AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF HORTICULTURE

hortinsights

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What's inside?

From The President

Welcome to the current Hort Insights and our last for the year.

In this edition you will be informed, educated and inspired by the many projects, adventures and professional pathways our members are all on in their pursuit of professional excellence.

More importantly you will be inspired by the contribution their works are making to the benefit of the environment and the wellness of people.

Enjoy the read and I wish you all a safe and merry Christmas.

Kind regards,

Michael Casey MAIH RH
National President
Australian Institute of Horticulture

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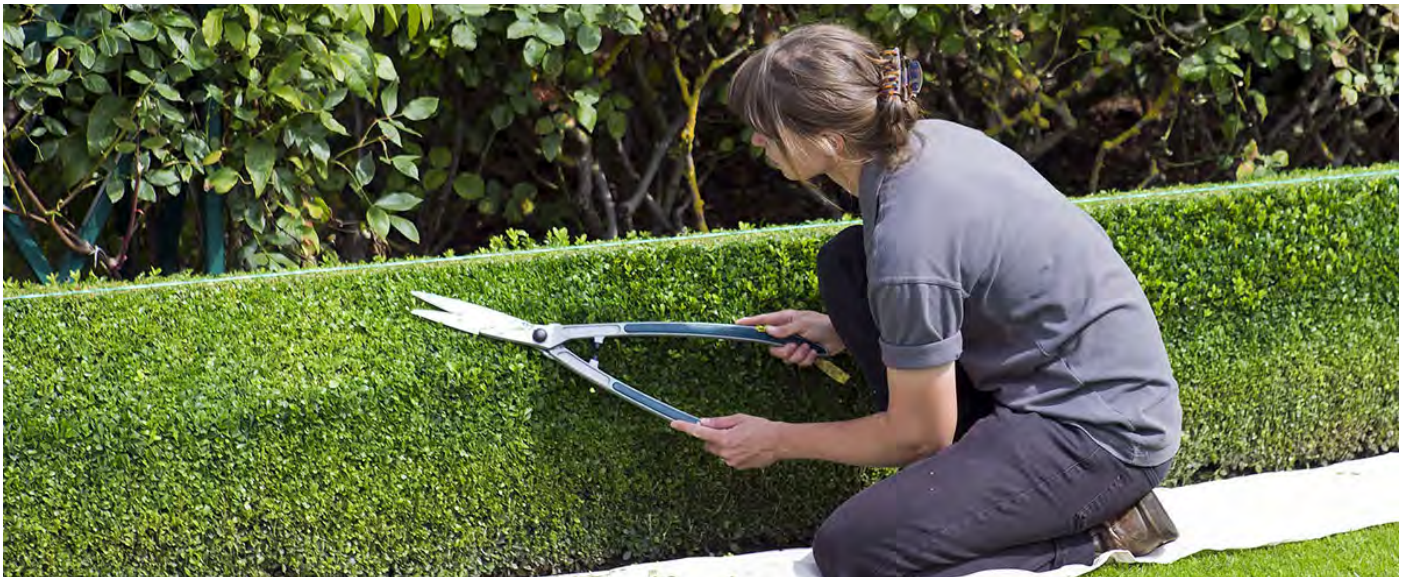


Challenges and Opportunities in Horticulture

By Jonathan Garner FAIH RH

What a privilege we have to work in an industry that is engaged to design, build and care for private and public sanctuaries and spaces.

How rewarding does it feel to be involved with transforming an area that is often void of life, into a living and breathing ecology? How satisfying is it to steward a garden or landscape from its infancy towards maturity?

Although we're very fortunate to work in such an industry, the challenges and difficulties with establishing a living ecology within the built environment can be numerous for the contractors who are responsible for building and planting the designer's vision. These challenges tend to compound for the contractors who are then engaged to continually care for the vision so the landscape asset can eventually achieve the designed intent.

The current business psyche of free market economics has created both winners & losers in all industries. In today's built environment, there is the need for being cost competitive whilst maximising profit margins & achieving deadlines. Naturally, something has to give or be compromised.

Throughout most of the building industry, consumers and service providers have a level of protection provided for the quality of the finished product in the guise of standards and building codes.

To date and according to the office of fair trading, nowhere in the near future will there be any enforceable codes or standards applied to the scope of works associated with soft landscaping.

Currently, local and state authorities rely on the specifications provided by landscape architects, landscape designers, horticulturists and arboriculturists.

With the advent of a highly competitive market resulting in leaner design and consultancy fees, a culture of applying generic specifications for the horticultural elements within the project has become, understandably, common practice.

The deregulation of building certifying has effectively bypassed local council's authority to inspect completed projects. Most projects now engage a private certifier that generally has insufficient horticultural knowledge to determine whether the correct plants, soil preparation and other practices were put in place.

To minimise project costs, the client often deems the designer's role is finished once the plans are handed over and the garden is built. How can design intent be assured when the client hasn't been educated in the importance of follow up visits years down the track? How does the horticulturist receive the designers brief if they are no longer involved in the landscape asset?

The current generation of TAFE landscape graduates are appropriately skilled within the structural elements but lack sufficient understanding or possibly possess little interest in the scientific elements of Certificate 3 Horticulture (Landscape).

The significant dilution of the plantbased subjects in the TAFE curriculum for landscaping has created a generation of structural landscapers who, without continuing professional development or mentorship, have insufficient horticultural knowledge to determine and remedy site specific growing hinderances.

