



4-H Collection Contest Guidelines – State Contest

Collections will be judged during the current year's State Round-Up. It is the responsibility of the 4-Her to arrange transportation of their collection to College Station. Collections are due by 9am, the TUESDAY of the week of State 4-H RoundUp. Registrants will receive more information about drop off closer to the contest date. **For additional questions, information, exact dates for the current year, please contact superintendent, Molly Keck at mekeck@ag.tamu.edu or 210-631-0400.**

After judging, you may pick up your collections in the same location. Please provide a phone number on your collection so that you may be reached for pickup.

For help with pinning and spreading, visit www.YouTube.com – Bexar Entomology channel.

Requirements for all 4-H Entomology Collection contestants are as follows:-

1. Be sure to include your name, county, and age group (Junior, Intermediate, Senior) on an index card or piece of paper attached to the FRONT of your collection, and not obstructing the view of your specimens.
2. All arthropods must be properly identified to Order. See <https://entomology.tamu.edu/extension/youth/4-h/4h-contest/>
3. Insects you want judged to common name must be properly identified to the common names in 4-H Entomology Contest guidelines. See <https://entomology.tamu.edu/extension/youth/4-h/4h-contest/> for common names. **Only use common names from the 4-H list.**
4. No duplication of insects/arthropods.
5. Only adult specimens.
6. Only insects collected in Texas (no pets, store bought, or insects collected from other states).
7. You may only use insects collected within the last 2 years of the contest year.
8. Only 5% of your collection may be collected by others.
9. Only 25% of your collection may have been submitted the previous year (nothing older than 1 year).
10. LABELS – insects need a collection label attached to the pin, underneath the insect AND an identification label NOT on the pin, but pinned or glued in way that the judges know what you are labeling.
 - a. COLLECTION LABELS - Insects must have a collection label on the pin and placed at the proper height on the pin. For a sheet of labels, you may use: <http://extension.entm.purdue.edu/401Book/pdf/SpecimenLabels.pdf>. Labels may be handwritten or typed.
 - i. Collection Labels should show as little white as possible. Try to keep your label smaller than your insect, if possible. You may use more or less lines than shown in the examples.

County, State
Specific location
Date
Collector

Bexar Co, TX.
Eisenhauer Park
X.20.2013 M. Keck

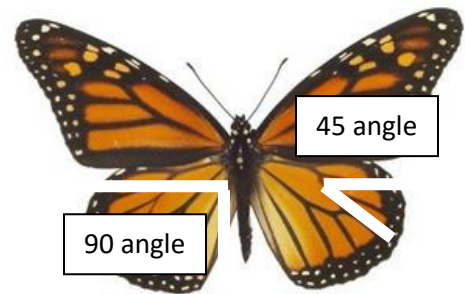
Roman numeral
is month. Use
this format.

- b. IDENTIFICATION LABELS – Order and Common Name labels (where applicable).
 - i. Order Labels –Group/arrange insect orders together. Use header labels to identify insects in the same order to keep your labels from cluttering under the insect.
 - ii. Common Name labels – place the common name label above your insects attached by a pin or glue. Use a font smaller than your order label. **ONLY GIVE COMMON NAME LABELS TO THOSE INSECTS YOU WANT JUDGED.** If you give a common name label to all insects, you risk more points being deducted. Only use common names from 4-H Contest guidelines
(<https://entomology.tamu.edu/extension/youth/4-h/4h-contest/>)

11. Insects must be mounted correctly and placed in an organized fashion in a collection box.

12. Spreading guidelines:

- a. The bottom of the forewings should be at a 90° angle from the body. Hindwings should be at a 45° angle from the forewing.
- b. **Insects required to be spread:**
 - Butterflies and moths (Lepidoptera)
 - Dragonflies and damselflies (Odonata)
- You can spread any insect you would like; you will not be penalized for spreading insects, but if spreading is not correct, you may be penalized.



13. Insects/Arthropods that should be preserved in vials and at least 70% alcohol. Vials should be able to be removed easily for viewing. **BE SURE VIALS ARE SECURED IN BOXES TO AVOID THEM ROLLING AND DESTROYING YOUR COLLECTION.** Your collection should be majority pinned insects.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| • Silverfish (Thysanura) | • Scorpion (Scorpiones) |
| • Springtails (Collembola) | • Sulfugids (Sulifugae) |
| • Scales & Mealybugs (Hemiptera) | • Caddisflies (Trichoptera) |
| • Fleas (Siphonaptera) | • Mayflies (Ephemeroptera) |
| • Thrips (Thysanoptera) | • Booklice (Psocoptera) |
| • Lice (Phthiraptera) | • Termites (Isoptera) |
| • White Flies (Hemiptera) | • Earwigs (Dermaptera) |
| • Spiders (Aranae) | • Aphids (Hemiptera) |
| • Ticks (Acarina) | • Bedbugs (Hemiptera) |
| • Small Earwigs (Dermaptera) | • Isopods (Isopoda) |

14. Specimens must be visible to the eye – do not submit slide mounted insects or any that cannot be IDed without using a microscope or hand lens.

15. Collection display boxes should open from the top (no picture frame type backs. Points will be deducted if the top cannot be removed from above. **Texas 4-H, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension and Judges are NOT responsible for collections damaged during transit.**
16. Provide a list of insects submitted in your collection with Order, common name, preservation method, and number of specimens included. An example insect list is on following page. Use this example as a guide. Seniors must type this list, intermediates and juniors may hand write.

