

Coates
NEWCASTLE SHOW
CELEBRATING 125 YEARS
26 - 28 FEBRUARY 2027



2027 Horticulture

ENTRIES CLOSE 5pm Wednesday, 22 February 2027

GENERAL INFORMATION

ENTRY	<u>ENTRY FEES</u> Open - \$2 Youth Under 18 years - \$2 Scarecrow – \$5 <u>Also see conditions of Entry further below</u> Enter Online – https://showday.online/show/newcastleshow No late entries accepted. No refund of entry fees
ENTRIES OPEN DATE	Monday 2nd November 2026
ENTRY CLOSING DATE	MONDAY 22nd February 2027
CONTACT DETAILS	Newcastle A. H & I Association. Newcastle Showgrounds, PO Box 53, Broadmeadow NSW 2293 Phone: 4961 2085 Email: competition@newcastleshow.com.au Pre-Show Office Hours (enquiries, etc) Tuesdays and Thursdays (1st September 2026 to 5th March 2027) 10.00am to 2.00pm or by appointment with prior arrangement Post-Show Office Hours Tuesdays (9th March 2027 to 24th August 2027) 10.00am to 2.00pm or by appointment with prior arrangement
EXHIBIT DELIVERY & COLLECTION	HORTICULTURE PAVILION: Located under grandstands- Drive through Griffiths Road entry and take the right-hand road, Grandstand on left. Alternatively walk through Curley Road gates – Pavilion just to your left. A receipt will be given upon delivery, which will be required to produce for collection. DELIVERY <u>Thursday 25th February: 7.00am to 10.00am.....and again</u> <u>Thursday 25th February: 4.00pm to 6.30pm</u> If you are unable to bring your exhibit to the Showgrounds during these times, please phone Melissa Fogarty on 0411777910 or email blueboatfarm@icloud.com COLLECTION <u>Sunday 28th February: 3.00pm until 4.30pm</u> Prize Money and Ribbons will be distributed at this time. If you are unable to collect on Sunday afternoon, please organise an alternative time with Melissa Fogarty on 0411777910 or email blueboatfarm@icloud.com No exhibits will be left at the Show Office for collection after 4.30pm Fresh flowers, fruits, vegetables and egg entries will be disposed at 4.30pm unless collected or alternative arrangements made. Exhibitors must produce entry receipt for collection.
CONDITIONS OF ENTRY	Entry must be complete, otherwise the entry may be rejected. Conditions of entry are listed on the entry application.

AGE:	Exhibitors entering the Newcastle Show as an individual or as part of a team must be a minimum of 3 years old . An Exhibitor will be considered to be 3 years old if they have had their 3rd birthday on or before the first day of the 2027 Newcastle Show.						
JUDGING	JUDGING: Judged on Thursday 25th February 2027. Closed to public Judging Criteria: Plants/produce, must have been grown by exhibitor. Please adhere to vessel sizes as indicated. SEE SECTION PAGES FOLLOWING FOR ANY OTHER CONDITIONS						
PRIZES/AWARDS – All classes Exception: School Scarecrow – please see schedule page for details	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>FIRST PRIZE</td><td>\$5 Prize money, Prize card and ribbon</td></tr> <tr> <td>SECOND PRIZE</td><td>\$3 Prize money, Prize card and ribbon</td></tr> <tr> <td>HIGHLY COMMENDED</td><td>Prize card and ribbon.</td></tr> </table> Some classes have a special prize or award. These special prizes or awards are listed in the class notes AWARDS/RIBBONS – Awards will be at the judge’s discretion & if sufficient entries. Prize money will be given upon collection of exhibits at the end of the Show. No prize money will be distributed from the Show Office during or after the Show. If you are unable to collect your prize money on the day, you will be contacted for banking details so the Show can direct deposit prize money post Show. Information for deposits is required no later than 14 days after the Show and needs to be emailed to competitions@newcastleshow.com.au	FIRST PRIZE	\$5 Prize money, Prize card and ribbon	SECOND PRIZE	\$3 Prize money, Prize card and ribbon	HIGHLY COMMENDED	Prize card and ribbon.
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MEMBERSHIPS – NEWCASTLE A.H. & I ASSOCIATION	OPTIONAL - Membership of the Association Membership runs from 1 July to 30 June 2026 Membership: Adult \$30						

