

## RHS FLOWER SHOW TATTON PARK 2015

Wednesday 22 - Sunday 26 July

### BLOOMING BEDS FACTSHEET

Before completing your application pack, please read through this document. It explains:

- Contacts
- General information
- Build
- Environmental Responsibility
- Judging and awards

## CONTACTS

Shows Department general telephone: 020 3176 5800

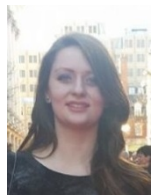
Shows Department general fax: 020 7821 3660

### General Enquiries



Assistant Show Manager: Isobel Coulter  
Tel: 020 7821 3189  
isobelcoulter@rhs.org.uk

### Application forms, contact details, badges and passes



Exhibitor Services Coordinator: Rachel Holland  
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### Technical details, operations and health and safety



Operations Manager: Jade Swain  
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Deputy Operations Manager: Victoria Richards  
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### Press Office

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### Marketing Office

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### Accounts Office

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## GENERAL INFORMATION

### What are Blooming Beds?

Blooming Beds are a NEW feature at RHS Tatton in 2015, providing an opportunity for horticultural students, designers, community groups and budding gardeners to experience the design, planning and build of a horticultural exhibit in a show environment, without the large financial and resource commitment of a show garden.

Each Blooming Bed consists of a raised bed that will be prepared in advance ready for planting when exhibitors arrive on site. Blooming Beds are judged for RHS medals and will undoubtedly be a popular feature with visitors, their size enabling them to visualise ideas for their own gardens.

### Theme – Plant Hunters

To design an inspiring planted bed reflecting the theme of 'Plant hunters' and their plant exploration adventures. Each Bed should exemplify good planting skills and appropriate plant selection.

We are happy to discuss other themes if you have one in mind. So do get in touch.

### Application

Application forms should be accompanied by a plan and a perspective drawing of your proposed bed with planting plan and a 100 word maximum description, including how the Bed reflects the theme and explaining your choice of plants. The closing date for applications is by Friday 20 February 2015.



### Allocation

After the closing date all applications will be reviewed by the RHS who will select (depending on size) the final displays to be built at the show. Applicants will be informed whether their application is successful in late March 2015.

### Access

Upon confirmation of space and acceptance of site you will be provided with a password and log on details to access the on line exhibitor manual. Passes allowing access to the site during build up, show week and breakdown will be sent once the relevant on line forms are completed.

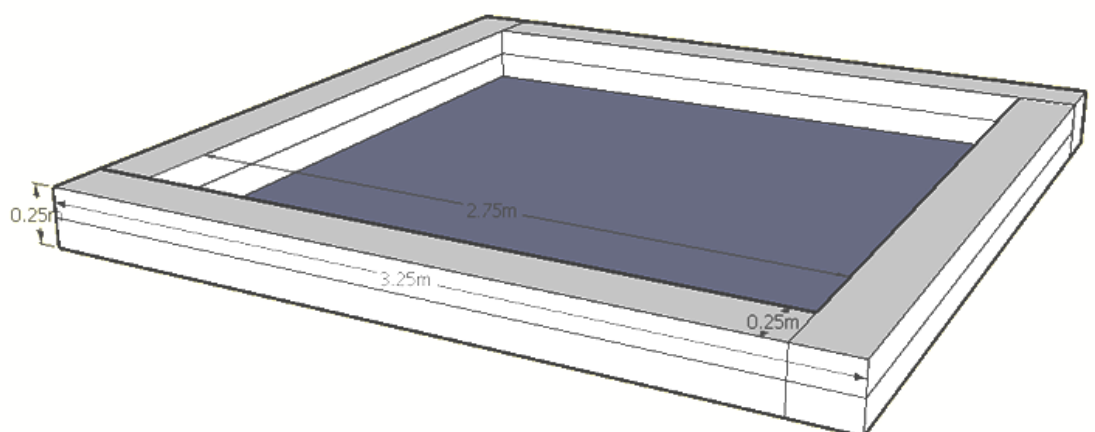
### Maintenance of exhibits

Watering is the responsibility of the exhibitor. Watering points will be provided, but please ensure you bring your own hose with you.

### Size

The raised beds will be filled to a depth of just less than 250mm (10") with compost. They are situated on turf, which may be dug into.

Planting area size 2.75 x 3.25m



## Boundaries

Blooming Beds must be designed to be viewed from all sides with no public access.

## Structures

- Hard landscaping, if used, must not account for more than 20 % of the gross area of the border.
- Any hard landscaping should occur within the boundary of the sleepers
- Blooming Beds may not include any structure/feature that is higher than 2m (excluding trees). The height should be taken from the top level of the sleepers. Approx. 0.25m above ground level.
- Props should be tasteful and in harmony with the border.
- Sleepers must not be wrapped or decorated in any way.

