

Intermediate Bearded (IB) in Garden Evaluation (Chapter 9)

Garden Judging of Introduced and Seedling IB Iris

1. Overall Proportion			20
2. Flower			35
	a. Color & Finish	15	
	b. Form	10	
	c. Substance & Durability	10	
3. Stalk			20
	a. Proportion	10	
	b. Branching & Buds	10	
4. Plant & Foliage			10
5. Distinctiveness			15
TOTAL			100

IB Section Award – Hans & Jacob Sass Medal

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

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

General –

Height 16” to 27.5”; 5+ buds (variable). Leaves substantially erect; stalks branched; blooms 3.5” to 5” wide, blooming between SDB and TB iris. Because of the diversity of genetic background, a great variety of plant, stalk and flower types is found that fits the IB class. Diversity should be encouraged and no one type is preferred over any other.

Overall Proportion – 20 points

A pleasing, well-balanced relationship among foliage, stalk and flower is essential in any iris, but even more critical for the median classes. All parts should contribute harmoniously to the whole, with no one feature overwhelming another.

Flower – 35 points

Color and Finish (15 points)

Full range of colors can be found in intermediates, as well as a vast array of patterns. Colors should be harmonious. Clean, clear colors are more pleasing to the eye. Finish or texture refers to the type of petal surface, e.g., matte, velvety, satiny or crystalline and should enhance color and/or pattern.

Form (10 points)

Intermediates come in a variety of forms. This diversity should be maintained and encouraged. Standards may be domed, cupped, erect or somewhat open, provided their contours suit overall flower shape, with midribs strong enough to hold them firmly in position. Extremely flaring falls might be a greater asset on smaller, shorter cultivars which are viewed from above. Decorations, including ruffles, lace and “space age” features like horns & spoons, should enhance but

never overwhelm the form. No decoration, however attractive or unusual, excuses serious faults in the underlying flower structure.

Substance and durability (10 points)

Purpose is to stabilize the flower form and to render the flower able to withstand weather conditions over a reasonable period of time. Flowers should last at least three days under normal weather conditions.

Stalk -- 20 points

Proportion (10 points)

Regardless of the branch habit, the height and diameter of the stalk must attractively balance both the flowers and the plant from which it emerges. Its failure to do so should be heavily penalized. Thick and clubby stalks should be heavily penalized.

Branching and buds (10 points)

Many types of branching are found in the intermediate class. Whatever the branch habit, it should present flowers artistically throughout the bloom season without crowding. Greater numbers of buds are preferred. Plants which produce repeat or sequential stalks give generous bloom for long periods despite few branches and buds per stalk. Such cultivars should not be penalized simply because of their lower bud count. A neat, compact plant is desirable. Vigorous growth is the norm for the intermediate class.

Distinctiveness – 15 points

Characteristics which set a cultivar apart from others of its kind. Unusual qualities of flower shape, color and pattern immediately come to mind, but other qualities, such as particularly elegant branching or an especially appealing fragrance, can also render a plant distinctive.

Judging Seedlings

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