HORTICULTURE – OPEN SECTION: NON-COMMERCIAL

VEGETABLES – OPEN SECTION: NON-COMMERCIAL

Maximum two (2) entries per Exhibitor per class

Exhibits can be any variety within the class but must all be the same variety.

During judging, the judges may cut open one of the items in the exhibit

FRUITING VEGETABLES (10 CLASSES)

Class	Class Description	Prizes
Classes listed will be placed on a paper plate or similar for judging		
801	Six (6) Small tomatoes with stalks, same variety, eg. Cherry, Grape, etc	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC
802	Two (2) Large tomatoes with stalks, same variety, eg. Roma, Beefsteak etc	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC
803	Two (2) Zucchini with stalks, same variety	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC
804	Three (3) COLOURFUL Chillis with stalks, any variety	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC
805	Six (6) Beans with stalks, same variety	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC
806	Two (2) Cucumbers with stalks, same variety	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC
807	Three (3) CURVY Eggplant with stalk, same variety	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC
808	Four (4) Spring onions, in a bunch	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC
809	One (1) Squash or Gourd (not a zucchini) with stalk	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC
810	Any other vegetable not listed, minimum two (2) items of the same variety	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC

ROOT VEGETABLES (5 CLASSES)

Class	Class Description	Prizes
Classes listed will be placed on a paper plate for judging		
811	Three (3) CRAZY Carrots (your most wackiest looking), same variety	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC
812	Two (2) Beetroot, same variety	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC
813	Three (3) Potatoes, same variety	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC
814	Three (3) Garlic bulbs	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC
815	Two (2) Onions, same variety	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC

GREEN LEAFY VEGETABLES (2 CLASSES)

Class	Class Description	Prizes
Classes listed below will be placed in a vase of water or similar for judging		
816	Three (3) stalks of Rhubarb	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC
817	Three (3) stalks of English spinach, Swiss Chard or Mustard	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC

SPECIALTY PUMPKINS – OPEN SECTION: NON-COMMERCIAL

Maximum two (2) entries per Exhibitor per class

Largest pumpkin will be weighed on a set of scales.

The weights will be recorded as the entrant delivers the pumpkin.

These entries MUST be collected at the end of the Show on the Sunday.

Class	Class Description	Prizes
Classes listed will need their own blanket/sheet or similar for display		
818	The largest pumpkin by weight	1 st is \$100, 2 nd is \$2, HC
819	The best-looking pumpkin	1 st is \$100, 2 nd is \$2, HC
Special Award – Champion Largest Pumpkin by weight		\$100 donated by Jenny Bourke
Special Award – Champion Best-Looking Pumpkin		\$100 donated by Jenny Bourke

FRUITS – OPEN SECTION: NON-COMMERCIAL

Maximum two (2) entries per Exhibitor per class

Exhibits can be any variety within the class but must all be the same variety.

If the points are close, the judges may cut open one of the items in the exhibit.

Class	Class Description	Prizes
Classes listed will be placed on a paper plate for judging		
820	Two (2) Apples with stalks	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC
821	Two (2) Pears with stalks	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC
822	Two (2) Lemons with stalks	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC
823	Five (5) Berries (same kind, any type)	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC
824	One (1) Watermelon, with stalk	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC
825	One (1) Rockmelon, with stalk	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC
826	Any other fruit not listed, Two (2) pieces, same variety	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC

HERBS – OPEN SECTION: NON-COMMERCIAL

Maximum two (2) entries per Exhibitor per class

Newcastle Show prohibits any Exhibits using weeds declared by Newcastle City Council.

