

AQUATIC HORTICULTURAL AWARDS PROGRAM

1. PURPOSE

- A. To recognize outstanding achievement in the maintenance and propagation of aquatic plants at an international level.
- B. To gather information and accumulate knowledge related to aquatic plants and to encourage their use in the home aquarium.
- C. To identify new aquatic plant species and determine the conditions necessary for the maintenance.
- D. To establish a permanent, centrally located, record of aquatic plant species available within the hobby and to make this, as well as other accumulated information, available to member clubs/societies. This is the Aquatic Horticulturalists Directory. It is under the direction of the AHD Chairperson.
- E. To provide a method which allows the transfer of points from one club/society's A.H.A.P. to another, in the event the individual's change of residence.

2. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- A. Plants reproduced must conform with the following C.A.O.A.C. definition of an aquatic plant: "An aquatic plant is one which, in the wild or native state, can be found in the submerged, emerged or floating state as a normal occurrence at some time during the course of any calendar year."
- B. Plants shall be identified by the participating club/society. If correct species identification is not possible, the species in question will be assigned a code number by the committee which shall be used for recording purposes until the correct identification is determined.
- C. The following books will be the manuals used for source of identification of most species:
 - "Aquarium Plants" by Christel Kasselmann;
 - "Encyclopedia of Water Plants" by Dr. Jiri Strotola;
 - "Aquarium Plants Their Identification, Cultivation and Ecology" by Dr. Karel Rataj & Thomas J. Horeman;
 - "A Manual of Aquarium Plants" by Shirley Aquatics Limited, by Colin D. Roe, England
- D. The local club/society shall be responsible for the verification of propagations and flowerings and for the submission of reports of these to the C.A.O.A.C. A.H.D. Chairperson. C.A.O.A.C. shall assist whenever possible but shall not dictate policy to the local club/society.

3. LOCAL CLUB/SOCIETY REQUIREMENTS

- A. Individual participants must be members in good standing with a C.A.O.A.C. member club/society.
- B. The A.H.A.P. rules and guidelines of that club/society must be on file and registered with the C.A.O.A.C. A.H.A.P. Committee.

C. Participants must have completed all requirements of the local program as registered with the Committee.

D. The species name or assigned code number must be included with each participant's application for credits. These applications must be signed by the local A.H.A.P. Chairperson, or designate.

E. In the case of family participation, one award will be issued by C.A.O.A.C. with the names of all registered family/participants stated on the award.

Note: reasonable exceptions will be considered by the Awards Committee.

F. Awards will be issued to a newly registered participant beginning with that individual's next highest level of accomplishment only. No back-dated awards will be issued.

4. C.A.O.A.C. A.H.A.P. COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

The C.A.O.A.C. A.H.A.P. COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON SHALL:

A. Maintain an up-to-date file containing:

- a) All registered local A.H.A.P. program rules.
- b) Names of all registered clubs/societies and individuals.
- c) All applications for credits and awards and of all awards presented.
- d) A list for each level of accomplishment illustrating the number and names of participants and species propagated by each and,
- e) A record of all communications conducted on behalf of the committee.

B. Establish a code to be used as an interim measure for the classification of unidentified species.

C. Obtain photographs, slides or living samples of unidentified species and attempt to have them identified and to be included in the annual report and to submit information obtained from this report.

5. AWARDS

A certificate, suitable for framing, shall be provided to participants achieving each level of accomplishment according to these rules and guidelines. All awards shall be signed by the C.A.O.A.C. President and the Awards Chairperson.

6. OBTAINING AWARDS

Application for these awards shall be on the form provided on the C.A.O.A.C. website.

7. LEVELS OF ACCOMPLISHMENT

A. Aquatic Horticulturalist Award

50 Points (4 species) from class – B, C, D

B. Aquatic Advanced Horticulturalist Award

120 Points (12 species) from class – 2-C, 2-D, 1-E.

C. Expert Aquatic Horticulturalist Award
250 Points (30) species from class – 2-D, or 2-E, plus 1-F

D. Master Aquatic Horticulturalist Award
500 Points (40 species) from class – 3-D, 3-E, 2-F, 1-G

E. Grand Master Aquatic Horticulturalist Award
1000 Points (80 species)
plus the following:

1. Minimum of three (3) lectures

Or

2. Three (3) photo essays (10 Photos each) Pictures to include, rootstock, stems, leaves, flowers and seeds.

Or

3. Article of identification of a plant to include at least 2,000 word for use in a local or national publication.

8. PLANT GROUPING AND POINT ALLOCATIONS

The following list will be used as a guide for the Canadian Association of Aquarium Clubs Aquatic Horticulturalist Awards Program. Additional species will be added as required.

CLASS A 5 Points

Any Azolla species

Any Ceratophyllum species

Any Ceratopteris species

Any Elodea species

Any lemma species

Any Slavinia speceies

Any Riccia species

CLASS B 10 Points

Any Acorus

Any Ambulia species

Any Bacopa species

Any Cardamine species

Any Cobomba species

Any Eleocharis species

Any Fontinalis species

Any Heterandria species

Any Hydrilla species

Any Hydrocotyle species

Any Hygrophilla species

Any Limnophila species

Any Lobelia species

Any Ludwigia species

Any Myrophyllum species

Any Nomphila species

Any Nymphoides species

Any Potamogeton species

Pygmy Chain Sword

Any Rotala species

Any Sagittaria species

Samolus Valerandi
Any Utricularia species
Water Wisteria
Any Vallisneria

CLASS C 15 Points

Any Aponogeton species except Madagascar Lace Plant
Bolbitis species
All Crinium species
Any Cryptocoryne species
Didiplid Diandra
Any Echinodorus species except Pygmy Chain Sword
Any Echorina species
Any Isotes species
Lararosiphon Major
Any Marsilia species
Microsorium Pteropus
Trapa Natans
Any Nymphaea species
Any Pistia species

CLASS D 20 Points

Any Aldrovandia species
Alismoise
Any Anubias species
Barclayalongifilia
Any Lagenandra species
Any Madagascar Lace Plants
Ottellia s
Spatterdock

CLASS E FLOWERING

Extra points and recognition should be awards for all reported flowerings of aquatic plants. It is suggested that the additional points be the same for the actual propagation of the plant according to the above list.

