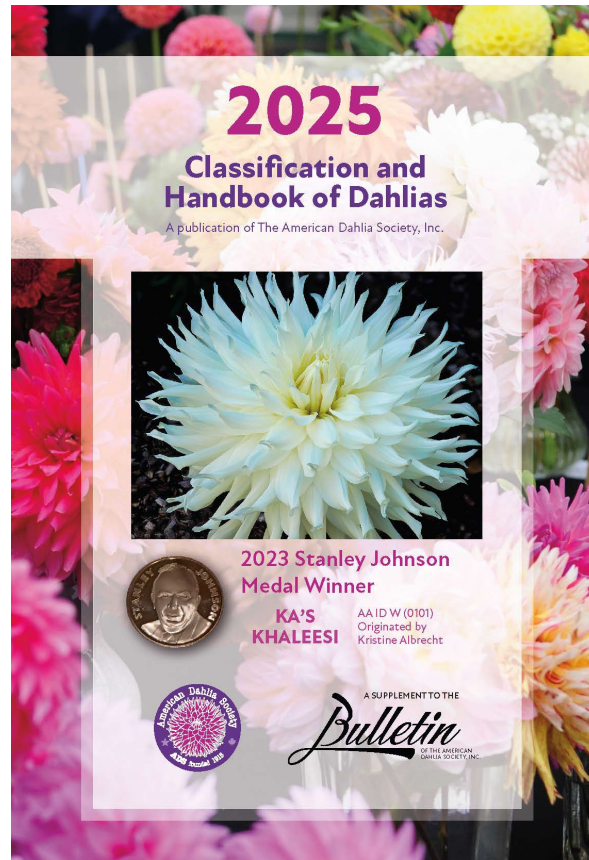


# CLASSIFICATION AND HANDBOOK OF DAHLIAS

- What is it?
- Why do I need it?



- How do I use it?
- How do I get one?

**THE ADS RELEASES AN UPDATED VERSION OF THE CHD  
EVERY YEAR, LISTING ALL NEW ADS CLASSIFIED CULTIVARS**



**EVERY ADS MEMBERS RECEIVES THE LATEST COPY OF THE CHD AS A  
MEMBER BENEFIT, AS WELL AS THREE ISSUES OF THE AMERICAN DAHLIA  
SOCIETY BULLETIN**

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We will introduce  
each section, for your  
future use

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# CLASSIFICATION BOOK BACKGROUND IS FOUND ON PAGE 2

- This book will help you become familiar with dahlia language
- It will also guide you if you are looking for exhibition dahlias
- It will help to acquaint you with what you have in your gardens

## **Classification Book Background**

The ADS bases this *2025 Classification and Handbook of Dahlias* on principles established by the Central States and American Dahlia Societies in the late 1930's and early 1940's, in addition to further refinements developed by joint classification committees of the two societies in 1948. Dahlia growers nationwide are indebted to these forward looking efforts that have made possible this current classification manual, based on show results and field observations throughout North America.

## **Criteria for Inclusion or Deletion from the *Classification and Handbook of Dahlias***

1. A cultivar that wins two blue ribbons in ADS-affiliated shows in a given year will be initially listed - or relisted after being dropped from the CHD.
2. A cultivar must win three blue ribbons during the last two-year period to remain listed.
3. A cultivar with a score of 85.0 or greater from either an official trial garden or seedling bench evaluation will automatically be listed for at least two years.
4. A cultivar that receives a classification committee change recommendation will be included in the CHD the ensuing year even if it does not receive two blue ribbons.

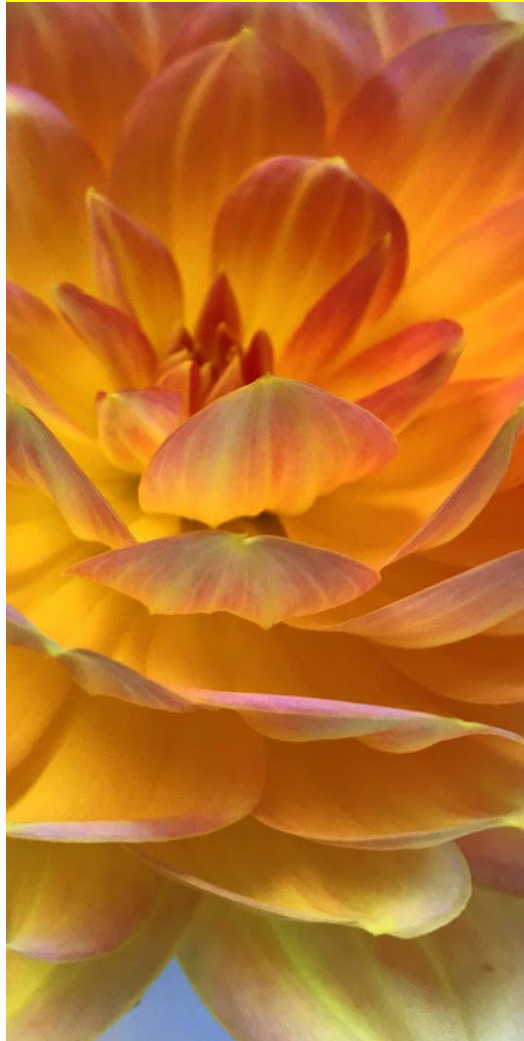
## **Cultivar Classification and Change Request Rules and Procedures**

1. All those who make cultivar classification change requests must be members of the American Dahlia Society.
2. For each change request, you must employ the following procedure: List the a) Current Cultivar Number, b) Cultivar Name, c) Cultivar Size, Form, and Color; d) Name of Person Requesting Change, e) Suggested Number of Cultivar Change, and f) the Change by Description. (For example, if the cultivar were Red (R), and the desired change were dark red (DR), Chip DR3 you would write in DR3 after the cultivar number change.
3. Cultivars that repeatedly receive requests for change may be retired from the change request process.
4. No request for cultivar classification change will be included without a break of at least one year from the last change request.
5. All requests for change in cultivar color classification must include *American Dahlia Society Color Guide, 2003* chip identifi-



# GENERAL INFORMATION

## FORMS PAGES 3-8



fication, such as change cultivar XYZ from YL22 to BR10. Send classification change requests to any member of the Classification committee (members are listed on the inside front cover of the CHD).

### Length of Cultivar Names

The ADS Executive Board decided that more than 22 characters in a cultivar name will be truncated. Be aware that letters, numbers, spaces, apostrophes, periods or any other diacritical mark consist of a character. See *Bulletin of the American Dahlia Society*, September 2004, p. 11.

