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YARD 'N' GARDEN



EXTENSION
HORTICULTURISTS

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AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE • UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

EXHIBITING VEGETABLES



Showing the results of your gardening at county fairs or other events can be fun. Quality and showmanship are two important parts of an exhibit.

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Good quality means freedom from damage by insects and disease. Select produce at its best stage of edible maturity. Don't show overmature and immature vegetables, and avoid entering lettuce, spinach and other leafy vegetables--they'll often wilt if not conditioned properly.

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Good showmanship means selecting uniform specimens in size, shape, color and maturity. Wash vegetables carefully, but don't scrub them. Trim specimens properly so root crops have 1 to 1½ inches of stem attached and the same amount of tap root. Let two or three wrapper leaves remain on cabbage, but trim the stem neatly.

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Don't skin onions, and show sweet corn in the husk. Do not remove the stems from cucumbers or squash, but always show tomatoes without stems.

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Check the premium list to be sure you have the exact number of premiums. If the exhibit is to be educational, the specimens should be labeled according to variety. Attach neatly made cards to the container, not to the specimen.

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