

## SHOW GUIDELINES

### GENERAL

- Although every effort will be made to guard against damage, please understand that all entries are made at the owner's risk.
- The Classification Committee will determine the appropriate class for each entry.
- Plants entered into competition must have been owned and grown by the exhibitor for at least six months. This rule does not apply to plants or parts of plants used in Artistic Arrangements.
- Exhibitors are limited to one entry per section of a given species, variety or cultivar. For example, an exhibitor cannot enter two individual specimens of blooming *Neoregelia carolinae* var. *tricolor*.
- Plants must be well groomed and free of insects and disease. Containers and plants must be clean and free of algae and other foreign matter. Entries in questionable condition will be removed.
- The natural appearance of bromeliads may not be artificially enhanced through the use of leaf shine, oil, milk or other substances. Scaly water deposits on the container and/or bromeliad may be removed with carbonated beverage, vinegar, etc., as long as the cleaning substance does not leave an enhancing residue.
- Plants must be properly labeled.
- No entries may be removed from the show area until after the close of the show.
- An entry sheet must be prepared by each exhibitor prior to arrival at the Garden.
- All entries will be placed by the Placement Committee, with the exception of entries in the Artistic Arrangement section, which will be arranged by the exhibitors themselves.
- Bromeliads which display significant blooming development or blooming color intensification must be classed in blooming sections, as determined by the Classification Committee.
- A non-decorative container/mounting is defined as material without embellishment of colors or design. Entries are to be judged for horticultural excellence of the plant(s). The container/mounting should be no larger than necessary to hold the plant(s) securely. Unobtrusive top-dressing may be used. If the container, mounting or top-dressing creates an advantage in judging, the entry will be classed as Artistic.
- Symmetry of a plant entry is very important to assure the maximum points in judging. Single plant entries should be centered in the container/mounting and multiples should have a pleasing symmetry.
- Commercial growers may enter plants for exhibit or general competition.

### RULES FOR ENTRY

Entries will be on the Thursday prior to the show, from 12:30 PM to 8:00 PM. Anyone who wishes to enter plants on Friday morning must first contact the entries chairman.

Entry sheets are available at our meetings or from the show chairman.

### **THE ENTRY SHEET IS TO BE FILLED OUT IN PENCIL ONLY!!! PLEASE OBSERVE THIS RULE.**

In order to make things easier for Classification and Entries, please complete the sheet before you arrive at the Garden, using correct spelling and nomenclature. Please PRINT the following information (in PENCIL only):

- Name
- Circle Idv (Individual) or Bus (Business)
- Address (BSSF is sufficient for members)
- Phone #
- Date of entry
- Genus – write out or use an obvious abbreviation
- Species, description etc.

If you do it all correctly, you will have earned the gratitude of everyone in Entries, Classification, Placement etc. etc. ☺

**Empty the water from the plants before leaving for the Garden.**

**Don't remove your plant tags until after classification.**

**PLEASE STAY WITH YOUR PLANTS UNTIL THEY GO THROUGH CLASSIFICATION.** Our Classification workers are VERY busy without having to hunt for plants!

## CATEGORIES

### NOVICE

This category is for exhibitors who have never won a blue ribbon in a standard bromeliad show. "Novice" should be written clearly on the entry sheet before handing to Classification. Entries in this category are not eligible for any awards other than individual ribbons and the Best Novice award.

### INDIVIDUAL SPECIMEN BROMELIADS

#### Blooming or Non-Blooming

In these categories, the judges assess the beauty of a single bromeliad, either blooming or non-blooming, at or near maturity. The plant may have pups too small to be removed. The bromeliads may be potted prior to the show in clean, non-decorative containers.

### MULTIPLES

A single pot containing two or more adult plants, with or without pups, all naturally interconnected. If one or more plants has an inflorescence, this entry will be in the blooming section.

### HORTICULTURAL DISPLAYS

Single specimen or two or more mature bromeliads, with or without pups, which may be started from plants that may be the same or different. Plants are either mounted epiphytically on non-decorative media such as cork, tree fern or non-decorative driftwood, or growing in non-decorative baskets or hanging from monofilament. Plants should have been allowed to grow and multiply in a natural fashion. Judicious pruning of old mature plant material and spent bracts is expected. This section will include most of the epiphytically grown clumps of tillandsia, stoloniferous neoregelias, aechmeas in baskets etc.

### ARTISTIC

#### Decorative Container

Well grown plant(s) with emphasis on harmony or contrast between plant(s) and the container. Can be different plants. Decorative containers may include seashells and some types of wood (painted, waxed or varnished), rock, ceramics or pottery. Plants may be mounted on, or placed in these containers immediately before entry in the show. Also included here are all decorative baskets, decorative dish gardens and decorative terrariums.

#### Artistic Arrangements

A floral design of bromeliads and/or bromeliad foliage, inflorescence, roots or stolons, used singly or in combination with other plant materials and/or man-made materials, and organized according to the principles of design to express beauty. Bromeliads must be emphasized. Artistic arrangements must be accompanied by an entry card with the title written on it, and a list of the bromeliads used in the arrangement. Eighteen-inch wide pedestals will be available for a limited number of entries.

### EXHIBIT ONLY

This is a non-competitive category. The entries in this category may be showy plants, which the grower doesn't want judged, or unusual, interesting plants that might not be quite show quality. No awards or ribbons are given.

### OTHER CATEGORIES

At the discretion of the Show Committee, other, non-standard categories may be available, such as Fruiting or Berried Bromeliads, Cut Inflorescence, etc.