**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 16, 2014**

CONTACT*: Sarah Ray, public information officer*

*N.C. State Fair*

*919-839-4527*

**2014 N.C. State Fair Premium Book is online**

RALEIGH – Every year, thousands of North Carolinians show off their talents by competing at the N.C. State Fair.

State Fair competitions began with the intention of encouraging advances in agriculture, but gradually, more categories were added, leading to the variety of competitions available today. With contests ranging from baked goods and horticulture, to poultry and graphic design, there is sure to be something for everyone, including children. More than $600,000 will be awarded this year in prize money, along with plenty of ribbons.

Beginning this year, the N.C. State Fair Premium Book is available exclusively online. Like in previous years, there are two books, one for general entries and the other for livestock entries. The 2014 Premium Book, filled with the competition rules, regulations, deadlines, premiums and judging criteria, is available now at www.ncstatefair.org. People without Internet access should contact the entry department at 919-839-4521 for assistance.

Online registration begins Aug. 1. Entry forms may also be submitted starting on that date. Check the 2014 Premium Book for individual competition deadline dates.

For more information about State Fair competitions, visit www.ncstatefair.org.

-30-