

## H.F.H.S. ALLOTMENT COMPETITION 2015

**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 2008, 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. 1<sup>st</sup> – £20, 2<sup>nd</sup> – £15 and 3<sup>rd</sup> – £10; Section 2: 1<sup>st</sup> – £30, 2<sup>nd</sup> – £20 and 3<sup>rd</sup> – £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: Mr I Crawford, 24 Sheraton Avenue, Basingstoke, RG22 4TS by 18th May 2015. Cheques should be made payable to Hampshire Federation of Horticultural Societies please. Any questions telephone 01256 364378 or Email: iaincrawford1@aol.com

### JUDGING CRITERIA.

### Maximum points

- (1) Condition of the Plot.** Plots should be well stocked with crops. Any unplanted areas where crops have just been harvested or which 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.** Paths 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 pinching out of Broad Bean tips to inhibit blackfly or the use of barriers against Carrot 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 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 of 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 dig' methods of cultivation should be given credit. **25**
- (5) Ingenuity in Overcoming Local Problems.** Plot-holders who have overcome difficulties such as odd-shaped plots, 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. Credit should also be given for efficient composting and methods of water conservation, e.g. mulching. **25**
- (6) Visual Aspect of the Plot.** The overall appearance of the plot should be neat and pleasing and the balance of cultivation, as far as is allowed by local regulations, should be as broad as possible. **20**
- (7) Condition of Structures.** Greenhouses/sheds, if present, and other accessories, e.g. frames, supports, netting, compost containers, etc. should be well maintained, undamaged, suitably placed and sufficiently strong for the purpose intended **20**

Maximum Total Points **350**

**PLEASE NOTE: PLOTS WILL BE JUDGED ONLY ONCE. IT IS INTENDED THAT JUDGING WILL TAKE PLACE BETWEEN 22<sup>nd</sup> June AND 5<sup>th</sup> July 2015**



## ALLOTMENT COMPETITION ENTRY FORM 2015

All competitors wishing to enter this competition must complete and return this form to: Mr I. Crawford, 24 Sheraton Avenue, Basingstoke, RG22 4TS by **18<sup>th</sup> May 2015**. It is intended that judging will take place between 22<sup>nd</sup> June and 5<sup>th</sup> July 2015.

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

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

Address.....

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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.

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.