

**KU-RING-GAI  
HORTICULTURAL  
SOCIETY  
INC.**

**GUIDELINES FOR EXHIBITORS**



**2012**

## CONTENTS

|   | Page |
|---|------|
| <b>Acknowledgement and Introduction</b> | 3    |
| <b>Abbreviations and Definitions</b>    | 4    |
| <b>Judging</b>                          | 5    |
| <b>Exhibition Guide</b>                 | 6    |
| Flowers                                 |      |
| Camellia, Dahlia, Iris, Narcissus       | 6    |
| Daffodil and Garden Jonquil, Rose       | 13   |
| Staging Units (Flowers)                 | 16   |
| Vegetables, Fruits, Nuts, Herbs         | 18   |
| Staging Units (Fruit and Vegetables)    | 18   |
| Pot and Container Plants                | 20   |
| Decorative                              | 20   |
| <b>Prizes</b>                           | 20   |
| <b>Basic Bench Rules</b>                | 21   |

8. Make sure your exhibit is in the correct numbered class or it could be excluded from judging. If you have difficulty finding the appropriate class, seek help from a member of the Committee or a Judge. (see their labelled name tag). Also, should a member notice an irregularity prior to judging, they should bring this to the attention of a Committee member.
9. The exhibitor should have only one entry of the same plant variety in any one class within the sections of Small Crop, Cultural Open, Container Plant or Decorative. Extra entries in a class may be excluded from judging but can be staged for display or interest.
10. Make sure you have the consent of the owner to take home any fruit or vegetables exhibited and a donation to the Garden Table is expected. Some exhibits may be marked 'not for sale'.
11. Remove exhibits at the end of the meeting even if you don't want them yourself - this saves time in cleaning up.
12. Remember, if you use the preparation areas please leave them tidy and dry, and remove all rubbish.
13. Arrive early to allow time to mount your exhibit. **Please note that judging starts at 7.50pm.**

**In conclusion, your judges are not infallible but they do try to perform their duties conscientiously, both to the Society and to the exhibitors.**

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND INTRODUCTION

This small list of guidelines is an abridgement of the RHS of NSW Judging Standards and Guidelines published in year 2000. We greatly appreciate the usefulness of this publication and we recommend it to all our members.

We acknowledge the work of the Editor, John Mathews, and thank him for his personal approval of this Society's use of excerpts from the Standards. We also acknowledge the following Societies for the use of their information and illustrations published in the RHS Judging Standards:-

NSW Camelia Research Society Inc.  
Dahlia Society of NSW and ACT.  
Australian Daffodil Society Inc.  
Rose Society of NSW Inc.  
National Rose Society of Australia.

These guidelines are intended as an update of a previous handbook for our Society written by John Johnson and Rita King in 1992 and updated by Janet Bennett in 2002. The 2012 update was completed by Christine Rethers.

The Show Bench for the KHS meetings covers a varied selection of horticultural items so that the schedule for each month changes greatly from season to season. The KHS is not a plant speciality group and members change and differ in their gardening interests from year to year. Seasonal weather also affects the schedule selection by emphasizing some plant groups more than others. These guidelines therefore can never be complete, they are primarily for the encouragement of members to exhibit. The show bench is for enjoyment and interest in spite of the schedule, the weather or plant fashions.

