

About Us

The West Michigan Dahlia Society meets monthly and holds regular events, such as the annual tuber sale, show, and banquet. Most meetings are held at Frederik Meijer Gardens in the lower level on the fourth Tuesday of each month, though summer meetings are often in member gardens. Our membership continues to grow and we hope that you will join us. We love to share our ideas as we continue to learn all about the dahlia flower.

We discuss planting, maintaining normal plant health, diseases, arranging, and how to stage dahlias at displays and shows. Showing a dahlia is as simple as showing up with a couple of flowers or arrangements, and we can help you become an award winning exhibitor.

About the Dahlia

Common name: Dahlia

Botanical name: *Dahlia x. hybridus*

Growth habit: Compact perennial usually with tuberous root.

Size: With the exception of low growing bedding dahlias, most grow 4 to 6 feet tall, but can be maintained as lower, bushier plants with regular pinching and staking.

Exposure: Full sun.

Culture: Grows in humus-rich, well-drained soil. Prefers growth-promoting high nitrogen fertilizer during early summer, followed by bloom-boosting high potassium (10-30-10, or something similar) fertilizer from midsummer to early autumn.

Hardiness: Dahlias are a warm weather flower. We grow them as annuals and lift the tubers and store them during winter here in Michigan.

Varieties: The American Dahlia Society recognizes 29 flower forms, and lists



Annual Tuber Sale

**DAHLIAS ARE FUN
AND EASY TO
GROW!**

www.westmidahlia.com

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West Michigan Dahlia Society

Size Codes

<u>Code</u>	<u>Description</u>
AA	Over 10" in diameter
A	over 8-10"
B	over 6-8"
BB	over 4-6
M	up to 4" in diameter
BA	over 3.5 " in diameter
MB	over 2-3.5" in diameter
P	(Pompon) up to 2'in diameter
MS	up to 2" in diameter
S	over 2" in diameter

West Michigan Dahlia

Society Show

Frederick Meijer Gardens

August 24-25,2024

Form Codes

<u>Code</u>	<u>Description</u>
AN	Anemone-flowered
BA	Ball
C	Straight Cactus
CO	Collarette
FD	Formal Decorative
ID	Informal Decorative
IC	Incurved Cactus
LC	Lacinated
MAN	Micro Anemone-flowered
MCO	Micro Collarette
MNO	Micro Novelty Open
MNX	Micro Novelty Fully Double
MO	Micro Orchid-flowering
MO	Micro Orchette
MPE	Micro Peony-flowering
MST	Micro Stellar
MWL	Micro Water Lily
MB	Miniature Ball
MS	Mignon Single
NO	Novelty Open
NX	Novelty Fully Double
O	Orchid-flowering
OT	Orchette
P	Pompon
PE	Peony-flowering
S	Single

Color Code

<u>Code</u>	<u>Description</u>
BI	Bicolor
BR	Bronze
DB	Dark Blend
DP	Dark Pink
DR	Dark Red
FL	Flame Blend
L	Lavender
LB	Light Blend
OR	Orange
PK	Pink
PR	Purple
R	Red
V	Variegated
W	White
Y	Yellow