Trial of Garden Chrysanthemum 2006
(An RHS Long Term Trial)

There were 148 entries in this Long Term trial of Garden Chrysanthemums, which were assessed by the Chrysanthemum Committee in 2006 for the Award of Garden Merit.

**Trial Objectives:**
To assess, compare and demonstrate a range of cultivars submitted by individuals, raisers and nurseymen, following preliminary assessment by the Chrysanthemum Committee.

**Entries:**
- 4 Ground hugging cushion mums (Nos. 1-4)
- 51 Cushion mums (Nos. 5-55)
- 2 Belgian mums (Nos. 56-59 2 plots of each entry)
- 8 plants Demo plot 1 – planted normal time (Nos. 60-67)
- 8 duplicate plants Demo plot 2 – planted 9 weeks later (Nos. 68-75)
- 35 Spray chrysanthemums (Nos. 76-110)
- 28 Disbudded chrysanthemums (Nos. 111-138)
- 10 Koreans & Rubellums (Nos. 139-148)

The Chrysanthemum Committee judged the entries in this trial on 22 August, 13 September, 26 September and 10 October 2006 for the Award of Garden Merit, using the following criteria:

- Vigour : habit : health : length of flowering period
- colour/colour stability and quality of bloom : weather tolerance

The Committee awarded the Society's

**AWARD OF GARDEN MERIT (H3) to the following:**

**CUSHION MUMS**

‘Action’   AGM (H3) 2006
Raised and sent by Cleangro Ltd, available from Hollyacre Plants Ltd, Newlands Nursery, Pagham Road, Lagness, Chichester, West Sussex PO20 1LL
Height to 43cm. Free-flowering, erect compact sprays. Flower heads, semi-double to 5cm. Florets, short, narrow, overlapping, blunt and flat. Inner florets closest to greyed orange 163B, outer florets darker greyed-orange 163A. 50% flowering 22/9/06. Vibrant orange cushion mum that forms large even mounds, spreads well, remaining fresh and lasting well over a long period.
Linda = ‘Lindayo’ AGM (H3) 2006
Sent by Yoder Toddington Ltd available from Halls of Heddon, West Heddon Nurseries, Heddon-on-the-Wall, Northumberland NE15 0JS.
Height to 45cm. Free-flowering, erect compact sprays. Flower heads, double to 4.4cm. Florets, short, broad, overlapping, pointed and curled. Inner florets pale yellow 10C, outer florets white 155D. 50% flowering 5/10/06.
A good, clean, creamy white cushion mum that forms large even mounds, spreads well, remaining fresh and flowering late into the season.

SPRAYS

‘Joshua Hunter’ (29d DY) AGM (H3) 2006
Sent by Mr L Hunter, available 2007/2008 from Frank Charlton Chrysanthemums, 24 Redesdale Road, Redhouse Estate, Sunderland SR5 5HA.
Single spray, height to 102cm, vigorous, bushy and free flowering. Erect, compact sprays. Flower heads, single to 8cm, ray florets short, broad, blunt, in overlapping whorls. Yellow 9A, reverse paler yellow 9C. Disc 3cm in diameter, yellow-orange 14B. 50% flowering 4/9/05.
A lovely vibrant yellow Chrysanthemum, with flowers staying fresh for a long time. Seemingly good resistance to White Rust, with very little present, in a particularly bad year.

Disbudded and Non-Disbudded Forms:

Disbudded

Non-Disbudded (Spray)

Chrysanthemum Flowerhead Forms:

Single  Incurved  Intermediate  Reflected
Cultivation:
The trial plot was tractor spaded in October 2005 and then sterilised. In April 2006 the ground was
hand raked and marked out. The spray and disbudded chrysanthemums were planted on 16 May
and the cushion mums on 12 June.

On 5 June the spray and disbudded entries were 'stopped' by removal of the terminal bud, which
encourages the plants to bush out and hastens the development of the side branches, which will
bear the flowers. Cushion mums were pinched out to encourage bushy plants and even flowering on
19 June. Spray stocks, after initial 'stopping', were allowed to grow naturally; disbud entries after
initial 'stopping', are disbudded in July and August so that only one flower per stem is produced.

Chrysanthemums need regular watering to obtain the best results. These plants are watered by drip
lines at the base of the plant and are never allowed to dry out. As the plants grow, the amount of
water is increased.
Plants are sprayed routinely for pest and disease control.