The importance of meeting the tight budget & deadline during the project can foster a culture of corner-cutting that often doesn't become evident until well after the 13-week maintenance period has ended. Many plants will survive past the 12 month replacement period but may be in a state of gradual decline and are quite possibly, never likely to grow to the expected size or shape.

The design intent is further jeopardised with the arrival of the maintenance contractor nearing the end of the project. Communication is often poor between the exiting landscaper and arriving gardener. Infrastructure and irrigation locations are often a mystery as is the establishment watering schedule.

Getting trees to grow to maturity in the built environment is more challenging than most consumers think. Plants need sufficient quantities of well drained, aerated and fertile soil to mature, while a structure requires solid foundations with compacted layers to ensure integrity.

Ours is the only profession that requires both of these conditions for our craft to prosper. If we fail to provide suitable growing conditions, our plants will fail. Conversely, if we fail to build on suitably stable soil, our structure will fail.

To further compound our challenges, more often than not,

- Our fellow trades onsite have little care for, or understanding about the science of growing plants.
- The project is well underway before we get onsite.
- The planting areas are compacted, polluted and treated like dumping grounds.
- The landscape budget gradually diminishes as the construction costs increase.

Often is the case that builders and civil contractors lack the understanding about how important it is to provide suitable growing conditions for our plants to fully prosper and complement the structural asset.

It is unfortunate that many trades within the building industry still see horticulture and garden construction as the work of navvies and a service that anyone can provide.

Nothing ires me more than seeing builders that are uneducated or ignorant to our science take on the project's garden construction works.

Although I am often engaged to advise builders with appropriate horticultural practices, I still know of very few that fully understand the importance of well-drained soil conditions and how water moves or worse still, doesn't move through the soil.

As mentioned earlier, it concerns me even more that our TAFE courses are spending less and less time on teaching our next generation of landscape professionals, the valuable and important sciences of botany, soil chemistry and other vital subjects that are necessary for the understanding of growing plants in challenging situations such as the built environment.

As there is no evidence that our tertiary institutions will increase the learning syllabus to include the valuable and important sciences, it is left up to industry to fill the knowledge gaps.

Now more than ever, is it important that industry professionals read publications such as this fine journal and become active members within their relevant industry guilds or associations.

We cannot completely rely on our learning institutions to graduate tradespersons that fully understand the complex science of horticulture in the built environment.

Jonathan Garner FAIH RH is a Fellow of the Institute and 2021 winner of the Golden Wattle award.

Green is the New Black!

By Simon Holloway MAIH Images/ Simon Holloway, Vegepod

Vegepod has noted that of all 11 years of operation they have never witnessed such a marked rise in edible gardening as compared to the last two years.

This has clearly reflected the boom across the entire horticulture industry since COVID-19 first struck, but edible gardening in particular has seemed to have climbed to new 'trendy' heights due to its appeal on a few levels beyond ornamental gardens.

So much so that even popular celebs and esteemed Australians have jumped on the grow-your-food trend and have been brandishing themselves in the media using edible gardens like Vegepods.

The rise of therapeutic horticulture since COVID's enforced 'health check' on all citizens has meant wellness is now seen through a more holistic lens, including aspects such as mental health, emotional health, physical health and social / spiritual meaning. This has all culminated in a new-found consumer intention for sustainable action, self-sufficiency, organic living, family bonding and healthy eating from within one's own home.

Vegepod reports seeing a 200% increase in sales over the last two years whilst meeting the new demand for the trend.

Vegepod's Head of Community and co-founder, Simon Holloway, says *"Thanks to contained edible garden beds like Vegepod, these days anyone can grow their own food no matter the space, ability or background.*

Despite a crowded market and information overload around wellness, edible gardening is finally a 'wellness trend' that absolutely anybody and everybody can have access to and enjoy ..and it's a meaningful one!"

Simon also noted an interesting interaction with a journalist from a major national paper asked during the thick of the initial outbreak.

He said *"The lady asked me if Vegepod and the hort industry as a whole felt guilty about having some success during such troubling times for others. I was taken aback by the ridiculous question at first but then proceeded to respond by saying I found that offensive and it's not the case at all.*

On the contrary, if there was one wholesome trend and industry for individuals, society and the entire planet that did deserve a shot in the arm – then it was (edible) gardening!" (Note, that particular question and answer was not published in the final article!).

So Vegepod says they salute all and sundry who have taken up edible gardening in the last two years and who are proudly showing those activities off!

Rhododendron forests, one of the book's featured sites. Image/ Daniel Austin

Industry Memberships See New Book Reach Fruition

By Daniel Austin MAIH RH Images/ Daniel Austin

Memberships with multiple industry bodies are one of the most valuable things a person can do to foster a successful career, and a membership with the Australian Institute of Horticulture has been the latest of mine.

I thought the Institute's HortInsights publication would be a great way to introduce myself and connect with new faces across Australia.

My name is Dan Austin and I am a lecturer in horticulture at TAFESA's Urrbrae Campus in South Australia, among a few other roles.

Though the membership with AIH is my latest, my first membership was with a group known as the International Plant Propagators Society (IPPS). It was a membership that, many moons ago, gave me the opportunity to travel to South Africa to study the country's nursery industry through a scholarship.

I could not have imagined the impact the experience would have on my career and I credit IPPS as the trigger for what has become a life of working on horticultural projects across the globe. If there is one piece of advice, I drill in to my students ad nauseum, it is the value of industry memberships.

