



Highlands Youth Citrus Project 2018 Rules & Regulations



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Eligibility

Open to Highlands County Youth (8 to 18 years old) Age for the project for this year is determined as of **September 1st, 2017.**

2018 General Project Specifications

1. The Youth Citrus Project will include **four** project categories:
 - a. Participation in Informational Workshops & Imidacloprid Spraying
 - b. A Citrus Illustrated Talk
 - c. Exhibit of a Citrus Tree
 - d. Citrus Tree Record Book
2. Exhibitors **MUST** complete all four categories and turn in “Thank You” letters to sponsors and buyers of the project citrus tree to receive the participation Premiums.
3. **For Judging** in each of the Citrus Illustrated Talk, Citrus Tree, and Record Book categories entrants:
 - Will be divided into three divisions: Juniors, Intermediates and Seniors.
 - Juniors will be all entrants between ages 8 & 10
 - Intermediates will be all entrants between ages of 11-13
 - Seniors will be all entrants ages 14 and older
 - There will be a Top Junior, Top Intermediate and a Top Senior Illustrated Talk
 - There will be a Top Junior, Top Intermediate and a Top Senior Tree
 - There will be a Top Junior, Top Intermediate and a Top Senior Record Book
 - **In addition there will be a Grand and Reserve Champion Citrus Tree for all of the citrus trees regardless of age division**
4. **Overall placing** will be based on the following points:
 - 10 points - Workshop Participation (5 points per workshop)
(Minimum two workshops, additional workshops attended are worth 5 bonus points each)
 - 30 points – Citrus Tree Exhibit Placing
 - 30 points – Citrus Illustrated Talk Placing
 - 30 points – Citrus Record Book Placing
5. Participants may raise two citrus trees, but they may display and auction only one tree.
6. **ALL DEADLINES ARE FINAL.** Failure to meet any deadlines listed in the 2018 Highlands Youth Citrus Project Schedule will result in disqualification.

Late entries in any of the three categories: Citrus illustrated talk, citrus tree, or record book, will not be accepted. All deadlines are announced at the beginning of the project and early submissions are allowed except for citrus trees.

TO AVOID THE LAST MINUTE CALAMITY THAT WOULD RESULT IN DISQUALIFICATION, YOU SHOULD CONSIDER SUBMITTING THE REQUIRED MATERIALS EARLY, (Illustrated Talk Topic Form and Record Book) before the deadline.

7. All Citrus trees shall be treated four times during the project year with Imidacloprid to prevent Citrus Greening (see “Tips on Growing Potted Citrus Trees”). Scheduled treatment events are listed in the 2017-2018 Highlands Youth Citrus Project Schedule. **Participants do not have to be present, but the tree MUST be brought in for treatment.**

8. **All exhibitors must attend two of the four workshops** and enter a Citrus Illustrated Talk for judging to exhibit and sell their citrus tree in the fair. The field trip may count for one workshop.

