

# RHS AWARD OF GARDEN MERIT

Asparagus, celeriac, chard, Chinese cabbage, fennel, melon, pak choi, rhubarb 2011



## The AGM criteria

Intended as a practical guide for the gardener, the AGM is awarded only to plants that are:

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

## AGM hardiness ratings

Each award includes a hardiness rating, which is an integral part of the AGM, and should be included in any citation of the award:

**H1** requires heated glass

**H2** requires unheated glass

**H3** hardy outside in some regions; needs frost-free protection in winter

**H4** hardy throughout British Isles

## AGM material online

For information about RHS trials, go to: [www.rhs.org.uk/trials](http://www.rhs.org.uk/trials). For a full list of AGM plants, go to: [www.rhs.org.uk/AGMplants](http://www.rhs.org.uk/AGMplants)

## Cultivation

For more information, go to [www.rhs.org.uk/growyourown](http://www.rhs.org.uk/growyourown) and look under **A to Z**.

## Descriptions

All descriptions have been drawn up by members of the RHS Fruit, Vegetable and Herb Committee, for the most part after trial.

### ASPARAGUS (*Asparagus officinalis*)

- 01 'Backlim' (H4)  
~ F1 hybrid; consistently high yield of large spears
- 93 'Connover's Colossal' (H4)  
~ AGM awarded to Sore's maintenance only. Early; heavy yield of good quality spears. Reconfirmed after trial 2001
- 01 'Gijnlim' (H4)  
~ F1 hybrid; early. Consistently high yield of mid green spears with purple tips
- 93 'Lucullus' (H4)  
~ F1 hybrid; later cropping. Good yield of medium-sized spears

### CELERIAC (*Apium graveolens* var. *rapaceum*)

- 00 'Diamant' (H3)  
~ clean, white, medium-sized
- 00 'Ibis' (H3)  
~ neat round ball, very uniform, fairly small
- 00 'Kojak' (H3)  
~ flattened ball shape, clean and white; very smooth
- 93 'Monarch' (H3)  
~ white-skinned, bold and smooth
- 00 'Prinz' (H3)  
~ smooth, small to medium, flattened and round

### CHARD (*Beta vulgaris* subsp. *cicla* var. *flavescens*) – see also spinach beet

- 00 'Bright Lights' (H3)  
~ good colourful mix, including reds, yellows and whites; very ornamental and decorative
- 00 'Bright Yellow' (H3)  
~ bright golden-yellow petioles and mid green puckered leaf
- 00 'Charlotte' (H3)  
~ striking red colour, nice upright leaf, neat plant habit
- 00 'Fordhook Giant' (H3)  
~ attractive shiny green, puckered leaf with long succulent white petioles

### 00 'Lucullus' (H3)

~ plenty of tender, light green leaf with long succulent white petioles

### 00 'Rhubarb Chard' (H3)

~ good red colour; uniform

### CHINESE CABBAGE (*Brassica rapa* Chinensis & Pekinensis Groups)

#### 03 'Early Jade Pagoda' (H3)

~ cylinder-shaped or 'Michihili' type. Uniform tall plants; dark green, clean outer leaves; later-maturing, short internal stem

#### 03 'Green Tower' (H3)

~ intermediate between barrel and cylinder. Above average height; uniform, clean outer leaves; well-filled heads of good weight; short internal stems

#### 03 'Kasumi' (H3)

~ barrel-shaped, small-framed; solid heads, good yield, well-blanched, with short internal stems; attractive green outer leaves

#### 93 'Kingdom 65' (H3)

~ F1 hybrid; medium, green barrel-shaped heads

#### 93 'Mariko' (H3)

~ F1 hybrid. Barrel-shaped, small-framed. Slower-maturing, attractive green outer foliage, well-blanched, stands well. Reconfirmed 2003

#### 03 'Mirako' (H3)

~ barrel-shaped. Attractive, neat, good internal blanching; slower-growing than some others in trial; nice green outer foliage; stands well

#### 93 'Nerva' (H3)

~ F1 hybrid; early, dense, barrel-shaped heads

#### 03 'One Kilo SB' (H3)

~ barrel-shaped. Early-maturing, medium to pale green outer leaves; slow to bolt; solid heads; short internal stem

#### 03 'Yuki' (H3)

~ barrel-shaped. Medium green, slightly savoyed outer leaves; very short internal stem; medium-sized heavy head; well-blanched

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## Asparagus, etc. 2011 (cont.)



