CROPS

PLEASE NOTE: Any changes/updates from the previous year will be BOLDED and ITALICIZED! Pay special attention to any projects with BOLD, ITALICIZED WORDS because they have changed from last year.

Completion, exhibition participation, and State Fair information for Crops			
Division/Level	**Grades (suggested)**	**Completion Activities Needed***	**Maximum State Fair Entries**
Crops- Corn			
Level 1- Beginner	Grades 3-5	Complete 4 Activities* and Record Sheet	No State Fair Entry
Level 2- Intermediate	Grades 6-8	Complete 4 Activities* and Record Sheet	No State Fair Entry
Level 3- Advanced	Grades 9-12	Complete 4 Activities* and Record Sheet	No State Fair Entry
Crops- Hay, Wheat, Oats, Alfalfa			
All One Level	Grades 3-12	Complete 3 Activities* and Record Sheet	No State Fair Entry
Crops- Soybeans			
Division 1	Grades 3-12	Complete 3 Activities* and Record Sheet	No State Fair Entry
Division 2	Grades 3-12	Complete 2 Activities* and Record Sheet	No State Fair Entry
Division 3	Grades 3-12	Complete 2 Activities* and Record Sheet	No State Fair Entry
Division 4	Grades 3-12	Complete Activities 9,10,11,12 and Record Sheet	No State Fair Entry
Division 5	Grades 3-12	Record Sheet	No State Fair Entry

*"Activities" are defined as project manual activities and/or Hendricks County 4-H Workshops related to this topic. Members must be able to prove attendance by getting a signature from 4-H Leader/Project Advisor that conducts the workshop. Activity sheets available in the Extension Office with Crops Project Manuals. Fair Exhibit guidelines are listed below.

GUIDELINES:
1. Refer to the Hendricks County 4-H Policies, Entry & Exhibit *Guidelines* for poster and general display guidelines.
2. Attach a 4-H exhibit tag to each crop exhibit. On the corn or soybean exhibit tag, add the variety, date planted, and fertilizer used. Hay exhibitors should add the type of hay exhibited to this card.
3. Healthy corn and soybean plants will be judged on the basis of freedom from deficiency, root and stalk development,   freedom from disease and insect damage, and general appearance and uniformity.
4. A Champion and Reserve Champion exhibitor will be selected from each crop. A Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion exhibitor will be selected from the individual crop champion and reserve champion exhibitors.
5. Members may exhibit in one, multiple, or all crops listed below.
6. For personal safety, do not include personally identifiable information such as mailing address or phone numbers on posters/displays/exhibits.

HAY, WHEAT, OATS, ALFALFA (SMALL GRAINS)

Youth will learn about growth stages and parts of plants, characteristics of varieties, fertilizers, germination, injurious weeds, diseases and insects, products made from harvest, and good management practices and their importance.

EXHIBIT CLASSES:
All one level: Grades 3 – 12
Manual: For Hay, Wheat, Oats - 'Small Grains Project' - **4-H 749**
        For Alfalfa - 'Alfalfa Project Outline' sheet – **4-H-39-W**
        Use the Crops Record Sheet **4-H 626-W** to record your project progress in all crops; all divisions.

HAY   - Exhibit 1/4 bale of cured hay in one or more of these categories: alfalfa, clover, grass, and mixed.
WHEAT - Exhibit one (1) gallon of wheat from current crop.
OATS   - Exhibit one (1) gallon of oats.

CORN

You can learn about how the corn plants works, the pests that attacks corn, uses of corn and the safety practices when growing, harvesting, and storing corn. In the advanced levels you will learn about hybrid corn, the types and sources of nutrients for corn, soil erosion, producing and comparing hybrids, and planting and growing corn crops.

For every level: You cannot exhibit the same activity twice
Use the Crops Record Sheet **4-H 626-W** to record your project progress in all crops; all divisions.