## **ABBREVIATIONS AND DEFINITIONS**

- Berry:** A fleshy or succulent fruit, few or many seeded which does not open, e.g. tomato, grape and for horticultural purposes cotoneaster and crab apple fruit.
- Bloom:** A fine wavy whitish or bluish-white coating on stems, leaves and fruit or a loose term used incorrectly to mean one open flower. However, many 'blooms' in fact are composed of many open flowers, e.g. Dahlia.
- Cacti:** Plants belonging to the Family Cactaceae, e.g. Cereus, Epiphyllum, Mammillaria, Zygocactus etc. Although Cacti are, and can be shown as Succulents they are generally exhibited separately.
- Container:** Can be any shape or size suitable for the specified exhibit, e.g.
- Vase:** The height is greater than its width.
- Bowl:** Inside the diameter is greater than its depth.
- Pot:** Container, vessel, basket, any shape, any material.
- Dish, Plate, Tray, Cup:** A container on which a specified number of flowers, fruit, nuts etc are displayed.
- Cultivar:** A cultivated hybrid of a species e.g. Rosa 'Peace'
- Cut:** A portion of a plant with its laterals.
- Distinct:** Different. Separate varieties or cultivars must be staged.
- Flower:** Interchangeable with Bloom, but bloom is best used in its other sense.
- Herbs:** As horticultural exhibits these are plants possessing aromatic features
- Kind:** Refers to a particular genus of plants e.g. "one vase, 3 cuts, same kind" would mean 3 roses, 3 dahlias etc.
- Native:** A plant indigenous to Australia. For horticultural purposes hybrids, sports, cultivars of Australian plants are considered native.

## **BASIC BENCH RULES**

We want to encourage "Show Bench" participation, and with this in mind it is necessary to have a few rules in order to maintain a high standard.

1. Camellias should be displayed in the cups provided with two leaves. Fuchsias should also be in cups.
2. If a tray is indicated in the schedule, please use one provided by the Society.
3. Make sure your plant container is clean with no weeds and all dead or damaged leaves and flowers removed.  
Note: This rule is not intended to discourage members from showing wilting or faulty exhibits that they consider as special or interesting plants, as long as it is appreciated that this could exclude them from being awarded a prize.
4. The white card supplied by the Society should be used, and should include the number of the class as per the Schedule, the name of the exhibitor and the name of the plant if possible. Prepare the card at home to save time.
5. With the exception of the decorative class, all exhibits must be the property of, and grown by, the exhibitor for at least three months prior to exhibition. Bonsai must be owned for 6 months.
6. Container plants should not be exhibited more frequently than once every 3 months.
7. Plants should not be oiled waxed or artificially treated.

## **Pot and Container Plants**

These are defined as those plants grown in any type of vessel that is capable of providing a suitable structure for nurture and maintenance. All must be grown in soil; epiphytic plants such as Bromeliads, Orchids and some ferns may be entered growing on bark slabs or similar material

Container should not dominate the exhibit but should harmonise with its contents and be in proportionate size to the plant. It should be undamaged, must be clean and free of weeds.

## **Decorative**

This is a creative area where you can do your own thing. Exhibits do not have to be home grown and you can provide your own container and embellishments.

## **PRIZES**

Prizes are currently - 1st Prize: \$0.50, 2nd Prize: \$0.30.

Prizes are intended only to give members a sense of achievement, and pride. Prize money is totalled annually and usually distributed at the Annual General Meeting. The top 10 winners are named at this meeting and are subsequently listed in the Hortulanus.

- N.A.S.: Not according to schedule.  
N.N.D. Not necessarily distinct (different) i.e. not necessarily consisting of different cultivars  
Spike: An elongated inflorescence with flowers attached to the stalk  
Stalk: The portion of plant between the last set of leaves and the flower head, spike etc.  
Stem: Any portion of a garden plant below the topmost leaf or main leaves. It may be branched (laterals)  
Truss: A cluster of flowers or fruit from one stem, e.g. tomatoes, Rhododendron etc.  
Variety: A term used for show purposes to mean all varieties within a Kind, e.g'.Peace' and' Mr. Lincoln' are varieties of roses.

## **JUDGING**

The General qualities that judges look for are:-

- Form, condition and culture.
- Size and uniformity of size within the unit.
- Freshness, Colour, Foliage and/or Stems.

A judge may use a point system in assessing exhibits usually in the above order of importance.

Judges also keep in mind the natural character of the particular plant e.g. the size of flower in relation to the maximum potential of the variety.

A specimen in flower will be preferred to one which is not, also the rare or more difficult to grow variety shall be preferred – other things being equal.

Judges shall withhold any prize where they consider the exhibit unworthy of an award. However our friendly judges rarely will do this and may reduce an award to a second.

The judge may lift a vase or container for closer inspection but never to interfere with the exhibit.