### Judging Size, Form, and Color

Disseminated dahlias, when entered by ADS Classification standards in ADS shows, will NOT be eliminated or disqualified for either oversize or undersize, misclassified form, or a variation in color or form from the classification book. Judges will assess a dahlia bloom strictly on its merits or deficiencies, such as color fading or insufficient ray florets and gaps in contour. Whenever the size, form or color of a cultivar exhibits characteristics other than classified, the cultivar should be submitted as a candidate for reclassification. Judges will also evaluate all of the scorecard characteristics by weighing each of them, and not solely basing their judgments on the merits or lack thereof for one quality, such as trueness to form. Note: The ideal form descriptions that appear here and in the Guide to Judging Dahlias are designed to help judges rank some of the fine points of a variety's formation and should not eliminate or disqualify an entry.

### Form

All dahlias in classes 0001 through 7715: Formal Decorative, Informal Decorative, Semi-Cactus, Cactus, Incurved Cactus, Lacinated, Ball, Miniature Ball, Pompon, Stellar, Waterlily and Novelty Double are fully double with the central rays spirally displayed. The mature petals that determine the size of the dahlia determine the dahlia formation. In the following descriptions, the "X" in the number range signifies size and can be replaced with 0 (AA), 1 (A), 2 (B), 3 (BB), 4 (M) or 5 (MC).

**X001—X015 FORMAL DECORATIVE** Dahlias: Ray florets are generally flat, broad, and smooth in a regular arrangement that gradually recurve toward the stem. Each ray floret row should convey uniform and regular size arrangement with the tips preferably round or

extending to a slight point. The ideal depth is three-quarters the diameter of the bloom and should not be greater than its diameter.

**X101—X115 INFORMAL DECORATIVE** Dahlias: Ray florets may be twisted, curled, or wavy, and of uniform size in a regular or irregular arrangement. They may be partially involute or revolute, but no portion should be fully revolute or involute except at the tip of the ray floret. The ideal depth is three-quarters the diameter of the bloom and should not be greater than its diameter.

**X201—X215 SEMI-CACTUS** Dahlias: Ray florets are broad at the base, straight or incurved, and reflex toward the stem in a regular and uniform arrangement. Ray florets will be revolute for approximately half their length and fully revolute (touching or overlapping) for at least one-fourth their length. The ideal depth is three-quarters the diameter of the bloom and should not be greater than its diameter.

**X301—X315 STRAIGHT CACTUS** Dahlias: Ray florets are narrow at the base, straight, uniform in length and reflex toward the stem, radiating uniformly in all directions from the center. They will be revolute for the majority of their length and fully revolute (touching or overlapping) for approximately half their length. A depth of about three-quarters the diameter is ideal for this form.

**X401—X415 INCURVED CACTUS** Dahlias: Ray florets are pointed, narrow at the base, uniform in length and arrangement, revolute for the majority of their length, and fully revolute for at least half their length. They will curve upward to the bloom face, but may also arc downward and then up, or they may swirl horizontally around the bloom circumference, usually exposing the involucre in either case. Depth must be at least half the diameter.

**X501—X515 LACINATED** Dahlias: Ray florets are split at the tip with the number and depth of the splits varying according to the size of the ray floret. The portion of the ray floret with the splits should uniformly twist or curl whether involute or revolute. The less mature ray florets should possess splits but do not have to twist or curl. In the ideal lacinated dahlia, the majority of ray florets will be uniformly arranged with a split, twist, or curl that conveys an overall fringed or frilled effect. Ray florets, slightly involute or revolute, that split regardless of length and remain generally flat are a major fault. Ray florets with a shallow notch or cleft and possessing little twisting to the extreme portion should not be classified as lacinated. The ideal depth is



# ALL THOSE SHADES AND COLOR CLASSES

## PAGES 8-10



**9501—9515 MICRO ORCHETTE** Dahlias: Micro Orchette dahlias possess the same formation as Orchette dahlias except they are up to 2 inches in diameter.

**9601—9615 SINGLE** Dahlias: The bloom has a single row of flat or slightly cupped ray florets arranged in a flat plane. They uniformly overlap, preferably in the same direction with no gaps. Eight ray florets are most desirable. Disc flowers with 0 to 3 rows of pollen are desirable. A round floret tip is preferred. The bloom is over two inches in diameter.

**9701—9715 MIGNON SINGLE** Dahlias: Mignon single dahlias possess the same formation as single dahlias. Disc flowers with 0 to 3 rows of pollen are desirable. The bloom is up to two inches in diameter.

### Color

**White zero (WH 0)** has been added to the white color class. It is the border (background) of the white color chip page.

**Official Color Chart:** The ADS Official Color Guide is the American Dahlia Society *Color Guide for Classifying Dahlias, 2003*. Note: 1) Light and Dark Blends will be blends dominated by colors from the recommended list below. Each ADS color is listed in either the Light or the Dark list and in only one of the lists. (2) Flame Blends will be blends containing one of the yellows listed plus one or more of the OR, RD, or BR colors listed. (3) If a blend has YL 1-YL 5 plus one of the OR, RD, or BR colors listed in the FL list, it will be a Light or Dark Blend, depending on which color dominates. For further clarification, see the *Guide to Judging Dahlias, 2022*, pp. 12-13.

**Classification Procedures for Color in Fully Double Dahlias:** Classification by color of fully double dahlias is determined by the color(s) appearing on either, or both, the face or reverse of the ray florets. The predominant color, as seen from 3 feet, will determine the color class and be listed first. All color designations will be in capital letter with the reverse ray floret color(s) enclosed in brackets [ ]. A slash (/) will appear between the face and reverse colors. For instance, a fully double novelty dahlia shows lavender on the face of the ray floret and a light blend of pink and yellow on the reverse; if the dominating color is lavender (on the face of ray floret), the classification is NX-L, L [LB/PK/Y]; if the dominating color is the light blend (on reverse of ray floret), the classification is NX-LB, [PK/Y]L.

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### Classification Procedures for Color in Open-Centered

**Dahlias:** Classification by color of open-centered dahlias is determined by the color(s) appearing on the face of the ray florets except in ORCHIDS and ORCHETTES that are classified by color on the reverse of the ray florets. The color(s) on the ray floret will be listed with a capital letter(s) with the predominant color listed first, and the color of bicolor ray floret tips, secondary color(s) of blends, and variegation(s) listed in order of predominance. A slash (/) will appear after the capital letter(s), and lower case letters will represent the color(s) of petaloids in COLLARETTES and ORCHETTES, domes of ANEMONES, eye zones where apparent, and the ray floret face of ORCHIDS and ORCHETTES. ORCHETTES will have a dash (-) after the face colors of the florets to describe the color(s) of the petaloids. For instance, an ORCHETTE has red reverse florets, yellow face and white petaloids. The classification would be OT R/y-w.

