

# PREPARING PLANTS FOR SALE

## DIG VERY CAREFULLY.

**DO NOT INVADE THE NEXT CLUMP.**

**MARK THE VARIETY IMMEDIATELY.**

Following are some ideas and suggestions to make the sale go much smoother and less complicated for the customers. These ideas came from the Iris Society of Dallas.

Nothing is more frustrating than picking out the perfect iris in the perfect color, then waiting a year (or 2) to find out it isn't what you paid for. It doesn't speak well for the club when this happens with plants purchased at our plant sale. If you aren't sure, DON'T label it – sell it as a LANDSCAPE iris or an Odds 'N Ends Grab bag.

Wash the iris and dry thoroughly, preferably in the sun. We suggest soaking in a 10% bleach solution for about 5-10 minutes for best sterilization. Rhizomes that are washed and clean sell better than dirty ones.

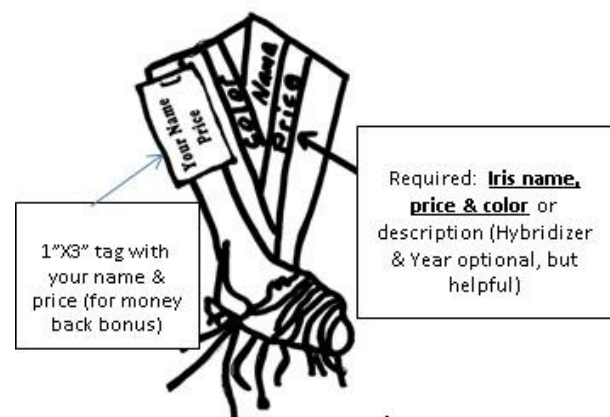
Cut the leaves back to about 6-10 inches and trim the roots back to about 4-6 inches.

Use a permanent marker, such as Sanford Sharpie or Marks-A-Lot pen (not ballpoint) to write information on the leaves, or attach a printed tag. **IMPORTANT:** Each iris must be labeled with its NAME YEAR AND PRICE. If you don't know the name, the iris must be sold as a LANDSCAPE or grab bag iris. Write on a center leaf so it will stay on longer. Outside leaves sometimes turn brown and fall off.

SEPARATE the rhizomes Alphabetically:

**Put each group etc... When arriving at the sale, this will make it much easier to quickly put them in the correct bins.**

Smaller, significantly under-developed plants should be labeled with the name and color and put in a separate sack to be given to customers as free bonus iris.



**PRICING:** The following pricing formula is based on the year of introduction, for bloom size rhizomes, and seems to work well. It has been agreed that we will not price anything less than \$2.00 with the exception of "landscape iris" or under-developed rhizomes.

## TALL BEARDED IRIS PRICING

<u>YEAR of INTRODUCTION</u>	<u>PRICE</u>
1989 or earlier	\$2.00
1990 to 1998	\$3.00
1999 to 2001	\$4.00
2002 to 2003	\$5.00
2004 to 2005	\$6.00
2006 to 2007	\$7.00
2008 to 2009	\$8.00
2010 to 2011	\$9.00
2012 & newer	\$10.00 and up

Unknown name/Landscape \$1.00 *Several of these may be put in bags and priced for \$5-\$10 (depending on how many per bag and size of rhizomes)*

This formula represents a careful study of price lists in catalogs of major growers, as well as some growers who sell at a discount, and it is fairly consistent with these, at a discounted rate.

If you know the name of an older iris but cannot find it listed in a catalog, price it at \$2.00

**If you do not know the name for certain, the rhizome must be considered a landscape iris and priced at \$1.00.**

All pricing is for good size rhizomes. You may add \$.50 to the price if the variety is a Dykes Medal winner, or a reliable rebloomer. Prices of rhizomes that are smaller than average, but not significantly underdeveloped, should be reduced. You may choose to reduce prices for other reasons.

## NON TALL BEARDED PRICING

Medians (IBs, BBs, SDBs, and MTBs), Spruias, and Louisianas should be priced at half the price listed in major catalogs such as Schreiner's, Cooley's, or Sutton's. Discount pricing from other growers may be used at near their full price.

## MEMBER BONUSES

If a Waco Iris Society member wants money back for their irises that sell, a MONEY BACK SALE TAG must be attached to each iris, in addition to the regular labeling and pricing. Securely attach this tag onto a leaf. If it falls off, you don't get the sale. It must be at least 1" by 3" in size and include the MEMBER'S NAME and the PRICE printed in permanent ink. Place the tagged plants in the baskets the same as others. Members that choose this option will **receive 1/2 of the revenue from their irises: e.g., \$50 returned for \$100 of irises sold.** The money will be paid within one month after the sale.

For the money back option, the club will require a minimum of \$25 to the club from each participant. This means your money back will be **1/2 only if the revenue from your irises is \$50 or more. No money will be given back if less than \$50 worth of your irises are sold.**

Whether you choose the money back option or not, we ask you to participate by helping customers and assisting in running the sale.