

FUCHSIA JUDGING SCHOOL MANUAL

and

AFS JUDGING RULES

4th Edition

Published by
American Fuchsia Society

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The American Fuchsia Society greatly appreciates the efforts of all the people who, over the years, have contributed their thoughtful efforts to the evolution of the current AFS Judging Rules and Standards.

During the presidency of Harry Brumeister, a committee was appointed to establish and publish the rules and standards of judging fuchsias. With the help of John Rolih, Bob Castro and Ted Paskesen, this was accomplished and printed in the May, 1976 AFS Bulletin.

Past AFS President Jean Natter allowed the AFS to use much of her material for the first Fuchsia Judges School Manual.

For all new judges who have successfully completed the requirements for certification, we wish many years of pleasure and accomplishment as American Fuchsia Society accredited Judges.

This manual was revised July 10, 1993, by the following committee, chaired by Phillip Scherer: Ronnie Duffield, Director of Judging, Lorine Gandolfi, John Rolih and Elsie Wolfers.

The 4th edition was published by AFS Judging Coordinator Madalyn Drago with the contributions of Chuck Hassett and Kent Walker.

JUDGES COUNCIL

The Judges Council was formed in San Mateo, California on October 26, 1991. The primary reason for this meeting was to organize and establish a set of by-laws. In accordance with the by-laws, an election of officers for 1992-1993 was held. The following Judges were nominated and received a unanimous vote of the members present:

Chairperson..... Ronnie Duffield
Vice-Chairperson..... Irene Bergum
Secretary Chuck Hassett
Treasurer Leon Hubbard

Charter Members of the Judges Council:

Ronnie and Lee Duffield, Charles and Carole Rapp, Gordon and Irene Bergum, Frank and Lorine Gandolfi, Alice Kennedy, Elsie Wolfers, Charles Loveland, John Rolih, Paul Riviere, Leon Hubbard, Christine Kemp, Chuck and Mary Hassett, Will Gibbs, Joan Hampton and Phillip Scherer.

FORWARD

In this fourth edition of the *Fuchsia Judging School Manual and AFS Judging Rules*, an effort has been made to provide a more condensed teaching and reference tool by eliminating unnecessary repetition and reorganizing the text in a more orderly sequence.

The contents are designed to present the ethics, procedures, methods, and standards whereby fuchsias can be judged in a professional manner, fairly, objectively, without prejudice, and in a uniform manner throughout the Society.

All the material is based on current and widely accepted practice.

It should be understood that this material is not "cast in concrete." Where there may be room for improvement, thoughtful and valid suggestions, together with **constructive** comments will be welcomed for consideration.

CONTENTS

Fuchsia Judging School Manual

Requirements for Certification	4
The Purpose and Value of a Show	6
Show Schedule	7
Ethics in Judging	10
Characteristics of a Competent Judge	11
Payment for Judging	11
The Judge and the Show Manager	12
What a Show Manager Expects from a Judge	12
What a Judge Can Expect from a Show Manager	14
The Judging Process	15
The Judges' Responsibility to the Exhibitor	16
The Methods of Judging	17
Judging the Plant Forms	18
Instructions to the Clerks	21

AFS Standards and Judging Rules

General Rules	24
Individual Point Scale	28
Definition and Rules for Judging Fuchsia Forms	31
Full Basket or Hanging Fuchsia	31
Half Basket Fuchsia	31
Bush Fuchsia	32

Shrub Fuchsia	33
Standard (Tree) Fuchsia	34
Decorative Forms	36
Trellis, Fan	36
Espalier	37
Pillar	37
Cordon	37
Pyramid	38
Conical	38
Decorative Forms not Otherwise Listed	39
Miniature Fuchsia	39
Bonsai Fuchsia	40
Variegated Leaf Fuchsia	42
Fuchsia Species	43
Cut Fuchsia Classes	44
Point Scale for Fuchsia Blooms	45
Corsages, Nosegays, Leis	47
Construction Point Scale for Corsages and Nosegays	47
Construction Point Scale for Leis	49
Point Scale for Cut Branches	51
Point Scale for Education Exhibit	53
Additional Reading	54

FUCHSIA JUDGING SCHOOL

MANUAL

REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION AS AN AFS JUDGE

At this time the requirements to attain certification as an American Fuchsia Society Judge are as follows:

APPRENTICE

1. Be a member of good standing in the AFS.
2. Be an active fuchsia grower.
3. Attend an AFS Judging School and complete a written examination with a minimum grade of 75%.
4. Participate in two judged shows as any of the following :
 - a. Clerk (must be Head Clerk one time)
 - b. Show Chairman
5. Obtain and submit all applications from the AFS Judges Director.
6. Maintain a record of all show clerking, chairing and judging experience.

CERTIFIED JUDGE

1. Complete two years as an Apprentice Judge.
2. Attend one symposium within two years of certification.
3. Participate as an Apprentice Judge in at least two Judged Fuchsia Shows.
4. Obtain and complete an Application for Certified Judge from the AFS Judges Director. Include a report of any show you may have judged or clerked, giving time, date and place.

MASTER JUDGE

1. Complete requirements for Certified Judge.
2. Complete five years experience as a certified judge.
3. Judge a minimum of five shows and attend two symposiums within the past five years.
4. Only Master Judges are eligible to conduct a Judging School.

TO MAINTAIN STATUS AS AN ACTIVE JUDGE

During the past two years:

1. Attend at least one symposium (advanced judging class) or have given a program on growing a show plant and how to judge it at a Branch meeting.
2. Judge a minimum of one show, reporting to the AFS Judging Chairperson.

If an active judge wishes to become inactive, the AFS Judging Coordinator needs to be notified.

THE PURPOSE AND VALUE OF A SHOW

To educate the grower/exhibitor by providing an opportunity to:

- Exhibit well-grown plants which reflect the exhibitor's skill.
- Observe and compare growing techniques and cultural practices with other exhibitors.
- Upgrade growing techniques through the constructive criticism from the judges and the exhibitor's own observations.