Late Planting Demonstration plot:
The purpose of this replication of 8 cultivars, is to demonstrate the affect of flowering time and
flower quality, by variance of the rooting and stopping dates. There are two demonstration plots
containing the same 8 cultivars, divided into a normal (plot 1, trial nos. 60-67) and a later planting
(plot 2, trial no’s 68 – 75). The plants for the first plot were propagated in week 17 and again in
week 19 with entries taking about a fortnight to root. They were planted along with the other spray
and disbud entries on 16 May and pinched 3 weeks thereafter. The plants for the second plot were
propagated in week 23, again taking two weeks to root. They were then planted nine weeks after
the first plot, on 17 July and pinched as normal.
This later flowering period is useful for extending the season into early – mid Autumn.

Findings:
This year the trial was badly affected by Japanese White Rust (*Puccinia horiana*).
Whilst the trial was sprayed with professional products in an attempt to control the rust, problems
persisted and subsequently a number of entries were removed and destroyed early and the
remainder cut down, prior to lifting for hot water treatment and over wintering.

It was also noted that a number of plants in the trial looked poor. Having budded prematurely
growth was stunted and there was a lack of vegetative growth in a number of entries. It was
thought this might be down to the type of cutting taken and the subsequent treatment thereafter.
Whilst the late planting demonstration was a great success in 2005, with a number of entries providing a good late show of flowers, the 2006 demo did not prove to replicate such a display. The majority of the late struck/late planted entries had also budded prematurely, again growth was stunted and there was a lack of vegetative growth. For such a later planting, it is imperative that stock plants remain vegetative until the end of May.

A revised propagation and spray programme will be followed for the 2007 trial.

About White Rust (*Puccinia horiana*)

This disease originated in China and Japan and arrived in Britain in 1964. It is highly infectious and left unchecked severely weakens plants and stunts growth.

The early signs are yellow spots on the upper surfaces of the leaves. In time the spots turn brown and sunken; corresponding on the lower surface are raised buff pustules, which turn whitish as they mature. Eventually the leaves die back. Flowers may also be affected.

The fungus (*Puccinia horiana*) thrives in cool damp conditions. Spores carried on air currents spread the disease from plant to plant. White rust survives only a few weeks on fallen leaves and the main source of infection is over wintered stools or cuttings. It is, therefore, important always to eliminate infection from over wintered plant material and not to bring in the disease on purchased plants (stools lifted from the RHS trial are hot water treated and any new material arriving for trial is quarantined).

Non-Chemical Control

Plants should be checked regularly and infected leaves removed as soon as they are noticed, they should be destroyed (not added to the compost heap). Badly affected plants should also be destroyed; either burned or sealed in a plastic bag and placed in the dustbin.

Chemical Control

Repeated applications of a fungicide at seven-day intervals may be required. Penconazole (Scotts Fungus Clear) and myclobutanil (e.g. Bio Systhane Fungus Fighter) have some systemic activity. These two fungicides should be alternated with fungicides from another chemical family to avoid resistance developing.

