

Department 66a – Urban Farming

- Entries close August 1, 2026 –

No Mail-In Entries

Superintendent: Deb Geuns (517) 230- 9129

ARRIVAL TIMES:

Exhibits: Monday, August 31st 12:00 pm until 8:00 pm

Tuesday, September 1st 8:00 am until 10:00 am

Must be in place by 10:00 am on Tuesday, September 1st

DEPARTURE TIMES:

Open Exhibits: Monday, September 7th at 5:00 pm until 6:00 pm. **MUST BE OUT BY 6:30 pm.**

If you are unable to pick up at scheduled times, you MUST make arrangements with the superintendents.

Please call Deb Geuns (517) 230-9129 to make arrangements.

Exhibits left after Monday, September 7th at 6:30 pm without other arrangements will be disposed of.

Vehicles will not be allowed to drive up to the Agriculture Building until after 6:00 pm on the last day of the fair.

Judging Schedule:

Tuesday, September 1st 1:00 p.m.

Building will be closed until judging is completed.

FEES:

Youth Exhibitor - **No entry fee for youth.** Additional passes are available for \$15.00.

RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE SHOW

Youth Exhibitor: K-12th Grade. Youth must be five (5) years of age, but not over twenty (20) years of age as of January 1 of the current year. Date of birth must be on entry form. **Must be from an Urban Area (30K population or higher).** Open to Michigan youth only.

1. Agriculture Exhibitor Entry Form and current W-9 form (W-8 Canadian) must be filled out and returned.
2. All entries must be made in accordance with general livestock terms and conditions. Please go to: www.MichiganStateFairLLC.com and enter online by August 1, 2026.
3. **CAMPING.** Camping **MUST BE** registered for **SEPERATELY.** Please use this link to apply: <https://www.eventeny.com/events/applications/application/?id=8661>
4. **A maximum of 2 entries per class per exhibitor. Exhibitor cannot enter the same item in more than one class.**
5. Exhibits must be grown as a project of the exhibitor. Previously entered items and displays are ineligible.
6. Exhibitors must leave the Agriculture Building during judging.
7. All entries in this department must stay the entire length of the Fair. The superintendent will remove and dispose of any unsightly produce or exhibits considered to be unworthy of exhibition by the judge.
8. **RIBBONS AWARDED TO THIRD PLACE.** Only current Michigan State Fair LLC Ribbons may be displayed with exhibits. All others will be removed.
9. Exhibits cannot be sold in the Agriculture Building.

Urban Farming

Vegetables – Section Y1

Premiums	1	2	3	4	5
	\$12	\$10	\$8	\$6	\$4

Class

- 1 Squash – 2 specimens
- 2 Cantaloupe – 2 specimens
- 3 Tomatoes – 3 specimens
- 4 Carrots – 6 specimens
- 5 Cabbage – 2 specimens
- 6 Beets – 6 specimens
- 7 Potatoes – 6 specimens
- 8 Potatoes – Oddest Shape
- 9 Peppers – 3 specimens
- 10 Largest Pumpkin – must have a weight slip
- 11 Radishes – 6 specimens
- 12 Onions – 6 specimens
- 13 Largest Sunflower Head
- 14 Tallest Sunflower (cut off at soil level)
- 15 Gourd – Largest
- 16 Gourd – Oddest Shape
- 17 Gourd – Longest
- 18 Cucumber – Largest
- 19 Pepper – Largest
- 20 Squash – Longest
- 21 Green Bean – Longest
- 22 Radish – Largest
- 23 Collard Greens
- 24 Any other vegetable not listed

Display containers will be provided by Fair.

Vegetable Baskets – Section Y2

Vegetable baskets: Judged on quality of vegetables, attractiveness of display, and marketability. Flowers may be included in display but **DO NOT** count for the number of vegetables.

Premiums	1	2	3	4
	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$20

Class

- 1 Small Basket. Minimum of 4 up to 6 different vegetables.

Premiums	1	2	3	4
	\$80	\$70	\$60	\$50

Class

- 2 Large Basket. Minimum of 7 up to 12 different vegetables.

Scarecrow – Section Y3

Scarecrow

Limit 2 per exhibitor.

Scarecrows must be created in current year.

All scarecrow exhibits must be between 4 feet and 5 feet tall and between 2 feet and 3 feet wide. Each entry must stand alone on its own base. Exhibits will be judged on creativity, uniqueness or originality, attractiveness and good use of materials.

Premiums	1	2	3	4	5
	\$30	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$10

Class

1 Scarecrow

Urban Farming Initiative Scholarship – Section Y4

Coordinator: Bob Gatt 248-393-3570 thegatter@gmail.com

Class

1 Urban Farming Initiative Scholarship

Scholarship Entry Criteria:

- Must be from an Urban Area (**30k population or higher**).
- Proof of farming work (letter from parent or other adult who confirms youth exhibitor's involvement).
- Pictures of youth exhibitor actively gardening.
- Pictures of plans.
- Research plans.
- One to two page essay.
- Harvested items or pictures of items.

Scholarship applicants must have a storyboard display mounted on 16 x 20 foam mounting board and/or poster board and no larger than the trifold board at the State Fair.

- It should contain information regarding the weather, of your watering and fertilizing schedule, type of fertilizer you used, soil condition and type, how you handled it, when your buds appeared and when you noticed the first produce.
- Exhibitor can use pictures of plans, pictures of youth actively gardening and pictures of items.

Questions about the storyboards should be directed to Bob Gatt via email. (thegatter@gmail.com).

Deadline Date, August 28th (one week before the fair).

The boards must be delivered to the Home Arts, Agriculture and Urban Farming Department, Michigan State Fair between September 1st – September 2nd.

Urban Agriculture Scholarship entry forms will be available online at www.MichiganStateFairLLC.com