On occasion, petaloids, the face of an ORCHID or ORCHETTE, domes, and eye zones may appear variegated, as a blend, or bicolor. Judges should classify these cultivars with lower case letters (v for variegated, lb for light blend, db for dark blend, fl for flame blend, bi for bicolor) and insert them in front of the lower case color letters. For instance, the petaloids on a dark red COLLARETTE are variegated. The classification would be CO DR/v/pr/w. Thus, the variegated could then have a purple petaloid with white stripes or some other variegated distinguishing characteristic. For instance, an ORCHETTE has dark red reverse color, light blend face floret colors and dark blend petaloids. The classification would be OT DR/lb/pk/y-db/dr/w.

**BLENDS:** Light blends and dark blends are determined by the dominant (majority) blend color. For Example: cultivar XYZ has Purple 5 (a dark blend color) and yellow 1 (a light blend color) on the face of the ray florets. It will be a dark blend if the majority color is purple. It will be a light blend if the majority color is yellow. White in blends should be ignored when deciding if it's a light or dark blend. Or one may always think of white as the minority color when deciding the blend, no matter how much white is in the blend. There is no "majority" rule in flame blends. It does not matter which of the flame blend colors is the majority color as long as it fits in the color chips associated with flame blend.

**01 WHITE:** Pure white, ivory or cream with or without faint blushes of other colors. *ADS Color Guide* WH 0-9.

**02 YELLOW:** *ADS Color Guide* YL 1-24.

**03 ORANGE:** *ADS Color Guide* OR 1-24.

**04 PINK:** *ADS Color Guide* PK 1-24.

**05 DARK PINK:** *ADS Color Guide* DP 1-24.

**06 RED:** *ADS Color Guide* RD 1-24.

**07 DARK RED:** *ADS Color Guide* DR 1-12.

**08 LAVENDER:** *ADS Color Guide* LV 1-24.

**09 PURPLE:** *ADS Color Guide* PR 1-36 and BLACK.

**10 LIGHT BLEND:** Blends dominated by the lighter tints and tones of pink, yellow, lavender, and other pastels; also two-toned varieties of pastel tints and tones in which the central ray florets are of a different color than the marginal ray florets. Ignore white when determining a light or dark blend. Light blend colors include: YL 1 - YL 24; OR 1 - OR 10; OR 10 - 17; PK 1 - PK 24; DP 1 - DP 4; DP 6 - DP 8; DP 19 - DP 22; LV 1 - LV 8; LV 21 - LV 22; BR 1 - BR 3; BR 7 - BR 8; BR 10 - BR 11.

**11 BRONZE:** *ADS Color Guide* BR 1 - 24.

**12 FLAME:** Blends of red or orange hue that merges with yellow. All blend cultivars possessing these color chips are Flame Blends. Flame blend colors include: YL 6 - YL 24 combined with OR 12 - OR 15; OR 19 - OR 24; RD 1 - RD 24; BR 9; BR 14.

**13 DARK BLEND:** Blends dominated by dark reds, pinks, purples, oranges, lavenders and bronzes. Ignore white when determining a dark blend. Dark blends include: OR 11 - OR 15; OR 18 - OR 24; DP 5; DP 9 - DP 18; DP 23 - DP 24; LV 9 - LV 20; LV 23 - LV 24; RD 1 - RD 24; DR 1 - DR 12; PR 1 - PR 36; BR 4 - BR 6; BR 9; BR 12 - BR 24.

**14 VARIEGATED:** Two or more distinct colors on the face or reverse of the ray florets, the variegating color arranged in dots, flecks, splashes, stripes, or narrow lines, which contrast with the basic color(s).

**15 BICOLOR:** Two or more distinct, clear and sharply separated colors on the face of the ray florets with the tip or central stripe contrasting. Classify all blends (FL, LB, DB) and variegated with bicolor tips as bicolors.

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# ALL THAT LINGO –GLOSSARY & DISSEMINATION PRACTICES

## PAGES 11-13



### Glossary of Terms

**Blend:** two or more merging colors on either the face or reverse the ray floret OR two or more contrasting colors on either the face or reverse of the ray floret.

**Central Rays:** the short or immature ray florets comprising the central portion of the fully double flowers when at their prime stage.

**Disc:** a more or less flat, circular group of tubular florets fully visible in open-centered type dahlias.

**Disc Florets:** small tubular florets which make up the central part of the flower head, each with a pistil and stamens but generally no conspicuous flower parts.

**Dwarf:** dahlia varieties that normally do not produce plant growth over 24 inches in height.

**Eye Zone:** a uniform band of contrasting color(s), less than one-third the length of ray florets that surround the open-centered disc floret.

**Floret:** one of the small flowers that collectively comprise the flower head.

**Fully Double:** flower heads with multiple rows of ray florets; the florets are immature and completely covered by the central rays when a bloom is at the prime stage.

**Incurved:** the ray florets curve forward along their length toward the face of the flower head.

**Involute:** margins of the ray florets roll inward along their longitudinal axis (length). When fully involute the margins touch or overlap; the reverse of the floret is visible, appearing quill like.

**Laciniated:** the tip of the ray floret exhibits single or multiple splits with adequate depth; tips either involute or revolute and twist in irregular manner to present a fringed/frilled effect.

**Margin:** the edge of the ray floret, sometimes marked with a narrow contrasting color.

**Marginal Rays:** fully developed ray florets that establish and determine the maximum diameter of a bloom; mature florets rather than immature central ray florets.

**Petal:** the common name for the conspicuously colored part of a floret.

### Dissemination Practices and Rules

**Sports:** Only tuber entries of a sport are acceptable for trial garden evaluation.

**Naming and Exhibiting Undisseminated Cultivars:** An undisseminated cultivar must be named with a two-digit numeric prefix and the originator's choice of an original name or possess a wholly numeric identifier. An undisseminated cultivar may compete in show competition for one or more years before it is submitted to a TG or SBE. Cultivars are eligible for SBE or TG competition for a period of two years provided the originator/introducer has notified the appropriate committee chairs. Thereafter, the cultivar is no longer "undisseminated" and the originator/introducer pledges to use best efforts to put the cultivar into commerce with the original name, minus the numerical prefix, if it scores 85 or more. An undisseminated cultivar may be given to another grower who may enter it in open competition without compromising the undisseminated status as long as the originator assigns the proper numeric prefix and variety name or number.

**TG and SBE Competition Procedures:** An originator may elect after receiving trial garden and/or seedling bench scores to hold a cultivar for further competition the following year; s/he must notify the Trial Garden Committee Chair and/or the Seedling Bench Evaluation Chair prior to October 10. After this notification, a numeric prefix will be added to the cultivar's name on all reports.

#### Examples of Open Horticultural Competition Procedures:

*Flashinpan* (name of cultivar) entered in open horticultural competition in 2018 (the last two digits of the year entered in a show or some other numeric two-digit system of the originator's choosing) will be identified as *18-Flashinpan*. If an originator does not wish to name a cultivar, a wholly numeric identifier, e.g. *22-018*, may be used.

