



Erie County Fair

Erie County Agricultural Society

3110 Columbus Avenue, Po Box 2436,
Sandusky, Ohio 44870

secretary@eriefair.com

www.eriefair.com

419-625-1000

Open class questions? openclasseriefair@gmail.com

Erie County Fair
Open Class
August 10 – 16, 2026

DEPARTMENT 1 - FARM & GARDEN



DEPARTMENT 1 FARM & GARDEN

Superintendent - Gary Miller

RULES & REGULATIONS

1. Check in will be on Monday, August 10th from 8-9 am.
2. Judging will start on Monday, August 10th at 10 am.
3. Official release time is Sunday, August 16th from 9 am – Noon
4. Every item in the exhibit must be raised by the exhibitor.
5. If you have been a dealer or professional in the past or earn 50% of your annual income by such means, you must enter as a Dealer/Professional.
6. No duplicate entries permitted.
7. Plates will be provided by the department. Every effort will be made to properly display all items.
8. All vegetables must have a stem left on top. Brush—Do not wash vegetables
9. Small Vegetable Class—see specimen for display requirements.
10. Large Vegetable Class—see specimen for display requirements.
11. Fruit Class—display 5 items per specimen category.
12. Ribbons will be awarded at time of judging or may be picked up at the Sr. Fair Board office.

CLASS I—GRAINS

Display

1. Field Corn 3 stalks—balled
2. Soybeans 5 stalks—bare root—unwashed
3. Wheat 1 quart jar
4. Oats 1 quart jar
5. Sunflower—largest head
6. Sunflower—tallest measured stalk—balled

CLASS WINNER

CLASS II—SMALL VEGETABLES

Display

1. Green Beans - 10 pods
2. Lima Beans - 10 pods
3. Pea - 10 pods
4. Carrots - 5, topped
5. Cucumber, slicing - 5
6. Cucumber, pickles - 5
7. Peppers - Bell 5
8. Peppers - Hot 5
9. Potatoes - 5
10. Red Beets - 5
11. Sweet Corn - 5
12. Tomatoes - Slicers 5
13. Tomatoes - Roma 5
14. Tomatoes - Cherry 10
15. Onions - 5
16. Summer Squash - 3
17. Radishes, Topped - 5
18. Turnips, Topped - 5

CLASS WINNER

CLASS III—LARGE VEGETABLES

Display 1 Item per Specimen

1. Cabbage - 4 Leaves
2. Cauliflower
3. Eggplant
4. Watermelon
5. Muskmelon
6. Honeydew
7. Pumpkin
8. Squash - Winter
9. Squash - Summer over 12"
10. Broccoli
11. Kohlrabi

CLASS WINNER

CLASS IV—FRUITS

Display

1. Grapes - 3 bunches
2. Apples - 5
3. Peaches - 5
4. Pears - 5
5. Plums - 5
6. Raspberries - 5

CLASS WINNER

BEST OF SHOW—CLASS I-IV

CLASS V—VEGGIE ART— Create a display, no larger than a paper plate, made from fruits and vegetables

1. Junior (ages 14 and under)
2. Adult

CLASS WINNER

CLASS VI—SPECIALTY DISPLAY

1. Display best grouping of fruits and/or vegetables at **least 6 items**.

Display is limited to a 30" x 30" space. The Display will be judged on the following:

- A. Size & Uniformity 10 pts
- B. Overall Appearance 15 pts
- C. Attractiveness 15 pts
- D. Color 25 pts
- E. Condition & Freedom of Blemish 35 pts

TOTAL POINTS 100 PTS.

BEST OF SHOW

Registration Deadline—August 3rd

Interested in entering the 7 other Departments— Floriculture, Baked Goods, Photography, Household Arts, Arts, Antiques & Collections and Hobbies & Crafts?

Contact the Erie County Fair Board office at 419.625.1000 or visit

www.eriefair.com

See last page for Open Class general information, rules and regulations

RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE ERIE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

General Information

1. BE SURE TO READ: (1) All rules imposed by the Erie County Agricultural Society; (2) All rules imposed by the State of Ohio; (3) All specific instructions under the department in which you wish to enter; (4) The summary of rules on the entry form.
2. Questions which arise will be answered by the department superintendents.
3. The Erie County Fair Board reserves the sole and absolute right to construe its own rules and regulations and to determine arbitrarily on matters and differences in regard thereto, from which there is no appeal.
4. Security and Police officers are on duty on the grounds during the continuance of the Fair. The Erie County Fair Board is not and will not be responsible for damage, loss, or accident that may occur. Exhibitors are requested to give attention to their items during the Fair.
5. Disrespect by an exhibitor or agent toward officials, or any misrepresentation, in regard to entries in any department either by statements made or facts omitted, will render the entry ineligible to compete, and no premium will be paid.
6. Competition is open to all counties in Ohio.
7. All open class exhibitors must hold a membership ticket, season ticket, pay per entry or a youth wristband.
8. All entries must be made in the name of the owner of the article.
9. Entries should be recorded on forms provided and mailed to the Erie County Agricultural Society, PO Box 2436, Sandusky, Ohio, 44870.
10. If you have been a dealer or professional in the past or earn 50% of your annual income by such means, you must enter as a Dealer/ Professional.
11. The closing date of all entries for each department will be 6pm, August 3rd.
12. All mail in entries in all departments must be postmarked no later than July 31st. There will be no exceptions to this rule.
13. The exhibitor must fill out the entry form completely. This includes designating the department; class; and description of the item. The entry form must be signed by the exhibitor.
14. When the entry of an item is recorded in the books of the Secretary, tags will be given a number and class which are to be placed on the item. Once the item has been entered, no changes in the entry will be permitted, unless it can be shown that a mistake has been made.
15. The superintendent has the right to change entry to a more appropriate category.
16. Every item for competition must be placed on display on Sunday, August 9th between 5-8 pm.
Except for:
 - Items for Farm and Garden and Baked Goods must be placed on display on Monday, August 10th between 8-9am.
 - Floriculture Class:
 - o Classes I, II and III on Tuesday, August 11th between 8-9 am.
 - o Classes IV, V and VI on Thursday, August 13th between 8-9 am.
17. Official release time is Sunday, August 16th, 9am-noon.
Any exhibitor removing items before release time will not be permitted to enter any open class exhibits the following year. Not responsible for items left after noon.
18. Exhibitor must provide receipt to remove item from display area.
19. No interference or communications with the judges will be allowed and any person who by letter or otherwise attempts to influence the decision of the judge, shall forfeit any and all premiums which may be or have been awarded and be ruled out of competition.
20. Premiums for most classes are: 1st - \$5.00; 2nd - \$3.00; 3rd - \$1.00. Unless otherwise stated.
21. Premiums can be picked up on Saturday of the fair in the Sr. Fair Board office or on Sunday at exhibit check out.
22. Rosettes and ribbons will be awarded at time of judging or may be picked up in the Sr. Fair Board Office.
23. The judges are instructed not to award premiums, unless the items are deemed of worthy merit.
24. No person other than members of the Board, who are not competitors, will be allowed to see the entries, or to have access to the judges' books after the awards are made.
25. If there is any question as to the regularity of any entry, or of the right of any item to compete in any given class, the judges shall report the same to the Superintendent of the Department for adjustment.
26. The Fair Board is not responsible for notifying winning exhibitors.
27. For specific rules— see individual departments.

Questions? email: openclasseriefair@gmail.com

Interested in being an open class sponsor?

We offer 3 levels of sponsorship. Email us if you want to support our program!