## Planting

- Plants may be planted directly into the soil with or without their pots, but care should be taken to ensure no pots are visible above soil level.
- When planted, there should be continuous cover of plants and foliage, reducing any view of the compost to a minimum.
- Cut flower material or artificial plant material is not permitted. The use of colourant or paint to enhance natural plant material is not permitted.

# BUILD

## Services

The RHS Flower Show Tatton Park Manual 2015 and order forms for tickets and services (water, electricity, telephones, etc.) will be sent to confirmed exhibitors from April 2015.

## Build and Breakdown times

Exhibitors can begin their exhibits on 13 July 2015

- All exhibits must be completed by 8pm Monday 20 July 2015 and surrounding area cleared of any planting debris.

## Breakdown

- Plants used in the display will be the responsibility of the exhibitor, and may be sold at sell-off at 4pm on the last day of the Show or transported off-site after the close of the show.
- Exhibits must be cleared by Monday 27 July.
- All building and plant material must be removed from the site by the exhibitor. The show organisers cannot accept responsibility for any exhibit that has not been cleared.
- You must obtain a clearance certificate from the RHS show team before you finally leave the show ground.

# ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

## Harmful Plants

Most plants do not present any hazard to humans and incidents in the United Kingdom are rare. Nevertheless it is the responsibility of exhibitors to ensure that risks are avoided, e.g. by positioning plants known to have skin or eye irritant qualities away from the front of a stand; and that controls are in place in case of an incident.

Potentially harmful plants must be clearly identified. For further details refer to the Code of Recommended Retail Practice Relating to the Labelling of Potentially Harmful Plants published by the Horticultural Trades Association. ([http://www.kew.org/science/ecbot/HTA\\_code\\_list.pdf](http://www.kew.org/science/ecbot/HTA_code_list.pdf))

For more information see [www.rhs.org.uk/Advice/Profile?PID=524](http://www.rhs.org.uk/Advice/Profile?PID=524).

## Recycling and reuse

Exhibitors are responsible for their own waste but the RHS has taken the following measures to assist and to reduce the environmental impact of your exhibit.

### Planning your exhibit to reduce waste

When planning your exhibit 'design out' waste. Consider whether materials can be re-used or recycled to ensure that as little as possible goes to landfill. Take care not to over order materials for your exhibit. Where surplus materials are unavoidable consider whether they are suitable for the Reuse Scheme or can be recycled elsewhere.

### Reuse scheme

In partnership with local community regeneration charities the RHS runs a Reuse Scheme for unwanted materials from the Show for reuse in community landscaping and garden projects. Surplus or unwanted materials in good condition can be collected from exhibitors both during build-up and breakdown. Suitable materials include paving materials, timber, bricks, stone, aggregates, plants, pots, etc. Please consider building your exhibit in such a way that materials can be easily reclaimed for reuse or recycling after the show. Our reuse partner will be in contact with gardens and large exhibits before going on site. They will also be on site during build-up and breakdown to discuss any materials you may have available. Alternatively you can contact the team directly. Please support this scheme where you can.

## Using and Selling Timber

Timber products brought to RHS Shows for sale or display must be proven to be from a sustainable source and, if for sale, the full product range or line must be covered by certification. Tradestand exhibitors must provide details of all timber products intended for sale at the show, including small timber items such as picture frames, tool handles etc. before allocation of space will be made. Exhibitors must provide a copy of their own timber certificate or, if they do not hold certification themselves, a valid certificate from their direct supplier accompanied by a recent invoice. Garden exhibitors must ensure any timber items on display are certified, including garden buildings, gazebos, sculpture etc.

All exhibitors are encouraged to use sustainably sourced timber in the construction and staging of exhibits. Independent audits are undertaken at RHS Shows to ensure that exhibitors are complying with the policy. The full RHS Timber Policy can be found in the online manual.

FSC certification currently represents the best means of fulfilling the timber policy objectives. However, other certification schemes are accepted and the full list is as follows:

Certification Schemes	
Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)	<a href="http://www.fsc-uk.org">www.fsc-uk.org</a>
Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification Schemes (PEFC)	<a href="http://www.pefc.org">www.pefc.org</a>
Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI)	<a href="http://www.sfiprogram.org">www.sfiprogram.org</a>
Malaysian Timber Certification Council	<a href="http://www.mtcc.com.my">www.mtcc.com.my</a>

Third Party Independent Verification	
Smartwood Rediscovered	<a href="http://www.rainforest-alliance.org/forestry/certification/rediscovered-wood">www.rainforest-alliance.org/forestry/certification/rediscovered-wood</a>

Transition Schemes	
TFT	<a href="http://www.tft-forests.org">www.tft-forests.org</a>
WWF Global Forest & Trade Network (WWF GFTN)	<a href="http://www.gftn.panda.org">www.gftn.panda.org</a>
Smartwood Smartstep	<a href="http://www.rainforest-alliance.org/forestry/certification/services/smart-step">www.rainforest-alliance.org/forestry/certification/services/smart-step</a>

Online search resources	
FSC certificate holders	<a href="http://www.fsc-info.org">www.fsc-info.org</a>
PEFC certificate holders	<a href="http://www.pefc.org/certification-services/find-certified">www.pefc.org/certification-services/find-certified</a>

## PROMOTION

### Catalogue and website entry

All Blooming Beds must complete a media form in the time frame requested by the RHS. These will be emailed to all successful applicants.