Level 1: Beginner – first and second year in project (Recommended Grade 3– 4) - "Corn" (4-H 672)
    Project Completion Recommendations
1. Plan your project year.
2. Grow a plot of corn.
3. Complete at least <u>four (4) </u>of the activities presented.
4. Make an exhibit from one of the project activities you selected.
5. Complete "Crops Projects Record Sheet" (first page only.)

Exhibit – one (1) of the following as outlined in detail in Beginner's Corn Project Book "Suggested Fair Exhibits"
a. "The Parts of a Corn Plant" Exhibit one (1) fully grown corn plant with the plant parts correctly identified and labeled using 3 x 5 inch cards. (see activity 4 in the Beginner's Corn Project Book)
b. Exhibit "Identifying Some Pests of Corn" (using Activities #5, #6, and #7) Exhibit one (1) full grown corn plant in which you have prepared for exhibiting as well as four (4) labels describing pests. One (1) each of two (2) shipping tags or 3 x 5-inch card put a picture of a corn insect (or the actual bug itself), its name, and the plant part it attacks. Do the same for two (2) corn diseases. Then on a fully-grown corn plant which you've prepared for exhibiting, attach the four (4) tags or cards to the specific plant parts affected by those insects and diseases
c. Exhibit "Effects of Planting Depth on Corn Growth" (using Activity #3) Exhibit four (4) containers of growing corn which were seeded at the same time but at 1-inch, 2-inch, 3-inch, and 4-inch depths, with a record of your observations,   displayed on an 8 ½ by 11-inch card.

Level 2: Intermediate – third, fourth, and fifth year in project (Recommended Grade 5-7) - "Hybrid Corn" (4-H 673)
Project Completion Recommendations
1. Plan your project year.
2. Grow a large plot of corn.
3. Complete at least <u>five (5) </u>of the activities presented.
4. Make an exhibit from one (1) of the project activities you selected.
5. Complete "Crops Projects Record Sheet."

Exhibit – one (1) of the following:

a. Exhibit one (1) fully grown corn plant in which you have prepared for exhibiting as well as four (4) labels describing pests. One (1) each of two (2) shipping tags or 3 X 5 inch cards, put a picture of a corn insect (or the actual bug itself), its name, and the plant part it attacks. Do the same for two (2) corn diseases. Then on a fully-grown corn plant which you've prepared   for exhibiting, attach the four (4) tags or cards to the specific plant parts

affected by those insects and diseases (see Activities #5, #6, and #7 in the Beginner Corn Book)
b. Exhibit one (1) of the suggested exhibits from the 'Intermediate 4-H Corn Project Book' "Suggested Fair Exhibits"
    1. "My Own Corn Germination Test" (see Activity #8)
    2. "Effects of Weed Competition on Corn Growth" (see Activity #11)
    3. "Know How to Read Pesticide Labels" (see Activity #13)
    4. "Making the Farmstead Safer" (see Activities #16 and #17)
    5. "The Role of Corn in Other Foods" (see Activity #22)

Level 3: Advanced – sixth year and beyond in project (Recommended Grade 8-12) - "Corn Growth" (4-H 674)
Project Completion Recommendations
    1. Plan your project year.
    2. Grow a large plot of corn.
    3. Complete at least seven (7) activities presented.
    4. Make an exhibit from one (1) of the project activities you selected.
    5. Complete "Crops Projects Record Sheet."

