

ENTOMOLOGY

If you've ever chased butterflies, caught a ladybug for a closer look, or planted a pollinator garden, the entomology project may be a great fit. You'll learn the anatomy of insects; the importance of pollinators, make an insect net; and possibly create an insect collection. Later, you'll study how insects move, learn about insecticides and explore insect behavior.

Insect Collection Rules:

1. All entries should be submitted in an 18 x 24 x 3.5-inch wooden display box with a clear plastic top (such as Plexiglas). Boxes can be handmade or purchased as long as they are of the correct size. [Box instructions and plans](#).
2. 4-Hers may choose to use one of two taxonomies:
 - Option A: As printed in "Insects in Kansas" book, or
 - Option B: As printed on the "Insects in Kansas Book: 2016 Revised Taxonomy," which follows www.bugguide.net.
3. Each exhibitor is required to identify each box with two identification labels bearing Exhibitor's name, county or district, the collection class 4-H'er is enrolled in and statement of taxonomy used. One label goes in the upper left corner of the box (inside) and the other on the lower right corner of the box (outside). Arrange specimens in the box so the box can be displayed lengthwise.
4. The number of orders, specimens (and families where required) must be included on both of the exhibitor's box identification labels. Only one adult insect per species can be used in the Collection Boxes and Notebook Classes, unless labeled as male or female and correctly identified.
5. A completed 4-H Entomology Photo Release Form must be attached to the Entry Card for all exhibits.
6. Arrange specimens in groups or rows parallel to the short sides of the box. Specimens are to be arranged by Order in the box, then Family where required.
7. Two labels should be centered on the pin beneath each specimen. First (closest to the specimen) is the common name label and the second label should include date/locality. Full county name and state abbreviation should be on the second label. Collector's name (or host) on the date/locality label is optional.
8. The specimens should be collected by the exhibitor and should focus on Kansas insects. Insects may be collected from one county into bordering states and labeled accordingly. Please refer to ["Entomology Collection Exhibit Resource"](#) for full details on out-of-state insects in collections.
9. Only specimens of the class Insecta should be included.
10. Purchased insects are not to be exhibited in collections, but they may be used in educational displays.
11. Specimens of soft bodied insects such as aphids, lice, termites, etc. should be exhibited in alcohol filled vials; however, the use of alcohol filled vials should be limited to only those specimens that lose their shape when pinned, since the vials pose a significant hazard to the rest of the collection if they become loose in transit.
12. Any major violation of rules will result in the exhibit being dropped one ribbon placing. Examples would include, but are not limited to: incorrect display box size, missing paper work, feet on display boxes, no special project in notebooks, etc.

Notebook Rules:

1. Individual entries are to be placed for display in a three-ring notebook for competition.
2. A completed 4-H Entomology Photo Release Form must be attached to the Entry Card for all exhibits.
3. 4-Hers who have been previously enrolled in or are currently enrolled in the other phases of the Entomology project need to start with the Beginning Phase of Entomology Notebooks, not the introductory phase.

Kansas State Fair 2023

4. Each exhibitor is required to identify the notebook by placing a Title Page in the front of the notebook bearing the exhibitors name, county or district and class 4-H'er is enrolled in and statement of taxonomy used:

- Option A: "Insects in Kansas" book, or
- Option B: "Insects in Kansas Book: 2016 Revised Taxonomy," which follows www.bugguide.net.

The number of orders, specimens and families (required in Intermediate and Advanced classes) must also be included on the Title Page.

5. Specimen pages should be grouped according to order and should include one page per species. If more than one insect is in the photo, an arrow to indicate identified insect should be used.

6. Date, common name, full county name and state abbreviation should be included for each species. Collector's name on the specimen page is optional.

7. Specimen pages should have two different views of the insect if possible. If pictures are taken on different dates/localities, include information for both.

8. A statement describing the habitat where found/host plant may be included and is encouraged and will be worth a bonus 10 points total, not per page. For Intermediate and Advanced notebooks, this is strongly encouraged.

9. A divider page is to be placed in front of each order of insects with the order name printed on the tab for the page as well on the front of the divider page.

10. For the Intermediate and Advanced classes, insects are also to be grouped by family behind each order divider.

11. If the exhibitor has been in the same class for more than one year, a separate sheet of paper needs to be added stating how many years the exhibitor has been in this class of the project and what the exhibitor did this year to improve their notebook. Place the paper just behind the Title Page in the front of the notebook.

12. A special project must be completed each year and included in the notebook. See project guideline materials for specifications.

13. Any major violation of rules will result in the exhibit being dropped one ribbon placing. Examples would include, but are not limited to: incorrect display box size, missing paper work, feet on display boxes, no special project in notebooks, etc.

Educational Display Rules:

1. Share with others what you learned in this project. Exhibit any activity or learning experience related to the field of entomology or the Teaming with Insects curriculum that does not fit into Entomology Collection or notebook classes above.

2. Follow copyright laws as explained in the General Rules.

3. The exhibit may be, but isn't limited to, original works, digital presentations (must provide printed hardcopy for exhibit purposes for duration of state fair), programs, websites, games, apps, display box, notebook, display or poster which you have made.

4. If the exhibit is a wooden display box, it must be 18 X24 X 3.5 inches with a clear plastic top (such as plexiglass) and displayed horizontally. If the exhibit is a poster, it must not be larger than 22" X 28". If the exhibit is a display, maximum size is not to exceed a standard commercial 3' X 4' tri-fold display board.

5. Name and county/ district must clearly be marked on educational exhibits.

6. A completed 4-H Entomology Photo Release Form must be attached to the Entry Card for all exhibits.

7. Any major violation of rules will result in the exhibit being dropped one ribbon placing. Examples would include, but are not limited to: incorrect display box size, missing paper work, feet on display boxes, no special project in notebooks, etc.