



MICKFIELD HOSTAS



Dear subscriber

What makes a plant garden worthy?

This is a very interesting debate and one that has been bought back into focus for us as we are currently taking part in a review of *Hosta* classified by the RHS as being garden worthy.

The RHS Award of Garden Merit (AGM) is a very useful tool for gardeners deciding on which plants they should buy for their gardens - try the [RHS AGM app](#) to identify plants from across all genera. The criteria for the designation of AGM is that a plant should be:

- Excellent for ordinary use in appropriate conditions
- Available
- Of good constitution
- Essentially stable in form and colour
- Reasonably resistant to pests and diseases

There are currently 93 *Hosta* with AGM classification but, in our experience, some of these varieties are not as garden worthy as they should be when considering the criteria set. As a member of the review forum, we will be spending a good deal of time, over the next six months, analysing more than 2,000 species and cultivars to help bring the list up to date.

The AGM list will be available for all to see once ratified, in the latter half of 2018. We will reproduce the list on our website to replace the existing one, which [you can see here](#), as soon as we are able.

As ever, we are happy to advise you on your choice of plants when ordering as not every fabulous cultivar will appear on the list.

AGM *Hosta*

As you will appreciate, just because a plant has the tag of AGM it is not guaranteed to withstand total



Our recommendations

Starting in January we will return to a feature we used to run in our old style newsletters, looking at classic *Hosta* for your garden.

Each month we will focus on a cultivar we feel deserves attention, and why. We will include cultivars we have already featured if they have proven the test of time.

Why not visit some of our old newsletters and see some of the plants [we have already featured](#).

neglect. Also, hundreds of plants will not qualify for AGM status as there will be at least one flaw in its characteristics, ruling it out of classification. This doesn't mean it is not garden worthy, it may just need more specific conditions to flourish.

[Find out more about RHS AGM](#)

Plant Finder

We are about to undertake our annual stock take, so we will be able to update our website for 2018. Another December task is to update our nursery entry in the [RHS Plant Finder](#). We do not list every species and cultivar we have in our collection because the RHS Plant Finder is designed for gardeners to be able to source plants for purchase. However, as the entry details are required in sufficient time to go to publication it can mean some plants we list we cannot subsequently supply, but we can always advise if you contact us.

Speak soon, Team Mickfield Hostas

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Seasons Greetings

Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to bringing you lots of exciting plants and ideas in 2018.