

Climate change and trees

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In 2002, the National Trust, Royal Horticultural Society and UKCIP and other partners jointly published 'Gardening in the Global Greenhouse' - a groundbreaking report, setting out the climate change implication for heritage, botanic and domestic garden owners and commercial growers in the UK.

This presentation will address many of the issue raised in the report, in relation to the future selection and management of trees.

Changing growing conditions expected over the next 50 years will have profound implications for the whole of horticulture and especially for trees. For the National Trust, maintaining trees that provide the detail and determine the layout, character and significance of historic gardens and parkland, in a climate different from the one in which they were developed will be a particular challenge. Domestic gardeners, however, may benefit from a longer growing seasons, a wider range of trees to choose from and opportunities to experiment with different styles.

The popularity of gardens provides the potential to bring the climate change agenda to every ones' doorstep and engage the public in the issues we all face both on a global and domestic scale.