



**SPRING EDITION 2023**

**INCLUDING:**

[TECHINICAL COMMITTEE  
UPDATE](#)

[HCP UPDATE](#)  
[NFU UPDATE](#)

[FLORAL FANTASIA  
UPDATE](#)





## IN THIS ISSUE

- [Chairman's Report](#)
- [NFU Update](#)
- [Technical Committee Update](#)
- [HCP Update](#)
- [Floral Fantasia Update](#)
- [Poinsettia Growers Group](#)
- [AHDB Update](#)
- [BPOA Conference](#)
- [IPPS Conference](#)
- [Ball Colegrave Summer Showcase](#)
- [British Growers](#)
- [Meetings & Events](#)
- [Trade Members](#)

## CONTACT US

Tel: 01507 602427

Email: [info@homegrownplants.org.uk](mailto:info@homegrownplants.org.uk)

[www.homegrownplants.org.uk](http://www.homegrownplants.org.uk)

# CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The season appears to be running two weeks behind both in terms of crop growth and consumer demand as I write this report. March 2023 is best forgotten in what was a particularly wet month, the only good thing is that we still need rain to refill the reservoirs and underground aquifers to avoid further hosepipe bans later in the summer. Many growers have been caught out by a couple of hard night frosts (-10°C, -12°C) which has killed some of the newer breeding such as Japanese Anemone Dainty Swan, new Erysimum varieties apart from Bowles Mauve and West Country Lupins. Hedging and shrubs have not fared much better with significant winter losses in Euonymus, Pittosporum and Hebe. Interestingly, crops such as Geum which were pot thick in tunnels are fine while spaced crops have been decimated. The warm spells which preceded the cold nights would have made matters worse and maybe we are all guilty of not taking adequate frost precautions. Very easy to say after the event.



As a multi-channel grower and retailer, I am always fortunate to get to see retail demand ahead of most others as my customers are the gardeners. 2019 was the last 'normal' season and benchmarking against this year demand is up both in value and volume with the last week in March being our best week ever by a long way (forgetting the Pandemic 2020 & 2021 seasons), the first week in April the second best week and the second week in April the third best week ever. Before you all get envious, you must remember that my trade is 33% down on 2021, some of my larger competitors are down by 40%.

Your Association is in good health with **Andy Abbey, Treasurer**, reporting a profit in the year to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022 at the AGM on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023. The **British Growers Association (BGA)** administer our organisation and keep us all in order. The AGM was followed by a well-

attended **BPOA dinner** at the **Woodland Grange Hotel, Leamington Spa** and the **Technical Conference, Promoting UK Production**, at the **NFU HQ at Stoneleigh** the day after. Sincere thanks must go to **Robin Squance, Chris Need, Andy Smith (BGA), Rachel Kemp (BGA), Lyndsay Marfleet (BGA)** and others for organising a first-class event. We are very grateful to **Lee Abbey** and the **NFU** for providing the venue free of charge too. Participant feedback has, with a few exceptions, been excellent and we even made a small profit. **Date for next year's conference is Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2024 at the NFU HQ with the 45<sup>th</sup> AGM and dinner the night before at the Woodland Grange Hotel, Leamington Spa.**

**BPOA** has accumulated reserves which the management committee are keen to put to good use whilst keeping the association stable. In 2023, £2,500 has been put aside to help the **BPOA Poinsettia group** steer a path for the good of the industry and support the work of **Graeme Edwards, Andrew Fuller** and others. £500 has been given as a bursary to support the **BPOA/Peter Seabrook Scholarship**, the recipient being **Holly Sturgess** studying at **Pershore College**. £3,000 per annum is given to **Floral Fantasia at RHS Hyde Hall** which is going from strength to strength with the aim of promoting bedding plants to the RHS, the public and the wider industry.

Your association needs younger grower members on the **Management Committee**. My last request for volunteers fell on deaf ears so I've contacted the **Young People in Horticulture Association (YPHA)** and we are going to offer all their 400 plus members **free BPOA Student membership** until 31<sup>st</sup> October 2024. I have not quite worked out how this will work in practise, but I'm sure there are people in the **BGA** who can make this work. **BPOA** will have a stand at the **Four Oaks Trade Show, Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023**, which is when we plan to get some momentum. Two **YPHA** members will be offered free tickets to the **2024 BPOA Technical Conference** too.