GARDEN CHRYSANTHEMUM TRIAL 2006

INDEX

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No Cultivar</th>
<th>AGM</th>
<th>Sender</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bed 1</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ground cover</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 ‘Creeper Pink’</td>
<td></td>
<td>Cleangro Ltd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 ‘Creeper Dark Pink’</td>
<td></td>
<td>Cleangro Ltd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 ‘Creeper Red’</td>
<td></td>
<td>Cleangro Ltd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 ‘Creeper Yellow’</td>
<td></td>
<td>Cleangro Ltd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cushion mums</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 ‘Magical’</td>
<td>AGM (H3) 1993</td>
<td>Cleangro Ltd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 ‘Pitstop’</td>
<td>AGM (H3) 1993</td>
<td>Cleangro Ltd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 ‘Rio’</td>
<td></td>
<td>Cleangro Ltd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 ‘Conjuror’</td>
<td></td>
<td>Cleangro Ltd</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
9 'Foxtrot' AGM (H3) 2005 Cleangro Ltd
10 'Interval' AGM (H3) 2004 Cleangro Ltd
11 'Tinseltown' AGM (H3) 2004 Cleangro Ltd
12 'Chicane' AGM (H3) 2004 Cleangro Ltd
13 'Fantasy' AGM (H3) 2004 Cleangro Ltd
14 'Concerto' AGM (H3) 2004 Cleangro Ltd
15 'Chorus' AGM (H3) 2004 Cleangro Ltd
16 'Syllabub' AGM (H3) 2003 Cleangro Ltd
17 'Gala' AGM (H3) 2003 Cleangro Ltd
18 'Moulin Rouge' AGM (H3) 2003 Cleangro Ltd
19 'Gala Crimson' AGM (H3) 2003 Cleangro Ltd
20 'Majorite' AGM (H3) 2003 Cleangro Ltd
21 'Story Line' Cleangro Ltd
22 'Jazzy' Cleangro Ltd
23 Sdg 31344 Cleangro Ltd
24 'Action' AGM (H3) 2006 Cleangro Ltd
25 'Matinee' AGM (H3) 2005 Cleangro Ltd
26 'Intermezzo' Cleangro Ltd
27 'Popcorn' AGM (H3) 2003 Cleangro Ltd
28 'Firecracker' AGM (H3) 2003 Cleangro Ltd
29 'Filmstar' AGM (H3) 2003 Cleangro Ltd
30 'Action Yellow' AGM (H3) 2004 Cleangro Ltd
31 'Boulevard Yellow' AGM (H3) 2005 Cleangro Ltd
32 'Mermaid' AGM (H3) 2003 Cleangro Ltd
33 Linda = 'Lindayo' AGM (H3) 2006 Yoder Toddington
34 'Braque' AGM (H3) 2005 Yoder Toddington
35 'Gigi' Yoder Toddington
36 'Nina' Yoder Toddington
37 'Ursula' Yoder Toddington
38 'Matisse' AGM (H3) 2004 Walkers
39 'Holbein' AGM (H3) 2004 Walkers
    Rosepink Debonair = 'Yodebo' AGM (H3) 2003 Yoder Toddington
40 Rosepink' Yoder Toddington
41 'Cezanne' AGM (H3) 2005 Yoder Toddington
42 'Turner' AGM (H3) 2002 Yoder Toddington
43 'Tabitha' Yoder Toddington
44 'Marlene' Yoder Toddington
45 'Shelley' Yoder Toddington
46 'Dolly' Yoder Toddington
47 'Festive Ursula' Yoder Toddington
48 'Renoir' AGM (H3) 2005 Yoder Toddington
49 'Michele' Yoder Toddington
50 Yellow Triumph = 'Yellow Yotri' Yoder Toddington
51 'Annika' Yoder Toddington
52 'Ines' Yoder Toddington
53 'Natalie' Yoder Toddington
54 'Klara' Yoder Toddington
55 'Sunny Ursula' Yoder Toddington
Belgian mums

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Variety</th>
<th>AGM (Year)</th>
<th>Supplier</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>'Domenico Orange'</td>
<td></td>
<td>FlorElite Plants &amp; Seeds Ltd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57</td>
<td>'Domenico Orange'</td>
<td></td>
<td>FlorElite Plants &amp; Seeds Ltd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>58</td>
<td>'Akilon Pink'</td>
<td></td>
<td>FlorElite Plants &amp; Seeds Ltd</td>
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<td>59</td>
<td>'Akilon Pink'</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Late struck cutting/planting demonstration

Normal Planting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Variety</th>
<th>AGM (Year)</th>
<th>Supplier</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>'Denise'</td>
<td>AGM (H3) 1993</td>
<td>Collinwood Nurseries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61</td>
<td>'Good Life Sombrero'</td>
<td>AGM (H3) 1994</td>
<td>Southway Nurseries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62</td>
<td>'Penine Marie'</td>
<td>AGM (H3) 1997</td>
<td>Halls of Heddon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63</td>
<td>'Mancetta Jupiter'</td>
<td>AGM (H3) 1998</td>
<td>Rowe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64</td>
<td>'White Margaret' (planted in place of 'Omo')</td>
<td>AGM (H3) 1993</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65</td>
<td>'White Margaret'</td>
<td>AGM (H3) 1993</td>
<td>Frank Rowe Ltd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66</td>
<td>'Purple Talbot Parade'</td>
<td>AGM (H3) 2002</td>
<td>Southway Nurseries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67</td>
<td>'Nathalie'</td>
<td>AGM (H3) 1994</td>
<td>H Walker</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Duplicate planting - 6 weeks later

