



# TEXAS 4-H AND FFA AGRICULTURE PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST



The Texas State Preservation Board in partnership with the Texas 4-H Youth Development Program are pleased to present an annual photography contest for members of the Texas 4-H and FFA Programs. This photography contest allows 4-H and FFA members to showcase Texas Agriculture through photos.

A select number of the photographs will be displayed in the Texas State Capitol Agriculture Museum starting in January 2016 before the opening of the Legislative Session. Selected photographs will feature a place card with the photographer's name, city, and age. Photos will remain on display for one year in the Agriculture Museum.

## RULES AND PROCEDURES

<b>Participation Age</b>	Any enrolled and active member of the Texas 4-H Youth Development Program or Texas FFA Association may enter the contests. Youth can only enter either in 4-H OR FFA, and not enter through both organizations.
<b>Entry Fee</b>	There are no entry fees for participating in the contest.
<b>Entry Method</b>	Online: <a href="http://tx4-h.tamu.edu/photo">http://tx4-h.tamu.edu/photo</a>
<b>Entry Period</b>	Entry Open Date: September 24, 2015 Entry Close Date: December 10, 2015 Entries will not be accepted after 11:59 pm on December 10, 2015.
<b>Number of Entries</b>	A youth may enter a maximum of two (2) photographs in the contest. Only one (1) entry in each category is allowed.
<b>Photo Eligibility</b>	Photo must be taken by the 4-H or FFA members within the last eighteen months prior to the contest deadline. Photos may be submitted only one time and in only one category.
<b>Photo Location</b>	All photographs must have been taken within the state of Texas. Those entering the photograph(s) may be asked to provide location of where photograph was taken to ensure an in-state photo.
<b>Photo Format</b>	Must be .jpg
<b>Labeling/Naming your Photograph</b>	Each photograph will need to be clearly labeled with the category, city, last name, and first name. File name should include an “_” between each of the items, category_city_last_first.jpg. Example: John Smith from Dallas entering the Crops category would upload a file labeled: “Crops_Dallas_Smith_John.jpg”
<b>File Size</b>	Photograph should not be any bigger than 1.5 MD in size. Photos larger than that will not be uploaded to file size restrictions.
<b>Size</b>	Must be 8” x 10” in size. Photos should be at least 800 pixels by 1000 pixels. The ideal 8×10 quality is 2400 pixels by 3000 pixels, which is the same as an 8×10 photo at 300 dpi (resolution). Higher variations of the 8×10 ratio are allowed but the final file size may not be larger than 2,048k (2MB).  The best way to tell is to take the lower pixel number and divide by the higher pixel number. If you get 0.8 then you’ve successfully hit the mark. If your photos have a different pixel ratio you may still submit. However the photos will be judged using the 8×10 pixel dimensions. Which may cause your photo to appear stretched, compressed, or distorted. If you view a photo’s properties on your computer it will tell you the width and height in pixels. View the resources for information on a free online photo resizer to assist with this process.
<b>Color vs Black &amp; White</b>	Photos can be entered in either color or black & white.
<b>Alterations</b>	Extreme use of editing and effects should be a minimum. These photos are intended for the purpose of promoting and highlighting Texas agriculture and should be taken and edited with that concept in mind.
<b>Text on Photographs</b>	Photographs should not contain “user placed text.” This includes such things as comments, titles or date/time stamps. Text or wording that is part of the photograph (i.e. photo of a street sign, etc) is acceptable.

## 2015 Texas 4-H and FFA Agriculture Photography Contest

<b>Judging and Results</b>	Judges will determine the placings and all decisions are final. Results will be posted after December 15, 2015 on the Texas State Preservation Board website.
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### RELEASES