The Chief Judge has a copy of the RHS. Standards and Guidelines which members can refer to, or members can buy their own copy. The standards of the RHS NSW are adhered to but if members wish to change the rules to suit local requirements, please alert a Committee member and an ideal compromise can be made to improve future schedules. We need members' ideas and any feedback, protest or otherwise will be considered.

### **EXHIBITION GUIDE**

#### **Flowers: KHS Cultural Open**

Cut flowers in this section of the schedule must be typical of their type and be well grown specimens of the variety, cultivar or species .

Petals to be firm, evenly spaced, unblemished, stems strong, foliage clean and unblemished. Uniformity within the unit is necessary.

The use of leaves with some kinds of flowers is not necessary unless the schedule requires the foliage. However, they do add to a more attractive presentation which will influence a judge and the viewers too.

The following pages should help members to assess their exhibit. They only cover the most popular exhibits ( in alphabetical order).

#### **Camellias:**

Single: One row of not more than 9 petals, with a clear central column of stamens with or without petaloids, e.g. 'Kamo-hon-ami', 'Spencer's Pink'.

|                                     |                       |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Melon (All types)                   | 1 with stalk          |
| Nuts                                | 10                    |
| Onions (Small)                      | 3                     |
| "    (Spring)                       | 5 with roots and tops |
| Parsnips                            | 3 roots with tops     |
| Peas                                | 10 pods               |
| Potatoes                            | 3 tubers              |
| Pumpkin                             | 1 with stalk          |
| Radish                              | 5 with tops           |
| Rhubarb                             | 3 stalks with tops    |
| Silver Beet                         | 3 stalks              |
| Spinach (with clean roots)          | 3 plants or bunch     |
| Squash (Large types)                | 1 with stalk          |
| "    (Button)                       | 3 with stalk          |
| Sweet Corn (with husks and tassel)  | 3 cobs                |
| Tomatoes (Large)                    | 3 with stalks         |
| "    (Egg Romana or Intermediate)   | 5 with stalks         |
| "    (Miniature, Tom Thumb, Cherry) | 10 with stalks        |
| Turnips and Swedes                  | 3 with tops           |
| Zucchini                            | 3 with stalks         |

#### **Herbs**

For horticultural purposes herbs are plants possessing aromatic features. Cut herbs to be shown in a container with water, all clearly marked if possible . A Unit is to be 5 plants which may be of one variety or five different varieties.

**Kitchen Garden Produce - Fruits, Nuts, Vegetables and herbs.**  
**KHS Small Crops.**

In our ever changing world with our ever changing eating habits the distinction between fruit and vegetable becomes harder to define. Judges in this section look for :- Condition, Freshness, Uniformity, Colour, Size and Bloom. A major criteria should be which is best to eat!

| <u>Vegetables</u>                | <u>Staging Unit</u>     |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Artichoke (Globe)                | 2                       |
| “ (Jerusalem)                    | 5                       |
| Beans (Dwarf, Climbing or Broad) | 10 pods                 |
| Beet (Silver)                    | 3 stalks                |
| Beetroot                         | 3 with tops             |
| Berries (All types)              | 10 with stalks          |
| Broccoli                         | 1 head                  |
| Brussel Sprouts                  | 5 sprouts               |
| Cabbage                          | 1 head with clean roots |
| Capsicum (Pepper)                | 3 with stalks           |
| “ (Hot/Chilli Pepper)            | 5 with stalks           |
| Carrots                          | 3 with tops             |
| “ (Baby types)                   | 1 bunch of 5 with tops  |
| Cauliflower                      | 1 head with clean roots |
| Celery                           | 1 stick                 |
| Chokoes                          | 3                       |
| Citrus                           | 3                       |
| “ (Cumquats)                     | 10                      |
| Cucumber(Small varieties)        | 3 with stem             |
| “ (Long varieties)               | 1 with stem             |
| Herbs (Same or different)        | 5 cuts in water         |
| Leek                             | 3                       |
| Lettuce                          | 1 head with clean roots |
| Marrow                           | 1 with stalk            |

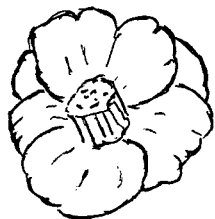
Semi- double: Two or more rows of petals, with a clear central column of stamens, with or without petaloids. Petals must not breach the ring of stamens, e.g. ‘Guilio Nuccio’, ‘The Czar’, ‘Wildfire’. Anemone Form: One or more flat rows of guard petals, unbroken, on which sits a distinct centre of petaloids, or mixed petaloids and stamens, but no petals, e.g. ‘Elegans Splendor’, ‘C.M.Wilson’, ‘Man Size’.