In the years since that initial study tour, industry memberships have provided me with opportunities to work in horticulture in far flung places from the tropical Solomon Islands to arid Israel and other countries in between.

Author and lecturer Dan Austin. Image/ Daniel Austin

Rafflesia pricei a parasitic plant endemic to Borneo. Image/ Daniel Austin. Image/ Daniel Austin

As a result, I am happy to be able to share a new book for plant lovers everywhere - Off The Garden Path: Green Wonders Of The World.

Off The Garden Path was initially planned as a celebration of botanical photography to share some of the remarkable horticultural enterprises I have been fortunate enough to be involved with around the world, in the hope of inspiring gardeners and travellers alike. However, it soon became a book for anyone with an interest in the wonders of our planet.

Over the years since its conception, the project has become an international collaboration with numerous centres of horticultural excellence abroad offering assistance.

From the Bogor Botanic Gardens in Indonesia to the Jerusalem Botanic Gardens in Israel, even Singapore's Gardens by the Bay have played a significant part in the text reaching fruition.

A nonfiction resource, Off The Garden Path: Green Wonders Of The World is full of botanical factoids. As an example - did you know that high in the Himalayas, Nepali beekeepers produce a potent psychoactive honey used recreationally and in traditional medicine by ensuring their bees feed only on poisonous rhododendron flowers?

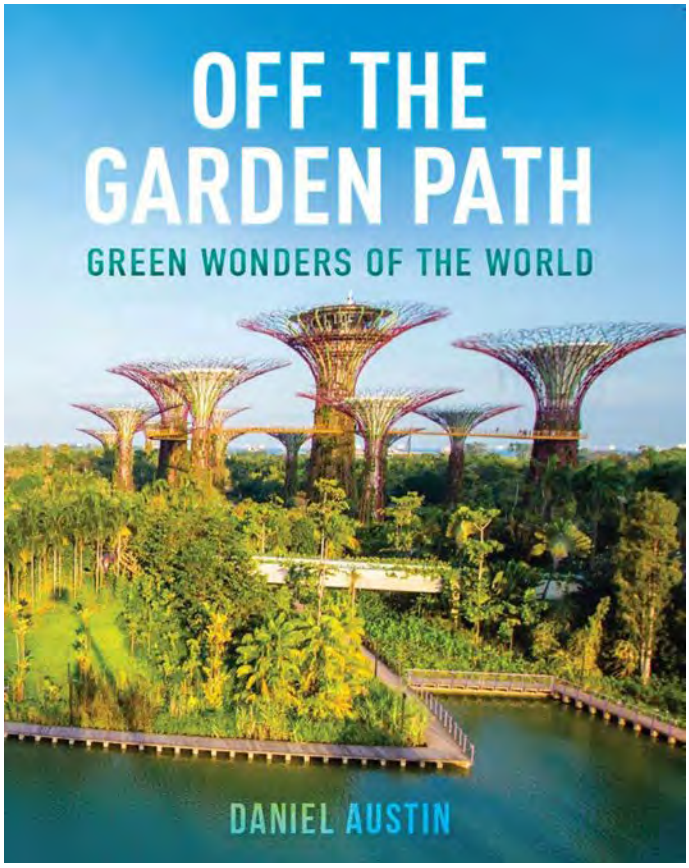
From exploring the weird and wonderful world of parasitic plants to delving into the lives of plants that survive through symbiosis and mutualism, the content is diverse.

As the title suggests the text takes readers off the beaten track to locations less travelled, from remote tribal villages in Tanzania, and floating gardens in Myanmar to enormous centre pivot farms in the deserts of Jordan.

The sites featured aren't your average gardens and the people are not your average gardeners in the publication, which offers a chance to travel vicariously in a world of restrictions and inspiration for when things open up again.

A matt form of the book is available through a plethora of online distributors, but premium gloss copies can also be ordered through sales@beyond-green-australia.com.au and can be sent to arrive by Christmas (while stocks last).

It is a great stocking filler for the green thumb or travel bug in your life.



Off the Garden Path cover. Image/ Daniel Austin


Living root bridges in Northeast India another of the book's featured sites. Image/ Daniel Austin

The book has been well-received and I hope you enjoy it as much as I enjoyed putting it together.

Also, keep an eye out next year for the second book in the series Off the Garden Path: Green Wonders of Australia.

The Role Organics Can Play Post COP26

By Chris Rochfort MAIH Images/ Chris Rochfort, CORE

It's not easy sometimes seeing the wood for the trees. This could be the case with for the horticulture industry as it navigates its way through COP26 and a strong focus on energy emissions.

There are the obvious benefits horticulture can offer such as more shade trees for addressing the heat island effect and greening of the urban landscapes but there is more much more.

But first I want to take a step back and recognise the role plant material plays in methane generation in landfills if not recycled.

I've been at the forefront of organics recycling since 1992 helping to form two key industry organizations, conducting government-supported research into markets for end products and initiating Australian Standards for Composts, Soil Conditioners and Mulches.