To educate the general public to:

- Appreciate the beauty and versatility of fuchsias.
- Increase interest in the AFS and its local branches.
- Encourage increased AFS membership.
- Present a major public relations effort.

SHOW SCHEDULE

PLANNING THE SHOW SCHEDULE

The first step in planning a Show is to establish a date and location. The final decision should be made by the Show Committee and club officers. It is advisable to allow one year for the planning of a show.

The next step is to appoint a chairperson, who then appoints the various committees.

The Show Chairperson should possess knowledge, experience, enthusiasm, imagination, time, ambition and the ability to delegate responsibility. The Show Chairperson has the following responsibilities:

1. Appoint all committee chairpersons and define their duties.
2. Finalize the arrangements for the location of the show.
3. Call meetings to coordinate plans.
4. Attend all committee meetings.
5. Obtain all required forms.
6. Be readily available.
7. Maintain records for future chairpersons.

THE SCHEDULE

The schedule becomes the **LAW OF THE SHOW**. It must be clear, specific, accurate and comprehensive. A good schedule includes:

1. General information
 - a) Appropriate theme
 - b) Plant material
 - c) Available properties (such as tables, frames, pedestals, etc.)
 - d) Space available
 - e) Information required by the exhibitors and judges
 - f) Judging time
 - g) Times when the show is open to the public
 - h) Times when entries are to be received and removed.
2. Rules and regulations for all divisions, sections and classes
3. Awards offered using a point scale as defined in the AFS Judging Manual must be included.
4. Competitive classes for all divisions
5. Name /s of sponsoring club /s
6. Date: month, day, year
7. Location: building, address, city, state
8. Show hours
9. Admission, if any.
10. Exhibitor requirements

RULES FOR ALL DIVISIONS

1. All the specimens must have been grown by the exhibitor.
2. Container-grown plants must have been in the possession of the exhibitor for no less than three months.
3. All specimens must be labeled.
4. All horticultural classes are open to any amateur grower.
5. More than one entry per class may be entered by an exhibitor, provided each is a different cultivar.
6. All entries must be tagged by the Classification Committee or Show Clerk, including the name of the plant and exhibitor's name.

AWARDS

Awards are given according to the Point Scale. First, second, third, honorable mention, sweepstakes, (if so desired), and Best of Show (if so desired).

ETHICS IN JUDGING

ethics: the rules of human conduct recognized in respect to a particular class of human actions or a particular group.

Ethics: Wisdom in Conduct

In every instance, an American Fuchsia Society Judge should perform in the most professional manner possible when participating in a show. As a representative of the society the judge should perform in a courteous and helpful manner, discuss the judging decisions calmly, and display a professional attitude. This cooperative attitude will result in a friendly feeling and encourage show and fair managers to call on AFS judges in the future.

The position of accredited judge is both an honor and a challenge. You have the responsibility to be a worthy representative of your society.

CHARACTERISTICS OF A COMPETENT JUDGE

KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE:

How it is acquired:

- Growing, clerking and judging
- Viewing gardens and shows.
- Reading books, catalogs, and show schedules.
- Attending judging classes to continually update your knowledge.

Why it is necessary:

- To broaden your fuchsia background to help build the mental image of what "according to variety" really means.
- To give concrete reasons for your evaluations.
- To assist the grower when you give constructive criticism.

OBJECTIVITY:

- Objectivity means fairness.
- Use an appropriate point scale for evaluation.

TACT:

An Exercise in the "Power of Positive Thinking: "

- Tact is the ability to differ in a pleasant manner.
- Try to see the situation from more than one view point.

PAYMENT FOR JUDGING

- **Rarely:** actual cash.
- **Often:** a luncheon or coffee and donuts.
- **Always:** the satisfaction of a job well done.

THE JUDGE AND THE SHOW MANAGER

WHAT A SHOW MANAGER EXPECTS FROM A JUDGE

A prompt answer to the judging invitation:

If you cannot come, contact the manager as soon as possible so that he may make suitable arrangements. Do not, however, arrange your own substitute.

Prompt arrival at the correct place on the day of judging.

Prompt and efficient attention to judging duties.

Undivided attention to:

- Standards established for this particular show.
- Special circumstances, for instance:
 - Fierce winds and severe rain which damaged plants.
 - A heat wave.
 - Unanticipated changes to previous instructions.
 - Notes concerning broken branches: perhaps, directions to ignore this breakage which occurred during placement.
- Special instructions, for instance:
 - Special Awards may have special selection methods attached to them. Follow the instructions. For instance, Best in Show might be the "best in the entire show including plants, arrangements, and corsages, or "best" may be limited to certain classes.
 - Beginners Class, or Novice: Often the instruction is given to "be generous with ribbons, as we want to encourage these newer growers." However, if one of these plants becomes a contender for Best Overall, it has met the great equalizer. All plants are judged equally at this point in the game.
 - The weather has been poor, so please be generous." Strike a balance between over generosity (awarding truly undeserving plants) and under generosity (shooting down an entire show because "nothing is any good"). It is a decision that you will have to make, right then, on the judging floor.

While Judging:

- Work efficiently.
- Don't chat excessively.
- Don't "re-grow" the fuchsia and its history.

Assistance to the Manager:

- Constructive comment to the exhibitor.
- Suggestions for new or improved procedures, classes, etc.

WHAT A JUDGE CAN EXPECT FROM A SHOW MANAGER

The necessary information:

- A copy of the schedule should be received at least two weeks before the show.
- A complete outline of all special instructions and guidelines that are to be followed at this particular show.

Rights of a Judge:

- To have privacy in judging (depends on show site).
- To refuse awards to unworthy plants.
- To recommend special awards.
- To suggest changes to prevent disqualification of an entry.
- To receive answers to questions. For example:
 - Is this plant placed correctly?
 - Can it be moved to the correct class so that it may obtain the award that it deserves?