The **BPOA Technical Committee** keeps organising some great events. I travelled to **Mike Smith's Viola & Pansy Festival on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2023** looking at the four hundred varieties and thirty-three series from nine breeders. The **BPOA Spring meeting** was held at **Meadow Croft Garden Centre**. Many growers attended to listen to speakers from **Rudy Raes Bloemzaden NV, Fargro Ltd and Omex Horticulture**. As part of my campaign to get out of the office, I attended the **AHDB** energy efficiency in glasshouses meeting at **Clock House Farm** in Maidstone in Kent looking at soft fruit grown under cover with heat extracted from the River Medway, partly funded by the Government in the form of a **Renewable Heat Initiative (RHI)** payment.

I always think that **British Protected Ornamentals Association** is a mouthful, and it limits our remit in the world of ornamentals to under protection. Dropping the P would make **BOA, British Ornamentals Association**, much easier to remember and may open the association to include cut flowers, perennials and shrubs. The **Management Committee** support my thinking, what do you the members think? I will need to get **clearance from the NFU who kindly provide a large chunk of our funding**.

My role as BPOA Chairman allows me to attend the **NFU Board of Horticulture and Potatoes** meetings which is just down the road from my home between Stratford upon Avon and Evesham. It also gives me access to all the Government directives aimed at destroying Horticulture and Agriculture. **Lee Lyons, Head of Peatland Protection and Biodiversity in the Overseas Territories | Access, Landscapes, Peatland & Soil** [Lee.Lyons@Defra.gov.uk](mailto:Lee.Lyons@Defra.gov.uk) told the press first of Defra's decision to ban peat and then published the response second. From the end of 2026 it will be an offence to sell plants newly potted in peat with a couple of exceptions. The good news is that any plants potted in peat in 2026 or earlier can be sold 2027 onwards. I realise that some members are in favour of a peat ban and no one wants to destroy peat bogs, but in the short term there are some serious issues to consider. Apart from the difficulty growing plants in peat free substrates there is the availability and cost of alternative composts and more importantly what happens after the plants leave the nurseries. Can Garden Centres and DIY stores look after plants grown peat free? What happens when they get to the consumer? I bought 13cm poinsettias from **Tesco's** in early November 2022. Fantastic plants which came straight from the cardboard box before the Evesham store had chance to kill them. I had problems, with one exception, keeping them alive in the kitchen. I believe they were grown in a peat free mix. The **'Tesco' guarantee** to be alive at Christmas deeply concerns me and I need to find



out whether more consumers are returning dead plants in peat free compared to normal peat reduced mixes. Does anyone know?

**The Growing Media Task Force** whose members include the **NFU** and the **HTA** continue to target the original 2030 peat ban with exceptions such as propagation, carnivorous and ericaceous. I have been invited to discuss the peat ban with **Trudy Harrison, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State in the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs** later this month. One further observation on peat. If I was running a Garden Centre or a Multichannel Plant retailer like Hayloft Plants, I would be scared stiff of having very little plant volume and little or no range to sell 2027 onwards as the Dutch will no doubt divert their UK volumes of young plants, liners and finished plants to other simpler markets, such as Russia. There is a small glimmer of hope in that the Peat ban may not get any Parliamentary time in 2023/24 and will therefore become a problem for the next Government, which theoretically could be worse!

If peat was not hard enough, the draft **Border Target Operating Model** proposes that as from **31<sup>st</sup> January 2024** all 'medium and high-risk' imported plants and plant products will be inspected at **Border Control Points (BCP) or Control Points (CP)** rather than **Place of Destination (POD)** which is currently at nurseries and garden centres. You can apply to be part of the test pilot and have **Authorised Operator Status (AOS)** which means your business premises would be recognised as a **CP** and certain inspection obligations will be delegated to you and your colleagues. This involves an audit programme, staff training, the ability to isolate and destroy plants, amongst other requirements. The scheme will be piloted ahead of launch and businesses are being encouraged to participate. It might work with full loads of edible planting material and full-sized trees, but it is not going to work with groupage ornamental loads. The ninety-seven-page draft Government document '**The Border Target Operating Model**' talks about the **AOS** as a **Trusted Trader Scheme** which is not a Trusted Trader Scheme! The right foot does not know what the left foot is doing. The Government is looking for feedback from businesses by mid-May. Submit your feedback directly as well as share your views with the NFU to inform their submission. There are also a number of industry engagement sessions you should seek to register to attend to learn more about these proposals. [Dates are found here.](#)

