**2015 Hosta Seed Growers Seedling Competition**

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| **Class I** | **Green** (all shades & sizes) |  | **Class VI** | **Streaked/Splashed/Misted** (all shades & sizes) |
| **Class II** | **Blue** (all shades & sizes) |  | **Class VII** | **Red Petioles** (all foliage colors & sizes) |
| **Class III** | **Yellow** (all shades & sizes) |  | **Class VIII** | **Mini** (all foliage colors) |
| **Class IV** | **Margin-variegated** (all shades & sizes) |  | **Class IX** | **1st Year Seedlings\*** |
| **Class V** | **Medio-variegated** (all shades & sizes) |  |  |  |

**Rules**

1. Entry of seedlings in the HSG Seedling Competition is open to anyone attending the 2015 MidWest Hosta Convention in Dubuque, IA.
2. All plants must be grown from seed by the exhibitor or originator and be established in their containers. Seedlings may be entered into the competition in someone else’s name. Any awards or prizes are awarded to the seedling’s originator. The person entering this plant would be considered the originator’s representative.
3. Only unregistered plants and those not introduced into the trade may be entered in the competition.
4. A $5 registration fee per plant is required. Registration fees will go toward funding future HSG Seedling Competitions and to the Dubuque Regional Hosta Society for supplies.
5. Each exhibitor may enter no more than 3 plants per class and no more than 15 seedlings total.
6. All plants must be in black pots. Only potting soil and fertilizers are allowed in the pot. Flower scapes may be left on the plant at the discretion of the exhibitor.
7. Exhibitors will determine which class each of their seedlings will be entered into.
8. Identifying features of any kind are not allowed. This includes, but is not limited to: paint, dye, markings of any kind, pebbles or fertilizer on the soil surface, perfume, tape, staples, labels or markers and stakes. A plant will not be allowed into the competition with any of these identifying features.
9. Plants appearing to exhibit nematodes, viruses or other diseases or pests will not be allowed in the exhibit area. If the plant shows an unusual type of variation that is questionable, a certification that the plant is virus free from a reliable source could allow the plant to be entered. The final decision on this will be made by the HSG board.
10. Touching the plants is not allowed. During voting no talking about the plants to others will be allowed, once your voting is done you will turn in your ballot and leave the room so others may enter and vote.
11. There will be two winners for each Class: Best of Class and 2nd Place. Each class must have more than one entry for a ribbon to be awarded. Voters will vote for one (1) seedling per class.
12. \*1st year seedlings (Class IX) are ones started on or after September 1st of the preceding year. All show rules apply, but this class is NOT eligible for Best of Show.
13. The Best of Show winner will be awarded to the Best of Class winner with the highest overall number of the popular vote.
14. **Anyone who chooses to enter seedlings in the competition will be required to pre-register by e-mail or by mail.\* Registration deadline is July 1, 2015. A $5 late fee will be charged after this date. \***(See Registration Form for email and postal addresses.)
15. No person involved in or attending the HSG Seedling Competition may discuss a plant(s) or reveal who entered a plant(s) before or during the voting process. If this occurs, the seedling(s) will be removed from the competition.
16. Hosta Seed Growers board members will receive entries at the Holiday Inn Downtown Dubuque, IA on Friday, July 10th from 10 AM – 2 PM.
17. There will be some time for viewing seedlings before the voting, time to be announced later. Voting will be held Friday, July 10th at 8:00 PM -8:45.
18. **When other convention activities are occurring, the Competition Room will be locked. The Hosta Seed Growers board and group assume no responsibility for the seedlings on exhibit.**
19. Final viewing time for plants in the HSG Seedling Competition will be from 1-4 PM on Saturday, July 11th. Plants must be picked up promptly at the end of viewing.