Knowledgeable clerk(s) to assist during the judging process:

- To locate plants.
- To run necessary errands.
- To have charge of the entry sheets.

Enough judges to complete the task easily within reasonable time limits.

- A panel should consist of three judges.
- One or more panels may be necessary, depending on the size of the show.

THE JUDGING PROCESS

THE SCHEDULE:

IS THE LAW OF THE SHOW.

STATES THE RULES OF THE GAME.

Who conforms to the schedule:

- The judges.
- The grower/exhibitor.

The judge must be familiar with the schedule prior to arriving at the show.

THE OVERVIEW

- Is a summary of the entire show describing the general quality of entries and expertise level of the exhibitors.
- Is done prior to beginning any judging.

THE JUDGES' RESPONSIBILITY TO THE EXHIBITOR

Know the schedule and what is required of the exhibitor:

Judge the exhibit using the same set of guidelines that was provided to the grower. These standards are usually printed in the schedule, and should be sent to the judge prior to show time. If you do not receive them, ask.

Constructive Comments to the Exhibitor

After careful objective evaluation is complete, the judging panel must then make an objective and beneficial comment to the exhibitor. Writing the constructive comment may well be the most difficult part of your judging assignment. Both time and space are very limited.

The written comment is a **joint opinion** of the judges on the panel. Be clear, concise, instructive and logical.

THE METHODS OF JUDGING

A Panel of Judges

- Decision is made by three or two out of three.
- Decision is not made by one overbearing judge.
- Uphold the final decision, even though yours may have been the dissenting opinion.

JUDGING THE PLANT FORMS

A competent fuchsia judge will judge from an objective viewpoint.

Judging is a mental operation involving comparison with an ideal.

The basic rules of judging plant material are as follows:

- 1. Judge "as is."**
- 2. Judge according to form.**
- 3. Judge according to variety.**
- 4. Judge according to an appropriate point scale.**

"As Is"

Judge the exhibit as it is **now**.

- Not as it was one or two hours ago, or how it probably looked when it first arrived at the show the day before.
- Not as it will look in several days when all the buds open or any other occurrence that may be suggested.

A judge has the responsibility to award that which is the closest to perfection at the time he is seeing it.

According to Form

"Form" refers to the particular form that is stated in the schedule.

According to Variety

The judge must develop a mental picture of the best possible specimen for the variety. As your experiences accumulate, you may well find it necessary to revise this picture to fit different standards.

Factors under consideration include the following:

- Plant habit and general growth characteristics.
- Flower size, color, and general form.
- Overall form or outline.
- Leaf color, size, and general form.

The problem-child: difficulty of growth:

- No points are specifically awarded or deducted for difficulty or ease of growth.
- However, when judging according to variety, this quality is, in essence, considered in the overall evaluation. The reason for this is the fact that when you judge a particular fuchsia, you are judging it against a standard of perfection of its **own** kind.

A mature fuchsia in active characteristic growth presents general good health, good cultural practice and thorough pre-show grooming. It is in full fresh bloom, having the bloom well-distributed over the plant. It is well-trained, according to the form stated. Supports, if used, should be inconspicuous.

A good judge acquaints himself with the **normal range** of color, size, form and growth that is consistent with that particular variety in that particular locale.

No individual can know all "normal" variations, but each person can make an effort to constantly update and increase current knowledge and experience.

Appropriate Point Scale

Point scale is a device to:

- To increase objectivity.
- To unify judging.

The appropriate point scale, when correctly used, enables the judge to compare bush fuchsias, basket fuchsias, tree fuchsias, and all other forms of fuchsias. Then, the judge is able to make a knowledgeable and wise decision as to which is best.

This requires that the judge constantly realign his thinking to make sure he is judging by the standards set forth for each type, form, and variety.

A major key to successful use of a scale is **consistency** of deductions for faults.

Point scoring may be done mentally or on paper, as the situation requires.

Awarding/Withholding Awards

Competitive Judging:

Only one first-, one second-, and one third-place ribbon may be awarded in each class, providing a plant deserves it. If no plant is worthy of an award, none should be given.

Merit Judging:

In the Merit Judging system, more than one First-, Second-, or Third-Place award may be given in each class based on the point score* assigned by the judges.

- 90-100 points - First Place
- 80-89 points - Second Place
- 70-79 points - Third Place *

* A Show Chairman may request that the actual point scores be announced to the clerks for the purpose of assigning appropriate ribbons and for calculating special awards, e.g., Best of Show, Best of Division, Best of Variety, Best Orange, etc.

INSTRUCTIONS TO THE CLERKS

All Clerks

1. Although this may be a learning experience, maintain adequate space between yourselves and the judges.
2. Help to maintain space around the judges.
 - a. Do not interpose yourself between the judges and the plants.
 - b. Tactfully request the public to do the same.
3. Do not offer opinions to nor ask questions of the judges during the judging process. Tactful questions may be directed to them after the judging is completed.
4. If it's your plant, keep a straight face!
5. Help to open entry tags after all judging is complete.
6. The role of a clerk is one of privilege and esteem. The clerk is regarded as a confidant of the judges, who, in turn, would expect their trust to be honored. Therefore, do not repeat to others remarks made by judges during judging.
7. Refer questions from exhibitors to the judges.
8. Familiarize yourself with the locations of entries ahead of time so you won't delay the judging process looking for individual entries or entire classes.

First Clerk

1. Before beginning, request of your judges who is to record the awards (1, 2, 3, or NA) and constructive comments. Judge **or** clerk? (NA = no award, and indicates that the plant was judged and not just overlooked.)
2. Remain with judges at all times and be **the one point of contact** between judges and clerks.
3. Have charge of the entry sheets. Judges are not to see the exhibitors' names.
4. As each class is approached
 - A Announce the Division and Class
 - B Read a brief description of the class (e.g. "cascading baskets, single blossoms").
 - C State the number of plants to be considered in this class.
 - D Have the second clerk point out the location of these plants.
5. While a class is being judged, have the second clerk locate the plants for the next class.
6. Record accurately on entry sheets (1, 2, 3, HM, or NA). HM= Honorable Mention; NA = No Award
7. Inform judges of any Special Awards to be determined, and record accurately on entry sheets.
8. When all your classes are judged, have your judges **sign the last page** of your entry sheets.
9. **Keep all clerks and judges together** until all judging has been completed and the group is **dismissed** by the Judges Chairman.
10. Questions of classification, judging, placement, etc. may be directed to the Judges Chairman for clarification during judging.