<http://weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au>

Class	Class Description	Prizes
827	Any herb in a pot	1 st is \$5, 2 nd is \$2, HC
828	Any cut herb in water (a vase of water will be provided)	1 st is \$5, 2 nd is \$2, HC

POTTED PLANTS – OPEN SECTION: NON-COMMERCIAL

Maximum two (2) entries per Exhibitor per class

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<http://weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au>

Class	Class Description	Prizes
829	Plant – Any plant, shrub, flower in a pot	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC
830	Plant – Any herb/ herb garden in a pot / water	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC
Special Award – Champion of Potted Plants		\$50 donated by Jenny Bourke

CUT FLOWERS – OPEN SECTION: NON-COMMERCIAL

Maximum two (2) entries per Exhibitor per class

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<http://weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au>

Class	Class Description	Prizes
Classes listed below will be placed in a vase of water or similar for judging		
831	Dahlia – three (3) stems, same variety	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC
832	Zinnia – three (3) stems, same variety	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC
833	Any other flower – three (3) stems, same variety	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC
Special Award – Champion of Flowers		\$50 donated by Jenny Bourke

EGGS – OPEN SECTION: NON-COMMERCIAL

One (1) entry per Exhibitor per class

Exhibits can be any variety within the class but must all be the same variety.

One egg will be randomly selected from each entry and cracked open for the purposes of judging

Class	Class Description	Prizes
834	Chicken eggs – 6 eggs in a carton	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC
835	Duck eggs – 6 eggs in a carton	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC
836	Quail eggs – 6 eggs in a carton	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC

Special Award – Grand Champion Horticulture

The exhibitor with the most points across the Open Section will be awarded as the Grand Champion.

HORTICULTURE – YOUTH UNDER 18 YEARS SECTION

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES – YOUTH UNDER 18 YEARS

Maximum two (2) entries per Exhibitor per class

Exhibits can be any variety, but all items in the exhibit must be the same variety.

During judging, the judges may cut open one of the items in the exhibit.

Class	Class Description	Prizes
Classes listed below will be placed on a paper plate or similar for judging.		
837	Five (5) Small Tomatoes, same variety, eg. Cherry, Grape, etc	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC
838	Five (5) Beans, same variety	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC
839	Three (3) CRAZY Carrots – Give them some fun names!	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC
840	Two (2) Cucumber, same variety	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC
841	One (1) Squash or Gourd	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC
842	Five (5) Berries, same variety	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC
843	Two (2) Any fruit or vegetable not listed, same variety	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC
844	Two (2) Any fruit or vegetable not listed, same variety	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC

POTTED PLANTS – YOUTH UNDER 18 YEARS

One (1) entry per Exhibitor per class.

Entries must be grown / produced by Exhibitor

Newcastle Show prohibits any Exhibits using weeds declared by Newcastle City Council.

<http://weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au>

Class	Class Description	Prizes
Classes listed below must be presented in own pots.		
845	Any shrub in pot	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC
846	Any flowering plant in a pot	1 st \$5, 2 nd \$2, HC

EGGS – YOUTH UNDER 18 YEARS

One (1) entry per Exhibitor per class

Exhibits can be any variety within the class but must all be the same variety

One egg will be randomly selected from each entry and cracked open for the purposes of judging

Class	Class Description	Prizes
Classes listed below must be presented in own clean, unlabelled egg carton.		
847	Farm animal eggs – 6 eggs in a carton – can be chicken, duck or quail. The more colourful the better.	1 st is \$5, 2 nd is \$2, HC

