

# EXTENDED G

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found on the RHS website at [www.rhs.org.uk/agmplants](http://www.rhs.org.uk/agmplants).

The AGM plant list has, to date, been re-examined every 10 years. The latest review was carried out during 2012 and published in February 2013.

## Botanical Names

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The aim of the botanical naming system is to provide each different plant with a single, unique, universal name. The basic unit of plant classification is the species. Species that share a number of significant characteristics are grouped together to form a genus (plural **genera**). The name of a species is made up of two elements; the name of the genus followed by the specific epithet, for example, *Quercus robur*.

Variation within a species can be recognised by division into subspecies (usually abbreviated to subsp.), varietas (or variety abbreviated to var.) and forma (or form abbreviated to f.). Whilst it is unusual for a plant to have all of these, it is possible, as in this example, *Quercus robur* subsp. *b* var. *f*.

The botanical elements are always given in italics, with only the genus taking an initial capital letter. The rank indications are never in italics. In instances where the rank is not known it is necessary to form an invalid construction by quoting a Colour of flower or fruit and shape of flower are common examples and, with fruit, whether a cultivar is grown for culinary or dessert purposes. How such groups are named differs from genus to genus.

## C Award Of Garden Merit

The Award of Garden Merit (AGM) is the accolade awarded only after a period of assessment by the RHS Standing and Joint Committees. The AGM is awarded only to plants that are:

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

The AGM symbol is cited in conjunction with the **hardiness** rating. A full list of AGM plants may be

## 12 Extended Glossary

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To help users of the *S.P.* find the plants they want, the classifications used within cultivated genera are listed using codes and plants are marked with the appropriate code in brackets after its name in the Plant Directory. To find the explanation of each code, simply look it up under the genus concerned in the **Classification of Genera** starting on p.25. The codes relating to edible fruits are also listed here, but these apply across several genera.

### Collectors' References

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Abbreviations (usually with numbers) following a plant name refer to the collector(s) of the plant. These abbreviations are expanded, with a collector's name or expedition title, in the section **Collectors' References** starting on p.20.

A collector's reference may indicate a new, as yet unnamed range of variation within a species. The inclusion of collectors' references in the *S.P.* supports the book's role in sourcing unusual plants.

The Convention on Biological Diversity calls for conservation of biodiversity, its sustainable use and the fair and equitable sharing of any derived benefits. Since its adoption in 1993, collectors are required to have prior informed consent from the country of origin for the acquisition and commercialisation of collected material.

### Common Names

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In a work such as this, it is necessary to refer to plants by their botanical names for the sake of universal comprehension and clarity. However, at the same time we recognise that with fruit and vegetables most people are more familiar with their common names than their botanical ones. Cross-references are therefore given from common to botanical names for fruit, vegetables and the commoner culinary herbs throughout the Plant Directory.

### Cultivar

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Literally meaning cultivated variety, cultivar names are given to denote variation within species and that generated by hybridisation, in cultivation. To make them easily distinguishable from botanical names, they are not printed in italics and are enclosed in single quotation marks. Cultivar names coined since 1959 should follow the rules of the International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants (**ICNCP**).

### Descriptive Terms

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Terms that appear after the main part of the plant name are shown in a smaller font to distinguish them.

**grex** names, a term now used only for orchids. A single clone from the Group may be given the same cultivar name, for example, 'Polar Bear'.

**Hardiness**

Hardiness ratings are shown for **Award of Garden Merit** plants. To assist gardeners to determine more clearly which plants are hardy in their local area, the RHS has introduced a new, enhanced, hardiness rating scheme in 2013, to coincide with the publication of the new **Award of Garden Merit** plant list. The categories now used are as follows:

- Temperature ranges given are intended to be absolute minimum winter temperatures (°C).
- H1a = Heated greenhouse – tropical >15
- H1b = Heated greenhouse – subtropical 10 to 15
- H1c = Heated greenhouse – warm temperate 5 to 10
- H2 = Tender – cool or frost-free greenhouse 1 to 5
- H3 = Half-hardy – unheated greenhouse/mild winter 5 to 1
- H4 = Hardy – average winter -10 to -5
- H5 = Hardy – cold winter -15 to -10
- H6 = Hardy – very cold winter -20 to -15
- H7 = Very hardy <-20

Further definition of these categories can be found on the RHS website and in the Feb 2013 edition of *Plant Hardiness*. (See also essay on p.8.)

