

The 2010 meeting: A unique daylily experience for enthusiasts by enthusiasts

Hemerocallis Europe, the GdS Fachgruppe Hemerocallis and the Dutch and Belgium Hemerocallisvereniging are inviting you to participate in a unique gathering. From Friday the 9th until Sunday the 11th of July 2010 we are hoping to meet you at a extraordinary daylily meeting in the Netherlands, not only a three-day garden-/nursery tour, but a real enthusiasts gathering. The 2010 meeting will be a genuine daylily experience! You can visit gardens and nurseries that normally are not that easy to visit. You will see daylilies which you have not seen before and/or that you ought to see before you The numbers of daylilies on display will be overwhelming. To prevent a daylily overdose we arranged for you to see enough companion plants during this weekend. On the other hand it is wise to issue a preceding warning. Do not expect to see nicely laid out gardens. The gardens that we will visit are owned by growers, collectors and hybridisers and they will present to you rows and rows and rows of daylilies. The 2010 meeting offers you the additional opportunity to meet and greet other daylily enthusiast from all over Europe, an experience that you really should not miss.

Did we arouse your curiosity? The entertaining, busy but most of all not to be missed program will be explained further down.

On **Friday** we will start the meeting with a eagerly awaited visit to the nursery of Gerard Heemskerk at the seaside town of Noordwijk. From 13:30 onwards we will gather at the nursery where you will be met by Gerard Heemskerk and the organizers of the meeting. The nursery (www.heemskerkplants.com) started in 1965 with growing bulbs. They switched to perennials afterwards. The nursery focuses on export and wholesale. At this present moment four different groups of perennials are grown at the nursery, namely Hemerocallis, Hosta, Iris and Peony. Our attention during this visit is, of course, concentrated on Gerards vast selection of daylilies.

Gerard grows hundreds of cultivars at his nursery both for business purposes but also as a private hobby. At his nursery daylilies are grown in sandy soil mainly at the Dutch coast and enjoy a mild climate most of the time. He created a display garden at the nursery to show the beauty aspects and the garden use of daylilies. Gerard's field of interest not only focuses on growing daylilies but he also pays some major attention to hybridising. If you go to the database of the American Hemerocallis Society (www.daylilydatabase.org), you will find that he registered 46 daylilies over the past years. Among these registered cultivars are daylilies with the prefix Longfields and cultivars with names like Crystal Pinot, Entrapment, Macbeth and Man On Fire. One could indulge oneself in daylilies during this visit.

On **Saturday** we will leave in the early hours of the morning to visit the beautiful island of Texel by bus. Texel is the largest West Frisian island and is only a 20 minute voyage from the harbour of Den Helder. Visiting Texel is a experience on its own, but we are without doubt going for the daylilies. The nursery of Hans and Peter Halsema will fulfil that need in abundance! The Halsema brothers have been growing daylilies for more than a quarter of a century at the nursery started by their father some 40 year ago. At present they grow about 600 different older as well as more recent cultivars. The nursery produces well over 3,5 million daylilies yearly, mainly for export purposes. After our arrival at the nursery in Den Burg and a short introduction by the owners, under the enjoyment of coffee and tea, we will look at the planted daylilies. On display are not only their selection of cultivars but also over 10.000 seedlings (under observation) from different years. Additionally Hans and Peter planted two interesting daylily beds especially for the meeting. Bed number one contains all the recipients of the Waterman Award (as given by Hemerocallis Europe) and all the winners of the Hemerocallis of the

year (as given by the Dutch and Belgium Hemerocallisvereniging). Bed number two contains a small collection of registered or named cultivars of European origin. You will find daylilies of Reineremann, Tamberg, King, Tillmann-Budde, Wyers, Franczak, Willemsen, Joosten and more European hybridisers.

