

COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE'S AWARD FOR AGRICULTURAL EXCELLENCE

The NH Agricultural Excellence Award is presented annually to exhibitors participating in NH fairs. Awards recognize exhibits which promote a better understanding of agriculture and rural life and may be given to individuals, farms, businesses or organizations. The Commissioner of Agriculture appoints the judges panel and establishes the judging criteria.

The following fairs have announced their 2015 winners:

Stratham Fair Winner: Patrick Marcoux

Type: Best Backyard Swine Breeds

Judges notes: A very informative display explaining the care and management practices of raising pigs. Facts cover breed descriptions, fencing, shelter and basic care. The display is neat and well organized.



N. Haverhill Fair Winner: Haverhill Lucky Stars 4-H Club

Type: 4-H Club Display

Judges notes: This 4-H Club display had 100% club participation with entries of baked goods, flowers, plants, eggs, sewing items and photographs. Very nicely arranged items. The fresh cut flower bouquets were especially beautiful.



Cheshire Fair Winner: Sleepy Brook Farm / Renee Juchnerics-Freeman

Type: Farm Products Display

Judges notes: This is a wonderful display of high quality produce, preserved foods (canned), cut flowers, and fresh eggs. All nicely arranged among vintage looking kitchen utensils & pottery. Also included are few hand-made items-pot holders & embroidered kitchen towel. The fresh made loaf of bread tops off this award winning display.



Belknap County 4-H Fair Winner: Chapel Valley 4-H Club for 4-H is Boots, Roots, Buckets & Shoots

Type: 4-H Club Display

Judges notes: A very nice display of vegetables and agriculture commodities such as maple syrup, eggs, & flowers. A creative expression of this year's fair theme.



Cornish Fair winner: Cornish Fair Farm Museum

Type: Organization

Judge's notes: The museum is beautiful and the exhibit is immaculately kept. More than a century of NH ag equipment and evolution is on display, and demonstrations give the visitor a chance to get hands on experience at some farm task.



Hillsborough County 4-H Fair Winner: Devriendt Farm

Type: Business

Judges notes: This farm displayed a wide variety of vegetables & flowers in an eye appealing manor. Large orange & white pumpkins, along with interesting & colorful gourds accented the many plates of fresh tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, potatoes and summer squashes. Very nice!



Rochester Fair Winner: Meadow View Sugar House

Type: Business

Judges' note: This is a colorful display showing various aspects of the sugaring season. From identifying a sugar maple to the collection of sap. Final products of maple syrup, cream and sugar are displayed.



Deerfield Fair Winner: Topline Farm

Type: Business

Judges notes: The cow exhibit was clean & tidy. The family was available to answer public questions about the cows and the video. The video showed 5 different NH dairy farms who discussed how and why they dairy farm. It addresses some of the more challenging public perception issues facing agriculture today.



Sandwich Fair Winner: History of Sandwich Fair Museum

Type: Organization

Judges Notes: A lot of history in a small space. Photos, paper clippings, historical posters, and more make this a great first stop for fair visitors. The long and wonderful history of the Sandwich Fairs is on display.

