

4-H Garden Contest Judging Sheet 2008

Garden name: _____ Gardeners' ages: _____

Phone #: _____ e-mail address: _____

Judge's name: _____ Judging date: _____

EVALUATION CRITERIA:		POOR	FAIR	GOOD	VERY GOOD	EXCELLENT
Garden site						
	Sufficient sun exposure for crop					
	Water source nearby and handy					
	Protected from wildlife or human and pet traffic					
	Level ground or terracing, to reduce erosion					
Soil management						
	Good soil tilth					
	Soil test within past 4 years; results logged in journal (soil type, pH, P and K levels, EC)					
	Well drained; no low spots with standing water or salt crust					
	Sustainable soil fertility practices evident in garden and/or garden journal (cover crops, mulching, regular additions of organic matter, minimal tilling)					
	Composted organic matter additions					
	Use of mulch					
	Cover cropping between rows or in fallow area					
	Minimal tilling					
Garden Design						
	Tallest crops not shading shorter crops					
	Efficient use of garden space					
	Plant supports used as needed					
	Successive cropping evident in journal					
Vigorous plants						
	Green leaves, absence of yellowing or dead plants					
	Plant size is right for plant age and cultivar					

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EVALUATION CRITERIA:		POOR	FAIR	GOOD	VERY GOOD	EXCEL- LENT
Integrated Pest Management						
	Scouting records at least 2 times per week, including observation notes in journal					
	Pest management techniques evident or noted in journal					
	Beneficial insects evident or noted in journal					
Productivity						
	Crop harvest recorded (date, quantity, quality notes)					
	Season extenders used (cloches, wall-o-waters, frost covers, etc)					
	Plant supports used for increased productivity (trellis, tomato cages, vertical gardens, etc.)					
	Appropriate cultivars selected for space limitations					
	Successive cropping practiced					
	Sustainable gardening practices used and documented (cover crops, no-till, mulch, etc.)					
Garden Journal						
	Readable, dated entries in chronological order					
	Soil preparation notes					
	Garden plan drawn to scale, including plant spacing after transplant or thinning					
	Task management plan					
	Records of plants in garden, including cultivar or variety name and method of establishment (seed or transplant)					
	Records of pest scouting, if any found, control methods					
	Harvest records including approximate quantities, quality, other notes					
	Ease of reading, will be useful for future reference					