

Iowa Quality Dairy Products Contest

Agriculture Building

Superintendent - Sarah Canova, ISU Creamery Business Administrator

Awards Ceremony - Evening of Wednesday, August 7 in the Cattle Barn

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 options.** Each plant/facility may enter up to 10 different total products, but no more than 6 per category (e.g. CURDS: Plain Cheddar, Habanero, Dill Garlic, Ranch, Italian Herb, Apple & Spice).
Entry classes include:
 - a. Butter (all species; sweet cream, cultured, unsalted, flavored, etc.)
 - b. Cultured Dairy Products (all species; buttermilk, sour cream, Neufchatel, cream cheese, etc.)
 - c. Goat and/or Sheep Cheese (fresh chevre, ripened, feta, plain, ashed, flavored, etc.)
 - d. Cow Cheese (Cheddar, Gouda, Maasdam, Monterey Jack, Swiss-style, etc.)
 - e. Cheese Curds (all species; plain or flavored)
 - f. Dairy Beverages (plain or flavored, fermented (kefir, drinkable yogurt), etc.)
3. **Intent to Enter and Entry Fee.** An entry fee (\$25, 1-4 products; \$40, 5-7 products; \$50, 8-10 products) is required. You may **submit your entry online** at <https://www.iowastatefair.org/participate/competition/enter-more-competitions>. 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 Department, 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, in original retail packaging, by **Wednesday, July 31**. All entries should be hand-delivered or sent to the attention of Sarah Canova (Iowa State University, 536 Farmhouse Ln., Ames, IA 50011-1061; 515-294-6555).
 - a. For the butter class, if your product is sold in quarters, you may send ONE package of 4. If your product is sold in 1-lb wraps, please send TWO packages. One will be sampled; the other will be placed on display at the Fair.
 - b. For the dairy beverages and cultured dairy products classes, send TWO intact (in original retail packaging) single-serving containers (i.e., 4- to 12-oz) or ONE box or bulk container (i.e., 14-oz or larger). The original container will be washed and the empty container will be placed on display at the Fair.
 - c. For fresh curds, please send TWO cartons or bags. One will be opened; one will be placed, intact, on display at the Fair.
 - d. For small-format cheeses (i.e., 4 – 6-oz feta, chevre, wedges of cheese), send TWO intact (in original retail packaging) products (i.e., 2 tubs, 2 logs, 2 pyramids, 2 wedges). Send TWO medium-weight cheeses (8-oz to 16-oz). One will be labeled for competition; the other will be placed, intact, on display at the Fair.
 - e. For large-format cheeses, send ONE package of original retail format (i.e., loaf Swiss), or ONE un-plugged 10-lb block or wheel (i.e., Manchego, Cheddar or Swiss-style cheeses). The product will be sampled by judges, vacuum-packaged, and placed on 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 from Iowa (and possibly adjacent states, e.g., Minnesota and South Dakota) will evaluate the technical and aesthetic merit of every product, using standard criteria for the given category/class. 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. An Awards ceremony will be held in the Cattle Barn, **the evening before the official start of the Iowa State Fair** (details TBA). Ribbons and premium checks will be sent to winners by the Iowa State Fair office after the conclusion of the Fair.

Contributors:
Midwest Dairy Association
Iowa State University Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition

IOWA STATE FAIR
Fair Dates: August 8-18, 2024
Iowa Quality Dairy Products Entry Form

Entries must be submitted [online](#) or postmarked on or before July 15.

Mail payment and form to: Iowa State Fair, Entry Department, PO Box 57130, Des Moines, IA 50317-0003

For contest questions, contact Sarah Canova at scanova@iastate.edu or 515-294-6555.

Product delivery deadline is July 31.

State Fair -- Phone: 515-262-3111 ext. 242, E-mail: competitiveevents@iowastatefair.org, Web: www.iowastatefair.org

Company Name _____
 Contact Name _____
 Business Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Contact Day Phone (Area Code _____) _____
 Contact E-mail Address _____

Office Use Only	
Exhibitor Number _____	Receipt Number _____
Adult Ticket No. _____	Child Ticket No. _____
Date Tickets Sent _____	

ENTRY FEES

Total Amount

- | | |
|---|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 to 4 Products (\$25.00) | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5 to 7 Products (\$40.00) | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 8 to 10 Products (\$50.00) | \$ _____ |

FAIR DISCOUNT ADMISSION

Quantity

Total Amount

- | | |
|--|----------|
| Adult Admission Tickets _____ @ \$11.00 each | \$ _____ |
| Children's Tickets (6-11 yrs.) _____ @ \$7.00 each | \$ _____ |

TOTAL REMITTANCE.....\$ _____

Form of payment: Cash/Money Order Check MasterCard Visa **Make checks payable to: Iowa State Fair**

Card # _____ - _____ - _____ Exp. Date _____ / _____ Security Code _____

Card Holder's Signature: _____ Printed Name: _____

List of Classes:

- a. Butter (all species; sweet cream, cultured, unsalted, flavored, etc.)
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- c. Goat and/or Sheep Cheese (fresh chevre, ripened, feta, plain, ashed, flavored, etc.)
- d. Cow Cheese (Cheddar, Gouda, Maasdam, Monterey Jack, Swiss-style, etc.)
- e. Cheese Curds (all species; plain or flavored)
- f. Dairy Beverages (plain or flavored, fermented (kefir, drinkable yogurt), etc.)

Product	Entry Class Name	Product Name
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		

Entries must be accompanied by all fees. There will be a \$20.00 charge for each returned check and issuer could be liable for up to three times the amount of the check. Cash, Cashier's Check or Money Order will be required if a check is returned for insufficient funds. No refunds of \$10.00 or less will be issued. All admission tickets are non-refundable.