<b>Content</b>	Photos that are deemed obscene, vulgar, sexually-oriented, hateful, threatening, or otherwise violate any laws are strictly prohibited. The Texas State Preservation Board, Texas 4-H Youth Development, and Texas FFA respect the rights related to copyright laws and intellectual property. The Texas State Preservation Board reserves the right to refuse inappropriate or unsuitable entries.
<b>Copyright</b>	The Texas State Preservation Board respects the rights related to copyright laws and intellectual property. All photos should be based on a participant's original photograph. Use of a photo from other sources/people is not allowed.
<b>Display and Future Usage Rights</b>	Participant grants to the Texas State Preservation Board, 4-H and FFA a nonexclusive, royalty free, world-wide license, in perpetuity, to display, reproduce, distribute, publish, and create derivative works of the entry in any media now known or hereafter devised, including in promotional publications or marketing. By entry the participant accepts these conditions of display and future use.
<b>Liability Release</b>	The Texas State Preservation Board and/or its employees involved in the contest will not be held liable for missing, mislabeled, or non-displayed photographs.
<b>Model and Property Releases</b>	It is required that each participant has sufficient permission of any recognizable locations or people photographed. The participant grants permission to both the photographer and the Texas State Preservation Board to publish and use as needed. Documentation should be retained by the participant and will be available upon request by the Texas State Preservation Board if needed.

### DISQUALIFICATION

An entry that does not follow the rules or category guidelines will automatically be disqualified.

### CATEGORY DESCRIPTIONS

#### **Agriculture Equipment**

Focus of this category should be agriculture equipment. Photograph should not include human, animal, or other objects beyond that of the piece(s) of agriculture equipment.

#### **Animals – Domestic**

Photograph should have as the subject domestic animals used in agriculture. These include, but not limited to, cattle, sheep, swine, poultry, goats, horses, and other "farm animals." Animals typically associated with "wildlife" are not acceptable in the category.

#### **Architecture in Agriculture**

The architectural features of agriculture are everywhere. This category allows for photos depicting agriculture architecture. Examples of this category could be a row of planted corn making a unified column line, to silos, to features on equipment. Photos need to have a clear subject related to lines, designs, and artistic qualities, as well as being clearer related to agriculture.

#### **Crops**

Highlighting the crops raised in Texas is the focus of this category. This category can include row crops, as well as other crops such as hay production.

#### **People in Agriculture**

Highlights photographs of people (individuals/groups) working in agriculture related careers. Photos should be of people actually performing a work in the area of agriculture, such as working in fields, at cooperatives/grain companies, farming implement sales/repair, working on a ranch, auction barn, veterinary services, food processing plant, etc.

#### **True Texas Agriculture Foods**

Category focus on raw and/or processed foods raised and processed in the state of Texas. Photographs can be highlighting food in the field to still-life photos arranged to highlight a finished food product.

#### **Weights & Measures**

This category highlights the rich history of how agriculture products have been weighted and measured throughout history to determine its quantity. Photos should focus on the weighing of agriculture products, or the equipment used to weigh and measure agriculture goods.

# Photograph Evaluation

Evaluation of photos will be based on the following criteria: Impact, Creativity, Technical, Composition, Subject Matter, and Story Telling.

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**IMPACT**  
(Max Points: 15)

Impact is the sense one gets upon viewing an image for the first time. Compelling images evoke laughter, sadness, anger, pride, wonder or another intense emotion. There can be impact in any of these twelve elements.

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**CREATIVITY**  
(Max Points: 15)

Creativity is the original, fresh, and external expression of the imagination of the maker by using the medium to convey an idea, message or thought.

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**TECHNICAL**  
(Max Points: 25)

Technical is the quality of the image itself as it is presented for viewing, which includes the following aspects:

- allowable amounts of retouching and adjustments (removal of red eye, cropping, minor straightening)
  - sharpness and correct color balance.
  - lighting, which includes the use and control of light. The use of lighting whether natural or man-made and its proper use to enhance the image.
  - Posing and capturing of the image
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**COMPOSITION**  
(Max Points: 20)

Composition is important to the design of an image, bringing all of the visual elements together in concert to express the purpose of the image. Proper composition holds the viewer in the image and prompts the viewer to look where the creator intends. Effective composition can be pleasing or disturbing, depending on the intent of the image maker.

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**SUBJECT MATTER**  
(Max Points: 15)

Subject Matter should always be appropriate to the story being told (i.e. category the photo is entered into) in an image. Subject matter also includes the center of interest for the photograph or where the maker wants the viewer to stop and they view the image.

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**STORY TELLING**  
(Max Points: 10)

Story Telling refers to the image's ability to evoke imagination. One beautiful thing about art is that each viewer might collect his own message or read her own story in an image.

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