

**DIVISION 36**  
**APIARY - BEES AND HONEY**

**\*Entries close Tuesday, July 28, 2026.\***

**Entries must be in the fair office before 5:00 P. M. or made online before midnight.**  
**No late entries will be accepted.**

- **Entry Fee:** \$2.00 per entry. Exhibitors are limited to one entry in each class.
- **Drop off:** Exhibits with entry tags attached must be brought to the Starlite Ballroom on Sunday August 2 from 8:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M.
- **Judging:** Exhibits will be judged on Sunday August 2 at 11:00 A.M.
- **Pick up:** Exhibits must be picked up with claim ticket on Monday, August 10 from 7:00 A.M. – 9:00 A.M.

Premiums Awarded by Mississippi Valley Fair

- **Premiums Paid:** 1<sup>st</sup> \$10.00, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$9.00, 3<sup>rd</sup> \$8.00, 4<sup>th</sup> \$7.00, 5<sup>th</sup> \$6.00, 6<sup>th</sup> \$5.00.  
Ribbons – 1<sup>st</sup> -5<sup>th</sup> place.

Superintendent – John Behrens

**RULES**

1. IMPORTANT: It is the exhibitor's responsibility to read and abide by the General Rules and Regulations.
2. All entries must be made on entry forms or online. If entering online entry tags may be printed by exhibitor. If not entering online complete entry form and return it with full payment of all fees. To receive your entry tags please send a self-addressed stamped envelope with the entry.  
ENTRY ELIGIBILITY
3. All honey and beeswax exhibits must be the product of the exhibitor's apiary and must be prepared by the exhibitor unless otherwise specified. Please check class description for eligibility.
4. Entries are to be submitted by an individual, not by a business, club, or organization.
5. An entry tag with exhibitor's number must be attached to each container or exhibit (on lid when possible).
6. In all classes, adult and youth, items submitted must not have any reference to the exhibitor. This includes the exhibitor's name, company name and/or logo. Any items so identified will be disqualified and will be on display only after judging is completed and if space is available. All containers must be unlabeled. Beekeeper's label may be applied only after judging.
7. Points will be deducted for entries with less than the specified amount.
8. Entries in the Beekeeping Photo Classes must have been taken by the exhibitor.
9. A youth (exhibitors 18 years and under as of the day of judging) can enter an Adult Class only if there is not a comparable class for youth. If there is a Youth Class available, youth must submit their entries in the appropriate Youth Class. This includes Class 9 YOUTH CLASS - Three 1 lb. Queenline or Classic Jars of extracted honey: Class 10 - Beekeeping Photo

**JUDGING**

10. Any entry may be withheld at the discretion of the judge or the Superintendent.
11. Any entry may be disqualified if it does not comply with the classification.

**DISPLAY OF ENTRIES**

12. The arrangements for exhibits will be directed by the Superintendent and will be classified whenever possible. A Jack's Scale Honey Comparator or Judge's discretion will be used in Classes 2, 3 and 4 for color placement. Entries shall have no labeling present on the containers or packaging. Labels may be placed after judging is completed. Each entry shall be accompanied by an entry tag secured on each container or exhibit. The entry tag shall display the Exhibitor's number (provided at time of entry) on the outside of the tag.

**SALES OF ENTRIES**

13. Apiary products cannot be sold during the Fair.

**Class 1- Six Cut Comb in Hard Plastic Box, 4 ¼ inches x 4 ¼ inches x 1 1/3 inches**

Scorecard- Accuracy and neatness of cut edges of cut edges of comb, 20; uniform depth and filling of honey cell, 20; complete, uniform, and clean cappings, 20; quality, quantity, and uniformity of honey, 20; freedom from leakage and general appearance of pack, 20. TOTAL 100.

**Class 2 - Six 1lb. Glass Queenline or Classic Jars Light Extracted Honey**

Score Card - Container: free of defects, 5; flavor: free from burnt taste, chemical contaminants, or other off flavors, 15; color of honey, 15; moisture content, 20; uniform volume of honey in all containers, 10; clarity of honey, 15; freedom from impurities, including foam and granulation, 20. TOTAL 100.

**Class 3 - Six 1lb. Glass Queenline or Classic Jars Amber Extracted Honey**

Score Card - Container: free of defects, 5; flavor: free from burnt taste, chemical contaminants, or other off flavors, 15; color of honey, 15; moisture content, 20; uniform volume of honey in all containers, 10; clarity of honey, 15; freedom from impurities, including foam and granulation, 20. TOTAL 100.

**Class 4- Six 1lb. Glass Queenline or Classic Jars Dark Extracted Honey**

Score Card - Container: free of defects, 5; flavor: free from burnt taste, chemical contaminants, or other off flavors, 15; color of honey, 15; moisture content, 20; uniform volume of honey in all containers, 10; clarity of honey, 15; freedom from impurities, including foam and granulation, 20. TOTAL 100.

**Class 5 - Six 12 oz. Hex or Round Jars Creamed Honey** (A pure honey developed by controlling the process of natural granulation. Noted for its fine texture and ease of spreading at normal room temperature.)

