

The Growers Choice Award

Presented by Tina Tuttle to the FFSJ, 16 January 2008

Information on this new **Horticulture Award** appears in the winter issue of *The National Gardener*. This change will be added to your *Handbook* probably on page 45.

The Growers Choice Award is for **Container-grown plants**: HB pp. 109-112

"Schedule requirements for all container-grown plants: In order to enter a container-grown plant in the Horticulture Division of a Standard Flower Show, the plant must have been in the exhibitor's possession at least 90 days, except for multiple and combination plantings. They must have been in the exhibitor's possession and growing together at least 6 weeks."

This is a **section award**.

Up to **three (3)** Growers Choice Awards may be offered and awarded, if merited, to eligible sections.

1. Flowering container-grown: HB p. 110 Flowering plants sub-classified by genus, type, cultivar, or container size.
2. Foliage container-grown: HB p. 110 Foliage plants sub-classified by genus, type, cultivar, leaf markings, (variegated, colored, foliage pattern), growth habit (erect, spreading, vining), or container size.
3. Combination plantings: (HB pp. 112-114), use specific point score sheet on HB p. 301.
 - a. Dish gardens: Change: no longer requires a shallow container. Now reads "Miniature landscape in an open container, may include one or more accessories".
 - b. Planters: Not a landscape, no accessories permitted.
 - c. Terrariums: Change: no longer required to be covered. Now reads "Miniature landscape in covered or uncovered transparent container, may include one or more accessories". Can have a class for covered and another for uncovered.

Sections can be subdivided into **sub-sections**: HB p. 26 "sub-sections, if necessary, (are identified) by capital letters and Arabic numbers: A-1, A-2, A-3, B-1, B-2, B-3, etc."

*Could hanging baskets of flowering or foliage plants be a sub-section?

*Could self-multiplying and/or multiple plantings, if permitted, be a sub-section? HB p. 112 states, "Schedule may separate such plants into a sub-section, allow in all sections or sub-sections, or disallow exhibiting self-multiple and /or multiple plantings.

*Could plants in decorative containers be a sub-section? HB p. 112 states "Plants in decorative containers: A sub-section of container-grown plants."

Classes must have some **common characteristic**. HB p. 27 "common characteristics: type, genus, cultivar, etc."

This award will be introduced and taught in FSS III.

This award will be a rosette of dark green ribbons.

Judging considerations for all container-grown plants found on HB pp. 110-112.