

(1 The judging of gardens continued)

Alternatively the following pointing system may be used:

Vegetable gardens

Section 1 Cultivation (cropping scheme, quality of work, cleanliness, stored humus or compost heap)	25 points
Section 2 For potatoes, 12; winter brassicas, 12; onions, 12; carrots, 12; celery, 8; leeks, 8; beetroot, 6; parsnips, 5	75 points
Section 3 For peas, 12; runner or climbing beans, 12; summer brassicas, 12; lettuces, 8; tomatoes, 8; broad beans, 6; dwarf French beans, 6; vegetable marrows, 6	70 points
Section 4 For any other kinds of vegetable not mentioned above (including salads), 5 points each kind; not more than six kinds to receive points in final total.	30 points
TOTAL	200 points

Flower gardens

Section 1 For general scheme, 30; tasteful arrangement, 20; cultivation and cleanliness, 20	70 points
Section 2 For shrubs and trees, climbers, rock garden, lawn, paths, greenhouse, fences and hedges: 8 each, but only four of these to receive marks	32 points
Section 3 For hardy herbaceous perennials, annuals and biennials, roses, tender plants, windowboxes, window plants, etc: 8 each, but only four of these to receive marks.	32 points
Section 4 For special features	16 points
TOTAL	150 points

Glasshouses, frames and other protected areas

Section 1 Standard of cultivation, 15; utilisation of growing space, 10; cleanliness, 5	30 points
Section 2 For tomatoes, 10; cucumbers, 10; aubergines, 10; peppers, 10; fruit, 10; but only three of these to receive marks.	30 points
Section 3 Ornamental pot plants	20 points
Section 4 Other plants, 5; specialist collections, 15	20 points
TOTAL	100 points

Fruit gardens

The garden should contain not less than six kinds of fruits.

Section 1 For the overall planting scheme 20; good pruning, training, tree and bush form and plant supports 20; cultivation, cleanliness, pest and disease control 18	58 points
Section 2 For apples, 12; pears, 10; plums, 10; grapes, 10; cherries, 8; currants, black, 8; currants, other than black, 8; gooseberries, 8; raspberries, 8; strawberries, 8; blackberries, or hybrid berries, 8	98 points
(The tree and bush fruits to consist of at least two plants of any one kind, grapes one, blackberries and/or hybrid berries two, strawberries 4m of row and raspberries 4m length of row.)	
Section 3 For peach and/or nectarine fan trained, 10; in bush form, 8; fig fan trained, 10	28 points
Section 4 For any other kind of fruit not mentioned above 4 points each kind, not more than four kinds to receive points in final total.	16 points
TOTAL	200 points

2 The judging of allotments

For competition purposes an allotment is considered to be an area of land separate from and in addition to the household garden adjacent to the owner's property; or a plot cultivated by a householder who has no garden as part of his/her own domestic premises.

The primary purpose of an allotment is to provide crops of vegetables, fruit, flowers and culinary herbs for household use and the more completely a plot fulfils this objective the greater should be the credit accorded to it in competition.

Allotments also allow enthusiasts for one particular plant or group of plants to indulge their particular passion and a plot given over to the monoculture of, for example, dahlias or carnations must be judged according to the standard and quality of cultivation.

The size of plot should not be a factor for consideration in competition but where there are a great many entries of varying sizes organisers should consider dividing the competition into three or four separate classes according to size.

(2 The judging of allotments continued)

The following pointing systems are offered as a guide but competition organisers may wish to adapt these to suit local conditions or requirements.

Condition of the plot **60 points**
Plots should be well stocked with crops free from obvious signs of excessive damage by pests, disease or weather. Any unplanted areas where crops have just been harvested or that are about to be planted up should be clean and free from weeds and the soil should be of a good, well cultivated condition and texture.

Good workmanship **50 points**
Soil between the crops should contain little or no evidence of weeds. Paths and leisure areas where included should be neatly edged, even and well maintained. Evidence of planting for a constant succession of crops should be given credit. Intelligent use of organic methods of pest control such as the pinching out of broad bean tips to inhibit blackfly or the use of barriers against carrot root fly should be given credit. Supports for those plants that require them should be properly positioned and sturdy enough to withstand bad weather.

Quality of crops, flowers, fruit and vegetables and plants **150 points**
All plants should be vigorous, sturdy and free from obvious signs of excessive damage by pests, disease or weather. A broad range of food crops, both vegetables and fruit where the latter is permitted, should be in cultivation and flowers grown for cutting or decoration should be assessed on the same basis as the food crops ie with a regard to their health, skill in cultivation and suitability to the site. The inclusion of culinary herbs in the cropping scheme should be considered meritorious.

Originality of layout and planting **25 points**
The intelligent adaptation of the layout to suit the needs of the plot-holder, the use of companion planting to reduce damage by pests and a pleasing overall visual effect should be considered meritorious. The cultivation of less common crops and the use of no-dig or deep-bed methods of cultivation should be given credit.

Ingenuity in overcoming local problems **25 points**
Plot-holders who have overcome difficulties such as oddly shaped sites, difficult soil conditions, exposed aspect or excessive shading and dehydration by an adjacent tree belt should be given credit for raising an acceptable (ie usable) standard of crop.



Judging gardens and allotments

Visual aspect of the plot **20 points**
The overall appearance of the plot should be neat and pleasing and the balance of the cultivation, as far as is allowed by local regulations, should be as broad as possible.

Condition of garden sheds, etc **20 points**
Sheds, if present, should be of a neat and workmanlike appearance both inside and out. Frames, cloches and greenhouses should be clean and well maintained. Pea and bean supports should be sturdy enough for the weight of the crops that they bear and any bird netting should be properly positioned and undamaged so as to afford protection to the crops over which they have been placed.

TOTAL **350 points**