



News Release

For Immediate Release

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Youth Plant Show Grand champion announced at 2026 event

PLANT CITY, Fla. (March 8, 2026) – The grand champion plant was chosen last week at the Florida Strawberry Festival’s Youth Plant Show in the Swindle Family Pavilion.

Mason Devane won grand champion, and Avery Palmer won reserve champion.

The Youth Plant Show is sponsored by Florida Coast 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 the Patterson Companies Livestock Arena.

In addition to the grand champion and reserve champion, additional category winners are selected. Korbin Goff exhibited the champion woody ornamentals; Paityn Davis exhibited the champion foliage plants; Brantley Newsome exhibited the champion hanging baskets; Abby Langford exhibited the champion miscellaneous plants; Lillie Mae Whitfield exhibited the champion native plants; Brynlynn Newsome exhibited the champion liner plants, and Macy Council exhibited the champion edible plants.

In the size categories, Reagan Marchese exhibited the size No.1 & No.2 champion; Fabiola Ventura exhibited the size No. 3 & No. 5. champion, and Brantley Newsome exhibited the size No. 7 champion plant and more.

Additional awards include awards of distinction which were given to Shelly Langford, Korbin Goff and Caden Shephard.

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, more than 650,000 visitors enjoy the Festival’s headline entertainment, youth livestock shows, exhibits of commerce and, of course, its world-famous strawberry shortcake. The 2027 Florida Strawberry Festival will be held March 4 through March 14 in Plant City, Fla. For more information, visit www.flstrawberryfestival.com, Facebook, Instagram, X, TikTok and YouTube (#berryfest27).

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