

Judges Training
Judging Bearded Irises as Garden Plants
Instructor: Stephanie Markham

February 15, 2023

Region _____ Name: _____ Judging Status: _____

1. The ultimate objective for the iris judge is to cast votes for irises with exceptionally beautiful flowers, regardless of other traits, because that is what will attract the public to buy them. **True** ____ **False** ____
2. Observing a variety in one garden during a single bloom season is sufficient to judge whether it is worthy of an award, because irises behave identically every year in every garden. **True** ____ **False** ____
3. No matter how nice the flower, you should not vote for an award for an iris that lacks good proportion according to the standards for its class. **True** ____ **False** ____
4. You should expect bearded irises to have to be replanted/reset every couple of years so they don't get crowded. **True** ____ **False** ____
5. As long as the plant is vigorous and healthy, and the individual flowers are attractive and well displayed, it is completely unimportant if there are only a couple of bloom stalks in an established bearded iris clump. **True** ____ **False** ____
6. In a bearded iris, the look of the foliage is only important while the iris is blooming. **True** ____ **False** ____
7. A TB, BB, IB, or MTB iris that tends to open 2 or 3 flowers at a time on every bloom stalk and is done blooming in a week is preferred over one that opens its flowers over a longer time, because it is more likely to give you show stalks to let you win Queen of Show. **True** ____ **False** ____
8. An MDB or SDB iris that produces a nice mass of flowers all at once is always preferred to one that produces sequential stalks over the course of 2 weeks. **True** ____ **False** ____
9. TB irises are expected to have a minimum of _____ branches and _____ buds, while BBs must have at least _____ buds and MTBs at least _____ buds, with _____ buds preferred.
10. Three of the most important aspects of judging bearded irises in the garden have to do with a plant's ability to:
 - 1) _____
 - 2) _____
 - 3) _____