

FOOD PRESERVATION EVALUATION – Judging Sweet Spreads

Name _____ Product/Class _____

County/District _____ Ribbon: Purple Blue Red White Disqualified

JARS THAT ARE UNDERPROCESSED, UNSEALED, VISIBLY SPOILED, OR CONTAIN ALCOHOL WILL BE DISQUALIFIED

Points to Consider	Desirable	Undesirable	Comments
Food Safety: Processing Method Processing Date Altitude Adjustment	Water Bath Within last 12 months Processing adjusted for altitude Altitude listed	Not processed correctly More than 12 months No processing adjustment Altitude not listed	
Jars/Lids	Standard clear jar Standard 2- piece lid/ring Ring still on Clean/Neat Label on jar	“Commercial” jar “Commercial” lid Ring removed, rusty Dirty/distracting decor No label	
Headspace	¼ inch	Too much or too little	
Pack	Good balance of food pieces to gel No foam or bubbles No foreign matter Food not floating No paraffin wax	Food pieces too large Foam on top; bubbles within gel Skins, stems, leaves, etc. Food separates from gel Paraffin wax used	
Maturity	Fully ripe, fresh food	Underripe, overripe Mushy Green	
Gel	Holds shape but has slight movement, does not break No separation Food pieces evenly suspended Clear, clean Transparent, sparkling	Gummy, stiff, rubbery, overcooked Runny, watery around edges Food pieces float to top Sediment, crystals Cloudy	
Color	Uniform for food Natural, bright, clear	Surface darkening Overcooked Dull, cloudy, pale	
Recipe Source and Date	Reliable recipe source Must be on recipe Date recipe published listed	Unreliable recipe source Not on recipe Date not listed	
State Fair Rules violated: See # 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9			

Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service

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