

2026 SOUTHEASTERN YOUTH FAIR INSECT COLLECTION CONTEST

- **COORDINATOR:** Katie Davis and Maxine Hunter (352)671-8400
 - **ENTRY DEADLINE/IMPORTANT DATES:** See Calendar of Events for all important dates
 - **LOCATION: SELP Auditorium**
1. The SEYF General Rules & Regulations apply to this contest.
 2. The contest is open to individuals. Cloverbuds, Juniors, Intermediates, and Seniors
 3. Collect, properly mount, and label the minimum number of different insects for your age division. Try to represent as many of the 25 orders known to be found in Florida as possible. See the Insect Orders List.
 4. You will use only adult insects in your insect collection for this division.
 5. No immature insects.
 6. Insects that are common to **Florida only**.
 7. Only one of each insect, unless males and females are significantly different.
 8. Insects must be pinned using "Insect Pins" from one of the entomological supply companies. These pins are narrower, sharper, and treated so they will not rust.
 9. You **MAY NOT** use insects purchased from an insect supply house. Judges can easily detect these specimens and will **DISQUALIFY** your collection!
 10. Boxes that are acceptable for use include cardboard insect storage boxes (with or without the clear lid) and or Cornell drawers.
 11. In your box, place a small card with the following information in the lower right-hand corner.
 - Individual Name
 - 4-H Club or FFA Chapter
 - Age
 - Division (Cloverbud, Junior, Intermediate, Senior, Club/Chapter)
 12. If you need assistance labeling your collection or have any questions, please contact the show coordinators well before the collection is due.
 13. Exhibits brought in after the check-in date and time will not be accepted.
 14. Early pick-up of exhibits is not allowed. It is understood that all exhibits will remain on display for the entire Fair.
 15. Exhibits and awards not picked up on the day and time indicated in the Calendar of Events will be forfeited and returned to the SEYF.
 16. The Southeastern Youth Fair will assume no responsibility or liability for the damage loss of articles exhibited. Supervision will be provided during Fair hours.

DIVISIONS/JUDGING

17. **Cloverbud Division**
 - Cloverbuds may submit 5-10 insects pinned in a cardboard box.
 - b. Cloverbud collections are a participatory contest and will **not be judged competitively**.
18. **Junior Division**
 - Boxes (cardboard box with/without clear tops) or Cornell drawers.
 - Submit insects pinned and labeled appropriately.
 - Junior winners will be determined by Insect Identification and labeling quality for 15 insects.
 - i. Identify each insect by order and its common name or true scientific family name (insect family common names such as stink bug for Pentatomidae; blister beetle for Meloidae is acceptable)

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DIVISIONS/JUDGING

19. Intermediate Division

- Insect Boxes (cardboard box with clear top) or Cornell Drawers.
- Submit 25 insects pinned and labeled appropriately.
- Intermediate will be judged based on the following criteria below:
 - i. Insect Identification: All specimens properly identified with order and family names (the species names are not required at intermediate and senior levels)
 - ii. Pinning Technique and labeling quality: Specimens properly pinned, mounted, labeled
 - iii. Collection Diversity: **Minimum # of 2 Orders** represented in the collection
 - iv. General appearance of the collection

20. Senior Division

- Insect Boxes (cardboard box with clear top) or Cornell Drawers
- Submit 35 insects pinned and labeled appropriately.
- Senior will be judged based on the following criteria below:
 - i. Insect Identification: All specimens properly identified with order and family names (the species name is not required for intermediate and senior levels)
 - ii. Pinning Technique: Specimens properly pinned, mounted, and labeled
 - iii. Collection Diversity: **Minimum # of 3 Orders** represented in the collection
 - iv. General appearance of the collection

21. 4-H Clubs/FFA Chapters

- Insect Boxes (cardboard box with clear top) or Cornell Drawers
- Submit 40 insects pinned and labeled appropriately.
- 4-H Clubs and FFA Chapters will be judged based on the following criteria:
 - i. Insect Identification: All specimens properly identified with order and family names
 - ii. Pinning Technique: Specimens properly pinned, mounted, and labeled
 - iii. Collection Diversity: **Minimum # of 5 Orders** represented in the collection
 - iv. General appearance of the collection

AWARDS

22. The Show Coordinator reserves the right to withhold awards if competition is insufficient and/or if rules have not been adhered to by any individual.
23. Premiums may be awarded after all sponsorship has been collected and all expenses have been paid on individual shows & events.
24. All awards will be in the Junior, Intermediate, Senior, and 4-H Club/FFA Chapter Divisions
 - Best of Show
 - Divisions: 1st thru 3rd placings
 - All exhibitors, including Cloverbuds, will receive a participation ribbon.