

The Scottish Auricula & Primula Society Show Schedule

Exhibitors Standards & Rules

GENERAL STANDARDS

Edged, Selfs, Fancies, Striped, Alpine & Double Auriculas entries must not have less than five fully expanded pips.

In Novice classes the minimum shall be three pips.

All unopened pips must be removed.

The plant as a whole should be compact and well-balanced with clean, crisp, healthy foliage, free from pests, and preferably a single rosette of leaves of sufficient size to nicely cover the top of the pot. The stem should be strong, elastic and tall enough to hold the truss well above the leaves, but not overly long. The footstalks should be sufficiently strong to hold the pips in a firm array and of just such a length as to permit each pip to be displayed without overlapping. All the pips in a truss should be of even size and character; the periphery of each should just meet that of its neighbours to form a compact whole. The leaves of Edged Auriculas, Selfs, Striped Auriculas, Doubles and Fancies may have farina present or may be plain. The leaves of Green Edges and Alpine Auriculas should be without farina. The complete assembly of pot, foliage, stem and truss should be in proportion.

Note. Plants should be presented for judging in clean, round, terracotta coloured pots / pans of plastic or clay. You must have had the plant for no less than six months.

1. For Edged Auriculas, Selfs, Fancy, Striped, Alpine and Double Auriculas only one truss per plant will be judged. All other trusses must be removed.
2. Border Auriculas should have at least three mature trusses as an ideal except in the Seedling class where one mature truss is acceptable.
3. Neat stakes may be used to support stems in the Edged, Selfs, Alpines, Fancy, Striped and Double Auricula classes. Gold-Laced Polyanthus and Border Auriculas must NOT be staked. Where staking is used the stake must be as unobtrusive as possible and must not protrude past the junction of the stem and the footstalks.
4. Any packing between pips used to correctly space the pips or to support them during transport must be removed prior to benching.
5. Each plant exhibited must carry a card label showing the plant's name (where applicable) or type, its class and the exhibitor's number.
6. The form and appearance of the pots used shall in no way detract from the overall quality of the display. The surface of the compost should present a neat appearance. The choice of any additional top-dressing should not detract from the overall appearance of the entry.
7. Novice classes are open to anyone who has won less than 5 Novice 1st at any other Auricula and Primula Society show.

EDGED SHOW AURICULAS

- a) The pip should be round and flat. The individual petals should be blunt* and not rounded or pointed, of even size, with a smooth periphery, free from notches, of good substance and overlap sufficiently to give the desired circular appearance. The four bands should be of equal 'weight', no one dominating or receding. The size is of secondary importance but pips should be neither too large nor too small. Green-Edges should be an optimum diameter of 32 mm. with Grey-edges slightly smaller and White-Edges slightly smaller again.
- b) The tube width should not exceed one-sixth of the diameter of the pip, be round, smooth-edged, golden or rich yellow in colour, of a waxy substance and well up to the plane of the pip.
- c) The anthers should be fresh and bold, of the same colour as and evenly set around, but not protruding from, the top of the tube. They should curve inwards to meet over and obscure the lower tube.
- d) The pistil must not be visible among or above the anthers or the plant is disqualified.
- e) The paste should be circular with clear-cut edges, the outer edge a half of the pip's diameter; the paste should be brilliant white, smooth, dense and free from blemishes and cracks.
- f) The body, or ground colour, should be solid and circular where it meets the paste, its outer edge should extend to no more than three fourths of the pip's diameter, feathered finely into the outer zone, but not extending to the pip's periphery. The body may be of any colour providing it is bright, rich, unshaded and free from meal. Darker colours should appear velvety.
- g) The edge or outer zone may be green, grey or white according to the class. If green-edged it should be of an even shade, bright and free from meal. Grey-edged flowers should have an even covering of meal overlying the petal edge, not so thick as to mask completely the underlying green, thereby creating the grey effect. In white-edged flowers the covering of meal must completely mask the green petal edge. In both grey and white edges the meal should be white, bright, refined and free from blemishes

SELF SHOW AURICULAS

- a) The pip should be round and flat. The individual petals should be blunt and not rounded or pointed, of an even size, with a smooth periphery, free from notches. They should be of good substance and overlap sufficiently to give the desired circular appearance. The pip is somewhat smaller than the edged types, 29 mm. being the optimum.
- b) The tube width should not exceed one-sixth the diameter of the pip, be round, smooth-edged, golden or rich yellow in colour, of a waxy substance and well up to the plane of the pip. In the case of the blue Selfs the tube may be of a lighter colour.
- c) The anthers should be fresh and bold, of a rich yellow colour, and evenly set around, but not protruding from, the top of the tube. They should curve inwards to meet over, and obscure, the lower tube.
- d) The pistil must not be visible among or above the anthers or the plant is disqualified
- e) The paste should be circular with clear-cut edges, the outer edge just under half the pip's diameter; the paste should be brilliant white, smooth, dense and free from blemishes and cracks.
- f) The petals should be of an even colour, unshaded, bright, clear and smooth, should have a velvety appearance, free from veins, meal and blemishes.