Exhibit - one of the following:

a. Exhibit three (3) stalks of corn with roots attached. Wash the roots clean and exhibit them in a five (5) gallon plastic bucket.
b. Exhibit one (1) of the suggested exhibits from the Advanced 4-H Corn Project Book "Suggested Fair Exhibits"
    1. "Plant Nutrient Deficiencies" (see Activity #1)
    2. "Fertilizer Nutrient Calculations" (see Activity #3)
    3. "Fertilizer Cost Comparison" (see Activity #5)
    4. "My 4-H Corn Project Field's Erosion Rate" (see Activity #6)
    5. "Best Tillage-Planting System for My 4-H Corn Project Field" (see Activity #7)
    6. "Cross-, Self-, and Open-Pollination Experiment" (see Activity #8)
    7. "My Corn Performance Trial Results" (see Activity #9)
    8. "Last Safe Planting Date for Corn Hybrids" (see Activity #10)

SOYBEANS
The Soybean project introduces youth to one of Indiana's major crops, the soybean through fun experiences and hands-on projects. Youth will learn about selecting soybean varieties, planting and harvesting soybeans, and uses for soybeans.

Manual: "The Soybean Project" (4-H 209) - for all levels - Grades 3 – 12

For every level: You cannot exhibit the same activity twice
Use the Crops Record Sheet **4-H 626-W** to record your project progress in all crops; all divisions.

Division 1
Project Completion Recommendations:

    1. Complete three (3) of the following activities: 1, 2, 3 or 13 in the 4-H Soybean Manual.
    2. Keep accurate records using the 4-H Crops Record.

Exhibit – one (1) of the following:

a. Exhibit one (1) fully grown healthy soybean plant with parts labeled, including roots.
b. Exhibit one (1) of the exhibit suggestions given for Division 1 in the 4-H Soybean Project Book (page 31).
    1. "Germination of the Soybean Seed" poster project using Activity #1
    2. "Using the Soybean" poster project using Activity #13
    3. Exhibit one (1) peck of soybeans

Division 2
Project Completion Recommendations:

    1. Complete two (2) of the following activities: 4, 7 or 14 in the 4-H Soybean Manual.
    2. Keep accurate records using the 4-H Crops Record

Exhibit – one (1) of the following:

1. Exhibit one (1) fully grown healthy soybean plan AND one (1) plant showing insect damage. Identify the type of insect on a 3 x 5-inch card by name and with a picture of the insect if possible.
2. Exhibit one (1) of the exhibit suggestions given for Division 2 in the back of the 4-H Soybean Project Book
   1. "The Effect of Light and Darkness on Flowering" poster project using Activity #4 in the 4-H Soybean Book
   2. "Soybean and Plant Nutrition Deficiencies" poster project using Activity #7 in the 4-H Soybean Book
   3. "Preparing Soybeans for Home Use" poster project using Activity #14 in the 4-H Soybean Book
   4. Exhibit one (1) peck of soybeans

Division 3
Project Completion Recommendations

1. Complete two (2) of the following activities: 5, 6, or 14 in the 4-H Soybean Manual.
2. Keep accurate records using the 4-H Crops Record.

Exhibit – one (1) of the following:

a. Exhibit 12 fully grown healthy soybean plants
b. Exhibit one (1) of the exhibit suggestions given for Division 3 in the back of the 4-H Soybean Book
   1. "Differences in Flowering Among Soybean varieties" poster project using Activity #5 in the 4-H Soybean Book
   2. "How Planting Dates Affect Soybean Yields" poster project using Activity #6 in the 4-H Soybean Book
   3. "Preparing Soybeans for Home Use" poster project using Activity #14 in the 4-H Soybean Book

Division 4
Project Completion Recommendations

1. Complete the following activities: 9, 10, 11 and 12 in the Soybean Manual.
2. Keep accurate records using the 4-H Crops Record.

Exhibit – one (1) of the exhibit suggestions given for Division 4 in the back of the 4-H Soybean Book
   a) "Soybean Herbicide Survey" or "Soybean Insect Study" or "Soybean Disease Study" poster project using   Activity #9 in the 4-H Soybean Book
   b) "Measuring Soybean Harvest Losses" using Activity #12 in the 4-H Soybean Book
   c) Exhibit one (1) peck of soybeans

Division 5 & above
Project Completion Recommendations:

1. Keep accurate records using the 4-H Crops Record.
   2. Grow at least five (5) acres of soybeans using cultural practices described in current agronomy (AY) publications.   These are available in the Extension Office.

