

“A Logical Thought Process to Writing the Horticulture Schedule for Flower Shows”
Presented at the FFSJ Board meeting, 17 January 2007, Winter Park, FL
By Tina Tuttle

1. **Awards:** What NGC Top Horticulture Awards are available and will be presented at this flower show? Additional awards can be named locally.
 - Award of Merit #1**
 - Award of Merit #2**
 - Award of Merit #3**
 - Award of Merit #4**
 - Award of Merit #5**
 - Arboreal Award**
 - Collections and Displays Award #1**
 - Collections and Displays Award #2 (if this is a district or state show)
2. **Sections:** What Horticulture Sections will be written into this flower show?
 - Award of Merit #1---**Section A**
 - Award of Merit #2---**Section B**
 - Award of Merit #3---**Section C**
 - Award of Merit #4---**Section D**
 - Award of Merit #5---**Section E**
 - Arboreal Award---**Section F**
 - Collection and Display Award #1 (#2 for district/state shows)--**Section G**
3. **Life Cycles and Habits of Growth:** How will the Sections be determined? (In this case no Section for Biennials is being offered.)
 - Award of Merit #1—Section A: Cut Flowers from **Annuals**
 - Award of Merit #2—Section B: Cut Flowers from **Herbaceous Perennials**
 - Award of Merit #3—Section C: **Cut Flowers from Bulbs, Tubers, Rhizomes, Corms**
 - Award of Merit #4—Section D: **Cut Decorative Foliage**
 - Award of Merit #5—Section E: **Container-grown plants**
 - Arboreal Award—Section F: **Arboreal Trees and Shrubs** (Flowering, Foliage, Fruited/Berried/Coned), (woody perennials)
 - Collection and Display Award #1(#2 for district/state shows)—Section G: **Collection/Display of cut specimen and or Collection/Display of container-grown specimen**
4. **Classes:** For ease in Placement of the exhibits, the classes written in the Horticulture Schedule should run **consecutively** from 1 to whatever.
5. **Titles:** The entire **Horticulture Division** should be titled so that it follows the **overall theme** of the flower show. **Each Section** in the Horticulture Division should also be titled so that it follows the overall theme of the flower show.

6. The **Entry Tags**:

- a. **Triplicate forms** will be used—the pink copy stays with Entries and Classification so the number of entries can be determined for the evaluators—the yellow copy, once marked and signed by the judges, is removed by the clerk and given to Tabulations so sweepstakes and NGC Top Exhibitor Award contenders can be determined—the remaining white copy remains with the exhibit for the exhibitor's records. The triplicate forms are placed on a cardette holder in each exhibit container or design.
- b. Required information: The handbook only requires that an exhibit be named by **Genus and species**, cultivar if known (The cultivar name is required for Roses). Since the binomial should be underlined or written in italics, consider the entry form blank as the underlining. Common names are optional and should be in "double quotes". The family name is not required but may prove educational. The family name ends in -aceae.

7. **Horticulture Rules**:

- a. The first rule should state the **times, dates and place** where the exhibitor should bring exhibits and when to retrieve their exhibits.
- b. A rule stating that **reservations** are required for entering a Collection or Display should be included giving the name and phone number of the person taking reservations. In some cases reservations are required to enter a container-grown plant.
- c. Rules stating **requirements** for exhibits should be stated: wedging to use, bringing own bottles for cut specimens, length of specimens, time of possession, etc.
- d. Rules stating any flower show **prohibitions** should be stated: no double potting, no plant shine products, etc.

8. Whip up Enthusiasm:

- a. Encourage all members to **participate** by bringing entries, serving on the committee in some way or attending the flower show with family and friends.
- b. **Entries** do not have to be unusual or exotic. Plant specimens from your yard and foundation plantings are also capable of winning awards.
- c. Prior to the flower show, publish an article in your club newsletter reminding potential exhibitors to **prepare** plants by grooming, fertilizing, and identifying plants they may desire to enter.
- d. Prior to the flower show, each club should have a short **program** on "Preparing your Horticulture for the Flower Show".