

Every year, Georgia 4-H'ers from across the state compete to grow the heaviest watermelon. Contest results will be announced on August 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Georgia 4-H Watermelon Growing Contest is sponsored through the generous support of the The Georgia Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association along with the Georgia Watermelon Association.

## ABOUT THE CONTEST

The Georgia 4-H Watermelon Growing Contest offers the opportunity to exhibit knowledge and ability to cultivate and grow one or more watermelons over a regulated period of time. Growing the heaviest watermelon incorporates basic aptitude of measurement concepts. Preparation skills, research abilities, and patience in this field of agriculture and environmental science enhance the ability to excel in this competition. In addition to learning the basic fundamentals of growing and caring for watermelons, mathematical knowledge of space, depth, and irrigation will prepare participants for a successful harvest. Common problem solving, such as insect patrol, are essential elements gained throughout this experience.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Develop leadership, initiative, self-reliance, a sense of fair play, and other desirable character traits
- Experience the responsibility of planting, caring for, cultivating, and harvesting a watermelon.
- Increase knowledge of all aspects of agricultural and environmental science and management of a watermelon.
- Learn skills of farm management and an understanding of the business and career opportunities.
- Demonstrate individual leadership abilities.
- Develop leadership abilities, build character, assume citizenship responsibilities, and develop skills, knowledge, and attitudes for lifelong use.

## CONTEST RULES AND DEADLINE

1. All 4-H'ers (Kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade) are eligible to compete.
2. All weights must be submitted by **Friday, July 26, 2024**. Your watermelon's weight must be verified and weighed at your local Extension Office. Speak to your local Extension Office for assistance with submitting your watermelon.
3. Each 4-H'er may submit one watermelon for the competition.
4. Pictures are required for the top three state awards.



## AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Cash prizes will be awarded to participants as follows:

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place
\$100.00	\$50.00	\$25.00

These prizes will be sent by the State 4-H Office. Prize money is graciously sponsored by the Georgia Watermelon Association and the Georgia Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association. We ask that you please send them a thank you card showing your appreciation for their support of this contest.

Their addresses are:

Georgia Watermelon Association  
251 S. L. White Blvd.  
Lagrange, GA 30241

Georgia Fruits and Vegetable Growers Association  
P.O. Box 2945  
Lagrange, GA 30241

**Contacting the Georgia Watermelon Association or Georgia Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association regarding prize money will result in disqualification.**

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Any variety of watermelon may be used, though Carolina Cross is highly recommended. You will need as much time as possible for your watermelon to grow to its full size, so you may want to start your seeds indoors and transfer outside after the last frost. Seeds are available online (<http://www.giantwatermelons.com>) but may be available locally.

**Additional Information: [georgia4h.org/watermelon](http://georgia4h.org/watermelon)**



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**[georgia4h.org](http://georgia4h.org) | 1-800-ASK-UGA1**

The University of Georgia 4-H program is the largest youth leadership organization in the state.  
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