

**AN INTRODUCTION
TO EXHIBITING AND JUDGING HOSTA BLOOMS
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**Hosta Cultivar
Bloom / Inflorescence**

An inflorescence is the complete arrangement of flowers and flowering parts on a stem.

The scape with flowers will be exhibited in a vase provided by the Show Committee.

One leaf of the plant from which the bloom is cut may be shown, but is not judged, with the corresponding bloom, in water in a show vase, or laid on the table, adjacent to and behind the bloom exhibit.

Judging is of the entire display exhibited above the vase opening for its entire aesthetic attractiveness.

This includes:

- Flowers (unopened, opened and spent)
- bracts
- flower buds
- seedpods
- scape foliage and posture
- the stem itself.

Judging for Hosta Blooms is based on Cultural Perfection:

FLOWER

Color - The flower's color should be clear with no discoloration, bright and pure. Occasional splotches and patches of untypical color will sometimes occur in the petals due to weather vagaries or virus. In such cases, the entry will score no points for color. Judges must be especially cognizant of the color of the bloom typical of the cultivar.

Form - The exhibit of flowers and buds must be true to the cultivar, well spaced, and not crowded. The placement of buds on the stem should allow the flowers to open to their best advantage.

Floriferousness – Refers to the number of flowers typical of a given cultivar. A desirable scape will have enough buds to ensure blooms during the three or so weeks of its blooming period. Sparsely flowered scapes would score lower than those with a larger number of flowers.

Substance - Substance should be pleasing and sufficient to support good flower form, overall freshness, and resistance to environmental damage. Typical terms used to describe the flower substance are strong, firm, and crisp.

SCAPE

Typicality -All components on the scape should be typical of the cultivar. Scape length, bracts, flower buds, seedpods and/or inflorescence leaves should be considered in judging the scape.

Color - Color should be uniform and clear.

Position in Container - Scape should be placed in the container as it grows from the plant clump; i.e., straight, oblique (inclined or bending) or prostrate (near horizontal).

EXHIBIT CONDITION AND GROOMING

The scape that is displayed is judged in its entirety.

Specimen cleanliness is important.

Any flowers that appear on the specimen stalk must show no signs of aging either from natural processes or environment.

Bracts or scapes should be free from major holes, damage or other large flaws.

Spent blooms and pedicle (structure remaining after the flower has dropped) should be removed, leaving an inconspicuous scar and the bract.

Remove foreign objects: spider webs, dirt, along with fingerprints, spray, dust (being careful to leave the glaucous coating on the scape, if it exists) and spent blooms stuck to the scape.

Brown tips of bract should be removed (to a point, not squared, following the natural contour)

The total inflorescent beauty and perfection – the total aesthetics – should be the prime considerations.

Hosta Blooms Sections (Flower shape)

Section I

Funnel Shape

Section II

Bell Shape

Section III

Spider Shape

Section IV

Closed

Section V

Double or Hose-in-hose

Classes (Color)

Class 1 White or Whitish

Class 2 Purple (pink toned)

Class 3 Lavender (blue toned)

Class 4 Patterned

Class 5 Other

Hosta Inflorescence Point Scales

A) Cultural Perfection -- (80)

1) Flower (60)

Color 20

Form 20

Floriferousness 15

Substance & texture 5

2) Scape (including

Scape Foliation, Bracts) (20)

Typicality 10

Color 5

Position in container 5

B) Condition and Grooming (20)

TOTAL: 100 points

**It's the BLOOMIN'
Hosta SHOW!**