You will have the opportunity to join a guided tour around the nursery to see the handling of daylilies for export purposes. That involves cleaning up the lifted plants, dividing and preparing the plants for immediate transport or storage at a cold store. You could roll up your sleeves and learn how to divide a daylily the best way (or at least the way it is done at the nursery). Before we take the ferry back to the mainland we will tour the island and look at some of the growing fields of the Halsema nursery. These fields are spread out over the island. If you like the dutch bulb fields, you will be surprised by the daylily fields.

On **Sunday**, again, an early start is needed. We will travel by our own cars to Roelofsarendsveen where we will visit the assortment garden of the NAK Tuinbouw (www.naktuinbouw.nl). The NAK Tuinbouw (Nederlandse Algemene Kwaliteitsdienst Tuinbouw) is a Dutch institution which promotes and monitors the quality of products, processes and chains in the horticulture. NAK Tuinbouw is the only association in the Netherlands qualified to assess varieties of vegetables, agriculture- and ornamental plants on distinction, uniformity and durability for registration and/or breeders rights. Quite a mouthful but a major responsibility to keep the plants genuine within the trade. In order to validate the true to variety aspect of perennials, the NAK Tuinbouw set up a selection garden. In this garden true to variety perennials (including daylilies) are showed which serve as reference for the perennial trade of the Netherlands. In this garden the perennials traded most, about 3.000 widely available varieties and 800 varieties with breeders' rights are planted for comparison purposes. We have the opportunity to visit this garden and make notes and photos of the proper companion plants for our beloved daylilies. The ideal opportunity to look past our daylilies! After we have taken in everything (hopefully!) we leave for Boskoop, nationally and internationally well known for its (tree-)nurseries.

On arrival in Boskoop we will visit the hybridiser's garden of Kees Jan Kraan (www.bridgeviewgardens.nl), one of the active members of the Dutch and Belgium Hemerocallisvereniging. The garden is situated on the premises of Boot & Co Boomkwekerijen BV, the company for which Kees Jan worked until his early retirement. Research and development was his major activity and he still does some work in this field. Lots of daylilies and woody plants (including roses) are to be admired in his garden of approximately 1,5 ha. Do not expect to see a nicely laid out garden, but a garden in which a daylily enthusiast works on introducing new and better plants. Expect to see rows by rows of daylily cultivars, seedlings and woody plants. If you have not yet seen enough daylilies in the past two days, now is the time and place to catch up! Kees Jan started hybridising daylilies in 2003, but got really engaged in the past 3 years. In 2009 he planted around 28.000 seeds and harvested roughly 7000 seeds. He selects his seedlings rigorously within a period of five to six years until only a few will survive. During the past years he collected some 300 different parent plants especially for hybridising purposes. These parent plants are older as well as very recent cultivars and diploid as well as tetraploid cultivars. The emphasis presently is on UFs and spiders, but you will see all kinds of flower forms and colours in Kees Jan's garden. We hope to see his first daylily introductions in the years to come, excellent plants that will thrive in Europe and are selected by a true daylily enthusiast with an eye for detail and quality.

The visit to the garden of Kees Jan marks the official ending of the 2010 meeting. But Sunday still is not over! We can offer you two opportunities within the city limits of Boskoop. It is possible to visit the selection garden 'Harry van de Laar', only a few minutes away from Kees Jan's garden. This garden contains more than 2500 different

(tree) nursery varieties, from shrubs to perennials and conifers. The garden is a initiative of the 'Proeftuin van Holland' (www.proeftuinvanholland.nl), created in 1985 and named after Harry van de Laar in 2003. Harry van de Laar is a well-known Dutch plant selection specialist. The 'Proeftuin van Holland' is a informative and educational centre for ornamental plant cultivation. It aims at both professionals and consumers. Another possibility is to end the day with a round trip on the vast waterways of Boskoop, past the many (tree) nurseries. The organisation of this trip is only possible if there is sufficient interest and by signing up in advance. We are still working on organising a round trip.

