



Seeds are critical to civilizations because they supply the food and fiber all humans and animals rely on to survive. Plants provide humans and animals with food, plus they supply fiber like cotton for our clothes and lumber for our homes. Through technology advances, few people have to work in agriculture which frees most of the population to work in other careers. Agriculture needs intelligent young people to continue developing new, advanced technology.

## Starting Out Beginner

- Learn to identify 50 crop and weed seeds.
- Study a 3-page publication on parts of a seed and what they do.
- Learn the differences between high-quality and low-quality seeds.

## Learning More Intermediate

- Keep studying the guides and become proficient in seed ID and judging classes of seed.
- Consider learning more through the 4-H Agronomy series of projects.

## Exploring Depth Advanced

- Enroll in any of the 4-H Agronomy projects:
1. Agronomy Bowl. 4person teams compete in buzzer style contest on agronomy topics.
  2. DIY Science Experiments. Use the starter kit and conduct your own trial to learn how research is conducted.
  3. Day Camp. Intro to agronomy practices and learn about agriculture careers.

## 4-H Thrive

### Positive Youth Development

#### Developing Competence

Adults create environments where youth can develop competence in their chosen project area.

#### Building Confidence

Youth build confidence as they learn to think for themselves, build mastery, and are recognized for their efforts.

#### Nurturing Caring

Adults nurture a caring environment where mutual trust between youth and adults is established. Caring relationships with adults are key to resilient youth.

#### Finding Connection

Youth build solid connections which are critical to their well-being.

#### Forming Character

Create a community where youth play an active role in developing their character.

#### Determining Contribution

Youth actively contribute to their clubs and communities.

***Mississippi State University is an equal opportunity institution.***

## Expand your experiences!

Career areas that utilize knowledge of seeds:



Agronomy



Botany



General  
Agriculture



Horticulture



Plant Sciences



STEM



Wildlife  
& Fisheries

## Resources

1. *Seed Judging*. P464. Mississippi State University Extension Service. Mississippi State, MS.
2. *Seed Identification*. P1397. Mississippi State University Extension Service. Mississippi State, MS.

### Connections & Events

#### For Cloverbuds & Juniors:

- 4-H Project Achievement Days
- County Contests

#### For Seniors:

- 4-H Club Congress
- 4-H Career Camp

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Contact your local Extension office to learn more.

### Curriculum

*Seed Judging*. P464. Mississippi State University Extension Service. Mississippi State, MS.

*Seed Identification*. P1397. Mississippi State University Extension Service. Mississippi State, MS.

### 4-H Record Book

Youth who enjoy the seed identification contest can enter a record book in Other Projects/Plant and Social Sciences.



## Rules and Regulations

Seeds have been important to humankind since before the dawn of civilization. First, humans gathered seeds as a source of food, but later they learned to plant seeds and cultivate crops. Most important of all, seeds are the mechanism of survival of their species. Each seed contains stored food and a tiny plant that, when given the proper conditions, will develop into a new plant that will produce more seeds.

Thus, the cycle of life continues through seeds. In today's world of agriculture, crop production still begins with seeds. Because of mechanization and specialization, farming requires more seeds now than ever before. Having early, uniform stands with an exact number of plants per acre is extremely important. To reach these goals, farmers must plant high-quality seed.

The 4-H Seed Judging and Identification Contest is designed to help you learn to evaluate seed quality and to identify certain crop and weed seeds. When you know seeds and seed quality, you can better determine the true value of planting seeds.

### GENERAL

The contest consists of:

- Judging three classes of the following seed crops: soybeans, cotton, small grains [wheat, oats, or rye], small seeded legumes [clovers, vetch, or wild winter peas] or corn [use Form 672]. **300 points**
- Identify 20 crop & weed seed on Form 118 [all seed names must be spelled correctly and writing must be legible]. **100 points**
- Take an examination of true/false or multiple-choice questions. **100 points**

### 4-H Judging Contest Placing Card

Form 672 (2M-06-13)

Your Number \_\_\_\_\_

Class \_\_\_\_\_

Placing (circle)

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X
1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4
2	2	3	3	4	4	1	1	3	3	4	4	1	1	2	2	4	4	1	1	2	2	3	3
3	3	4	4	2	2	3	3	4	4	1	1	2	2	3	3	1	1	2	2	3	3	1	1
4	4	2	2	3	3	4	4	1	1	3	3	4	4	1	1	2	2	3	3	1	1	2	2

Placings \_\_\_\_\_

Reasons \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_