

Dahlia Market Bunch Scorecard

Federation of Northwest Dahlia Growers

A market bunch typically refers to a bundle or arrangement of freshly cut flowers sold by local growers, often at farmers' markets. Market bunches are prized for their freshness, seasonal variety, and often for their sustainability and support of local agriculture.

Judging Characteristic	Score
Color – 15 Points • Appealing and useful for cut flower market (15 points) ○ <i>Can be even or uneven</i> ○ <i>Can be muted and muddy</i> ○ <i>Vintage colors and blends OK</i> ○ <i>Uneven distribution on variegated OK</i> ○ <i>Wolf petals OK</i>	
Bloom Freshness – 45 points • Condition of petals – (20 points) ○ <i>Blooms are not bruised or crushed</i> ○ <i>No petal drop</i> ○ <i>Good substance</i> • Harvested at appropriate stage – (15 points) ○ <i>Green centers OK</i> ○ <i>Blooms harvested when slightly immature</i> ○ <i>No pollen apparent</i> • Uniformity of maturation – (10 points)	
Stem Quality – 40 Points • Firm blossom attachment (15 points) • Stems firmness and integrity (10 points) ○ <i>Strong, straight, and able to hold bloom</i> ○ <i>Diameter appropriate to bloom</i> • Stem length minimum of 12 inches (10 points) ○ <i>Cut edge clean, fresh, and straight</i> ○ <i>Long, strong, straight stems preferred</i> • Bound with a single rubber band (5 points)	
Total Points	