Second Clerk

1. Locate plants, as directed by the first clerk.
2. Make sure all entry tags are closed prior to judging.
3. Turn plants, if requested to do so by the judges.

Third Clerk

1. Carry and attach the ribbons and "award cards" as directed.
2. Mark entry tag with award given and/or constructive comments, if requested to do so by judges.
3. As requested, locate plants and/or turn them.

AFS STANDARDS and JUDGING RULES

Preface

In the following material every effort has been made to adhere as closely as possible to the intent of American Fuchsia Society Standards & Judging Rules as presented when first published in May, 1976. They have stood the "test of time" and served us well, so little has been changed beyond amplifying and clarifying them.

General Rules

1.
 - a. Any plant, stem or cut bloom exhibited for an award shall have been owned by the exhibitor for 90 days.
 - b. The same rule applies to any fuchsia plant in any group exhibited by a Branch.
 - c. The rule does not apply to arrangements of any kind where cut blossoms are used and construction is the primary object of judging.
2. Size of containers shall conform to the show schedule and measurements shall apply to inside dimensions.
3.
 - a. Stakes, trellises, frames and ties where required should be neat and inconspicuous in size and color.
 - b. Stakes or frames should not extend above the highest point of the plants.
4.
 - a. Unless otherwise specified, there should be only one plant in a container (see local show schedule for exceptions).
 - b. Multiple plants in one container must be the same variety.
 - c. Sport blossoms and leaves should be removed as the plant is not performing according to variety.

5. Plants must be free of insects, parasites, and disease.
6. Plants should be well-groomed.
 - a. All wilted, spent, or damaged blooms, off-color or damaged foliage, dead leaves, dead or bare laterals or branches must be removed.
 - b. Seed pods and their pedicils must be removed except on fuchsia species when exhibited in the species division.
 - c. Soil surface must be clean and neat, with all debris and litter removed.
 - d. There must be no evidence of chemical sprays or water residue stains.
 - e. All training devices such as weights, pins, and hooks must be removed.
 - f. Containers must be clean, neat, undamaged, and inconspicuous.
7.
 - a. All plants, stems, and cut blooms should be legibly and correctly named for identification of cultivar or species.
 - b. Errors in naming shall not disqualify an entry, but, when all judges are positive an entry is wrongly identified, points shall be deducted in accordance with the point scale.
 - c. Identification of blooms is not mandatory for arrangements, leis, corsages and nosegays except where required by show schedule, but it is a courtesy to the public to identify them.
8. Where the year of introduction is specified in the show schedule, plants must have been registered with the American Fuchsia Society, and dates shall be shown in the registration record of the Society.
9. Unless otherwise stated in these rules, plants must be viewed from all around to assess uniformity of growth and condition of foliage and bloom.

10. Judges are not permitted to touch or move a plant but may request a clerk to do so.

11.

a. Plants shall be judged using a point score scale appropriate to the class being judged.

b. Plants shall be judged for:

1. Cultural Proficiency
2. Quantity and quality of bloom
3. General presentation
4. Correct labeling

c. Point scales are always used in reference to the four basic judging rules:

1. "As is" at time of judging.
2. According to variety.
3. According to form.
4. Use of appropriate point scale.

12. Individual Point Scale

13. To be used when judging baskets, half baskets, bushes, shrubs, standards, all decorative forms, miniatures, bonsai and species.

13. Shall also be used when judging variegated leaf forms where the points for blooms shall be awarded for foliage.

13. Cut blossom classes have their own point scale. (See rules for cut blossom classes.)

13.

a. Only whole points will be awarded. The entry receiving the highest number of points shall be first, next highest second, and third highest third.

b. Where groups of plants are judged together each plant will be awarded its earned points and the points for all plants in the group shall be added for a grand total to determine the winning group.

- c. At their discretion, judges may award an Honorable Mention where competition is close.
 - d. Nothing in these rules will preclude a judge from scoring entries mentally without a score pad.
14. If, in the opinion of a majority of the judges, the entry of the winner of the highest number of points is not of sufficient quality consistent with the division in which it is entered, then any award may be based on a relatively lower standing.
- 15.
- a. Normally three judges shall be required to judge a plant, an exhibit, or a section of an exhibit.
 - b. Failure of a judge to appear shall not suspend or delay judging at the appointed time.
16. Decisions of the judges will be final.

INDIVIDUAL POINT SCALE

Individual Point Scale:

A. CULTURAL PROFICIENCY	(40)
1. Growth	
a. Uniformity	10
b. Fullness	10
2. Freshness of Foliage	10
3. Culture and Training	10
B. QUALITY and QUANTITY of BLOOM	(40)
1. Flowering	
a. Amount	10
b. Evenness of distribution	15
c. Condition of flowers	15
D. GENERAL PRESENTATION	(15)
1. Grooming	5
2. Freedom from insects and disease	3
3. Size of container	3
4. Condition of container	2
5. Supports	2
D. LABELING for IDENTIFICATION of CULTIVAR	(5)
1. Accuracy	2
2. Legibility and neatness	2
3. Visibility	1
E. TOTALS	100

In order to properly utilize a point scale, a judge must develop a mental picture of perfection according to variety and form. A major key to the successful use of a point scale is **consistency** of deduction for faults.

Cultural Proficiency:

- Growth
 - Well-developed, thrifty, vigorous growth, uniform appearance.
 - Fullness: All branches well-covered with foliage.
 - Freshness of Foliage: Fresh, turgid appearance of leaves.
 - Culture and Training: Evidence of adequate pinching and fertilizing. Degree of achievement of form attempted.

