



National Collection

Last month our hosta collection was designated a National Collection by the National Council for the Conservation of Plants and Gardens.

Although the designation covers the whole of the hosta genus it doesn't mean we have every hosta that has been registered - this would be impossible to achieve as some registered varieties never become commercially available. However, it does mean that we will strive to continue building the collection over the coming years. We will continue to introduce new varieties that complement the older, more established, varieties from which the new ones evolve. We will also continue learning about the characteristics of each variety so that we can advise our customers on the most appropriate plants for their growing conditions. This is best done on a nursery visit as we are able to spend more time discussing the plants - we are often too busy at shows to do this, which is a shame. Why not check out our [nursery open dates](#) and give us a visit this year.

The 2007 hosta season has started...

The tunnels and shade house are beginning to glow green with new growth. This is a lovely time of the year, if difficult to manage due to the changable weather.

Just to whet your appetite here is a selection of varieties already showing off in an unashamed celebration of spring...

Spiralling clockwise from bottom left: 'Wolverine', 'Wagtail', 'Fire Island', 'Invincible', 'Green With Envy', 'Remember Me' and 'Blue Mouse Ears'.

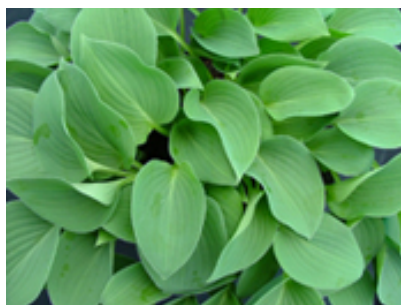


H. 'Wolverine'



A sport of *H. 'Dorset Blue'*, this striking hosta was registered in 1995.
[More details and images.](#)

H. 'Wagtail'



One of the Tardiana group of hostas, *H. 'Wagtail'* was registered in 1988.
[More details and images.](#)

Coming up...

The Harrogate Spring Flower Show

26-29 April

This is a lovely show with which to start the season. Harrogate is a gem of a town and its people are most welcoming.

This year we will be exhibiting in the main Hall and as part of the [British Hosta and Hemerocalis Society](#) (BHHS) exhibit in the Society Hall.

If you decide to order plants from us to collect at Harrogate then please place your order before **13th April**.
[How to order...](#)

The RHS Malvern Spring Gardening Show

10-13 May

Hot on the heels of the Harrogate show is the Malvern Spring Gardening Show. We love doing this show as the atmosphere is something special.

H. 'Fire Island'



Registered in 1998 this stunning variety is a cross between *longipes* 'Hypoglaucous' and *H. 'Crested Surf'*.
[More details and images.](#)

H. 'Invincible'



A sport of *H. 'Sun Glow'*, this hosta was registered in 1993. The pale mauve flowers are fragrant.
[More details and images.](#)

H. 'Green With Envy'



A sport of *H. 'Dawn'*, this lovely gem was registered in 2000.
[More details and images.](#)

H. 'Remember Me'



This fabulous hosta was registered in 2001 and is one of many *H. 'June'* hybrids. [More details and images.](#)

H. 'Blue Mouse Ears'



Perhaps one of the most distinct dwarf hostas to come on the scene in recent years. Registered in 2000, this very blue hosta appears to have a fine silver edge (hyacinthina effect) to the leaves.
[More details and images.](#)

psst...

New is not necessarily better!

Occasionally we choose not to recommend certain varieties due to problems we experience in growing them.

Such plants often struggle as a cosseted member of the collection so would not last long in the average garden. We can often recommend alternative varieties that have proven their robustness over time AND are often cheaper to buy.

Next month: A review of Harrogate Spring Show...

Set at the foot of the Malvern Hills, the Three Counties Showground is a wonderful spot and attracts visitors from all over the world. This year we will be exhibiting in the Floral Marquee and in our usual spot outside so we hope to see you there.

If you decide to order plants from us to collect at Malvern then please place your order before **30th April**.
[How to order...](#)

New this year...

Among our sales stock this year we have the following new varieties. Keep a look out for:

- 'Atlantis'
- 'Clifford's Stingray'
- 'Corkscrew'
- 'Enterprise'
- 'Eye Catcher'
- 'Kinbotan'
- 'Olympic Glacier'
- 'Paradise Expectations'
- 'Robin Hood'
- 'Stepping Out'
- 'Time Tunnel'

25 years strong...

This year the BHHS are celebrating their Silver Jubilee and are planning a series of events around the UK - why not share your enthusiasm for the hosta genus with others by joining the Society?
[Visit the website](#) to find out more.

The advice and opinions contained within this monthly newsletter have been formed over more than 30 years of experience with the Hosta genus. We are constantly learning and refining that knowledge and would welcome any suggestions that readers of this newsletter would like to make so please [contact us](#).