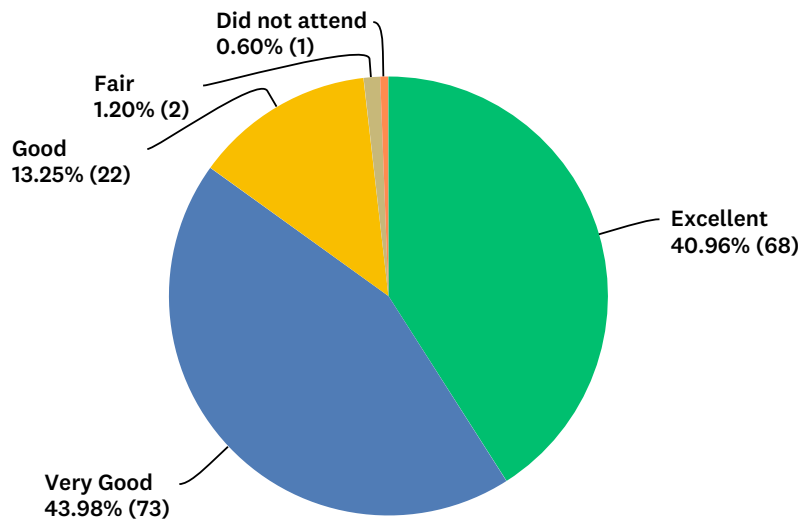


Q1 Overall, how would you rate the 2018 Symposium?

Answered: 166 Skipped: 1



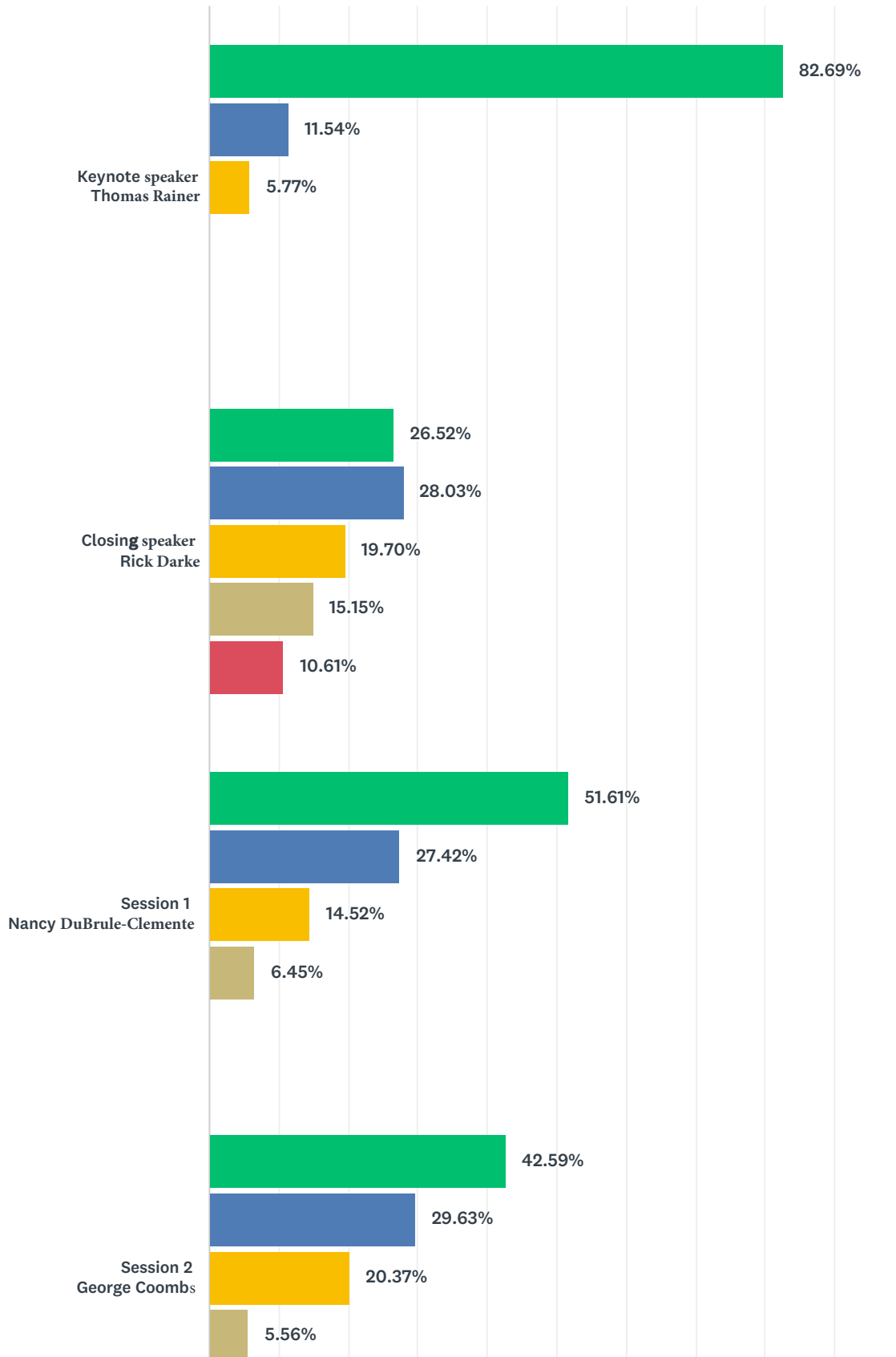
	EXCELLENT	VERY GOOD	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	DID NOT ATTEND	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
(no label)	40.96%	43.98%	13.25%	1.20%	0.00%	0.60%	166	1.75
	68	73	22	2	0	1		

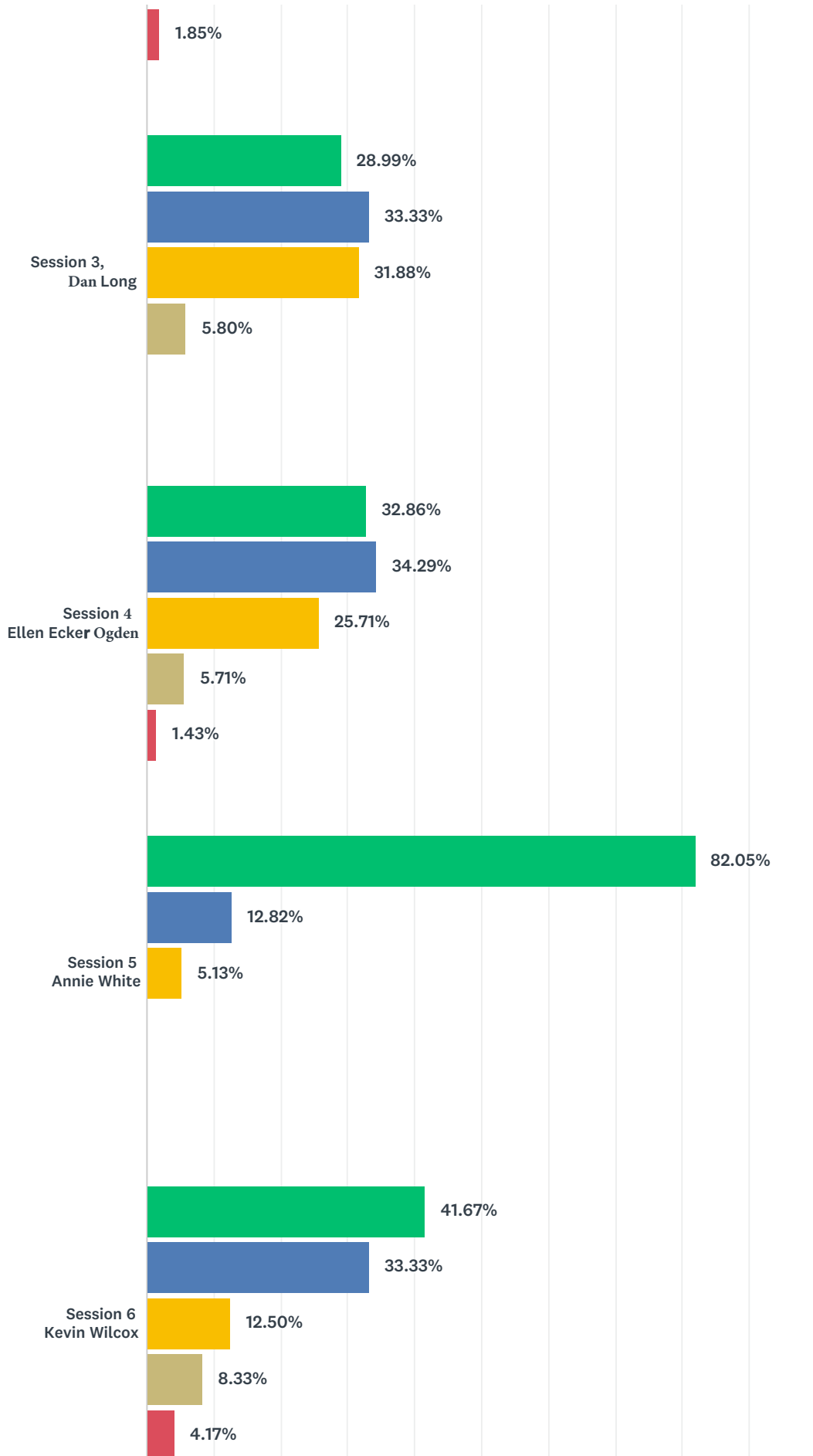
#	COMMENTS
1	Enjoyed the keynote speaker & session lectures, the food & vendors.
2	All speakers presented ultra-informative and fabulous presentations,
3	The Keynote and Closing speakers were excellent. I missed half my morning workshop due to raffle set-up duties. The food was WONDERFUL: salad and roll-ups were a great choice.
4	The speakers were all wonderful. The volunteers were so friendly and helpful.
5	To much down time
6	finishing speaker stank, location was good, other speakers good
7	Great speakers, very informative, thank you.
8	I enjoyed my two break out sessions even though I never get the ones I request. Would like to see more diverse topics next year.
9	I'm interested in current research and the speakers from Mt Cuba, Univ of Vermont, and the morning keynote we're excellen
10	Great workshops/ vendors/ and provided opportunity to meet and talk with new people with like interest but different points of view.
11	Too much time in between lectures, lunch to 1st afternoon lecture at 1:30. Should have been 1:00. Closing speaker much too long. They should be timely. Day should end by 3 or 3:30 the latest as many of us have long trips to get home.

