

SAMPLE JUDGING SHEETS

Department 11 Flower Show & Wildflowers Cut Flowers

WEN# _____ Division _____ Class _____

Judge's Initials _____

	POINTS POSSIBLE	SCORE
Preparation (clean, trimmed, correct number, variety named)	10	_____
Condition & Quality (free from pests, damage & disease on foliage & flowers)	10	_____
Uniformity (are all grouped exhibits alike in shape, size & color)	5	_____
Maturity, size, color	5	_____
TOTAL		_____ /30

COMMENTS _____

Department 11 Flower Show & Wildflowers Arrangements & Baskets

WEN# _____ Division _____ Class _____

Judge's Initials _____

	POINTS POSSIBLE	SCORE
Quality (overall quality of plants in exhibit)	10	_____
Design & Creativity	10	_____
Container (size/design appropriate)	5	_____
Color (blending of all colors in exhibit)	5	_____
TOTAL		_____ /30

COMMENTS _____

PERISHABLE EXHIBIT PICK UP

Because of the length of the Fair & the desire to keep the displays as fresh as possible, we have two different entry days for perishable exhibits.

Junior exhibits are entered before opening day and may be picked up on Wednesday, Adult Entry Day, during the Fair. Admission onto the grounds will be granted if the exhibitor has their entry receipt, or QR code on the ShoWorks Passport app on their smart phone, in hand at the gate. All others must pay admission.

Cut flower exhibits that are not picked up, either junior exhibits on Wednesday, or adult exhibits on Sunday, will be discarded. Containers & live plants may be picked up in the Office at Pick Up Day.

JUDGING AT THE FAIR

Judging at the Tanana Valley State Fair is accomplished through a network of volunteer judges chosen for their expertise in a particular area. It is through their generous donation of time & knowledge that we are able to showcase your achievements.

Judges are expected to follow these guidelines set down by the Fair Association:

- be fair & consistent in their judging;
- provide positive comments & constructive criticism to the exhibitor;
- follow the Fair Association's mission to educate participants through their evaluation.

We have tried to create a class for everything, but if you cannot find an appropriate class in which to enter an item, please contact the Department Superintendent or call the Office anytime between the hours of 9 am & 5 pm, Mon.-Fri., **452-3750** or email exhibits@tvsfa.org.

The Tanana Valley State Fair seeks to highlight and enhance appreciation for Interior Alaska by showcasing competitive & commercial exhibits. The Fair educates and entertains all participants by providing opportunities to share a rich variety of individual and community endeavors. The Fair encourages and welcomes involvement by all.

Tanana Valley State Fair Association
1800 College Rd, Fairbanks, AK 99709-4173
452-3750 www.tvsfa.org



FLOWER SHOW

DEPARTMENT 11

EXHIBITOR'S HANDBOOK

Welcome to the world of Competitive Exhibits! As an exhibitor at the fair, you are entering into a long standing tradition of education & competition that began in the Tanana Valley in 1924.

Your primary source of information about entering an exhibit is through the Exhibit Guide, available online or at the Fair Office. This handbook will provide you with some additional information as well as judging criteria and sample judging sheets.

ENTRY RULES

Sign up for **ONLINE ENTRIES** for the Tanana Valley State Fair at <https://www.tvsfa.org/>

- **Fill out the easy-to-follow entry forms** for all your entries, review the information, and follow the check-out instructions (no online payment needed). Print your receipt, and bring it with you on entry day – or download the ShoWorks Passport app from the Apple Store or on Google Play and check in from your mobile device, just like you can check in at the airport!
- **If you need assistance** with the entry process, or if you don't have a computer/printer, you can stop by the Events Office on the fairgrounds during open hours to receive help. We are looking forward to seeing your exhibits, and want to offer you every opportunity to enter them!
- **Pick your Best:** You may enter only one exhibit per class. Note any other entry restrictions listed in the Exhibit Guide.
- **Know your entry days** & pick-up days.
- **Prepare your entry:** Read the paragraph on preparation & presentation and present your exhibit in the best way possible.
- **Fill out an index card (available at entry desk) with the following:**
First & Last Name
Division and class
Variety of flower/s. Include all names if an arrangement or General Garden Display.

PREPARING YOUR ENTRY

Specimen selection is based on the flower's maturity, form and color, stem condition, and size. Be sure to follow the instructions in the Exhibitor's Guide for number of blooms, stem length, etc. required. Promising blooms should be given special attention for several days prior to entry time. No wiring, oiling, spray or artificial coloring is permitted.

Any evidence of spray, dust, insect damage, or faded petals &/or leaves should be carefully removed.

Cut specimens in late afternoon or early morning. Measure stem length, cutting several inches longer than required with a sharp knife. Make the cut on a slant so that the stem end cannot rest squarely on the container bottom. Woody stems should be peeled back and split or hammered for approximately an inch at the cut end to help with moisture uptake. Plant material that exudes a milky substance should be sealed by searing the end with a flame.