Either the numeric method or numeric and name, however, will be eligible for trial garden and ADS seedling bench evaluation in 2024 if it has been grown for a minimum of three years.



# DISSEMINATED CULTIVARS & HOW TO USE CLASS NUMBERS

## PAGES 14-15

### Disseminated Cultivars

1. A cultivar that is offered for sale, whether it be through a catalog, advertisement, or by any other means.
2. A cultivar, otherwise undisseminated, that an originator distributes by tuber or cutting to other growers without providing an established numeric prefix and name by which the grower can show the seedling in ADS sanctioned shows.
3. A cultivar that wins two or more blue ribbons without a name that complies with the rules of undisseminated cultivars.
4. All cultivars that score 85 or higher in a TG or SBE unless notice of delay is given by October 10.
5. A cultivar that is listed in the most recent *Composite Listing of Dahlias* or any subsequent annual *Classification and Handbook of Dahlias*.

**Naming New Seedlings:** Check with the classification chair in order to determine if a cultivar with your chosen name exists. If the chosen name has already been given to another cultivar, and attempts to contact the originator in order to change/modify the name fail, the classification chair will add the originator's surname initial as the suffix to the chosen cultivar's name. If the originator is not known, the suffix "X" will be added to the name. Name length cannot exceed 22 characters; this rule includes letters, hyphens, apostrophes, and spaces. Otherwise, the names will be truncated.

### Size Classification of Dahlias

AA	(Giant)	over 10 inches in diameter
A	(Large)	over 8 to 10 inches in diameter
B	(Medium)	over 6 to 8 inches in diameter
BB	(Small)	over 4 to 6 inches in diameter
M	(Miniature)	up to 4 inches in diameter
MC	(Micro)	up to 2 inches in diameter
BA	(Ball)	over 3.5 inches in diameter
MB	(Miniature Ball)	over 2 to 3.5 inches in diameter
P	(Pompon)	up to 2 inches in diameter
ST	(Stellar)	over 2 inches in diameter
MST	(Micro Stellar)	up to 2 inches in diameter

WL	(Waterlily)	over 2 inches in diameter
MWL	(Micro Waterlily)	up to 2 inches in diameter
NX	(Novelty Double)	over 2 inches in diameter
MNX	(Micro Novelty Double)	up to 2 inches in diameter
PE	(Peony)	over 2 inches in diameter
MPE	(Micro Peony)	up to 2 inches in diameter
AN	(Anemone)	over 2 inches in diameter
MAN	(Micro Anemone)	up to 2 inches in diameter
NO	(Novelty Open Center)	over 2 inches in diameter
MNO	(Micro Novelty Open Center)	up to 2 inches in diameter
CO	(Collarette)	over 2 inches in diameter
MCO	(Micro Collarette)	up to 2 inches in diameter
O	(Orchid)	over 2 inches in diameter
MO	Micro Orchid	up to 2 inches in diameter
OT	Orchette	over 2 inches in diameter
MOT	Micro Orchette	up to 2 inches in diameter
S	(Single)	over 2 inches in diameter
MS	(Mignon Single)	up to 2 inch

### Abbreviations

#### Forms

AN	Anemone-flowering	MOT	Micro Orchette
BA	Ball	MPE	Micro Peony
C	Straight Cactus	MST	Micro Stellar
CO	Collarette	MWL	Micro Waterlily
FD	Formal Decorative	MS	Mignon Single
IC	Incurved Cactus	NO	Novelty Open (Disco) Center
ID	Informal Decorative	NX	Novelty Double Center
LC	Laciniated	O	Orchid-flowering
MB	Miniature Ball	OT	Orchette
MC	Micro	P	Pompon
MAN	Micro Anemone	PE	Peony-flowering
MCO	Micro Collarette	S	Single
MNO	Micro Novelty Open	SC	Semi-Cactus
MNX	Micro Novelty Double	ST	Stellar
MO	Micro Orchid	WL	Waterlily

#### Color Classes

BI	Bicolor	DR	Dark Red	PK	Pink
BK	Black	FL	Flame Blend	PR	Purple
BR	Bronze	L	Lavender	R	Red
DB	Dark Blend	LB	Light Blend	V	Variegated
DP	Dark Pink	OR	Orange	W	White
				Y	Yellow





# CLASS NUMBERS AND HOW TO USE THEM

## PAGES 16-17

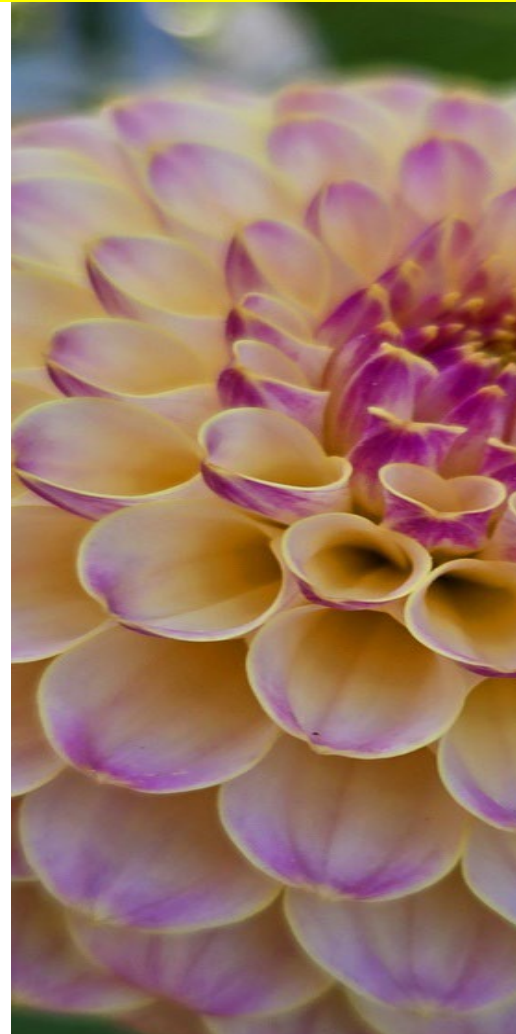
**Key to Class Numbers**

Table 1: Sized Dahlias			
Size	1st Number	Form	2nd Number
AA	0	FD	0
A	1	ID	1
B	2	SC	2
BB	3	C	3
M	4	IC	4
MC	5	LC	5

Table 3: Color	
Color	Last two numbers
White	01
Yellow	02
Orange	03
Pink	04
Dark Pink	05
Red	06
Dark Red	07
Lavender	08
Purple/Black	09
Light Blend	10
Bronze	11
Flame	12
Dark Blend	13
Variegated	14
Bicolor	15

Table 2: Other Forms	
Form	First two numbers
BA	60
MB	61
P	62
ST	70
MST	71
WL	73
MWL	74
NX	76
MNX	77
PE	80
MPE	81
AN	82
MAN	83
NO	86
MNO	87
CO	90
MCO	91
O	92
MO	93
OT	94
MOT	95
S	96
MS	97

See instructions for using class numbers on next page.