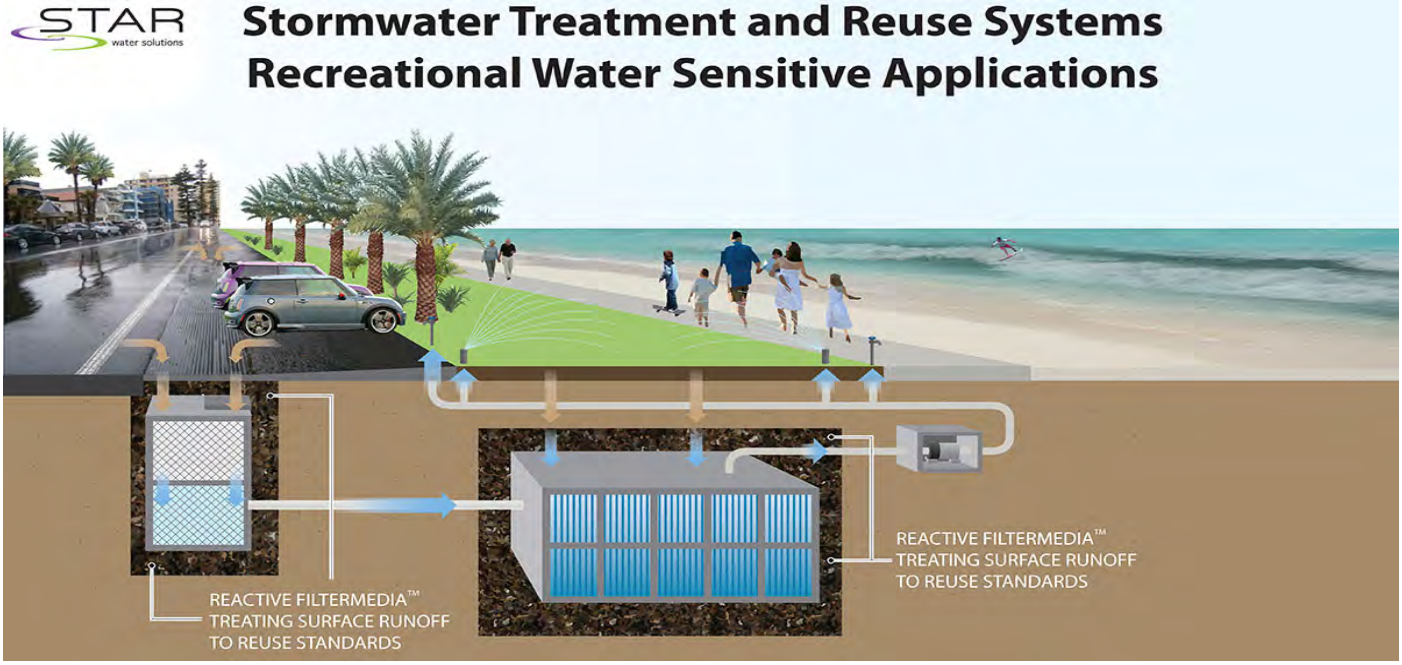
By far the most important body of work though has been through CORE (The Centre for Organic Research & Education) in unpacking the critical role organic material can play in water management.

By water management I'm not only referring to moisture holding capacity benefits; for instance I'm referring to the role organic material can treat and remove pollutants that are in urban, industrial and agricultural run-off. This run-off often contains nutrients, heavy metals, toxic compounds such as hydrocarbons and microplastics.

Cross-Sectional design of a Bio-Swale system with Bio-Filter treating road run-off before discharging to waterways. Image/ Chris Rochfort, CORE

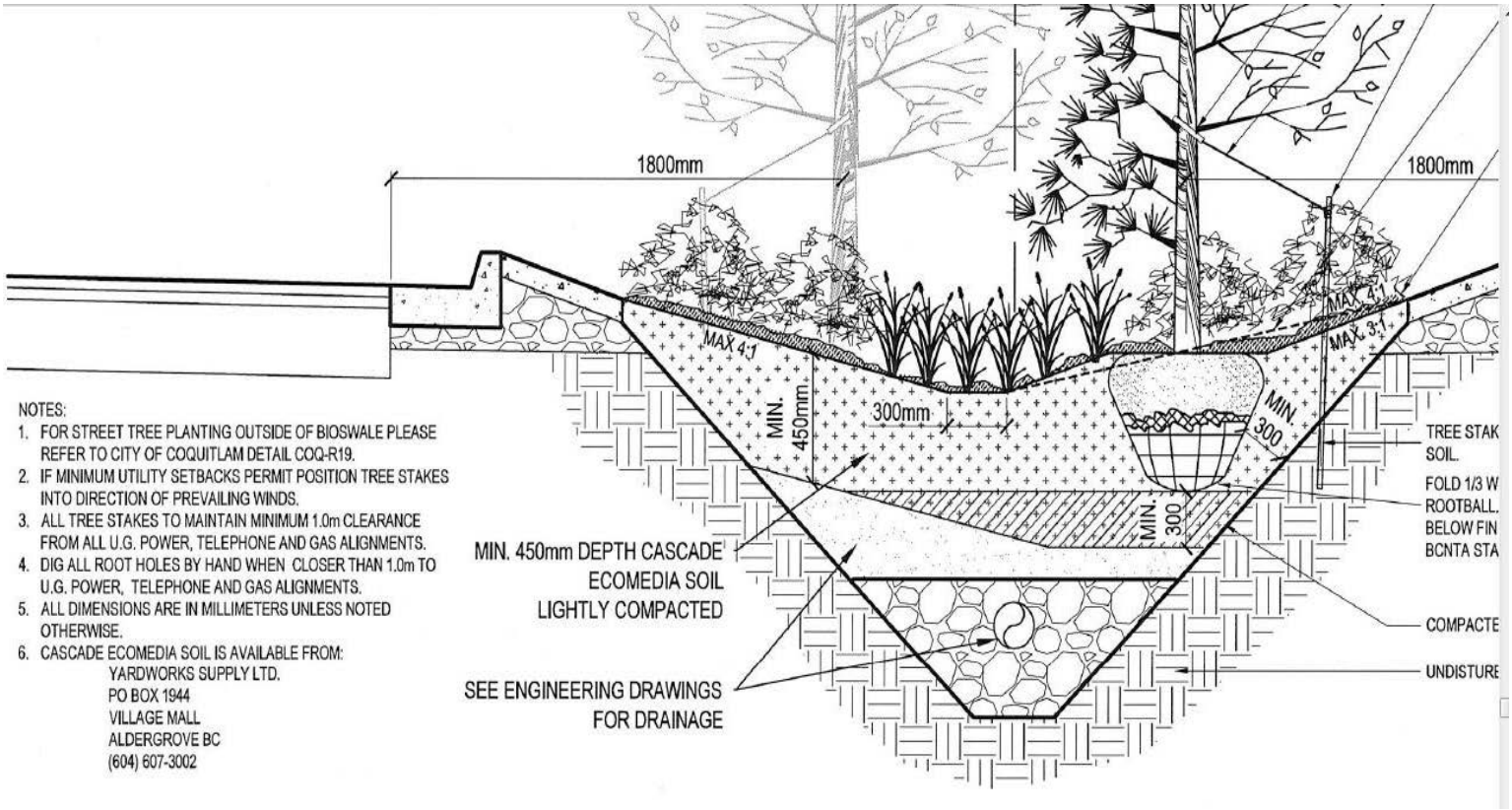
Recycled organics when combined with a number of other materials such as glass, sand, charcoal and other recycled materials can physically, chemically and biologically treat the above-mentioned pollutants.

