



AUTUMN SHOW 2025

11 TO 13 APRIL 2025

RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR PLANT ENTRIES

By participating in the show as an attendee, judge, exhibitor, or vendor, you agree to the Rules and Regulations set out in this document.

DEFINITIONS

S.A.O.C – South African Orchid Council

COS – Cape Orchid Society

“Exhibitor” – a person entering plants into the show for competition and/or display

“Vendor” – a business selling plants at the show

CONDITIONS FOR GENERAL ENTRY

1. The Show Chairman/Judging Co-ordinator reserves the right to remove a plant suspected of being diseased or infested by pests that may be a hazard to other plants.
2. Entries are free, and plants/flowers are displayed at the risk of the exhibitor. While all reasonable precautions will be taken, the S.A.O.C. and the COS cannot take any responsibility for damage or loss incurred during the show, or for plants in transit to and from the show.
3. All exhibitors will be expected to comply with any reasonable request made by the Show Chairman.
4. Plants must be properly cleaned and cared for to be put up for judging and for the show.

PLANT ENTRIES

1. Entries are free and open to all paid up members of societies affiliated to the S.A.O.C.
2. Each entry must be submitted in writing or electronically (via e-mail) on the official entry form. The entry form should show the exhibitors name and the class in which the plant/flower has been entered. Non-compliance may result in the exclusion of the entry.

3. *Members who enter 5 or more plants are asked to use the online entry form available at: <https://tinyurl.com/2025-COS-Plant-Entries>, or to email their entry form to capeorchidsoc@gmail.com on or before 17h00 on Wednesday 9th April 2025.*
4. Plants in flower may be entered.
5. Cut inflorescences may be entered only by members living more than 80km away from the show.
6. Only flowering plants will be eligible for the classes of specimen plants and seedlings flowering for the first time.
7. The owner must provide suitable support for all plants on slabs or in pots, cut inflorescences and individual cut flowers.
8. The entries must be clearly labelled showing the name of the plant/bloom. Unnamed plants will not be permitted. Exhibitors will be provided with name tags indicating the plant name and exhibitor code and these tags must be tied to the entry.
9. *If an exhibitor would like to enter plants but award judging is not desired this must be explicitly stated on the entry form.*
10. Made-up plants (group of plants of the same clone or variety in one container) cannot be judged as a single plant or specimen plant but an individual plant from such a group can be considered for trophy or award judging.
11. Inflorescences, flowers or buds obviously damaged or broken off in transit shall not be precluded from judging. The damaged parts must be available for scrutiny by placing the part in the pot.
12. No plants received after the stated time will be considered for judging. *All plants entered in the competitive classes must be entered on Friday 11th April 2025 from 09h00 to 12h00. Judging of the competitive classes will commence at 13h00 on Friday 11th April 2025.*

JUDGING

1. Judging shall be in accordance with the latest version of the S.A.O.C. *Handbook on Judging Guidelines and Regulations*.
2. All plants/blooms will be judged on tables and not in display stalls. Plants and cut inflorescences will be judged with equal status. Type and breeding should be taken into account when judging hybrids.
3. Apart from Accredited S.A.O.C. Judges and learner Judges, only Officials and Stewards appointed by the Judging Co-ordinator shall be present during the judging of all plants/cut flowers.
4. No Judge shall judge his or her own entry or one submitted by any establishment with which he may be connected in any way, accepting that membership of any orchid society shall not in itself constitute a conflict of interests.
5. Plants/blooms entered into the wrong classes may be transferred to the correct classes at the discretion of the Judges prior to the commencement of judging. Thereafter the entry may be disqualified. Plants entered STRICTLY into a particular class by the

owner may not be moved to another class. The entry form and class entry label should reflect this request.

6. Classes may not be removed or fused but additional classes for colour or type may be created at the discretion of the Judges.

7. Inflorescences, flowers or buds obviously damaged or broken off in transit shall not be precluded from judging. The damaged parts must be available for scrutiny.