### Instructions for Using Class Numbers

**Table 1** is for Sized Dahlias. The left portion of the table shows the Size and corresponding first digit. The right side shows the Form and the corresponding second digit.

**Table 2** is for Other Forms. Because there is no size involved, each form has its own corresponding 2 digits.

**Table 3** is for Color. This table is used in conjunction with either table 1 or table 2.

### Examples of Using Class Numbers

**B-IC-FL** is **2412**. B size, first digit is 2; IC, second digit is 4 (both digits come from Table 1); FL, Flame, is 12 (from Table 3).

Table 1: Size (First Number)		Table 1: Form (Second Number)		Table 3: Color (Last Two Numbers)	
B	2	IC	4	FL	12

**WL-DP** is **7305**. WL is a 73 (from Table 2); DP, Dark Pink, is 05 (from Table 3).

Table 2: Form (First Two Numbers)		Table 3: Color (Last Two Numbers)	
WL	73	DP	05

Working backward, **4010** is **M-FD-LB**. First digit, 4, is M; second digit, 0, is FD (both digits come from Table 1); last two digits, 10, is LB, Light Blend (from Table 3).

Table 1: Size (First Number)		Table 1: Form (Second Number)		Table 3: Color (Last Two Numbers)	
M	4	FD	0	LB	10

Working backward, **9015** is **CO-BI**. First 2 digits 90, is CO (from Table 2); last two digits, 15, is BI, Bicolor (from Table 3).

Table 2: Form (First Two Numbers)		Table 3: Color (Last Two Numbers)	
CO	90	BI	15

# ABBREVIATIONS FOR ORIGINATORS FROM THE US & CANADA PAGE 19



## Abbreviations for Originators from the United States and Canada

**Western Region:** The originator abbreviation will be followed by a hyphen. Example: **AM-**

**Central Region:** The originator abbreviation will be followed by a period. Example: **BO.**

**Eastern Region:** The originator abbreviation will be followed by an apostrophe. Example: **BKE'**

**NOTE:** See *Abbreviations and Countries* prior to the table where cultivars are listed by classification number.

## Abbreviations for Foreign Originators

All foreign originators will not have any diacritical marks following the abbreviation. EXAMPLE: **GE**

## Alphabetical Listing of Dahlia Cultivars

For blooms with more than one color (hue, tint, and tone) in evidence, colors are indicated by dominant color first and then secondary color(s) in order of most color representation.

1st Column	Name of Cultivar
2nd Column	* indicates PNW Supplemental Classification Available (See pg. 125)
3rd Column	ADS Classification Number
4th Column	Cultivar Size
5th Column	Cultivar Form
6th Column	Cultivar Color Class
7th Column	Cultivar Color Description
8th Column	Originator Abbreviation
	Cultivar Year of Introduction or *.
	<i>The asterisk (*) indicates that the exact date of introduction is not known and that the variety has been in open competition at least since this date.</i>



# ALPHA LISTING OF ADS CULTIVARS 2025 PAGES 20–62

20TH AVE & BAKER RD.	4001	M	FD	W	WH2	GIR'	2021
20TH AVE DELICADA	6104	MB	PK			GIR'	2024
20TH AVE ESTRELLA	9207	O	DR	DR5/rd12		GIR'	2019
20TH AVE FOR MOM	6105	MB	DP	DP14		GIR'	2024
20TH AVE GWEN	6002	BA	Y	YL17		GIR'	2021
20TH AVE INGRID	6108	MB	L	LV11		GIR'	2020
20TH AVE MEMORY	6004	BA	PK	PK22		GIR'	2022
20TH AVE MORNING MIST	6009	BA	PR	PR24		GIR'	2019
20TH AVE OLD MAJOR	6008	BA	L	LV8		GIR'	2022
20TH AVE PINK CLOUD	3004	BB	FD	PK	PK23	GIR'	2023
20TH AVE PURE PRINCE	4008	M	FD	L	LV7	GIR'	2022
20TH AVE RAYNA	3005	BB	FD	DP	DP19	GIR'	2022
20TH AVE SOFTER PEACH	3004	BB	FD	PK	PK15	GIR'	2021
20TH AVE SUNSET	9603	S	OR	OR3		GIR'	2019
20TH AVE TRADITION	6101	MB	W	WH2		GIR'	2022
20TH AVE TRANQUILITY	4008	M	FD	L	LV9	GIR'	2025

## -A-

A L GEORGE HARRISON	3409	BB	IC	PR	PR27	PRO-	2003
A LA MODE	2015	B	FD	BI	BR5/WH1	SWI-	1993*
ABBIE	4001	M	FD	W	WH2	BUC	2008
AC ABBY	2312	B	C	FL	RD11/YL11	GRW-	2012
AC ALYSIA	2203	B	SC	OR	OR23	GRW-	2025
AC ANA LISA	3303	BB	C	OR	OR5	GRW-	2015
AC ANDROMEDA	7001	ST	W	WH6		GRW-	2025
AC ANGRY BIRD	6006	BA	R	RD18		GRW-	2013
AC ANNE MARIA	2210	B	SC	LB	YL9/RD7	GRW-	2021
AC ATM	0207	AA	SC	DR		GRW-	2022*
AC BEN	0210	AA	SC	LB	OR1/YL11	GRW-	2010
AC BIG IRON	1107	A	ID	DR	DR3	GRW-	2025
AC BIG JOHNSON	0210	AA	SC	LB	YL20/OR15	GRW-	2015
AC BIG MARY	0103	AA	ID	OR		GRW-	2018*
AC BORN TO RUN	3015	BB	FD	BI	DR1/WH0	GRW-	2025
AC BRYAN	2313	B	C	DB	OR13/YL18	GRW-	2021
AC BUGGY	6009	BA	PR	PR26		GRW-	2016
AC CANDY	3014	BB	FD	V	LV5/PR26	GRW-	2011*
AC CASPER	1101	A	ID	W	WH2	GRW-	2015
AC CHOPAKA	3213	BB	SC	DB	PR25/WH3	GRW-	2023
AC CJ	3203	BB	SC	OR	OR24	GRW-	2008*
AC COMMANDO	2209	B	SC	PR	PR26	GRW-	2021*
AC CONAN	2209	B	SC	PR	PR25	GRW-	2017*
AC COUGAR	2212	B	SC	FL	YL12/RD11	GRW-	2010
AC COWLITZ	2009	B	FD	PR	PR26	GRW-	2023
AC CRAZY TRAIN	1214	A	SC	V	PK/PR	GRW-	2014
AC DARK HORSE	0209	AA	SC	PR	PR26	GRW-	2009
AC DEVIN	3013	BB	FD	DB	PR25/WH2	GRW-	2010