Packaging is another Government tax on the industry. I reckon that at current rate of ornamental consolidation/closure there will only be one nursery left in fifty years' time and he/she will make a fortune. It is going to be painful for the rest of us as we lose two or three nurseries a year. I know that **Rory Paton, Pinetops Nurseries Ltd** and **Martin Emmett, Farplants Ltd** and **Chairman NFU Board of Horticulture & Potatoes** are keen to have a review of **Taupe pots**. Currently they are putting up growers' costs and have no effect on recycling volumes. I am waiting for the plastic ban, what are we going to grow our plants in then?

**Horticulture Crop Protection Ltd (HCP)** is up and running. BPOA have paid £1,000 to help set up the company and **Robin Squence (BPOA Technical Chairman)** has joined the Board. I will let Robin explain what is happening, but the ornamentals industry needs to raise up to £80,000 to support the **Extension of Authorisation for Minor Uses (EAMU) and Emergency Authorisation (EA)** of chemicals. The HTA have kindly offered £40,000 per annum from their reserves for year one, the rest must be raised voluntarily by the industry. Please can someone give me a vision how this is going to happen.

Finally, you will all have no doubt noticed the increase in the **National Living Wage (NLW)** for any worker 23 years of age or older from £9.50 per hour to £10.42 (+92p/hour = +9.7%) on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 and the Government telling us that inflation is going to drastically drop later this year. What they forgot to mention is that the **projected increase in NLW on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 is 7% taking the NLW to £11.15** plus or minus a bit. I am getting a touch annoyed with certain media publications exposing the suggested exploitation of seasonal workers. Our seasonal workers have the highest disposable income of anyone on the nursery including our highly paid Managing Director. So long as they get sufficient hours and good Wi-Fi, they have more than £1,000 left at the end of the month having paid for all accommodation and living costs. Was it fair to employers that the **Accommodation Offset** only increased from £8.70 to £9.10 per day on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 (+40p/day = +4.6%), of course it was not. Keep happy, healthy, pay the bills and you will be better off than most. I am sorry if I have depressed you further.



Derek Jarman is a Director of Hayloft Plants Ltd (multi-channel retailer & grower of garden plants) and Chairman BPOA (British Protected Ornamentals Association)  
[derek@hayloftplants.co.uk](mailto:derek@hayloftplants.co.uk)

@hayloftplants

19th April 2023

## *Must read*

The NFU has fed in multiple times to the House of Lords (HoL) inquiry into the future of the UK horticulture sector. The committee has received a copy of the [NFU Horticulture Strategy](#), a private briefing from NFU Chair Martin Emmett, and public oral evidence from Minette Batters and NFU board member Ali Capper at a number of its committee meetings. An NFU formal written response to its call for evidence has also been submitted.

## *Policy updates*

**Seasonal Workers Scheme:** a) Fruitful Jobs has confirmed it has had its license reinstated and can continue to operate within the Seasonal Workers Scheme. Members are reminded that the operators are Fruitful Jobs, Pro Force, Concordia, HOPS labour solutions, Agri-HR and Ethero Ltd. Members that have not yet registered their demand are encouraged to do so asap.

b) NFU horticulture & potato board member has hosted Home Office Secretary of State Suella Braverman MP to discuss SWS and labour concerns

c) The MAC (Migration Advisory Committee) has launched an inquiry into the seasonal worker scheme, which will review its effectiveness, efficiency, and how it manages worker welfare. The NFU will be working to gather feedback from members.