Peony Form: A flower in which there may or may not be an outer ring of guard petals, but in which the bulk of the flower consists of an admixture of petals, and perhaps petaloids and/or stamens, e.g. ‘Debbie’, ‘Debutante’, ‘Lady Loch’, ‘Tomorrow’.

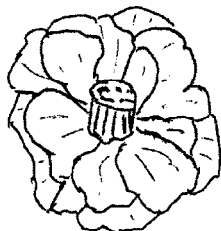
Rose Form Double. Multiple rows of imbricated petals, opening through a bud shape centre to show some stamens in a concave centre when fully opened, e.g. ‘Lady St.Clair’, ‘Roma Risorta’.

Formal Double: Numerous rows of regular, overlapping petals, fully imbricated or tiered, preferably with a bud centre, and not showing stamens, e.g. ‘Alba Plena’, ‘Fimbriata’, ‘Desire’.

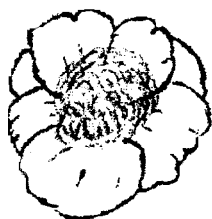
## CAMELLIA CLASSIFICATION FORMS



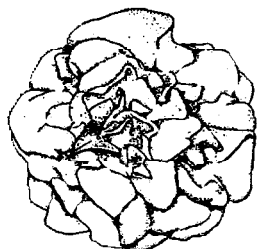
**SINGLE**



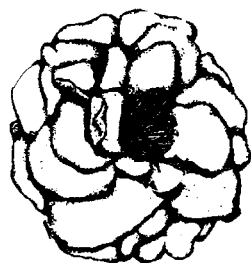
**SEMI-DOUBLE**



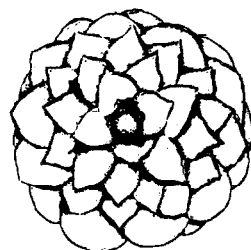
**ANEMONE FORM**



**PEONY FORM**



**ROSE FORM DOUBLE**



**FORMAL DOUBLE**

The Royal Horticultural Society of New South Wales Inc.

|                               |              |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| Lupin                         | 1 spike      |
| Marigold                      | 3 flowers    |
| Paeony                        | 1 cut        |
| Pansy (Stems not to be shown) | 5 flowers    |
| Poppy (All types)             | 5 flowers    |
| Ranunculus                    | 3 stems      |
| Rhododendron                  | 1 truss      |
| Rose (Exhibition)             | 1 flower     |
| Rose (Other types)            | see schedule |
| Stock                         | 1 spike      |
| Sweet Pea                     | 5 stalks     |
| Tulip                         | 3 stems      |
| Wallflower                    | 3 spikes     |

### Comments

The above list of staging units is given as a guide. Local conditions may warrant a variation from it. It is not possible to list every flower in cultivation.



### Miniature Roses

Miniature roses shall have small flowers together with proportionately small foliage. The stems must be thin and wiry. Flowers may be single or double, borne singly or in well balanced terminal clusters.

Note: 3 stems, irrespective of the number of flowers on each stem, same cultivar to a container, unless otherwise stated in the schedule.