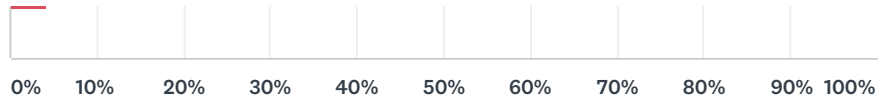
12	I got a lot inspired from Thomas Rainer, Ellen Ecker Ogden and Dan long will frame the idea put to work on my garden.
13	Brought in top-notch speakers; included science-based info on current issues. Only wish I could go to more sessions.
14	The entire experience was enjoyable. I walked in to the symposium on a blustery cold day to the intoxicating aroma of spring flowers and plants. The event was extremely well thought and flowed nicely.
15	Great offerings and on-campus signage! Thank you!
16	Best I've attended
17	Uneven . Quality of speakers was good . But there was a lot of disorganization . I think the site does not work as well as Manchester CC . . .
18	one of the best
19	Excellent main speakers
20	Wonderful speakers, excellent class choices, delicious lunch, great venue!
21	vendors seemed fewer this time
22	For me, the quality of the speakers at the CMGA symposiums are everything. For the last two years Thomas Rainer's book has been my bible, so I'm THRILLED that he was a speaker. Ditto for Rick Darke (again, I've read his books). And to have someone from Mt. Cuba....hurrah! Well done whoever was responsible for the speaker line-up.
23	Well organized and educational.
24	The pruning session should have been open to more than 25 people.
25	I enjoyed the speakers. Can consideration be given to hands on activities?
26	Beginning and ending speakers were excellent. Breakout speakers were ok. My one complaint is the temperature in the breakout session rooms. People complained rooms were too warm thus opening the windows making it too cold for those of us who weren't over dressed. This happened in both my breakout sessions. Otherwise the symposium was we'll run as usual.
27	Excellent key note and closing speakers! Breakout sessions ?? Some good, some not so good. I would prefer everyone hear all the speakers rather than breakout sessions.
28	Very happy with location. Keep it there. Great speakers except for one.
29	The venue is too small for the number of attendees.
30	Marvelous way to spend a cold March Saturday. Facilities were very good.
31	Well organized. Good presenters. Excellent food.
32	Well organized event from registration to speakers.
33	Well organized. "Helpers" recognizable by their tags.
34	Well organized from registration check-in through the end of the day - Happy 25th symposium anniversary.

Q2 Please rate the speakers.

Answered: 166 Skipped: 1







■ Excellent
 ■ Very Good
 ■ Good
 ■ Fair
 ■ Poor

	EXCELLENT	VERY GOOD	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Keynote speaker, Thomas Rainer, Designing Plant Communities for Resilient Landscaping	82.69% 129	11.54% 18	5.77% 9	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	156	1.23
Closing speaker, Rick Darke, A Watershed in Design: The Beauty of Inspired Stewardship.	26.52% 35	28.03% 37	19.70% 26	15.15% 20	10.61% 14	132	2.55
Session 1, Nancy DuBrule-Clemente, The Butterfly Connection	51.61% 32	27.42% 17	14.52% 9	6.45% 4	0.00% 0	62	1.76
Session 2, George Coombs, The Science Behind Native Cultivars	42.59% 23	29.63% 16	20.37% 11	5.56% 3	1.85% 1	54	1.94
Session 3, Dan Long, Beyond the Trellis: Using Innovative Techniques to Support Vines and Climbers	28.99% 20	33.33% 23	31.88% 22	5.80% 4	0.00% 0	69	2.14
Session 4, Ellen Ecker Ogden, The Art of Growing Food	32.86% 23	34.29% 24	25.71% 18	5.71% 4	1.43% 1	70	2.09
Session 5, Annie White, PhD, How Native Plants Affect Pollinators	82.05% 32	12.82% 5	5.13% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	39	1.23
Session 6, Kevin Wilcox, Advanced Pruning Techniques	41.67% 10	33.33% 8	12.50% 3	8.33% 2	4.17% 1	24	2.00

#	COMMENTS
1	Very informative...had to leave before the closing speaker finished & wasn't sure how his slides connected to his topic.
2	Thomas Rainer was fabulous, I could have listened to him all day long. I purchased his book. Rick Darke was beyond arrogant and irrelevant, I left after 5 minutes of his verbal assault. Dan Long provided more of a slide show of his clematis plants, not too exciting. I was looking for more interesting ideas for climbing plants. His information was well below the knowledge level of master gardeners. Ellen Ecker Ogden was most interesting and her information extremely relevant. I purchased her book.
3	Speakers are all great. That said, I wish that we did not have to choose among them. I feel like I am missing out when I have to do that.
4	Ellen Ogden's presentation was not what I was expecting. It was more about garden design elements than about growing food. Perfectly fine but I had expected more working garden knowledge than pretty pictures. They were kitchen gardens for show, not consumption.
5	This was my first Symposium will attend next year. I did volunteer and will do it again.
6	While I missed half the Pruning Techniques session, I think this is a subject best addressed "hands on" and in small groups. But what I heard was helpful.
7	Highly impressed with Thomas Rainer and his presentation
8	Rick Darke just wasn't my style of presenter.
9	Wished Kevin has a actual pruning workshop so we would have hands on experience