**NFU Horticulture Strategy Roundtable:** The NFU hosted a parliamentary roundtable with 7 MPs plus the Farming Minister to discuss the need for action to deliver growth in the UK horticulture sector. Minette Batters and Martin Emmett made the case for support across a range of key policy areas, including a critical need for Defra to carry out a market investigation into the Horticulture supply chain, using the powers under the Agriculture Act. The MPs in attendance were very supportive of the asks and also agreed to table questions at PMQs.

**Growing Media:** Defra announced its intention to ban the use of peat in commercial horticulture from 2026, with some time limited exemptions that will run between 2026 until 2030. The ban is sooner than Defra had previously indicated and the NFU has called for the list of exemptions to be expanded to ensure UK growers have time to transition to peat free. The NFU is also calling for the ban to apply to imports. The NFU along with other industry representatives will be meeting Defra Environment Minister Trudie Harrison MP at the end of April to discuss further.

**Border Controls:** The release of the [draft Target Operating Model](#) has caused concern amongst the horticulture sector as it confirms the Authorised Operator Scheme (AOS) will not be in full operation ahead of all plants and plant products being required to travel through a Border Control Post (BCP) from 31st Jan 2024. The AOS scheme will only be at the pilot stage. To be part of the AOS pilot, businesses must register for Control Point (CP) status & Defra are encouraging businesses to register now ahead of the AOS pilot launch. The registration process for CP status typically takes 3 months. The NFU continues to lobby for a delay in the introduction of BCP inspections until the AOS is fully up and running, and has written to Ministers outlining this.

The government is going through a 6-week period of engagement with businesses to capture industry feedback on the draft TOM. There are a number of upcoming opportunities for businesses to feedback on the published draft Target Operating Model, and how it might impact your business. To view the [list of webinars](#), and how to write directly to the Cabinet Office [please view here](#)

## **In brief:**

[Negotiation Training – 3rd July](#) at Stoneleigh Park. A 1 day unique workshop to help build your skills to achieve a cost price increase from your customer. Delivered by highly skilled ex-retail buyers



# Technical Committee

We have been busy on your behalf.

- ⇒ BPOA has joined Horticulture Crop Protection Ltd preserving the availability of EAMU's
- ⇒ EPR (Extended Producer Responsibility) we ran a webinar with NFU advisor Aiden Gill
- ⇒ Preventing cyclamen problems a webinar with Eric Forschelen from Green4ce
- ⇒ Spring crops evening meeting at W D Smiths with presentations on new primrose breeding from Rudy Raes and using compost additives with Omex and Fargo.

## HCP: The Future of Horticulture Crop Protection

Following the demise of AHDB Horticulture, the EAMU service, has now ended. The industry has been obliged to take on the task of processing EAMUs and Emergency Authorisations to ensure the necessary pipeline of plant protection products for the future.

Horticulture Crop Protection Ltd. has been created as a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee, it is owned by its members, the crop associations and this ensures the industry has complete control over all its activities.

BPOA management has been working closely with the HTA team to develop a joint ornamental service, this will collect voluntary subscriptions on an annual basis. Money raised will be held in a joint fund and paid to HCP to support existing and new EAMU activity. EAMU work will be agreed upon, the cost will be confirmed in advance after consultation with subscription payees, by paying your subscription you will be steering any future EAMU work.

BPOA & HTA have been working on a combined ornamentals risk register, this will be circulated to members and will form the basis for any future EAMU work.



<https://britishgrowers.org/horticulture-crop-protection/>

The latest BPOA HCP news can be found here:

<https://britishornamentals.org/horticulture-crop-protection-ltd/>

## EPR (Extended Producer Responsibility) regulations are you ready?

Will it affect you?

It might if you:

- ◆ Supply packaged goods to the UK market under your brand
- ◆ Package goods for another UK organisation **(this includes putting plants in pots)**
- ◆ Use 'transit packaging' to protect goods during transport so they can be sold to UK consumers **(delivering plants in trays or boxes)**
- ◆ Import products in packaging **(young plants from abroad)**
- ◆ Own an online marketplace
- ◆ Hire or loan out reusable packaging
- ◆ Sell empty packaging



## What might I need to do?

### Under the new regulations you may need to:

- ◆ Collect and submit data on the packaging you handle and supply (**it is likely your customers will ask for this**)
- ◆ Pay a waste management fee
- ◆ Buy packaging waste recycling notes (PRNs) or packaging waste export recycling notes (PERNs) to meet your recycling obligations (**currently PRNs are very expensive and the price fluctuates so difficult to budget for**)
- ◆ Submit information about where your packaging has been sold, hired, loaned, gifted or discarded – this is called 'nation data. (**Good luck if you supply Scotland, Ireland or Wales you need data for each nation**)



What you need to do depends on whether you're classed as a 'small' or 'large' organisation.

