

Waterlilies Sought for 2005 Competition

The International Waterlily & Water Gardening Society is seeking hybridizers to participate in its 2005 waterlily competition.

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The International Waterlily & Water Gardening Society is seeking hybridizers to participate in its 2005 waterlily competition.

For 2005, Nelson Water Gardens in Texas will grow out tropical waterlilies and Green & Hagstrom Nursery in Tennessee will grow out hardies. Bare root entries of new varieties (not sold within last three years) must be sent to the appropriate grower during the week of May 1.

Nymphaea hybridizers and introducers that would like to participate should contact Craig Presnell, chairman of the competition committee, by April 15 at jcpresnell@earthlink.net or (863) 735-2401.

Presnell will need to know the name of the hybridizer/introducer, the name of the cultivar, whether it is hardy or tropical, its size (dwarf, small, medium or large), flower color, whether the plant is registered, date of introduction, a brief description of the lily's unique characteristics and contact information.

If not the hybridizer or introducer, one must have the hybridizer/introducer's permission to enter the competition.

The growers post photographs on the grown lilies on the society's Web site (www.iwgs.org), where a panel of judges will review. The winners will be unveiled during the society's annual Symposium Banquet, July 24, in Bethlehem, Pa.

This year the society established a new non-commercial division to encourage hobbyist entries. The winner of that division will be eligible for the Best New Waterlily award.

The group also sponsored a newsletter competition for water garden and pond clubs. Two winners would receive a free registration at the symposium and all entrants would receive feedback on their newsletters. Winning clubs would be eligible to receive an oil painting of water lilies if they were affiliated with the IWGS.

The deadline for the newsletter competition is Jan. 30.