2018 Tree Specifications

1. Citrus trees for the project **MUST** be picked up at the Highlands County Extension Office, located at 4509 George Boulevard, Sebring, at the first workshop. Entrants or entrant representative **MUST** attend this workshop to participate.
2. Exhibitors may pick up two tree packages to grow for the project. A citrus tree package includes a citrus tree, a pot, and pre-mixed potting soil. The cost is \$20.00 per package.
3. **The citrus tree must remain in the five gallon pot provided to be shown.** If soil needs to be later added to the pot, contact the Extension office to get more certified soil. **Trees must be grown in the pots provided and cannot be placed in soil.** Only certified potting soil can be added to the pots, should they tip over and lose soil. **The presence of sand or other potting soil in a pot can result in disqualification.**
4. One citrus tree for exhibit must be delivered to the Highlands County Bert J. Harris, Jr. Ag Center on **Wednesday, February 7th, 2018, 4 – 6 p.m.;** late trees will not be accepted.
5. Trees being entered in the fair must be in show condition and representative of a saleable tree in the nursery trade. Trees with sparse foliage, excessive pest damage, cold damage, or symptoms of Citrus Canker or Citrus Greening will be disqualified and rejected. **Trees that are disqualified** must be picked up at the Bert Harris Ag Center by **Friday, February 9th, 2018.**
6. Citrus Trees will be inspected upon arrival at the Ag Center on February 7th, by state inspectors from the FDACS DPI. Citrus Trees exhibiting symptoms of Citrus Canker as determined by state inspection will be rejected. Leaf samples for Citrus Greening will be taken, and lab tests run. Citrus Trees testing positive for Citrus Greening by law will be rejected.
[Exhibitors whose trees are rejected based on disease or lack of show quality are still required to complete a record book and complete the project]
7. All accepted trees will be judged and delivered to the fairgrounds on the following day for exhibit and sale.
8. Citrus Trees will be sold in a Silent Auction during the fair. The auction will close on Thursday evening. The Grand and Reserve Champion citrus trees will be sold in the Live Auction on **Thursday evening February 15th, 2018.**

Premiums

Exhibitors will receive premiums for their citrus tree, illustrated talk, and record book. There will also be premiums for Overall Grand Champion and Overall Reserve Grand Champion.

Citrus Tree

Grand Champion	\$35
Res. Grand Champion	\$30
Top Junior	\$20
Top Intermediate	\$20
Top Senior	\$20
Blue	\$15
Red	\$10
White	\$5

Illustrated Talk

Top Junior	\$30
Top Intermediate	\$30
Top Senior	\$30
Blue	\$15
Red	\$10
White	\$5

Record Book

Top Junior	\$30
Top Intermediate	\$30
Top Senior	\$30
Blue	\$15
Red	\$10
White	\$5

Overall

Overall Grand Champion	\$45
Overall Reserve Grand Champion	\$40

2017 – 2018 Mandatory Imidacloprid Treatment

To stop the psyllid from feeding on your citrus trees and possibly giving your trees Citrus Greening Disease, you **MUST** have your citrus trees treated with a chemical called **Imidacloprid** at least four times during the growing time. **THIS IS A MANDATORY REQUIREMENT WITH NO EXCEPTIONS!**

You must deliver your citrus trees to the Bert Harris Ag Center on the specified dates and times for treatment. **The entrant does not have to be present, but the citrus trees must be presented.**

-OR-

If commercial imidacloprid treatments are available to you and can be proven by a written affidavit proving dates of treatment schedule and product used, you can be approved for this alternative treatment plan. Affidavits are due at the first meeting, April 18th, 2017. EMAILS ARE NOT ACCEPTED.

Your trees were treated in the nursery before you received them and will be treated in June, August, and November at the Imidacloprid Treatment Field days. It is advisable to place your trees as far away from other citrus trees as possible.

2018 Thank You Letters & Record Books

1. Thank You letters must be turned in by **Monday, March 2nd 2018, 5:00 p.m.**, at the Extension Office at the Bert Harris Ag Center. Late entries will not be accepted.
2. ***RECORD BOOKS ARE TO REMAIN IN THE ORANGE PROJECT FOLDER AND TURNED INTO THE HIGHLANDS COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE BY FRIDAY, JUNE 1st, 2018 BY 5:00PM.***
3. All record book entries must be in legible handwriting by the entrant. Typing of information is only allowed in the Project Story. Typed Project Stories can be inserted in to the record book.