This will be based on your annual turnover and how much packaging you handle and supply each year. The definitions of these can be found on the [GOV.UK website](https://www.gov.uk).

Does it all sound a bit complicated, we can help, we have a presentation from Aidan Gill NFU Environment Policy Adviser (Soils, Waste, Environmental Permitting) on the [website](#).

## Cyclamen Crop management and typical diseases in Cyclamen

At a recent autumn crops meeting we discussed the problems of growing cyclamen in 2022. It was thought the extremely high temperatures may have increased the number of losses, usually sudden wilting, caused by fusarium or erwinia.

Due to the lack of chemical controls, you may need to change the way you grow cyclamen to reduce losses.

We enlisted the help of Eric Forschelen a well-known cyclamen expert to help, his presentation was thought-provoking and informative, and while there is no simple cure, Eric pointed out some easy-to-replicate cultural techniques that can reduce losses.

A copy of the presentation is on the [website](#).



### Spring crops meeting.

Held at Meadow Croft garden centre, members could also visit the pansy and viola trial plants. The pansy & viola festival is the biggest independent plant trial in Europe and is now in its 20th year. This year nearly 400 varieties from 33 different series and 9 different breeders were on show.

The evening meeting was held in the restaurant with a complimentary buffet. We enjoyed presentations on the latest developments in growing peat-free growing media, and new spring breeding ideas from Rudy Raes Bloemzaden.

**Rudy Raes Bloemzaden NV Sales Manager, Wouter De Meester**, gave an informative presentation on new polyanthus-type breeding offers.

They have developed a range with multiple short flower stems, which remain compact, and economical for loading & transport (height 15-20cm).



New features include:

- Extremely long shelf life!
- Hardy, with excellent garden performance
- Suitable for outdoor use in patio containers and for windowsill
- Ideal for spring combinations and landscape planting



**Fargro's Growing Media and Nutrition expert Sean Whitworth** talked about 'Peat Free Growing with DCM' and how organic slow-release fertiliser may help with tricky peat-free nutrition.



**Joe Barfoot Technical Sales Manager from Omex** gave a presentation on a new product called Catalyst, it can improve root growth increasing the total root area. Easily applied through existing irrigation or feed systems.



<https://britishornamentals.org/events/wd-smith-2023-viola-and-pansy-festival/>

Last year I joined the AHDB horticultural board, unsurprisingly most of our time was spent on supporting the new HCP setup, and then making sure the surplus levy funds could be used to support the establishment of HCP. AHDB horticulture is now running down with only a few projects to finish.

Last month I attend the final AHDB horticultural board meeting, I think we should pay tribute to the many excellent AHDB people who have worked hard over the years to deliver a fantastic range of levy-funded technical outputs including those from HDC. We also need to mention the numerous knowledgeable and passionate industry representatives, panel members and contractors who have helped to deliver and steer the project work.

A final mention to the many growers and agronomists who took the technical results and used them in their day-to-day practice.

#### Levy collection

In horticulture (including mushrooms), 97% of levy payers have paid, with 96% of the overall 2021 (2020–21) debt settled. Overall debt (2021 and prior years) outstanding in horticulture is approximately £268,000. Note: Status data accurate on 17 March 2023.



#### EAMU service

The transfer of EAMU services from AHDB to Horticulture Crop Protection Ltd (HCP) is now complete. It has received ministerial approval from the Department for Food, Environment and Rural Affairs (Defra).

Surplus levy funds, in the form of a grant totalling about £1m, are being transferred to HCP, a newly formed company funded by voluntary subscriptions from the industry. Additionally, five members of staff (four specialists and one administrator) will transfer to HCP. There is also a small transfer of liabilities relating to two ongoing residue trials at a cost of around £10,000.