FANCY SHOW AURICULAS

- a) The pip should be round and flat. The individual petals should be blunt and not rounded or pointed, of even size, with a smooth periphery, free from notches, of good substance and should overlap sufficiently to give the desired circular appearance. The pips should be neither too large nor too small, the optimum usually being in the range 29 to 32 mm.
- b) The tube width should not exceed one-sixth the diameter of the pip, be round, smooth-edged, golden or rich yellow in colour, of a waxy substance and well up to the plane of the pip. Depending on the colour and form of the petals the colour of the tube may deviate from yellow as long as the overall effect is pleasing.
- c) The anthers should be fresh and bold, of a rich yellow colour, and evenly set around, but not protruding from, the top of the tube. They should curve inwards to meet over, and obscure, the lower tube.
- d) The pistil must not be visible among or above the anthers or the plant is disqualified.
- e) The paste should be circular with clear-cut edges; the outer edge a half of the pip's diameter or slightly less. The paste should be of a brilliant white or strong yellow colour, smooth, dense and free from blemishes or cracks.
- f) The petals can be of any attractive for not specified elsewhere in the standards for Auriculas. As an ideal, preference should be given to new forms of show auricular new breaks or attractive one-off individual plants rather than forms that exhibit only slight deviations from the Standards for other types of show Auricula

STRIPED SHOW AURICULAS

- a) The pip should be round and flat. The individual petals should be blunt and not rounded or pointed, of even size, of good substance and should overlap sufficiently to give the desired circular appearance. Any irregularity in the periphery must not detract from the overall attractiveness of the pip. The pips should be neither too large nor too small, the optimum being about 29mm.
- b) The tube width should not exceed one-sixth the diameter of the pip, be round, smooth-edged, golden or rich yellow in colour, of a waxy substance and well up to the plane of the pip. In the case of blue striping the tube may be of a lighter colour.
- c) The anthers should be fresh and bold, of a rich yellow colour, and evenly set around, but not protruding from, the top of the tube. They should curve inwards to meet over, and obscure, the lower tube.
- d) The pistil must not be visible among or above the anthers or the plant is to be disqualified.
- e) The paste should be circular with a clearly cut edge, its periphery extending to just under half the pip's diameter. It should be brilliant white, smooth, dense and free from blemishes and cracks.
- f) The petals shall be evenly striped. The majority of the stripes shall be full-length, i.e. extend from the edge of the paste to the periphery of the petal. The stripes should not coalesce to form a body colour as in the edged auricula. The stripes may be of colour or farina but farinaceous stripes should be different in underlying tissue colour from the rest of the pip.

DOUBLE AURICULAS

- a) The truss should not be congested and each pip should be clearly displayed and not deformed as a result of overcrowding or overlapping. The pips should be at the same stage of development and be of similar size.
- b) The pip. Double forms of any type of auricula are acceptable and the doubling may be of any character. The individual pips should be circular in outline and have sufficient additional petals to completely cover and obscure the tube. The petals should be smooth-edged without notches; their conformation should be neat and regular and effectively fill the pip. Pips with open centres are disqualified. The optimum pip size should be about 29 mm.
- c) The individual petals may be variegated, shaded or self-coloured, but should be clear and bright. The colour is of secondary importance to form. Where meal is present it must not be 'smeared', but crisp and bright.

BORDER AURICULAS

As Border Auriculas and Primulas are shown for effect they are not subject to the kinds of standards that apply to the Florists' Auriculas. Attention to the following guidelines should ensure that all such plants are exhibited to the best of their potential. Because of the vast number of Primulas available to the grower it would be impossible to suggest standards applicable to all of the species and hybrids. The only exception would be for the varieties and cultivars of *Primula allionii*. As this is the only true cushion plant in the genus, *Primula allionii* should be presented as an extremely floriferous symmetrical dome.

- a) The plant should be compact, well balanced and have a healthy, vigorous appearance. The foliage should be free from pests or signs of damage and nicely cover the top of the pot.
- b) In multi-stemmed exhibits flower trusses should be well spaced. Individual stems should be substantial and tall enough to hold each truss well above the leaves. The footstalks should be sufficiently strong to hold the pips in a firm array and of such a length as to permit each pip to be displayed without any overlapping.
- c) All the pips in a truss should be of even size and character; the periphery of each should just meet that of its neighbour to form a compact whole.
- d) There are no limitations as to form and size of individual pips but these qualities should be consistent throughout the plant. Pips may have flat or undulating surfaces, their outline being smooth or indented. Individual blooms should be fully open.
- e) Any flowers that appear to be inferior examples of those characteristic of Show or Alpine auriculas are inadmissible.
- f) Farina may or may not be present on petals, paste, stems and leaves. Surface quality should be consistent throughout the plant, without smears or marks on any areas of farina.
- g) Petal colour should be clear, positive and consistent throughout the exhibit. Thrum eyed flowers are generally preferred to pin-eyed ones but either type is admissible. Scent is desirable but not essential.
- h) The character and appearance of the plant should suggest that it would succeed in an open garden situation.

