

Community Garden Edibles Competition 2022 Frequently Asked Questions

General

Q1. What is the Community Garden Edibles Competition?

The Community Garden Edibles Competition (CGEC) is a platform to recognise the abilities of our gardeners and showcase their excellent harvests. Through friendly competition, CGEC aims to promote and develop the horticultural skills among the local gardening community.

Q2. Is the Community Garden Edibles Competition an annual competition?

The competition is an annual event. It has been held every year since it first launched in 2015.

Q3. Who can take part in this competition? Is it open to all members of the public?

The competition is open to all persons residing in Singapore, except staff of NParks.

Q4. How were the nine 'Best Edibles' categories of fruits and vegetables selected?

The selection was based on growing trends observed over the past seven years this Competition has been held, as well as the increasing level of knowledge in growing edibles that participants of recent editions of the competition have shown.

Q5. What is considered a 'unique edible' under the Open category?

For this competition, an edible with an unusual characteristic (e.g. form, colour, texture) and/or of uncommon cultivar or species is considered a 'unique edible'. Participants are also encouraged to submit edibles of uncommon cultivars or species under the respective 'Best Edibles' categories to showcase their ability.

Registration

Q6. Can each participant take part in more than one category? How many entries can each participant submit?

Participants can take part in multiple 'Best Edibles' categories. However, each participant can only submit one entry for each 'Best Edibles' category, and each entry has to be a set of two of the same type of fruit or vegetable (e.g. two whole watermelons, two trusses of cherry tomatoes).

Participants will be disqualified if they submit more than one entry for the same 'Best Edibles' category. This is not applicable for the Open Category, for which participants may submit more than one entry.

Q7. What is the closing date for registration and deadline for submission of edibles?

The closing date for registration is 21 Mar 2022. Participants are strongly encouraged to register as the data provided will aid NParks to plan and organise future competitions. Participants will be required to submit their edibles for shortlisting on 27 Jul 2022. Participants whose entries are shortlisted are not required to be present for the final judging on 28 Jul 2022.

Seed Collection

Q8. What type of complimentary seeds are given? Can participants use their own seeds?

Participants may collect complimentary seeds for the categories that they have registered for, while stocks last. These are generic seeds for the respective categories. Those who wish to challenge their gardening skills with difficult or rare varieties/cultivars may source their own seeds.

Q9. What if participants cannot collect their complimentary seeds in person?

Participants may authorise their family or friends to collect the seeds on their behalf. The proxy will need to provide the participant's full name, phone number and email address used during registration for verification.

Submission

Q10. What do participants need to bring on the submission day?

Participants will be required to bring their edibles for submission in person or by proxy. The proxy will need to provide the participants' full name, phone number and email address used during registration for verification. The entire plant is not required, only the individual whole fruit/vegetable or truss of fruit. The edibles should be packed carefully to ensure their freshness and quality.

Q11. Is it compulsory to submit a set of two edibles per entry? Can participants choose which of the two edibles to be judged?

It is compulsory to submit two of the same type of edible (e.g. two whole watermelons, two trusses of cherry tomato) as one entry for any of the 'Best Edible' categories. Participants will need to indicate during submission on which of the two is for display and which is for judging. Entries with only one edible will not be accepted.

However, this is not a requirement for the Open Category. As unique edibles may be difficult to reproduce, only one edible per entry is required for the Open Category.

Q12. Do participants need to be present during submission? Will transport to/from the submission venue be provided?

Participants are required to submit their entries in person or by proxy at HortPark. For participating groups, one member can represent the group to submit the entries in person. No transport service will be provided, so participants are to arrange for their own transportation.

Q13. Can participants submit entries if they did not register at all for the competition beforehand, or for the categories they did not earlier register for?

Interested participants who did not register for the competition from 19 Feb 2022 to 21 Mar 2022 can update their details on the spot during submission day. Those who wish to submit edibles for additional categories can inform the staff at the registration booth.

Q14. What happens when participants registered for the wrong category?

There is no need to worry as the edibles will be re-classified accordingly during submission. NParks reserves the right to re-classify a submission, if so required.

Q15. What happens if participants are unable to submit their entries due to unforeseen circumstances?

We understand that gardening can be unpredictable at times. Participants who have registered but unable to submit their entries do not have to contact HortPark to withdraw from the competition. There will be no penalty for non-submission.

Q16. How will NParks ensure that the edibles submitted are grown by the participants?

Participants must produce photographs documenting the growing process of the fruit or vegetable entered for the competition if they are shortlisted. Lack of photo documentation of the growing process at shortlisting stage may result in disqualification. In addition, the submitted fruits must still be attached to their vine or stem. These will be removed when measuring weight or length during submission.

Q17. Can participants bring back their fruits and vegetables after submission?

All entries submitted shall become the property of NParks. NParks reserves the right to decide on the subsequent handling of the fruits and vegetables during and after the Competition. Selected quality entries may be put up for display.

Judging and Award

Q18. How will participants be judged for the 'Knowledge' component? Will participants who do not know the exact name of their cultivar be penalised?

For 'Best Edibles' categories, participants are strongly encouraged to label the species and variety/cultivar of their edibles to the best of their ability and knowledge. However, participants need not worry if they do not know the exact name of the variety/ cultivar as the overall judging takes into consideration the gardener's skills and abilities.

Q19. Who is on the judging panel?

The judging panel comprises representatives from NParks and its supporting partners for this competition.

Q20. When will the judging take place? Is it open to the public?

The judging will take place on 28 Jul 2022. It will be a closed-door session and is not open to the public.

Q21. How will winners be notified? Where will the prize collection be?

Winners will be notified via email on and from 28 Jul 2022. Details on prize collection will be shared at a later date or otherwise indicated in the notification email. All prizes are non-exchangeable.