Bee Culture

ONE HUNDRED FIFTY FOURTH
NEBRASKA STATE FAIR
August 25 – September 4, 2023
Grand Island, NE
Join the Bee Culture Department in celebrating “Whatever Your Flavor” at the 2023 Nebraska State Fair.

Superintendent: Brian Nilson, Marquette, NE
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Email: bpnilson@msn.com

Judges
Dr. Judy Wu-Smart: Extension & Research Entomologist, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Luke Noris: University of Nebraska-Lincoln Bee Lab
Megan Vetter: President of the Nebraska Beekeepers Association

Important Dates
Entry Deadline: Wednesday August 23, 7pm
Exhibit Delivery: Monday & Tuesday August 21-22, 1pm – 7pm
Wednesday August 23, 9am – 7pm
Judging Day: Friday August 25, 8am. Association exhibits must be in place by Friday August 25, 8am. Please make arrangements with the Education Department if you want to place an exhibit in the Education Department.
Exhibit Release: Monday September 4, 6pm – 8pm. **Early Release is Prohibited**
Tuesday September 5, 8am – Noon
Now located in the 4-H/FFA Fieldhouse

Bee Culture Department Divisions
- Divisions 2201-2211, 2214, 2215, 2216, & 2217 are open to all ages.
- Division 2213 contains one class for youth aged 6-12 years old.
Class Premiums and Overall Awards

The Nebraska State Fair will pay premiums to the Best of Show: Division 2401 $35 – Divisions 2402-2406, 2407 & 2408 (combined), 2409-2413 $15.

Nebraska State Fair also pays out for the overall sweepstakes winners. 1st $300, 2nd $200, and 3rd $100.

The premiums listed below are paid by the Nebraska Beekeepers Association

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Ribbon</th>
<th>$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Pink</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In addition, there are 6 overall awards for Open Class Divisions 2401-2408 (total value of $325) and 8 overall awards for Youth Divisions 2409-2413 (total value of $325) provided by the Nebraska Beekeepers Association and various private donors. More details at the end of each of the Open Class and Youth Divisions.

Included in the overall awards are sweepstakes awards, one for Open Class Divisions 2401-2408 and one for Youth Divisions 2409-2413 plus entries made by youth (18 and under as of January 1) in open class divisions where there are no corresponding youth division classes. The sweepstakes awards are based on total points accumulated from entries in the specified divisions as follows:

1st Place – 5 points
2nd Place – 4 points
3rd Place – 3 points
4th Place – 2 points

Overall Sweepstakes

These are based on a point system. 1st place – 5 points, 2nd place – 3 points, and 3rd place – 1 point.

1st place - $300
2nd place - $200
3rd place - $100

The first-place winner will then go in for a people’s choice Overall Sweepstakes Winner receiving a plaque and their name engraved on a trophy that will be displayed each year during the fair. The voting will begin the final weekend of fair after all static events are complete. It will be a google form that you will use an email address to submit a vote.

Judging results will be available at www.statefair.org. Menu – Ag & Competitions – Open Class Competitive Exhibits

Department Rules

It’s the Exhibitor’s responsibility to be familiar with the General Rules & Regulations linked here which apply to all Nebraska State Fair open class departments of Competitive Exhibits and to the specific rules for each department.

Additional Rules Specific to the Bee Culture department are:

- The exhibitor or his/her authorized agent must have produced all entries in this competition in Nebraska
- Only one entry per exhibitor in any one class
- Entries shall bear no labels or markings.
- Judges will use score cards for judging. Points will be deducted for entries less than the specified amounts.
- The judge may but is not required to award a ribbon for the first four places in each class.
- Entries received later than the delivery deadline will be labeled “For Display Only.”
- No late entries including add-ons and substitutes at check-in time.
- The exhibitor’s age as of January 1 is used for age-restricted classes. Birthdate is required on the entry form.
- No early release of exhibits.

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Entering Exhibits – Deadline is Wednesday August 23, 7pm

Exhibitors may purchase $5 Exhibitor Gate Tickets. A maximum of 5 exhibitor tickets per family is allowed. No refunds will be given on any unused or lost tickets. To purchase these tickets, go to https://bit.ly/CEExhibitorTicket and use password CVENT.

Please note that daily gate admission for seniors (age 60+) is $5 for any day of the fair. Find additional ticket deals and details at www.statefair.org “Buy Tickets”.

Online Registration: The most time and cost-efficient way to enter is online. Exhibitors can enter all their open class exhibits and order exhibitor tickets (optional) in one session. Online entry begins around July 1. Instructions on how to enter online are found on the website www.statefair.org – Menu – Ag & Competitions – Open Class Competitive Exhibits – Scroll down to Agricultural Products – Online Entry.

Mail-In or In-Person Registration: When using mail-in or in-person registration, the exhibitor must use a separate form for each department entered. Either print the entry form from the following link: 2023 Bee Culture Entry Form or request a form from the Nebraska State Fair Office, 501 E Fonner Park Rd Ste 200, Grand Island, NE 68801, Phone 308-382-1620.

