

JUDGING CRITERIA FOR BEST PLOT COMPETITION 2026

Site: _____ **Name of Judge:** _____

Plot No: _____ **Name of Plot holder:** _____

Category 1 Crops & Plants

	There is a good range and variety of vegetables, fruit trees or bushes, herbs and flowers	Plants are healthy, vigorous, properly supported and free from pests, damage	Should be weed free	Plants are clearly labelled	Examples of good gardening practices such as companion planting
	5 marks max	5 marks max	5 marks max	5 marks max	5 marks max
Marks					

Category 2 Condition & Maintenance of plot

	The soil should be well cultivated and healthy. Mulched where applicable	There should be evidence of crop rotation	There should be an active and efficient composting system	At least 75% of cultivable land is worked or under cultivation	There should be evidence of successional planting
	5 marks max	5 marks max	5 marks max	5 marks max	5 marks max
Marks					

Category 3 Environment & Sustainability

	Evidence of conservation of water and water catchment	Evidence of habitats for insects, small mammals etc	Evidence of beneficial insect attracting and pollinating plants	Evidence for use of organic fertilisers e.g. fish blood & bone, comfrey liquid.	Evidence of use of biological / organic pest control
	5 marks max	5 marks max	5 marks max	5 marks max	5 marks max
Marks					

Category 4 Plot Design & Safety

	The plot has a pleasing visual effect and is well planned	Paths should be level, safe and well maintained	Structures should be well maintained and stable	Safe use of canes and netting and plot safe to access, with no trip hazards	There is creative use of difficult conditions
	5 marks max	5 marks max	5 marks max	5 marks max	5 marks max
Marks					
Total					