After cutting, immerse specimen as deeply as possible in a container of lukewarm water (110 degree F). Cut off dead blossoms from stalks or plants with a razor blade, cutting close to the stem so it won't be noticed. Place the container in a dark, cool room, letting the water cool to room temperature. This method is best for most flowers & is recommended by the National Garden Club's *Handbook for Flower Shows*.

Eliminate bacterial growth by washing the containers, changing water daily, removing submerged leaves and using chemicals designed for this purpose.

Use a small camel hair brush to clean off pollen or dust. A damp cloth may be used on broad leafed plants.

Wash insects off or lightly spray with pesticide the night before entry day. Make sure not to leave spots on the leaves.

Container-grown plants should be well groomed with no seed pods, wilted flowers, damaged or unclean foliage, broken stems or training props. The container should be clean and in scale with the size of the plant.

Transportation: Specimens can be transported in a container of water if care is given to protect the blooms from sunlight, heat & wind; or carry in a plastic bag or florist box with stems supported, and florist paper placed under each flower head.

Terrariums should have the lid fastened down with tape. Condensation will form, so remove the lid & allow enough time for the container to ventilate & dry before judging time.

SPECIFIC DIVISION INSTRUCTIONS

Divisions A through R are for Cut Flowers only.
Divisions S through U are for Growing Plants.

Aster: Remove all dead leaves below water line. Use a 1% sugar solution (1 tsp. per qt. water).

Calendula: Select half-open flowers for cutting. Remove most of the foliage. Cut stems and immediately place in water up to the flower head. Tie in bunch of a dozen while hardening for straight stems. Sprinkle flowers lightly with water while hardening.

Cosmos: Cut in late bud stage in early morning. Rub salt in end.

Dahlia: Cut when almost fully open. Immerse cut stems in boiling water for one minute, then plunge into cold water with charcoal. Spray flowers with ice water.

Forget-Me-Not: Remove all excess foliage. Harden for 10 hours in water up to the flowers, or dip in boiling water as for dahlias. Keep at least 1/2 of the stems under water.

Gladiolus: Keep flowers dry to avoid spotting. Cut when first floret is fully open. Harden in bunches to preserve straight tips.

Larkspur: Place stems in a solution of 1/2 tsp. alcohol per 2 qts. water for 1 hour.

Lily: Keep flowers dry. Cut in late bud or early flower stage. Remove the anthers. Harden at 42-45 degrees F.

Pansy: Pick freshly opened blooms and keep dry.

Poppy: Cut in the bud stage. Immerse stems in boiling water for 1 minute followed by cold water. Place a drop of gelatin or melt paraffin (not too hot) in the base of the flower.

Peony: Cut in the bud stage, with 3/4 inch of color showing. Harden at 33-35 degrees F.

Snapdragon: Keep flowers dry. Refrigeration is not necessary.

Sweet pea: Harden at 50 degrees F. Keep flowers dry. Place in shallow water.

Violet: Wrap well in wax paper & place on ice. Make a closed packet to preserve the fragrance.

Division O General Garden Display

Largest number & Best Collection: An arrangement in one large container. Includes specimens of all flowers in your garden. All varieties must be listed and attached to the exhibit tag. Judging will be based on the quality and condition of the flowers and the total number of varieties shown.

Best Bloom: A single flower so spectacular it has to be shared.

Division P Fresh Arrangements: Arrangements should be at least one & one half times the length of a tall container or the length plus the width of a shallow bowl. See Artistic Definitions under Judging Criteria.

Division Q Dried Arrangements include mounted specimens. Exhibit Books must contain 20 or more specimens, each mounted separately and labeled, with date & location found.

Division S Wildflowers: This Division is for fresh cut wildflowers.

Divisions S—U Potted plants: must be growing in a pot or planter.

JUDGING CRITERIA

All entries must be properly named & labeled.

Scoring Criteria for Cut Flowers :

Preparation: Clean & trimmed, no leaves in the water. Correct number for class, variety named correctly;

Condition & Quality: No pests, water spots, or dead flowers. Stems - Straight, proper thickness in relation to the flower. Leaves - good color, appropriate amount for the species. Flowers - healthy, vibrant vs. limp, bruised, damaged. Should be good, top quality produce.

Uniformity: All blooms the same size, shape & color; petals symmetrical.

Maturity, size, color: Enter the proper size for a fully mature bloom. Color should be bright, clear; typical harmonizing mark and shadings, correct for variety

Scoring Criteria for Arrangements, Collections & Containers

Quality: Overall quality of plants in exhibit.

Design & Creativity: The relation of light, line, form, space, pattern, size and texture of all components should be organized according to the principles of design. Creative use of a new concept, or unusual combination of material or space.

Container: The size of the container should relate properly to the size of arrangement.

Color: Blending of colors.