

# OPEN HORTICULTURE SHOW

**ELIGIBILITY:** Open to amateur and professional gardeners who are residents of or work in St. Johns County.

**DIVISIONS:** The following divisions will compete independently of each other.

**YOUTH DIVISION:** 18, or younger, as of September 1, 2008

**ADULT DIVISION:** 19, or older, as of September 1, 2008

**Amateur**

**Professional** - Nursery operators, landscapers, landscape maintenance operators, horticulture instructors and consultants.

## **PLANT DELIVERY & REGISTRATION:**

A registration form is in the back of this booklet. Additional forms may be obtained from the Agricultural Center. All plants should be brought to the **ENTRY RECEIVING AREA** at the front of the center Fairground Exhibit Building on **Monday, November 17, 2008 between 10:00 A.M. and 7:00 P.M.** There you will submit your registration form, be given a registration number, and complete an exhibit tag for each plant being entered. After your plants have been accepted and properly tagged with your name and registration number and you have received receipt stubs for each plant entered, it is requested that you leave in order to avoid congestions. The receipt stub (bottom half of your registration) from your entry form must be presented at the time of exhibit recovery. Exhibits will not be released without this stub unless approved by the Horticulture Exhibition superintendent. It would be helpful if you would also bring your plant stubs. You may also drop off plants at the Agricultural Center, 3125 Agricultural Center Dr., St. Augustine from 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. on the 17th.

## **PLANT REMOVAL:**

Exhibits may be removed on Sunday, November 23, 2008 from 3:00 P.M. until 5:00 P.M., and Monday, November 24, 2008 from 10:00 A.M. until 12:00 P.M... Workers will be on hand to aid in pickup and give out premium monies. **Plants may not be removed at any other time unless prior arrangements have been made.** Any remaining plants and prize money will be donated to the St. Johns County Master Gardener program.

## **FORMS:**

All Exhibitors must obtain an Official Entry Form when they enter their plants. Mailing labels may be used for your name and address. **AN ENTRY FORM IS AT THE END OF THIS BOOK.** Additional Entry Forms and Rules are available at the St. Johns County Extension Office - call (904) 209-0430. **PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU HAVE YOUR ADDRESS AND AVAILABLE PHONE NUMBERS ON YOUR REGISTRATION FORM.**

Each plant that is entered is to be given a tag registering your name and your registration number. Mailing labels may be used for putting on these tags. **PLEASE CHECK THE TAGS ON YOUR PLANTS FOR YOUR NAME BEFORE LEAVING, AND BE SURE YOU GET A RECEIPT STUB FOR EACH ENTRY, ALONG WITH YOUR HALF OF THE REGISTRATION FORM.** Make sure your registration number and plant description is on each tag.

## **CARE:**

Plant care will be provided by the Horticulture Exhibition Volunteers for the duration of the Fair. All reasonable efforts will be provided to maintain adequate care and protection for the exhibits during the Fair. The Fair Association is **not** responsible for damage to exhibits due to unusual weather conditions or for unforeseen human factors.

**FEE:** There is no entry fee for Horticulture Exhibits.

## **ENTRIES LIMITATIONS:**

1. One (1) plant will be considered one (1) entry.
2. Each exhibitor will be limited to five (5) entries.
3. Each entry will compete in only one (1) Section, and must be of exhibition quality.
4. In any Section or Botanical Genus, exhibitors may enter more than one (1) variety/color, but not more than one (1) of the same variety or color.
5. **Adult Division** entries must have been grown by the exhibitor for at least six (6) months.
6. **Youth Division** entries must have been grown by the exhibitor for at least three (3) months.
7. **Bonsai Entries** of the same **Genus/Variety** must be a different Bonsai Style or Size Classification.  
**Adult Bonsai** entries must have been grown by the exhibitor for at least twelve (12) months. **Youth**

**Bonsai** entries must have been grown by the exhibitor for at least six (6) months.

**PLANT STANDARDS:**

Plants listed on the State of Florida Conservation List as rare or endangered will not be accepted unless acquired in a documented lawful manner. Plants listed on the Florida Division of Environmental Protection's Invasive Plant list will not be accepted.

The Horticulture Exhibition Superintendent or designated representative reserves the right to refuse entry to any exhibit which does not meet the high standards expected by the Fair Association. Final decisions in the **OPEN HORTICULTURE EXHIBITION** remain with the Horticulture Division Superintendent. Any plant found with pests will be disqualified even if it was accepted at registration.

**All plants must be clean, groomed and in appropriate, clean containers/pots.** Cans or broken containers will not be accepted. There is no limit to size of container; but, any plant in a container larger than 18" must be set in place by the owner with our help. The use of plant shine or other oils will disqualify the entry. Exhibits with evidence of insect or disease problems will not be accepted for entry. During the fair, the Horticulture Superintendent may remove any entry whose exhibition quality becomes unacceptable (i.e., disease or pest found after entry). Plant Societies and/or Commercial Growers may provide educational plant exhibits, with prior approval of the Horticulture Exhibit Superintendent; but, these will not be judged as part of the Horticulture Competition; but, may be eligible for a Superintendent's Award.