Quantity and Quality of Bloom

- Amount
 - Only fully opened, fresh blooms are counted at time of judging.
 - Buds do not count.
 - Sport blossoms, if present, are deducted because plant is not performing according to variety.
 - Quantity may vary according to variety.

Evenness of Distribution

Blooms should be evenly distributed all around the plant, along the laterals according to the normal habit of the variety.

Condition of Flowers, Quality

- Fresh, turgid appearance of flowers
- Size according to variety
- Color according to variety

General Presentation

- Grooming: Plant should be free of:
 - Spent or damaged blossoms
 - Seed berries except in species division
 - Soil litter
 - Training devices
 - Yellow or damaged leaves
 - Dead or bare laterals and branches
 - Water or chemical-spray residues
 - Distorted growth
 - Sport leaves or blossoms
- Freedom from insects and disease: If any insects or diseases are present, the show management should be notified immediately and the plant removed.

- Size and proportion of container:
 - According to definitions of various plant forms.
 - Position of plant in pot.
- Condition of container:
 - The container must be clean, undamaged, and in good condition. It need not be painted or stained but must be clean.
 - If the container is visible (not buried) it must be secondary to the plant, unobtrusive.
- Supports:
 - Supports must be clean and neat.
 - Ties must be neat and not cutting into or damaging the plant.

Labeling for Identification

- Accuracy:
 - If correctly named.
 - If there is doubt as to correct name, judges are obliged to give exhibitor the benefit of the doubt and 2 points.
 - Only if all judges are positive the name is incorrect can 2 points be deducted.
- The label must be legible, neatly printed and visible.

**DEFINITION AND RULES
FOR JUDGING
FUCHSIA FORMS**

FULL BASKET OR HANGING FUCHSIA

Shall present a balanced effect of evenly-distributed, gracefully-hanging streamers of foliage and flowers.

Judged by Individual Point Scale

Schedule Placement may be by :

- Flower form (single, semi-double, or double).
- Container size
- Number of plants per container (If the schedule permits more than one plant in a container, they must all be of the same variety.)

General Requirements:

- Fullness of growth when viewed from any side
- Balanced effect of flowers and foliage
- Lower extent of branches presents an even appearance and should extend well below the container so that the container is not visible when viewed from any side.
- Branches equally distributed around the container
- Foliage covers the plant evenly, including the crown.
- Blossoms well distributed over the plant, according to the normal habit of the variety.
- Container conforms to show schedule (inside measurement).
- Plant is in proportion to the container.
- When viewed from a distance, gives a rounded and full appearance, lacking any stray and soaring branches.

HALF BASKET FUCHSIAS

A half basket is grown similarly to a full basket fuchsia, except that it is in a container suitable for attachment to a wall or similar structure and is to be viewed from three sides.

Judging shall be the same as for hanging fuchsias except containers are "half rounds" or "half squares."

BUSH FUCHSIA

A fuchsia bush is an upright fuchsia plant with a single, straight stem or trunk clear of branches for no more than one-fifth of the total height of the plant. One plant to a container presenting a balanced effect of flowers and foliage when viewed from any side.

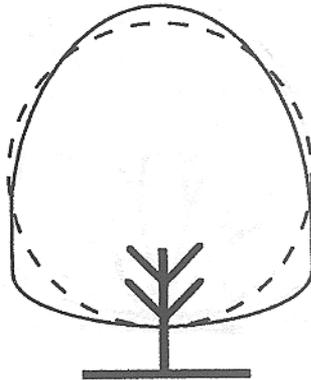
Judged by individual Point Scale

Schedule Placement may be by:

- Container size
- Flower form (single, semi-double, or double)

General Requirements:

- One plant to a container
- Plant in center of container
- Plant in proportion to the container, two to three times container height (from soil surface to top of plant)
- No plant material (branches, flowers, foliage) to extend below the top of the pot or touch the soil surface
- Stakes permissible—neat, unobtrusive, and not to extend beyond the height of the plant
- Profusion of flowers and foliage evenly distributed when viewed from any side



BUSH

SHRUB FUCHSIA

One plant with a number of stems originating from the soil surface, none of which dominates. Should be two to three times the height of the container with a profusion of flowers and evenly-distributed foliage to present a balanced effect when viewed from any side.

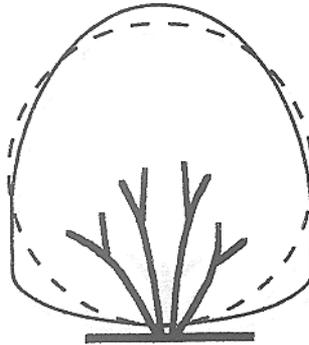
Judged by Individual Point Scale

Schedule Placement may be by:

- Flower form (single, semi-double, or double).
- Container size.

General Requirements:

- A shrub fuchsia is exhibited and judged in the same way as a bush except there is no longer a requirement for clear stem height.
- Remember, however, that no plant material (other than the base of branches), flowers, or foliage is to extend below the top of the container or touch the soil surface.



SHRUB

STANDARD (TREE) FUCHSIA

Shall have one straight trunk, free from leaves and deformity. The crown (head) shall be a profusion of branches, flowers, and foliage, and shall present a balanced effect from all sides.

Judged by Individual Point Scale

Schedule Placement may be by:

- Flower form (single, semi-double, or double)
- Stem height:
 - 40 inches or over (tall stem)
 - 30-40 inches (medium stem)
 - 18-30 inches (low stem)
 - Under 18 inches (Check schedule for height of "Table Standards".)

General Requirements:

- One plant per container
- Planted in the center of the container
- A single, straight trunk which is free of leaves, stubs, flowers, or other deformity
- To determine stem height:
 - Measure from soil surface to the first (lowest) branch.
- Crown (head) is usually grown following one of two styles:
 - Upright (see Fig. 1)
 - Weeping (see Fig. 2)
- Crown presents a balanced effect when viewed from any side, and is a profusion of leaves and flowers.
 - Flowers are well distributed over the crown.
 - The plant is in proportion to the container.
 - It is the exhibitor's option to use a "hat" for supporting and training the crown. The hat may be in place during the exhibit, but foliage should be distributed to cover the framework thoroughly.

- A single, supporting stake may be used next to the stem.
 - The stake must not extend above the plant (i.e. top of the foliage).
 - °The stake and stem are tied neatly, inconspicuously and adequately.

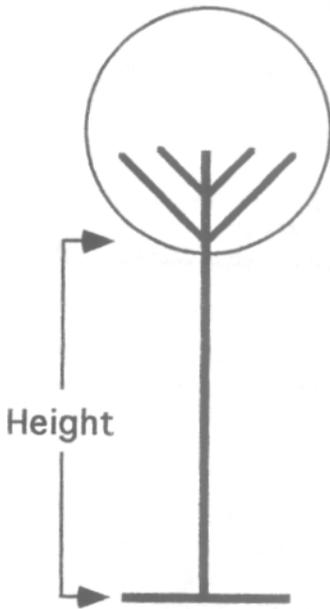


Fig. 1

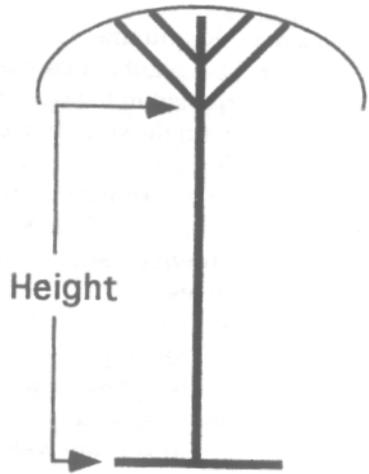


Fig. 2

DECORATIVE FORMS

TRELLIS, FAN

Trellises and fans are single plants grown and trained on a rigid lattice frame and should present a symmetrically-balanced plant on both sides of the center, well-covered with foliage and a profusion of blossoms when viewed from the front.

Judged by Individual Point Scale.

Schedule Placement may be by:

- Flower form (single, semi-double, or double)
- Decorative form
- Container size
- May be shown in mixed decorative class
- One- or two-sided

General Requirements:

- One plant in container
- Planted at back of container if one-sided, at center if two-sided
- Grown and trained to be viewed from front
- Rear of structure should be well covered with clean foliage.
- A short, clear, straight stem should be visible.
- Laterals may originate from central trunk and extend the entire height of the plant or from a chosen number of basic laterals.
- Laterals should be covered with foliage and flowers according to variety.
- Uncovered framework not to extend above the top of the plant
- Ties should be neat and unobtrusive.
- Plant form should be indicated on entry form.
- Plant and framework should be in good proportion to container.

ESPALIER

Shall have one vertical stem with a series of branches opposite each other. More formal in appearance than trellis or fan. The framework of the plant should be clearly seen. Lengths of branches need not be equal, but the plant should present a balanced effect of flowers and foliage.

Judging and Schedule Placement are as for trellis or fan.

PILLAR

An upright plant grown on a single stem, trained to a central stake with all laterals of about equal length, to produce, when viewed from all sides, a graceful column of abundant flowers and foliage.

Judged by Individual Point Scale.

Schedule Placement may be by:

- Flower form (single, semi-double or double)
- May be shown in mixed decorative class

General Requirements

- Diameter of pillar must be maintained from bottom to top.
- A short, clear stem must be visible.
- At this time there are no height and pot-size limitations, but it is recommended that the plant be at least 30 inches from soil to apex to best display cylindrical form.

CORDON

Two or three upright plants of the same variety. Single stems closely adjacent and tied to a central stake. It is to be expected that with the use of multiple plants, the height and diameter will be greater than the single pillar.

Judging, Schedule Placement, and General Requirements are as for a pillar.

PYRAMID

An upright plant grown on a single stem to produce a uniformly-tapering triangular shape. The pyramid shape must be maintained when viewed from all sides and should be fully covered with foliage and abundant flowers.

Judged by Individual Point Scale.

Schedule Placement may be by:

- Flower form (single, semi-double or double).
- May be shown in mixed decorative class.

General Requirements:

- A short, clear stem must be visible, may be trained to a central stake.
Plant size is unrestricted but the relation of height to diameter of lowest branches should be that of a tall tapering tree.
- Plant in good proportion to container size.

CONICAL

Is grown similarly to a pyramid except that its shape is more cone-like, being taller and slimmer.

DECORATIVE FORMS NOT OTHERWISE LISTED

Other decorative forms may be grown with individual imagination , such as Rings, Double Rings, Bells, Spirals, Dollar Signs, etc. They may be trained to any decorative frame. Each form must present a well-balanced effect with a profusion of flowers.

Judged by Individual Point Scale

MINIATURE FUCHSIA

A single plant growing in a four-inch or smaller container. The small growing-pot may be set inside a slightly larger container to provide stability to the specimen.

Judged by Individual Point Scale

Schedule Placement by:

- Flower (single, semi-double, or double).
- Variegated foliage.
- Any form other than bonsai.

General Requirements:

- One plant per container
- Growing container is 4 inches or less according to the Show Schedule.
- Container used for stability is in proportion to the plant size.
- Moss may be used to mask the edge of the growing container that is inside the large container.
- The growing container need not be a liner, but it must be 4 inches or less (inside diameter). The container should be inconspicuous, but may be a terracotta clay, wood, etc.

A size limitation stated for this form of growing a fuchsia, including underliner and container, is not to be more than 15" in any dimension.

A miniature may be grown to any of the forms other than bonsai.

BONSAI FUCHSIA (pronounced "bone-sigh")

A bonsai consists basically of a dwarfed plant or plants, with or without rocks or moss, all in a tray or other type of bonsai container. When a fuchsia is grown in this manner, it must be full of blooms unless it is grown principally for its colored leaves, in which case it may be exhibited without bloom. In either case, its total size must be in proportion to the container.

