



MICKFIELD HOSTAS



Dear Subscriber

Crazy July...

The lorry is loaded and tomorrow we travel down to Hampton Court to begin constructing our stand for the show, which starts next week.

July is the busiest month of our show calendar with [Tatton Park Flower Show](#) following [Hampton Court Flower Show](#) and hard on the heels of Tatton is [Sandringham Flower Show](#). We last exhibited at Sandringham over a decade ago and are really pleased to return. This year marks the 135th Sandringham Show and promises to be as popular as ever.

Educational displays

Our decision to stage educational displays, rather than focus purely on the plants, has proven extremely popular. We have had some enjoyable conversations with visitors to our displays, who are actively engaging with the information we are sharing.

As specialists with a specific genus we are often surprised at the questions we are asked and it has been a great opportunity for us to share the basics, and hopefully inspire people to give *Hosta* a go in their gardens. After all, *Hosta* are easy to grow and extremely easy to care for when you achieve balance in your garden, and the pests that share your space are feeding off their preferred food, rather than your gorgeous plants.

Hosta 'Miracle Lemony'

We have been asked for this new cultivar by several show visitors recently and thought it might be useful to share our experience of it. We decided to add three plants to our National Collection last year to monitor their progress before deciding whether to offer it for sale. Unfortunately, it has proven fragile and the first flush of leaves succumbed to the weather, looking very sick. The plants refused to flower, despite the obvious stress they were facing, which makes us question the strength of the genetic characteristics of the cultivar. They are still alive - just, and it looks like a few new shoots might be emerging. We plan to investigate the state of the root systems when we have completed our shows and will report our findings.

Speak soon

Team Mickfield

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Gold at Gardeners' World...

Our display was awarded a Gold Medal at Gardeners' World last month and we were delighted. [Click on the image to view the video.](#)

The stars of the shows...

Two popular cultivars we have displayed this year are [H. 'Neptune'](#),



which continues to wow with its wavy margins and fabulous colour, and [H. 'Lakeside Paisley Print'](#),



which has large, strikingly variegated, leaves for a small variety.

[Click on the images to view.](#)