



FRUIT

Apples and Pears should be exhibited with stalks attached. The fruit should not be polished. Fruit should be uniform in shape and size with skins free from blemishes, patches of discoloration and bruising etc. Specimens should also be fresh. Ripeness of fruit is not so important.



FLOWERS

Generally speaking flowers and foliage should all be clean and free from disease and insect damage. Where possible choose vases to suit the height of the stems.



*"Top Tips"
and
Inspirational Pictures!*



Carrots

When taken from the soil one should be careful to try and maintain a long tap root. This can be achieved by watering them well and easing them from the soil. The carrots should be carefully washed with a soft cloth to ensure they are free of earth especially around the top of the shoulders. The skins should be undamaged and they should be of similar size and shape - try to keep a long tap root. The leaf stalks should be cut to a length of about 75mm and neatly tied with raffia .



Onions

Onions should be uniform in shape and size. Be careful to ensure that they conform to any weight restrictions. The onions should be well ripened, firm and with a dry, unbroken, unblemished and ripe skin. The onions should not be over skinned and green. The roots should be trimmed neatly and the top of the onion (the neck), which ought to be thin, should be turned over and bound neatly with raffia. The onions should be staged on rings so that they sit upright on the show bench. (One can use cardboard tubes from used kitchen roll etc. cut to size)

HERE ARE SOME OF OUR TOP TIPS!

Potatoes

Potatoes should be as far as possible of the same shape and size, with eyes that are shallow. They ought to be carefully washed so as not to damage the skins, but with all traces of earth removed. They ought to be of a good size, not too large and not too small (around 170g to 225g is a good guide).

Tomatoes

The tomatoes should be regular in shape and size and firm but fully ripe (showing the true colour of the variety). They should be unblemished but not be polished and have a fresh green calyx attached.





Runner Beans

The beans should be exhibited with some stalk (the handle) attached. They should be straight and of equal length and uniform size. They should also be fresh and not coarse and stringy. The seeds should not be overly prominent in the pod. They should be of a good even colour and free from blemishes.



Beetroot

When taken from the soil one should be careful to try and maintain a long tap root. This can be achieved by watering them well and easing them from the soil. Carefully trim any side roots from the main tap root leaving just one root. The beetroot should be carefully washed with a soft cloth to ensure they are free earth. The skins should be undamaged and they should be of similar size and shape, as a rule of thumb the ideal size for globe beetroot is that of a tennis ball. The leaf stalks should be cut to a length of about 75mm and neatly tied with raffia.

HERE ARE SOME OF OUR TOP TIPS!

Cucumber

The Cucumber should be exhibited with about 2 cms of stalk attached and with the dead flower intact and still attached at the end of the cucumber. The cucumber should be fresh, straight and not over mature. They should have a short "handle" i.e. the thin end to which the stalk is attached. They should be blemish free and retain their natural bloom.

Leeks

Leeks should be thoroughly washed with the soil teased from the roots which should not be cut off. The flags (leaves) should also not be cut and in good condition. The barrel of the leek should be straight, even and not swollen (bulbous) at the base. The longer the blanched (white) part of the barrel the better. The leeks should be uniform in shape and size.

