ANNUAL & PERENNIAL IDENTIFICATION

**Description:** The student will be required to identify a group of 50 annual and perennial plants by botanical name (genus and species) and common name. The plants will be photos of live samples and will be selected from the master list of plants posted to the NCLC website prior to the event.

**Time:** 1 hour

**JUDGING CRITERIA**

**Points:** 100 possible points per individual, if all fifty plants are identified and spelled correctly.

Each plant will be worth a maximum of two points:

- 0.5 point for genus
- 0.5 point for species
- 0.5 point for common name
- 0.5 point for correct spelling (Spelling scored only if the plant identity is correct)

❖ **Genus**

- The first letter of the genus is always capitalized.
- Underlining the genus and the specific epithet is not required for this test.
- If a participant uses all caps, then the first letter must be significantly larger than the rest of the word.

❖ **Species, Hybrids, Cultivars**

- **Species**
  - The specific epithet is always in lower case including the first letter.
  - Underlining the genus and the specific epithet is not required for this test.
  - If a participant uses all caps, then the first letter must be exactly the same size as the rest of the word.

- **Hybrids**
  - Hybrid indicators should be a multiplication sign that is not italicized.
  - Interspecific hybrids are indicated by a small multiplication sign that immediately precedes the specific epithet.
  - Intergeneric hybrids are indicated by a large multiplication sign that immediately precedes the genus.
  - Using *xhybrida* and hybrids
    - Use *xhybrida* indicates that a specific cross has been given that hybrid epithet.
    - Use hybrids when there are many species in a hybrid group (e.g. *Achillea* hybrids), and a hybrid epithet has not been given.

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❖ Cultivars
- Cultivars should be enclosed by single quotes and should never be italicized.
- Each word in the cultivar name should be capitalized.

❖ Common names
- The first letter must be lower case.
- If a participant uses all caps, then the first letter must be exactly the same size as the rest of the word.
- If cultivar names are used as a part of the common name, they are capitalized.
- If there is a proper name within the cultivar name, it should be capitalized as noted on the list.
- If hyphens are within the name, they must be used as designated on the list.
- Only one common name is required for each plant.

❖ Spelling
- Spelling should be assumed correct on this list. If there is a typographical error, the listed spelling and the correct spelling will be accepted.
- If there is a tie between students, spelling will be used as a tie breaker. The student with the highest spelling score will achieve the higher place.
- Spelling is scored only after the student has correctly identified the plant.

❖ Other notes
- Text in parentheses is for your information only and is not required on the test

Students are encouraged to bring the following materials to the event: Two sharpened pencils with erasers, blank scratch paper. The test will be taken in the online platform.

Sponsor is required to supply the following materials for the event:
- Specimens for identification (selected from the master list provided by NALP), and other test materials (questions, explanations, etc.) in online platform
- Sufficient number of judges
- Final solution ready for scoring the students’ solutions
- Any other items deemed necessary for this event