

Two dozen plants suitable for showing in Section C

George Sevastopulo, September 2013

The list below is a personal choice of plants that a beginner to Showing could usefully acquire and could grow on to exhibit at the AGS shows at Greenmount on the 5th April and at Cabinteely on the 26th April 2014. This list complements the five plants for exhibition described by Liam Byrne in the most recent newsletter.

First, a few general remarks. In order to exhibit at an AGS show, you must be a member of the AGS (not just the local group). Plants that you exhibit must have been in your possession for at least six months (so now is the time to order – Timpany Nurseries [<http://www.timpanynurseries.com>] have many of the plants listed and do mail order). Pots in Section C must be no larger than 19cm maximum diameter. However if you have a good plant in a larger pot, you can enter it in Section B or A. Make sure the pot is clean and in the three pan class, make sure that the pots form a nice threesome.

Enough of the ‘dos and don’ts’. What about the plants? I’ve listed last year’s (2013) class numbers – the numbers may be different in 2014 but the class descriptions will be the same.

Class	Description
106	This is for 3 pans rock plants, distinct (this means ‘not the same’, but different cultivars of the same species are allowed): The judges will be impressed if the three are all in flower. <i>Anemonella thalictroides</i> , <i>Lewisia cotyledon</i> and <i>Pulsatilla vulgaris</i> would make a nice threesome.
107	1 pan rock plant in flower: Obviously a huge choice. What about <i>Oxalis enneaphylla</i> ?
108	1 pan Primulaceae excl. Primula: Androsaces are a good bet. An easy one to cut your teeth on is <i>Androsace carnea ssp. rosea</i> .
109	1 pan Primula: There is a large choice of Primula species and cultivars that should be in flower in April. My choices would be <i>Primula</i> ‘Joe Elliott’ and one of the many <i>Primula marginata</i> cultivars.
110	1 pan Lewisia: <i>L. brachycalyx</i> .
111	1 pan Saxifraga: kabschias will probably be over; <i>Saxifraga primuloides</i> ‘Clarence Elliott’ has done well at our shows in the past.
112	1 pan bulbous plant: <i>Tristagma [Ipheion]</i> ‘Alberto Castillo’ can be relied on to give a good display. Another ‘banker’ is <i>Tulipa batalinii</i> .
113	1 pan dwarf shrub excl. Ericaceae: I find <i>Berberis stenophylla</i> ‘Corallina Compacta’ reliable in flowering at show time.
114	1 pan Ericaceae: Liam’s suggestion of <i>Andromeda polifolia</i> is an excellent choice.
115	1 pan rock plant in flower, native to Europe: hybrids (but not hybrids that occur in the wild) are excluded from this class. <i>Ranunculus gramineus</i> would be a good choice.
116	1 pan dwarf conifer: I would choose one of the truly dwarf cultivars of <i>Pinus mugo</i> .

- 117 1 pan rock plant with silver or grey foliage: *Sedum spathulifolium* 'Cape Blanco' is easy to grow and is a good grey leaved foliage plant. Alternatively, try one of the *Celmisias*, perhaps *C. ramulosa*.
- 118 1 pan rock plant for foliage effect, excl. silver or grey: black *Ophiopogon planiscapus* 'Nigrescens' when well grown makes a stunning foliage plant.
- 119 1 pan hardy fern: either *Cheilanthes lanosa* or *Cystopteris dickeiana*.
- 120 1 pan Sempervivum or Jovibarba: in addition to Liam's choice of *Sempervivum arachnoideum* (best in the variety *laggeri*), I like *Sempervivum erythraeum*. You'll see a picture of the latter on p.11 of the recent newsletter – it's the plant in the foreground.
- 121 1 pan Crassulaceae excl. Sempervivum and Jovibarba: the small tree-like *Crassula sarcocaulis* is hardy in the Dublin area.