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**CLASSIFICATION:**

The Horticulture Classification Committee will be responsible for Section Classification and Identification of each entry where an entry has not been previously identified. In cases of disputes, the Horticulture Superintendent retains the final authority for classification and identification. The Horticulture Superintendent also reserves the right to move a plant into a different section if it is deemed to be in the plant's best interest.

**JUDGES:**

The judges will be approved by the Horticulture Exhibition Superintendent. The decisions of the judges are final with the exception that the Horticulture Exhibition Superintendent retains the right to approve or adjust the final scoring. **JUDGING** will take place Tuesday, November 18, from 9:00 A.M. until Noon. If possible, the ribbons will be placed before the opening of the Fair.

**JUDGING:**

Plant society criteria, which is more demanding, is not used in Fair judging. Each plant will be judged individually against a Standard of perfection represented by the following criteria:

**CRITERIA:**

**CULTURAL PERFECTION:** Form or Symmetry according to variety, health, and condition of foliage.

**ATTRACTIVENESS OF DISPLAY:** Pot condition, decoration, distinction.

**LENGTH OF TIME IN POT:** Plant should NOT be freshly repotted.

**SIZE RELATIONSHIP TO POT:** Pot size should be in scale to plant size.

**GROWTH DIFFICULTY:** Age versus condition, rarity.

**CONDITION:** Plant cleaned and groomed. Pot cleaned. Debris removed.

**AWARDS/PREMIUM MONEY:**

After being judged, the individual entries will receive either a 1st - Blue, 2nd - Red, 3rd - White or Honorable Mention - Yellow ribbon. The premium money will be determined as follows:

| <b>CATEGORY</b>          | <b>RIBBON</b> | <b>AMOUNT</b> |
|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| <b>First Place</b>       | <b>Blue</b>   | <b>\$3.00</b> |
| <b>Second Place</b>      | <b>Red</b>    | <b>\$2.00</b> |
| <b>Third Place</b>       | <b>White</b>  | <b>\$1.00</b> |
| <b>Honorable Mention</b> | <b>Yellow</b> |               |

**SPECIAL MERIT: Receives \$10.00 and a Rosette.**

A Special Merit Award is the best of 1st Place Winners in each section, if that section has any First Place Winners. If a section is unusually large or there are several outstanding plants in one section, then more than one Special Merit Award may be given in that section.

**BEST IN SHOW: Receives \$20.00 and a Rosette.**

A Best in Show Award is given to at least one plant within each of the three (3) participant divisions (Youth, Adult, Amateur, Adult Professional) if merited and is selected from the Special Merit Winners for each section where there is more than one (1) Special Merit Award given, there will also be a Best in Show given for that section if warranted. This will be done at the discretion of the judges and upon approval of the Superintendent.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S AWARD: Receives \$25.00 and a Rosette.**

A Superintendent's Award is given for a unique Horticulturally Related Display which is previously authorized for exhibit by the Horticulture Superintendent or, is considered a non-selling booth by the St. Johns County Fair Board.

*Cash awards will be presented when the plants are recovered at the end of the Fair.*

**ENTRY CLASSIFICATION: Applies for Adult and Youth Divisions.**

Any plant in a container entered 14" and over (i.e. is greater than 14 inches) will automatically be placed in the Patio Section (I) with the exception of hanging plants. The Horticulture Superintendent reserves the right to combine sections if necessary and/or move a plant to a different class for the benefit of judging the plant.

**SECTION A: BLOOMING / FRUITING PLANTS - Must** have flowers or fruit – grown specifically For blooms / fruit unless there is a specific section for the plant (i.e. cactus, violets, orchids).

**SECTION B: BROMELIADS AND ORCHIDS** - With or without flowers.

**SECTION C: CACTUS / SUCCULENTS / EUPHORBIAS** - With or without flowers.

**SECTION D: AFRICAN VIOLETS** - With or without flowers.

**SECTION E: FOLIAGE** - All plants grown for foliage, and plants without flowers or fruit, variegated, colored, and/or green, tropical landscape.

**SECTION F: SPECIAL DISPLAY** - Dish Gardens, wire framed, topiaries, terrariums and totems.

**SECTION G: BONSAI** - All sizes and styles, in pots, on trays or racks.

**SECTION H: HANGING PLANTS** - All hanging plants regardless of size, including wood mounts that are meant to hang.

**CLASS 1** - Blooming / Fruiting

**CLASS 2** - Non Blooming / Fruiting

**SECTION I: PATIO PLANTS** - All containers 14" or over that are not hanging.

**CLASS 1** - Blooming / Fruiting

**CLASS 2** - Non Blooming / Fruiting