

OAKWOOD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
Autumn Show, 5 September 2026

Show Categories

Hints for exhibitors:

The following hints may be of use to exhibitors:

- Allow time to stage exhibits and check that the number of specimens is correct.
- Exhibits should be staged as attractively as possible.
- In a close competition, arrangement may be a deciding factor and a judge is usually favorably influenced by good presentation.
- All vegetables should be properly prepared; e.g. roots should be washed with a soft sponge and plenty of water to prevent skin damage.

Categories:

Along with the categories we have included the requirements as set by the RHS

1. Beans, French (Seven pods)

Straight, fresh tender pods no outward sign of seeds.

2. Beans, runner (Five WITH stems)

Long, slender, straight fresh pods with no outward sign of seeds.

3. Beetroot (Three with tops trimmed to 3" (7.5cm))

Spherical with small tap root, trim any side roots from the main tap root leaving just one root, medium size, with smooth, clear skins and flesh uniform in colour.

4. Cabbage (One with stalk trimmed to 2" (5cm))

Shapely, fresh solid hearts with good surrounding leaves. Remove discoloured outer leaves and avoid split and pest damaged specimens.

5. Carrots (Three)

Tender, good shape, free from side roots, skins and colour clear and bright. Size according to cultivar, with tops trimmed to 3" (7.5cm). Avoid pale colour and those green near the top. Leaves should be removed, with not more than 3" (7.5cm) of leaf stalk remaining.

6. Courgettes (Three, with or without flowers attached)

Young, tender, shapely specimens, 4-6" (10-15cm) in length, any colour but well matched.

7. Cucumbers (Two)

Fresh, young, green, tender, straight specimens of uniform thickness with short handles.

8. Onions (Three)

Firm, thin necked bulbs. Size according to cultivar and of good colour. Avoid soft, stained onions with poor quality necks.

9. Potatoes (Five)

Medium sized (no more than 10cm long), shapely, clean clear-skinned tubers with few and shallow eyes. Arrange on a plate.

10. Shallots (Seven)

Round, solid, well ripened with thin necks.

11. Tomatoes, large (e.g. beefsteak) (Three)

Large substantial fruits with a minimum diameter of 3" (7.5cm); ripe but firm, shapely according to cultivar, well-coloured fruits with fresh calyces attached.

12. Tomatoes, medium (Five)

Fruits of approximately 2.6" (6.5cm) in diameter, ripe but firm and of good shape. Richly coloured with fresh calyces attached.

13. Tomatoes, small-fruited and cherry (Five)

Size appropriate to cultivar but not exceeding 1.4" (3.5cm) in diameter. Fresh, ripe but firm well-developed fruits, blemish-free and with fresh calyces attached.

14. Platter of 5 different vegetables

This class covers any 5 different single vegetables (particularly suitable for those growers that do not have a sufficient number of good quality vegetables to meet the number of specimens required under the single vegetable categories).

15. Any other vegetable

This class will include any vegetable not covered by any of the other classes. Regarding the number that should be included please see the table at the end of this document. Please contact the organisers if further support is required.

16. The funniest looking vegetable

A matter of imagination!

17. Heaviest Potato

Any potato the only criteria is weight

18. Heaviest Marrow

Any marrow the only criteria is weight

19. Heaviest Pumpkin or Squash

20. Any pumpkin or squash the only criteria is weight

21. Dahlias or any other flower

Three blooms of the same variety.

21. Cake/tart/pie made using own produce

The exhibit must have been made by the exhibitor and must contain at least one item of self-grown produce (fruit or vegetable). The self-grown produce used is to be declared when the cake is entered at the Show and the entry is to wholly homemade. Exhibitors are encouraged to donate their entries to the celebration event that follows the Show.

22. Preserve made using own produce

The preserve must have been made by the exhibitor and must contain at least one item of self-grown fruit. The self-grown produce used is to be declared when the jam is entered at the Show. The jam should be in a glass jar containing approximately 450 grams.

23. Pickles or chutney made using own produce

The pickles or chutney must have been made by the exhibitor and must contain at least one item of self-grown fruit or vegetable. The self-grown produce used is to be declared when the jam is entered at the Show. The pickles or chutney should be in a glass jar containing approximately 450 grams.

24. Any fruits (3)

Any three different fruits grown by the exhibitor

25. Any herb

Three sprigs of any herb grown by the exhibitor

26. Young person's vegetable display

An arrangement of a selection of any vegetables with the help of Mum or Dad.

27. Best in show

The entry the judge deems to be of the highest overall standard.

Numbers of vegetables for the 'any other vegetable' category.

	No.		No.
Aubergines	3	Lettuce	2
Beans – Broad	9	Mustard	
Butternut Squash	2	Green Salad onions	6
Broccoli	3	Parsnips	2
Capsicums (Peppers)	3	Peas	9
Cauliflower	1	Radishes	6
Celery	2	Rhubarb	3
Chives		Shallots	6
Cress		Sweet Corn	2
Kohl Rabi	3	Turnips	3
Leeks	2	Any other kind	3