

Press Release – 08 February 2007

“Planting with Trees”

Hillier Garden Centres and Nurseries at Chelsea 2007 in association with

THE DOVE CLINIC FOR INTEGRATED MEDICINE

Beneficial Bacteria and Friendly Fungi



Hillier's Chelsea 2007 exhibit is to be staged in association with The Dove Clinic for Integrated Medicine. Integrated medicine combines traditional medicine with alternative therapies in the treatment of major illnesses.

Hillier have worked very successfully with the Dove Clinic at Chelsea before. The gold-medal winning Dove Garden in 2003 drew its inspiration from the therapeutic powers of plants and gardening and the influence of colour on mood and well-being.

This year's collaboration will highlight the **benefits to plant health** of micro-organisms in the soil, and draws comparisons with the benefits of micro-organisms in the human digestive system.

Visitors to the Hillier Chelsea exhibit will be able to view **amplified images** of soil micro-organisms. These soil micro-organisms are the bacteria and fungi which work in close relationship with plant roots, aiding their development and their ability to absorb water and nutrients.

As trees are usually the most important structural plants in any garden, their successful establishment and root development is critical. Focusing on “Planting with Trees” in its exhibit at Chelsea, Hillier are keen to inform visitors of the importance of good soil condition in successful planting.

Friendly fungi are available to the amateur gardener in the form of Rootgrow. This is a granular formulation of dormant fungi that are added to the planting hole to put them in direct contact with the roots. The plant roots develop in association with the fungi to aid establishment of the plant and overcome problems associated with replanting. Rootgrow is available at Hillier Garden Centres.

Notes for Editors

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