



## Setting up an exhibit at the show

Anyone can exhibit. The show is open to all and there is a section for novice exhibitors. There are 12 awards for different sections, some awarded on a points system for those showing in several classes. You do not need to know the name of your rhododendron (though it helps) but here are some tips if you decide to exhibit.

### Katrina's tips on preparation.

- Cut your best chosen blooms the day before and put in water to the top of the stem. Keep in a cool dark place.
- Most exhibitors transport their blooms in a milk or wine bottle, in a milk crate if available, trying not to bruise blooms in transit.
- You may set your exhibits on Friday from 3pm to 7:30pm or on the Saturday morning of show day from 8am till 9.45 when the hall closes for judging.
- Bring a clean, sharp pair of secateurs and some moss if available or damp newspaper, which will help support the bloom in the vase. Vases are available. Choose a size to suit each exhibit. It might also be useful to bring a measuring tape.
- Before you start, please fill in an entry form and you must complete a class card, to be placed with EACH vase you exhibit.
- There will be other growers setting up and a great atmosphere of shared enthusiasm prevails. Novices are always warmly welcomed and assisted and refreshments are available to sustain you.

*check show schedule very carefully to avoid disqualification. Some exhibits must be below a given height.*

*Only with experience can you decide at what stage of development your flowers will show at their best on the day so it may be wise to cut several- if you have enough.*

A “**Spray**” is a single or multi-stemmed, many flowered branch.



A “**Truss**” is a single flower head, growing from one main bud.



All of these directions and more and the classes are printed in the show schedule, available on this website or at the set up area.

Please come and exhibit your favourite or unusual rhododendrons. The purpose of the show is, of course, to award prizes to the best specimens but also to allow our exhibitors and visitors to see a wide range of rhododendrons, help them to perhaps identify their own plants and to demonstrate the colour, the beauty and the diversity of this amazing group of plants.

If you are trying to identify a particular rhododendron, bring a flower spray and place in a vase at the front of the stage where the SRS committee and judges will attempt to name it.