



2023 Southwest Florida & Lee County Fair Hay Bale Decorating Contest

Theme: BARN IN THE USA

Southwest Florida & Lee County Fair: February 23 – March 5, 2023

Registration must be made online swflcfair.com, Competition Tab

This competition is open to all Youth Groups – 4-H, FFA, Schools, Civic/Community Clubs, etc.

By registering in this competition, you agree to the following:

- No fee to enter - bales are sponsored in part by Sweet Cypress Ranch
- Each club/organization will receive one (1) round hay bale to decorate, approximately 4'x5', will vary slightly.
- Entries will be judged in 4 parts - construction, creativity, eye appeal, and use of materials (25% each). Theme does not have to be followed, but up to 10 bonus points may be added for those incorporating the theme.
- Hay bales are to be decorated with a good clean wholesome nature. No vulgar or suggestive decorations allowed.
- Hay bales can be placed laying on their side or standing on end, with exhibit space being approximately 10' x 15'. Hay bales will be set on location, but you must stabilize to avoid tipping or rolling. Small rectangular bales for feet, props and/or decoration may be added by the club, however, keep in mind exhibit space is approximately 10' x 15'
- Decorations should be **weather and wind-proof**, as the bales will be staged outdoors; only solar lighting allowed.
- Paint and/or chalk may be applied to the hay bale. Chalk may be used on bale, decorations, & the ground.
- Locations will be selected randomly and will be clubs notified as to their location prior to set up.
- Hay bales may be decorated Tuesday, February 21st and Wednesday, February 22nd between the hours of 9am and 7pm. Judging will take place on Thursday, February 23, 2023, prior to the Fair opening. In circumstances of inclement weather, adjustments will be determined.
- 12"x 24" plastic corrugated sign board showing club name is allowed.
- Hay Bales must be 'undressed' Sunday, March 5, 2023, **after 2pm**. Any items left will be discarded.
- Any and all photo's may be used for publicity purposes as determined by the Fair Management.
- Clubs undressing Hay Bales prior to 2pm on Sunday, March 5, 2023 **WILL forfeit any premiums won.**
- **Entry deadline is Thursday, February 9, 2023, and registration must be made online at swflcfair.com, under the Competitions Tab.**
- Leader/Contact Person will register as the "Exhibitor" and then proceed to register their club/organization.

Awards:

1st Place | Blue Rosette, \$300

2nd Place | Red Rosette, \$200

3rd Place | White Rosette, \$100

*Awards are mailed by check after the close-out of the Fair

Participants must register online at swflcfair.com under the Competitions tab



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