

H.F.H.S. ALLOTMENT COMPETITION 2019

RULES: This Allotment Competition is open to all members of affiliated Societies and consists of two Sections: 1 – Plots of less than 10 rods and 2 – Plots of 10 rods and over. 10 rods are equal to 250 sq m or 300 sq yds. Allotments will be assessed by official Judges of the Federation. The judging criteria, based on the recommendations listed in the RHS Show Handbook 2016, are shown below. On the mutually agreed date for judging, a representative **MUST** be present to welcome and escort the judges. **Plots that cannot be clearly identified will not be judged, therefore clear numbering is essential.**

AWARDS/PRIZES: Challenge Cups will be awarded annually to the winners of each section and presented at the Federation AGM in February. Cash Prizes will be awarded as follows: Section 1. 1st – £20, 2nd – £15 and 3rd – £10; Section 2: 1st –£30, 2nd – £20 and 3rd - £15. Diplomas will be awarded, from the combined results of both Sections as follows: top 7% - Diploma of Special Merit, next 15% - Diploma of Merit.

ENTRIES. Completed entry forms, with a £1 fee for each entry, must be sent to Caroline Ford (see form). Any questions telephone 01329 832107 or email cford@mvnet.co.uk

JUDGING CRITERIA.

	Maximum points
(1) Condition of the Plot. Plots should be well stocked with crops free from obvious signs of excessive damage by pests, disease or weather. Any unplanted areas where crops have just been harvested or that are about to be planted up should be clean and free from weeds and the soil should be of a good, well cultivated condition and texture.	60
(2) Good Workmanship. Soil between the crops should contain little or no evidence of weeds. Paths and leisure areas where included should be neatly edged, even and well maintained. Evidence of planting for a constant succession of crops should be given credit. Intelligent use of organic methods of pest control such as the pinching out of broad bean tips to inhibit blackfly or the use of barriers against carrot root fly should be given credit. Supports for those plants that require them should be properly positioned and sturdy enough to withstand bad weather.	50
(3) Quality of Crops, Flowers, Fruit, Vegetables and Plants. All plants should be vigorous, sturdy and free from obvious signs of excessive damage by pests, disease or weather. A broad range of food crops, both vegetables and fruit where the latter is permitted, should be in cultivation and flowers grown for cutting or decoration should be assessed on the same basis as the food crops, i.e. with regard to their health, skill of cultivation and suitability to the site. The inclusion of culinary herbs in the cropping scheme should be considered meritorious.	150
(4) Originality of Layout and Planting. The intelligent adaption of the layout to suit the needs of the plot-holder, the use of companion planting to reduce damage by pests and a pleasing overall visual effect should be considered meritorious. The cultivation of less common crops and the use of no-dig or deep-bed methods of cultivation should be given credit.	25
(5) Ingenuity in Overcoming Local Problems. Plot-holders who have overcome difficulties such as oddly shaped sites, difficult soil conditions, exposed aspect or excessive shading and dehydration by an adjacent tree belt should be given credit for raising an acceptable (i.e. useable) standard of crop.	25
(6) Visual Aspect of the Plot. The overall appearance of the plot should be neat and pleasing and the balance of the cultivation, as far as is allowed by local regulations, should be as broad as possible.	20
(7) Condition of Structures. Sheds, if present, should be of a neat and workmanlike appearance both inside and out. Frames, cloches and greenhouses should be clean and well maintained. Pea and bean supports should be sturdy enough for the weight of the crops that they bear and any bird netting should be properly positioned and undamaged so as to afford protection to the crops over which they have been placed.	20
Maximum Total Points	350



ALLOTMENT COMPETITION ENTRY FORM 2019

All competitors wishing to enter this competition must complete and return this form to: Caroline Ford, Windmill House, St John's Lane, Shedfield, Hants SO32 2TA OR cford@mvnet.co.uk by **20th May 2019.**

Please note: It is intended that the judging of all plots will take place early July.

I wish to enter the Allotment Competition (please print in capital letters)

Title: Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss Initials..... Surname.....

Address.....

Tel.No..... Email.....

Name of Society/Association.....

Name of Allotment Site..... Plot No.....

Actual Size of Plot in Rods..... (1 rod = 25 sq metres or 30 sq yards)

Access from Street / Road.....

I enclose entry fee of £1.00*/BACS* to HFHS Sort Code: 20-97-01 Account No: 10357316

* delete as appropriate

Signature..... Date.....

The judges will be met by:

Name.....

Address.....

..... Tel. No.....

Are there any known restrictions or difficulties associated with the site? If so, please state overleaf.