### FENNEL (*Florence*)

- 05 'Amigo' (bulb) (H3)  
~ F1; early-cropping. Vigorous, uniform foliage; attractive, medium-sized, well-filled bulbs with good white colour
- 96 'Atos' (bulb) (H3)  
~ quick-maturing with uniform, medium to large round bulbs
- 96 'Carmo' (bulb) (H3)  
~ F1 hybrid. Quick-maturing with medium-sized, round, fine quality bulbs
- 96 'Dover' (bulb) (H3)  
~ early with large roundish bulbs. Moderate uniformity
- 96 'Heracles' (bulb) (H3)  
~ quick-maturing. Medium large, slightly flattened bulbs of excellent quality
- 05 'Pronto' (bulb) (H3)  
~ early-cropping; attractive, medium-sized, flat, well-filled bulbs with good white colour
- 05 'Victorio' (bulb) (H3)  
~ F1; good crop of solid, well-filled, attractive bulbs with uniform shape; tends to be greenish-white in colour
- 96 'Zefa Fino' (bulb) (H3)  
~ quick-maturing. Medium large, round, very uniform bulbs of excellent quality

### MELON (*Cucumis melo*)

- 09 'Alvaro' (H2-3)  
~ big crop; attractive pale green skins with dark green stripes and salmon-orange flesh. Good flavour
- 93 'Amber Nectar' (H2)  
~ oval fruit of good size. Ripe fruit flesh is orange with very good flavour
- 99 'Durandal' (H2)  
~ F1 hybrid; early to mid season. Flattened globe-shaped fruit with faint grooves and heavy cork netting; flesh orange when ripe
- 99 'Early Dawn' (H2)  
~ F1 hybrid; early ripening. Oval fruit

with dark green grooves and heavy cork netting; flesh orange when ripe

- 99 'Edonis' (H2)  
~ F1 hybrid; early ripening. Oval to globular fruit with dark green grooves and heavy cork netting; flesh orange when ripe
- 09 'Emir' (H2-3)  
~ good crop of netted Chanentais type fruits with orange flesh
- 93 'Ogen' (H2)  
~ oval-round fruit with yellow-green flesh
- 93 'Sweetheart' (H2)  
~ early ripening; globular, medium-sized, cream-coloured fruit with orange flesh

### PAK CHOI (*Brassica rapa Chinensis* Group)

- 10 'Baraku' (H3)  
~ good germination rate. Little bolting. Compact and uniform, attractive dark green leaf and petiole. Good size for cooking
- 10 'Choko' (H3)  
~ good germination rate. Very little bolting. Stands well. Compact, uniform, clean, healthy crop. Good hearting. Tender leaves and stem. Ideal size for cooking
- 10 'Ivory' (H3)  
~ good germination rate. Very little bolting. Stands well. Taller type with narrow petioles. Large heart, tender stems of pure white. Mid green leaves. Clean, healthy, appetising crop
- 10 'Red Choi' (H3)  
~ good germination rate. Very little bolting. Stands well. Attractive purple leaves and tender green stem. Good hearting, uniform clean, healthy crop. Ideal size for cooking
- 10 'Summer Breeze' (H3)  
~ good germination rate. Very little bolting. Stands well. Shorter

compact type, tight stem, uniform, clean crop. Good hearting. Tender leaves and stem. Mid green leaves. Ideal size for cooking

### RHUBARB (*Rheum × hybridum*)

- 03 'Fulton's Strawberry Surprise' (H4)  
~ maincrop. Very attractive bright red colour. Strong plant, but not too vigorous for the garden
- 03 'Grandad's Favorite' (H4)  
~ first early. Vigorous plants, high yield, thick, fairly sweet stem, bright colour, good leaf to stem ratio. Suitable for showing
- 03 'Hawke's Champagne' (H4)  
~ second early. Compact plants; high yield potential. Attractive, bright red, medium-length, uniform stems
- 03 'Mac Red' (H4)  
~ maincrop. Strap-shaped stems; clear; whole stem has bright red colour; good flavour. A vigorous plant of good size and shape for the garden
- 03 'Reed's Early Superb' (H4)  
~ maincrop. Long, straight, medium to thick stems; bright red colour grading to dark green; succulent and tender. Vigorous plant. Good exhibition potential
- 03 'Stein's Champagne' (H4)  
~ maincrop. Very bold, bright red stems, with the colour along the full length. Medium vigour
- 03 'Timperley Early' (H4)  
~ first early. Thick stems, early, high yield. Bred for forcing; performs very well outside, but even better colour when forced

### SPINACH BEET (*Beta vulgaris* subsp. *cicla* var. *cicla*) – see also chard

- 00 'Perpetual Spinach' (H3)  
~ mid to pale green with fairly soft texture, medium vigour