

# Showing Rhododendrons in the Scottish Rhododendron Society show.

Firstly, it is meant to be fun and it is easy to do. There is always plenty of helpers around during the setup of the show so don't be shy just ask for help.

The vases will be setup and ready for you to lift to a setup table. The best practice is to fill the vase  $\frac{3}{4}$  with water and then use old newspaper or moss (Moss looks best) to pack the stem of the spray and truss in with. This holds it firmly in the vase. Don't be over concerned if you have an awkward stem and your exhibit doesn't sit perfectly. The judges are there to judge the exhibit against the schedule and if they need to hold it up to see it better then they do.

## Truss verses Spray

The Classes are the sections used to put certain species and hybrids into. It takes time and help to understand the genus and it's hybrids, But help/books and a hand need are always about to assist you with this in order to make sure you have selected the correct class.

Some classes are for a single vase/flower entries and some have to have 3-6 vases/flowers per entry.

## A Truss

In the show schedule Class 1 says:

Six species of rhododendron, excluding Falconera and Grandia subsections, one truss.

A truss is a singular flower head (usually pretty big). Please see the picture below of a previous Class 1 entry where there are six vases that have one truss of a different species (Within the allowed Sections of Grandia and Falconera within the Rhododendron family).



In Class 2 it states: *Three species, one truss*



In Class 3, its just a single truss



### **A Spray**

A spray is a piece of branch with multiple flower heads (Like smaller trusses).

In the show schedule class 21 says:

Triflora subsection excluding augustinii, davidsonianum and yunnanense, one **spray** not more than 45cm in height from top of the vase.

The pictures below all show sprays (small branches with few to many flowers at the end of each twig).

Immediately below is a picture of a previous class 21 winner



A previous class 43 winner also showing a Spray.



This is a spray below, but one of the single flower heads could have been cut off and exhibited as a truss if there is a suitable class to put it in. Class 27 in this case. 27. Any subgenus Rhododendron (Lepidote) not included in the above classes, one truss or spray not more than 30cm in height from top of the vase