2018 Citrus Illustrated Talk

Specifications

1. Citrus Illustrated Talks must be based on information researched by the entrant. Talks must be given by the entrant.

2. Exhibitors must declare their Citrus Illustrated Talk topic to the Extension Office in writing or email to: apontius@ufl.edu by **Friday November 17th, 2017 at 5:00 p.m.** using the Citrus Illustrated Talk Registration Form. Forms can be submitted prior to November 17th. **LATE FORMS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

3. Regardless of category entered, the following regulations apply:

- No living vertebrates (i.e. fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, or mammals) may be brought to the event venue.
- Illustrated talks must be a minimum of 3 minutes for juniors and intermediates, and 5 minutes for seniors.
- Participants must provide all equipment and supplies for their presentations. The office will provide a computer with PowerPoint, a projector, easel, and pointer.
- Competitors are responsible for all aspects of their preparations and set-up of their competitions.
- The Illustrated Talk competition combines two forms of achievement and recognition for youth. These are:

Standards of Excellence established by experts (as defined by the scorecards for Illustrated Talk Contest). By measuring personal progress against standards of excellence, youth can gain insight into their own efforts and abilities.

Peer Competition, a panel of judges subjectively identifies, in a concrete time and place, the best individuals through rankings. It is a strong motivator for some youth, but is inappropriate for youth under the age of eight.

In 4-H Competitions, using both “standards of excellence” and “peer competition”, as described above, participants will first be recognized for reaching a standard of excellence. Blue, Red, and White levels are used to determine the standard met. All judges’ decisions are final.

2018 Judging – All Categories

1. Each entry (Citrus Illustrated Talks, citrus trees, and record books) will be judged on its own merit, receiving a blue, red, or white ribbon.

2. Entries are compared only after all initial judging to determine, top, junior, senior; and overall winners.

3. *Score cards for the illustrated talk and the record book will be returned to the participant for “learning purposes only” after the contest has ended. All judges’ decisions are Final.*

2017-2018 Highlands Youth Citrus Project Schedule

Fair Dates: February 9-17, 2018

NOTE: All deadlines are ABSOLUTE. Late forms, entries and information will not be accepted and subject to being dropped from the program!

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Tuesday, April 18th, 2017, 6-7:30 PM,</u> <u>Auditorium</u></p> <p>Workshop #1 MANDATORY Attendance Citrus Tree Distribution Clinic: "How to Grow Your Citrus Tree"</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Saturday, November 4th, 2017, 9-11 AM</u> <u>AG Center</u></p> <p>MANDATORY Imidacloprid Treatment #4</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Thursday, May 18th, 2017, 6:00 PM, Auditorium</u></p> <p>Workshop #2: Insects & Diseases</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Thursday, November 30th, 2017, 6:00 PM,</u> <u>Auditorium</u></p> <p>Workshop #3: Citrus Illustrated Talk Topics must be declared to the Extension Office by this date!</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Saturday, June 3rd, 2017, 9-11 AM</u> <u>AG Center</u></p> <p>MANDATORY Imidacloprid Treatment #1</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Tuesday, December 5th, 2017, 6:00 PM,</u> <u>Auditorium</u></p> <p>Workshop #4: Final instructions for the fair.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Saturday, July 22nd, 2017, 9-11 AM</u> <u>AG Center</u></p> <p>MANDATORY Imidacloprid Treatment #2</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Tuesday/Wednesday, January 9-10th, 2018, 4-7 PM,</u> <u>AG Center</u></p> <p>Citrus Illustrated Talk Presentations.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>September 1st, 2017</u></p> <p>4-H Online Registration Opens SIGN UP!</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Wednesday, February 7th, 2018, 4-6 PM</u> <u>4-H Lab</u></p> <p>Citrus Trees Due</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Saturday, September 23rd, 2017, 9-11 AM</u> <u>AG Center</u></p> <p>MANDATORY Imidacloprid Treatment #3</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Thursday, February 15th, 2018, 6:30 PM</u> <u>Highlands County Fair Grounds</u></p> <p>Citrus Tree Live Auction for Champion Trees.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Saturday, October 21st, 2017, 9-11 AM,</u> <u>LOCATION: TBD</u></p> <p>(Field Trip)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Friday, March 2nd, 2018, 5:00 PM</u> <u>AG Center</u></p> <p>Thank You Letters Due</p>

****Record Books are due Friday, June 1st, 2018 by 5:00 PM to the Extension Office****

-DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE-