American Dahlia Society
Seedling Evaluation Scorecard for **Open-Centered** Cultivars

Date ___________ Time _________ Location ____________________ Number of Plants _____ Cultivar ID ___________

Classification ___________________________ ADS Color Chips __________________

1. Determine cultivar classification as a team if possible.
2. Identify faults of blooms at arm's length and judge early or late in the day, when possible.
3. Do not include blooms past their prime when determining faults in the trial garden, but do include as many blooms as possible (6 to 8, if possible).
4. See the back of this sheet for fault recommendations. Circle the faults identified.
5. Consider both the severity and extent of the fault when you determine the deduction.
6. Bear in mind that –1 is a failing (<85%) score for bloom position, and – 4 is a passing (>85%) score for form. Therefore, make deductions in the context of each characteristic's assigned value.
7. Use the bottom of the scorecard for entries that are clearly not worthy.

		SCORE
Color	**22 points** — if no faults are detected. Look for color that is not dull, blotchy, streaked, or faded. Bleeding is a fault in bicolor blooms. Uneven distribution of the second color is a fault for all the cultivars with two or more colors.	
Form **Diameter**_________	**28 points** — if no faults are detected. Check bloom for gaps, asymmetrical contour, adherence to the current ideal definition, and ray florets that are not uniform or not planar. Anemones should have well developed domes of tubular disk florets. Peonies should have 5 or fewer rows of ray florets that do not reflex toward the stem.	
Substance	**15 points** — if no faults are detected. Look for ray florets that are drooping, sagging, or wilting. Other faults include shriveled, misshapen, and falling florets.	
Stem **Length**_________	**10 points** — if no faults are detected. Check for stems that are crooked, too long, too short, too thick, too thin, or enter the bloom off center.	
Foliage	**10 points** — if no faults are detected. Look for leaves that are too small or too large for the bloom. Ideal leaves are identical and opposite each other on the stem.	
Bloom Position	**5 points** — if no faults are detected. Downfacing blooms are a serious fault. Sidefacing blooms are less serious. 45° is preferred.	
Uniformity (Bench)	**5 points** — if no faults are detected. Check blooms for uniformity of form, color, size as well as for each of the other evaluation characteristics.	Bench
Floriferousness (Trial Gardens)	**5 points** — if no faults are detected. Very few blooms or blooms too late for local shows are serious faults.	Trial Garden
Distinction	**5 points** — if strong potential for higher awards. Cultivars unlikely to win in competition should be penalized. Striking combinations of attributes should be rewarded.	

Judge's Printed Name __________________________ Judge's Signature _________________________________

Check One: ❑ Candidate Judge ❑ Accredited Judge ❑ Senior Judge ❑ Honorary Judge

Note: Only **one** judge per scoresheet. Each judge must use a separate scoresheet.

Total Score

Entry Not Worthy: It is occasionally necessary to judge an entry that will clearly not score above 75. In such an instance, please circle or underline the reason(s) for that conclusion: Consistently malformed florets, irregular number of ray florets, highly nonuniform color, many wolf florets (color or form), consistently down facing, stunted plants, very poor stems, very poor proportion, very poor color.

Additional scoring is not necessary; circle did not score (DNS) at right. ➔ **DNS**

Comments

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