We have even removed uranium and PFAS, for instance. The removal rates are often in the 90th percentile and it is difficult to find any other product, or machine for that matter, that can do better.



Manly, NSW Stormwater Treatment & Reuse System showing Bio-Filter surrounding drainage and storage tanks used to irrigate grass areas of Manly beach using treated stormwater. Image/ Chris Rochfort, CORE

Lyne Park, Rose Bay Sydney during rainfall event showing run-off dispersing over Bio-Filter bed. Image/ Chris Rochfort, CORE



Cross Sectional design for Lougheed Highway, BC, Canada using CORE designed Bio-Filtration Media in median strip to protect nearby salmon streams receiving road run-off. Image/ Chris Rochfort, CORE

Through CORE, we have conducted long-term research on materials and pilot sites around Australia and fifteen other cities around the world where the results have been replicated.

Traditionally city engineers and researchers had opted for sand filter technology to remove pollutants from run-off using the same principles as a “sand filter” used in swimming pools. However, they soon tried to adopt the technology to vegetated filter systems such as rain gardens and bioswales with often less than favourable results.

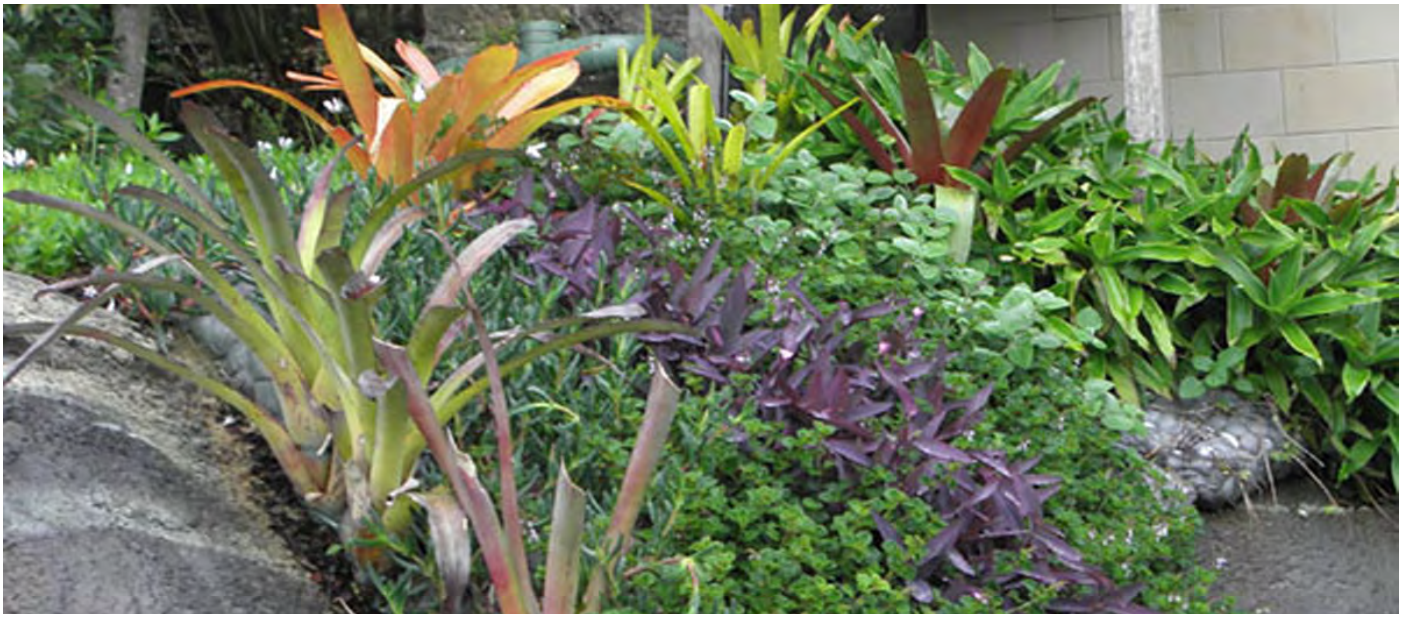
Testing was carried on adding a small amount of organic matter however they found this leached impurities into the waterways. This was because the organic matter chosen was unstable and not suited for the purpose. CORE research has found that if the organic matter is properly prepared and particle sized there is almost no leaching occurring.

