

WANDSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL
ALLOTMENT JUDGE'S SCORE SHEET
Better Plotting Scheme for the Award of Certificates

Allotment site:

Plot No:

Name of plot holder:

1	Land management	Judge's marks	Maximum marks
	<u>Soil cultivation</u> , weed control, management for wildlife		10
	<u>Evidence of crop planting system</u> - labels, companion planting, grouping types of plants, etc		10
	<u>Well maintained common pathways</u> , general neatness and tidiness		10
2	Plant growth/yield, pest/disease control		
	<u>Growth and vigour of crops</u> , good sized plants making good use of available space		10
	<u>Crops free from pests</u> or disease, cleanliness		10
	<u>Potential yield</u> of crops		10
3	Planning to grow food throughout the year		
	Evidence of crops for <u>summer and autumn supplies</u>		10
	Evidence of crops for <u>winter or spring supplies</u>		5
4	Compost:		
	<u>Quality of compost</u> in bins		10
	<u>Volume</u> of active compost bins available and in use		10
5	Wildlife friendly gardening:		
	Evidence of methods to encourage wildlife		5

TOTAL			100
Signature of Judge:			
Dates of Judging			

Guidelines for assessment

The score sheet has been drawn up to encourage best allotment practice. Several aspects are assessed by the judge on the day of the visit. These guidelines go some way to explaining what is being assessed under each category.

1. Land management

- Soil cultivation: getting the soil into good growing condition, evidence of digging, forking to break down the surface, hoeing, etc. Good control of annual and perennial weeds. Management to attract predator insects, eg, mix of perennial and annual flowers, water.
- Evidence of crop planting system: The judge will note evidence of how the plot holder makes decisions about placing plants in growing groups and considers companion or successional planting.
- Well maintained common pathways, neatness and tidiness: Plot holders are required to maintain the paths around their plot as well as those within the plot.

2. Plant growth/yield, pest/disease control

- Growth and vigour of plants: the better the growth the more marks should be awarded
- Cleanliness of crops: free from diseases and pests; adequate measures in place to deal with diseases and pest. This arises from observation and recognition of problems that occur and understanding how to deal with them or avoid them occurring.
- Potential yield: The judge will assess probable yield of crops by the appearance of the plants.

3. Planning to grow food throughout the year

- Summer and autumn supplies refers to crops ready for use between June and September
- Winter and spring supplies refers to crops for use from October to May.

4. Compost

- Quality of compost in bins: hand tested, moist, friable, free from any 'volunteer plants' growing in the compost bin.

- Volume of active compost bins: The judge will consider the provision of adequate number and design of bins or other composting methods appropriate to the size of the plot

5. Wildlife friendly gardening

- Actively attracting wildlife to your plot can assist in getting the right balance of pests and predators. Features such as flowers, bird feeders, 'bug hotels' and various habitats, water, etc, can make the plot altogether more friendly.

IMPORTANT All plots are judged by the same standard irrespective of the experience of the plot holder, size of plot, or other factors. The judge is looking for best use made whatever the size of the plot.