

OFFICIAL RULES OF THE 2nd ANNUAL FLORIDA AZALEA FESTIVAL KATO'S SAUCE COMPETITION

- All entries must follow safe canning procedures (The only safe procedures for canning are boiling water bath for high acid foods and pressure canning for low acid foods.)
- All entries must list person or manufacturer of entry
- All entries must list name of entry
- All entrants will submit two (2) samples of each entry.
- Your product will be shipped along with entry form & entry fee to the designated collection site of the contest and must be received by the entry date to be considered eligible.

You may enter as many products as you like. For instance, you may enter the mild, medium, and hot versions of your sauce, but these count as three separate entries.

The Other category will be reserved for products that fit NO OTHER CATEGORY.

All products entered in the Competition will be judged "as is" and will not be mixed or served with any other products before tasting.

All food products entered must be canned or sealed in accordance with standard food and health safety procedures and protocols. The Florida Azalea Festival reserves the right to discard and disqualify any entries that are not properly canned or sealed, according to food and health safety procedures. Each product must be properly labeled with ingredients listed (first to last by amounts) along with the name of the product. All entries must be carefully packaged. The Florida Azalea Festival will not be held responsible for any damage incurred during shipping.

JUDGING CRITERIA

The judging panel will be made up of food industry professionals. There will be a number of judges randomly selected. All product sampling will be conducted under the strictest of standards using fair, impartial and blind judging methods.

The decision of the judges is final, may not be contested, and in no way reflects the opinions of the above organization. All entries will be judged on the following criteria: appearance, aroma, texture, flavor, heat, and overall impression. Products in the Packaging category will be judged on: design, creativity, visual impact, originality, and overall impression.

Each entry is judged in a blind tasting using a numbered cup to represent each entry. Judges are not allowed to see any indication of the brand, owner, or manufacturer of the product.

Announcing Winners:

Winners will be announced on Sunday, March 2, 2008 after judging. Winning products will not be revealed until this time. Upon the announcement of the winning products, the awards will be given to those who are present. For those who are not present, the awards will be shipped to them.

Disclaimer:

Organizers will not be held responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged entries and reserve the right to refuse any product that, in their judgment, may present a health hazard. In any of the categories that are judged visually, The Florida Azalea Festival has the right to decline any product it deems lewd or offensive. It also reserves the right not to list any winning product's name on the website or in the magazine or any other distribution that it deems lewd or offensive. All declared winners are final. No containers or leftover products will be returned. The contest rules have been established for the best interests of all concerned. In the event of necessity, any rule may be altered at the discretion of **The Florida Azalea Festival**. In any event, all interpretation of rules and final decisions will rest with the judges. The decisions of the judges are final, binding, and conclusive in all matters. By signing the entry form, you understand these rules and agree to abide by the decisions of the judges.