

eFIG Announces Office Plant of the Year 2010

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eFIG is proud to announce the Office Plant of the Year 2010 is....
Beaucarnea Bonsai



On Monday 18th June 2010, a panel of judges gathered at Indoor Garden Design in North London to assess which of eight plants nominated by eFIG members deserved the title 'eFIG Office Plant of the Year 2010'. And the accolade went to Beaucarnea Bonsai.

The judges – Matthew Appleby, deputy editor of Horticulture Week, Adam Pasco, editor of BBC Gardeners World Magazine, garden designer Claudia de Yong and Ed Wolf founder and director of Indoor Garden Design - felt the Beaucarnea was 'structural, sculptural with lots of character whilst still retaining practical qualities'.

Its versatility for use in lots of different environments comes into its own, especially when a 'right plant, right place policy' is put in place. The wide variety of forms in which this plant is available and movement of its foliage also helped the judges to make their final selection.

eFIG members who nominated this plant felt that it showed the following qualities making it a worthy winner:

- easy to maintain
- interesting plant
- great benefits to people
- always available

Ed Wolf summed it up, "If I could have just one plant on my desk, a Beaucarnea Bonsai would be perfect for the above reasons. And, of course, following the advice of researcher Margaret Burchett – just one plant is enough to have a very positive effect on our moods and our output."



Taking up this point, eFIG Chair Thomas Palfreyman adds, "If every office worker had just one plant on or by their desk, businesses would not only have a healthier workforce but their bottom line could be positively affected. In terms of achieving a more productive staff, this must be one of the cheapest options!"

Ficus Bonsai came in a close second to the Beaucarnea for its structure – its architectural stem is a new twist for this old favourite - and its ability to feature as a talking point.

This was followed in third place by the Chlorophytum (Spider Plant); this retro plant is currently making a come back with many new forms and varieties and its versatility for new and unusual display possibilities including its use in green walls.

Over years of scientific and academic research all plants have come out as winners; they are good for us, cleaning and refreshing the air and reducing absenteeism whilst encouraging concentration, focus and performance.

Many thanks go to all of you who voted for the Office Plant of the Year. The above information has been sent out to various online and offline contacts.



The judges from the left: Ed Wolf holding the winner, Beaucarnea Bonsai, Claudia de Yong, Matthew Appleby with runner up, Ficus Bonsai and Adam Pasco with retro Chlorophytum

