

## **GPC Rules for long gourds, field pumpkin, watermelon, and tomato**

### **Long Gourds**

- 1) The long gourd competition is strictly for length.
- 2) To obtain a measurement the long gourd must be on a horizontal flat surface that will support the entire length of the specimen.
- 3) Only a metal tape measure or a carefully calibrated sliding device may be used for the measurement.
- 4) No part of the stem will be considered in the total length.
- 5) The measurement must be the straight line horizontal distance from the end of the gourd near the base of the stem to the tip at the blossom end. No curvature of the gourd is to be used to increase the measurement.
- 6) All specimens must be sound, whole and firm.
- 7) The tip of the gourd must be firm and in good condition. Those with a tip that is rotten, shriveled or rubbery should be left at home. If such a specimen does appear at a GPC site, it may be listed as damaged (DMG).
- 8) Recognizing that the perfect long gourd is a rarity, very minor surface cracks, soft spots and other flaws may be permitted at the discretion of the GPC judges.
- 9) Gourds grown from previous years are not allowed. Any gourds entered must be grown during current growing season.

### **Field Pumpkins**

- 1) Field pumpkins are classified as having a hard, green stem.
- 2) Green (unripe) field pumpkins are allowed as official entries.
- 3) All rules in Article 2 apply, with the exception that a damaged spot may not exceed 2 inches in diameter for field pumpkins.

### **Watermelon**

- 1) No frozen specimens will be allowed.
- 2) All rules in Article 2 apply, with the exception that a damaged spot may not exceed 2 inches in diameter for watermelon.
- 3) Cracks or damage into the interior pink flesh will be classified as DMG.
- 4) Fruit may not leak, any liquid coming from fruit will be considered DMG

## **Tomatoes**

- 1) All tomatoes must be healthy; a healthy tomato must be free of significant soft spots or leakage.
- 2) Skin may be cracked but not leaking.
- 3) Tomato must be weighed on certified scales, calibrated to 2 decimal places in pounds or pounds and ounces.
- 4) Tomato weights must be reported in pounds and ounces to 2nd decimal place. (ie: 6 pounds 5.53 ounces)
- 5) Stem must be cut within .5 inches of the specimen.
- 6) Green fruit will be allowed as official entries.
- 7) Specimen must be weighed on a certified scale of appropriate sensitivity.
- 8) No frozen specimens will be allowed.
- 9) The entirety of the fruit flesh must be connected – pictures or video must show this.

## **Heavy Gourds (Bushel, Kettle, Pear) and other varieties:**

The GPC has created this competitive class for growers of this type of gourds, which are the heaviest type of gourds, with prize money and listing on BP.

It is a *Lagenaria siceraria*.

These Gourds are to be measured for weight, not for length.

The fruit is round shaped and green, yellow and/or brown in color.

Gourds must be sound, clean and free of cracks, splits, holes and rotten spots into the cavity. The stem must be removed within 2.5 cm (1 inch) of the fruit

