

Eureka Chapter Show Rules **and Classification Tables**

A. Definitions

1. **Truss:** A single rachis, i.e. flowers coming from one bud.
2. **Ball Truss:** Multiple buds emerging from a single stem. A Ball Truss is acceptable as a truss in alpine and dwarf groups.
3. **Spray:** Two or more stems emerging from a single stem. May consist of multiple ball trusses. Sprays, measured at their widest point, may not exceed 24 inches wide by 24 inches tall. Height is measured from the top of the bottle.
4. **Dwarf:**
Plants: Height not exceeding 3 feet in 10 years with leaves less than 2 inches long.
Trusses: Width not exceeding 2 inches measured at the widest point.

B. Exhibitors and Entries

1. Exhibits will be accepted from members or non-members of the American Rhododendron Society. Commercial and non-commercial exhibits will be accepted, but commercial exhibits will be displayed separately and are not eligible for awards.
2. Exhibits must have been in the exhibitor's garden for at least six months before the show and have been primarily cared for by the exhibitor.
3. Only one truss or spray of a single cultivar may be entered in a single group or sub-group by any one exhibitor.
4. The Show Committee will not be responsible for damage to or loss of any exhibit entered in the show.

5. The Show Committee may assign, reassign, classify, or disqualify exhibits in accordance with these rules. All decisions by the Show Committee are final.

6. All exhibits must be removed at the close of the show Sunday. Exhibitors wishing to reclaim their own trusses must do so on Sunday between 2:30 and 3:00 p.m. The Show Committee will not be responsible for exhibits unclaimed after 3:00 p.m.

7. Exhibitors having entries they are unable to identify are welcome to enter the show. The Show Committee will make every attempt to identify the exhibit; however, those that cannot be identified will be entered as “unnamed.” “Unnamed” entries will be classified by color by the Show Committee and are eligible for all awards.

C. Registration and Placement of Entries

1. Entries will be received Friday between 5 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. and Saturday from 7:30c a.m. until 9 a.m. No entries will be accepted after 9 a.m. Saturday.

2. Exhibitors are encouraged to bring their entries on Friday evening.

3. Exhibitors who need help identifying a particular truss or plant should bring those entries on Friday evening, since classification help may be limited on Saturday. Entry cards and help, as well as brief instructions on preparing entries for the show, will be available at the ARS Eureka Chapter meeting immediately preceding the show.

4. All entries must be accompanied by a completed entry card. The card must include the name and telephone number of the exhibitor. Pre-printed address labels or stamp pads may be used.

5. Entries should be put in the Chapter's bottles before they are placed in the judging areas. Exhibitors who use their own bottles must use green wine or champagne bottles without labels. Small and dwarf entries may be displayed in small green wine bottles or dark green beer bottles without labels. Miniatures may be displayed in the Chapter's vials.

6. All entries will be placed by show volunteers. Exhibitors may not place their own entries.

D. Judging

1. The show shall be judged Saturday commencing at 10 a.m.

2. Entries shall be judged in their group or class as set out in the attached schedule of classes and in accordance with the following criteria:

Points for Judging a Cut Truss

- Size according to variety, 25 points.
- Color, 20 points.
- Form, 20 points.
- Foliage, 15 points.
- Substance, 10 points.
- Condition, 10 points.

Truss Qualifications

a. Size according to variety: refers to the diameter of the individual corolla and number of florets per truss.

b. Color: The color should be true to the variety and a good representative of the group in which it is classified.

c. Form: The truss should be typical of its variety.

d. Foliage: All leaves should be well shaped, of good color and size and without mars or blemishes.

e. Substance: Refers to corolla only and means that it should be firm in quality for the variety.

f. Condition: All blooms should be as near peak condition as possible. Up to three unopened florets shall not count against the entry.

3. Each entry shall be judged against all other entries in its group or class. Judges may award ribbons for first, second, third and honorable mention at their discretion. Judges may decline to give awards if, in their opinion, the entries are sub-standard.

4. Any group in which five or more of a single hybrid variety are entered will be divided so that the single variety or varieties will be judged separately from the other entries of that group. This single variety will be eligible for ribbons and awards on the same basis as all other established groups.

5. In the event judges are tied or unable to agree, the show chair shall either cast a deciding vote or select another person to cast such a vote.

6. All decisions of the judges are final.

E. Awards and Trophies

1. First-place awards in each class shall receive a blue ribbon; second-place, a red ribbon; third-place, a white ribbon, and honorable mentions shall receive a buff ribbon. Ribbons and entry cards will be given to the exhibitor at the June meeting of the Eureka Chapter.

2. Trophies shall be awarded as designated on the trophy (truss, spray or plant). Only first-place winners in the appropriate categories shall be eligible for trophy awards. Trophies awarded to exhibitors who are not members of the ARS Eureka Chapter or who do not live in the Humboldt Bay area shall remain in the custody of the Eureka Chapter.