ALPINE AURICULAS

- a) The pip should be round and flat. The individual petals should be blunt and not rounded or pointed, of an even size, with a smooth periphery, free from notches, of good substance and overlap sufficiently to give the desired circular appearance. Size is of secondary importance but the pip should be neither too large nor too small, the optimum being about 29 mm.
- b) The tube width should be about one-sixth the diameter of the pip, and be round with a smooth edge well up to the surface of the pip and of the same colour as the eye.
- c) The anthers should be fresh and bold, of a rich gold or yellow and evenly set around, but not protruding from, the top of the tube. They should curve inwards to meet over and obscure the lower tube.
- d) The pistil must not be visible among or above the anthers or the plant is disqualified.
- e) The eye 1. for Gold-Centre Alpines should be a bright golden yellow, of uniform shade, smooth and free from blemishes. The outer edge should be circular, sharply defined and extend to just over half the pip's diameter. 2. for Light-Centre Alpines should be white or pale cream, of uniform shade, smooth and free from blemishes. The outer edge should be circular, sharply defined and extend to just over half the pip's diameter.
- f) The petals should be of a velvety texture. The basic colour should be rich and sumptuous and should shade evenly from a deeper tone where it meets the eye to a lighter tone at the periphery. The complete florets should be free from farina.

PRIMULAS

- a) The plant should be fresh, healthy, floriferous and in pristine condition.
- b) The plant should be pleasingly symmetrical and compact, presented in a central position in its pot with evenly distributed flowers that are all of the same character and with the great majority fully open.
- c) Cushion forming plants should have flowers held above the foliage and present a regular uniform dome.
- d) Species of minute form, such as *Primula Scotica*, may be shown in groups. Where separate plants are shown in the same pan they should be seen to be distinct
- e) Species *Primulas* should be grown 'in character'.
- f) Farina, where present, should be even and unmarked.
- g) Prior to exhibition the plant should be rigorously inspected. All faded or dead flowers, dead or marked leaves should be neatly removed. Plants with evidence of pests or diseases should not be shown.
- h) Top dressing should be fresh, clean and in keeping with the usual habitat of the plant
- i) The pots must adhere to any size limitations required by the schedule. They should be clean and free from major chips or cracks, terracotta colour is normally preferred.
- j) As *Primulas* are shown for effect, the pot should be carefully chosen to complement the plant.
- k) Any required labelling should be accurate and legible.
- l) Care must be exercised in staging the plant/s in the correct class, according to the schedules.
- m) Help may be sought from the Show officials if the exhibitor is unsure of any aspect of classification or labelling.

GOLD-LACED POLYANTHUS

- a) All plants must be thrum-eyed and carry a minimum of five fully-expanded pips.
- b) Pips should be round, flat and approximately 20 mm in diameter. All the pips in a truss should be uniform. They should be held out evenly by the footstalks without overlapping. Unopened pips must be removed.
- c) Each petal should neatly abut its neighbour. There should be no gaps between them. Petals may overlap but not by more than the width of the lacing.
- d) The ground colour is preferably red or black. The colour should be dense and have a velvet-like appearance, so as to give the flower a brilliant and attractive look. All the pips should bear the same ground colour. The colour should be uniform across the petals. Any shading will be considered a fault.
- e) The tube should be circular. It should be about 3 mm in diameter and lie at the centre of the pip. It should be of the same bright golden-yellow as the eye and be well-filled with anthers. It may have a raised rim which should enhance, but must not detract from, the roundness of the tube.
- f) The eye which surrounds the tube should be circular and of a bright golden-yellow. It should extend to about half of the diameter of the pip. There should be a clean edge where the eye meets the ground. The eye should be as free as possible of radial indentations and darker markings and it should not be cut into by the joins between the petals.
- g) The lacing should be golden, even, unbroken and smooth. It must run completely round the edge of each petal and also down the centre of each petal to join up with the eye. Its colour should be as close as possible to that of the eye. The width of the lacing should be sufficient to emphasise the colour of the ground. It should be neither too fine, thus producing a wire edge and giving the ground too heavy an appearance, nor too broad, drawing the eye away from the ground and detracting from the delicate balance between lacing and ground.
- h) Each petal should have a neat, shallow indentation at the centre of its outer edge. This should be of the same depth as the indentation at the junction of two adjacent petals. The ideal is to form as near as possible to a circle with even undulations in its rim.
- i) The scape should be long enough to hold the truss above the foliage.
- j) The foliage should be clean, fresh and free from pests or disease. It should not be over-extended.
- k) The whole plant should be presented in a neat, preferably single crown at the centre of a clean, round-topped pot of a terra cotta colour. The size of the pot should be appropriate to the size of the plant.