AC EDMONDS	1207	A	SC	DR	DR3	GRW-	2023
AC FANCY	3015	BB	FD	BI	RD24/WH2	GRW-	2011
AC FERNANDO	7015	ST	BI	PR/W		GRW-	2023*
AC FREEBIRD	0206	AA	SC	R		GRW-	2017
AC GARFIELD	2203	B	SC	OR	OR23	GRW-	2008
AC GLENDA	3310	BB	C	LB	YL12/PR25	GRW-	2017*
AC GOLDEN NICKLES	7002	ST	Y	YL18		GRW-	2010
AC GREAT WHITE	0201	AA	SC	W	WH2	GRW-	2023
AC GYPSY	3214	BB	SC	V	YL1/RD19	GRW-	2010
AC HAWK	3207	BB	SC	DR	DR5	GRW-	2016
AC HEISENBERG	0201	AA	SC	W		GRW-	2019
AC HOLY COW	0309	AA	C	PR	PR26	GRW-	2017*
AC HUDSON	1208	A	SC	L	LV10	GRW-	2019
AC HURT	4008	M	FD	L	LV11	GRW-	2025
AC JANIS	3207	BB	SC	DR		GRW-	2021
AC JC	0212	AA	SC	FL	YL20/OR20	GRW-	2017*
AC JEREMY	2207	B	SC	DR	DR3	GRW-	2024
AC JERI	0202	AA	SC	Y	YL18	GRW-	2018
AC KAHUNA	1109	A	ID	PR	PR28	GRW-	2011
AC KATE	6114	MB	V	YL12/RD17		GRW-	2023
AC KERFUFFLE	3403	BB	IC	OR	OR20/OR8	GRW-	2025
AC KIRA	3509	BB	LC	PR	PR25	GRW-	2015
AC KUNTZ	1206	A	SC	R	RD24	GRW-	2014
AC L	2208	B	SC	L		GRW-	2009
AC LESLIE	3312	BB	C	FL	RD11/YL19	GRW-	2016
AC LEVI	4402	M	IC	Y	YL11	GRW-	2019
AC LINDSAY	4313	M	C	DB	PR25/WH3	GRW-	2015
AC LION	0110	AA	ID	LB	PK23/WH3	GRW-	2017*
AC LOOMIS	1109	A	ID	PR		GRW-	2017*
AC MARLENE	1414	A	IC	V	YL9/RD2	GRW-	2014
AC MOONWALK	0202	AA	SC	Y		GRW-	2019
AC MP	3309	BB	C	PR	PR25	GRW-	2017*
AC MRI	3313	BB	C	DB	W7/PR25	GRW-	2024
AC NOD	2309	B	C	PR	PR26	GRW-	2024
AC PAINT	1114	A	ID	V	WH1/DR7	GRW-	2010
AC PETALICIOUS	3410	BB	IC	LB	LV5/WH2	GRW-	2017*
AC PILLOW	0213	AA	SC	DB	OR18/YL18	GRW-	2017*
AC POKE	3405	BB	IC	DP	DP5	GRW-	2024
AC R & R	0102	AA	ID	Y	YL4	GRW-	2024
AC RAMIREZ	2304	B	C	PK		GRW-	2023*
AC RILEY	2207	B	SC	DR	DR3	GRW-	2014
AC RING OF FIRE	1113	A	ID	DB	R/Y	GRW-	2011
AC ROOSTER	7006	ST	R	RD23/[RD4]		GRW-	2010
AC ROSEBUD	3113	BB	ID	DB	DR4/YL12	GRW-	2009*
AC ROSKELLEY	0208	AA	SC	L	LV9	GRW-	2017
AC ROW'S END	2313	B	C	DB	WH1/PR24	GRW-	2017*



# ABBREVIATIONS OF ORIGINATORS

## PAGES 63-67



### Abbreviations of Originators and Countries

A	Australia	F	France	NZ	New Zealand
AS	Austria	G	Germany	SA	South Africa
BE	Belgium	H	Holland	UK	United Kingdom
C	Canada	J	Japan	US	United States
DK	Denmark	L	Latvia		

A	AUSTRALIA	A	BO.	BOYER	US
ADA-	ADAMS, J	US	BOL-	BOLEY, S & S	US
ADB-	ADAMS, B	US	BRH.	BRASE, H	US
ADL	ADLEY	UK	BRM	BURNS, M	C
ADM'	ADAMS, G	US	BRT-	BRANT, D & W	US
AHL'	AHL, F	US	BRU-	BURTON, D & B	US
AL-	ALMAND	US	BS	BARWISE	UK
ALK-	ALBRECHT, K	US	BSS.	BRESSLER, S	US
ALM-	ALEXANDER, M	US	BT-	BATEMAN	US
AM-	AMROSE, R	US	BUC	BUCHAN	UK
AMS'	ADAMS, R	US	BUD	BUDDIN	US
AND-	ANDERSON, E	US	BUS	BURNS, S	UK
ANR	ANDERSON, G	NZ	C-	CONNELL, L	US
ANS-	ANSELMO	US	CAD	CAVE, D	UK
ARA'	ARRINGTON, ALAN	US	CAN-	CANNING, D	US
ARE-	ARENA, J	US	CAW	CAWKWELL, E	UK
ARP-	ARMSTRONG, P	US	CDF'	CAMPOBELLO DF	US
ASA	ASPITAL, A	UK	CF	CRUTCHFIELD	UK
AUM'	AUMILLER	US	CFK-	CANFIELD	US
AYS-	AYERS, H	US	CGW	CHAMBERS, G	NZ
B	BRUIDEGOM	H	CHB-	CHIBANTE, R	US
BA	BALLEGO	H	CHM-	CHMURA, A	US
BAD	BALDRY, O	UK	CHN.	CHANDLER, H	US
BAN-	BARNES, D	US	CHS-	CHILSON, C	US
BAY	BAYNES	A	CHU.	CHUEY, C	US
BD.	BLUE DG	US	CK-	COMSTOCK	US
BDW'	BALDWIN	US	CKE-	COMSTOCK, E	US
BGG.	BAGGE, L	US	CL	CLARKE	UK
BHB-	BROWN, H & B	US	CLK-	CLACK	US
BHT	BRATCHER, T	UK	CLT'	CLEERE, T	US
BKE'	BOEKE	US	CLV	CLEAVER	UK
BKK	BAKKER	H	CO'	COOLEY	US
BKW-	BARKER, W	US	COC.	COOK, C	US
BKY	BUCKLEY	NZ	CON-	CONNELL, K	US
BLO-	BLOOMFIELD	US	COX	COX	UK
BLQ-	BLOOMQUIST, P	US	CRC.	CRAIG, C	US
BN-	BONNEYWELL	US	CUN-	CUNNINGHAM	US
BNN-	BANNISTER, M	US	CVR	CHEVALIER	F