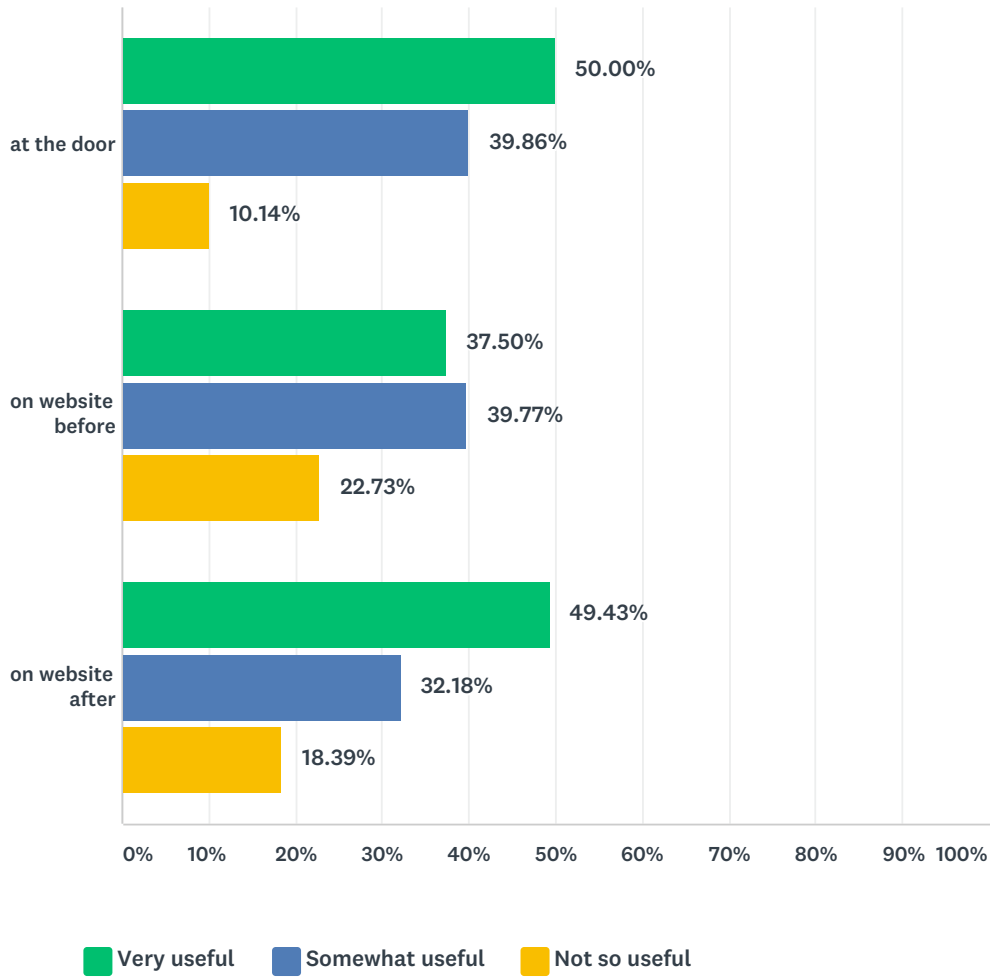
10	Rick Darke was very good, but I had heard him at the CT Hort symposium just a few weeks prior and there was repetition. Perhaps your two groups should coordinate and not duplicate the speakers in the same year. On the other hand, Thomas complemented Claudia West quite well, with little duplication, thankfully.
11	I really wanted to attend Kevin Wilcox Pruning workshop and registered as soon as I got the materials, but was still #106 and the workshop could only accommodate 25 people. Given that so many more people tried to also enter (I asked the registrar) maybe CMGA can offer multiple sessions of this workshop.
12	A very impressive and inspiring group of speakers
13	Speakers must learn how to hold the microphone. It was very difficult to understand the morning keynote speaker because the microphone was a bit too far away from his mouth and the words didn't project properly.
14	It was very sad to end the day with Mr. Darke. I did not gain any knowledge from him at all. The talk was all about him, who he knows, where he visited and what his house looks like. Maybe he had something to contribute when he was less well known but now he is insufferable to listen to.
15	Unfortunately, I was only able to attend the morning sessions.
16	Closing speaker WAY too long. Hand outs are good. Need more of them as it helps to keep up with speaker.
17	There was a miscommunication with session 6, apparently Mr. Wilcox anticipated giving two different lectures, and had to improvise his presentation. Worthwhile nonetheless.
18	To be honest, my knowledge base is very broad and I attend many regional and one national Symposium each year- ALL speakers were very good- two were new to me- and I always learn more at your symposium, which is why I travel from MA to go... already looking forward to next year!
19	Speakers, especially key note speaker and closing speakers were dynamic, inspiring and very enthusiastic about there subjects. Their energy was contagious, I was "high" on the idea of making my own positive changes like incorporating design and functional layers in my plantings. During the following garden club meeting we talked out a problem planting area we were trying to design for our town. Much of what I learned came to mind, so I volunteered for the committee to work on that particular project. I am excited by the idea of positive changes we could make in an area that is difficult to water and plant, but is highly visable. I hope to find ways to design this area with plants that will thrive instead of fail and need to be replaced.
20	Presenter was knowledgeable, however, this was posted as an advanced pruning workshop. He was not aware that it was advanced, and he thought it was to be a hands on demonstration type class. So neither the attendees or the presenter got what they were supposed to get! I was really looking forward to some more advanced pruning tips. Also Beyond the Trellis was good, but more about clematis than about innovative techniques to support Vines and climbers.
21	Rick Darke was disappointing . . .
22	Kevin did an excellent job
23	Wish I could have attended session 6 instead of session 1
24	Rick Darke should have stopped talking 15 minutes sooner. He ended up with what seemed like a sales pitch. Not a lot of substance in Ellen Ogden talk.
25	I did not get handouts--I will look on the CMGA website. I would have loved the Mt Cuba brochure but there were not enough. Also the room was HOT during that talk.
26	Wilcox did not cover the topic as listed. Coombs could have covered more species & preferred cultivars by creating/handing out a spreadsheet. Closing speaker opened way off topic with personal comments so I left.

27	Tom Rainer talk was excellent! Food was enjoyable. Great to see and talk to classmates. Ellen Ogden was very pleasant and sincere when signing her book. Rick Darke's tone of his talk was like he was talking down to us and really did not want to be at the symposium!
28	Would have liked to attend George Coombs The Science Behind Native Cultivars
29	Would have liked more practical information. A lot of the talks were about theory and the actual plants being used were hardly mentioned.
30	Dan Long's talk would benefit from some information on clematis cultivation
31	Thomas Rainer was outstanding. A large portion of Rick Darke's talk seemed to concentrate on his book, however it did get a bit better towards the end. It didn't seem cohesive. George Coombs' session was too scientific, too concentrated on his specific research on a limited number of cultivars and pretty much boring. There was no one handing out handouts at his PM session, however he did say midway through his talk that there were a few left on the back table. Ellen Ogden did not have any handouts at the AM session, however they were on the table downstairs. Would like to see website links of speakers on the CMGA website either before or after the symposium.
32	Rick Darke is who he is, arrogant and dismissive of others in the field. Nothing new, I've heard him before and he left me with the same reaction, that he could be much more effective if he weren't so busy patting himself on the back. Don't know if he is worth the time.
33	Keynote speaker had wonderful topic and delivery, but he spoke very fast, had a somewhat soft voice, and kept holding the microphone low. Missed many of the things he said. Heard others mentioning the same complaint.
34	Thomas Rainer was worth the day - excellent speaker, new insights. Rick Darke was just too arrogant to take - and of course the overrun only made it that much more painful. Wow, a legend in his own mind... The breakout speakers were OK. I think we need more breakout sessions - the choices were limited - and frankly, I am about pollinated out.
35	I couldn't even sit through Rick Darke's presentation. The presentation made no sense and he rambled on, talking about his travels, friends, etc. There were more than a few people that walked out. Not a great way to end an otherwise enjoyable day
36	I was particularly pleased that both the opening and closing speakers reflected the new eco-approach to landscape design and gardening. My deepening understanding of this approach has revolutionized my thinking and gardening practices. (Nancy DuBrule gave an excellent presentation last year on the same approach to gardening.) At first I thought Rick Darke was too philosophical and abstract in his presentation, but by the end I appreciated his fine observations and views to how either through neglect or involvement we impact our environments.
37	I thought that Ellen Ogden's talk was going to be more on growing veggies and less on design.
38	I love how the speakers were connected in spirit.
39	Darke was a little out there for me. Looking for information.
40	Rick Darke gave nearly the same talk a month ago at the CT Hort. Symposium. Serious gardeners attend more than one conference and he should have brought new material (slides, jokes etc.). Please do not have him back.
41	Dan Long continued speaking even though his time was supposed to end. I was in the first row and was embarrassed that I had to get up and leave because I had a car waiting for me. He also spoke too long about his home that didn't really seem relevant.
42	Kevin's session was excellent. He was a little surprised that we were not joining the pm session for the demonstration portion of his two part talk. Ellen's was lovely and inspiring; would have like a little more detail of what she grows in her garden. Thomas' key note was great. Look forward to trying some of his suggestions in our condo's common areas. Darke's left me almost indifferent and not sure why.

-
- | | |
|----|--|
| 43 | I enjoy going to the symposiums I have for years. I was extremely upset I signed up for the pruning class and was not able to go. This is the first time I haven't been able to get into the class I requested. |
| 44 | Rick Darke is usually a great speaker, and in fact was terrific very recently at CT Hort's annual meeting – maybe he was just a bit "off" on Saturday, but his talk was a bit rambling and unfocused this time around |
| 45 | Appreciated Wilcox's research, plus... she's a good speaker ... good presenter + good research = excellent lecture |
| 46 | Did not attend 2nd session nor closing speaker due to CMGA volunteer responsibilities. |
| 47 | Rick Darke had an impressive story and wonderful photography, but not enough how-to and structure for me to walk away ready to dig in. On the other hand Thomas Rainer made me excited about applying some of his design techniques, |
-

Q3 Please rate the value of the speaker handouts?

