



# **COLLECTION HOLDERS CONFERENCE 2020**

## **GROWING MEDIA - CONSERVATION**



# History

- 1930's – 1950's Loam Based
- 1960's Peat Based
- 1970's Concern about use of Peat





# Why Not Peat

- Sourced from Lowland raised bogs which are rare habitats for unique flora and fauna
- Bogs act as 'Carbon Sinks'
- Any comments about the use of peat?



# Alternatives to Peat

- Coir
- Wood fibre and Composted Bark
- Bracken and Sheep's Wool
- Green Compost
- Any comments about these materials?





# OTHER GROWING MEDIA INGREDIENTS

- Loam
- Top soil
- Perlite
- Vermiculite
- Any comments about these or other materials?



# Government and Industry Initiatives

Sustainable Growing Media Report 2012. No peat to be used in Growing Media mixes for amateur growers after 2020

- No peat to be used in Growing Media mixes for Professional Growers after 2030
- Delay in Publication of Government report



# Discussion: Plant Heritage's Position and Policy -

- Current situation
- Consultation with Collection Holders and Members
- Development of Sustainable Policy for Growing Media
- Do we need an advisory leaflet for Collection Holders and Membership?