

Louisiana Iris (LA) In Garden Evaluation (Chapter 15)

GARDEN JUDGING - Introduced Varieties LA Iris

1. Plant			40
	a. Vigor & Stamina	20	
	b. Foliage	10	
	c. Stalk	10	
2. Flower			60
	a. Color	20	
	b. Substance & Durability	15	
	c. Beauty & Distinctiveness	25	
TOTAL			100

LA Section Award – DeBaillon Medal

An Iris Must Always Be Judged On Its Total Garden Qualities!

Awards must always be based on the total iris: plant, stalk, and flower

General :

Hexagonae, are commonly referred to as Louisiana iris. Five species *Iris hexagona*, *I. fulva*, *I. brevicaulis*, *I. giganteaerulea*, and *I. nelsonii*. Based solely on garden performance and should not be influenced by personal likes and dislikes. Judging requires that both the desirable and undesirable traits be considered. Observations should not be limited to just the blooming season. Louisiana Iris are unique among Iris in their cultural adaptability, Range or colors, and flower forms

Plant - 45 points

Vigor and Stamina (20 points)

Must grow and multiply under normal garden culture and conditions, tolerate normal variations in weather conditions, and be free of disease. Especially the presence of rust and leaf spot. rhizome must produce a minimum of two offsets per season few is a fault. Poor culture conditions, especially insufficient or inconsistent moisture can result in Leaf miners (moths (Lepidoptera), sawflies (Symphyta, the mother clade of wasps), and flies (Diptera), or brown dried leaves.

Foliage (10 points).

varies in length, thickness, width, and coloring. No criticism should be made of variations, provided the foliage is proportionate and free of disease. Foliage in colder climates tends to be more yellow, especially in early spring when the weather is cool and damp. Determine foliage is truly yellow-green and not result of chlorosis, caused by poor culture, damaged roots, compacted roots, and nutrient deficiencies. Crinkling or pleating of the foliage, especially on the bloom stalk, is normal and should not be considered a fault. Terminal bud spathe valve is normally longer on one side than the other and might extend above the flower or curl under the petals. This is not a fault.

Stalk (10 points)

May be straight, gracefully curved, or zigzag. All are acceptable provided they have sufficient strength to remain upright without staking. height of the stalk should be 10 to 50 inches, consistent within a clump. stalk should be in proportion to the size of the flowers. Carry a minimum of six buds per stalk. Grown in cooler climates will tend to be shorter and have a lower bud count. Cultivars should carry two buds at most positions. Cultivars taller than 30 inches (90 cm) should carry four or more positions. Two or more buds may open at once, terminal may not be first, do not fault.

Flower - 30 points**Color (20 points)**

All the primary colors and their combinations are found. Blended colors bright, pleasing color or color combination, not dull or drab. Bicolors a good color contrast and be in harmony. A new and different color or color combination must not overshadow the other characteristics. New color patterns, such as pronounced veining, spray pattern, halos, wide edges, multiple-colored rims, broken color, or luminata patterns should be evaluated along with other good characteristics. Streaking and blotches of color on floral segments is acceptable but should be consistent if not it is a fault.

Substance and Durability (15 points)

Flowers, under normal weather conditions, should last two to three days and still maintain their color and form without becoming floppy. Texture leathery, satiny, silky, velvety, rough or smooth. Any texture acceptable if underlying substance is good and adds to the beauty and distinctiveness.

Beauty and Distinctiveness (25 points)

Iris to be worthy of introduction or awards, it should possess distinctiveness as well as beauty and should not overshadow the other requirements. All forms are acceptable, and great care should be exercised to preserve this diversity. Contributing to the individuality and distinctiveness is the ruffling of the standards and falls. However, the smooth, tailored form is equally good. important to differentiate between additional petaloids on the double flower form compared to an extra standard or fall, which does not constitute doubling. The latter is considered a freak bloom caused by weather or growing conditions. Frequently the style arms are a different color than the standards and falls, and such variations should be considered desirable, may be ruffled or edged with a different color and vary in length and width. Signals are a marking, typically in yellow, orange, green, white or a combination of colors. Can be large or almost absent. Variations of signal considered desirable if they add to the overall beauty and distinctiveness of the flower

Judging Seedlings

New cultivar which not only conforms to the guidelines for the class, but exhibits desirable qualities comprising improvement and/or innovation.