

Iowa Quality Dairy Products Contest

Agriculture Building

Superintendents - Sarah Canova - ISU Creamery Business Manager & Danielle Christofferson - ISU Creamery Production Manager

Entry Deadline: July 15 - submit online or by mail (*see rule 3 below*)

Product Delivery Deadline: 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 5th - ISU Creamery (*see rule 4 below*)

Awards Ceremony: 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, August 12th - Cattle Barn Penningroth Sale Ring

RULES

1. **Eligibility.** Every dairy product entered must be produced in a licensed lowa facility and must currently be available for sale in the market (not experimental recipes).
2. **Entry Classes.**
 - 1 Butter (all species; sweet cream, cultured, unsalted, flavored, etc.)
 - 2 Cultured Dairy Products (all species; buttermilk, sour cream, Neufchatel, cream cheese, etc.)
 - 3 Goat and/or Sheep Cheese (fresh chevre, ripened, feta, plain, ashed, flavored, etc.)
 - 4 Cow Cheese (Cheddar, Gouda, Maasdam, Monterey Jack, Swiss-style, etc.)
 - 5 Cheese Curds (all species; plain or flavored)
 - 6 Dairy Beverages (plain or flavored, fermented (kefir, drinkable yogurt), etc.)
 - 7 Ice Cream/Gelato
3. **Intent to Enter and Entry Fee.** An entry fee is required: 1-4 products - \$25; 5-7 products - \$40; 8-10 products - \$50; 11 or more products - \$60. You may **submit your entry online** at <https://www.iowastatefair.org/>. You also have the option to print an entry form and mail along with your check (made out to Iowa State Fair) to: Iowa State Fair, Entry Coordinator, PO Box 57130, Des Moines, IA 50317. Entry deadline is **July 15**.
4. **Submission of Entries.** Entries must be received, at or below 50°F (frozen solid for frozen desserts), in original retail packaging, by **5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 5th**. All entries should be hand delivered or mailed to the attention of Sarah Canova or Danielle Christofferson (Iowa State University, 536 Farmhouse Ln., Ames, IA 50011-1061; 515-294-3612). If hand delivered, the product must be delivered to the ISU Creamery Retail Store (room #2953 Food Sciences Building) during business hours of 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. on Monday – Saturday.
 - a. For butter, cheese curds, and small-format cow/goat/sheep cheeses, please send 2 cartons/bags/containers. One will be opened for evaluation and one will be displayed intact at the Fair.
 - b. For dairy beverages, frozen desserts, and large-format cow/goat/sheep cheeses, only 1 carton/bag/container needs to be sent. The container will be washed out for empty display at the Fair.We want to showcase Iowa dairy products in their best condition. If there is a particular way you want your product displayed (i.e., with or without a vacuum seal bag; or if you want to send fresh product for display), please let us know.
5. **Judging.** Judging will not be open to the public. At least two experienced dairy products judges will evaluate the technical and aesthetic merit of every product, using standard criteria for the given category/class.

The judges will evaluate the following categories for each product: packaging appearance & condition (including complete label information), product appearance, aroma, flavor, and body & texture.

Completed evaluation forms and ribbons will be provided for all entries.
6. **Awards.** Cheeses do not compete “against” each other for ribbons within categories. Standards of excellence apply to all entries. Winning products, along with corresponding rosettes, will be displayed at the Iowa State Fair. Assuming minimum scores are met, ribbons will be awarded for up to **three products** per class (though ties can be awarded if equal scores are attained):
 - a. 1st place in class AND superior quality (> 95 points), BLUE RIBBON (\$20 award premium)
 - b. 2nd place in class AND at least high quality (> 90 points), RED RIBBON (\$10 award premium)
 - c. 3rd place in class AND at least good quality (> 85 points), WHITE RIBBON (\$5 award premium)
 - d. ONE Best In Show will be awarded upon judges' discretion, ROSETTE (\$30 award premium)

Ties are permitted for 1st, 2nd, and/or 3rd placing in each class, if scores are exactly the same. However, a tie will not be permitted for Best of Show.

Contributors:

Midwest Dairy Association

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