AHDB will monitor the use of grant funding for the next 12 months to ensure HCP meets a standard of delivery for transferred services deemed suitable for audit.

#### AHDB Archive website

The archive website provides easy access to information about key levy investments made by AHDB Horticulture. The archive can be found [here](#).

**Robin Squance**

**Technical Chair**

Following the decision to end the statutory levy for Horticulture, the transfer of EAMU services from AHDB to Horticulture Crop Protection Ltd (HCP) is now complete and has received ministerial approval from the Department for Food, Environment and Rural Affairs.

We are planning on HCP being fully operational from 14 April 2023.

It is also good to report that surplus levy funds, in the form of a grant totalling around £1m, are being transferred to HCP. This will provide the newly formed company which will be funded through voluntary subscriptions with a solid cash flow basis during the first few months of its operation.

Five members of staff (four specialists and one administrator) will transfer from AHDB Horticulture to HCP. This will ensure that the significant level of expertise and experience which exists within the team will continue to be available to the industry going forward. We are also in the final stages of recruiting a part time CEO who will oversee and direct the HCP operation

The HCP Board is meeting on a regular basis during the start up phase and will oversee the finances and provide the necessary level of governance and industry direction. It will also be working closely with the Crop Associations on the mechanics surrounding the collection of the voluntary subscriptions.

The launch of HCP is the culmination of 12 months works and is intended to provide the all-important grower input into a critical part of our sector's crop protection strategy. The results of its work will benefit growers in every part of the fresh produce and ornamental industries. And to that end it is vital that HCP secures the necessary financial support from growers to operate effectively and efficiently.



# Floral Fantasia Update

The displays in the Floral Fantasia garden at Hyde Hall continue to be very impressive. The Polyanthus trial provided by W. D. Smith is a great success with the November planted trial showing some excellent varieties for over-wintering but others showed significant losses in the cold weather experienced in late November and December. (It is interesting to note that the over-wintered trial of Primulas at RHS Bridgewater showed similar results in the vegetatively propagated category.) The spring planted trial at Hyde Hall looked magnificent in late March where the Crescendo series looked superb but some of the Colibri and Perola series were also performing well. Also of great interest were some new Veristar colours from Rudy Raes and a new series of double flowered polyanthus from Kerley & Co.

The 'Year of the Salvia' trial is on schedule for May planting and we look forward to an outstanding summer display which will be assessed by a joint forum from the RHS Tender Ornamental Plant and Herbaceous Plant committees. Although only the varieties classified as tender will be assessed for the Award of Garden Merit it will still be a very valuable assessment of Salvia as a genus.

The Floral Fantasia garden will be visited by members of Fleuroselect on July 4<sup>th</sup>, as part of the organisation's 2023 convention and Annual General Meeting.

The Floral Fantasia Management Group meet regularly to monitor the garden, aiming to maximise the opportunity. With the pledges from the industry and royalties raised from a special Sweet Pea collection funding is close to being secured for the next year. Mike Smith deserves a medal for his work behind the scenes!

Molli Christman has now started a day-release training course at Writtle University College. A new apprentice is due to start shortly as Trials Coordinator, an introduction to follow in a later edition!

There will be a great deal to see in the Floral Fantasia garden this summer so please try to arrange a visit to Hyde Hall and spend an hour or so taking in the magnificent seasonal displays.

## POINSETTIA GROUP UPDATE



Preparations are underway, varieties are being decided on by the breeders and planned for delivery to growers for week 29/30.

Bridge Farm and the team there have kindly agreed to host the event which we thank them very much for.

Following last year's successful event we are looking to build on this for 2023. Again we will have talks from each of the breeding companies including the new Ball/Florensis breeding as well as others.

Invoices for the annual subscription for British Poinsettia Growers Group will be raised and distributed in July 2023.



# AHDB Horticulture Update

## Horticulture Wind Down update

### Levy collection

Updated levy-collection status data for 2020–21 is available from the [wind-down page of the archive website](#).