The visits to the gardens and nurseries are not the only daylily related 'activities' during this meeting. On **Friday evening** Hemerocallis Europe will assemble for its yearly general meeting. On **Saturday afternoon** a auction of interesting daylilies will be organised after our return from Texel. The GDS Fachgruppe Hemerocallis will assemble for its yearly general meeting on **Saturday evening**. After this meeting we can offer you, if there is any room for daylilies left for that day, the opportunity to show pictures of your beloved daylilies and/or seedlings by means of a portable pc and beamer. Please inform us if you intend to indulge us with those magnificent pictures. We hope to close both evenings with a pleasant get-together in the bar. An ideal chance to get acquainted with one another and to talk daylilies a little more!

We have chosen the **Van der Valk Hotel Akersloot** as our base of operation. This is a four star hotel which is ideally situated next to the motorway A9 and offers us the versatile facilities we need for a pleasant and interesting weekend. A standard (non-smoking) double room costs €97,00 and a single room €81,00 (per night). Breakfast is included, but tourist tax (€1,30) is excluded. These prices are only guaranteed if booked through the meeting organizers. The hotel reserved rooms for our meeting until 1 april. The organization cannot guarantee the rooms after that date. You could of course book your room yourself by visiting their website www.valk.com or by phone: +31 (0)251 36 18 88 or fax: +31 (0)251 31 45 08. If the hotel is fully booked or the hotel is not up to your standard, you will find other hotels nearby. Possible hotels are, for instance, to be found in Bergen (Hotel Bergen or Hotel 1900) or in Alkmaar (Amrâth Hotel). Our advice is to book as early as possible because hotels in the area will be fully booked very fast for summer. Please inform the meeting organisers immediately if you have booked your own room.

The **joint dinners on Friday and Saturday evening** will be held at the hotel. On **Friday** you will have the choice between three different three course dinners for €22,50 per person (drinks not included). All three dinners start with a soup of the day. The main courses are: chicken breast Hawaii with backed pineapple and curry sauce, served with matching vegetable- and potato garnish or schnitzel Du Chef with sauce (own choice), served with matching vegetable- and potato garnish or tagliatelle with wild spinach, onions, peppers and mushrooms served with a creamy cheese sauce. The dinners will end with vanilla ice cream with fresh fruits.

For **Saturday's dinner** we will join a so called 'live cooking spectacle' for €32,50 per person. At this diner you will have a unlimited choice from various cold and warm courses and drinks from the Dutch assortment (soft drinks, juices, house wines, draft beer, port, sherry, vermouth, jenever and brandy). The courses include various cold starters, a soup buffet, various meat- and fish courses from the grill (à la minute), delicious wok courses (made ready while you wait), fresh vegetables and a large salad bar. For dessert you will have a choice out of homemade sweets, ice-cream cakes and different tastes of ice-cream.

In addition to the hotel- and dinner costs you have to take the costs for the drive to Texel (€14,- for coach and ferry) and the costs for the lunch on Saturday (€14,-) in account. On

Friday and Saturday the beverages are by courtesy of the nurseries. The costs for beverages on Sunday are €5,-. The costs are per person attending the 2010 meeting and should be made payable to the organisation.

There is a registration form for the 2010 meeting. With this form you are able to register for the meeting. The (final) deadline for registration is on Saturday the 1st of May 2010. It is also possible to register for the optional activities: the lunch on Sunday and/or the round trip. We hope to see you on 9 until 11 July 2010 at this extraordinary meeting, a unique daylily experience for enthusiasts by enthusiasts.

Organisers 2010 meeting:
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Note!

If you are interested in participating you can contact us by email for a registration form. Please contact us before the 20th of april 2010.

Tip:

If you are afraid of seeing not enough daylilies during this meeting, you could visit the nurseries of Joosten (www.kwekerij-joosten.nl) or Willemsen (www.hemerocallis.nl) on Friday. On Sunday you could visit the garden of François Verhaert (www.eurocallis.com). These nurseries/gardens will have their open days during this weekend and are surely worth a visit.