Abridged definition: a plant, grown in a dish or tray, giving the appearance of age and an artful creation of nature in miniature.

Judged by Individual Point Scale.

Schedule Placement may be by:

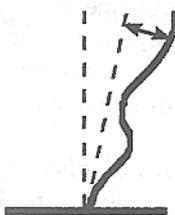
- Flower form (single, semi-double, or double).
- Foliage.
- Form.
- Container size.
- Total size of plant.

General Requirements:

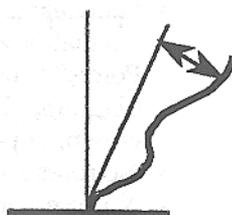
- A bonsai has a recognizable "front" and "back" (one position of the plant must clearly be the front).
- The general supportive structure (trunk and branches) is a decorative feature and is at least partially visible. In other words, foliage is thinned enough to reveal basic structure.
- Branches may grow forward, but never directly towards the viewer.
- Full of blooms, unless entered in the variegated leaf bonsai classes.
- Is in a tray or other bonsai container which, in color and design, does not detract from the plant.
- Plant size is in proportion to the container.
- Plant size, leaf size, and bloom size are in proportion to each other.
- No matter what shape is chosen, the "Rule of Three Points" is used. These three points form a triangle (note diagram). Plants must have one and only one apex, crown, or peak.
- No roots allowed for display can cross or form knots.
- No accessories, other than a rock or two. No figurines, houses, or bridges.
- The bonsai must be judged as a total unit.



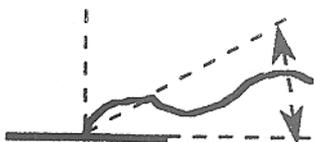
UPRIGHT-FORMAL



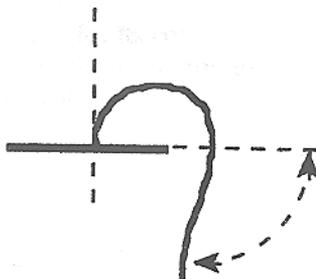
UPRIGHT-FORMAL



SLANTING



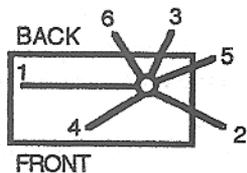
SEMI-CASCADE



CASCADE



RULE OF THREE POINTS



TOP VIEW

VARIEGATED LEAF FUCHSIA

A fuchsia which is grown and judged primarily on the basis of its leaf color and quality. Leaves must have a combination of two or more colors. Flowers are not required.

Judged by Individual Point Scale except that color and quality of foliage are scored in place of blooms.

Schedule Placement may be by:

- Form.
- Container size.

It may be exhibited in either:

- A variegated leaf class.
- As an entry in a group exhibit (such as a specified number of baskets, etc.) or with mixed plant forms.

Other than leaf characteristics, the fuchsia is judged according to the form to which it is grown (i.e. basket, bush, etc.)

Variegated fuchsias must conform to the definition of "two or more leaf colors." The colors include: white, light green, red or pink, cream or gold.

Green or gold leaves with red veins **do not** fit this definition.

Variegation has the different colors in definite patches, blotches, streaks, or mottling. There is frequently a sharp demarcation between the colors.

No solid green leaves are to be present.

Flowers are not required, but may be present. No credit will be given for bloom present. Point scale reflects the quality of the plant and its leaf color.

Leaf color should be judged according to variety. A good judge must develop an awareness of the color range development consistent with good horticultural practices. Be knowledgeable of the "full color development for the variety," and the effects of excess light and too little light.

FUCHSIA SPECIES

Fuchsia species are plants of original parentage or beginning ancestry as recognized by the American Fuchsia Society.

Judged by Individual Point Scale according to form as defined by Judging Rules.

Schedule Placement may be by:

- • In species only class:
 - In a specific form class
 - In mixed form class
- Berries may be retained as an essential part of the plant, but are not required.
- In all other classes, berries are not allowed.

All General Requirements apply.

CUT FUCHSIA CLASSES

It is recommended that all cut flower classes be the first order of judging while entries are fresh. In their cut condition they deteriorate very rapidly in any adverse condition such as temperature or humidity. Any deterioration makes judging exceedingly difficult and is unfair to the exhibitor.

CUT FUCHSIA BLOSSOMS

Fresh fuchsia blooms are displayed floating in a dish unless show schedule designates some other form of presentation.

A fuchsia bloom is complete only when it has a pedicel, seed pod, tube, four sepals, corolla, eight stamens, and a pistil. All normal blossoms have only four sepals.

Judged by Fuchsia Bloom Scale

Schedule Placement may be by:

- Flower form (single, semi-double, or double)
- Number of blooms in container
- Number of containers in an entry

Fuchsia Bloom Point Scale

A. PERFECTION OF BLOOM	(50)
1. Maturity	10
2. Form	10
3. Sepals	10
4. Color	5
5. Condition	10
6. Freedom from Insects and Disease	5
B. FRESHNESS of BLOOM	(30)
1. Bloom	10
2. Stamen	10
3. Pistils	10
C. GENERAL PRESENTATION	(10)
1. Adherence to Show Schedule	5
2. Uniformity of Development	5
D. LABELING for IDENTIFICATION	(10)
1. Accuracy	5
2. Legibility and Neatness	5
E. TOTALS	100

Perfection of Bloom

- Complete blooms should be in their prime—fully open.
- Normal and of good form typical of variety
- Sepals in normal position for mature blooms of the variety
- Normal color for variety. This may vary somewhat from grower to grower and area to area but should be fairly near published description.
- Free of blemish and damage to sepals and corolla
- Free of insects, parasites, and disease

Freshness of Blooms

- Fully-opened blooms should be crisp and fresh and of good substance.
- Pistils are crisp and standing up.
- Stamens are without excessive pollen or any sign of browning.

