

Madison Area Aquatic Hobbyists (MAAH) Horticulture Awards Program

Rules last updated 9/5/2020

1. Purpose

- 1.1. To promote and encourage the keeping and propagation of aquatic plants.
- 1.2. To gather and disseminate information about aquatic plants, their cultivation, and propagation methods.
- 1.3. To ensure the availability of a variety of aquatic plant species for future generations of aquatic hobbyists.
- 1.4. To recognize and encourage individual achievement in the cultivation of aquatic plants.

2. General Rules

- 2.1. The HAP year is identical to the published Breeder Awards Program (BAP) year. As of 2020, the HAP year runs from July 1st to June 30th.
- 2.2. Eligible plants include any plant that normally grows in an aquatic environment in nature, and which is not on the current [Wisconsin DNR list of invasive species](#).
- 2.3. Plants must be propagated in the submitter's own tank or pond.
- 2.4. The submitter must be a MAAH member in good standing. Submitters will retain their points during periods of membership lapse of any length but are not eligible to submit plants or receive awards unless currently a MAAH member.
- 2.5. Submissions must be viable examples that are ready to plant. The number of plants or amount of material is stated in Classes and Submission Requirements (Section 4).
- 2.6. The submitter should strive to ensure plants are free of parasites, algae, snails, or viable eggs.
- 2.7. Each species must be submitted separately using the [interactive HAP form](#) on the MAAH website.
- 2.8. All auction submissions and photos will be verified by a HAP committee member (see Section 6). Points will be awarded based on the Species Points Table (Section 3), with bonuses as described in Classes and Submission Requirements (Section 4).
- 2.9. A HAP committee member *cannot* verify or award points for his/her own submission.
- 2.10. To qualify for full class points, the submitter must identify the genus and species of the plant. Common name submission is optional and is not a substitute for the Latin nomenclature. If the

genus and/or species are found to be incorrect, the HAP committee will strive to correct the identification prior to the monthly auction, but the plant submission will incur a 2-point penalty (Class points -2).

- 2.11. All submissions will be donated to an official MAAH club auction, with all proceeds going to MAAH.
- 2.12. Only two submissions of a species may be made by the same person in a given HAP year.
- 2.13. All rules are subject to HAP committee interpretation and disputes are decided by majority vote. Inquiries and disputes are to be brought to the attention of HAP committee member(s). HAP committee decisions are final.

3. Species Points Table

- 3.1. The official MAAH HAP Species Points Table is maintained and regularly updated by the HAP Committee (see Section 6). This table is the authoritative guide to points and overrides the more general information from Section 4 (Classes and Submission Requirements).
- 3.2. The current Species Points Table can be viewed on the MAAH website.
- 3.3. Any MAAH member can provide supporting documentation for new species names to be added to the Species Points Table and for existing species names to be corrected or updated with new nomenclature.
- 3.4. Point values may occasionally be reevaluated at the HAP committee's discretion. HAP participants may also submit requests for point review. Any changes to the point values within this table will be reflected within the individual member tallies. Member's tallies for prior submissions will never be reduced through a species point value reduction.

4. Classes and Submission Requirements

Within each class, the following rules apply.

IMPORTANT NOTE: The examples shown in the "Type" column below are broad generalizations. For the actual class and point value of a particular species, please consult the official MAAH HAP Species Point Table on the MAAH website.

| Class | Points | Example Type | Size of Submission | Photo Requirement |
|-------|--------|---|--|---|
| A | 5 | Cutting (e.g., stem plants) | Successful propagation means the number of plants has at least doubled from the original amount. Minimum submission should consist of at least 5 stems; each 4" or more in length. | N/A |
| | | Doubling (e.g., floaters, moss) | Successful propagation means the mass of plants has at least doubled from the original amount. Minimum submission is a golf ball sized portion. | N/A |
| B | 10 | Adventitious (e.g., Ferns) | Each submission must have roots and a minimum of six leaves. | Two photos: before/after splitting |
| | | Runners (e.g., Vals, pygmy chain swords) | Each runner offspring must be established enough to support itself after separation from the parent. | N/A |
| | | Rhizome division (e.g., Anubias) | Each submission must have roots and a minimum of six leaves. | Two photos: before/after splitting |
| | | Crown division (e.g., Crypts) | Submissions should consist of a minimum of 5 crowns; each with at least four leaves and roots | Two photos: before/after division |
| C | 15 | Rosette division (e.g., Echinodorus) | One daughter plant with roots is sufficient for submission. Note that Pygmy chain swords are Class B. | N/A |
| D | 20 | Bulb division (Aponogetons) | One daughter plant with roots is sufficient for submission. | Two photos: before/after bulb division. |
| | | Seeds or spores | Seeds or spores must be sprouted and viable. | A picture of the seed-producing flower must accompany the submission but is not eligible for additional bonus points. |

| Class | Points | Example Type | Size of Submission | Photo Requirement |
|----------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| (Bonus) | 5 | Proof of flowering | Points can be earned for showing proof that any aquatic plant has flowered while in the custody of the submitter. No proof of actual propagation is necessary, and nothing is submitted to the auction. | Two photos: the entire plant, and a close-up of the bloom. |
| (Bonus) | 10 | Tissue culture propagation | This bonus is given for any plant submitted in Classes A-D and that was propagated through tissue culture techniques. These points are awarded at the discretion of the HAP committee. | N/A |

5. HAP Achievement Levels and Special Awards

5.1. Achievement levels are earned by meeting the points thresholds in the table below.

| Level | Total Points | C Class Points | D Class Points |
|------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| Junior Horticulturist | 30 | 0 | 0 |
| Senior Horticulturist | 75 | 0 | 0 |
| Advanced Horticulturist | 200 | 15 | 0 |
| Expert Horticulturist | 300 | 60 | 0 |
| Master Horticulturist | 500 | 150 | 20 |
| Grand Master Horticulturist | 1000 | 200 | 60 |
| Ultimate Horticulturist | 2000 | 400 | 120 |

5.2. MAAH's "Horticulturist of the Year" title shall be awarded to the member amassing the most points for the HAP year.

6. HAP Committee

6.1. The Horticulture Award Program Committee will consist of a chairperson and additional members as appointed by the chair. Responsibilities of the HAP Committee include:

6.2. Maintaining and updating the HAP "Species Point Table."

6.3. Maintaining records of plants submitted to the program and verifying propagations at monthly club meetings and/or through photo submissions (in the case of flowering reports).

6.4. Documenting current and lifetime point totals for each participant.

6.5. Updating these rules and the HAP submission form.

6.6. Handling disputes via committee discussion.