANCE				
SIGNS IF INSECTS				
OTHER COMMENTS				

PESTICIDE RECORDS

This part of the project can be done by an adult. Records need to still be completed by the youth.
ALWAYS READ AND FOLLOW THE LABEL!!

DATE	PEST TO BE CONTROLLED	MATERIAL USED	AMOUNT SPRAYED (concentrate & mixture)	COST \$
			TOTAL	\$

FERTILIZATION RECORDS

ALWAYS READ AND FOLLOW THE LABEL!!

DATE APPLIED	KIND AND AMOUNT OF MATERIAL USED	FERTILIZER ANALYSIS	COST \$
		TOTAL	\$

CARE AND MAINTENANCE RECORDS

Make sure to keep complete records on the activities done to your peach tree throughout the months. Many of your activities will not have a cost associated with them. You do not have to write out every irrigation event. For example, record "I irrigated every day from 5/10/14 – 10/10/14 (whenever the last true date is)". **Fertilization and Pesticide Activities DO NOT get recorded here.**

DATE	TYPE OF ACTIVITY	PURPOSE	COST \$
00/00/00	Pruning	Remove excess growth	\$ 0
		TOTAL COST	\$

RECORD OF EXPENSES FOR YOUR PROJECT

A. PROJECT INVENTORY

List all equipment and assets you had at the beginning of the project. **These items you will keep past the end of this project.** After listing inventory, you need to list all of the items you have purchased this year that you would keep after the project is finished. **DO NOT INCLUDE FERTILIZER OR PESTICIDE COSTS.**

Item Description	Date Acquired	Purchase Cost or Value	Value at Beginning of Project	Depreciation (10% of purchase cost, per calendar year)	Value at End of Project

Total Depreciation (depreciation is an expense): \$ _____

Value at End/Total Assets: \$ _____

B. PROJECT EXPENSES

List everything that you purchased this year that you will **NOT HAVE** at the end of this project. **DO NOT INCLUDE FERTILIZER OR PESTICIDE COSTS. PLEASE INLCULDE THE COST OF THE TREE FIRST.**

DATE	ITEM	COST \$
	TOTAL	\$

PEACH TREE SUMMARY

GROWTH

1. Beginning Circumference of Tree Canopy _____
2. Ending Circumference of Tree Canopy _____
3. **Total Circumference** (Line 2 – Line 1) _____
4. Beginning Length of Main Scaffold Limbs _____
5. Ending Length of Main Scaffold Limbs _____
6. **Total Length** (Line 3 – Line 4) _____

INCOME

7. Premium Money for Judging Contest _____
8. Money Earned from Auction _____
9. **Total Income** (Line 7 + Line 8) _____

EXPENSES

10. Pesticide Costs (page 4) _____
11. Fertilizer Costs (page 5) _____
12. Care and Maintenance Costs (page 6) _____
13. Total Depreciation (page 7) _____
14. Project Expenses (page 8) _____
15. **Total Expenses** (Lines 10 - 14) _____

FINAL PROFIT/LOSS (lines 9 – 15) _____

TOTAL ASSETS (page 7) _____

PICTURES OF YOUR PROJECT

Using pictures, show the beginning and end of your project along with two different skills that you have learned. **This section should include a minimum of 5 pictures and a maximum of 8 pictures.** Include a **detailed caption** with each photo. The captions should tell a story and compliment your project story. Explain what you are doing and why you are doing the things in the picture. What skills are you demonstrating and why? You may include pictures of you attending the workshops, however, include in your caption what you were learning when the picture was taken.

PROJECT STORY OUTLINE

Before writing your project story it is important to create an outline. This outline should include what you knew about horticulture before the start of this project, topics you learned during the project, what improvements you could have made, and what skills you learned and/or improved upon.

1. **Introduction-** Tell us why you choose to participate in the Peach Tree Contest and what your overall goals were.
2. **Knowledge did I had about horticulture before starting this project?**
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
3. **Topics did I learned during the project?**
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
4. **What improvement could I make?**
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
5. **What skills did I learned and/or improved upon?**
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
6. **Summary-** Leave the reader with an idea or impression you want them to have.

ACTIVITIES SIGNATURE PAGE

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Scoring System

SECTIONS	POINTS POSSIBLE
Signatures (Cover Page)	2
Introduction Page (page 2)	2
Peach Tree Progress Chart (page 3)	7
Pesticide and Fertilizer Records (page 4 & 5)	5
Care and Maintenance Records (page 6)	8
Record of Expenses (page 7 & 8)	5
Peach Tree Summary Page (page 9)	15
Pictures (page 10)	8
Project Story Outline (page 11)	8
Project Story (page 12)	10
Five Completed Activities Sheet (page 13)	7
Five Completed Activities	13
Neatness and Accuracy	10
TOTAL POINTS	100