

GOLDEN RULES FOR SUMMER SHOW SUCCESS

All entries must have been grown by yourself on your allotment, and should be mature and ready to be harvested.

The entry fee is 30p per class for adults and 10p per class for children.

Here is some general advice from our judge, on how to choose which veg or fruit you enter into the show and how to prepare and present them.

The way to show entries.

Make sure that you obey the rules laid down by the CNAA in the entry form.

Note the numbers per entry, and the right entry for that class.

Always read the rules for that year as things can change.

Most classes are self explanatory but in some cases a little more care is needed ie -- Sweet corn, onions and potatoes.

- In all groups of vegetables, aim for even-sized, uniform and symmetrical items. Small or overly large produce will lose points, unless that is what is asked for.
- Try to enter veg in the best possible condition and without any blemishes or signs of disease. The judge won't consider vegetables with signs of pest or disease if there are other entries without these signs.
- Clean your veg by carefully washing them, but don't use any form of cosmetic treatment - you'll lose points!
- Onions, shallots and garlic: Onions need to be started in the ground, as soon as the tops start to fold over carefully bend the rest of them over. After a few days

carefully ease the roots up with a fork, not too much and they will start to ripen naturally, after a week lift the roots and leave to dry naturally until the tops dry off. This way the onions will maintain their natural tan colour. Carefully peel the loose skin off and the result should be a nice tan. You should remove the roots, but don't cut them too close. Make sure they are lifted and dried in time so that you get a nice clean brown skin. You may fold the tops over and tie neatly with cord, twine or raffia; this is optional but does look better and is an advantage. Elastic bands are frowned upon by the judge.

- Beans: Should be as straight and uniform as possible. They shouldn't have obvious signs of seed, should snap cleanly and should have the little stalk still attached.
- Cabbage and lettuce: Cut the roots off neatly. Lettuces should have a good 'heart'. Cabbages should be firm and have a short length of stalk.
- Beetroot and carrots: Cut the tops cleanly 8cm above the top of the root. The best roots will have a single tap root at the bottom, with no extra roots coming from the sides.
- Tomatoes: Present fruits individually but leave the calyx (stalk) attached. Matched round tomatoes will always score higher than irregular shaped tomatoes such as beefsteak - sad but true!
- Cherry tomatoes: Enter a complete truss of at least 6 tomatoes, on the vine.
- Courgettes: Bigger isn't always better! Courgettes should be no longer than 8"/20cm.
- Sweetcorn: Peel the cob 1/3 of the way down to show the kernels. The Judge will do the rest. The corn should be of good colour and have nice and plump kernels (no dimples) as far up the cob as possible, in straight rows with no gaps. Kernels should exude a milky liquid when your fingernail is pushed into them.

- Potatoes: Make sure that they are in the right category and do not polish them.
- Raspberries and any other fruit: Enter 1 large fruit (melon) or 6 small fruit (strawberries, blackberries, etc), or 3 sticks of rhubarb. The soft fruit should have the little stalk left on, and rhubarb should be untrimmed at the bottom and trimmed to 1-2" of green at the top.
- Arrangements of vegetables, fruit and herbs: Display an attractive arrangement of whatever veg, fruit and herbs you think will look good together in a standard-sized seed tray. There should be 6 varieties per tray.
- Longest weed: Yes, we want children to dig up the longest weed, from leaf tip to root, that they can!
- Newcomers Class: This class, with its own special prize, is especially for those of you who are new to this vegetable growing lark – to qualify you must have taken over your plot since September 2016. Of course, you may also enter any other classes if you wish.
- Produce Categories: Bring along any produce you have made from your allotment grown fruit and veg. These are intended as fun classes, so you may enter as many times as you wish. The points won't count towards your overall total, but there will be special prizes awarded for each category. Please feel free to bring along things to make your entry more attractive or easier to taste, for example display it in a nice dish, or bring crackers for chutneys, scones for jam, etc. Produce categories will be judged by you, the members who come along to the show. We hope that everyone will sample all the entries and fill out a simple questionnaire allowing us to determine the winners.

Pictures of entries from previous shows are available on our website: www.stalbansallotments.co.uk

GOOD LUCK!

ENTRY FORM

CNAА SUMMER PRODUCE SHOW, 3rd SEPTEMBER 2017

Member's name:.....

Site & plot no:.....

No.	Name of category	No of veg or fruits required	Tick to enter
	VEGETABLES		
1	Beetroot (with top cut to 8cm)	3	
2	French bean	6	
3	Runner bean	6	
4	Cabbage	1	
5	Carrot (with top cut to 8cm)	3	
6	Cucumber	1	
7	Lettuce	1	
8	Onion	3	
9	Red onion	3	
10	Shallot	5	
11	Garlic	3 bulbs	
12	White potatoes	3	
13	Red potatoes	3	
14	Other potatoes (inc. white with red eyes)	3	
15	Large harvest marrow (size matters)	1	
16	Pumpkin/gourd/winter squash	1	
17	Group of squash (same variety)	3	
18	Decorative squash (may be different varieties)	3	
19	Courgettes (all round or all straight)	3	

20	Sweetcorn (peeled 1/3 of the way down)	1	
21	Tomatoes (with calyx but no stems)	6	
22	Truss of cherry tomatoes (at least six tomatoes on the vine)	1 truss	
23	Peppers (chilli or capsicum)	3	
24	Rhubarb	3	
25	Any other vegetable	Matching pair	
	BUSH AND TOP FRUIT		
26	Raspberries	6	
27	Any other fruit	1 large, 6 small, 3 tree fruit	
28	Bunch of flowers (in a vase)	1 bunch	
29	Arrangement of veg, fruit and herbs in a standard seed tray	6 varieties in a standard seed tray	
30	NEWCOMERS' CLASS: Arrangement of fruit, veg, flowers and herbs	6 varieties in a standard seed tray	
31	FUN CLASS: Rudest-looking vegetable!	1	
32	CHILDREN'S CLASS: Any vegetable, fruit or herb grown from seed	1	
33	CHILDREN'S CLASS: Vegetable face	1 (Made from one or any)	
34	CHILDREN'S CLASS: Vegetable animal	number of vegetables)	
35	CHILDREN'S CLASS: Longest weed!	1	

36	PRODUCE: Sweet produce (jam, cake, etc.)		
37	PRODUCE: Savoury produce (chutney, pickle, bread, etc.)		
38	PRODUCE: Liquid produce (wine, beer, cordial, etc.)		