

Proposed Rules for the Region 3 Dan Tau Seedling Bed Competition (2008)

The Region 3 Seedling bed was initiated in the late 60's by Dan Tau and John Yonski to encourage interest in cultivars and hybridizers from Region 3. These two individuals from the Pittsburgh area provided the initial funding for the award, which has since been maintained by Region 3.

1. The contest is open to all AHS members in AHS Region 3. Award recipients remain eligible in successive years.
2. As soon as practical, the host club for the regional tour will provide prospective entrants notice through the Region 3 newsletter of: 1) the name and shipping address of the host garden; 2) when the garden will begin accepting entries; 3) and how many entries per hybridizer may be exhibited. The host should also provide a form to be included with entries which allows the hybridizer to specify his/her wish for disposal of the plant(s) at the end of the Regional meeting. (Suggested form is attached)
3. Entries will be accepted no earlier than three years prior to the tour date, and must be received by no later than the fall two years prior to the event. The hybridizer is responsible for getting his/her entries to the garden host. Hybridizers should carefully consider the bloom season of the area hosting the Regional event and send cultivars which would likely be in bloom during the tour time.
4. The hybridizer may enter up to **three** (3) seedlings, unless space is limited in which case entries may be restricted to two (2) per entrant at the request of the garden host.
5. Entries may consist of no more than three fans each at time of submittal.
6. The host club shall select the garden which will host the Regional Seedling Bed. All entries shall be located in one bed which is identified with appropriate signs. The garden host must exercise great care to keep accurate records of correct seedling numbers and hybridizers when planting the bed and renumbering the seedlings. If at all possible, the bed shall not be shared with named cultivars, or there must at least be a clear delineation to avoid any possibility of confusion. The bed shall be situated both for suitable viewing and to ensure growing conditions which are as equal as possible for all entries. The regional meeting chair shall be responsible to assure that the bed is maintained according to acceptable horticultural practices. Specifically, a bed should be created consisting of new amendments to promote good fertility and enough watering to promote excellent growth, increase, branching, and bud count. The bed should be located where it receives maximum sunlight.
7. Each seedling will be clearly identified with a unique number (NOT a hybridizer's seedling number) on markers assigned and provided by the garden host and known only by the garden host and the chair of the Awards Committee (person or persons assigned to count votes at the Regional meeting) prior to the winner being announced.

8. At the time of the regional tour, an eligible seedling must be unregistered and un-introduced and have been hybridized by a current member of AHS Region 3. The cultivar which wins the seedling bed competition is not eligible to be entered again.

9. Should a plant die, upon notification by the garden host a replacement of no more than three fans is allowed, if provided within the original time window as stated in rule 3.

10. Each registered attendee for the garden tour, AHS member or not, will receive a ballot to choose the top seedling. Ballots will be distributed and collected by bus captains at the end of the tour (or optionally a sealed ballot box may be provided in the host garden.) In either case, the ballots or box shall be promptly turned over to the chair of the Awards Committee upon conclusion of the tour. The seedling which receives the majority of the votes wins. Should Region 3 host an AHS National Convention, all convention attendees would be eligible to vote for the Seedlings in the Regional seedling bed.

11. Ballots will be counted by members of the Awards Committee and remain secret until the time of announcement.

12. As a matter of ethical conduct:

A) BEFORE THE BALLOTING IS COMPLETE, A HYBRIDIZER SHALL NOT IDENTIFY THAT A SEEDLING IS HIS/HERS OR THAT HE/SHE EVEN HAS A SEEDLING IN THE COMPETITION. ANYONE ELSE WHO CAN IDENTIFY A SEEDLING'S HYBRIDIZER, HOWEVER INNOCENTLY, E.G., HAVING SEEN IT IN THE HYBRIDIZER'S GARDEN OR IN A SLIDE SHOW, MUST NOT DISCUSS THIS KNOWLEDGE WITH OTHERS.

B) THE GARDEN HOST SHALL NOT ENTER THE SEEDLING COMPETITION AS THAT MAY GIVE THE IMPRESSION OF FAVORITISM IN HORTICULTURAL PRACTICES OR ENTRY PLACEMENT SHOULD HIS/HER ENTRY WIN;

C) THE GARDEN HOST SHALL NOT USE THE POLLEN OR SET PODS ON THE GUEST SEEDLINGS;

D) A SEEDLING NOT IN BLOOM ON TOUR DAY MAY BE RE-SUBMITTED IN A FUTURE COMPETITION.