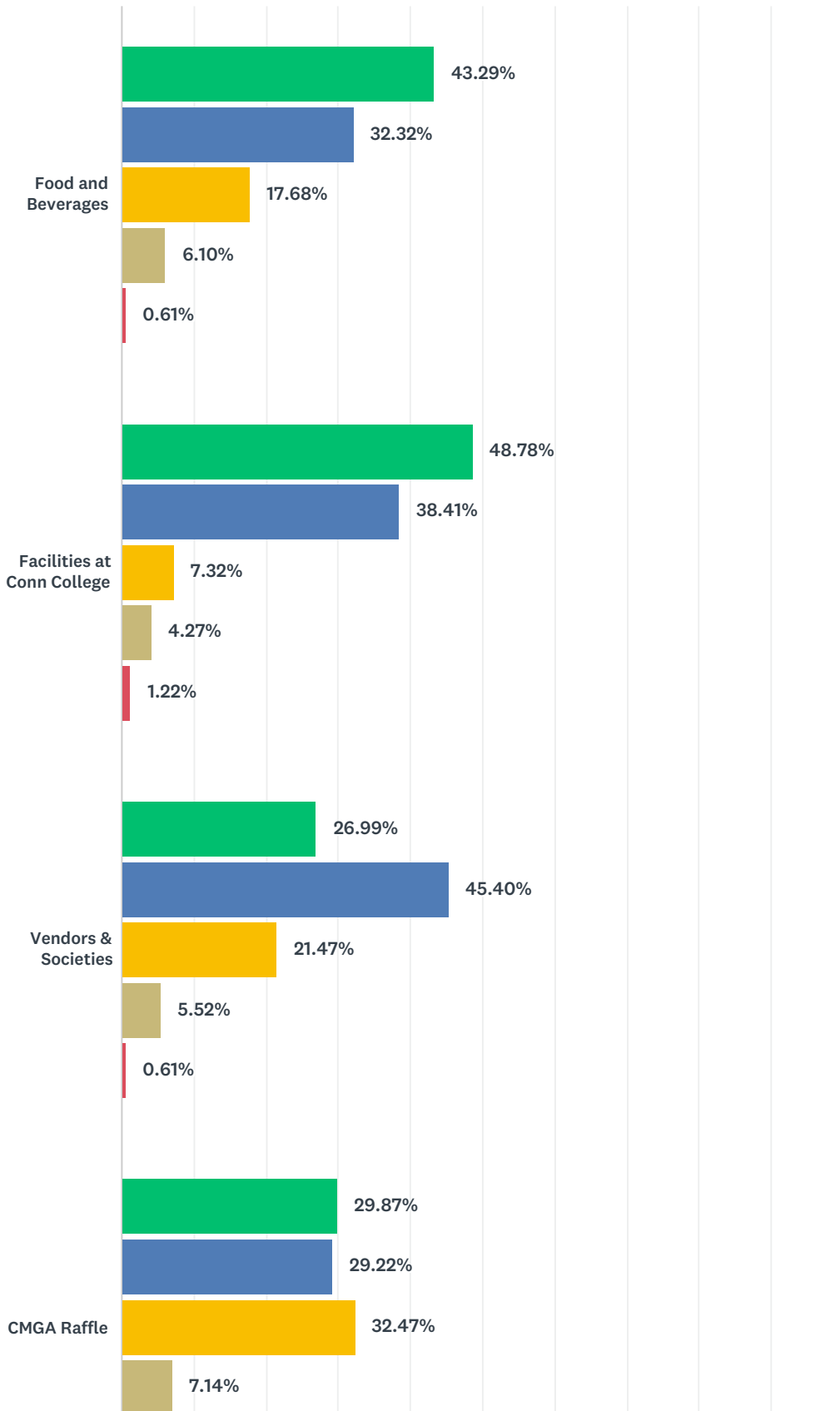
Answered: 147 Skipped: 20

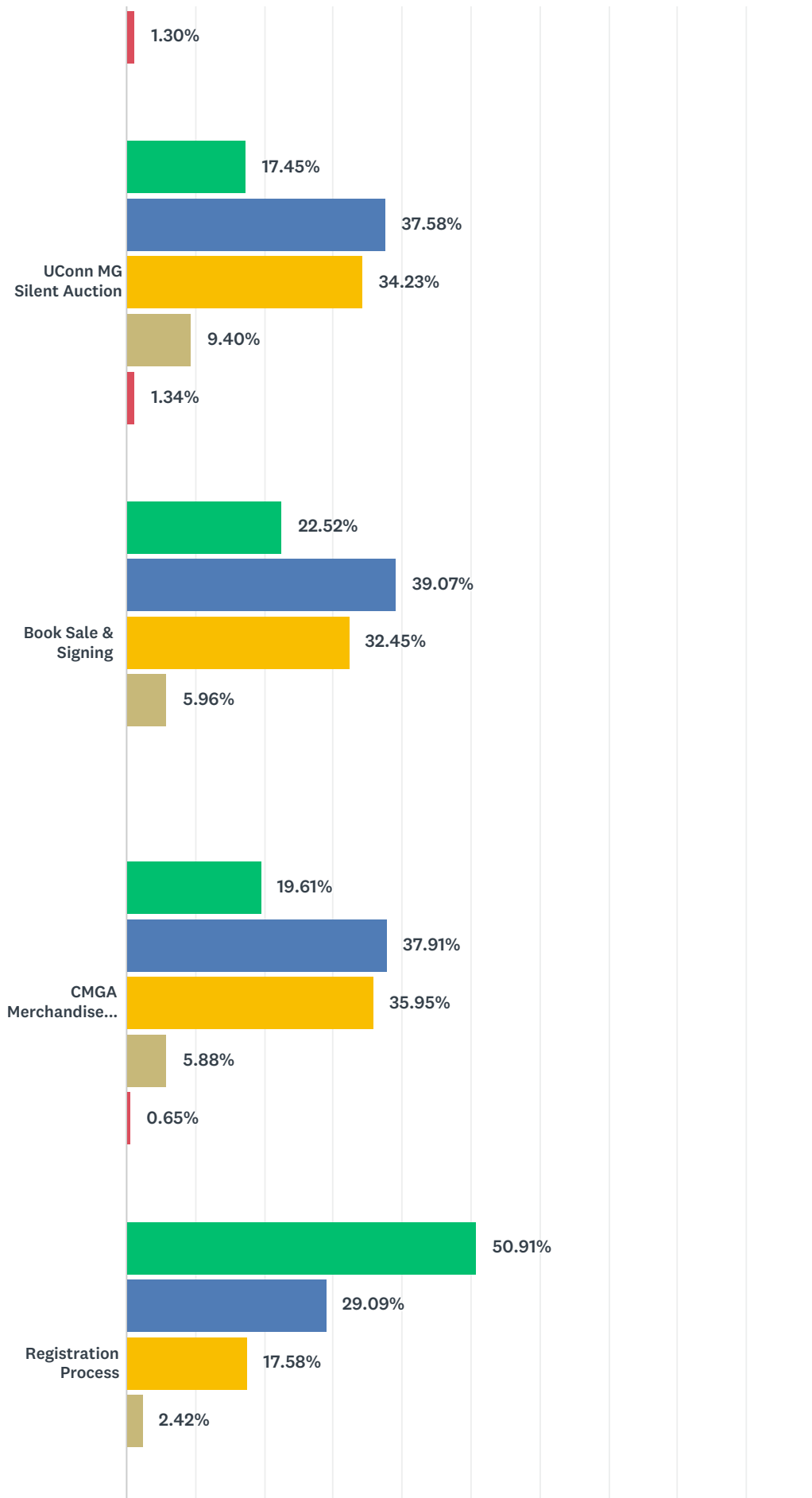


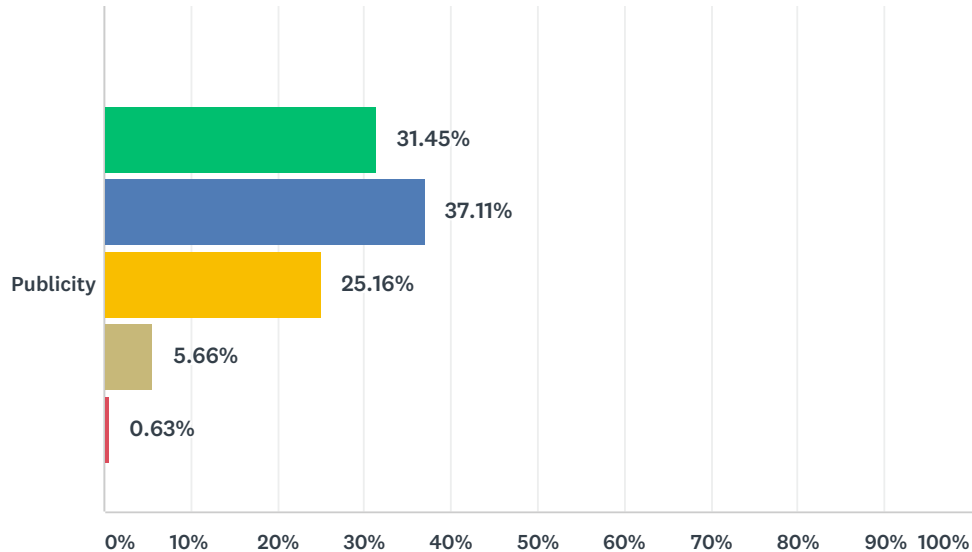
	VERY USEFUL	SOMEWHAT USEFUL	NOT SO USEFUL	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
at the door	50.00% 69	39.86% 55	10.14% 14	138	1.60
on website before	37.50% 33	39.77% 35	22.73% 20	88	1.85
on website after	49.43% 43	32.18% 28	18.39% 16	87	1.69

Q4 Overall, how would you rate the following:

