

# RHS AWARD OF GARDEN MERIT

## Onions & garlic 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**. For supplier details go to: [www.rhs.org.uk/vegseedsuppliers](http://www.rhs.org.uk/vegseedsuppliers)

### Descriptions

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

#### GARLIC (*Allium sativum*)

##### 04 'Arno' (H4)

~ attractive white with smooth skin for July cropping. Soft neck, stores well, good yield, even size

##### 04 'Cristo' (H4)

~ soft neck. Uniform crop of attractive, white-skinned bulbs; high yield

##### 04 'Early Wight' (H4)

~ very early crop (during May); good fat cloves. Hard neck; best used immediately after harvest

##### 04 'Echo' (H4)

~ late. Hard neck; tidy, good fat purple-skinned cloves; milder flavour; uniform; high yield

##### 04 'Germidour' (H4)

~ late-maturing, virus-free selection. Soft necks; well-packed, purple-skinned cloves

##### 04 'Ivory' (H4)

~ early. Soft neck; large, well-formed cloves

##### 04 'Long Keeper' (H4)

~ soft neck; uniform bulbs; good size and high yield

##### 04 'Solent White' (H4)

~ late. Soft neck; many purple-skinned, very attractive cloves, with appealing bouquet; high yield; keeps beyond Christmas (up to March)

##### 04 'Spring Wight' (H4)

~ early. Purple, soft neck; uniform, clean cloves

##### 04 'Wight Cristo' (H4)

~ soft neck; uniform bulbs with attractive purple cloves; variable but with a satisfactory yield

#### ONION (*Allium cepa* unless otherwise stated)

##### Bulb onions grown from sets

##### 02 'Autumn Gold Improved' (H3)

~ uniform, excellent size, with good skin and colour; good yield

##### 93 'Centurion' (H3)

~ F1 hybrid. Flattened globe-shaped bulbs; straw-coloured skins of good thickness. Reconfirmed after trial 2002

##### 02 'Hercules' (H3)

~ F1 hybrid; slightly elongated bulbs with good skin. No bolters

##### 93 'Jagro' (H3)

~ F1 hybrid. Good yield of globe-shaped bulbs, with good skin; later ripening. No bolters. Reconfirmed after trial 2002

##### 93 'Jetset' (H3)

~ F1 hybrid; early. Uniform, flattened globe-shaped bulbs with thick, yellow-brown skins

##### 02 'Setton' (PBR) (H3)

~ F1 hybrid. Good yield, with good dark skin

##### 02 'Sturon' (H3)

~ very good yield of globe-shaped, slightly high-shouldered bulbs, with good yellow-brown skins. Reconfirmed after trial 2002

##### 93 'Turbo' (H3)

~ globe-shaped to slightly conical bulbs with brown skins. Some skin splitting

##### Maincrop bulb onion

##### 93 'Golden Bear' (H3)

~ F1 hybrid; early. Thin-skinned, high-shouldered bulbs; do not store well

##### 95 'Goldito' (H3)

~ F1 hybrid. Dark straw-coloured bulbs with thick skins; store well

##### 93 'Hygro' (H3)

~ F1 hybrid. Good yields of thick-skinned straw-coloured bulbs; store well

##### 95 'Hyton' (H3)

~ F1 hybrid. Good yields of dark straw-coloured bulbs; store well

##### 95 'Marco' (H3)

~ F1 hybrid. Flattened globe-shaped bulbs; store well

##### 95 'Rijnsburger 5 Balstora' (H3)

~ thick-skinned, dark straw-coloured bulbs; store well

##### 95 'Unwins Exhibition' (H3)

~ an exhibition onion suitable for January sowing under heated conditions

For more information, please write to:  
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## Onions & garlic 2011 (cont.)



### Overwintered bulb onion, grown from seed

- 93 **'Buffalo'** (H4)  
~ F1 hybrid. Good yields of flattened globe-shaped bulbs with thin skins
- 93 **'Imai Early Yellow'** (H4)  
~ slightly flattened globe-shaped bulbs; dark straw-coloured, with fairly thick skins

### Red onion, from seed and sets

- 05 **'Red Baron'** (H3)  
~ high yield of attractive, dark-skinned, globe-shaped bulbs with good internal colour. Plants in the trial grown from seed produced a higher yield and bolder bulbs than those grown from sets
- 05 **'Red Spark'** (H3)  
~ attractive globe-shaped, uniform, medium-sized bulbs with tight, dark skins and good internal colour

