

Division VII

Introduction

Division VII includes specialty themes not covered under previous show divisions. They may be offered at National convention or local shows with approval by the AHS Exhibitions Chair. Division VII may stand alone as an AHS accredited show i.e., First Look.

Division VII includes point scales, color classes, rules and awards for judging the division. This document contains standardized point scales and color classes for AHS accredited shows. Rules and awards for a Division VII theme will be determined by the individual show chair and included in the show schedule.

Show themes currently covered under Division VII include:

1. Seedling and Sport Competition
2. Hosta Cultivar Blooms
3. Other themed shows may be considered after review and approval by the AHS Exhibitions Chair.

Judging Seedlings and Sports

Point Scales

Distinction	60 points
Color and Pattern	10 points
Form and Texture	10 points
Substance	15 points
Grooming	5 points
Total	100 points

DISTINCTION

Distinction is the major attribute to be considered in judging Seedlings and Sports. Distinction is that quality of a hosta that makes it superior, easily recognizable, and unmistakably different from any other hosta cultivar. Distinction may come from any attribute or combination of attributes – form, size, color, pattern, substance, texture – already being judged or may come from other attributes displayed by the entry. Distinction implies difference, not necessarily beauty, but beauty may also contribute to the cultivar's distinction. In judging seedlings for distinction, the purpose is to encourage new introductions only if they are superior to cultivars already in commerce.

COLOR AND PATTERN -- Color should be pleasing and clear. Dingy, muddy, flat and dull color should be considered faults. Pattern is the marking of color variations - amounts, distribution, design and clarity must be considered. Combinations must be evaluated on the basis of the overall pattern harmony. Markings of pattern and contrasts should be clean and eye appealing.

Color would account for all the points when judging a solid color variety. Color and pattern should each determine one half of the points for variegated, streaked and misted varieties.

FORM AND TEXTURE -- Form is the overall shape of the leaf and petiole. When judging form, the judge should determine if the overall plant is graceful and attractive and if the leaf and petiole dimensions have a pleasing and harmonious relationship to each other. The hosta plant should be fully developed, not frail or immature.

Texture is the surface quality of a leaf such as ribbed, puckered, waffled, smooth and ruffled. Texture also includes the appearance of the surface – whether dull, flat or glossy, and the “bloom” present in the glaucous varieties. Texture should be pleasing and in harmony with the total overall appearance of the entry.

SUBSTANCE -- Substance should be pleasing and sufficient to support good plant form, overall freshness, and resistance to environmental damage. Typical terms used to describe the leaf substance are strong, firm, and crisp. Substance makes leaves last longer, hold their shape, and withstand adverse conditions. A judge should refrain from touching leaves to determine substance. Heat and oil of the hands hasten deterioration.

GROOMING -- Grooming faults include the presence of dirt, insects, or other foreign matter on leaves or petioles; presence of spray residue; and damage due to cleaning and transporting. In deducting points for faults under this section, the severity of any faults should be determined by the effect on the exhibit’s overall presentation.

Since each plant in this division is a unique entry, the judges are to evaluate each plant on the above point system. Please note the number of points awarded for distinction. Blue, Red, Yellow and White ribbons will be awarded to plants that merit award. Best of class will be awarded to eligible Blue Ribbon winners. The judges will then select Best Seedling and Best Sport.

CLASSES

SEEDLING		SPORT	
Class	Description	Class	Description
1	Green (all shades)	1	White Margin/Green Center
2	Blue (all shades)	2	Green Margin/White Center
3	Yellow (all shades)	3	Gold Margin/Green Center
4	Margined/Variiegated (all shades)	4	Green Margin/Gold Center
5	Medio-Variiegated (all shades)	5	Gold & White Stable Types
6	Splashed, streaked or other	6	Streaked & Other

AWARDING OF RIBBONS:

Competition ribbons are awarded based on the following point values:

<u>Ribbon</u>	<u>Color</u>	<u>Minimum # points to qualify</u>
First Place	Blue	90
Second Place	Red	85
Third Place	Yellow	80
Fourth Place	White	75
Best of Class*	Purple	95

* Only one may be awarded and must have attained 95 points and received a First Place ribbon to qualify.

Judging Hosta Inflorescence

Hosta inflorescence is the complete arrangement of flowers and flowering parts on a stem. Judging should be 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
- inflorescence leaves
- the stem itself.

Point Scales

A) Cultural Perfection -- (80)

1) Flower (60)	
Color	20
Form	20
Floriferousness	15
Substance & texture	5
2) Scape -- (20)	
Typicality	10
Color	5
Position in container	5

B) Condition and Grooming (20)

TOTAL: 100 points

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).

CONDITION AND GROOMING

The scape that is displayed is judged in its entirety. 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.

Specimen cleanliness is important. Points should be deducted for dirt, debris, insects or spider webs anywhere on the inflorescence.

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

Hosta Cultivar Inflorescence

Section I	Funnel Shape
Section II	Bell Shape
Section III	Spider Shape
Section IV	Closed
Section V	Double or Hose-in-Hose

Color Classification

Class 1	White or Whitish
Class 2	Purple
Class 3	Purple Striped
Class 4	Lavender
Class 5	Other

AWARDING OF RIBBONS:

Competition ribbons are awarded based on the following point values:

<u>Ribbon</u>	<u>Color</u>	<u>Minimum # points to qualify</u>
First Place	Blue	90
Second Place	Red	85
Third Place	Yellow	80
Fourth Place	White	75
Best of Class*	Green	95
Best of Section**	Purple	95

* Only one may be awarded and must have attained 95 points and received a First Place ribbon to qualify.

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