

2026 State 4-H Horticulture

Judging Contest Details

The State 4-H Horticulture Judging Contest will be held on Saturday, August 15, 2026, in Manhattan, Kansas. Our contest is hosted by the Department of Horticulture, Forestry, and Natural Resources.

Available on the State 4-H website <http://bit.ly/3FJcdHr>

Additional pieces available on the web:

- 1) Map of campus
- 2) List of videos/publications to study
- 3) Copy of the Hort ID Sheet

Schedule for the Day

9:30 a.m. Registration - Lobby of Throckmorton (come in SE doors of building)

10:00 a.m. Orientation – Throckmorton 1018

Contest instructions and locations at the conclusion the contest begins

Break for lunch, campus tours on your own, or K-State souvenir shopping.

2:00 p.m. Awards - Throckmorton 1018

Other Details:

1. This year, registrations should be submitted by the local office. Please register in your local office in time for them to register you in the contest by August 7. The cost per participant is \$25.
2. If your qualifying contest is after August 1 please contact Beth Hinshaw about late entry, bhinshaw@ksu.edu.
3. Intermediates must be 9 thru 13 before January 1 of the current year. Seniors must be 14 thru 18 before January 1 of the current year.
4. Each County Extension Council may enter a team of three or four regularly enrolled 4-H members in each division (Intermediate and Senior).

Each District Extension Council may enter, in each division, teams of three or four regularly enrolled 4-H members equal to the number of counties comprising the Extension District.

Counties or Districts may also enter individuals in each division. Intermediates may participate in the Senior Division to complete a team, however they may not be on two teams in the same year. Seniors may not participate in the Intermediate Division.

5. In keeping with National 4-H rules, contestants who have participated in post-secondary course work or training for post-secondary competition in the subject area of this contest are not eligible to compete.

6. Effective January 1, 2015, contestants who have judged as an official team member at the National Junior Horticulture Association Judging Contest are not eligible to compete as a team or as an individual at the State Kansas 4-H Horticulture Judging Contest. We would welcome them as contest volunteers!

7. Each contestant is expected to bring a clipboard or writing board and one or more #2 pencils to the contest. No electronic devices or cell phones will be allowed in the contest.

8. The contest shall consist of:

plant identification (400 pts)

quality judging (400 pts)

knowledge test (200 pts)

9. The top three individual scores for each team in each division will be used for team scores. Individual scores will also be recognized. Ties are broken on the identification score.

10. A parking permit is not needed for the contest; however, you must observe all reserved and metered spaces. This summer there are multiple campus construction projects in progress that have involved the closings of several streets. If needed additional information about parking will be announced closer to the time of the contest.

11. Coaches and/or parents are asked to help score and grade contest materials.

12. The winning team will represent Kansas at the National Junior Horticulture Contest.

Current Plans for the National Junior Horticulture Convention and Contest

Date: October 9-11, 2026

Kalamazoo, Michigan

Contestants at past national contests have had to be a minimum of 15 years of age at the time of the contest.

This is the last Convention and Contest planned by the National Junior Horticulture Association.

This institution is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services, and activities. Program information may be available in languages other than English. Language access requests and reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, including alternative means of communication (e.g., Braille, large print, and American Sign Language), may be requested by contacting the event contact (Beth Hinshaw) four weeks prior to the start of the event (July 20, 2026) at (785-532-5800 or bhinshaw@ksu.edu). Requests received after this date will be honored when it is feasible to do so. Language access services, such as interpretation or translation of vital information, will be provided free of charge to limited English proficient individuals upon request.

Accommodations may be requested here:

<https://kansas4h.org/resources/accessibility.html>

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