### Staging Units

| <u>Flower</u>                       | <u>Number of Flowers per Vase</u> |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Anemone                             | 3 stalks                          |
| Antirrhinum (Snapdragon)            | 3 spikes                          |
| Aster                               | 3 cuts                            |
| Begonia (Tuberous)                  | 1 stalk                           |
| Calendula                           | 3 cuts                            |
| Camellia                            | 1 or 3                            |
| Carnation                           | 1 or see schedule                 |
| Daffodil (all types)                | 1 stalk                           |
| Dahlia (Decorative Large or Medium) | 1 stem (over 160 mm)              |
| “ (Decorative Small or Miniature)   | 3 stems (under 160 mm)            |
| “ (Cactus, Large or Medium)         | 1 stem (over 160 mm)              |
| “ (Cactus, Small or Miniature)      | 3 stems (under 160 mm)            |
| “ (Pompon)                          | 3 stems                           |
| “ (Other types)                     | 3 stems                           |
| Delphiniums (Tall Hybrid, Large)    | 1 spike                           |
| “ (Small types, Butterfly)          | 3 cuts                            |
| Gerbera                             | 3 cuts                            |
| Gladiolus                           | 1 spike                           |
| Hippeastrum                         | 1 stem                            |
| Hyacinth                            | 1 spike                           |
| Hydrangea                           | 1 head                            |
| Iris                                | 1 stem or 1 flower                |
| Lilium                              | 1 stem or 1 flower                |

### Dahlias

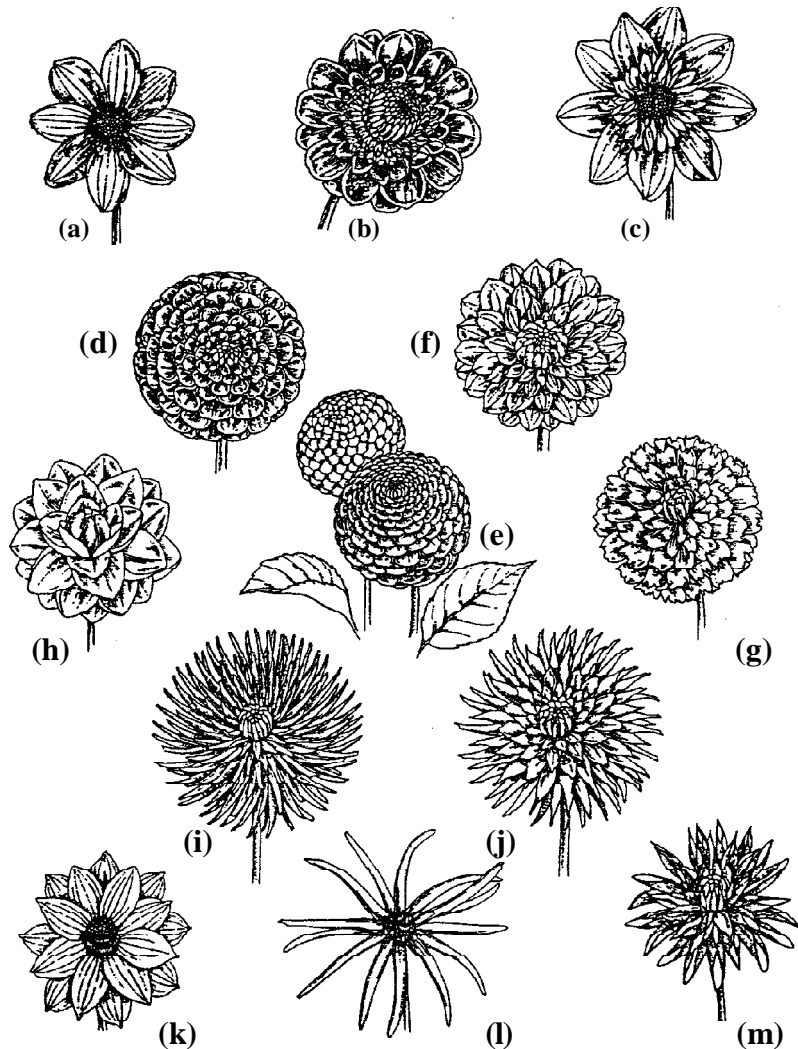
There are many types of Dahlias, we have only listed three - Formal Decorative, Cactus, and Pompon. Other types can be displayed under “Any Other Type”. All Dahlias under 160mm are to be staged 3 to a vase, and over 160 mm are to be staged one to a vase. A standard unit is one vase of 1 or 3 stems of one type or variety. All flowers should be staged without artificial support, at least 160mm clear of the vase, between the centre of the flower and the top of the container.