This finding has enabled a higher percentage (up to 50 %) of organic matter can now be used in biofiltration systems that results in optimum plant growth. The plants can also contribute to the treatment process through “phyto-remediation”.

Another important factor is these systems resilience in the era of climate change with plants coping much better in either drought or localised flood events. A wider palette of plants can be used whereas with sand filters primarily monocotyledon plants were used.

With increased organic matter levels there are other benefits such as reduced flooding and higher carbon sequestration. In summary plant material and horticulture have a lot to offer in cleaning waterways and managing climate change.

Chris Rochfort MAIH, CEO CORE



Eco Pillow Advancements

By Mark Paul MAIH RH Images/ Mark Paul, The Greenwall Company

In 2005, we were extremely proud to launch the next advancement in green roof technology – the introduction of the Eco Pillow.

Modular in design, the Eco Pillow is a pre-grown living roof that offers all the proven benefits of a green roof while radically reducing risk and cost of the roofing structure.

Moving forward to today, we have evolved the Eco Pillow, enabling the size and shape to be a bespoke design to fit any space or structure based on the brief.

We started with 94% of the materials recycled primarily made up of broken down PET bottles, however over the past few years we have been able to incorporate more items previously destined for landfill include polystyrene and ground coffee waste.

Eco Pillows. Image/ Mark Paul, The Greenwall Company

This innovation makes way to take waste products destined for Australian landfill to reduce our carbon footprint and is just one of the many benefits of the ever evolving Eco Pillow.

The Eco Pillow structure and the growing medium were developed for their lightweight properties, making a 1m x 500mm x 120mm Eco Pillow just 60kg/m2, when fully wetted out. Creating a lightweight and modular product were always at the forefront of the design priorities.

By reducing the overall weight, we reduce the builders need for additional structural support and open the possibility of retrofitting - something we felt the market was demanding at the time, which is even more prevalent today. The Eco Pillow can be easily relocated, which further enhancing its adaptability and is planted to last the lifetime of the structure it has been applied to.

As a pre-grown, and fully-encased product, the Eco Pillow is incredibly quick to install and reduces the risk of failure from extreme weather conditions, wind scour or rain erosion. The semi mature plants provide cover from day one, reducing establishment time, and the likelihood of weed invasion – the two primary drivers of maintenance cost.

Internationally, and here in Australia, the trend towards 'greening' buildings is now a top priority with architects, builders as well and local and state governments.

Green roofs have been proven to not only radically reduce stormwater runoff and therefore the cost of disposal, but they also provide greater insulation for a building, prolong the life of the roof membrane and reduce noise penetration.

Installing a green roof also makes a valuable contribution to the external environment, amenity, and provides an inhabitable environment to promote biodiversity. They are beautiful and calming to look at and use, increasing the worth of the real estate they are on and viewed by.

The many benefits of greening spaces with our patented Eco Pillow designs include:

- Pillows are lightweight and when wetted out are 60kg/sqm.
- Can be installed indoors or outdoors without limitations of dimensions and luminosity.
- Countless creative possibilities: no two installations look the same. Guaranteed aesthetic impact!
- Biodiversity.
- Thermal isolation of any surface, resulting in great energy savings.
- Absorption of pollutants and noise, greatly improving acoustics.
- Increase of relative humidity and air oxygenation.
- Can be moved to a new location.
- Carbon is withdrawn from the atmosphere, reducing the greenhouse effect.
- Made from reused and recycled materials.
- Low maintenance, only requires maintenance 2 – 3 times/year.
- Has a dedicated irrigation system.
- Doesn't require large structural support to house them.
- Easy to manage.

Thanks to the new advancements we have been able to make to the original Eco Pillow design, we have been able to create large scale planters, minus the pot or planter box as well as a unique new way to grow a cactus garden, also minus the pots as well as hide unsightly concrete columns to name a few.

Mark Paul MAIH RH is the founder of The Greenwall Company and the creator of the first greenwall in Australia over 30 years ago, a wall that is still thriving today.

Image/ Mark Paul, The Greenwall Company

Image/ Mark Paul, The Greenwall Company

No Time To Die in Safin's Poison Garden

(Warning: spoiler alert)

By David Thompson, Engagement Manager Australian Institute of Horticulture

After more than 18 months of delays and postponed releases since its original April 2020 release date, the new Bond film 'No Time To Die' is finally out. And for avid Bond fans, like me, the latest film in the franchise is an absolute winner.

Of course as a horticulturist, I was taken by the famed 'Poison Garden' on the remote island lair of Lyutsifer Safin, this edition's disfigured antagonist who lures Bond and Madeleine Swann and her daughter to the island factory.