3. Trophies are perpetual and must be returned each March to the Eureka Chapter.

F. People's Choice Award

The winner of the People's Choice Award shall be determined by votes cast by visitors to the show. Ballots will be available during show. Visitors may cast a vote for their favorite entry by marking their ballot with the number shown on the entry tag. The entry amassing the most votes shall be awarded the *Jim Eggel Perpetual Award for the People's Choice Rhododendron*. Entries in Classes 7 (Fragrant Rhododendrons), 8 (Arrangements), and 9 (Photographs) are not eligible for the People's Choice Award.

Class 1: Species, trusses and sprays

(See the Class 1 Entry Key beginning on page 16 for specific species.)

Group A. Maddenii series, truss

Group B. Maddenii series, spray

Group C. Any other lepidote truss

Group D. Any other lepidote spray

Group E. Any elepidote truss

Group F. Any elepidote spray

Group G. Azalea, any deciduous species, truss or spray

Group H. Azalea, any evergreen species, truss or spray

Group I. Any Vireya, truss or spray

Class 2: Hybrids, trusses and sprays

(See the Class 2 Entry Key on page 18 for specific cultivar names.)

Group A. Maddenii series, one or both parents, truss

Group B. Maddenii series, one or both parents, spray

Group C. Any other lepidote parentage (excluding Vireya parentage), truss or spray.

Group D. Any azaleadendron, truss or spray

Group E. Any R. yakushmanum hybrid truss

Group F. R. williamsianum parentage, truss or spray

Group G. Loderi

G-L. Any Loderi other than King George, truss

G-LKG. Loderi King George, truss

G-LS. Any Loderi spray

Groups H through S. Any elepidote truss unclassifiable under

Groups E through I, color as specified:

H. Light/Medium Red

I. Deep Red

J. White

K. Light/Medium Pink

L. Dark pink

M. Yellow

N. Orange/Apricot

O. Lavender, lilac or blue

P. Purple

Q. Elepidote sprays

Q-1. Any red spray

Q-2. Any white spray except Loderis

Q-3. Any pink spray

Q-4. Any yellow, apricot or orange spray

Q-5. Any lavender, blue, lilac or purple spray

Q-6. Any bicolor spray

R. Bicolor truss

S. Any Vireya hybrid, truss or spray

Class 3: Rhododendron Plants, Species and Hybrid

(Including new hybrids)

Group A. Any lepidote species except Vireya

Group B. Any elepidote species

Group C. Any Vireya species

Group D. Any lepidote hybrid except Vireya

Group E. Any elepidote hybrid

Group F. Any Vireya hybrid

Group G. Azaleadendron

Group H. Any rhododendron exhibited for foliage only, medium to tall growing (3 feet in 10 years or with leaves 2 inches or more long)

Group I. Any rhododendron exhibited for foliage only, dwarf to low growing (under 3 feet in 10 years or with leaves 2 inches or less long)

Class 4: Azalea Plants, Species and Hybrid

(including new hybrids)

Group A. Any deciduous species

Group B. Any deciduous hybrid

Group C. Any evergreen species

Group D. Any evergreen hybrid

Class 5: Azalea Trusses and Sprays, Hybrid

Groups A through F. Any deciduous hybrid, according to color:

A. Red or flame

B. Yellow or apricot

C. Orange

D. Pink

E. White

F. Any other color

Groups G through L. Any evergreen hybrid, according to color:

G. Red

H. White

I. Pink

J. Variegated

K. Purple or mauve

L. Any other color or picotee

Class 6: New Hybrids — Trusses

Group A. Any rhododendron truss hybridized and grown by the exhibitor and never before entered in a District 5 show.

Group B. Any evergreen azalea truss hybridized and grown by the exhibitor and never before entered in a District 5 show.

Group C. Any deciduous azalea truss hybridized and grown by the exhibitor and never before entered in a District 5 show.

Group D. Any rhododendron or azalea, truss or spray, grown from seed obtained from the American Rhododendron Society Seed Exchange.

Group E. Any rhododendron raised by the exhibitor, although not the result of his or her own hybridizing, never before entered in a District 5 show.

Class 7: Fragrant Rhododendrons

Any rhododendron truss, species or hybrid, to be judged solely for fragrance. Entries in this class shall not be eligible for the People's Choice voting. Entry of a truss in this class shall not preclude entering another truss of the same cultivar by the same entrant in any other appropriate class.

Class 8: Arrangements

1. Arrangements must feature rhododendron and/or azalea flowers.

2. Some fresh plant material must be used in all designs.

3. Supportive plant materials are allowed but cannot dominate. Decorative wood, dried plant material (painted or treated) is allowed.