13. THE AWARDS COMMITTEE CHAIR OR A DESIGNATED CHAIR SHALL ANNOUNCE THE SEEDLING AWARD WINNERS AT THE **SUMMER** MEETING. IT IS ALSO SUGGESTED THAT THE SEEDLING BED WINNERS BE FEATURED PROMINENTLY IN THE FALL FANFARE. CASH PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED TO THE THREE SEEDLINGS WINNING THE MOST VOTES. ***IT IS SUGGESTED THAT THE CASH PRIZES BE PRESENTED AT THE SUMMER MEETING AND THE CERTIFICATES AND PLAQUES BE PRESENTED AT LILYHEMMER.*** WINNING ONE PRIZE DOES NOT CAUSE A HYBRIDIZER TO BECOME INELIGIBLE TO WIN ANOTHER AWARD.

- a.** WINNER \$150 AND PLAQUE
- b.** 1ST RUNNER UP - \$ 100 AND CERTIFICATE
- c.** 2ND RUNNER UP - \$50 AND CERTIFICATE

IN CASE OF A TIE OR TIES, CASH PRIZES WILL BE ALLOCATED ACCORDING TO THE VOTING RESULTS.

Examples include:

*Two way tie for first place – first and second prizes will be combined and first place winners will equally split \$250, third place prize will be awarded

*Three (or more) way tie for first place – all prizes will be combined and first prize winners will equally split \$300

*No tie for first place, two (or more) way tie for second place – first prize will be awarded, second and third prizes will be combined and second place winners will equally split \$150

*No tie for first or second place, two (or more) way tie for third place – first and second prizes will be awarded, third prize winners will equally split \$50.

14. It is suggested that the host club consider assisting the seedling bed host with defraying the costs of preparing and building a new seedling bed in amounts up to \$150. Hosts should provide receipts to the club.

15. THE HYBRIDIZER WILL DESIGNATE THE FINAL DISPOSITION OF HIS/HER PLANT(S), INCLUDING A REQUEST THAT IT/THEY BE DESTROYED. IF ANY PORTION IS TO BE RETURNED, HE/SHE SHALL ARRANGE PICKUP OR PAY THE GARDEN HOST'S SHIPPING FEES. ANY PLANT(S) REMAINING WITH THE GARDEN HOST MAY BE KEPT OR DISPOSED OF AS THE HOST SEES FIT. THE HOST CLUB SHOULD KEEP A RECORD OF THE HYBRIDIZER'S REQUEST FOR DISPOSAL OF PLANTS AFTER THE REGIONAL SO AS TO HONOR THOSE REQUESTS IN TIMELY FASHION.

16. ALL QUESTIONS REGARDING INTERPRETATION OF THESE RULES SHALL BE RESOLVED BY THE REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENT OR AN APPOINTED AWARDS CHAIR



Current Rules (from 2006 Fanfare):

1. A breeder may submit up to three (3) plants.
2. Breeders should send suggestions on how the plants are to be dealt with following the Regional meeting (ie. Returned, kept, auctioned, etc.)
3. If a variety wins, it must be registered and introduced within the year.
4. The winner will win a \$300 cash prize and trophy.
5. The local hosting club assumes all responsibility for care of plants.

Major changes suggested in current proposal:

1. Eliminate requirement that winning seedling be registered.
2. Redistribution of cash prize to three winners rather than one.
3. Specific guidelines for care of seedling bed / host and club responsibilities
4. Recommendation that seedling awards to be announced and presented at summer meeting, with certificates (plaque to winner) to be presented at Lilyhemmer.

5. Specific guidelines for returning seedlings to hybridizers
6. Additional suggestions from committee:
 - a. That host club reimburse seedling bed host a token amount (up to \$150) for costs incurred.
 - b. That Reg. 3 RVP appoints an impartial person from Region 3 to serve as Awards Chairperson and oversee counting of Region 3 tour awards, including the seedling bed competition.
 - c. It is desirable that seedlings be sent to hosts 3 years in advance if possible.

Respectfully submitted, Region 3 Seedling Bed Committee

Julie Covington, Chair
Faith Bange
Ellen Brous
Pat Cochenhour
Don Herr
Jim Murphy
Margo Reed
Carol Savard, *Ex Officio*
Kevin Walek, *Ex Officio*