The Poison Garden first appeared in 'You Only Live Twice' as the 'Garden of Death'.

On this remote island purported to be somewhere between Japan and Russia, Safin has crafted a refined Japanese 'Zen'-style garden with scenes of workers raking white stones with one-tined rakes – efficiency less their goal than the art of subserviency.

There are numerous scenes in the film where references to poisonous plants are made – we see Safin commenting on Swann's choice of Foxgloves (*Digitalis spp.*) as cut-flowers where he remarks 'they can literally make your heart... stop'.

Foxgloves are one of the poison garden features seen in the film along with some other regular favourites. It is from Foxgloves that we have extracted digitalin and digoxin that was used in cardiac medicine and for epilepsy, although its use has been discontinued as better treatments emerged.

Safin's Poison Garden. Image/ MGM Eon Productions.

Foxglove *Digitalis purpurea.*

Also in the garden, we see a spectacular *Gunnera mannicata*, acting as a backdrop against the white stones. *Gunnera* is not toxic but its massive leaves make for a superb foliage foil as the adventures take place in the garden. *Gunnera* likes a well-watered slightly shady spot and also features interesting cone-like flowers.

It looks like there's also a small *Oleander* which, as we all know well, is very toxic despite its hardiness and floral beauty. *Oleander* features in many Australian gardens but is a questionable choice as all parts of the plant are toxic, and even burning the wood produces toxic smoke.

There is also a scene where Safin and Primo are holding Swann hostage and serves her tea with some clearly-suspect material in it. Safin tells her that a single drop in the eye will cause blindness and not long after she throws the tea in Primo's face and makes her escape.

My guess is it could be something like *Aconitum* (Monkshood) which is very toxic on account of its pseudaconitine content. *Aconitum* has deep-green glossy leaves and bell-shaped blue flowers and is beautiful perennial, one that is not that common. You may be able to find it in rare plant nurseries.

In the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic, there were claims in Kyrgyzstan that *Aconitum* might help to cure COVID which resulted in several poisonings.

So while others are watching Bond and Safin fight it out for the film's final prize, the horticulturists among us are evaluating their plant choices and landscape design styles, pondering the choices that were made to add to the backstories of Bond, Safin, Swann and friends.

Giant Rhubarb *Gunnera mannicata.*

Monkshood *Aconitum.*

Chateau Holtmühle. Image/ Meersmaak

The Renovation of a (Historic) Kitchen Garden: Chateau Holtmühle in the Netherlands

By Andrea Govaert MAIH Images/ Andrea Govaert

On a recent visit to the Netherlands, I stumbled on a restored castle complex. It was autumn, and the area was ablaze with the light and colours of a typical northern landscape.

Autumn colours at the grounds of Chateau Holtmühle, Tegelen, the Netherlands. Images/ Andrea Govaert

Chateau Holtmühle, jointly with its associated properties, grounds and gardens of 37 hectares, is situated in the south of the Netherlands, in the village of Tegelen, one of many villages scattered along the banks of the river Maes, close to the borders with Germany.

Parts of the castle date back to the 14th century. Its principal construction was completed in the 17th century.

The municipality of Tegelen acquired the crumbling castle complex in 1967. After a prolonged period of restoration, Chateau Holtmühle was 'reborn' in 1993 and converted into a hotel, whilst keeping the history and classical architecture of the complex.

Initially, the gardens were not considered in the overhaul and thus had fallen into complete disrepair. However, at the initiative of current head gardener Henk Kruizinga, the gardens were restored and opened to the public in 2014.

Clipped yew surround the kitchen garden. Image/ Andrea Govaert

Henk Kruizinga, head gardener at Chateau Holtmühle. Image/ Andrea Govaert

The concept of a kitchen garden evolved from the medieval *hortus conclusus* ('enclosed garden'), established by monastic communities that relied on growing their own produce for survival. Therefore a *hortus conclusus* was, and still is, primarily utilitarian.

The beauty of a kitchen garden lies in the quiet geometrical order of (raised) garden beds, dedicated to different types of produce.

A kitchen garden is often segregated from a 'leisure garden' by walls, fences, moats or hedges to protect the produce from straying animals, thieves as well as the elements. The original design of the kitchen garden at Chateau Holtmühle, feeding the castle inhabitants, is based on this concept.

The garden is surrounded by a moat filled with water lilies, irises, rush and other marginal plants as well as trained *Fagus sylvatica*, C*apinus, Betulus* and clipped yew hedges.

The garden beds, at the end of the season. Image/ Andrea Govaert

The garden itself is divided into garden beds dedicated to culinary and/or medicinal plants and herbs, such as *Rucola eruca vesicaria*, *Borago officinalis, Mondarda fistulosa*, various mint varieties and common herbs such as sage, parsley, garlic, and basil.

Additionally there are beds containing annuals and perennials with cosmetic qualities and edible flowers such as *Lavandula augustifolia*, *Calendula officinalis, Matricia chamomilla, Anthriscus cerefolium, Centaurea cyanus, Hesperis matronalis, Viola tricolor, Tropaeolum majus* and finally, the majestic *Verbascum nigrum* (black mullein). With its finely haired leaves and long straight stems, it was dried and dipped in resin to use as torches already by the Romans until late in the 16th century.

The kitchen garden also has an orchard with neat rows of apple, plum, and cherry trees, as well as *Ficus carica* and *Mespilus germanica* (medlar). The latter was commonly planted in German and Dutch monastic gardens for its brownish fruits that are best eaten raw when slightly rotten (particularly after the first frost), or eaten cooked in compotes and jams.

