Pulmonaria

AGM Report

By Round Table

2016

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Pulmonaria AGM Round Table Report 2016 K. Angwin 2016
The criteria which a plant needs to fulfil in order to receive the Award of Garden Merit (AGM) are:

- excellent for ordinary use in appropriate conditions
- available
- of good constitution
- essentially stable in form and colour
- reasonably resistant to pests and diseases

**AGM by roundtable** discussion is a method of awarding AGM when the genus or plant group in question displays any or all of the following criteria:

- impractical or impossible to trial
- not in the trials plan for the next 5 years
- proposing plant committee does not contain the expertise to recommend ‘in house’

**and** has the following attributes:

- current lack of AGMs
- relevant to today’s gardener
- outside expertise is identified

**Background Information**

The Pulmonaria forum was created by the RHS Herbaceous Plant Committee to assess Pulmonarias in 2016. On April 21st 2016 a meeting was held by the forum comprising; Barry Street (Chairman), Sally-Ann Turner, Lyn Miles, Robin Pearce, Jennifer Hewitt and Vanessa Cook to assess a total of 34 *Pulmonara* cultivars. The criteria for selection has included;
- Available from several suppliers
- Recognisable and distinct
- Garden worthiness
- Longevity in the garden
- Early, mid and late season varieties

It was judged that the forum made up from the RHS Herbaceous Committee, members of the Pulmonaria group of the Hardy Plant Society, collectors and nursery specialists had sufficient and comprehensive knowledge to arrive at a sound conclusion on the cultivars awarded.

**RHS Staff:** Kirsty Angwin RHS, AGM Round Table Coordinator

The voting panel made the following recommendations at this roundtable discussion.

**The Panel recommended the Society’s Award of Garden Merit to:**

*Pulmonaria ‘Cotton Cool’*

**Description:** 20-30cm. Flowers blue and pink in dense clusters. Leaves held upright, long narrow and tapered completely silver.

**Forum comments:** Normally a very good plant with super summer foliage.

*Pictures*  
*Pulmonaria ‘Cotton Cool’*  
© Jennifer Harmer
**Pulmonaria ‘Little Star’**

*Description:* 15-20cm. Flowers dusky pink in bud changing to cobalt blue, borne on short stems, produced freely over a long period. Leaves rather short with a few small silvery spots.

*Forum comments:* Good summer foliage with pretty silver leaf.

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**Pulmonaria ‘Samurai’**

*Description:* Long, narrow leaves that are heavily spotted as they mature to completely silvered sword-shaped blades. Initially, the Spring flowers are pink and blue toned, developing to deep cobalt blue in the spring.

*Forum comments:* Good weather resistance and good foliage. Forms a nice clump in a reasonable time and a nice compact plant.
The Panel re-confirmed the Society’s AWARD OF GARDEN MERIT to:

**Pulmonaria ‘Ballyrogan Blue’**

Description:
Flowers well above the foliage, an excellent plant

**Pulmonaria ‘Diana Clare’**

Description:
20-30cm. Flowers large, violet blue, with a longitudinal purple stripe. Leaves long, pointed, silver-green.

Forum comments:
Flowers carried high, vigorous plant and readily available

© Jennifer Harmer
**Pulmonaria 'Lewis Palmer'**

30-35cm. Vigorous. Flowers large, rich violet-blue, facing upward and outward. Leaves long, rather narrow, dark green, strongly spotted and blotched. Spots greenish-white.

**Forum comments:**
Excellent vigorous plant. A strong ‘doer’ in the garden

**Pulmonaria 'Opal'**

25cm. Flowers opening from palest pink buds turning to luminous pale blue. Leaves rather narrow, well spotted.

**Forum comments:**
Flowers late, has very pretty colours. Good summer foliage, forms a good clump. Upright and loved by the committee.
**Pulmonaria 'Sissinghurst White'**

**Description:**

**Forum comments:**
The only good white available – does well in a reasonable site and be can variable.

Picture of **Pulmonaria 'Sissinghurst White'** © Jennifer Harmer

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**Pulmonaria 'Trevi Fountain'**

**Description:**
30cm. Superb, brightly silver-spotted long leaves give rise to profuse clusters of large cobalt-blue flowers.

**Forum comments:**
Good doer, large clumps and good flowers. Easy to grow a nice symmetrical plant.

Picture of **Pulmonaria 'Trevi Fountain'** © Jennifer Harmer
*Pulmonaria* ‘Vera May’

**Description:**
Compact plant. Flowers pale pink, dark green leaves and few spots.

**Forum comments:**
A good reliable plant, nice pale pink flowers

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*Pulmonaria* ‘Blue Ensign’

**Description:**
25-30cm. Vigorous, deciduous. Flowers large rich blue or blue violet in compact clusters, borne on upright stems. Leaves long, pale green, unspotted.

**Forum comments:**
Vigorous, very good blue colour, dark green foliage
The Panel recommended the Society rescinds the AWARD OF GARDEN MERIT to:

Pulmonaria ‘Mawsons Blue’
Pulmonaria angustifolia sp.

List or other Pulmonarias that were considered

Pulmonaria ‘Barfield Regalia’
Pulmonaria ‘Blakes Silver’
Pulmonaria angustifolia ‘Blaues Meer’
Pulmonaria officinalis ‘Blue Mist’
Pulmonaria officinalis Cambridge Blue Group
Pulmonaria ‘Crawshay Chance’
Pulmonaria saccharata ‘Frühlingsghimmel’
Pulmonaria saccharata ‘Leopard’
Pulmonaria ‘Little Star’
Pulmonaria ‘Majesté’
Pulmonaria ‘Mary Mottram’
Pulmonaria saccharata ‘Mrs Moon’
Pulmonaria ‘Pink Haze’
Pulmonaria ‘Raspberry Splash’
Pulmonaria saccharata ‘Reginald Kaye’
Pulmonaria ‘Rowlatt Choules’
Pulmonaria rubra
Pulmonaria rubra ‘Rachel Vernie’
Pulmonaria saccharata Argentea Group
Pulmonaria ‘Silver Bouquet’
Pulmonaria ‘Stillingfleet Meg’
Pulmonaria ‘Weetwood Blue’

Source: Horticultural Trials and Relations,
RHS Garden Wisley, Woking, Surrey GU23 6QB
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More information about RHS Trials, AGM Round table awards and other colour illustrated reports can be found on the RHS Website: http://www.rhs.org.uk/trials