

DEPT. G02, CLASS 105: THE N.C. STATE FAIR GREAT PUMPKIN/WATERMELON WEIGH-OFF

The North Carolina State Fair welcomes the opportunity to invite growers from both inside and outside the state to compete in a special contest: The Great Pumpkin/Watermelon Weigh-off! This contest will be open to adult registrants and will be sanctioned by [The Great Pumpkin Commonwealth](#), an international group that is typically enlisted to oversee giant pumpkin weigh-off events.

COMPETITION RULES

Registration begins August 1, 2016 and ends on Monday, September 26, 2016. This competition is open to individuals, families and farms only. Families must register under an individual's name. Farms should register under the name that is associated with their Tax Identification Number. **In order to be eligible for any premiums won, exhibitors must provide their Social Security Number or Tax Identification Number at the time of registration.** Exhibitors must pre-register with the North Carolina State Fair either online at www.ncstatefair.org or by mailing in a paper entry form in order to compete. An entry fee of \$5 is required from each exhibitor and can be paid by check when mailing in a paper form, or by credit card if registering online. If an exhibitor is unable to bring their entry to the Fair, they may request a refund of the registration fee by contacting the N.C. State Fair Entry Department at (919)839-4515. All entries will remain on display after the weigh-off for the duration of the N.C. State Fair. Entries not picked up by 5:00 p.m. on October 24th will be discarded.

WEIGH-OFF RULES

1. Specimens must have been grown and cared for by the exhibitor.
2. Exhibitor (grower) must be present the day of the weigh-off.
3. Individuals may have one entry per category. Farms may have a total of two entries per category, but only one of the two entries will be eligible for a prize.
4. Pumpkin Color: All fruit, not solid green or gray, will be judged as a pumpkin.
5. Watermelon requirements - any variety or shape.
6. Specimens must be sound, healthy and undamaged. Entries must be free of rot, holes/cracks through to the cavity, chemical residue and serious soft spots. Leaking fruit will be disqualified.
7. No foreign material is permitted to be included in the weighing. Vines must be trimmed to one inch from the stem of the fruit. The judges reserve the right to fully inspect each specimen before the weigh-off begins and before the weight is announced and becomes official.
8. In the event of a tie, the prize money for those placing will be combined and split equally.
9. The decisions of the judges are final.
10. The Fair takes great care in the receiving and placement of entries; however, the Fair is not responsible for accidental damage or natural deterioration to entries.

The weigh-off will take place on Tuesday, October 11th at 3:00 p.m. in the Expo Building on the fairgrounds. Exhibitors who pre-registered to compete will have until 1:30 p.m. on that Tuesday to have their pumpkins and watermelons in place. Our Public Affairs Office will invite different media outlets to be present to cover the event.

Awards will be given to the first through tenth placings in each category, along with the Howard Dill award for the prettiest giant pumpkin exhibited.

Lot Numbers: G02214–Giant Pumpkin G02215–Giant Watermelon

PREMIUMS:	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
PUMPKINS	\$1,250	\$750	\$500	\$400	\$250	\$125	\$75	\$50	\$50	\$50
WATERMELONS	\$1,250	\$750	\$500	\$400	\$250	\$125	\$75	\$50	\$50	\$50

SPECIAL AWARD: Howard Dill Award \$100