

GARDEN

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.**

The gardening project introduces youth to vegetable and herb gardening. You will learn about planning a vegetable garden, planting, fertilizing, different vegetable pests, harvesting, storage techniques and careers.

All 4-H Garden Exhibitors are eligible to enter in the Indiana State Fair. Call the Hendricks County Extension Office at (317)745-9260 to enter.

Completion, exhibition participation, and State Fair information for Garden			
Division/Level	Grades (suggested)	Completion Activities Needed	Maximum State Fair Entries
Level A	Grades 3-4	EXHIBITION –or– RECORD SHEET	1 collection per member, unlimited number of county entries. 5 single vegetable entries per member, unlimited number of county entries. 3 herb entries per member, unlimited number of county entries. 1 potato tray entry per member, unlimited number of county entries. 1 tomato plate entry per member, unlimited number of county entries. 1 educational exhibit entry per county.
Level B	Grades 5-6	EXHIBITION –or– RECORD SHEET	
Level C	Grades 7-9	EXHIBITION –or– RECORD SHEET	
Level D	Grades 10-12	EXHIBITION –or– RECORD SHEET	

Remember: 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 if needed. For personal safety, do not include personally identifiable information such as mailing address or phone numbers on posters/displays/exhibits.

SUGGESTED REFERENCE MATERIALS (available for purchase in Extension Office or shop4-h.org)

- Level A: See Them Sprout
- Level B: Let's Get Growing
- Level C: Take Your Pick
- Level D: Growing Profits

GUIDELINES

1. Refer to the Hendricks County 4-H Policies, Entry & Exhibit Guidelines for poster and general display guidelines.
2. **Artificial Intelligence (AI) may be used, with parent permission, when creating this exhibit and is to be documented as a reference. A majority of the work to create this exhibit is to be the 4-H member's original work.**
3. Be sure to enroll in the project on 4-HOnline and enter exhibit information into FairEntry by designated date. **2025 designated FairEntry Deadline is Tuesday, July 1st at 11:59 p.m.**
4. Complete the Record Sheet **(if not exhibiting at the Hendricks County 4-H Fair).**
5. The 4-H Fair Board will furnish paper plates or appropriate display containers (with the exception of Potato trays).
6. All 4-H Garden Project members are eligible to enter State Fair Garden Produce Classes and must sign up to enter Garden for the State Fair at the Extension Office during County Fair time.
7. Refer to Suggested 4-H Garden Exhibits, 4-H 970-w, to learn about size, weight, and other suggested specifications.
8. 4-H Garden exhibits will be disposed of as decomposition merits.

9. Vegetables entered for exhibit should be considered as "non-returnable" to the exhibitor due to their time-on-display and for lack of real food-value after a week at the Hendricks County 4-H Fair.
10. Vegetable exhibits entered for state fair competition will not be displayed and instead will be donated to a central Indiana food bank.

EXHIBIT CLASSES

Level A: Grades 3-4 (suggested)

- Choose one or more options outlined below. All vegetable and herb exhibits must include common name and variety.

Level B: Grades 5-6 (suggested)

- Choose one or more options outlined below. All vegetable and herb exhibits must include common name and variety.

Level C: Grades 7-9 (suggested)

- Choose one or more options outlined below. All vegetable and herb exhibits must include common name and variety.

Level D: Grades 10-12 (suggested)

- Choose one or more options outlined below. All vegetable and herb exhibits must include common name and variety.

Garden Collection Option

Create a 3-plate, 4-plate, or 5-plate collection display of vegetables you have grown and cared for from the single vegetable list. Display each vegetable on a disposable plate. Inclusion of flowers is optional.

Single Vegetable Option

Display from the list below vegetables you have grown and cared for on a disposable plate.

Vegetable	Plated Display Description
Asparagus	Asparagus, 5 spears
Beans	Cowpea, black-eyed pea, southern pea, etc., 10 pods or ½ cup shelled
Beans	Snap, Green or Wax, 10 pods
Beans	Lima-large or small - 10 pods or ½ cup shelled
Beans	Navy, kidney, shell out, etc.-1/2 cup shelled
Beets	Round, flat, and long types, 3
Broccoli	Broccoli, 1 head
Broccoli raab	Broccoli raab, 3 heads
Brussels sprouts	Brussels sprouts, 5 heads
Cabbage	Chinese type (bok choy or pak choi), 1 head
Cabbage	Chinese type (napa cabbage), 1 head
Cabbage	Round, Flat or Pointed type, 1 head
Carrots	Carrots, 3
Cauliflower	Cauliflower, 1 head
Celery	Celery, 1 bunch
Chard	Chard, 10 bundled leaves
Collards	Collards, 10 bundled leaves
Corn	Sweet-yellow, white or bicolor, 3 ears
Cucumbers	Dill, Pickling, 3
Cucumbers	English or hothouse, 1
Cucumbers	Slicing with seeds, 3
Eggplant	Eggplant, 1
Kale	Kale, 10 bundled leaves