# NUMERICAL LISTINGS WITH AWARDS BY GEOGRAPHICAL REGION PAGES 68-123



## Numerical Listing of Dahlia Cultivars with Awards by Geographical Region

- Column 1** ADS Classification Number
- Column 2** Name of Cultivar
- Column 3** Changes and Awards  
**#** New Classification for 2023  
**C** Award for Les Connell Medal (most awards in first 5 years)  
**D** Award for the Lynn B. Dudley Medal (Seedling Bench)  
**H** Award for the Derrill Hart Medal (Trial Garden)  
**G** Award for the Evie Gullikson seedling bench medal  
**G\*** Award for the Evie Gullikson trial garden medal  
**J** Award for the Stanley Johnson Medal (most higher awards)
- Column 4** Total Number of Blue and Higher Awards in all three regions— Western, Central, and Eastern
- Column 5** Number of Blues for Western Region
- Column 6** Number of Higher Awards for Western Region
- Column 7** Number of Blues for Central Region
- Column 8** Number of Higher Awards for Central Region
- Column 9** Number of Blues for Eastern Region
- Column 10** Number of Higher Awards for Eastern Region\*  
*The EASTERN region of the continent includes the North Atlantic Conference, Southern States Conference, Philadelphia, the Carolinas and Eastern Canada with the exception of Hamilton.*

GIANT									
AA-FD									
0002	KELVIN FLOODLIGHT	62	4	5	20	18	9	6	
0003	CLYDE'S CHOICE	16	0	0	7	4	3	2	
0010	WANDA'S AURORA	24	0	0	8	3	7	6	
0011	BONAVENTURE	DH	32	4	4	8	7	4	5

# THE BEST OF THE BEST – AWARDS

## PAGE 124



### Stanley Johnson Medal Winners

The Stanley Johnson Medal is awarded to the cultivar that has the most higher awards in a given growing season. The Award can be won only once. The following are Stanley Johnson Medal Winners and the year they won the most higher awards:

1986	APRIL DAWN	2006	CAMANO PET
1987	MAGIC MOMENT	2007	MARY'S JOMANDA
1988	WALTER HARDISTY	2008	PAM HOWDEN
1989	HAMILTON LILLIAN	2009	CAMANO SITKA
1990	ZORRO	2010	MIDNIGHT STAR
1991	HAMARI ACCORD	2011	ELVIRA
1992	JESSICA	2012	LAKEVIEW GLOW
1993	INLAND DYNASTY	2013	VERRONE'S MORNING STAR
1994	SPARTACUS	2014	PARKLAND RAVE
1995	MARY JO	2015	AC ABBY
1996	ROSE TOSCANO	2016	FANCY PANTS
1997	EDNA C	2017	AC BEN
1998	JESSIE G	2018	CLEARVIEW DANIEL
1999	TARATAHI LILAC	2019	CLEARVIEW EDIE
2000	GLENBANK TWINKLE	2020	NO SHOWS - COVID-19
2001	CORNEL	2021	BLOOMQUIST JEAN &
2002	KATHY'S CHOICE		HOLLYHILL BLACK BEAUTY
2003	KENORA JUBILEE	2022	LAKE HILLS CREAMSICLE
2004	EMBRACE	2023	KA'S KHALEESI
2005	VALLEY PORCUPINE	2024	KELSEY DWARF

### Les Connell Medal Winners

The Les Connell Medal is awarded to the cultivar that has the most total awards in the first 5 years since introduction.

1. The cultivar must have been introduced through either the Trial Garden or Seedling Bench.
2. Awards earned prior to the official introduction year are not counted.
3. The cultivar need not win an award in each year of the first 5 years.
4. The cultivar must still be listed in the CHD on the fifth year otherwise the award will go to the cultivar with the next highest total that is still listed in the CHD.
5. In case of a tie, duplicate awards will be given.

2019	KELSEY DWARF	2022	CLEARVIEW CAMERON
2020	NO SHOWS - COVID-19	2023	BLOOMQUIST JEAN
2021	CLEARVIEW BUTTERSCOTCH	2024	KA'S KHALEESI

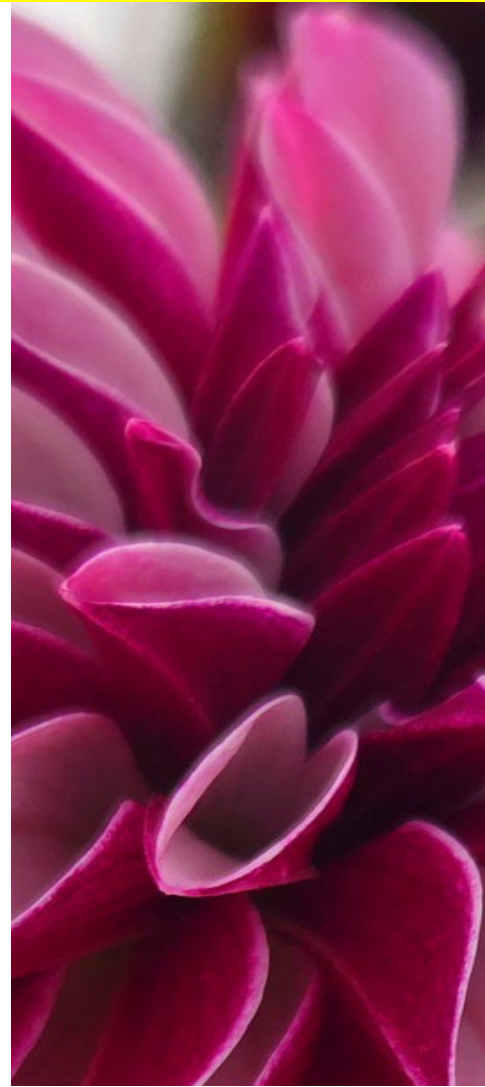
# WHAT IS A “PACIFIC NW SUPPLEMENT” AND WHY?

## PAGE 125

DUE TO VARIATIONS IN CLIMATE AND GROWING CONDITIONS, CERTAIN CULTIVARS GROW BIGGER IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

IN THE PNW, THESE ARE CLASSIFIED DIFFERENTLY

HERE IS A LIST OF THOSE IN 2025.