Presentation:

- Adherence to show schedule
- All blooms in container should be at same stage of development.

Correct labeling:

- Each entry should be neatly and legibly identified.
- Only if all judges are positive that the name is incorrect should 5 points be deducted.

CORSAGES, NOSEGAYS, LEIS

Corsages, nosegays, and leis all emphasize the use of cut fuchsia blossoms in arrangements designed and constructed to be worn or carried as personal adornment.

To be judged by Construction Point Scale

Check show schedule for restrictions on use of material such as buds, ferns, and other plant material.

Check for use of accessories and method of presentation.

Construction Point Scale for Corsages and Nosegays

A. SKILL of CONSTRUCTION	(40)
1. Wiring and Taping	10
2. Blooms	
3. Bows	
4. Ribbon	5
5. Pin / Doilies or Framework	5
B. COLOR HARMONY	(25)
1. Taping	10
2. Ribbon	10
3. Pin / Doilies or Framework	5
C. FLOWER QUALITY and CONDITION	(25)
1. Freshness	10
2. Free from Insects and Disease	5
3. Condition of Stamens and Pistils	5
4. Condition of Sepals and Corolla	5
D. PRESENTATION	(10)
1. Adherence to Show Schedule	5
2. Appearance of Boxes, Mats, etc.	5
E. TOTALS	100

CORSAGES AND NOSEGAYS

Skill of Construction

- Neat, inconspicuous wiring and taping
- Number of blooms and overall size in proportion to flower size
- Bows neat and in proportion to entry
- Finished side of ribbon visible
- Corsage pin to be in evidence
- Nosegays may be constructed on doilies or similar framework which should be fresh, clean, and undamaged.

Color Harmony

- Color of taping, ribbon, and corsage pin should harmonize with flowers.
- Nosegay framework should not detract from flowers in size or color.

Quality and Condition of Flowers

- All flowers fresh and crisp and of good substance
- Free from parasites, insects, and disease
- Stamens and pistils may be removed, but if not removed should be free of excessive pollen.
- Free from damaged or discolored sepals and corolla
- Buds may be included unless restricted by schedule.

Presentation:

- Adherence to show schedule regarding manner of displaying or presentation.
- If schedule does not specify manner of presentation, the entrant should consider the suitability and overall appearance of boxes, mats, etc.

LEIS

Construction Point Scale for Leis

A. SKILL of CONSTRUCTION	(60)
1. Stringing (Length and Direction)	20
2. Uniformity of Cultivar	10
3. Pistils and Stamens	10
4. No Tubes or Seed Pods	10
5. Fullness	10
B. COLOR HARMONY	(5)
1. 1. Ribbon-closing	5
C. FLOWER QUALITY and CONDITION	(25)
1. Freshness	10
2. Free from Insects and Disease	5
3. Condition of Stamens and Pistils	5
4. Condition of Sepals and Corolla	5
D. PRESENTATION	(10)
1. Adherence to Show Schedule	5
2. Appearance of Boxes, Mats, etc.	5
E. TOTALS	100

Skill of Construction

- Blossoms threaded on a central support 35" to 37" long
- All flowers should be of same cultivar.
- All flowers should face in same direction.
- Pistils and stamens may be removed.
- Tube and seed pod should not show.
- Double flowers are preferable, but single or semi-double are acceptable.
- Flowers should be assembled to give full but neither crushed nor sparse appearance.

Harmony

If schedule permits, a ribbon-closing should be inconspicuous and of harmonizing color.

Quality and Condition of Flower

- As for corsage and nosegays
- No buds permissible

Presentation

- As for corsages and nosegays

CUT BRANCHES

Branches of fuchsias may be one or more stems of the same cultivar displayed in a container.

Point Scale for Cut Branches:

A. PERFECTION of BLOOM and FOLIAGE	(70)
1. Freshness of Bloom	25
2. Form and Color of Bloom	15
3. Freshness of Foliage	10
4. Stems	10
5. Free of Insects and Disease	10
B. BRANCHES	(10)
1. Arrangement of Branches	10
C. PRESENTATION	(10)
1. 1. Adherence to Schedule	5
2. 2. Container	5
D. CORRECT LABELING	(10)
1. Neatness and Legibility	5
2. Accuracy	5
E. TOTALS	100

Schedule Placement may be by:

- Flower forms (single, semi-double, double)

Perfection of Bloom and Foliage:

- Flowers must be fresh and in prime condition from bud stage to full bloom.
- Typical of their cultivar in form and color
- Foliage must be fresh.
- Stems firm and erect to support flowers
- Free of insects or disease

Arrangement of Branches

- Should be pleasing to the eye and show the flowers at their best.

Presentation

- Adherence to schedule
- Branches should be displayed in a container of proper size and color to present a pleasing effect.

Correct labeling:

- Each entry should be neatly and legibly labeled.
- Only if all judges are positive that the name is incorrect should 5 points be deducted.

EDUCATION EXHIBIT

Point Scale for Education Exhibit

A. EDUCATIONAL VALUE	(35)
1. To inform public	20
a. Life cycle of a fuchsia	
b. Hand-outs of fuchsia culture	
c. Create interest in AFS	
2. Clear and quality presentation	15
B. VARIETIES	(25)
1. Uprights and trailers	5
2. Singles, doubles, semi-doubles	5
3. Species	5
4. Plant habit and general growth characteristics	10
C. DESIGN	(20)
1. Eye-catching	10
2. Continuity of layout	10
D. CONDITION	(10)
1. Freshness of material	5
2. Neatness and simplicity	5
E. LABELING	(10)
1. Clear, easy to read	5
2. Accuracy	5
F. TOTALS	(100)

SUGGESTED READING

NWFS Judges Manual

Northwest Fuchsia Society
P.O. Box 33071
Seattle, WA 98133-0071

Growing and Showing Fuchsias

by **Leo Boullemier**
1985

Fuchsias

by **George Bartlett**
1988

Practical Fuchsia Growing

by Alan Toogood
1992