

CURRICULUM VITAE

Jonathan Keyte

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PROFILE

An accomplished, dynamic and highly motivated fruit and vegetable grower with over 25 years of practice. Experienced in developing and leading varied horticultural projects, many of which are innovative, progressive and high profile. Excellent communication skills that have been leveraged to coach other professionals; interface with the public and used in the media. With a wholehearted personal commitment, enthusiasm and energy for the job and this profession.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

:

- Extensive knowledge of fruit varieties acquired through managing RHS collections.
- Designed and delivered two exciting projects: the Wisley Vineyard and the Trained Tree Garden.
- Significantly improved the fruit & vegetable sales by managing harvesting and deliveries and developing new products (Wisley Cider).

In previous jobs:

- Designing and developing a new large walled garden and glasshouses to a budget.

CAREER PROGRESSION

Senior Supervisor in the Fruit Department, RHS Garden Wisley

2001 – Present

- Provide technical expertise in all areas of the Department, covering: Orchards – including the Organic Apple Trial; Fruit Nursery; Vineyard and the Trained Tree Garden.
- Set up and manage fruit trials.
- Implement Pest & Disease control regime.
- Exhibit fruit & vegetable within the UK and overseas to Gold Medal standard.
- Regularly contribute to the media coverage for the RHS, mainly with the BBC.
- Deliver lectures and demonstrations and give horticultural advice at the RHS shows.

Head Gardener at Wansdyke Estate, Marlborough, Wiltshire

1997 – 2001

- Overall management of all areas (12acres), including the walled kitchen garden, glasshouses and parkland.
- Annually re-designing the ornamental vegetable garden.
- Supplying fruit, vegetables and cut flowers to the main house throughout the year, according to the demands of the employer.
- Devising and implementing an Organic Pest & Disease Control regime.
- Maintenance and redevelopment of existing large herbaceous borders.
- Managing contractors

Scientific Officer at the Horticulture Research International, East Malling, Kent

1992 – 1997

- Work covered a wide range of fruit research projects, investigating various methods of propagation.
- Delivering lectures and practical demonstrations to wide ranging audiences.
- Recording data and writing reports of the scientific trials.
- Liaising with a wide range of commercial growers and horticultural scientists.

Fruit Foreman at the RHS Garden, Wisley

1988 – 1992

- Orchard maintenance including pruning, harvesting, pest & disease control.
- Supervising teams.
- Management of the cold storage facilities.
- Delivering public lectures and demonstrations.
- Involvement with designing and building a large exhibit at the Chelsea Flower Show.

Blackmoor Nursery, Liss, Hampshire

July 1987 – Dec 1987

- Short-term engagement on large progressive nursery and fruit farm.

Deacons Nursery, Isle of Wight.

1981 - 1985

- Assisting in production and mail-order distribution of a wide range of fruit plants.
- Extensive use of farm machinery.

EDUCATION & QUALIFICATIONS

Aug 1990 6 weeks traveling scholarship, sponsored by The English Speaking Union, studying all aspects of fruit growing in North America.

1986 - 1987 Hadlow College of Agriculture and Horticulture; Advanced National Certificate in Fruit Production with Credit.

1985 - 1986 RHS Garden, Wisley; 1-year student placement in the Fruit Department.

1981 - 1985 Newport Technical College, Isle of Wight; City and Guilds Certificate in Horticulture, Phases I and II.

- Spraying qualifications: PA1, PA2, PA3, PA6
- A.T.B. Fork Lift Truck Operating Certificate
- A.T.B. Food Hygiene (Farm Shop and Cold Stores) Certificate
- A.T.B. Quad Bike Certificate
- National Proficiency Tests in: Planting, Pruning Mature Trees, Tractor Driving, Grading and Packing Fruit, Vermin Control.
- NPTC Level 2; Tractor driving and front end loader
- NPTC Forklift Truck and Rough Terrain Telescopic Lift Truck
- NPTC certificate of Competence in Chainsaw
- SNTG Certificate in the Safe Use of Ladders and Platforms
- SNTG Safe Manual Handling
- Full clean driving licence

INTERESTS:

Amateur dramatics, swimming, canoeing, allotment, designing and making stained glass windows.