Answered: 166 Skipped: 1







■ Excellent
 ■ Very Good
 ■ Good
 ■ Fair
 ■ Poor

	EXCELLENT	VERY GOOD	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Food and Beverages	43.29% 71	32.32% 53	17.68% 29	6.10% 10	0.61% 1	164	1.88
Facilities at Conn College	48.78% 80	38.41% 63	7.32% 12	4.27% 7	1.22% 2	164	1.71
Vendors & Societies	26.99% 44	45.40% 74	21.47% 35	5.52% 9	0.61% 1	163	2.07
CMGA Raffle	29.87% 46	29.22% 45	32.47% 50	7.14% 11	1.30% 2	154	2.21
UConn MG Silent Auction	17.45% 26	37.58% 56	34.23% 51	9.40% 14	1.34% 2	149	2.40
Book Sale & Signing	22.52% 34	39.07% 59	32.45% 49	5.96% 9	0.00% 0	151	2.22
CMGA Merchandise Sale	19.61% 30	37.91% 58	35.95% 55	5.88% 9	0.65% 1	153	2.30
Registration Process	50.91% 84	29.09% 48	17.58% 29	2.42% 4	0.00% 0	165	1.72
Publicity	31.45% 50	37.11% 59	25.16% 40	5.66% 9	0.63% 1	159	2.07

#	COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS FOR NEXT YEAR
1	All those who planned and put on this meeting are to be commended for their thorough planning and follow through. Everything from speaker selection on was really well done.
2	The book sale and signing area was congested. A more open area would provide enough space for orderly lines to form instead of people rushing the table.
3	I got there about 8:30 and there was no more room for coats on the coat rack, so 1 o2 more of the moveable/temp racks would be nice. I really don't want to carry around my winter coat all day. The lunch flow process still needs work. The new raffle was totally confusing to me. The only times everyone is present and focused is right before or after the opening speaker or right before the closing speaker, so one of those times should be used for the raffle announcements.

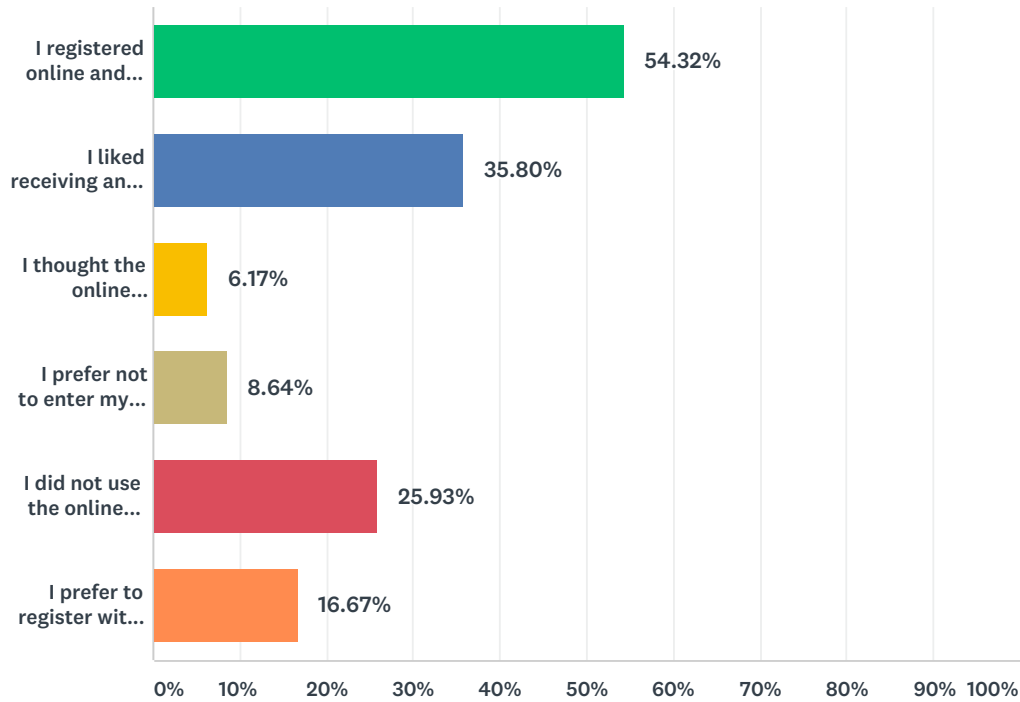
4	had trouble finding information on the website after I signed up. luckily I had held onto the printed mailer. I wasn't sure what sessions I had gotten into till I got there, would have been nice to know before.
5	Hard to hear the announcement of raffle winners, but the prizes were superb, as was the silent auction. Book sales exceeded expectations. In the future we might have CMGA bookplates for the authors to sign (in advance) so anyone purchasing a book gets a signed copy.
6	I was please to see the "bring your own water bottle" policy.
7	Once we arrived at Connecticut College had hard time finding the building symposium was held in.
8	There appeared to be fewer vendors this year. Also, I would have purchased CMGA merchandise, but the sizes were all men's sizes and far too big for a petite woman.
9	I heard complaints about the distance Conn College is from other parts of the state, but I live in northeast CT so it is fine for me.
10	I volunteered for the Check in process. Many attendees were confused as to what line to check in at. I feel it would have been much clearer to have used the alphabet instead of names, e.g. A - F versus Able - Fylt, etc.
11	one more coffee station to avoid bottleneck. Also coffee and tea with lunch would be nice. I and others do not drink soda and I never understood why soda is the only beverage at lunch.
12	I look forward to seeing returning vendors, but it would be good to have some new ones.
13	The area where the silent auction was set up was too small, difficult to navigate and made it tough to get to one of the lecture rooms.
14	Loved the raffle. I won an item. It was a bit chaotic & unorganized when you went up to give your name. They were struggling with keeping up and finding names. Other people who were called after me went up before me. I was told to just go up and make a selection but when I did, I was told I needed to be accompanied by someone. It was very confusing.
15	Was very well run, thanks
16	Not really interested in the vendors, but appreciate that some people might like to purchase stuff.
17	There are bottlenecks every year where the vendors are located - is there another, additional space or configuration that might address the issue? I could not get my books signed - could not locate the authors tat book signing time - my fault but odd.
18	The raffle was too confusing. I would recommend pulling the tickets separately and posting the winners.
19	Would you please keep researching other venues? The space is small and it is quite a hike for most in the state.
20	ran out of Tom Rainer book Merchandise was not tagged with price
21	More research please. Also another hardscape presentation on using stone in the garden, boulders, pavers, crushed
22	A great day!
23	My second session was in a room too small to accommodate the number of attendees and was extremely warm
24	Not enough places to eat. Very crowded this year. Long wait for lunch. Great to have breakfast in separate room. Is there another place more centrally located? It is a nice location however.
25	Re: Food items- should have a bit more choices for gluten free diets, maybe seltzer cans Instead of soda's. Re: book signing- sep. Line for signing books instead of located in main hall with other vendors,,was very difficult to maneuver.

26	Flow of participants was slow, around registration in particular. That seems to be a built in bottleneck. Maybe move it to the left of the main doors.
27	A tad more signage at street turns. You do a great job with a large number of attendees.
28	Extremely well planned, maybe more seating for lunch break. Even though I signed up very early, was very disappointed to not be able to take the class on pruning. Could a popular session be opened to more or offered another time?
29	Good conference.
30	Someone else needs to make the coffee! Also schedule for the day shouldn't be burried in the goodie bag..perhaps just hand one to each participant when handing out name tag or bag.
31	Raffle announcements read at time when not all were there to hear.
32	Received no handout for any presentation and saw none online.
33	The vendors offered the same as last year . If I had won , I would say raffle was great but I didn't and there were a lot of winners . . .
34	please note, book signing should be somewhere else instead of exit from gym. getting out was a mess. Also no vendor across from the exit door, again a mess.
35	Have signs overhead at registration for alphabet designations, moreadvanced information regarding items in the silent auction
36	The lunch and breakfast options were great! Tried a gluten free bagel and it was decent! Loved the fruit in the am. In the afternoon, all the 1/2 and 1/2 and milk were warm so I did not have afternoon coffee and would have liked some actually.
37	Have speakers provide handouts and submit an outline of their presentation to the President prior to the talk so they will adequately prepare.
38	For on site checkin, provide better signage for each group of names.
39	Better GMGA website info. Best info was on the CMGA newsletter- but who knew you had to open that to get the info. Not very accessible to " non members" who are interested in finding out details about the whole symposium
40	Chairs are placed too close together for the seminars.
41	Overall event seemed a bit disorganized compared to last year
42	Larger space for vendors and book sign would help them out. Lunch lines moved well
43	The facilities are great, although some of the rooms were a bit cramped and got very stuffy.
44	Make sure authors are at signing tables when supposed to be.
45	Confusion over pricing of CTMGA merchandise. No signage and volunteers did not know at the outset.
46	Didn't see publicity.
47	Raffle was better than silent auction...enhance that
48	Plenty of food this year :) Plus liked the way they did the raffle.
49	I didn't like the last speaker. It seemed he was just selling his book. Too monotone

50 A lot of people were at the book signing table, and it was very crowded near the main door to get to the bathroom.

Q5 We modified the online registration process this year. Please rate your experience. Check all that apply.

