



News Release

For Immediate Release

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Festival announces Youth Plant Show Grand champion

PLANT CITY, Fla. (March 8, 2021) – The grand champion plant was chosen this week at the Florida Strawberry Festival’s Youth Plant Show in the Swindle Family Pavilion.

Grace Merrell won grand champion, and Carson Buttram won reserve grand champion.

The Youth Plant Show is sponsored by Choo Choo Lawn Equipment and offers youth in the community an opportunity to raise a plant, enter it into competition, and sell it at the Youth Plant Sale.

In addition to the grand champion and reserve grand champion, additional category winners are selected. Evan Scott exhibited the champion woody ornamentals; Owen Baylor exhibited the champion foliage plants; Carly Steward exhibited the champion hanging baskets; Caden Palmer won the champion liners; Alli Taylor exhibited the champion miscellaneous plants.

In the size categories, Logan Smith exhibited the size No. 1 champion; Ciera Diaz exhibited the size No. 3 champion, and Lexi Ford exhibited the size No. 7 champion plant.

Additional awards include awards of distinction which were given to Avery Palmer, Cooper Davis, and Payten Christie.

The Youth Plant Sale will be held Sunday, March 7 at 2 p.m. in the Patterson Companies Livestock Arena in the Grimes Family Agricultural Center.

About the Florida Strawberry Festival

The Florida Strawberry Festival is an 11-day community event celebrating the strawberry harvest of Eastern Hillsborough County. Each year, over 500,000 visitors enjoy the Festival’s headline entertainment, youth livestock shows, exhibits of commerce and, of course, its world-famous strawberry shortcake. The 2021 Florida Strawberry Festival, where “All Aboard!,” will be held March 4 through March 14 in Plant City, Fla. For more information, visit www.flstrawberryfestival.com, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter (#berryfest21).

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