

HINTS FOR EXHIBITORS

GENERAL

- 1 Read the schedule and rules carefully: if in doubt consult the Steward or Show Manager.
- 2 Specimens in an Exhibit should be clean, free from blemishes or pest damage and be uniform, i.e. matched for size, shape and colour.
- 3 Remember Judges look for **quality**: so size is a meritorious characteristic **ONLY** if accompanied by **quality**.
- 4 Take a few extra specimens to the Show in case of an 'accident' with your 'first choice' ones, but after staging check number of specimens in your exhibit to make sure it complies with Schedule.
- 5 An Exhibit is always improved if it is neatly labelled with the cultivar name.
- 6 **KINDS** – Carrots/peas/potatoes are different **kinds** of vegetables.
VARIETIES – Vanessa/Epicure are different **varieties** of potato
– otherwise known as **CULTIVARS**.

POT PLANTS

- 1 Make sure pots are clean and of the required size.
- 2 Remember a Pot Plant is judged on the quality of its foliage as well as its flowers.
- 3 If stakes are needed to show the plant to its best advantage they should be neat and unobtrusive.

FRUIT

- 1 Should not be over ripe or under ripe.
- 2 Should have stalks and 'bloom' intact (i.e.: don't polish them!)

FLOWERS

- 1 Should be at their peak of flowering, with any damaged petals or leaves removed.
- 2 Don't cut Flowers during the heat of the day. Cut stems as long as possible and plunge them up to their necks in water overnight.

VEGETABLES

- 1 Clean root vegetables by washing with a soft sponge in plenty of water – taking care not to damage the skin. Where appropriate, leave approx. 3" of leaf stalks attached.
- 2 Avoid over skinning onions and shallots: these should have well ripened skins, their necks tied with raffia and roots trimmed back to the basal plate.

Ideal sizes: courgettes – 4"-8", beetroot – tennis ball size: 2"-3",

turnips – cricket ball size: 2 ½ "-3", potatoes – 6-8oz.



