

## Farrer Medal Blackpool 2010



Mike & Christine Brown triumphed with another of their wonderful Cyclamen, this time Cyclamen coum, grown from their own seed, sown in 2003. Quite an achievement! Not only top prize winners this week, Mike and Christine won the Farrer Medal at Loughborough last week. I missed them at the end of the show to take their photo but when I spoke to Mike I said I would use one of their previous Farrer winning pictures. Probably most of us grow Cyclamen coum in the garden but never as well as this fabulous example. I love it when the winning plant is a great example of something we all know well but the rest of us haven't yet managed to get it to this size and quality. Cyclamen coum grows in the mountains and coastal areas along the south and east Black Sea coast. It ranges from Bulgaria through Georgia to the Crimea, in northern Iran and southern Turkey along the eastern Mediterranean coast through Syria and the Lebanon into Israel. It grows in shady places in woodland and scrubland. It is one of the best 'bulbs' for the late winter garden.