

## FOOD PRESERVATION EVALUATION – Judging Meat Jerky

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Product/Class \_\_\_\_\_

County/District \_\_\_\_\_ Ribbon: Purple Blue Red White Disqualified

**JARS THAT ARE VISIBLY SPOILED, CONTAINS ALCOHOL, OR NOT HEATED TO 160°F WILL BE DISQUALIFIED**

Points to Consider	Desirable	Undesirable	Comments
<b>Food Safety:</b> Drying Method Processing Date Meat Temperature (this must be on the recipe!)	Dehydrator or Oven Within last 12 months Meat temperature <b>must</b> reach 160°F before or after drying ( <b>NOTE:</b> This is not the drying temperature!)	Sun drying (not reliable) More than 12 months Meat <b>not</b> heated to 160°F before or after drying	
<b>Jars/Lids</b> Jars are used to prevent damage to the food and to prevent moisture absorption	Standard clear jar Standard 2- piece Lid/ring Clean/Neat  Label on jar	“Commercial” jar “Commercial” lid Ring rusty Dirty/distracting decor No label	
<b>Appearance</b>	Uniform color; characteristic of meat used All fat removed Uniform thickness Free of mold No moisture in container No foreign matter	Off color  Visible fat; pockets of fat Uneven thickness Moldy Moisture in container Foreign matter present	
<b>Texture/Pliability</b>	Cracks easily when bent but not break  No case hardening	Too pliable & moist; Too brittle  Case hardening present	
<b>Taste</b>	No rancid or off flavors  Balanced flavor of meat and seasoning	Rancid, off flavors present; too salty or smoky Flavor too strong or weak	
<b>Odor</b>	Pleasant odor for food	Off odors present	
<b>Recipe Source and Date</b>	Reliable recipe source Must be on recipe Date recipe published listed	Unreliable recipe source Not on recipe Date not listed	
<b>State Fair Rules violated: See # 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9</b>			

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