

Plant Festival
Beez Castle (Namur)

Press release – Spring 2008 (29th edition)

“Scented Plants in our Gardens”

Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 May 2008, 10 am to 6 pm

The Beez Plant Festival is not waiting for its 30th anniversary to reinvigorate this famed garden fair.

Early this spring, the magnificent grounds have undergone appropriate changes which will contribute for a special atmosphere in the gardens during this plant festival.

With the dynamic organiser, who has only recently taken over the helm, Beez is seeking a subtle harmony with nature, under the motto:

“Scented Plants in our Gardens”.

Many specialist horticulturalists from Belgium and abroad will have surprises in store for visiting garden lovers, with their array of special and often rare varieties whose main characteristic is that when they are in bloom, they produce delightful scents.

The weekend of 17 and 18 May 2008 offers visitors a unique opportunity to expand their gardening knowledge and to enjoy in their own gardens what nature offers us throughout the year in terms of colour and scent.

The setting for all this is the superb English garden at Beez, in the heart of Wallonia, just 7 short kilometres from the Daussoulx intersection (E411 – E42).

Beez Castle, Avenue Reine Elisabeth 111 – B-5000 Beez (Namur)

Tel: +32(0) 81 22 46 70 Fax: +32 (0) 81 57 08 61

www.festivaldesplantes.be - info@festivaldesplantes.be

Annex to press release

Nature lovers know the feeling like no other: every season has its own identity in terms of taste, smell and temperature. But the loveliest colours and most delightful smells occur in the world of flowers and plants.

The first heralds of spring are unquestionably the Narcissi, whose fragrance hangs in the air on a windless day like a haze over the garden. A little later, Wisteria sinensis, Viburnum carlesii, Rosmarinus, Paeonia and Syringa take over as the most fragrant plants. Azalea mollis and Ponticum are also heavily scented.

Summer is the time for countless fragrant flowers. The most familiar are Jasminum, Lonicera and many perennials and shrubs. But we mustn't forget what roses and lilies mean for our noses.

Autumn, in its turn, is famous for its stunning eruption of different scents. Fallen leaves, mushrooms and dead branches as well as delicately scented flowers and plants dominate the closing months of the year. The flowers include Skimmia, Nepeta, Cimicifuga and many more besides.

Even in winter, we can catch the scent of Hamamelis, Mahonia and various sorts of Viburnum.

Under the motto "Scented plants in our gardens", the Beez Plant Festival touches one of the most elemental characteristics of nature.

PRACTICAL INFORMATIONS

Date: Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 May 2008 (29th edition): from 10 am to 6 pm

Topic: “Scented Plants in our Gardens”

Entry:

- 6 euros per person
- 5 euros for members of a horticultural association (on presentation of card)
- Free for those aged under 18

Exhibitors: Please visit our website, which has one page per exhibitor

Facilities:

- Bar - snacks - barbecue
- Free private parking and ‘cart’ service for your purchases provided by scouts
- Dogs permitted only on a lead (and muzzled as appropriate)
- For those with mobility difficulties: free reserved private parking, free access and easy paths

Innovations:

- A number of prizes will be awarded to growers by reference to various criteria
- A quiz with some excellent prizes for visitors
- Get to know the region : look under “Namur and surroundings” on our website

Route: access only through the “Avenue du Château de Beez”!

Coming from E411: exit 14 Namur-CHR, at roundabout towards Beez, then take 3rd left (rue de Bèze en Bourgogne) and go down to the end of the valley; then go left towards Marche-les-Dames and immediately left again = Avenue du Château de Beez.

Coming from Namur: follow signs for Hannut, after the hospital (CHR) and before the hill at Bouge, turn right towards Beez and Marche-les-Dames; after 2 km, the road bears right, just after having crossed the railway line, turn immediately left = Avenue du Château de Beez .

Itineraries available on our website, and final routewill be marked with arrows during the Festival des Plantesl.

Contact: new organiser!

François-Louis de Schaetzen
Château de Beez
Avenue Reine Elisabeth 111
5000 BEEZ (NAMUR)
Tel.: 00 32 (0) 81 22 46 70
Fax: 00 32 (0) 81 57 08 61
Email: info@festivaldesplantes.be

New Web: www.festivaldesplantes.be