**Hybrids**

Some species, when grown together, in the wild or in cultivation, are found to interbreed and form hybrids. In some instances a hybrid name is coined, for example hybrids between *Prunella* and *Prunella* are given the name *Prunella*, the multiplication sign indicating hybrid origin. Hybrid formulae that quote the parentage of the hybrid are used where a unique name has not been coined, for example *Prunella* × *Prunella*.

In hybrid formulae you will find parents in alphabetical order, with the male (m) and female (f) parent indicated where known. Hybrids between different genera are also possible, for example × *Abutilon* × *Abutilon* is the name given to hybrids between *Abutilon* and *Abutilon*.

There are also a few special-case hybrids called graft hybrids, where the tissues of two plants are physically rather than genetically mixed. These are indicated by an addition rather than a multiplication sign, so *Abutilon* + *Abutilon* becomes + *Abutilon*.

**ICNCP**

The ICNCP is the International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants. First published in 1959, the most recent (8th) edition was published in 2009.

**Cultivar** names that do not conform to this Code, and for which there is no valid alternative, are flagged I (for invalid). This code states that the minimum requirement is for a cultivar name to be given in conjunction with the name of the genus. However, in the *Synonymy* we choose to give as full a name as possible to give the gardener and botanist more information about the plant, following the Recommendation in the Code.

**Nomenclature and Taxonomy**

Advisory Grid name pT10 1 Tf0.02w .02w 89 0

that this will act as a useful guide to growers and gardeners. UK and EU grants represent the published position as of the end of December 2012. We do not give any indication where PBR grants may be pending.

To obtain PBR protection, a new plant must be registered and pass tests for distinctness, uniformity and stability under an approved name. This approved name, under the rules of the **ICNCP**, established by a legal process, has to be regarded as the cultivar name. Increasingly however, these approved names are a code or "nonsense" name and are therefore often unpronounceable and meaningless, so the plants are given other names designed to attract sales when they are released. These secondary names are often referred to as selling names but are officially termed **trade designations**.

For further information on UK PBR contact:

**Plant Variety Rights Office,**  
**Food and Environment Research Agency,**  
**Whitehouse Lane,**  
**Huntingdon Road,**  
**Cambridge CB3 0LF**  
**Tel: (01223) 342350**  
**Website: [www.fera.defra.gov.uk/plants/plantVarieties/](http://www.fera.defra.gov.uk/plants/plantVarieties/)**

For details of plants covered by EU Community Rights contact:

**Community Plant Variety Office (CPVO),**  
**3 Boulevard Maréchal Foch, BP 10121,**  
**FR-49101 Angers Cedex 02, France**  
**Tel: 00 33 (02) 41 25 64 00**  
**Fax: 00 33 (02) 41 25 64 10**  
**Website: [www.cpvo.europa.eu](http://www.cpvo.europa.eu)**

The **CPVO** takes no responsibility for ensuring that nurseries selling plants with PBR are licensed to do so.

### Reverse Synonyms

It is likely that users of this book will come across names in certain genera that they did not expect to find. This may be because species have been transferred from another genus (or **genera**). A list of **Reverse Synonyms** is available online at [www.rhs.org.uk/rhs/plantfinder/documents.asp](http://www.rhs.org.uk/rhs/plantfinder/documents.asp). Alternatively, a copy can be requested by sending a sae (1 × 2nd class letter stamp) to The Compiler at the address given on page 5.

### Selling Names

See **Trade Designations**

### Series

With seed-raised plants and some popular vegetatively-propagated plants, especially bedding plants and pot

plants such as *P.* or *b.*, Series have become increasingly popular. A Series contains a number of similar cultivars, but differs from a **Group** in that it is a marketing device, with cultivars added to create a range of flower colours in plants of similar habit. Individual colour elements within a Series may be represented by slightly different cultivars over the years.

The word Series is always included and, where cited with a cultivar name it is enclosed in brackets, for example 'Robin' (Songbird Series). The Series name usually follows the rest of the plant name, but sometimes in this book we list it before the cultivar name in order to group members of a Series together when they occur next to one another on the page.

### Species

See under **Botanical Names**

### Subspecies

See under **Botanical Names**

### Synonyms

Although the ideal is for each species or cultivar to have only one name, anyone dealing with plants soon comes across a situation where one plant has received two or more names, or two plants have received the same name. In each case, only one name and application, for reasons of precision and stability, can be regarded as correct. Additional names are known as synonyms. Further information on synonyms and why plants change names is available in *Plant Names*. See the introduction to this glossary for details of how to request a copy.

See also **Reverse Synonyms**.

### Trade Deow to r

with trade designations and PBR. These are always to quote the cultivar name and trade designation together and to style the trade designation in a

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