#### **In summary (to 11 May 2023):**

In horticulture (including mushrooms), 98% of levy payers have paid, with 96% of the overall 2021 (2020–21) debt settled. Overall debt (2021 and prior years) outstanding in horticulture is approximately £198k.

#### **EAMUs service**

The former AHDB staff delivering the EAMUs service for AHDB successfully transferred to the new grower funded organisation [Horticulture Crop Protection Limited](#) from 15 April 2023. News on new authorisations secured by the team in liaison with the agrochemical companies will therefore no longer be distributed via AHDB emails or the AHDB archive website.

## Research and Resources Update

Since the decision to wind down activity in AHDB Horticulture triggered by the ballot of levy payers, over 80% of the live research and knowledge exchange contracts have now been successfully completed. Project reports from these and the wider range of AHDB Horticulture funded projects will remain available from the archive website, as a legacy of the valuable levy funded technical information. You will find information relevant to your crop through the search option on the [research library](#) and [knowledge library](#) webpages and by clicking through from the crop index links listed on the [Horticulture home page](#) e.g. see the index for [pot and bedding plants](#).

Ornamental research library pages recently updated with new reports of relevance to BPOA members include:

[Application and Management of Biopesticides for Efficacy and Reliability](#)

[Downy mildew control strategies](#)

[GrowSave – an energy efficiency platform](#)

[Bacterial leaf spot efficacy trial](#)

[Bedding and Pot Plants Centre trials on:-](#)

Phytotoxicity assessments of new products with EAMUs

Optimising spray application for protected ornamentals

Developing new bedding plant products for impact

Adopting responsibly sourced new growing media blends

Evaluating new varieties of Poinsettias

# SAVE THE DATE

## British Protected Ornamentals Association Conference: 31st January 2024





European Region

**IPPS**

Sharing Plant Production Knowledge Globally



Europe



## Conference 2023 It's all about the Roots

Wednesday 11 - Friday 13  
October 2023

Comwell Køge, Denmark

Pre-conference tour  
Copenhagen, Tuesday 10. Oct.

[www.ipps.org](http://www.ipps.org)

# The IPPS Sixpack- Award

- 6 young talents from the horticultural industry can attend the conference free of charge
- In return they will assist the committee during the conference.
- One gets selected to attend the IPPS conference at the Southern Region of North America in 2024.



Sixpackers of 2022

**IPPS** Europe  
Sharing Plant Production Knowledge Globally



## The 2023 Ball Summer Showcase

11-13, 18-20, 25-27 July (Tuesday – Thursday)

9am to 5pm

The team at Ball warmly invite you to join us at our West Adderbury Trial Grounds facility for the **2023 Summer Showcase** as we take you on a journey of inspirational retail ideas, growing solutions and new varieties.

This is always a perfect opportunity to review your current plant range with your colleagues to identify new products for 2024 and view experimental lines being assessed for future introduction.

### Highlights include:

- See the latest New Varieties for 2024
- Retail Concept and Product Solution displays
- Pergola 'Garden Room' displays of all your Annual and Perennial Heroes
- Displays of showstopping patio plant varieties in basket, containers and retail benches
- Over 2,000 Experimental Annual and Perennials – your potential new varieties of the future!
- Perennial and colour themed Gardens
- Greenhouse Pot Trials
- **NEW** 'Kitchen Buddies' – fruit and vegetables made for small spaces
- Vote for your 'Favourite Variety'

... **plus**, always lots of friendly advice from our team of experts!

Tea, coffee, cold drinks and a complimentary packed lunch will be provided on the day of your visit.

[CLICK HERE](#) to book in online, call Customer Services on 01295 811833 or simply scan this QR code:





# BRITISH GROWERS

British Growers seeks to ensure that the voice of the fresh produce industry is heard in the right places. Our CEO Jack Ward leads our team in voicing Horticulture and Industry issues.

**Have you missed some of our industry updates?**

Read the latest updates [here](#).



## UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

- **Management Committee—15 June 2023 at 3.30PM via Zoom**
- **Management Committee—14 September at 3.30PM via Zoom**
- **Management Committee—14 December 2023 at 3.30PM via Zoom**



TRADE  
MEMBERS



Hortiserv Ltd