### Salad onion – non-bulbing with strong flavour (*A. fistulosum* and hybrids)

- 96 **'Beltsville Bunching'** (H3)  
~ tall stems with a good length of blanch
- 96 **'Emerald Isle'** (H3)  
~ medium strong stems; very uniform
- 04 **'Emerald Star'** (H3)  
~ F1 hybrid. Medium-green leaf with good contrast between leaf and blanch stem. Slow to bolt
- 96 **'Feast'** (H3)  
~ F1 hybrid. Medium to dark green, erect leaves; well-blanching bases; slow to bolt. Reconfirmed after trial 2004; also performed well at Harlow Carr
- 04 **'Guardman'** (H3)  
~ F1 hybrid: cross between *A. fistulosum* and *A. cepa*. Medium to dark green leaves. Very vigorous; well-blanching with some bulbing. Also performed well at Harlow Carr
- 96 **'Ishiko'** (H3)  
~ strong-growing, mid to dark green leaves with a good yield

- 96 **'Ishikura'** (H3)  
~ strong-growing; long-stemmed
- 96 **'Laser'** (H3)  
~ medium to dark green leaves. Uniform, vigorous, straight tops with good length of blanch. Reconfirmed after trial 2004; also performed well at Harlow Carr
- 04 **'Long White Koshigaya'** (H3)  
~ uniform plants with erect, slender, medium to dark green leaves; long blanch; slow to bolt. Also performed well at Harlow Carr
- 04 **'Parade'** (H3)  
~ very straight, strong-growing, uniform plants with good length of blanch; slow to bolt. Also performed well at Harlow Carr
- 04 **'Photon'** (H3)  
~ neat, uniform plants, with dark green tops and long blanch
- 96 **'Savel'** (H3)  
~ long stems with a good length of blanch
- 04 **'Summer Isle'** (H3)  
~ late. Erect, vigorous, uniform plants, with a good length of blanch. Also performed well at Harlow Carr
- 96 **'White Spear'** (H3)  
~ long slender stems with dark green leaves

### Salad onion – traditional; can be bulby; mild flavour; can be winter hardy

- 04 **'Deep Purple'** (H3)  
~ vigorous plants with bright, medium-green leaves; of good shape. Attractive deep red-purple colour to base
- 04 **'Elody'** (H3)  
~ strong plants, producing slightly bulbed onions. Good blanch
- 04 **'Lilia'** (H3)  
~ dark green leaves with attractive deep red base. Tends to be bulby. Also performed well at Harlow Carr
- 96 **'Ramrod'** (PBR) (H4)  
~ later-cropping. Versatile cropper with medium-green leaves and a

good length of blanch. Reconfirmed after trial 2004

- 93 **'White Lisbon'** (H4)  
~ medium-green leaves with good length of blanch. Good for early and successional sowing. Reconfirmed after trial 2004
- 93 **'Winter Over'** (H4)  
~ dark green leaves, with high yields; may become bulby. Overwinters well
- 93 **'Winter White Bunching'** (H4)  
~ strong-growing with dark green leaves. Overwinters well

### Shallots

- 93 **'Atlantic'** (H3)  
~ medium to large bulbs with thin, straw-yellow skins. Reconfirmed after trial 2001
- 01 **'Delvad'** (PBR) (H3)  
~ uniform bulbs with thick reddish brown skins
- 93 **'Giant Yellow Improved'** (H3)  
~ uniform, large bulbs with bright, pale brownish skins. Very good yield
- 01 **'Golden Gourmet'** (H3)  
~ well-shaped, good size; high yield
- 01 **'Jermor'** (H3)  
~ good skin, uniform shape and size; suitable for exhibition
- 01 **'Longor'** (PBR) (H3)  
~ good yield and shape; also suitable for exhibition
- 01 **'Matador'** (H3)  
~ F1 hybrid; thick skins, and good yield
- 93 **'Pikant'** (H3)  
~ bulbs well-protected by many layers of reddish brown skins. Reconfirmed after trial 2001
- 93 **'Santé'** (H3)  
~ attractive, reddish brown, uniform bulbs with smooth skins. Plant a month later than others to avoid bolting
- 93 **'Success'** (H3)  
~ reddish brown bulbs with good skins

H1 requires heated glass H2 requires unheated glass H3 hardy outside in some regions; needs frost-free protection in winter  
H4 hardy throughout the British Isles • Figures to the left of names give the year of the award

For supplier details go to: [www.rhs.org.uk/vegseedsuppliers](http://www.rhs.org.uk/vegseedsuppliers)