

PLANT HEALTH PROTOCOLS

RHS GARDEN ROSEMOOR- Flower Competitions

AIM :

- **To prevent the inadvertent spread of *Phytophthora* species (and other pests and diseases) by visitors to RHS Garden Rosemoor.**

WHY ? :

- We are considered to be medium risk and our plant collection is regularly inspected by Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA).
- *Phytophthora* species (including the notifiable pathogens *P. ramorum* and *P. kernoviae*), as well as many other pests and diseases, can be spread all too easily on footwear contaminated by infested soil or plant debris.
- To prevent the possibility of cross contamination between our gardens and nurseries. Rhododendrons and Camellias are key hosts of *Phytophthora ramorum* so we need to take extra care.
- Raising awareness about the threat posed by these pathogens, and the symptoms that they cause, should lead to increased vigilance and the monitoring of a greater area (e.g. private gardens) than would be possible by the Plant Health Authorities alone.

HOW ? :

- **Access to the Garden Room with your plants ONLY via the staff car park (follow the signs).**
- **Bag or box your plants where possible whilst walking through the garden.**
- Come in a **change of clothes and footwear** from when you gathered your plant material if you are exhibiting.
- All plants to be sold **need to** be kept within the holding crèche until the purchasers are ready to leave the garden (i.e. not to be carried around the garden during their visit). In lieu of a plant crèche we would ask that nurseries offer to hold purchased plants for the customer until the visitors are ready to leave the garden.
- All plant material left behind at the end of the show, leave **within the Garden Room structure in bins provided** and we dispose of it our in-vessel composter.

Thank you for your co-operation

Jon Webster

Curator

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