4. Accessories are permitted but must be subordinate. Plant material must dominate.

5. No artificial flowers, fruits, foliage or flags are permitted, nor is treated or painted fresh plant material allowed. Painted or treated dry material may be used unless otherwise stated.

6. Plant materials need not have been grown by the designer, but the design must be the work of the exhibitor.

7. Containers for the arrangement classes may be of any type. They are considered part of the entry and will be judged as such.

8. All classes open to anyone except the novice class.

9. Group A: Novice Class is open to novice arrangers. (Novice is anyone that has won not more than 1 blue ribbon in a floral show).

10. To ensure space for all arrangements, (we have 28 linear feet) entrants must pre-register with Margaret Cole (822-8353 or email mscole2002@suddenlink.net) by the end of the April Eureka Chapter meeting. Entrants are limited to a maximum of two (2), one per category, if space is available, otherwise only one (1). The Group designation and general size of arrangements(s) is needed in this pre-registration.

11. All arrangements must be in place by 9:00 am on Saturday of the show in their assigned place. No arrangements may be moved except by the entrant.

12. All decisions of the judges will be final.

13. Entries are to remain in place until 2:30 pm and must be removed by 3:00 pm Sunday the last day of the show.

14. Entries will be judged on the following five criteria: Physical condition of the floral elements, compatibility of elements with each other and container; proportion of elements to each other and container; conformity to class requirements; and overall appeal.

15. Arrangements are limited to 18 inch width unless otherwise noted in Class description.

Group A. Novice Class,

A. **Sunshine Delight** – general arrangement using yellows, oranges and or reds.

Group B. Open Class

B-1. **Oriental Spring**.

B-2. **Tom Thumb** – no larger than 6”x6”.

B-3. **Full House** – 5 rhododendrons total in a 3 and 2 combination (example 3 red and 2 yellow)

B-4. **Over The Top** – Size limit to 3ft tall x 3ft wide

Class 9: Photographs

Entries must be mounted or matted (no frames) prints, black & white or color. Multiple photographs that constitute one entry should be clearly marked as such.

Group A. Any single photograph that features rhododendrons and/or azaleas as the principle subject.

Group B. Any series or collection of photographs that feature rhododendrons and/or azaleas as the central theme.

Class 10: Educational Display

Any display or exhibit designed primarily to communicate information about the culture and care of rhododendrons and/or azaleas, their history or place in the landscape; or any exhibit designed to convey information about the American Rhododendron Society.

Completing the entry tag

Each entry must be accompanied by an entry tag. Provide as much information as you can.

The class can be determined from the Classification Rules or from the Entry Keys which follow. If the name of the plant is unknown, write “unknown hybrid” or “unknown species” on the

name line and determine the appropriate classification from the classification rules. Judges may identify the plant for you during the show.

Write the name of the plant in the appropriate space. Use the variety line for named forms of species.

If the entry is an unnamed hybrid, enter the cross on the name line if known.

Once you have completed the entry tag, fold it so the name of the exhibitor is not visible (use the cutout on the tag to secure the flap) and hang the tag on the bottle, then place the truss in the bottle.

Each entry tag must have the name and telephone number of the exhibitor. Pre-printed address labels or stamp pads may be used.

Selecting your entries

Selecting trusses for the annual show isn't difficult, but it does require a little time and some planning.

Start by walking through your garden a few days before the show. This will help you to get a general idea of the flowers you will enter. Make a list and note whether the entries will be trusses or sprays — or plants (yes, you can dig them up).

The show committee will appreciate receiving entries on Friday evening, but many people wait until Saturday morning to pick their entries. If you plan to enter a lot of trusses and sprays, it's a good idea to at least get started Friday.

Organize your containers before you pick the flowers. Once you've finalized your list, fill out your entry tags and have them ready. It will make things smoother when you get to the show with those entries.

Select trusses with straight stems and bloom at the top. Avoid those growing at odd angles. Select sprays that will display well in their containers; a little careful pruning can enhance the shape of the spray.

Avoid entries with bruises on the petals. Some rain damage may be inevitable, depending on weather the week before the show, but avoid such damage if you can. Choose trusses with one or two unopened buds. Those buds will open during the show, and judges often prefer one or two partially open buds.

Choose blooms with good foliage. A little pruning may help, but don't prune too much. At least one whorl is required for a truss. More foliage is necessary for sprays.

Cut stems as long as possible. Short stems will be out of water quickly and the flowers will wilt. Cut up the middle of the stem to expose more of it to water, or scrape the bark away to expose the cambium.

Groom the entries by wiping dust off the foliage. A paper towel dampened in water will do. You may need to remove a wilted floret or two, but be judicious about it. Sometimes, the brown flower bracts at the base of each floret need to be removed; other times, they can be left if they enhance the color and appearance of the truss.

Finally, don't crowd your trusses when transporting them to the show, as they can be bruised easily. It's better to make an extra trip to the car.