All exhibits and entries must be made during the period indicated on the fair schedule.

1. All exhibits must be picked up during the allotted time period or ribbons and awards will be forfeited.
2. All project selections must be made on 4-HOnline. Exhibits that will be presented/displayed at the Hendricks County 4-H Fair must be entered into FairEntry online by designated date.
3. ***Judges evaluating exhibits should recognize individual differences and creativity, therefore using information in this handbook as a guide rather than a requirement.***
4. All non-livestock exhibits must include an exhibit label in the lower right hand corner of their exhibit available from FairEntry. Livestock exhibits will receive stall/cage cards when the project is brought to the fairgrounds.
5. In case of an unavoidable circumstance, such as death of animal or drought, which prevents members from exhibiting, insert an explanation in your record book, signed by your parent or guardian and 4-H Leader, and turn book in at the Extension Office to be considered as completing the project.
6. White cards ("My Record of Achievement") must be turned in to exhibit in 4-H. Completion cards must be presented at check-in.
7. ***Members are eligible to exhibit their project via Interactive Demonstration during the County Fair, but will not qualify for State Fair. Additionally, Interactive Demonstrations will be a non-judged exhibit option where members may showcase what they have learned in the project to the general public. All projects have the option for Interactive Demonstration exhibit at the county level.***
8. A 4-H member can exhibit in only one division of each project.
9. All exhibitors will receive ribbons. Exhibits in the livestock classes will receive ribbons designated first to tenth places with all exhibits below tenth receiving achievement ribbons. All other projects will be graded as to quality with the highest quality to receive blue ribbons; average quality, red ribbons; below average, white ribbons. Any exhibit not meeting the ***guidelines*** of the project will be judged on its merit then lowered one placing ribbon. Exhibit entered late, improperly, or not judged will receive a green merit ribbon. Exhibits with exceptional merit will be awarded honor group ribbons as determined by the judge.
10. ***Posters are to be 22"x28" and displayed horizontally and placed in a clear plastic sleeve or covered with clear plastic to protect its contents. Display boards should be designed to sit on a table using no more than 36" of tabletop space. Space should be left in the lower right hand corner to place an exhibit tag provided by Purdue Extension Staff.***
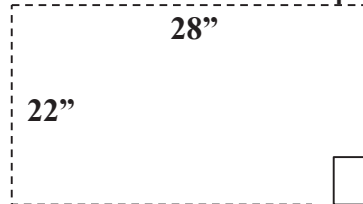   **The dimensions for the poster are 22 inches tall and 28 inches wide.**

Exhibit tag comes from information entered on FairEntry prior to the 4-H Fair. The exhibit tag needs to go on the outside of the plastic sleeve in the bottom right hand corner.

11. State Fair Livestock 4-H entries are to be entered on the State Fair website by the 4-H member by June 1. The Extension Office will make all other non-livestock project entries through FairEntry.
12. Use of skateboards, skates, roller blades, and bicycles are prohibited on the grounds unless in conjunction with a fair event.
13. Dogs and other domestic animals are prohibited on the grounds unless in conjunction with a 4-H Fair event or dogs being used as service animals for impaired individuals.
14. All judges' decisions will be final.
15. **All** posters, notebooks, and display boards **MUST** include a reference list indicating where information was obtained, giving credit to the original author, to complete the 4-H member's exhibit. This reference list should/might include web site links, people and professionals interviewed, books, magazines, etc. It is recommended this reference list be attached to the back of a poster or display board, be the last page of a notebook, or included as part of the display visible to the public. A judge is not to discredit an exhibit for the way references are listed. Reference Sheets are available at the Extension Office for use.
16. For personal safety concerns, notebooks/posters/displays exhibited should only contain name, county, grade, level, and club if needed. Do not list personally identifiable information (i.e. phone, address, etc.).