Answered: 162 Skipped: 5



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
I registered online and found the registration process easy to use.	54.32%	88
I liked receiving an email confirmation of my registration choices via the online registration.	35.80%	58
I thought the online registration process was confusing and difficult to use.	6.17%	10
I prefer not to enter my personal information online.	8.64%	14
I did not use the online registration. (Please tell us why in the comments)	25.93%	42
I prefer to register with a paper form and mail it.	16.67%	27
Total Respondents: 162		

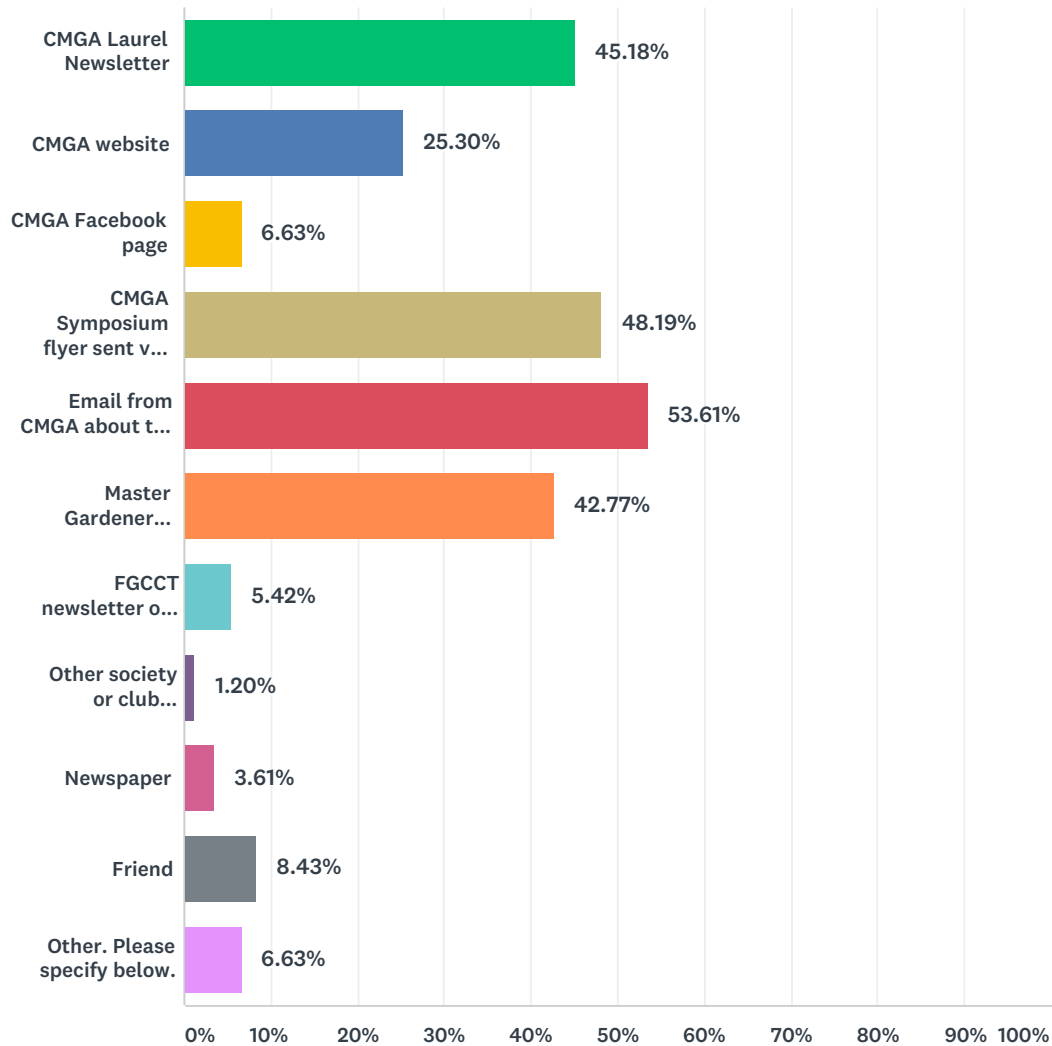
#	COMMENTS
1	I didn't know what sessions I had until I signed in the day of the symposium. I only rec'd an email stating that they rec'd my registration.
2	not sure - think I printed it when I was still thinking about going and then decided to just mail it in
3	I thought the only way to pay using the online process was Paypal or incur a processing fee to use a credit card. I don't like paypal - had a hacking incident on my checking account via Paypal some years ago. If I am mistaken about the fee for using credit cards, then I will definitely register online in the future.
4	I prefer not to enter my information online

5	I normally prefer to register online but i found the navigation a little cumbersome.
6	I like the online process, and the email confirmation. I don't know how I managed to register without paying--Thank you for catching it, Paula! But wish the process had also caught my failure to pay for Mini Spearhead Spade.
7	No particular reason. Either on-line or paper form registration is okay.
8	I'll do it online next time
9	Feel better about sending in a check
10	Only issue I saw was that the schedule of events - with times was no longer available on line after I had registered. I could locate a list of those speaking and a description - but could not relocate times. Had to rely on a friend to tell me start time etc. Needs to be fixed this coming year.
11	I registered right away and still could not get into a small workshop - since many folks wanted to attend Pruning maybe there can be multiple sessions.
12	I only have an iPhone .. no computer..and only use credit card
13	I had the paper form so I just used that to mail it in. I have no issue registering online.
14	Just old school
15	First I registered with the paper form. It was not processed for 5 weeks, so I registered on line. Then the paper registration came through. You were very good about reimbursing this, but perhaps it didn't need to happen in the first place.
16	I mailed it the day I received it-I will use the on line next year
17	It was fine but have to pay extra for paypal.
18	no reason...just wrote a check and sent.
19	The confirmation of choices is VERY helpful. Thanks for going the extra step for us.
20	Slight difficulty ascertaining how to register without PayPal using a personal credit card?
21	Could be made easier to use.
22	I did not receive confirmation.
23	Also the CMGA website not very user friendly.
24	I do not like doing online payments.
25	I registered on line but had to send payment separately . . .
26	did not find the link before I mailed in the registration
27	Don't do online payments. Prefer a check.
28	I guess I just like using paper. Though, I do not like using paypal. I prefer to send my own check.

29	I mailed my registration in to ensure I registered early for my preferred workshops.
30	Paper registration was easy and right on my counter
31	Prefer a paper check . Do not like using credit card online.
32	I did not receive a confirmation about my choices.
33	I wasn't able to complete the online and had to use paper form
34	We generally don't use Pay-Pal
35	Prefer to pay by check
36	I did not receive a confirmation which concerned me
37	did not realize it was available online
38	I prefer not to put my credit card # on line
39	It was not up and running at the time I registered. Would definitely use in the future.
40	Did not get confirmation of check received.
41	I did not want to use paypal. I did not receive an email confirmation for my mailed registration. I would have thought part of the process of the registration.
42	Checking both because my experience was that there was a little difficulty but that it worked.
43	but I did not receive an email confirmation of my registration choices via the on-line registration. Did not know what seminars I was attending until I received my registration packet at the conference
44	For me it's easy to just fill out paper form and mail it in. I can't comment on the on;line reg since I have not used it
45	I know it is a coding issue but I would like to get immediate feedback on availability of the sessions I choose.
46	I thought it would be easier via paper. But since I didn't get my preferred sessions, I guess that didn't work. :-)
47	Vendor & attendee & membership renewal all sent at once in paper/check form
48	Oh dear. I guess I used a paper form because that's what I've always done. I register early, get my preferred choices, and don't have to fiddle with online registration. I'm sure it's simple. Paper and ink and a stamp are even simpler to me.
49	I don't like scrolling back and forth on line while I make my choices of workshops. I find it easier to register by paper. (I do my seed catalog orders on paper too.)
50	I was not aware of the option for online registration

Q6 How did you hear about the 2018 Symposium? Check all that apply.

Answered: 166 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
CMGA Laurel Newsletter	45.18%	75
CMGA website	25.30%	42
CMGA Facebook page	6.63%	11
CMGA Symposium flyer sent via US mail.	48.19%	80
Email from CMGA about the Symposium	53.61%	89
Master Gardener Coordinator message or announcement	42.77%	71
FGCCT newsletter or CT Horticulture Society newsletter	5.42%	9
Other society or club newsletter, message, etc. Please specify in comments.	1.20%	2
Newspaper	3.61%	6
Friend	8.43%	14

Other. Please specify below.	6.63%	11
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Total Respondents: 166

#	OTHER
1	On the Symposium Committee, CMGA BOD ;-)
2	From MA- first contact from a friend with a CTMGA relative several years ago.
3	Informed of syposium by a fellow garden club member during our monthly meeting. Do not remember where she attained info. Three of us from the club attended
4	Garden Club announcement
5	Plus I look forward to it each year
6	Board member
7	UCONN Lady Bug on-line Newsletter
8	A CT MG
9	Been going to it for many years
10	Connecticut Gardener magazine ;-)
11	Attend annually and watched website for info.
12	CMGA board member
13	Previous participant not a CMGA member.
14	I attended last year and was looking forward to this year's event

Q7 What did you like or dislike most about the Symposium? Any suggestions?

