

# Sweet Corn Exhibit



4-H is a community of young people who are learning **leadership**, **citizenship** and **life skills**.

The sweet corn exhibit allows you to display the sweet corn that you have grown in your garden. Sweet corn comes in many different varieties and usually fits into three different color categories. Yellow, white, or bi-colored (a mixture of yellow and white kernels).

The sweet corn exhibit is judged on three criteria including quality, uniformity, and required number of specimen.

### Tips to Consider When Displaying Your Sweet Corn

- Five specimens of the same variety are required for this exhibit.
- Select ears of corn free from insect damage, disease, and mishandling.
- All specimens in an exhibit should show uniformity. Select ears of corn that are the same size, shape, color, and degree of maturity.
- Display ears that are at the perfect stage for eating when ears are plump and silks are brown and dry. Do not include ears that are underripe or overripe.
- Cut the stem squarely just below where the stems are attached, this will help keep the husks attached and in place.
- Display with the husks and silks in place.
- Place ears of corn in a tote or plastic bag (such as a grocery bag). Sealed plastic bags (such as Ziplock bags) are not recommended because the sealed bags can cause the corn to mold and have a bad odor.

Visit the 4-H Horticulture webpage, <https://4-h.ca.uky.edu/content/horticulture> for the Kentucky State Fair guidelines and scoresheet for this project.

### References:

KY State Fair Catalog, Division 6015 4-H Horticulture and Plant Science Entries  
 KY State Fair Evaluation Sheet, Lot 6015, Class 584  
 Exhibiting and Judging Vegetables, UK Extension Publication 4BC-08PO

*Sweet Corn Exhibit Sheet prepared by Jessica Sayre, Harrison County Extension Agent for Horticulture, and Ashley Osborne, Extension Specialist for 4-H Youth Development, 2021.*

*Image: Howard F. Schwartz, Colorado State University, Bugwood.org*

### Project Idea

Grow several different varieties of corn. Which is your favorite? Why?

### Materials Needed

- White paper plate
- Tote or plastic bag
- 5 ears of sweet corn, in husks with silks

### State Fair Information

- Division 6015: 4-H Horticulture and Plant Science
- Class 584: Corn, sweet

Visit the 4-H Horticulture webpage at <https://4-h.ca.uky.edu/content/horticulture> for additional information.