Entry forms must be mailed, faxed, or delivered to the Nebraska State Fair. Deadline for Bee Cultures is Wednesday, August 23, 7pm.

- Mailing Address: Nebraska State Fair, PO Box 1387(envelopes only), Grand Island, NE 68802-1387
- Fax: 308-384-1555
- In person delivery: Nebraska State Fair, 501 E Fonner Park Rd Ste 200, Grand Island, NE 68801

Guidelines for Completing Entry Form

- Enter all items you plan to bring. There is no entry fee. Items not brought will be deleted at the fair.
- The entry form description is for identification purposes only. It should only be a few words long, provide identifying size and subject to help locate item by site. Do not include class name/number as part of the description.
- Retain a copy of the entry form. A copy is required when you deliver your exhibits. For online registration, print either the entry receipt activity report or a packing/loading report.

Delivery of Exhibits – 4-H/FFA Fieldhouse - Deadline is Wednesday, August 23, 7pm

Entries can be delivered in person or sent by USPS, FedEx, or UPS.

- In-Person: bring exhibit(s) along with a copy of the entry form to the Bee Culture area in the 4-H/FFA Fieldhouse. Enter Gate 5 and enter through the North or West Doors. Receiving times are Monday August 21 and Tuesday August 22, 1pm-7pm and Wednesday August 23, 9am-7pm.
- Ship by USPS, UPS, FedEx: refer to Shipping Options for detailed instructions on packaging, where to send exhibits, and include a prepaid return label with the exhibit. Note that items sent by mail may experience long delivery delays.

Return of Exhibits – Early release is prohibited.

- In Person: Items can be picked up Monday September 4, 6pm-8pm or Tuesday September 5, 8am-noon. You will be asked to sign the release list to collect your entries.
- Shipping: Exhibitors who want items returned by mail or a delivery service must make this notation on the entry form enclosed with the exhibits. A prepaid return label must be included. Please send entries for other departments separately. Exhibits will not be accepted or returned by COD. Refer to Shipping Options for return information.

Exhibits not picked up during release time or without a prepaid return label must be picked up from the Nebraska State Fair office, 501 E Fonner Park Rd Ste 200 Grand Island NE, by Friday October 27. After that items will be donated to charity.
Divisions 2401-2408
Open Class Divisions

**Division 2401: Extracted Honey**

Entries shall consist of 4 – 1-pound queenline glass jars.

- 0101 Extra light extracted honey
- 0102 Light extracted honey
- 0103 Light amber extracted honey
- 0104 Amber extracted honey
- 0105 Dark extracted honey

**Division 2402: Creamed & Chunk Comb Honey**

Entries shall consist of 4 – 1 pound glass jars – cylindrical jars preferred.

- 0201 Creamed honey
- 0202 Chunk comb honey

**Division 2403: Cut Comb Honey**

- 0301 Cut comb honey – entries shall consist of 4 – 12-ounce combs in plastic boxes
- 0302 Section comb honey – entries shall consist of 4 wood sections packaged in cardboard cellophane window cartons or 4 round sections with clear covers and labels or 4 half-combed cassettes.

**Division 2404: Beekeeping Photograph**

Entries shall consist of one 5x7 or 8x10 photograph depicting some aspect of beekeeping. Photograph must be mounted in a frame for display.

- 0401 Beekeeping photograph

**Division 2405: Art Design in Beeswax, Molded Items**

Entries shall consist of 2 items containing beeswax as an ingredient. Exhibitors must supply ingredient list with weights of ingredients from most weight to least weight.

- 0501 Art designs in beeswax, molded
- 0502 Lotion bars, molded
- 0503 Soap bars, molded

**Division 2406: Beeswax Candles**

Entries shall consist of a pair of beeswax candles that are either molded or dipped.

- 0601 Beeswax candles

**Division 2407: Gift Basket**

Entries shall consist of a gift basket of honey and products made from, or with, products of the hive.

- 0701 Gift basket
**Division 2408: Beekeeping Craft**

Entries shall consist of a craft item depicting some aspect of beekeeping.

0801  Beekeeping craft

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**Open Class Overall Awards**

Best of Show Honey - $50 cash – Nebraska Beekeepers Association
Best of Show Wax Exhibit - $50 cash – Nebraska Beekeepers Association
Best of Show Comb Honey - $50 cash – Nebraska Beekeepers Association
Best of Show Gift Basket or Craft Exhibit - $50 cash – Nebraska Beekeepers Association
Best of Show Beekeeping Photography - $25 cash – Nebraska Beekeepers Association
Open Class Sweepstakes - $100 cash – Nilson Family and Apiary *Given in memory of Joe and Theresa Dolezal*

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**Divisions 2409-2413**

**Youth Divisions (18 & under)**

Birthday as of January 1 must be listed on entry form.

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**Division 2409: Extracted Honey**

Entries shall consist of 4 – 1-pound queenline glass jars

0901  Extra light or light extracted honey
0902  Light amber or amber extracted honey
0903  Dark extracted honey

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**Division 2410: Beeswax, Molded or Sculpted**

Entries shall consist of 1 or more items of molded or sculpted beeswax.