8. Only plants/exhibits considered by the Judges to be sufficiently meritorious will be awarded ribbons or trophies. The ribbons will be 1st, 2nd and 3rd. Special ribbons will be awarded at the discretion of the Judges, as well as the trophies defined in the show schedule.

9. The Grand Champion and Reserve Champion are each selected separately by all Judges present without any prior discussion. (Judges must have been present for the entire proceedings in order to be eligible for this part of the judging process.) In the event of a tie, the Chairperson of the Judging panel shall have the casting vote. The Grand Champion and Reserve Champion will be displayed separately and prominently.

10. In the event of a dispute or a disagreement within a panel of Judges, a majority vote of all Judges in the group shall carry. In the event of an even vote, the Chairperson of the Judging panel shall have the casting vote.

11. A South African species (excluding the genus *Ansellia*, for which there is a separate group) is taken to mean a species that occurs naturally within the geographic boundary of South Africa.

12. An African species (Excluding the genus *Ansellia*) is taken to mean a species that occurs on the continent of Africa, south of the Sahara, and on the adjacent islands, but excluding South Africa.

13. When judging a specimen plant, floriferousness and culture should be taken into account.

14. Meristem propagations are not considered 'seedlings flowering for the first time'.

15. By entering a plant or cut for show judging, the owner has automatically given permission for that entry to be judged for award if deemed worthy. If award judging is not desired this will be explicitly stated on the entry form. Once judging has commenced at an orchid show the Judges may also nominate plants for award consideration. However, a participating Judge may not nominate his own plant for award judging.

16. Award judging will follow the procedures as laid down in the *Handbook on Judging Rules and Guidelines*.

PLANT SALES

1. The Show Chairman/Sales Co-ordinator reserves the right to remove a plant suspected of being diseased or infested by pests that may be a hazard to other plants.

2. *COS will impose a 15% commission on all plant sales taking place during the show at the venue (including sales of show plants).*

3. Plants/flowers are sold at the risk of the seller. While all reasonable precautions will be taken, the S.A.O.C. and COS cannot take any responsibility for damage or loss incurred during the show.
4. All sellers will be expected to comply with any reasonable request made by the Show Chairman/Sales Co-ordinator.
5. All plants for sale must be in a good and healthy state. No diseased or pest-infested plants will be sold.
6. All plants must be well established plants when for sale in pots.
7. Bare-root plants may be sold.
8. All plants must be named properly. Sellers will be issued with a unique sticker colour that needs to be stuck to each plant for sale.
9. *All plants must have a plant number, initials of seller and price tag attached to it, either written on or in addition to their assigned stickers.*
10. For members selling plants at the show (not applicable to vendors): A list of all the plants for sale must be submitted in writing or electronically (via e-mail) on the official entry form that can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/2025-Member-plant-sales>.
11. The Sales Co-ordinator must check all plants in, before it can be put out for sale.
12. After closing of the show, the Sales Co-ordinator must check all remaining plants out, before owners can take their plants.
13. The COS will appoint helpers who are solely responsible for all plant sales.

SHOW BREAKDOWN

1. No plant, exhibit or part of an exhibit may be removed from the show venue without checking out or without the permission of the Show Chairman.
2. At the close of the show all entries must be removed from the show venue as soon as possible after 15h00 and completed by 16h00 on Sunday 13th April 2025.

SHOW DATES AND ACTIONS SUMMARY

PREPARATION OF SHOW AREA:	11 th April 2025 07h00 to 09h00
PLANT ENTRIES:	11 th April 2025 09h00 to 12h00
JUDGING:	11 th April 2025 13h00 until 15h00
BUILDING OF EXHIBIT:	11 th April 2025 after judging
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:	12 th April 2025 09h00 to 16h00 13 th April 2025 09h00 to 15h00
BREAKDOWN:	13 th April 2025 15h00 to 16h00