### **Pacific Northwest Supplemental Classification Listing**

Classification Chair:  
Al Kaas — Federation of NW Dahlia Growers

ALVA'S SUPREME	0002	AA	FD	Y	
AMY K	1210	A	SC	LB	W/PK
BARBARRY ESQUIRE	6113		MB	DB	
CAMANO DENALI	2205	B	SC	DP	
CAMANO SITKA	1410	A	IC	LB	BR10/YL5
CLEARVIEW SHARRON	1302	A	C	Y	YL3
COLWOOD EVE	2507	B	LC	DR	
EDNA C	1002	A	FD	Y	
GLENBANK TWINKLE	3310	BB	C	LB	
HAMARI GOLD	0111	AA	ID	BR	
HY MOM	0401	AA	IC	W	
HY ZIZZLE	8213		AN	DB	PR/BR
JESSICA	2315	B	C	BI	
KENORA WILDFIRE	1106	A	ID	R	
KENORA WOW	2113	B	ID	DB	PR/W
LIGHT ACCORD	2202	B	SC	Y	YL1
MAGIC MOMENT	1201	A	SC	W	
MAKS LORI JEAN	2210	B	SC	LB	YL11/BR1
MARS	9406		OT	R	RD24/rd11
FROM QUEEN	4010	M	FD	LB	
RH HOT ROSE	4312	M	C	FL	YL18/RD10
RYECROFT LAURA	6002		BA	Y	
SHOW'N'TELL	0513	AA	LC	DB	
WESTON SPANISH DANCER	3312	BB	C	FL	
WOODLAND'S WILDTHING	1103	A	ID	OR	



# WHAT DESIRABLE CHARACTERISTICS ARE JUDGES LOOKING FOR?

## PAGES 126-127



### Characteristics of the Dahlia: Desirable and Undesirable

When evaluating a cultivar, the judge must balance the good with the bad. Few dahlias, if any, possess all positive characteristics. Although the ADS scorecard lists some faults that a bloom may possess, the judge must also consider the strengths of a bloom and balance all attributes as they assign an overall point value.

#### FORM (30 points)

##### Desirable Undesirable

<u>Symmetry/Centers</u>	
Round	Oval
Good proportion	Poor proportion
Adequate height	Too high, too low
Full	Misshapen/bull nose
Tight	Multiple Centers
	Dished
	Elongated/Oblong
	Open (blown)
	Weak
	Hard/green

#### Contour

Good build	Asymmetrical
Full petalage	Lopsided
Ideal ray floret arrangement	Flicked floret:
	Gaps present
	Rough/staghorn
	Lacks ray florets

#### Fully Developed (SBE)

At peak of maturity	Over mature
	Immature

#### True to Form

Meets ideal standard	Mixed form or does not meet ideal standard
----------------------	--

#### COLOR (20 points)

##### Desirable Undesirable

<u>Overall</u>	
Clear	Dull/Gray
Bright	Impure
Pure	Blotchy/Coarse
Sparkling	Streaked
Lustrous	Veined

#### Blends

Smooth transition between colors	Uneven
Harmonious or contrasting colors	Clashing colors

#### Bicolors and Variegated

Even distribution of 2nd color	Uneven
Good contrast	Poor contrast
Sharp/distinct separation	Bleeds
Adequate amount of 2nd color	Inadequate 2nd color

#### Multiple Blooms

Uniform Color	Bracts
	Contrasting obvious petaloids
	Wolf petals

#### Other Undesirable Faults

SBE Bruising	Conspicuous Bracts
SBE Insect Injury	Fading, bruising
SBE Mildew	Spotting

#### SUBSTANCE (10 points)

Desirable	Undesirable
Springiness and toughness of the flower parts	Ray florets soft, lack springiness, droopy
Firm, crisp, stiff, thick	Not turgid
Uniform back and face	Ray florets missing, shriveled, thin, brown, dirty, misshapen
	Overly mature, lack of substance affects symmetry and color

#### FOLIAGE (10 points)

Desirable	Undesirable
Clean	Dirty, unappealing
Luxuriant color	Pale, blotchy
Good proportion, artistic formation	Out-of-proportion, poor texture
Uniform size & form	Too small, too large
Alternate & opposite	Wilted
Turgid	Sparse
Adequate Amount	Coarse, bubbly
	Folded, crinkled

#### STEM (10 points)

Desirable	Undesirable
Strong, erect, graceful, round	Weak, willowy, rubbery, wiry
Straight	Irregular, crooked
Good proportion; length & diameter	Too long or too short
Even, smooth, circular in cross-section	Too thin or too large
One color (minor if not)	Misplaced spur leaf (minor)

#### BLOOM POSITION (10 points)

Desirable	Undesirable
45 degrees	Down facing
Note: Top facing OK for Poms, MB, BA, and WL	Side facing
	Top facing on some forms (minor for AA & A sizes)

### JUDGING GUIDELINES

Characteristic	100%	90%	85%	80%
Form	30	27.0	25.5	24.0
Color	20	18.0	17.0	16.0
Substance	10	9.0	8.5	8
Stem	10	9.0	8.5	8
Foliage	10	9.0	8.5	8
Bloom Position	10	9.0	8.5	8
Uniformity/Floriferousness	10	9.0	8.5	8



# VISIT THE ADS WEBSITE, [WWW.DAHLIA.ORG](http://WWW.DAHLIA.ORG) TO FIND OUT MORE

## Important Information Available on the ADS Website



### ADS Reporting Guidelines

Local show officials are responsible for reporting results from their shows to the ADS. This information includes varieties that won blue ribbons and higher awards. The ADS classification committee will communicate directly with show officials and will supply them with appropriate forms to complete. Information can also be found on the ADS website.

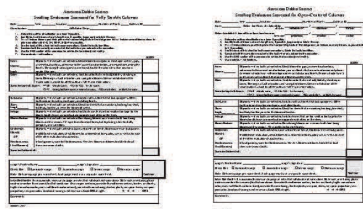
### ADS Scorecards

The ADS has two official scorecards, as well as written guidelines for scorecard use. They are for:

- Fully double dahlias
- Open-centered dahlias

These scorecards are used when evaluating entries in the trial gardens and in ADS bench evaluation competition. The scorecards are also useful as general guides when judging entries in dahlia shows.

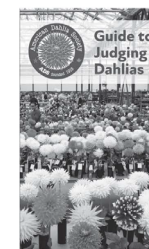
The most up-to-date versions of the scorecards as well as the written guidelines can be found on the ADS website.



Visit [Dahlia.org/know/chd-supplement](http://Dahlia.org/know/chd-supplement) to review these guidelines and download supplemental documents.

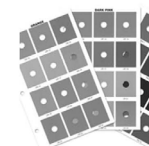


## Available from the American Dahlia Society



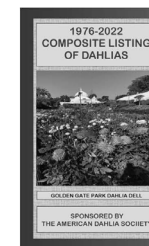
### American Dahlia Society Guide to Judging Dahlias

This guide is required reading for all American Dahlia Society judges, serving as a resource for judges as they progress through all facets of the judge training process, and maintain their certification.



### American Dahlia Society Color Guide

The official color guide of the American Dahlia Society, used by judges to classify colors.



### 1976-2022 Composite Listing of Dahlias

Official listing of all dahlia cultivars listed in the 1976 through 2022 *Classification and Handbook of Dahlias*. The list contains 10,820 cultivar names.

Visit  
[Dahlia.org/Shop](http://Dahlia.org/Shop)  
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