Formal Decorative Dahlia: Bloom should be fully double. The centre should be closed and should be as high as the surrounding face florets. Florets should radiate evenly from the centre without gaps, should be broad, smooth and being neither markedly involute nor revolute, gently recurving towards the stem. The tips of the florets should be preferably rounded. Depth of the bloom should be at least two thirds but not more than its diameter.

Cactus Dahlia: Bloom should be fully double. Centre should be cone-shaped and at least as high as the face florets. Florets should radiate evenly from the centre without uneven gaps between rows, with narrow and partly revolute immature florets to outer florets. Outer florets should have revolute edges that overlap from the tip for at least half and preferably two thirds of their length with tips pointed. Florets may be gently incurved or straight. Depth should be at least two thirds, but not more than its diameter. There should be sufficient florets to prevent gaps in formation and outline.

Pompon Dahlia: Bloom should be fully double, and spherical like a golf ball. Centre should be closed, fully developed and as high as the surrounding face florets. Florets should be uniform in size throughout the flower. All florets should be involute for the whole of their length, regularly arranged and the tips of the florets should appear to be rounded. Back florets of the bloom should reflex to the stem.

## DAHLIA - GARDEN FORMS



(a) Single (b) Anemone-centred (c) Collerette (d) Ball (e) Pompon  
 (f) Decorative (g) Decorative (fimbriated) (h) Waterlilly (i) Cactus  
 (j) Semi-cactus (k) Peony-flowered (l) Star (m) Orchid flowered

The Royal Horticultural Society of New South Wales Inc.

### Exhibition Type Flowers (Large Flowered)

The highest type of exhibition type flower is one which has good form, freshness, size, substance, brilliance, refinement and purity of colour, and which is, at the time of judging, at the stage of maximum possible beauty.

Note: Exhibition type flowers are to be shown singly. The presence of a bud or buds attached will disqualify. Wiring is permitted.

### Full Bloom Roses (Large Flowered)

Full bloom roses are judged in a similar manner to exhibition flowers according to form, freshness, size, brilliance, refinement and purity of colour. Form shall imply an abundance of petals of good substance symmetrically and gracefully arranged within a circular outline with a showing of stamens or centre.

Note: Full Bloom roses to be shown 3 stems to a vase.

### Decorative Roses (Large Flowered)

A decorative rose is one having well formed petals of good substance, naturally and gracefully arranged to produce a refined shape of more slender proportions than an exhibition bloom. At the time of judging flowers should be at the stage of maximum possible beauty.

Note: Any number of buds or flowers per stem is allowed. A unit is 3 stems to a vase, same cultivar.












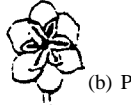
### Floribunda or Cluster Roses

The most desirable cluster flowered stem is one having the optimum number of fresh open and partly open flowers characteristic of the variety, gracefully arranged on the main stem. Freshness and brilliance of colour are important. Foliage should be clean and undamaged.

Note: One to six stems, same cultivar, minimum of 10 florets to a container. Up to 25 florets, same cultivar, unlimited stems per vase.

## A GUIDE TO DAFFODIL CLASSIFICATION

(Redrawn from Robert J McIlraith's "The Herald of Spring Daffodils")

