

Guidelines for Winning a Horticulture Award

1. Review the Flower Show Schedule and see what categories of horticulture can be entered.
2. Decide which categories you want to enter.
3. Plan to cut the specimen on the morning of the flower show to ensure that the plant material is as fresh as possible. Select the most aesthetically pleasing specimen you can find. (If you are entering a house plant, be sure to groom it before entering it in the competition (clean the container; dust the plant if necessary; remove seed pods, wilted flowers, damaged foliage and broken stems. You may remove, but never add anything when grooming. You may not use wire, oil, plant shine or artificial coloring on your plants.) You may submit one entry per class. (You may submit more than one entry per class if the entry is a different species, variety, cultivar, type or color.)
4. Follow the requirements outlined in the Flower Show Schedule. If a specimen has a maximum height, don't exceed that height. If it requires a certain number of leaves, pick a specimen that includes that exact number of leaves. The judges consider the Flower Show Schedule to be the "Law of the Show" and will take off points if your specimen doesn't comply with the requirements.
5. Stage the specimen in a container that conforms to the Flower Show Schedule and is in proportion to the size of the specimen. Use clear plastic wrap to "wedge" the specimen in the container.
6. When you enter your specimen in the show, fill out the entry card completely. Include the binomial name (genus and species) and the common name of your specimen. You can "Google" the common name of your plant in advance. If you can't find it, the horticulture chairman can probably help you at the show.
7. Come back when the show opens at 1:00 p.m. to see which specimens have won awards!

SGC Flower Show – May 4, 2013