Kohlrabi	Kohlrabi, 3
Muskmelon	Muskmelon (cantaloupe), 1
Okra	Okra, 3 pods
Onions	Green, 5 onions in a bunch
Onions	Red, Yellow or White, 3
Parsnip	Parsnips, tops off, 3
Peas	Peas, edible pod such as snow peas ,10 pods
Peas	Peas, unshelled, 10 pods
Peppers	Bell type, 3
Peppers	Chili type, 3
Peppers	Serrano type, 3
Peppers	Banana/Long/Wax/Hungarian type, 3
Peppers	Pimiento type (red), 3
Peppers	Cayenne type, 3
Peppers	Jalapeno type, 3
Peppers	Cherry type, 3
Peppers	New Mexican, long green, Anaheim type, 3
Peppers	Ancho type, 3
Peppers	Tabasco type, 3
Peppers	Habanero type, 3
Potato	Potatoes, any color, 3
Pumpkin	Pumpkin, (other), 1
Pumpkin	Table, Canning, or Ornamental, 1
Radishes	Radishes, 5
Rhubarb	Rhubarb, 3 stalks bundled
Rutabaga	Rutabaga, 3
Spinach	Spinach, 10 bundled leaves
Squash	Banana, or other large winter squash type, 1
Squash	Buttercups, Turbans, 1
Squash	Butternut, 1
Squash	Cushaw, 1
Squash	Hubbards – blue, green or golden, 1
Squash	Scallops/Patty Pans, 1
Squash	Straight or crookneck – i.e. summer squash, 1
Squash	Acorn, 1
Squash	Zucchini or cocozelle, 1
Sweet Potato	Sweet potatoes, 3
Tomatillos	Tomatillos, 3
Turnips	Turnips, 3
Watermelon	Watermelon, 1
Any Other Vegetable	Any vegetable not listed above, include 1-3 specimens

Herb Option

Display from the list below a single herb plant you have grown and cared for in an appropriate size pot that has a saucer bottom.

Herb Name and Description
Basil (<i>Ocimum basilicum</i>) "all edible types"
Catnip (<i>Nepeta cataria</i>) "all edible types"
Chamomile (<i>Chamaemelum nobile</i>) "all edible types"

Chives (<i>Allium schoenoprasum</i>) "all edible types"
Coriander or Cilantro (<i>Coriandrum sativum</i>) "all edible types"
Dill (<i>Anethum graveolens</i>)
French tarragon (<i>Artemisia dracunculus</i>)
Lavender (<i>Lavendula</i> sp.) "all edible types"
Mint (<i>Mentha</i> sp.) "all edible types"
Oregano (<i>Origanum vulgare</i>)
Parsley (<i>Petroselinum crispum</i>) "all edible types"
Rosemary (<i>Rosemarinus officinalis</i>)
Sage (<i>Salvia officinalis</i>)
Sweet Marjoram (<i>Origanum majorana</i>)
Thyme (<i>Thymus vulgaris</i>) "all edible types"
Any Other Herb

Potato Tray Option

Display from the list below approximately 30 potatoes you have grown and cared for in a 12 ½" x18" tray. A tray will be provided when checking-in potato exhibits at [state fair](#).

Potato Description
Red (Norland, Triumph), etc.
Russett (Haig, Norgold, Superior), etc.
White, long type (Kennebec), etc.
White, oval type (Irish Cobbler), etc.
White, round type (Katahdin), etc.
Other (yellow, blue, etc.)

Tomato Plate Option

Display from the list below **any tomato** you have grown and cared for on a disposable plate.

Tomato Description
Pink or purple, 3
Red (for canning), 3
Red (for market), 3
Roma or paste type, 3
Intermediate type, 10
Small Cherry or Pear, 10
Yellow or orange, 3

Educational Exhibit Option

Create an educational poster, notebook or display about any manual activity or on any gardening topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate. Youth can also design and complete an independent study activity.

JUST FOR FUN

No State Fair Entries

LARGEST VEGETABLE EXHIBIT-Exhibit your largest vegetable of acceptable (or better) quality in any of the class listed below: (ONLY one (1) entry per class)

1. Largest pumpkin/squash (by weight)
2. Largest watermelon (by weight)
3. Largest tomato (by weight)
4. Largest potato (by weight)
5. Largest onion (by weight)
6. Largest head of cabbage (by weight)
7. Largest sunflower (by diameter)
8. Unusual growth forms
9. Unusual vegetable (not included in state fair entries)

Largest infers the vegetables should be of edible OR (sunflower) market quality. Placing will be made in numeric order to the top five winners in each class. Champions will be awarded in each class.