Answered: 124 Skipped: 43

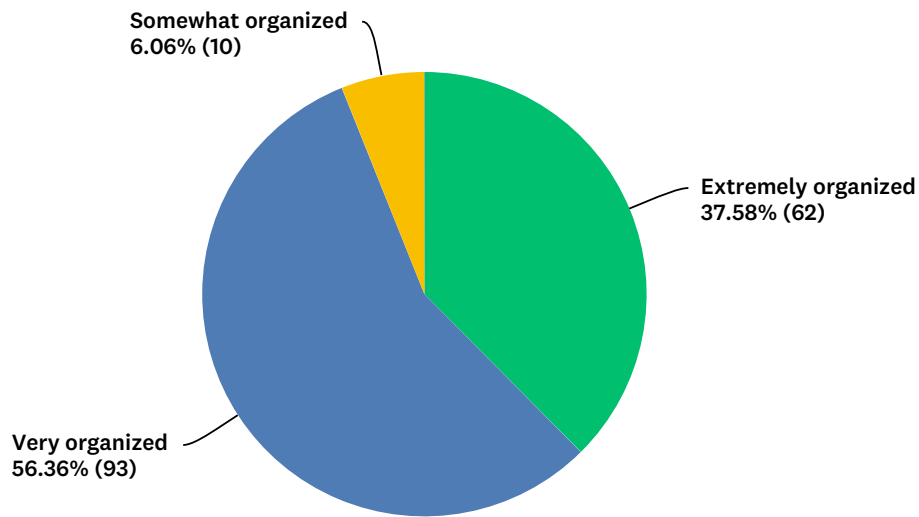
#	RESPONSES
1	Liked the keynote speaker the most & disliked the closing speaker the most (didn't understand his topic?).
2	I liked the speakers the most
3	Previously stated.
4	All of the presentations were great but I wish there was a little more time between sessions to "absorb" . I did not attend the last speaker as I was kind of on overload by that point.
5	I like volunteering, especially when there is a need. I did, however, find it uncomfortable to be a monitor and have to check everyone's room number on their badge. Many people seemed a bit taken aback by it, too.
6	Choice of speakers/topics
7	Still don't like the Conn College location and I know it sounds petty and I know it can't be helped. I really like almost everything else - learning interesting new things, seeing fellow MGs, seeing all the beautiful plants the vendors bring.
8	I would like more vegetable growing lectures
9	I liked the overall quality of the presentations, and the exhibits and even the merchandise.
10	There was some confusion about hand outs at the Ellen Ogden presentation.
11	I think Conn College is a great facility but wish we could find something more central, as I know several people who did not attend because of the distance. If it is an hour's drive from the center of the state, how much farther for Simsbury or Litchfield?
12	It could be slightly more comfortable to have auditorium style seating for the big lectures.
13	I liked everything
14	It was far to travel to. Also vendor area was very congested, I had never heard of Thomas Rainer before but he was the highlight of the day. I loved his information. Also lunch was very good.
15	The quality of the speakers was excellent, and the food (especially the cake) was also excellent. Is it possible to get CMGA merchandise in women's sizes: small and medium?
16	I like being with people who garden and who volunteer. I like research based learning. I like the friendliness of those who put on the symposium. I like winning a raffle item. I like shopping for garden related items.
17	Speakers.
18	It was so much fun and educational!
19	The hallway with the vendors and book signing was too crowded! Another room perhaps to avoid this?

20	Lunch break too long
21	Way too much time for lunch break.... Lessen the time in between sessions
22	It was very good.
23	2nd keynote speaker. Was confused over his direction on his topic. Also, some breaks were a bit long. Day could have ended a bit earlier if they were condensed - and for people who are traveling long distances this would be a plus.
24	Great speakers
25	Repetition of speaker from the CT Hort symposium. Repetition of topics (two speakers were similar; Nancy DuBrule is good but omnipresent.
26	One I listed above.. Also thought last speaker went on too long about his own home and personal successes.
27	Enough about the butterflies already! We get it!
28	I would have preferred to have longer talk sessions than the half-hour gaps between
29	As a first time attendee, I found the event organized and appreciated the perspective of each speaker.
30	The audio system.
31	The commute to and from was pretty long for our group. Continue to search out other more central locations.
32	I would like to have a clearer understanding about where we are allowed to park.
33	The Keynote speaker was phenominal.
34	Loved the variety of speakers; don' Come for the food
35	Can't believe there's only soda to drink at lunch. And the cake was absurdly awful. The sound system in the auditorium was distorted - so bad that a friend didn't attend the 2nd talk. Mark the classrooms on the map. I like that there are so many places to eat one's lunch. It's also nice to bump into MGs I don't see regularly
36	I would like to see more on composting
37	Interaction with people
38	Liked the topics and speakers of the sessions I attended. Disliked that the room was too small for my second session and was too warm. Also seemed like there were less vendors this year
39	It was great - no suggestions
40	Didn't like speakers going over allotted time. Want more handouts and more details. Clematis speaker good but general.
41	Found it all vet interesting and useful.
42	The hallway outside the auditorium became really crowded after the speakers and during lunch. I would move the book signings to reduce the traffic.
43	would have liked copy electronic or print of the keynote speakers powerpoint slides

44	I have a good time with my friend.
45	i thought it was fantastic...keep up the good work!
46	Raffle was a little confusing
47	Tiny suggestion- cut some bagels in half vertically- there are huge and tasty, but too big for many! Great food all around! Good variety of speakers, as well. Move the silent auction/info tables down the hall a tad, as well as back more toward the stair railing. Definite safety issue with entrance to that area- a Fire Inspector would have not been happy with the congestion.
48	Always a great way to bring fresh ideas to the emerging gardening season. Like the vendors, especially live plants. Would like to see more emphasis placed on reducing the "footprint" of the meal -- appreciate the "bring your own water". Make recycling easy and obvious. Would like to have more environmental education opportunities, ie, talk about how to garden more sustainably (resource use, reducing reliance on fertilizers and pesticides, emphasize how native plants also require less of these inputs, consider wildlife habitat in lieu of unused lawn areas). The celebratory cakes were a nice touch.
49	I think boxed up lunches that you could grab and go would be much more efficient. Just name what kind of sandwich is in the box. Could pre order preference, no need for salad. It slows things down and is messy.
50	The opening speaker! Tom Rainer

Q8 How organized was the Symposium?

Answered: 165 Skipped: 2



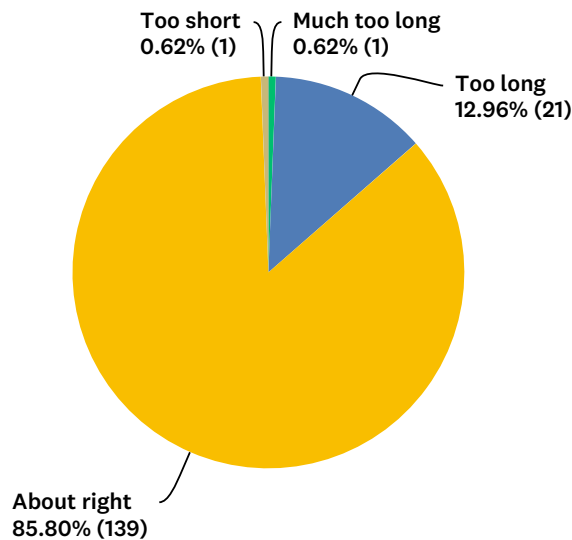
	EXTREMELY ORGANIZED	VERY ORGANIZED	SOMEWHAT ORGANIZED	NOT SO ORGANIZED	NOT AT ALL ORGANIZED	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
(no label)	37.58%	56.36%	6.06%	0.00%	0.00%	165	1.68
	62	93	10	0	0		

#	COMMENTS
1	Well done! Parking was full & a bit of a hassle & it wasn't clear which lots to park in (PRIOR to the Symposium) when one was full. It would be helpful to list the parking lot names & send that w/the registration confirmation to know the lots ahead of time & where to go next when they are full, for next year.
2	These things can be like herding cats--this was very well organized
3	The checkin process was very efficient. Kudos to those who arranged the food as well.
4	Some things were very organized, but other parts did not seem to be - the registration area had the lists of names for each section on the edge of the counter, which could not be seen if there was someone standing there (posting above each section of names would have been better). Even though a more organized process for lunch was announced, it didn't seem any better than last year.
5	Great job!
6	I was impressed with the all the activities and speakers and lunch and the morning food.
7	Just right
8	Takes a lot of organization and work and it was very well done.
9	Bravo to your leaders and team- another very well organized Symposium. See you in 2019!