EXAMPLE Insect List

Name _____

County _____

Level – Junior / Intermediate / Senior

Order	Common Name*	Preservation Method	Number of Specimens
Odonata	Green Darner Dragonfly	Pinned	1
Orthoptera	Field cricket	Pinned	2
	Differential grasshopper	Pinned	
Hemiptera		Pinned and pointed	7
Hemiptera	Giant water bug	Pinned	1
Hemiptera	Flower thrips	Alcohol	1
Hemiptera	Big eyed bug	Pointed	1
Coleoptera		Pinned & pointed	6
Hymenoptera	Velvet ant	Pinned	1
Hymenoptera		Pinned	4
Siphonaptera		Alcohol	1
Scorpiones	Scorpion	Alcohol	1

***Only include the common names of the insects you wish to be judged.** If you include more common names than is required for your common name, points will be deducted for not following instructions.

The insect list should be loose, not taped to the back of your collection so that judges can easily access it.

Collections will be judged on aesthetics, identification, mounting and labeling. Please review the score card for weight of judging.

Specific Level Requirements

Junior Level Requirements (ages 8-10)

15 specimens

Of those 15 insects:

- 8 different insect/arthropod orders
- 8 different insects identified to common name

All arthropods must be identified to proper order. There must be a total of at least 8 different insect orders and 8 arthropods identified to common name based on the Texas 4-H common names.

Arthropods must contain the proper labels. Insects must be pinned correctly and placed in an organized fashion in a collection box.

4-H Entomology Score Card – Junior Level

	Points Possible	Your Score
Total of at 15 insects	15	
8 Insect Orders	16	
Specimens IDed to proper order (-2 for each incorrect)	16	
8 specimens identified to common name correctly (-2 for each incorrect, missing)	16	
Pinning and Spreading Condition of insects All legs, antennae and other body parts intact Wings spread on appropriate insects and spread properly Pins in correct location on insects Insects uniform height on pins (see youtube video for guidelines) Legs positioned consistently Insects level on pins, pinned straight Not too many specimens in vials	15	
Labels Neat and accurate Uniform height Not twisted Not too large for the specimen Not too much white on the label	15	
Arrangement in Boxes Variety of insects No duplication of insects Grouping accurate, correct, and neat Spacing of insects neat, attractive Overall neatly arranged and attractive Proper spelling	15	
TOTAL SCORE	108	

Intermediate Level Requirements (ages 11-13)

34 specimens

Of those 34 insects:

- 13 different insect/arthropod orders
- 16 different insects identified to common name

All arthropods must be identified to proper order. There must be a total of at least 13 different insect orders and 16 arthropods identified to common name based on the Texas 4-H common names.

Arthropods must contain the proper labels. Insects must be pinned correctly and placed in an organized fashion in a collection box.

4-H Entomology Score Card – Intermediate Level

	Points Possible	Your Score
Total of at 34 insects	34	
Total of 13 orders	13	
Specimens IDed to proper order	13	
16 specimens identified to common name correctly	16	
Pinning and Spreading Condition of insects All legs, antennae and other body parts intact Wings spread on appropriate insects and spread properly Pins in correct location on insects Insects uniform height on pins (see youtube video for guidelines) Legs positioned consistently Insects level on pins, pinned straight Not too many specimens in vials	34	
Labels Neat and accurate Uniform height Not twisted Not too large for the specimen Not too much white on the label	17	
Arrangement in Boxes Variety of insects No duplication of insects Grouping accurate, correct, and neat Spacing of insects neat, attractive	15	
TOTAL SCORE	142	

Senior Level Requirements (ages 14-18)

60 specimens

Of those 60 insects:

- 18 different insect/arthropod orders
- 30 different insects identified to common name

All arthropods must be identified to proper order. There must be a total of at least 15 different insect orders and 30 arthropods identified to common name based on the Texas 4-H common names.

Arthropods must contain the proper labels. Insects must be pinned correctly and placed in an organized fashion in a collection box. Collection boxes must have a glass cover and dimensions 18x24, 16.5x19, 16x20, 14x21 or 19.5x16.5. Multiple boxes may be submitted, however, if multiple boxes are used, they must be the same dimension (you may not use two different sized boxes).

4-H Entomology Score Card – Senior Level

	Points Possible	Your Score
Total of at 60 insects	60	
Total of 18 Orders/Classes	18	
Specimens IDed to proper order	18	
30 specimens identified to common name correctly	30	
Pinning and Spreading Condition of insects All legs, antennae and other body parts intact Wings spread on appropriate insects and spread properly Pins in correct location on insects Insects uniform height on pins (see youtube video for guidelines) Legs positioned consistently Insects level on pins, pinned straight	30	
Labels Neat and accurate Uniform height Not twisted Not too large for the specimen Not too much white on the label	15	
Arrangement in Boxes Variety of insects No duplication of insects Grouping accurate, correct, and neat Spacing of insects neat, attractive	15	
TOTAL SCORE	186	

Collection Material Resources:

For supplies such as pins, pinning blocks, spreading boards, collection boxes, etc:

Carolina Biological Supply Co.

2700 York Rd.

Burlington, NC 27215-3398

PH: (800) 334-5551

<http://www.carolina.com>

Fischer Scientific

Fishersci.com

Home Science Tools

Homesciencetools.com

NASCO Science Catalog

901 Janesville Ave.

Ft. Atkinson, WI 53538-0901

PH: (800) 563-2446 FAX: (920) 563-8296

<http://www.enasco.com>

Ward's Natural Science Establishment, LLC

5100 West Henrietta Rd.

P.O. Box 92912

Rochester, NY 14692-9012

PH: (800) 962-2660 FAX: (585) 334-6174

<http://wardsci.com/>

For locations for purchasing collection boxes:

Hobby Lobby (shadow boxes)

Michael's Crafts (shadow boxes)

Office Depot (shipping boxes)

Carolina Biological

Wards Scientific