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Variety</th>
<th>AGM (Year)</th>
<th>Supplier</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>68</td>
<td>'Denise'</td>
<td>AGM (H3) 1993</td>
<td>Collinwood Nurseries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69</td>
<td>'Good Life Sombrero'</td>
<td>AGM (H3) 1994</td>
<td>Southway Nurseries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70</td>
<td>'Penine Marie'</td>
<td>AGM (H3) 1997</td>
<td>Halls of Heddon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>71</td>
<td>'Mancetta Jupiter'</td>
<td>AGM (H3) 1998</td>
<td>G Freestone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>72</td>
<td>'Omo'</td>
<td>AGM (H3) 1993</td>
<td>Rowe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73</td>
<td>'White Margaret'</td>
<td>AGM (H3) 1993</td>
<td>Frank Rowe Ltd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>74</td>
<td>'Purple Talbot Parade'</td>
<td>AGM (H3) 2002</td>
<td>Southway Nurseries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75</td>
<td>'Nathalie'</td>
<td>AGM (H3) 1994</td>
<td>H Walker</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sprays

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Variety</th>
<th>AGM (Year)</th>
<th>Supplier</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>76</td>
<td>'Purple Margaret Dixon'</td>
<td></td>
<td>Maurice Dixon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77</td>
<td>'Margaret Dixon'</td>
<td>AGM (H3) 2003</td>
<td>M Dixon via D Horn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>78</td>
<td>'Lucy'</td>
<td>AGM (H3) 2001</td>
<td>D T Horn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79</td>
<td>'Susan's Bonnet'</td>
<td>AGM (H3) 2001</td>
<td>G Freestone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80</td>
<td>'Yellow Mancetta Bride'</td>
<td>AGM (H3) 2002</td>
<td>G Freestone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>81</td>
<td>'Myss Carol'</td>
<td>AGM (H3) 2002</td>
<td>Southway Nurseries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>82</td>
<td>'Myss Saffron'</td>
<td></td>
<td>Southway Nurseries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83</td>
<td>'Wendy'</td>
<td>AGM (H3) 2003</td>
<td>W B Wade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>84</td>
<td>'Bronze Talbot Parade'</td>
<td>AGM (H3) 1999</td>
<td>Southway Nurseries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85</td>
<td>'Claudia'</td>
<td>AGM (H3) 2005</td>
<td>Collinwood Nurseries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>86</td>
<td>'Mancetta Pippin'</td>
<td>AGM (H3) 2004</td>
<td>G Freestone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87</td>
<td>'Pennine Canary'</td>
<td>AGM (H3) 1993</td>
<td>W B Wade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>88</td>
<td>'Cherry Nathalie'</td>
<td>AGM (H3) 1996</td>
<td>Harold Walker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>89</td>
<td>'Karen Taylor'</td>
<td>AGM (H3) 2004</td>
<td>F Charlton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90</td>
<td>'Dee Gem'</td>
<td>AGM (H3) 1993</td>
<td>Harold Walker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>91</td>
<td>'Freddie'</td>
<td>AGM (H3) 1993</td>
<td>Halls of Heddon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>92</td>
<td>'Margaret'</td>
<td>AGM (H3) 1993</td>
<td>D T Horn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>93</td>
<td>'Talbot Maid'</td>
<td>AGM (H3) 1993</td>
<td>Southway Nurseries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>94</td>
<td>'Myss Marion'</td>
<td>AGM (H3) 1993</td>
<td>D Horn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>95</td>
<td>'Cream Talbot Parade'</td>
<td>AGM (H3) 1993</td>
<td>Harold Walker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96</td>
<td>'Anna Marie'</td>
<td>AGM (H3) 1993</td>
<td>Halls of Heddon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>97</td>
<td>'Pennine Polo'</td>
<td>AGM (H3) 1999</td>
<td>Harold Walker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>98</td>
<td>'Candlewick Limelight'</td>
<td>AGM (H3) 1998</td>
<td>L A Daykin</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
99 'Rita McMahon'  AGM (H3) 2005  Halls of Heddon
100 'Mary Sweeney'  AGM (H3) 2004  G Freestone
101 'Joshua Hunter'  AGM (H3) 2006  L Hunter
102 'Southway Summit'  AGM (H3) 2005  Southway Nurseries
103 'Janet Elizabeth'  AGM (H3) 2004  C Ingham
104 'Southway Sparticus'  AGM (H3) 2005  Southway Nurseries
105 'Southway Strontium'  AGM (H3) 2005  Southway Nurseries
106 'Caukeel Cobra'  AGM (H3) 2005  Southway Nurseries
107 'Jessica Emily'  AGM (H3) 2005  D T Horn
108 'Upton Rose'  AGM (H3) 2004  Harold Walker
109 'Peach Enbee Wedding'  AGM (H3) 1993  Frank Rowe Ltd
110 'Daphne Davis'  AGM (H3) 2005  G Garratt

