

HORTICULTURE IDENTIFICATION



Horticulture samples will be selected and exhibited at separate stations from a predetermined list of 20 plants (2026 Identification List).

Entry

- Enter as an individual.

County Entries

- There is no limit in the number of entries per county.

Contest

- This contest is a come and go event with small groups permitted into the contest room every 30 minutes on the hour and half-hour. The last group that will be permitted to participate in the contest may begin no later than 30 minutes to the contest day ending time.
- Contestants will receive orientation before entering the contest and will be provided a scantron form, pencil, and clipboard to respond to questions.
- Horticulture specimens from the attached predetermined list of ornamentals, flowers, trees, shrubs, ground cover, vines, tropical, perennials, and annuals are selected for identification. These selected specimens are exhibited at separate stations either as an actual sample or a pictorial representation.
- If live samples are provided, they must remain on the table and cannot be touched.
- Contestants must identify the following number of specimens based upon age division:
 - Junior 10
 - Intermediate 15
 - Senior 20
- Only registered contestants, committee members and judges are permitted in the judging room.
- Contestants may not leave once the contest has started unless permission is given by the contest superintendent. Contestants should not separate themselves from the class in which their group is working. Contestants should not in any way willfully obstruct the work of another contestant.
- While the contest is in progress, there shall be no talking or any other type of communication between contestants. If a contestant has a question once the contest begins, please direct that question to the assigned group leader or the contest superintendent.



Time Limits

- Contestants are given 30 seconds at each station to select their answer from multiple choice options.

Scoring

- Contestants will receive one (1) point for each sample that is correctly identified by with the correct scientific and common name.
- Scantrons will be scored at the close of the contest.

Plant List – Study Guide

- Below is the plant list for the 2026 contest.

Horticulture ID Contest **2026 Plant List**

1. Glossy abelia (*Abelia x grandiflora*)
2. African Lily (*Agapanthus africanus*)
3. Angelonia (*Angelonia angustifolia*)
4. Caladium (*Caladium x hortulanum*)
5. Pentas (*Pentas lanceolata*)
6. Pampas Grass (*Cortaderia selloana*)
7. Purple coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*)
8. Hydrangea (*Hydrangea macrophylla*)
9. Lantana (*Lantana camara*)
10. Yaupon holly (*Ilex vomitoria*)
11. Gulf muhly grass (*Muhlenbergia capillaris*)
12. Virginia creeper (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*)
13. Autumn sage (*Salvia greggii*)
14. Vitex/Chaste tree (*Vitex agnus-castus*)
15. Zinnia (*Zinnia* cvs.)
16. Bell pepper (*Capsicum annuum*)
17. Lettuce (*Lactuca sativa*)
18. Tomato (*Solanum lycopersicum*)
19. Zucchini (*Cucurbita pepo*)
20. Peach tree (*Prunus persica*)