Unlike its botanical name suggests, the tree originates from the area around the Black and Caspian Seas. Today it is increasingly rare in Germany and the Netherlands and its fruits are not very popular.

Fruit of the *Mespilus germanica*. Image/ Andrea Govaert

Finally, the orchard contains a *Vitex agnus-castus*, (the Vitex, chaste tree or monk's pepper), a native of the Mediterranean basin, that was first described by Linnaeus in 1753.

Its fruits, about the size of a peppercorn, were reportedly used to reduce the libido of monks during the middle ages, hence its common name 'monk's pepper'. It is still frequently harvested to treat other ailments.

The restored garden operates on similar principles as its 17th century predecessor: it supplies fresh, organic produce to the chefs employed at the Chateau, including eggs, herbs, honey, fruits, (edible) flowers and mushrooms.

Further the garden is a training ground for young horticultural staff, who subsequently may find employment in nearby horticultural industries, and often return regularly as volunteers to tend to the garden.

Finally the garden is a source of inspiration and knowledge for aspiring gardeners, volunteers, visitors as well as horticulturalists involved in the increasingly popular concept of community kitchen gardens, which currently sprout in many places around the world, also here in Australia.

To this effect, renovated historical kitchen gardens provide an endless source of knowledge, including the botanical history of individual plants and trees, why and how they found their way into a garden and which parts of these plants were used for what purpose.

A purpose that overtime may have gone lost and forgotten; nevertheless helps us understand how a place evolved to what it is today.

Chateau Holtmühle. Image/ Torval, CC BY-SA 3.0, via Wikimedia Commons

Vitex agnus-castus surrounded by clipped *Lavandula augustifolia* bushes. Image/ Andrea Govaert

Chateau Holtmühle. Image/ Kasteelbeer, CC BY-SA 3.0 NL via Wikimedia Commons

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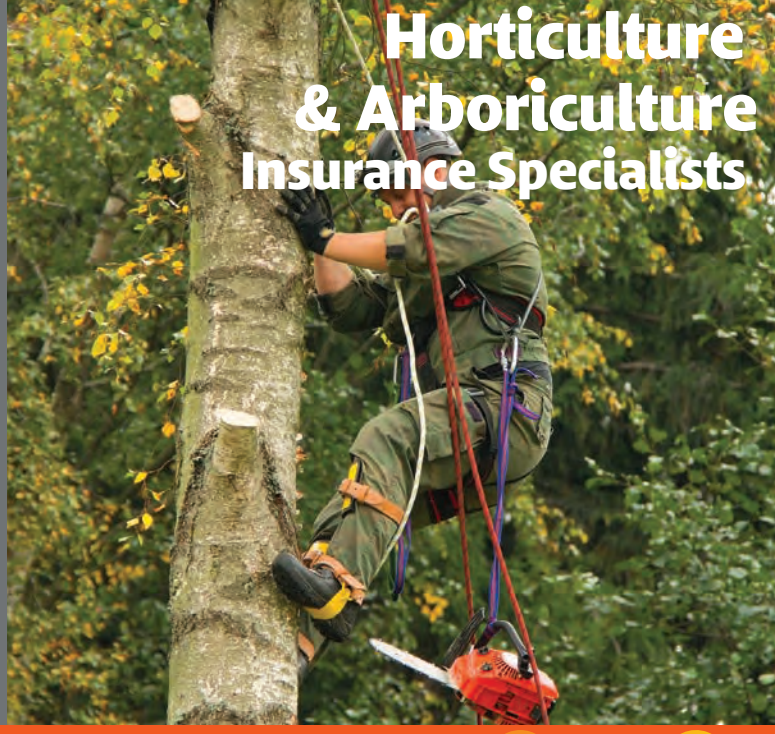

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Features:

- Unique standard form with natural dome shape habit
- Decorative fresh lime green foliage
- Year round ornamental value
- Dry tolerant
- Easy to grow the minimal maintenance
- New age Australian native

Suggested Uses:

- Create a distinctive formal touch to the garden
- Either side of entranceways and driveways
- Large containers or garden beds
- Adaptable for use in native , exotic or oriental style gardens

Water Requirements:

Low. Once established, quite dry tolerant requiring only occasional deep watering during extended periods of heat.

Care:

Plant in most soil types that are well draining.
For optimum results feed in spring with a fertiliser formulated for natives. Support the plant with a stake until established.

LICENSING • MARKETING • DISTRIBUTION

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Write for AIH

We welcome contributions to HortInsights from professionals, members and students in the horticulture industries.

Writing for the Institute offers an excellent way to share your views, knowledge and expertise with a passionate audience and you can be attributed CPD points.

While we are unable to pay for content submissions, our editorial promise is that if your submission is accepted for publishing, we will endeavor to repurpose it widely, for our website, social media or other public media channels.

These Guidelines Will Help You Provide The Right Format To Be Published:

- Articles should be a maximum of 600-800 words. A more concise article with a definite aim and strong take-home messages will help our audience use your expert information well.
- Please provide sources and references if you cite or refer to others' information in your article.
- Please provide 1-2 quality images. Photographs must be large enough to be used in a range of publications with a file size of between 1 and 5 MB (megabytes).

We reserve the right to make editorial, grammatical and stylistic changes to text and images.

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