1001  Beeswax

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**Division 2411: Hive Products Display**

Entries shall consist of a basket or box of hive products which could include but not limited to extracted honey, comb honey, chunk comb honey, pollen, propolis and products containing honey or beeswax.

1101  Hive products display

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**Division 2412: Visual Arts**

Entries should educate the public about some aspects of beekeeping.

1201  Beekeeping drawing or painting: Entries must consist of a drawing or painting depicting some aspect of beekeeping. Entry must be mounted in a frame for display
1202  Beekeeping poster: May use photography to tell the story of a beekeeper, or may focus on the lifecycle of a honeybee or honeybee past
1203  Beekeeping photograph: Entries must consist of one 5x7 or 8x10 framed photograph
Division 2413: Beekeeping Craft

Entries shall consist of a craft item depicting some aspect of beekeeping.

1301  Beekeeping craft

Youth Overall Awards

Best of Show Youth Exhibit - $50 cash – Nebraska Beekeepers Association
Best of Show Honey Exhibit - $25 cash – Nebraska Beekeepers Association
Best of Show Wax Exhibit - $25 cash – Nebraska Beekeepers Association
Best of Show Beekeeping Craft - $25 cash – Nebraska Beekeepers Association
Best of Show Visual Arts - $25 cash – Nebraska Beekeepers Association
Best of Show Hive Products Display - $50 cash – Nebraska Beekeepers Association
Best of Show Poster - $25 cash – Nebraska Beekeepers Association
Youth Sweepstakes - $100 cash – Nilson Family and Apiary *Given in memory of Joe and Theresa Dolezal
  Plus, a special jacket presented by the Nebraska State Fair Board

Judging Standards for Apiary Products

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Extracted Honey</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Appearance &amp; uniformity of containers</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uniformity &amp; accurate volume of honey</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freedom from crystals</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freedom from impurities, including froth</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uniform honey in all containers of the entry</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Color</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brightness</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flavor &amp; aroma</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Density, no additional points below 16% moisture</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Creamed Honey</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Appearance &amp; uniformity of containers</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uniformity &amp; accurate volume of honey</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firmness of set (not runny but spreadable)</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texture of granulation (smooth &amp; fine)</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Absence of impurities, including froth</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uniform honey in all containers of the entry</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Color</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table Title</td>
<td>Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>--------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chunk Comb Honey</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uniformity, cleanliness, general appearance</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freedom from impurities &amp; granulation</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality of the liquid honey</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality &amp; neatness of comb honey</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uniform &amp; accurate volume of honey</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cut Comb Honey in Plastic Boxes</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accuracy and neatness of cut edges of comb</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uniform depth &amp; filling of honey cells</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complete, uniform, &amp; clean cappings</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality, quantity, &amp; uniformity of honey</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freedom from leakage &amp; general appearance of pack</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section Comb Honey (Wood or Round)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suitability, uniformity, &amp; cleanliness of sections</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completeness, uniformity, &amp; cleanliness of cappings</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uniform &amp; completely filled honey cells</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality &amp; uniformity of honey</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weight &amp; completeness of attachment of comb</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beekeeping Photo, Drawing, Poster, or Painting</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Originality</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical Merit</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational Merit</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Framed Display</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beeswax Candles</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Color between straw &amp; canary yellow</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleanliness (free from honey &amp; impurities)</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freedom from cracking, shrinking, &amp; marks</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neatness of workmanship</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gift Basket or Hive Product Display</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Originality</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eye appeal &amp; neatness</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suitability of containers &amp; contents</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality of contents</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beekeeping Craft</td>
<td>Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Originality</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neatness of workmanship</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational merit</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eye appeal</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Drop-Off and Pick-Up Sites

**For Non-Perishable Exhibits**

Package each department exhibits separately.

If for example you enter in textile arts and photography, these are different Departments, package separately, with a copy of your entry form taped on the top of package.

We will not accept any exhibits that are not packaged. We will return your exhibits in the same packaging that you drop it off in. We prefer your exhibits to be packaged in some type of box to make transportation easier and safer for your exhibits.

**All drop-off’s will be Sunday, August 13th, 2023**

- **Omaha** 10 am to 12 noon, at the Douglas / Sarpy Ext. 8015 West Center Rd, Omaha, NE 68124 (parking lot)
- **Seward** 3 pm to 5 pm, at the Seward County Ext. 322 S. 14th St, Seward, NE 68434 (parking lot)
- **North Platte** 10 am to 12 noon, at the Lincoln/Logan/McPerson County Ext. 348 West State Farm Rd North Platte, NE 69101 (parking lot)

**Nebraska State Fair personnel will leave at the designated departure time**

**All returns will be Sunday, September 10th, 2023**

Same Locations, Same Times as listed above.

Exhibits not issued back to exhibitor on return date, will be available at the Grand Island Nebraska State Fair office, and must be picked-up by Oct 27th, by end of the business day or the item will be donated. Call 308-382-1620 with questions.