Score Card - Container: free of defects, 5; color, 10; firmness (not runny but spreadable), 25; texture of granulation (smooth and fine), 20; uniform and accurate volume of honey in all containers, 10; absence of impurities, including froth, 15; flavor: free from burnt taste or other off flavors, 15. TOTAL 100.

**Class 6 - One Frame of Honey, Sealed, Ready for Extracting, Wrapped in Clear Plastic Wrap**

Medium or Super Top Bar frames with beeswax or plastic foundation are acceptable for entry. All frame entries shall be supported by a frame stand used to suspend the frame for judging. Each entry shall be displayed to be visible on each side of the frame without removal from the stand.

Score Card - Cleanliness of frame, 5; completeness of comb attachment, 10; uniform and filled honey cells, 25; uniformity of color of honey (comb, cappings, honey), 25; thickness of comb for ease of uncapping, 10; completeness, uniformity, and cleanliness of cappings, 25. TOTAL 100.

**Class 7 - Photograph - General Beekeeping** (maximum size 8x10 inches, unframed, but matted with a maximum two-inch border)

Subject of photo must be honey or beekeeping and may depict harvesting, processing, marketing, or packaging beehive products.

Score Card - Technique, 30; composition, 30; impact, 30; overall appearance, 10. TOTAL 100.

**Class 8 - Gift Basket**-Maximum Size 12 inches x 20 inches. A basket full of honey and other beehive products and beekeeping-related items attractively displayed. Items that are not honey or beeswax do not have to be a product of the exhibitor. Honey and beeswax must be from the exhibitor's apiary but may have one (1) item of honey (example: honey sticks, bundles of five or less) from another source and must be identified as such with the name of the Apiary or source it is from. Failure to do so will disqualify the entry.

Score Card - Quality of products, 20; packaging of products, 20; originality and creativity, 20; variety and sales appeal, 30; overall appearance, 10. TOTAL 100.

**Class 9 - YOUTH CLASS - Three 1lb. Glass Queenline or Classic Jars of Extracted Honey**

Score Card - Container: free of defects, 5; color of honey, 20; moisture content, 20; uniform volume of honey in all containers, 20; clarity of honey, 15; freedom from impurities including foam and granulation, 20. TOTAL 100.

**Class 10 - YOUTH CLASS** - Beekeeping Photo (maximum size 8x10 inches, unframed but matted with a maximum two-inch border)

Subject of photo must be honeybees, honey or beekeeping related.

Score Card - Technique, 30; composition, 30; impact, 30; overall appearance, 10. TOTAL 100.

**CLASS 11 -Youth** - Two Beeswax Candles - Color (natural), 20; uniformity of appearance, 20; cleanliness, 20; workmanship, 20; aroma, 20. TOTAL 100.

**CLASS 12- Two Beeswax Candles, all others (e.g. molded, various shapes, rolled, etc.)** - Entries are to showcase the natural beauty of beeswax. No added color will be allowed. Score Card - Color (natural), 20; uniformity of appearance, 20; cleanliness, 20; workmanship, 20; aroma, 20. TOTAL 100.

**CLASS 13- Block of Beeswax** - 1 pound minimum. Bulk beeswax as prepared for the commercial market. (Wax that will be used for making candles, cosmetics, floor waxes and numerous other products.) Entry will be a plain block of wax without design or added color. Score Card - No cracks, 20; color, 30; cleanliness, 20; aroma, 20; overall appearance, 10. TOTAL 100

**CLASS 14- Best in MVFAIR (blackout jar of honey)**. Judged on taste alone. Submit one small (2oz-8oz) jar of your best liquid honey extracted as part of this year's crop. The jar must be "blacked out" to hide the appearance, color and clarity of the honey. This may be done with black paint or black tape applied to the outside of the jar. The jar may bear no individual labeling in order to maintain the exhibitor's anonymity. Only 1st Place Blue Ribbon will be awarded. Score Card - Taste; The Best Honey as perceived by our Mississippi Valley Fair Apiary Judge: 100 pts. TOTAL: 100.

**CLASS 15- Honey Mead** - One 16 oz. clear glass bottle with wire swing cap and gasketed seal. Category M1. Traditional Still Mead (Honey locally sourced, mead product to be produced by entrant, water, yeast) in one of three sub-categories judged together (Dry, Semi-Sweet, Sweet). Container & Seal - 10 points, Bouquet and Aroma - 15 points, Appearance Color & Clarity - 25 points, Flavor, Balance, Body & Finish - 40 points, Overall Impression - 10 points. TOTAL 100.

**CLASS 16- Antique Bee Keeping Equipment or Apiary Items** - Entries should be a single item to not be taller than or wider than 48 inches and weigh no more than 50 pounds. Exhibitors must be the owner of articles to be exhibited by them. PLEASE DO NOT ENTER FAMILY HEIRLOOMS. Judging will be based upon the following criteria: Age - 10 points, Condition - 25 points, Rarity - 15 points, Overall Appearance - 25 points, and Cleanliness 25 points. TOTAL 100. Acceptance of items for judging will be at the discretion of the judges, and/or superintendents. Age and rarity will be assessed under the judge's best evaluation of the item. Only one exhibit to be allowed in this class per exhibitor.