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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Gardenex, PetQuip and the CHA welcome rises in membership

The Federation of Garden and Leisure Manufacturers Ltd has seen an increase in new memberships as more UK businesses call on the wide-ranging services provided by its associations – Gardenex, PetQuip and the Commercial Horticultural Association.

Companies facing uncertainty caused by the coronavirus pandemic and the UK's transition from the EU are turning to the Federation for help and support.

The teams at Gardenex, PetQuip and the CHA deliver a high standard of service to all member companies, through a comprehensive range of UK and international business benefits, information and advice and an extensive programme of export events and initiatives.

Benefits exclusive to member firms include access to an exclusive database of international buyers, taking part in 'Meet the International Buyer' events (currently being organised 'virtually'), global market research, technical advice, comprehensive business bulletins and access to the Federation's online specialist exports helpline.

In addition, the Federation obtains cash grants for eligible UK exhibitors from government at key exhibitions, including major international shows like spoga+gafa, IPM and Interzoo.

The A-Z Guide to Exporting 2020-21 is a comprehensive resource of exporting information, advice and practical tips, and is one of the key exclusive benefits of membership. The 100-page latest edition provides a wealth of practical advice on every aspect of exporting, finding export customers, working with distributors and international customers generally and explains the main kinds of export documentation and payment and shipping terms required in international trade.

Gardenex & PetQuip are also holding a series of 'virtual' Meet the International Buyer events in 2020 and more are planned for next year. These popular events bring buyers and suppliers together to create valuable new business opportunities for both.

A series of e-commerce webinars is providing valuable insights and practical support for members and the Federation has been expanding further its international publicity and promotion on behalf of its members within the gardening, leisure, commercial horticulture and pet product sectors.

Ergrownomics, which supplies innovative raised beds and planters, has recently joined Gardenex. Sales Director, Jamie Bending, said: "Gardenex has worked hard throughout the year to provide advice and guidance wherever possible. All members of the team have been hugely helpful, and are never more than a quick email away."

Eco-friendly company, The Green Poop Bag, which produces compostable bags for the pet industry, is now taking advantage of the services provided by PetQuip. Founder Denise Lucas described the support she's received so far as "absolutely superb".

She added: "We decided to join Petquip so we could connect with other businesses in the same field. As a start-up company we've also taken advantage of all the information given. I believe we will be able to expand faster as a result."

The CHA has recently welcomed new member MorePeople, whose CEO Guy Moreton said: "We have been recruiting for the horticultural sector for 20 years, so it made sense to join the Commercial Horticultural Association as an Associate Member. We know the team well and look forward to being involved in future initiatives."

Amanda Sizer Barrett, Director General of the Federation, confirmed: "The last couple of years have seen huge challenges for UK businesses with the uncertainties of Brexit and the current coronavirus pandemic but Gardenex, PetQuip and the CHA are here to help.

"As members of our associations, companies can benefit from our help and support on all aspects of current and future exporting and we look forward to continuing to work with businesses to help them increase international sales.

"We are looking forward to supporting UK suppliers in the next months to navigate the outcome of the UK's transition from the EU and to seize the undoubted international business opportunities that lie ahead."

Please contact Gardenex, PetQuip or the CHA if you would like to benefit from membership of the associations or require any further advice and assistance on:

Email: <u>info@gardenex.com</u>; <u>info@petquip.com</u>; <u>info@cha-hort.com</u>
Websites: <u>www.gardenex.com</u>; <u>www.petquip.com</u>; <u>www.cha-hort.com</u>

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