

Sample MG of the Year Score Sheet. Judges' comments appear in Arial typeface. Many judges' comments are from the 2021 Awards.

ARKANSAS MASTER GARDENER OF THE YEAR AWARD – Programs with 50 or Fewer Members

This award recognizes an Arkansas Master Gardener who has made an exceptional contribution to the MG Program, Extension Service and his/her county and community.

MG Program Name – Nominee	Word Count ≤ 800	Criteria 1: 45 Points Maximum	Criteria 2: 45 Points Maximum	Criteria 3: 10 Points Maximum	Total Score 0 -100	Ranking
		Description of the nominee's exceptional contributions and leadership to the MG Program, Extension Service and community.	Identify and explain the nominee's impact on the MG program through participation in activities, projects, committees, etc. How was the impact evaluated?	Captioned digital images (4 max.) in JPEG format. Images should enhance the nomination narrative.		
Alpha County MGs - John Doe	576	Officer, Extension Council rep, city relationship, outreach via farmers mkts., welcomes new MGs, project lead, 337 hours. 40 points	Gained new MGs! Specific Community Garden stats! \$\$ raised at plant sale! 337 hours! Only one that showed an impact with numbers!! 45 points	Captions with good descriptions for each photo. Only 1 who did this right. 10 points	95	1
Epsilon County MGs – Marge Flowers	790	Assist with Zoom and photography. No hours listed. 32 points	No impact shown. 20 points	Photo captions brief and non-descriptive. 7 points	59	4
Mu County MGs – Penelope Pitstop	475	Assist with garden project, mentor, 380 service hours. 38 points	No impact shown. 20 points	Photos good with fair descriptions. Didn't identify who Penelope was. 7 points	65	3
Phi County MGs – Alfred Digg	689	Officer numerous times, 200+ service hours, newsletter editor. 40 points	No impact shown. 20 points	Need more pics of him working. Need captions. 6 points	66	2

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Judge's Comments Below

Date: 8/9/2022

Judge's Name: I. M. Fair, Ph.D.

When judging the description of involvement section, I was looking to see if the Master Gardener was involved in all three aspects of the program: the county Master Gardener program, Extension, and the community. In the Master Gardener program, I liked to see leadership skills, mentorship, good conflict resolution, innovation, and amount of involvement. When involvement was reliable and consistent, such as a long-term involvement in particular projects or a large amount of involvement in a short amount of time as a Master Gardener, I scored them higher. I looked to see if Master Gardeners furthered the reach of Extension programs by making community connections and worked well with their Extension offices and employees.

For the images, I was looking for pictures that reflected what I read about in the description of involvement, such as pictures of the Master Gardener working on the specific projects mentioned. I thought it was helpful when nominations included text to explain the context that the picture was taken in. Some points were counted off for images that were unclear.

One that all counties should consider adding are numerical descriptors for service, such as the number of hours that they volunteered on each project, or the number of people reached with each project.

I chose John Doe as the Master Gardener of the year because of his relationships and involvement within his county's Master Gardener program, his involvement in the community through projects, service, the city, farmers markets to educate the public and attract new Master Gardeners, and his work as the Extension Council representative.