NOVELTY – YOUTH UNDER 18 YEARS

One (1) entry per Exhibitor per class

Entries must be produced by Exhibitor

Class	Class Description	Prizes
Classes listed below must be presented in a vessel which allows the egg or fruit sculpture to be viewed easily. No more than 30cm (L) and 20cm (W).		
848	Fruit / vegetable sculpture (Pre-school age)	1 st is \$5, 2 nd is \$2, HC
849	Fruit / vegetable sculpture (5 yrs to 10 yrs)	1 st is \$5, 2 nd is \$2, HC
850	Fruit / vegetable sculpture (over 10 yrs)	1 st is \$5, 2 nd is \$2, HC
851	Dressed up / Decorated Boiled Egg (Pre-school age)	1 st is \$5, 2 nd is \$2, HC
852	Dressed up / Decorated Boiled Egg (5 yrs to 10 yrs)	1 st is \$5, 2 nd is \$2, HC
853	Dressed up / Decorated Boiled Egg (over 10 yrs)	1 st is \$5, 2 nd is \$2, HC

HORTICULTURE – SCARECROW SECTION

SCARECROW SECTION

Maximum two (2) entries per Exhibitor per class

Entries must be less than 2m tall and 1m wide

The theme for Scarecrows this year is HUNTER HEROES. Dress your scarecrow as any HUNTER HERO, make sure to give them a name and tell us why they are your hero.

Scarecrows must be self-standing.

Entrants must provide materials to ensure the scarecrow can be displayed.

Entries must adhere to the theme for this year.

Class	Class Description	Prizes
854	Scarecrow – Open (non-school)	1 st \$50, 2 nd \$20, HC
855	Scarecrow – Primary School (Yrs K-6)	1 st \$100 Bunnings Gift Card, 2 nd \$50 Bunnings Gift Card, HC
856	Scarecrow – High School (Yrs 7-12)	1 st \$100, 2 nd \$50, HC

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HORTICULTURE – JUDGING CRITERIA

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES	
General Criteria for Fruits and Vegetables	
1. Uniformity:	Entries should be consistent in size, shape, and colour. For example, six tomatoes should be nearly identical in appearance.
2. Condition and Freshness:	Produce must be <i>ripe but firm</i> , free from blemishes, bruises, or disease. Skins should be clean but <i>not polished</i> —natural bloom is often preferred (e.g., apples).
3. Size and Shape	Optimal size for the variety is key—not too large or small. Shape should be typical of the cultivar and symmetrical (e.g., carrots should be well-shouldered and free from side shoots).
4. Colour and Maturity	Rich, vibrant colour appropriate to the variety. Maturity should be ideal—not underripe or overripe.
5. Stalks and Calyx:	Fruits and vegetables should retain their stalks or calyx where applicable (e.g., tomatoes, apples, citrus).
6. Taste and Aroma (if applicable)	Judges may sample entries for flavour, sweetness, texture, and aroma—especially for fruits.
7. Specialty Varieties	Heirloom or unusual cultivars may be recognized for biodiversity and uniqueness.
Tips for Exhibitors	• Always refer to the show schedule and class descriptions. • Pick produce at the right time—often early morning or late afternoon before the show. • Use water to keep leafy vegetables fresh on the bench. • Avoid excessive trimming or polishing unless specified.

POTTED PLANTS	
General Criteria for Potted Plants	
1. Health & Vigor:	Exceptionally healthy, vigorous growth; no signs of pests, disease, or stress.
2. Form & Structure	: Well-balanced, symmetrical, and true to type; excellent branching or foliage.
3. Foliage Quality:	Clean, vibrant, and typical of the species; no blemishes or discoloration.
4. Flowering or Fruiting (if applicable):	Abundant, well-timed blooms or fruit; vibrant and healthy.
5. Pot Suitability & Cleanliness:	Pot complements plant size and style; clean and undamaged.
6. Labelling & Identification	: Clearly labelled with correct botanical and/or common name.
7. Overall Impact:	Outstanding visual appeal; harmonious and well-presented.

