

Garden centres enjoy strong plant sales lift in August thanks to lower temperatures

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Plantarea

Pennells GardenCentres owner Richard Pennell said sales had been good this year overall, with fine early weather helping. He added: "The hot weather meant plant sales suffered later on but with the recent rain they have picked up this month."

Perrywood Garden Centre and Nursery owner Alan Bourne said sales had carried on into August, as the weather and added value instant gardening plants were selling best.

Outdoor plant sales slipped 5.23 per cent in July according to the GCA but were 7.44 per cent up overall in 2014 year to date.

Scotsdale horticulturist Peter Jackson said: "People want instant colour in August. I don't think they come to the garden centre specially – they come for the coffee and cake and other things garden centres have to do to survive. But if there's good, high-

impact plants with colour, they are selling. August has always traditionally been about impulse sales."