Grow Better Dahlias; Judge!

June 21, 2013
Basic Approach to Judging

• Glenn Ruth’s Key Judging Rules
  – Have a good time
  – Learn something

• Knowledge-based Process
  – Experience, Experience, Experience

• Respect for Colleague’s Opinions, Perspectives

• Ethical Approach (Prejudices, Your Entries, ...)

• Camaraderie and Good Friendships
Overview of 6/21/13 Discussion

• Wayne and Eleanor Shantz’s Seminar
  – Gestalt
  – Stem
  – Distinction

• Distinction

• Seedling Contests
  – Plan for Petitti’s
Shantz DVD Seminar Items

• Gestalt

(German: Gestalt – "essence or shape of an entity's complete form") is a theory of mind and brain of the Berlin School; the operational principle of gestalt psychology is that the brain is holistic .... The principle maintains that the human eye sees objects in their entirety before perceiving their individual parts, suggesting the whole is greater than the sum of its parts.” (Wikipedia)
Stem Length

• Who knows what the book says about stem length?
• Who remembers what I’ve said about the “right” stem length?
• Take a look at what Wayne has to say:
DVDs

• Switch to DVDs
  – Gestalt DVD 1, 24::30
  – Stem DVD 4, 48::10
  – Distinction DVD 5, 34
Stem Length – From the “Book!”

• p. 36: “The length of the stem must be in proportion to the diameter of the bloom and the size of the foliage.”

• p. 54: “The center of the bloom, the stem length, and the spread of the foliage ideally will form a triangle with the stem length approximately one and one-half times the spread of the foliage.”
Stem Length

- **NO**
- **YES**

- Diameter: 1.5 x Dia
- Spread: 1.5 x Spr

Date: 6/21/2013
Stem - Bottom Line

• Don’t believe everything anybody (including me!) tells you about judging.

• Read the Book!
Distinction

• The Old, Old Score Sheet
  – Superior to competition in its class
  – Outstanding in color, form, and substance

• The Old Score Sheet
  – -5, unlikely to win
  – -4, occasional winner in its class
  – -3, frequent winner in its class
  – -2, potential section winner
  – -1, section winner, may win higher
  – -0, potential for higher awards
Distinction

• Current Score Sheet
  – 5 points – If strong potential for higher awards
  – Cultivars unlikely to win in competition should be penalized.
  – Striking combinations of attributes should be rewarded.

• Pass/Fail Criteria Applied to Each Attribute, including Distinction!
Cultivars with Distinction
Blossom Gulch,
2013 Contest Seed Parents!
Seedling Contest Strategy

• Ultimate Dahlia Gardening Thrill - Seedlings
  – Joy to Be the First to See a Beautiful New Dahlia
  – Joy of Showing that New Dahlia to Your (Dahlia Growing) Friends

• Naming those New Introductions Is Fun: Barbara, Peeper, Jackie ..... 

• Growing Seedlings Leads to Showing and Judging Dahlias
Plan for Petitti’s

• Seedling Bench Evaluation
  – ’09 (open-centered) and ‘10 (Boley ST) Contest Entries
  – Others
  – Discussion of Results in Seminar
• ‘09 and ‘10 Triple Entries – Scoring Evaluations
• ‘13 Best and (Technically) Worst Blossom Gulch
  – Classify, Including Color
  – Judge
• ‘12 (AN) Class (Best only)
• Others!? (Time permitting!?)
Borrow the DVDs

- DVD 1: Introduction, Gestalt in Judging, Dahlia Characteristics, Multiple Entry Judging, Judging Updates, Textbooks, Color Charts, Paying Respects, Score Card, Color, What Effects Color
- DVD 2: Bi-Colors, Variegated Colors, Petaloids, How to Use the Color Chart, Point Values, Blushes, Form, Definitions, Contour, Mixed Dahlias
Borrow the DVDs

• DVD 3: Ideal Definitions LC thru Open-Centered, Examination Information, PNDC, Compositae Characteristics
• DVD 4: What is a Flower?, Substance, Conditioning for Shows, Stem, Bloom Position, Basket Demonstration and Judging
• DVD 5: Show Schedule, Uniformity, Measuring Blooms, Odds and Ends, Floriferousness, Ethics, Classification Book, 4-digit System
Summary

• Judging Can (Will!) Enhance your Enjoyment of Growing Dahlias

• Wayne and Eleanor’s DVDs Present a very Thorough, Knowledgeable Judging Seminar

• The Guide to Judging Dahlias is the Basis for Judging Dahlias in the ADS; Read It!
Appendix:
Requirements for Judges
Requirements to Become a Judge

• Candidate Judge
  – Member of ADS
  – Guide to Judging Dahlias

• Accredited Judge
  – Grow and Show for 5 years
  – Attend 2 Judging Seminars and Take Written Exam
  – Judge as CN judge 5 times
  – Score 15 Seedlings over the 5 years
Requirements to Become a Judge

• Senior Judge
  – AC for at Least 4 Years and Judge in 8 Shows
  – Score 25 Seedlings over 5 years
  – Attend at Least 3 Judging Seminars over 5 years
  – Complete SR Written Exam

• Maintaining AC or SR Status
  – Judge in 8 Shows over 5 Years
  – Score 10 Seedlings over 5 Years
  – Attend 1 Judging Seminar Seminar over 2 Years
  – Complete SR or AC Exam over 5 Years