Tips for Exhibitors	• Always refer to the show schedule and class descriptions. • Choose Your Best Specimen Early: Select your entry at least a week before the show to monitor its condition. Look for plants with balanced growth, vibrant foliage, and no signs of stress. Avoid last-minute swaps—judges notice preparation. • Clean and Match the Pot: Wipe down the pot and remove any soil smudges or water stains. • Choose a pot that suits the plant's size and style.
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CUT FLOWERS

General Criteria for Cut Flowers	
1.. Condition & Freshness:	Petals and foliage should be crisp, vibrant, and free from blemishes, wilting, or damage.
2. Form & Symmetry:	Blooms should be well-shaped and balanced; stems should be straight and upright.
3. Colour & Uniformity:	Rich, even colour typical of the variety; consistent across all stems in the entry.
4. Stem & Foliage Quality:	Stems should be clean and strong; foliage (if present) should be healthy and undamaged.
5. Suitability to Class:	Entry must match the class description and be at the appropriate stage of bloom.
6. Overall Impact:	The entry should have strong visual appeal, harmony, and be well-presented.
Tips for Exhibitors	• Always refer to the show schedule and class descriptions. • Harvest Thoughtfully: Cut flowers early in the morning or late afternoon for best freshness. Use clean, sharp tools and place stems in water immediately. • Condition Before Showing: Remove any damaged petals or leaves, trim stems neatly, and hydrate blooms overnight. Avoid overhandling—natural beauty wins points.

EGGS

General Criteria for Eggs	
1. Uniformity of Size and Shape:	Eggs should be consistent in size and shape across the entry. No obvious variation or irregularities.
2. Shell Condition:	Shells must be clean, smooth, and free from cracks, stains, or blemishes. Natural bloom should be retained—no polishing.
3. Shell Colour and Texture:	Colour should be even and typical of the breed. Texture should be smooth and uniform.
4. Presentation:	Eggs should be attractively arranged, typically pointed end down, in a clean container or tray. Labels (if required) should be neat and accurate.
5. Internal Quality (if judged):	When broken out: yolk should be well-rounded and centered, albumen thick and clear, no blood spots or defects.

Tips for Exhibitors	• Always refer to the show schedule and class descriptions. • Handle with Care: Collect eggs gently and store them in a cool, dry place. Avoid washing unless absolutely necessary—natural bloom is valued. • Select and Prepare Thoughtfully: Choose eggs that are similar in size and shape. Use a soft cloth to remove any loose dirt, but don't polish or scrub the shells.
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SCARECROW	
General Criteria for Scarecrow	
1. Creativity & Originality:	The scarecrow should reflect a unique concept, imaginative design, and inventive use of materials.
2. Construction & Durability:	The build should be stable, weather-resistant, and securely assembled for outdoor display.
3. Use of Material:	Recycled, natural, or themed materials are encouraged. Details should be thoughtful and safe.
4. Theme Representation:	Entries should clearly connect to the “Seeds of Change” theme or class concept.
5. Visual Appeal:	The scarecrow should be expressive, well-proportioned, and visually engaging from a distance.
6. Size	Maximum 2m tall. Minimum 50cm width.
Tips for Exhibitors	• Always refer to the show schedule and class descriptions. • Build for the Outdoors: Use sturdy frames and weather-friendly materials. Test stability before delivery—wind and rain are part of the challenge! • Tell a Story: A scarecrow with a name, theme, or message (e.g., “Water-Wise Wanda” or “Captain Compost”) adds charm and connection to the audience.

NOVELTY	
General Criteria for Novelty	
1. Creativity & Imagination:	Entries should show original ideas, clever designs, and expressive decoration.
2. Effort & Neatness:	Decorations should be carefully made, with attention to detail and a tidy finish.
3. Use of Materials:	Craft items, natural or recycled materials should be used safely and thoughtfully.
4. Theme or Character:	The entry should clearly represent a theme, character, or story (e.g., animal, person, superhero).
5. Presentation & Impact:	The decorated egg or potato should be fun, eye-catching, and well displayed.
Tips for Exhibitors	• Always refer to the show schedule and class descriptions. • Plan Your Design First: Sketch your idea before decorating. Think about what story or character you want to show. • Use Safe, Fun Materials: Recycled items like buttons, fabric scraps, and paper can add personality. Avoid anything sharp or messy.