

Contact Information:
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Provisional Horticulture Exhibiting Workshop
Wednesday, September 21, 2016

9:00-10:30 Lecture & demonstration & individual specimen preparation
10:30-10:45 Critique your plants

Outline:

1. Why do we exhibit plant material in a horticulture show? Plant shows are an excellent resource for members to see plants that grow well in their town. Emphasis is on well grown, well groomed, correctly named fresh plant material. With the botanical name in hand you can go to your local garden center and buy the same plant.

2a. What can I bring to exhibit? Where do I find the information?

GC Yearbook 2015-16

Pg. 14-23 monthly horticulture schedules

Pg. 27 Horticulture guidelines for exhibiting

Standard Flower Show Schedule

2b. How do I select plant material to exhibit?

*Advance planning (HB p. 73-81 + container plants HB p. 82-85) by providing your plants with regular watering, fertilization and pest and disease management.

Water your plants well the day before you plan to cut them.

*Collect your specimens early in the morning or late in the day.

*Look for mature plant stems that are straight, leaves without blemishes or wholes, foliage evenly spread over the stem and flowers 1/3 to 2/3 open along the stem.

*Cut each stem about 2" longer, at an angle and immediately plunge into water.

*Place the cut stems out of direct sunlight, out of extreme hot or cold, wind, and out of reach of pets.

Excluded from exhibiting :

NJ invasive plant list found at www.nj.gov

NJ protected endangered plant list www.state.nj.us

Any plant with an insect infestation or disease

3. What supplies do I need?

*Garden by-pass shears or floral clippers, a large stable water-filled container, paper towels, Q-tips.

*Bring your plant specimens to the GC meeting room where we will provide you with containers for cut plants, wedging material, entry cards, hooks and pens.

4. How do I prepare my cut specimens for exhibiting?

Conditioning (HB pgs. 100, 151-152 and *Conditioning and Grooming* book)

- *Enables specimens to absorb more water than they lose through transpiration.

Grooming

- *Goal – clean, neat and minimal imperfections

Cut stems/branches

- *Remove dirt and debris, webs, pollen and insect residue by rinsing stem under a slow stream of water or remove with a soft brush. Check undersides of leaves and space between leaf and stem.

- *Remove dead leaves, wilted petals or leaves and spent flowers

- *Advanced grooming – trimming leaves and teasing buds open

Container Grown Plants

- *soil surface clean, free of dead leaves, blooms and seed pods

- *unobtrusive staking permitted but it should not extend above the plant (HB p. 111)

- *container should be clean and in good proportion with the plant

Generally neutral colored containers are best-black, dk. brown, green, terracotta.

- *double potting is permitted

- *containers with covered with naturally grown moss covered containers are acceptable as long as they do not detract from the exhibit

- *decorative containers when used should be selected to “present the plant to the best appearance”

- *plants should be centered in the pot (exception: orchids)

- *check the schedule for the maximum container size permitted

Not Permitted:

- *wiring

- *leaf treatments

- *artificial coloring

- *support tubes or stalks (permitted with container grown plants only)

5. How do I correctly identify my plant? Why is it important to write the botanical name on the entry card? (HB p. 102)

Reference materials

- *Garden Club lending library

- *plant markers, plant catalogs

- *www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/plantfinder

- *ask for members to help ID a plant (before entry day if possible)

Completing the Entry Card (HB p. 95-96 A-C omit D)

Division	Section	Class	Entry #
“Hort”	-----	1,2,3...	Your individual entry number provided by Jackie Kling when your call to pre-register for the horticulture show

Genus species or Genus "Cultivar"
(common name)

Your name (tip-you may use an address label here)

Town

Montclair GC

Duplicate information on tear off portion on bottom of entry card.

6. Getting the exhibit there safely. (HB p. 101-102)

Specimen containers in your car will shift when your car is in motion.

Secure the specimens in boxes wedged with newspaper in place in your car.

Set up/Remove times

7. What do I do once I get to the Garden Club meeting room?

*When you arrive at the GC meeting room locate a spot at the entry prep tables and start selecting containers for your cut specimens.

*select a container in good proportion to your specimen

*position or pose the specimen in a water filled container with wedging material..
Green Styrofoam or clear bubble wrap.

*container grown plants should have a saucer

*attach the entry card to the lip of the container with a hook

Registration/Classification

*classification committee will verify the information on the entry tag

Placement

*after classification passes the specimen it becomes an exhibit and moves to the placement table

*only the committee members place the exhibits onto the show tables in order of class #

9. How are the exhibits judged in the Horticulture Show

Explanation of Horticulture Sections in the Horticulture Division: HB pgs. 104-119

Judging Scales of Points: HB pgs. 298-302

Different criteria are used by judges to evaluate flowering, foliage, container plants, vegetables and displays.

SFS ribbons

10. Critiquing your specimens

Recommended Reading:

Handbook for Flower Shows (2007) Chapters 5-7 can answer many basic questions about how to prepare your horticulture for exhibiting

Club Library is an excellent source for referencing and identifying plant species.

Garden Club Yearbook 2015-16 Pgs 13-25 and 27.

Perennials by Armatidge

Trees & Shrubs by Dirr
