

Dried Floral Criteria
August 18th, 2004

SASKATCHEWAN CRAFT COUNCIL

DRIED FLORAL CRITERIA

This category includes any products which are "natural driers" (flowers, foliage, pods, grain, insects (butterflies), moss, lichen, bark, twigs, fungi, wood) and have been grown and/or harvested by the artisan. Silk products are **not** acceptable.

Flowers used only for booth decoration, do not need to be juried. However, any artisan using "natural driers" in their finished retail product must have the product juried. ie: stained glass, candles, etc.

STANDARDS

Objects must be soundly constructed.

Hanging devices and fasteners must be secure.

Embellishments (ready-made parts) must be used with discretion (ie: they must be appropriate and compatible to the piece) and they must be subordinate to the overall design.

All the basic concepts of design should be considered. The use of colour, proportions, texture and the interplay of figure and ground should all mesh into a pleasing balance.

The transition from floral composition to base should flow.

DRIED MATERIALS

The artisan must have hands-on supervision of the drying process (air-drying, silica sand drying, glycerine preserving, sterilizing, waxing) to ensure quality.

Media specific processing is essential to eliminate insects, insect damage, premature fading of colour, shattering, brittleness, broken ends, etc.

No weather, insect, herbicide or disease damage (stains, speckles, streaks or holes) should be evident.

Dried grains must comply with the Wheatweaving Criteria and be of high quality, condition and colour.

Everlastings and other natural products are **not to be sold in bulk** but only as part of an arranged design.

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Potpourri (petals, leaves, herbs, cones, orange rind, etc.) must be grown or foraged by the artisan and be free of insects and moisture. Material and fragrance fixative (orris root preferred over synthetic) must be cured for fragrance retention. **No commercial mixtures allowed and containers should also be handmade.**

The birch bark of roses should be of good colour and sound construction. Not acceptable is excessively coarse cracking.

Hygroscopic flowers must be known to the artisan and handled and processed accordingly. The artisan must be aware of the natural colour retention of different everlasting species.

In keeping with the federal Wild Animal & Plant Protection/ International & Interprovincial Trade Act (WAPPRITA) there should be no prohibited plant material used, ie: Lady's Slipper. Under the provincial Floral Emblem Act it is illegal to use the Western Red Lily. Whether these plants are grown in the wild or on your own property, they are still protected. The Noxious Weed act prohibits the use of a variety of plants particularly wild oats, stinkweed, Russian thistle, Canada thistle and loose strife.

TECHNIQUE

1. **Binding:** Paddle wire used to attach dried product to a wreath or arch base, etc. must be uniform with no loose ends.
2. **Glycerine Preserving:** There must be no sign of stem blockage.
3. **Silica Sand Dried** flowers must be sealed.
4. **Wax-dipped** flowers must not be over processed.
5. **Air-dried** everlastings must be of good colour and free of moisture or insect damage.
6. The use of **oasis** must be secure and unobtrusive and the base must be made from natural materials.
7. **Glues** should only be used as structurally necessary and they must be invisible.
8. **Dyes, paints and finishes** must be permanent and durable with no flaking or peeling.
9. **Wreaths** made entirely from purchased parts will not be permitted. (Basketry Criteria applies to wreaths).