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| 10 | I was very impressed. |
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| 11 | Good job |
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|----|----------------------------|
| 12 | I liked the four speakers. |
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| 13 | Kudos to all the volunteers and especially Theresa Hennessy for chairing the event! |
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| 14 | The volunteers do an excellent job! |
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| 15 | I appreciate ALL you do! |
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| 16 | Very well done. |
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| 17 | tiny little bugaboo: my names (first & last) misspelled on my name tag. A little attention to detail helps |
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| 18 | Symposium committee did an outstanding job!!!! |
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| 19 | Over crowded for lunch and speakers! Venue is too small. |
|----|--|
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Q9 Was the Symposium length too long or too short or about right?

Answered: 162 Skipped: 5



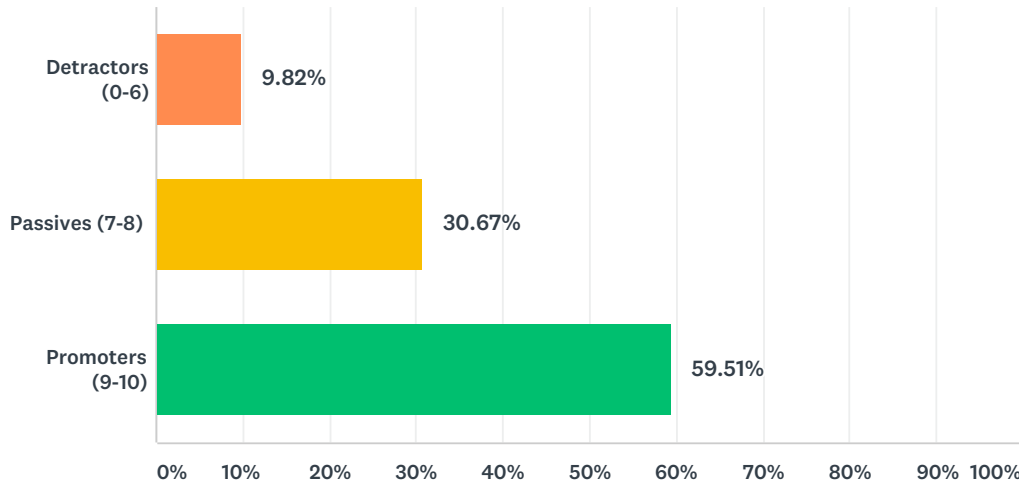
	MUCH TOO LONG	TOO LONG	ABOUT RIGHT	TOO SHORT	MUCH TOO SHORT	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
(no label)	0.62% 1	12.96% 21	85.80% 139	0.62% 1	0.00% 0	162	2.86

#	COMMENTS
1	I needed a bit more time between sessions/ presentations to have time to process one talk before moving onto the next.
2	Last speaker should be much shorter. Its a long day and some people have fairly long rides.
3	Unless you're planning a 2-day event, it filled the day and then some.
4	I feel that I received a good amount of information that made it worthwhile to travel and spend a day at the talks.
5	Lunch break too long
6	You can only shop, and walk the grounds for so long.....
7	I say it was about right because it would have been if the last speaker were decent.
8	Some breaks could have been shortened to end earlier.
9	Should end by 3;30pm if starts at 8:30am. Helps avoid traffic too! And it is a exhausting day - even though a fun one. Would also avoid St Pats day in future!
10	Personally, I would have liked to attend a third breakout session - but not at the expense of shortening the time already dedicated. So I guess the length could be expanded some.
11	I liked having a few minutes between presentations

12	But we did cut the last talk short. My friend was getting tired
13	I did find that many folks left during the last presentation-I would think mostly due to a long drive home-certainly not the presenter.
14	As I have mentioned, keep speakers to allotted time. Also, too much time in between. Not enough vendors.
15	A little too much free time between speakers and lunch break. Another vendor (maybe a plant specialist, like Epis or Daylilies or Peonies that could be sold dormant?) or even a Spearhead Spade sale area (a dozen or so) would provide more opportunities to spend!
16	Although very good, closing speaker ran a little long and the room became too warm, a deadly combination!
17	only because the last speaker went over his time and should have substantially shortened it for questions and interactions with the audience
18	The last speaker spoke too long. He could have started earlier and finished earlier and cut his material in half. Then we could have left earlier.
19	The presentation by the last speaker Rick Drake seemed a bit long but maybe it was the topic. Enjoyed it and it made me think about "nature" in relation to gardening but I could have used a more peppy speaker/presentation to end with.
20	Too many breaks.
21	Time is about right but maybe less time is needed between talks, workshops and lunch. Tighten up a bit so we can get out a little sooner. This one did run quite late since Rick Darkes talk was long. But he is an excellent speaker
22	The sessions weren't too long -- there was just too much down time.
23	More time for George Coombs would have been welcomed.
24	Breaks seemed about right length. Attended another symposium this year that had a two hour lunch which was much too long.
25	Last speaker went over by 15 minutes. and when you have to drive home for 2 hours, every minute matters
26	A little long—shorten breaks.
27	I would prefer more breakout sessions, and less time on raffle, vendors, and silent auction.
28	Travel has to be taken into consideration for those that live far away.
29	Could be easily fixed by shortening the breaks, as I commented above
30	Could not have been longer, as I was getting tired by 4:00 p.m. I would not have been able to volunteer to help cleanup, due to the long day.
31	A long return drive back to Stamford/Greenwich area.
32	Full day especially when arrive early for parking and registration, and have a long drive home. Closing speaker too long.
33	Would have preferred to have content rather than "shopping" or shorten the whole thing. We had to drive over an hour.

Q10 How likely is it that you would recommend the Symposium to a friend or colleague?

Answered: 163 Skipped: 4



DETRACTORS (0-6)	PASSIVES (7-8)	PROMOTERS (9-10)	NET PROMOTER® SCORE
9.82% 16	30.67% 50	59.51% 97	50

Q11 Is there anything we could have done to improve your experience at the Symposium?

Answered: 82 Skipped: 85

#	RESPONSES
1	Just add parking lot information.
2	not that I can think of now
3	Inform the speakers to respect the fact that almost all attendees are master gardeners and our hardiness zone. They will be well prepared for their audience.
4	In general, it is an event that gives back more than it costs, and I really like the venue and the speakers that appear. Handouts to scribble notes on are helpful to me to absorb and retain more information. Food was great. I appreciate the veggie options.
5	Need more room on the first floor
6	Things I have already mentioned and: AND HANDOUTS!!! my biggest pet peeve is any session without a handout!! If the cost of paper and printing is too much then have them available a few days before so we can print them ourselves. And I would like to know ahead which sessions I have, it sounds like that is available if registering is done online, which I will do in the future if there is no fee for using credit cards.
7	less of a line at lunch.
8	No
9	Keep it at conn college
10	Had a more vibrant end speaker.
11	The audio in the auditorium was sometimes difficult to hear.
12	No, I had a great time. Thank you all for your efforts.
13	No - really enjoyed it.
14	No
15	A flag to designate the conference building. (was there one that I missed?) I did see the little signs marking the turns
16	no
17	Be able to attend the options I sign up for.
18	Perhaps better signage for where we can actually park without violating college restrictive rules.
19	No, thanks for the raffle prize, too

20	Not have Mr. Darke as the closing speaker, really left a bad taste for a number of people.
21	No.
22	just comments I already made
23	More cost racks please! Otherwise, good work by all
24	Perhaps a hands on workshop but that may be logistically difficult
25	Have more Plant vendors Keep the rooms cooler
26	Nope
27	It was a great experience. Better handle on timing, more handouts, more spaces to eat.
28	Was a bit confusing as a first timer.
29	Just make sure that there is a Diet Pepsi at lunch!! I really appreciate all the effort and pre-planning (and expense) that goes into a Symposium. Bravo to all, and I hope to see some of you at the MMGA Symposium in September in Westford, MA. Thanks again. MKA
30	Although I generally like the idea of enough break time to permit a bathroom break, networking and vendor visits, I found that the amt of time between talks was a bit too long; would have liked to have been able to hear more speakers.
31	Would love to see it remain at Conn College. It is the perfect facility.
32	See above.
33	The vendor area was quite cramped. The book signing opposite Natureworks caused a real bottleneck.
34	i always enjoy the conference and get something out of it
35	the venue is great so maybe a walk around the grounds or arboretum, or other hands on activities
36	No
37	When you check in the person doing it could give info where everything is such as food for breakfast, classes, vendors, and dining hall.
38	No.
39	Think about the site and find something more appropriate . Not enough coffee . Refresh vendors . Have something to do during lunch .
40	open up the entrance and exit, find another location for book signing and a vendor across from signing.
41	Please stagger the chairs so that they do not line up exactly one behind another. Short people have difficulty seeing the screen. Perhaps raise the screen a bit too.
42	Encourage speakers to adequately prepare to speak to Gardeners with strong topic knowledge.
43	No

44	Do the raffle differently.
45	More choices.
46	Better food choices!
47	Out of 6 workshops, I would have like to attend a 3rd, not just 2.
48	Use a classroom for the Silent Auction and put the vendors outside the crows nest. The corridor near the main room is too crowded. Blackout fabric kept falling off windows. Use new tape or other system that will really do the job.
49	More centrally located
50	See comments above.
