

“You will wonder how you grew plants without them.”

## **Air-Pot success at Botanic Gardens around the world brings commercial rewards**

Horticulture specialists from Botanic Gardens around the world, starting at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh and Kew have been trialling and using Air-Pots in ever increasing numbers to propagate and grow on their precious seed collections. Their recognition of the superior performance of the Air-Pot and their valuable stamp of approval is now reaping dividends for Air-Pot manufacturers, the Caledonian Tree Company.

The biggest sale, directly attributable to the influence of RBG Edinburgh, has been to Oman where RBGE has been consulting on the development of new Botanic Gardens, an ambitious project which has seen 450 hectares of desert outside Muscat planted with species from all the different Omani habitats, and the creation of an international research institute and visitor centre. The opening is scheduled for 2011.

Following the successful transplant and re-establishment of Air-Pot grown stock there, the government nurseries of Oman are purchasing Air-Pots, to produce plants for the considerable development underway in this dynamic Gulf state.

Meanwhile, Dan Luscombe, Assistant Curator at Bedgebury National Pinetum has given Air-Pots a resounding endorsement in his recent feature for the International Dendrology Society. He concludes, “You will wonder how you grew plants without them.” He reports that Bedgebury has moved over to Air-Pots for almost all its growing from seed and up to 20L. And Knightshayes Court, Westonbirt, Wakehurst Place and Kew are also enjoying great success with the system, both peat free and in all growing media.

Other new markets for the Caledonian Tree Company in the last 9 months include: Morocco, Taiwan, Indonesia and Romania. Expansion into new territory has resulted in pleasing growth for the company during challenging economic times.

September 2010