2019 SC 4-H Small Garden Project - Individual

Who: youth ages 5-18 as of January 1, 2019

What: prepare, plant, maintain, and harvest a small garden and complete contest record book

When: April 11 – July 31, 2019

Why: learn what it takes to grow the food we eat

How: call your local 4-H Agent for more information about the contest or visit the project website: www.clemson.edu/extension/4h/project_areas/natural_resources/small_garden/index.html

Registration: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc_ADwaoOW164jWzfJ-C7ivSAdIA-yNgdujZ8rTpkINp-pz_w/viewform?usp=sf_link

Registration and Rules:

- All participants in this project must be current SC 4-H members for the 2018-19 club year.
- For a registration fee of $10 youth will receive a record book, at least 2 seed packets (one pollinator and one edible), and project newsletters.
- Youth will be required to prepare, plant, maintain, harvest and utilize a garden plot of no less than 50 sq. ft. If the youth does not have space for a 50 sq. ft. garden, every effort will be made by the 4-H Agent to provide space.
- Youth must plant the 2 seed varieties they are given (one pollinator and one edible). In addition, they must plant at least 2 other edible crops of their choice. If spacing allows, you may plant more than 4 types of crops. Seeds/seedlings must be in the ground no later than May 31.

Record Book:

- Record books are to be completed by the youth throughout the course of the project and turned in to the Extension Office no later than July 31. Record books are age appropriate: Cloverbuds (ages 5-8) and Juniors and Seniors (ages 9-18). Ages are determined as of January 1, 2019.

Judging:

- Youth will be divided into three categories prior to judging: Cloverbuds 5-8, Juniors 9-13, and Seniors 14-18 (ages determined as of January 1, 2019). Cloverbuds will be given participation ribbons/certificates upon completion of the project. Junior and Senior record books will be judged on the county level. One winner in each category will be sent to the regional level for record book competition. One winner in each age category on the regional level will be sent to the state level for
competition. The top Junior and top Senior record book will receive awards. Awards are sponsored by the SC Master Gardener Program. Only projects scoring 165/220 (75%) or higher are eligible to move on to Regional and State level judging.

- Youth should expect at least one site visit from judges. Participants are encouraged to be on site for this visit. Dates of these site visits will be coordinated by your local Agent.
- The actual garden plot and the record book will both be taken into consideration upon judging on the county level, which will be done by qualified Extension Agents and/or gardeners. Only material included in/with the record books, along with attached score sheets from the local level, will be judged on the regional and state levels.
- State winners from 2018 (Junior, Senior, and Group) are not eligible to compete for prizes in the same age division for 2 consecutive years. (For example, if you participated as a Junior in a group project that won the state level in 2018, you would have to register as an individual to be eligible to compete or have aged up to compete in the senior-level division.)

**Project Garden Timeline:**

- April 11 Deadline to register for the project
- May 31 Deadline to plant project garden
- June and July Garden Site Visits and Judging
- July 31 Record books due to county office
- County winners will be announced no later than mid-August
- Regional and State winners will be announced no later than the end of September

**Resources:**

- Clemson Home and Garden Information Center:  
  [http://www.clemson.edu/extension/hgic/](http://www.clemson.edu/extension/hgic/)
- SC Produce Availability Calendar:  
- County Clemson Extension Office:  
  [http://www.clemson.edu/extension/county/](http://www.clemson.edu/extension/county/)

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