CLASS F SEEDS

Extra points shall be awarded for all seeds. It is suggested that the additional points be the same as for the actual propagation of the plant to the above list.

CLASS G SEXUAL REPRODUCTION

Extra points hall be awarded for sexual reproduction. It is suggested that the additional points be the same as for the actual propagation of the plant according to the above list.

This C.A.O.A.C. Aquatic Horticultural Awards Program was put together with the help of the following:

Mrs. Dorothy Reimer of London, Ontario;
Mr. James Robinson of Mississauga, Ontario;
Mr. Mike Grader of Allegheny, New York; and
Mr. Ray Lucas of Boston, New York.

Clubs/societies submitting their local rules and guidelines are:

Northern Manitoba Tropical Fish Society
Kitchener-Waterloo Aquarium Society
Central New York Aquarium Society
Southtowns Fish Fanciers Inc.
Chautauqua Count Aquarium Association
Erie Aquarium Society
Durham Region Aquarium Society
Greater Akron Aquarium Society
Federation of American Aquarium Societies

Also thanks to Mike Trzonkowski from Delaware Aquatics for his help.

AQUATIC HORTICULTURALIST AWARD

To be given to hobbyists who have advanced well beyond the novice stage of propagating aquatic plants. The following requirements will be used by the Awards Committee as a basis for selection of applicants.

1. All applications should be made by or countersigned by the AHAP Chairperson (if there is no AHAP Chairperson then the executive body of an aquarist club/society may authorize).
2. The applicant must have experience and a good working knowledge in the care and maintenance of Aquatic plants.
3. The applicant must be successful in propagating at least four (4) species of Aquatic plants from the local club/society's Aquatic Horticulturalist Awards Program* and accumulate fifty (50) points.

Note: * Must be from Class B, C or D.

AQUATIC ADVANCED HORTICULTURALIST AWARD

To be given to hobbyists who have advanced to a higher level of propagating Aquatic plants. The following requirements will be used by the Awards Committee as a basis for selection of applicants.

1. All applications should be made by or countersigned by the AHAP Chairperson (if there is no AHAP Chairperson then the executive body of an aquarist club/society may authorize).
2. It is mandatory that the applicant be a holder of the Aquatic Horticulturalist Award certificate.

3. The applicant must be successful in propagating at least twelve (12) species of Aquatic plants from the local club/society's Aquatic Horticulturalist Award Program* and accumulate one hundred and twenty (120) points.

Note: * Must include two (2) from Class C, two (2) from class D and one (1) from class E.

EXPERT AQUATIC HORTICULTURALIST AWARD

To be given to hobbyists who have reached the more advanced level of propagating Aquatic plants. The following requirements will be used by the Awards Committee as a basis for selection of applicants.

1. All applications should be made by or countersigned by the AHAP Chairperson (if there is no AHAP Chairperson then the executive body of an aquarist club/society may authorize).
2. It is mandatory that the applicant be a holder of the Aquatic Advanced Horticulturalist Award certificate.
3. The applicant must be successful in propagating thirty (30) species of Aquatic plants from the local club/society's Aquatic Horticulturalist Program* and accumulate two hundred and fifty (250) points.

Note: * Must include two (2) from class D, two (2) from class E and one (1) from class F.

MASTER AQUATIC HORTICULTURALIST AWARD

To be given to hobbyists who have advanced to a higher level of propagating of Aquatic plants. The following requirements will be used by the Awards Committee as a basis for selection of applicants.

1. All applications should be made or countersigned by the executive body of an Aquarist club/society.
2. It is mandatory that the applicant be a holder of the Expert Aquatic Horticulturalist Award certificate.
3. The applicant must be successful in propagating at least forty (40) species of Aquatic plants from the local club/society's Aquatic Horticulturalist Awards Program* and accumulate five hundred (500) points.

Note: * Must include three (3) from class D, three (3) from class E, two (2) from class F and one (1) from class G.

GRAND MASTER AQUATIC HORTICULTURALIST AWARD

To be given to hobbyists who have reached the highest level of propagating Aquatic plants. The following requirements will be used by the Awards Committee a basis for selection of applicants.

1. All applicants must be nominated by the executive body of an Aquarist club.
2. It is mandatory that the applicant be a holder of the Master Aquatic Horticulturalist Award certificate.
3. The following are the requirements needed to receive the title Grand master Aquatic Horticulturalist:

The applicant must be successful in propagating at least eighty (80) species of Aquatic plants and accumulate one thousand (1000) points plus one (1) of the following:

i) a minimum of three (3) lectures

or

ii) three (3) photo essays (10 photos each), pictures to include rootstock, stems, leaves, flowers and seeds

or

iii) an article of identification of a plant to include at least two thousand (2000) words for use in a local or national publication.