|  |   |
|--|---|
|  <p><u>Division 1</u><br/><u>Trumpets</u></p> <p>Trumpet as long or longer than the perianth segments</p>   |  <p><u>Division 2</u><br/><u>Large Cups</u></p> <p>Cups more than one-third but less than equal</p>  |
|  <p><u>Division 3</u><br/><u>Small Cup</u></p> <p>Cup not more than one-third of the length of the perianth segments</p>  |  <p><u>Division 4</u><br/><u>Doubles</u></p> <p>No visible cup trumpet or corona, perianth usually twisted and interlocking</p>                |
|  <p><u>Division 5</u><br/><u>Triandrus Hybrids</u></p> <p>One or more small nodding flowers on stem. Corona usually bowl shaped, perianth reflexed</p>  |  <p><u>Division 6</u><br/><u>Cyclamineus Hybrids</u></p> <p>Small flower on short stem, straight sided trumpet or cup with reflexed petals</p> |
|  <p><u>Division 7</u><br/><u>Jonquilla Hybrids</u></p> <p>One or more flowers to a stem. Short cup and flat petals, rush like foliage, fragrant</p>   |  <p><u>Division 8</u><br/><u>Tazetta Hybrids</u></p> <p>Small bunched flowers on a stem, short cup, rounded flat petals, fragrant</p>          |
|  <p><u>Division 9</u><br/><u>Poeticus Hybrids</u></p> <p>One flower to a stem, very small flat cup, fragrant</p>  |  <p><u>Division 10</u><br/><u>Bulbocodium</u></p> <p>One flower to a stem perianth segments insignificant, anthers dorsifixed</p>            |
|  <p>(a) Collar Daffodils</p> <p><u>Division 11</u><br/><u>Split Corona</u></p> <p>Split corona for at least one-third its length</p>  <p>(b) Papillion Daffodils</p> | <p><u>Division 12</u><br/><u>Other Daffodil Cultivars</u></p> <p>Daffodils not falling into any of the foregoing divisions. Various flower forms.</p>   |

The Royal Horticultural Society of New South Wales Inc.

## Iris

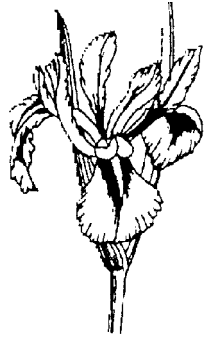
For horticultural show purposes there are three main groups of Iris; Bearded, Non bearded (including Louisiana, Spuria, Siberian and Japanese), and Bulbous (Xiphium Iris). We only list three of the most common.

Bearded Iris: Flowers should be well grown specimens of the particular variety with standards proportionate in size to the falls and carried upright on the stems. Flower should not be crowded and top flower open together with 2 or more well spaced flowers. Beards should preferably be long, wide and lush and of good colour.

Louisiana Iris: Form may be flat and flaring or gracefully drooping. Stems upright or flexuous, generally branched, up to 1.5m tall.

Japanese Iris: Form may be single with broad overlapping falls and tiny erect standards, or double with starchy flaring standards, which should be held horizontal or arched gracefully downwards. Cupping up at the edge to an excessive degree is not desirable.

## IRIS



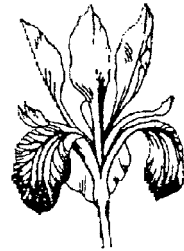
**LOUISIANA IRIS**



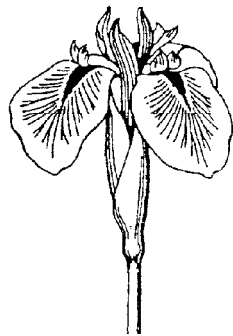
**BEARDED IRIS**



**SPURIA IRIS**



**SIBIRICA IRIS**



**JAPANESE IRIS**

The Royal Horticultural Society of New South Wales Inc.

## Narcissus – Daffodil and Garden Jonquil

The RHS NSW lists 13 divisions in the classification of daffodils. We only list five of the divisions of cultivars. Other cultivars or botanical species can be displayed under “Any Other Type”.

Trumpet Daffodil: One flower to a stem. Corona (trumpet) as long as, or longer than the perianth segments (petals). Flower should be at right angles to the stem.

Cupped Daffodil: One flower to a stem. Corona (cup) less than the length of the perianth segments (petals). Flower should be at right angles to the stem.

Jonquilla Daffodil: One to five (rarely 8) flowers to a stem; perianth segments spreading or reflexed; corona cup-shaped, or funnel-shaped or flared, usually wider than long.

Poeticus Daffodil: Usually one flower to a stem; perianth segments pure white; corona very short or disc-shaped, usually with a green or yellow centre and a red rim.

Bulbocodium Daffodil: Usually one flower to a stem; perianth segments insignificant compared with the dominant corona.