**Disbuds**

111 'Ermine'  AGM (H3) 1993  T Porter
112 'Bronze Max Riley'  AGM (H3) 2001  Harold Walker
113 'Membury'  AGM (H3) 1993  Halls of Heddon
114 'Percy Salter'  T Porter
115 'Red Cloak'  T Porter
116 'Vanessa Lynn'  T Porter
117 'Yvonne Arnaud'  AGM (H3) 1993  D Horn
118 'Pink Julie Ann'  AGM (H3) 1994  Frank Rowe Ltd
119 'Early Bird'  AGM (H3) 1993  H Walker
120 'New Stylist'  Don Horn
121 'Barnado's Hope'  Sam Oldham
122 'Ivy Freestone'  G Freestone
123 'Les Proctor'  G Freestone
124 'Geordie'  Sam Oldham
125 'Annie Lea'  AGM (H3) 2003  Sam Oldham
126 'Dana'  AGM (H3) 1993  Halls of Heddon
127 'Joyce Frieda'  Dr G Barclay
128 'Millennium'  F Charlton
129 'Horace Hockedy'  AGM (H3) 2004  G Freestone
130 'Betty Deeming'  G Freestone
131 'Primrose Allouise'  AGM (H3) 1997  Frank Rowe Ltd
132 'White Allouise'  AGM (H3) 1993  H Walker
133 'Creamist'  AGM (H3) 1993  Frank Rowe Ltd
134 'Peach Allouise'  AGM (H3) 1993  H Walker
135 'Purple Godiva Lady'  G Garratt
136 'Margaret Riley'  T Porter
137 'Allouise'  AGM (H3) 1993  H Walker
138 'Whitburn'  F Charlton

**Koreans & Rubellums**

139 'Ruby Raynor'  Judy Barker
140 'Nancy Perry'  Judy Barker
141 'Perry's Peach'  Judy Barker
142 'Ailine'  Judy Barker
143 'Aunt Millicent'  Judy Barker
144 'Grandchild'  Judy Barker
145 'Mary'  Judy Barker
146 'Brightness'  Judy Barker
H3 = Hardy outside in some regions or particular situations or which, while usually grown outside in summer, needs frost-free protection in winter.

H4 = Hardy throughout the British Isles

Senders names and addresses

Cleangro Ltd, Leythorne Nursery, Vinnetrow Road, Chichester, West Sussex, PO20 1QD
Collinwood Nurseries, Wilmslow Old Road, Mottram St Andrew, Nr Macclesfield, Cheshire, SK10 4QR (no longer trading)
FlorElite, Hoogeweg 12, 2231 MS Rijnsberg, Holland
Halls of Heddon, West Heddon Nursery, Heddon-on-the-Wall, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE15 0JS
Messrs Frank Rowe, Rylands Nurseries, Wellington, Somerset, TA21 9QB
Sam Oldham Ltd, Rylands Nurseries, Wellington, Somerset, TA21 9QB
Southway Nurseries, 30 South Street, Cottingham, East Yorks, HU16 4AS
Messrs H Walker, Oakfield Nurseries, Huntington, Chester, CH3 6EA
Yoder Toddington, Toddington Lane, Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN17 7PL

The following are all c/o The Trials Office: -
J Barker, F Charlton, L A Daykin, M Dixon (via D Horn), G Freestone, G Garratt [deceased], D T Horn, L Hunter, C Ingham, D J Pierce, W B Wade.

Further information can be obtained from
The Trials Office, The Royal Horticultural Society Garden, Wisley,
Woking, Surrey GU23 6QB
Tel No. 01483479797 e-mail: trials@rhs.org.uk

More information about RHS Trials and other illustrated final reports can be found on the RHS Website at www.rhs.org.uk/plants/plant_trials.asp

The National Chrysanthemum Society publish a 'Chrysanthemum Guide' which is available from RHS Enterprises at RHS Garden, Wisley, priced at £13.95

To join the National Chrysanthemum Society write to the Floral Manager, Saas Fee, Crabtree Hill, Collingham, Wetherby, Yorks, LS22 5AD