

PRESS RELEASE



THE AYWIERS GARDEN SHOW
3rd, 4th and 5th October, 2008

And what if biodiversity were to become the guidelines for our garden ?
It is high time for us to change our behaviour, above all reducing the quantity of chemicals used in but also learning to trust the natural energies from cross culture planting.

Why not call upon the complicity that exists among plants which can bring us closer to our garden ? Plants have different characters and can organize themselves for their mutual well being. When planted in the appropriate spot there is no competition among them but rather a form of solidarity, the basic condition for a healthy life!

A garden is a permanent theatre for discoveries ; it opens the door to spontaneity. Nature offers us a vast choice of heights, shapes and silhouettes ... We can invent our own arrangements of trees and bushes, mixing different varieties as we wish. We will obviously choose as a basis, the most resistant plants. We can then combine rosebushes, annuals, perennials, wild flowers, and ground covers. We won't forget to add some fragrances which are excellent as repellants as well as some airy plants to keep fungus down. We must pay attention to each plant's way of life and their various types of roots so that the weaker ones can find support from the hardier varieties. Plants that are leary of frost can count on stronger plants to protect them.

As winter approaches, we'll be sure to avoid enthusiastic and systematic pruning which weakens vegetation and prevents the hibernation of insects so that we can continue to enjoy the delicate aspect of a garden at rest.

We are happy to invite you to come and share the beauty of the marvelous gardens « à l'anglaise » of the former Abbey of Aywiers which will be dressed for autumn. Many specialists of the world of gardening will be here to share their love of nature, gardening and landscaping in this magical rendezvous with nature and ... history.

Events and activities

- Talks at the RTBF stand:

<u>Saturday</u> : 11AM	Plants from elsewhere with <i>Francis Peeters</i>
12:30AM	Melliferous plants with <i>Luc Noël</i> and <i>Francis Peeters</i>
2PM	Welcoming wild plants in your garden with <i>Luc Noël</i>
3PM	Plants from elsewhere with <i>Francis Peeters</i>
4PM	Moles, slugs and field mice : protection without harm to the biodiversity with <i>Luc Noël</i>

Sunday : 11AM Plants from elsewhere with *Francis Peeters*
2PM Welcoming wild plants in your garden with *Luc Noël*
3PM Plants from elsewhere with *Francis Peeters*
4PM Moles, slugs and field mice : protection without harm to the biodiversity with *Luc Noël*

- **Biodiversity**, *Nature and Progrès* will explain how plants work together.
- *KOKOPELLI* Seeds will make suggestions as to cooperation among plants
- *LES SEMAILLES* will share their long experience of sowing with us
- **Composting** : Questions and Answers avec *Erik Séverin* (every day from 2 to 6 PM)
- **Pruning roses** : *Rudy Velle* will give a demonstration– *LENS ROSES* (on Sunday at 4PM)
- *Marie-Pascale Sikkink* and *Marie-Noëlle Cruysmans* will show you the **favourites**, « **les coups de cœur** », chosen by each stand. They will answer your questions and talk about your gardening problems.
- **Guided visits** of the old Abbey of Aywiers (Saturday at 3 PM and Sunday at 11 AM and 3 PM)

Children's activities :

- **Donkey rides** on Saturday and Sunday afternoons with the LISANE donkey stables who will share their enthusiasm for this exceptional animal with you!
- Creative workshops organised by *THE BELGIAN KIDS FUND FOR PEDIATRIC RESEARCH* (the small fee goes to the Fund)
- **Climbing in trees** » on Saturday and Sunday with the Arboritech stand.
- **How to cut a pumpkin !** at Yves *ROSSOMME's stand*

Calendar

Friday, October 3rd, 2008 from **1PM** to 6PM,
Saturday October 4th, 2008 from 10AM to 6 PM,
Sunday October 5th, 2008 from 10AM to 6 PM.

Entrance fees

Adults : **8 Euros**, free for children up to 14.

Catering services in the grounds, wheelbarrow services for your acquisitions, free parking.

The springtime Celebration of Plants and Gardens in Aywiers will be held on May 1st, 2nd and 3rd in 2009.

For further information:

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You can also visit our website : www.aywiers.be. Both the **PHOTO SECTION further information on this event** will be sure to interest you ! Sophie Collet drew the attached design. This illustration is on all the documents concerning the Autumn event.

Thank you for your interest in our activities. Your support has always been very precious to us and a real encouragement.

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