

# Beekeeping

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## **PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

You will study the fundamentals of beekeeping and management of honey. For all divisions, turn in your completed record sheet.

**Note:** There are no grade specifications for beekeeping exhibits.

Division 1 – May participate for 1-2 years.

Division 2 – May participate for 1-2 years.

Division 3 – May participate for multiple years.

## **EXHIBIT:**

### **DIVISION 1**

Learn the types of bees, the honey and wax they produce, the plants that attract bees, and the equipment a beekeeper needs.

One of the following, limiting all displays to a 22"x 28" poster board displayed horizontally:

1. Flowers Used to Make Honey – display pressed flowers from 10 different Indiana plants that bees use for making honey.
2. Uses of honey and beeswax.
3. Setting up a bee hive (no real bee hives)
4. Safe handling of bees

### **DIVISION 2**

Learn the basic care of a bee hive throughout the year. Carry out the basic beekeeping operations that result in the production of extracted, chunk, or cut comb honey.

Prepare a display of your honey. You may display extracted honey, chunk honey and/or cut comb honey, but show samples of at least one kind of honey listed below.

1. Extracted Honey - Two (2) one pound jars glass or clear plastic, screw top jars holding 1 pound of honey each. Fill level: the honey should be filled to the jar shoulder, not over, nor under.
2. Chunk honey (comb in jar) two (2) one pound jars (wide-mouth glass or clear plastic). Chunk honey should go in a wide-mouth jar, preferably one specially made for chunk honey (see beekeeping catalogs).
3. Cut comb honey - Two (2) one pound boxes. (These are usually displayed in a clear plastic box 4 ½" x 4 ½".)
4. Working with Honey Bees – Present a topic from your manual to teach fairgoers about working with honey bees. Use your knowledge and creativity to display this information on a poster or in a notebook. Posters must be displayed horizontally; 22" X 28", and mounted on a firm backing and covered in clear plastic or other transparent material. Be sure to include your exhibit label with your name, grade, and county.

### **DIVISION 3**

Keep any number of colonies desired. Perform the jobs necessary for proper care. Produce both comb and extracted honey.

Exhibit two (2) of the four kinds of honey listed below:

1. Extracted Honey -Two (2) one pound jars (glass or clear plastic). Fill level: the honey should be filled to the jar shoulder; not over, nor under.
2. Chunk Honey (comb in jar) - Two (2) one pound jars (wide-mouth glass or clear plastic). Chunk honey should go in a wide-mouth jar, preferably one specially made for chunk honey (see beekeeping catalogs).
3. Cut-Comb Honey - Two (2) one pound boxes. Boxes are usually 4 ½" x 4 ½".
4. Comb Honey -Two (2) sections (comb honey refers to honey built by bees in frames of wood commonly called "sections". These are usually about 4 ½" x 4 ½" in size). Be careful to distinguish "chunk honey" (comb in jar) from "cut comb" (comb only in box).
5. Prepare an educational display about honey bees or beekeeping.

### **INDEPENDENT STUDY**

1. Advanced topic - Learn all you can about a beekeeping topic and present it on a poster. Include a short manuscript, pictures, graphs, and list the works cited to describe what you did and what you learned. Title your poster, "Advanced Beekeeping – Independent Study."
2. Mentoring - Exhibit a poster that shows how you mentored a younger 4-H member. Include your planning, the time you spent, the challenges and advantages of mentoring, and how the experience might be useful in your life. Photographs and other documentation are encouraged. Title your poster, "Advanced Beekeeping - Mentor."

### ***STATE FAIR ENTRY:***

**Division 1** – one entry

**Division 2** – no limit per county, but only 1 exhibit per 4-H member **Division 3** – no limit per county, but only 1 exhibit per 4-H member **Note:** No Bee Hives are accepted at the State Fair