**Announcement re shows from National Dahlia Society Executive Council**

The National Dahlia Society Show Committee and Executive Council have received confirmation from the RHS and the NEHS that their policies re floral foam (Oasis) are as below. The EC accepts this will be a big change for our exhibitors at the National Shows and to assist with this we will be releasing a video by David Gillam giving a working example of staging in newspaper.  We will also endeavour, over coming months, to share further ideas for staging of blooms at the show.

**Wisley National Dahlia Show 2021**

Those who follow the RHS Website will be aware that all floral foam is now prohibited at all RHS Shows and all RHS sites and gardens in 2021. In 2019 you were made aware that this would be implemented in 2020, giving a year’s grace. Therefore **no** floral foam of any colour can be used at the Wisley Show 2021

**Floral Foam Statement From the RHS**

As part of the RHS’s efforts to improve sustainability, and make environmentally-minded choices when planning their events, they have made the decision to ban all plastic- containing floral foam at shows and events from 2021. Floral foams on the market are non-biodegradable (the brown bio-foam still takes 4 years to break down by 90% under special conditions) and use micro-plastics, and due to the nature of its use it is very easy for these to get into water supplies.

**Harrogate Show Statement**

**Message from NEHS to NDS Northern Committee 23.11.20**

With regards floral foam; we are of the mind to allow it for 2021 on the basis that **all**specialist societies showcasing cut blooms at future events highlight, to both the public and to us as a charity, ways in which their members are reducing reliance on traditional non-biodegradable material going forward.  This will be included on the agenda of the Specialist Societies Meeting at the 2021 Autumn Show, with each group expected to offer an update on individual society progress.  The success of each society’s response to this commitment will then dictate and inform the charity’s future regulations on such materials, thus giving adequate advance notice for 2022.

NB.  NEHS is the North of England Horticultural Society, the organising body of the Autumn Show at whose invitation we hold our Northern National Show.