### Literature

Blooming Beds exhibitors may produce one leaflet relevant to their exhibit. Other information such as credits to sponsors may be included, providing that one third of the leaflet is devoted to details of the bed, including planting plan or list. A copy of the leaflet should be submitted to the Show Manager for approval before printing.

### Signage

The RHS will commission a sign for Blooming Beds, and we will discuss these details with you closer to the show.

### Manning of exhibits

We encourage exhibitors to man their bed throughout the open hours of the Show, and ask all staff and personnel on the stand to wear a clearly visible badge bearing the name of the company or organization at all times.

### Selling & sell-off

No plants or other items may be sold from the bed during the show; however, exhibitors may take orders for plants, products or services at this time.

On the last day of the Show (Sunday), exhibitors are permitted to sell the plants and other items from their Blooming Beds from 4.00pm if they wish.

At 5pm the Show closes and no further selling is permitted.

## JUDGING AND AWARDS

### Judging

- Exhibits will be judged for RHS medals. Judging will commence at 9am on Wednesday 10 June (time may be subject to change). A Judging Panel will visit the Blooming Bed and vote on a medal. Exhibitors will be asked to vacate the border whilst it is being judged.

### RHS Awards

- Gold, Silver-Gilt, Silver and Bronze medal awards can be awarded by the Judges. If an exhibit is considered to be below Bronze standard, no award will be made.
- Exhibitors winning a Gold Medal for the first time will be sent the medal after the Show.
- Medals for any other or subsequent exhibits are not provided but may be purchased.
- Award cards will be placed on the exhibits on the afternoon of Tuesday 21 July. Any additional cards may be ordered from the RHS at a nominal charge.
- Exhibitors will be eligible for the 'Best Blooming Bed' award.
- All award results are embargoed until medal cards have been distributed on Wednesday 10 June.

Please see overleaf for the judging criteria.

## Judging Criteria 2015 – Planted Borders Exhibits

	Excellent (4)	Very Good (3)	Good (2)	Satisfactory (1)	Poor (0)
<b>1. Interpretation of Theme:</b> Clarity, Delivery  All round viewing  Props	Excellent interpretation of theme.  Exceptional all round viewing.  Where used there has been creative and careful thought in the use of 3D effects and props	Has achieved the interpretation of the theme with an overall pleasing effect. There is first-rate all round viewing of the.  There is effective use of 3D effects and props.	There is good interpretation of the theme creating a competent level of interest.  The design could be improved to allow all round viewing.  Includes some use of 3D effects, props or other point of interest.	There is no direct correlation to the theme and the bed/border does not sufficiently engage the interest of the visitor. It is not sufficiently designed for all round viewing and There is little attempt to use 3D effects or suitable props, or create a point of interest.	Lacks imagination and does not relate to the theme.  No attempt to provide all round viewing.  There is no point of interest, use of 3D effects or other suitable props.
<b>2. Planting design:</b> Colour, Texture, Form, Composition, Quality, Health and Density	Excellent plant design, composition.  Excellent quality plants with excellent coverage	Very good plant design, composition.  Very good quality plants, good consistent coverage	Good plant design, composition.  Generally good stock, some weak / poor quality plants & specimens, generally good coverage	Some sense of planting design composition.  Generally small or inadequate stock, weak / poor quality plants & specimens, variable coverage	Little or no tangible evidence of planting design or composition.  Small or inadequate stock, poor quality plants & specimens and inadequate coverage
<b>3. Plant associations and sustainability:</b> Relevance, species, cultural, sustainable for a season	Excellent associations, no errors in species selection.  Would easily sustain a full season.	Very good associations, insignificant errors in species selection.  Would sustain a full season.	Good associations, some errors in species selection.  Would possibly sustain a full season.	Weak associations, significant errors in species selection.  Unlikely to sustain a full season.	Arbitrary associations, inappropriate species selection.  Would not be sustainable for a full season.
<b>4. Overall Impression:</b> Impact (Inc. creativity/theatre, unity, balance & scale)  Design & Finish – pots, edging, labels  Level of interest	Has creative wow factor and incorporates well executed design and balance with an accomplished level of details and finish.  Creates a very high level of interest for visitors.	Has some creative elements and is well designed.  A high degree of attention to detail and finish.  Creates a high level of interest for visitors.	Incorporates competent design but does not necessarily have wow factor and/or a balanced feel/creativity.  Some elements of finish may be lacking but it is still likely to maintain a reasonable level of interest for visitors.	Lacks wow factor and/ or overall design and finish.  Moderate interest for visitors.	Little care has been taken to design the exhibit or to show the best aspects of the plants. There has been little attention to detail or finish. Little to minimal interest for visitors.