

Cromar and District Horticultural and Industrial Society 2024 Amateur Gardens Competition



Sunday 21st July 2024

- Deadline to submit entries to the Show Secretary for the Amateur Gardening Competition.

Thursday 25th July 2024

- Amateur Gardening Competition judging

For details of the Society's Horticultural Section Rules, please refer to page 11 of the 2024 schedule. All relevant rules will apply.

Amateur Gardening Competition - Judging Criteria

Ornamental Gardens or Elements

Maintenance is of course important, but your flower garden, perennial border or patio is not judged primarily on how well weeded it is. The layout and design is important. The judge will consider whether the design is sympathetic to its surroundings and fit for purpose. Are there seating areas where the garden can be enjoyed in summer, or borders that can be easily viewed from the house in winter? If there is hard landscaping, does the choice of materials compliment the planting, and add to the general aesthetic appeal? A colourful garden is appealing, but the garden judge will also look for planting that provides harmony, a long season of colour, form and interest, and for plants that are healthy and suited to their planting location. Patios should have appropriate furniture, with a good selection of plants for scent and colour; containers and hanging baskets should be well fed and watered. Bedding displays are usually a traditional display of annuals.

Cottage Garden

A cottage garden is both ornamental and productive, so the judge will look for the attributes mentioned in the two preceding paragraphs. The cottage garden is usually a looser style of planting with perennials, annual flowers, vegetables and fruit often intermingled.

Small Garden

This new award recognizes that gardens may be more compact but still have a huge amount of design, impact and appeal. Typical gardens for this award should be approx. 100m² or smaller.

Productive Elements

Including raised beds

In productive areas, design is less important. The judge will look for a wide range of vegetables and fruit and a long productive season. Do you have cloches to protect early or late crops of lettuce and herbs; are there vegetables that crop during winter such as parsnips, winter cabbages or brussel sprouts and do you grow fruit that can be bottled or preserved? Maintenance is a little more important in these categories: weed-free plots, plants that are adequately supported, and well pruned fruit trees and shrubs will give greater yields and impress the judge.

Wildlife Element and Wildflower Area

For wildlife, diversity of habitat is important and this part of your garden should provide shelter for a wide range of birds, mammals and insects. A good range of food sources is also important; early and late flowering plants provide nectar for insects, decomposing woody material provides food and habitat for invertebrates, and food and water put out for birds will help to ensure their survival over the winter. A wildflower area is not simply judged on its size – it may be a meadow in a large garden, but a small, otherwise unused, piece of marginal land might offer an area of beauty and be of vital importance to insects.

‘Highly Commended Award’

The judges recognize that, at times, a garden may be exceptional but not fit clearly into the judging criteria for specific types of gardens and displays. The judges reserve the right to award a special ‘Highly Commended’ certificate and award for gardens which demonstrate a high standard of original design and quality planting. This award will not necessarily be awarded each year.

CROMAR AND DISTRICT AMATEUR GARDENING COMPETITION 2024

Within a 12-mile radius of Tarland. All entries must be received by Sunday 21st July 2024; gardens will be judged on Thursday 25th July 2024. Entry form below.

A garden may be entered once in classes 218 – 221. Previous winners of Bruce Shield may not enter class 218. Garden Elements are restricted to one entry per class, unless otherwise stated.

Gardens - Prizes: 1st £10.00; 2nd £7.50; 3rd £5.00

- 218.HAVE-A-GO garden – any style; previous winners of Bruce Shield may not enter
- 219.Cottage garden
- 220.Flower garden
- 221.A small or courtyard garden (max size 100m²)

Garden Elements - Prizes: 1st £5.00; 2nd £3.00; 3rd £2.00

- 224.Ornamental perennial border
- 225.Wildlife area
- 226.Patio
- 227.Bedding or annual display
- 228.Productive plot (Exhibitors may enter class 228 or 229)
- 229.A productive raised bed (Exhibitors may enter 228 or 229)
- 230.A wildflower area

Trophies and Awards

Hopewell Challenge Cup for Winner of Amateur Cottage Garden Competition, Class 219
Wine Casket for Runner-up in Amateur Cottage Garden Competition, Class 219
Lawrie Challenge Cup for Winner of Amateur Flower Garden Competition, Class 220
Greer McRoberts Cup for Runner-up of Amateur Flower Garden Competition, Class 220
Smith Shield for Winner of Small or Courtyard Garden, Class 221
Bruce Shield for Winner of Have-A-Go Garden Competition, Class 218
Society's Shield for Runner-up of Have-a-Go Garden Competition, Class 218
Highly Commended Award (at the discretion of the judges)

**Cromar and District Horticultural and Industrial Society
Amateur Gardening Competition Entry Form**

**12-mile radius of Tarland. All entries must be received by
Sunday 21st July 2024.**

Gardens will be judged on Thursday 25th July 2024.

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION £5.00 (18 years and under free)



Please send entries to the Show Secretary at Longfold Steading, Tarland, AB34 4UR (07741 248921) or email showsecretary@moss.co.uk. All garden classes must be entered on the form overleaf. The Show Secretary will contact you prior to judging.

Have you previously been a member? YES / NO

If YES, have any of your details changed? YES / NO

PLEASE NOTE:

Your membership data is held by Cromar and District Horticultural and Industrial Society. It is used by the Society in order to manage the Flower Show, distribute schedules and for occasional contact by mail or email and will not be disclosed to any outside parties.

Name..... Address

.....

..... Postcode

Telephone

Email

A garden may be entered once in classes 218 – 221. Previous winners of Bruce Shield may not enter class 218. Garden Elements are restricted to one entry per class, unless otherwise stated. Please tick the classes you wish to enter.

Gardens		
Class 218	Have-a-go Garden – any style	
Class 219	Cottage Garden	
Class 220	Flower Garden	
Class 221	Small Garden (100m2 max)	
Garden Elements		
Class 224	Ornamental perennial border	
Class 225	Wildlife area	
Class 226	Patio	
Class 227	Bedding / annual display	
Class 228 OR	A productive plot OR	
Class 229	A productive raised bed	
Class 230	A wildflower area	

