



## So you want to Show Lilies

- Look for stems or single flowers to cut.
- Follow the directions in the Show Schedule in the June newsletter, and the hints in the rest of this document.
- Ask for recommendations and help from NSLS members before or at the show.
- Each stem entered must have at least one flower fully opened to be judged.

# Choose stems that will be judged

- Check for defects; see petaloid instead of 6<sup>th</sup> anther.
- Before you cut the stem in your garden also check for 6 petals and 6 anthers in each open flower.





**See insect damage on each bud.**



**A fasciated stem. Not a prize-winner!**



**2nd example of fasciation**



**Condition: no bugs, spider webs, damage to flower or leaves (can groom/ trim the leaves so minor imperfections do not show. ).**



**Clean up the pollen**



**Do not remove anthers; brush pollen off with paintbrush or q-tip**

# Tool kit for prepping stems for show

- Small paint brushes
- Q-tips
- Small sharp scissors for trimming leaves
- Cotton balls or makeup pads for washing leaves
- Sharp knife to remove pedicel or buds that don't develop, as needed
- Stick pins usually used by seamstress
- Super Glue
- Address labels
- Small vial of soapy water
- Rubbing alcohol



## **IDEAL LILY STEM**

- **Straight stem**
- **Tree-shaped if this is the variety's habit**
- **Well-placed pedicels**
- **Uncrowded flowers**
- **Symmetrical**
- **No missing buds**
- **6 petals**
- **6 anthers**
- **Healthy foliage**

## **WHAT IS 1 DEFECT**

**Do you think you can trim off pedicel with spent flower at the stem so that it doesn't show ?  
Good judges will see this.**



**Martagon: note the bare stem between inflorescence and the first whorl of leaves, that is normal, if cutting a martagon for the show, cut below at least one whorl of leaves**



**Some lilies naturally do not have a tall straight stem, but have an “umbel,” or group of pedicels at the same level.**

**Stem is propped with rhubarb or similar piece next to the stem in the tube to show healthy foliage and display stem at proper height. Water the stem!**



## Hints on cutting and prepping a stem

- If you need to encourage a stem or single flower to open, put the cut flower or stem in a warm place like in the sun, and water it with warm (not hot) water.
- Don't cut more than 1/3 of the stem off when cutting your stems. The stalk and leaves remaining need to feed the bulb for next year. But, be sure to cut some of the foliage so that it shows when you display your lily stem.

# Complete Entry Tag (for stems and floral designs)

- Complete a Green tag.
- Consult the Show Schedule for Section and class.
- Write down cultivar name
- Bring your address labels (2 each card) – makes it faster
- Ask for help. Others will be glad to help!

Section D North Star Lily Society Class 36

Variety IOWA ROSE

Name (YOUR NAME)

Street (YOUR ADDRESS)

City \_\_\_\_\_

1st ○ Award	2nd ○ Award	3rd ○ Award	Honorable ○ Mention
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Section D Class 36

Variety IOWA ROSE

Name (YOUR NAME)

Street (YOUR ADDRESS)

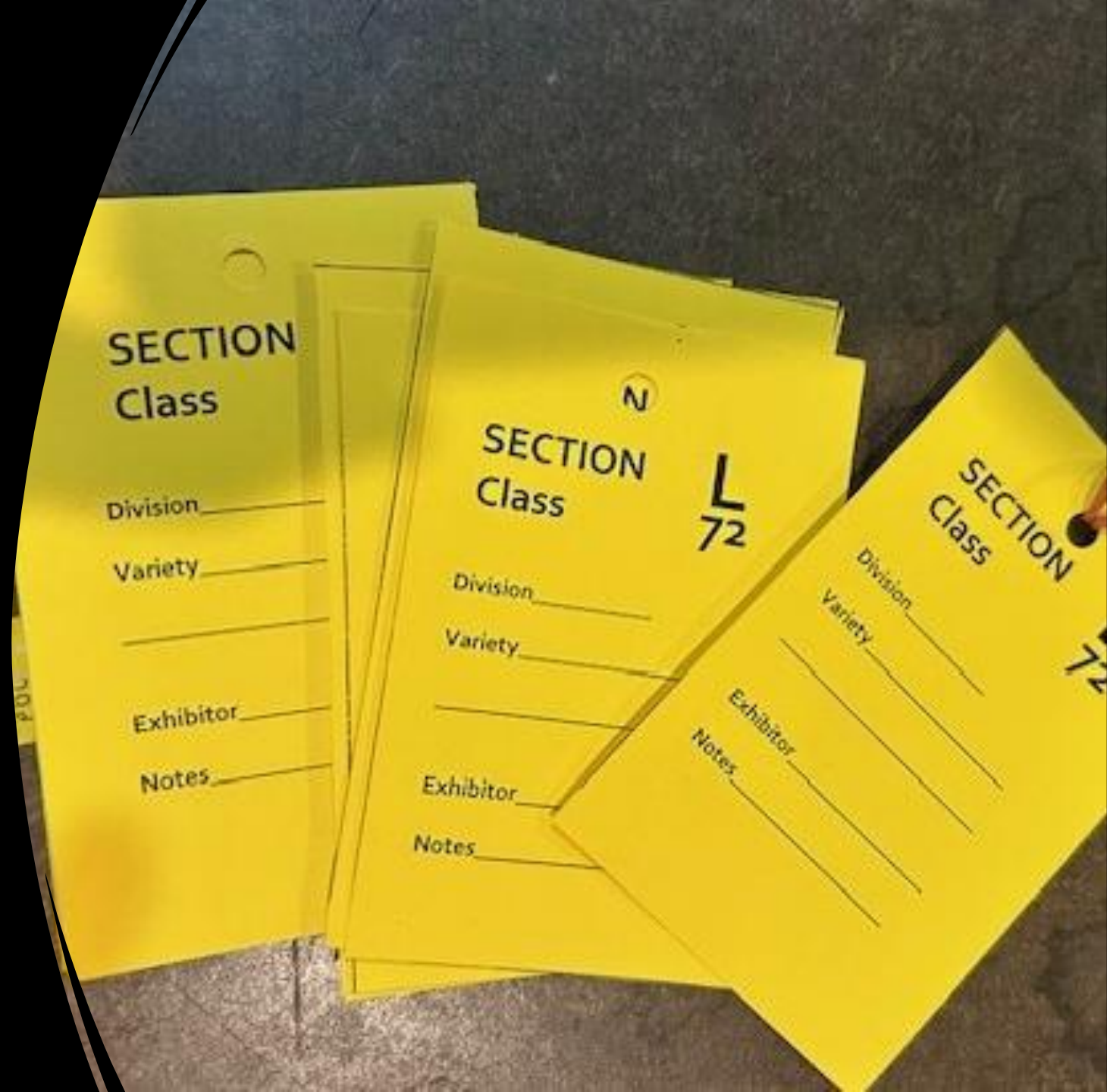
City \_\_\_\_\_

# For Single Blossom entries (one blossom or collection of blossoms)

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- Use a special tag provided.
- Consult the Show Schedule for Class and Section
- Write down Cultivar name or seedling number
- Bring your address labels to decrease writing needed.

(Picture is of 2025 tags. 2026 tags will be different.)



# Enjoy the show

- Set- up of the show and prepping of the stems goes from Friday afternoon into the early evening. Check the Show Schedule for stem prepping and entry times on Friday and early Saturday morning.
- Good luck
- Sign up to clerk for the judging on Saturday morning to learn more about entering stems in the show.
- If you don't clerk, then return to see the judging results after 1 PM on Saturday.