

# 4-H and FFA Peach Tree Project

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## PEACH TREE CONTEST RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. **ELIGIBILITY:** Exhibitor must be 8 years old by September, 1<sup>st</sup>. Exhibitor must be a current member of Sumter County 4-H or FFA.
2. **TREE REQUIREMENTS:** The Peach trees must be purchased from the UF/IFAS Extension Sumter County Office in April of the prior year. All trees must be planted and grown in the original container issued to them in April of the prior year. If an identification tag is issued in April, it must be the original tag and present on tree at the time of fair. Contest officials have the right to reject entries of inferior quality or diseased plants. Replacement trees may only be obtained in the thirty (30) days following the original issuing of the trees, and only as long as trees from the original lot are still available.
3. **FORFEITURE:** Trees unclaimed after the day of distribution will be forfeited and money will not be refunded.
4. **REQUIRED:** All participants must enter at least one (1) tree into the peach tree contest, turn in a completed record book, attend the educational workshops and complete two (2) out of the seven (7) Peach Tree Project Activities.
5. **DRESS CODE:** All participants must wear black pants and closed toed shoes. 4-H members may either wear a 4-H jacket/vest with a white shirt or a white collared shirt with the 4-H logo. FFA members must be in official dress.
6. **REGISTRATION:** All trees must be registered during the April peach tree distribution workshop.
7. **TREE CARE:** Each exhibitor is responsible for the care of their tree during the peach tree project. During the fair, a volunteer will be present to care for the trees.
8. **TREE SALES:** All trees will be sold via silent auction on the last Friday of the fair.
  - a. Minimum bids are as follows:
    - i. Grand Champion: \$35 minimum bid
    - ii. Reserve Grand Champion: \$30 minimum bid
    - iii. All other trees: \$25 minimum bid
  - b. All Exhibitors selling their trees at the silent auction will be required to:
    - i. Provide written care instructions for the buyer. Must be turned in with your “Thank You” letter.
    - ii. Write a personalized “Thank You” letter to you buyer(s). The letter must be turned in the Monday after the fair in an unsealed stamped envelope, and addressed to your buyer. Failure to turn in you “Thank You” letters will result in forfeiture of all premium and silent auction monies.
9. **SHOW LIMITATION:** Entries shall be limited to one tree per individual. Contestants must only show the tree issued to them in April of the prior year. Replacement trees may only be obtained in the thirty (30) days following the original issuing of trees and only as long as trees from the original lot are still available.
10. **CHECK OUT:** All trees are to stay for the duration of the fair.
11. **PREMIUMS:** All premiums and silent auction monies will be issued to the exhibitor on the Monday after the fair. Monies will be rewarded when record books are turned in.

## **TREE JUDGING AND AWARDS**

1. All trees entered will be sold during the silent auction.
2. Trees will be pre-judged and classified as blue, red, white by qualified judges based upon a pre-established set of standards. Pre-judging will occur before the start of the fair.
3. Trees rated as blue will be eligible to be “shown” by the exhibitor during the peach tree show, only one per exhibitor. Exhibitors will “show” their peach tree during the first Friday of the fair.
4. Separate classes will be held for junior, intermediate, and senior 4-H and FFA members. Within these three groups, trees will be placed first, second, third, and so on. First through third place winners will receive ribbons. During the final judging process, exhibitors need to be prepared to answer questions concerning the care of their trees.
5. First place winners from the three classes will be considered for overall grand champion tree. The class receiving the grand champion tree will then be represented by the second place tree of that class. Then from those three, the reserve grand champion will be chosen. Grand champion and reserve champion will receive rosettes.

## **PEACH TREE JUDGING CONTEST**

### **CLASSES**

01 Junior (8-10 yrs)    02 Intermediate (11-13 yrs)    03 Senior (14-18 yrs)