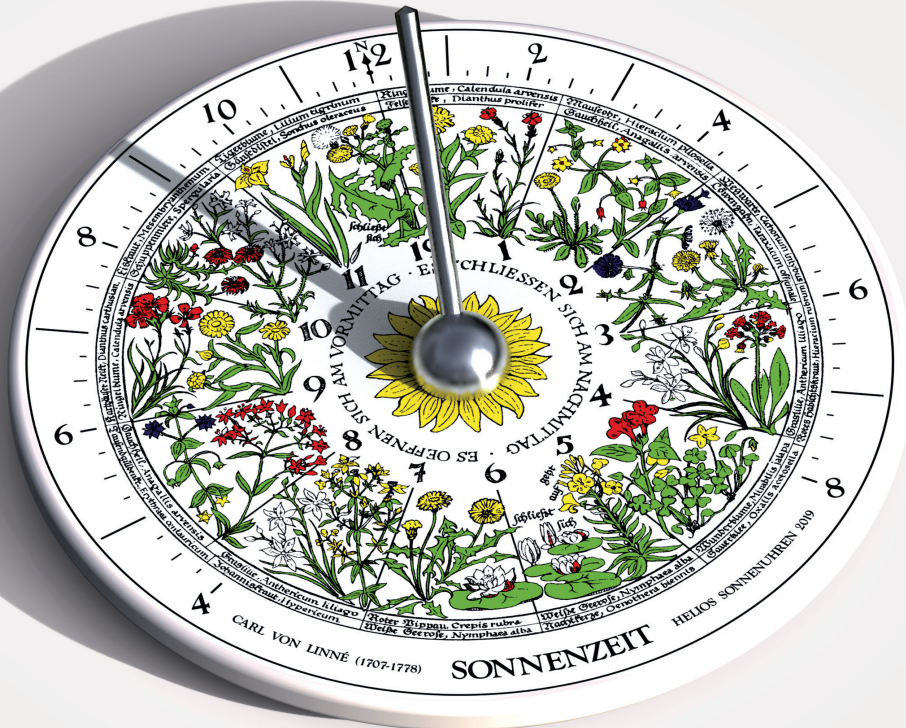


HORA Floris

The Swedish naturalist Carl Linnaeus (1707-1778) was able to read off the time of day to within five minutes on his famous flower clock. He made use of the fact that every plant opens and closes its flowers at certain times. Sunlight is the decisive clock that synchronises the inner clock of the flowers with solar time.

The sundial HORA Floris (lat.: hour of the flower) shows the solar time according to which the plants move. The solar time is a reflection of the natural course of the sun. At the peak of the sun in the south, it is noon, which divides the day into two halves of equal length. This true noon is defined as 12 noon solar time (officially called local apparent time).



The sundial shows 9 o'clock solar time. At this time, marigold and carthorse open their flowers.



Carl Linnaeus

In the 18th century, during the lifetime of Carl Linnaeus, solar time was the official time of civil life. At that time, people literally lived by the sun, as did the flowers on the flower clock created by the naturalist in 1745 in the botanical gardens of Uppsala. A glance at the flower clock from his study was adequate to serve tea to his astonished guests punctually at 5 o'clock in the afternoon.

We have Carl Linnaeus to thank for the unambiguous system for naming animals and plants, the so-called „binominal nomenclature“. Since then, they have been designated by a Latin generic name and a descriptive suffix.

The idea for his flower clock came from the observation of around 70 flowering plants and the finding that plants open and close their flowers at certain times of the day.

From this insight, Carl Linnaeus developed his famous flower clock. He planted a bed in the shape of a clock face with a total of twelve segments with the plants flowering at the respective hour.

Nature has arranged the different flowering phases of the plants so that insects can pollinate the flowering plants throughout the day. The competition for bees, bumblebees, beetles, flies and butterflies is therefore no longer so challenging.

The correct arrangement of the flower clock depends on the respective climate zone, the season and the flowers used. Carl Linnaeus's flower clock corresponded to the Swedish climate zone. The HORA Floris flower clock is based on a design by the German illustrator Ursula Schleicher-Benz from 1948. It does not contain all of the plants originally selected by Linnaeus, but it does take into account the opening and closing times of the flowers in the local climate zone.

Your own flower clock

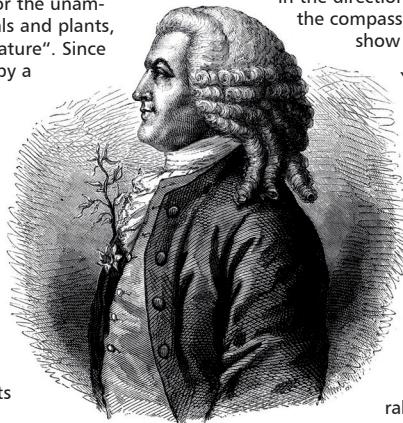
The internal clock of flowers is not based on the zone time invented by man for his own purposes (e.g. Central European Time or Greenwich Mean Time), but on solar time.

Therefore, the sundial is an important tool if you want to set up your own flower clock.

To set up the sundial into operation, insert the gnomon into the central stainless steel hemisphere and align the sundial in the direction of the north arrow (at 12 noon) using the compass supplied. Then the HORA Floris will show the solar time when the sun is shining.

You will need a little more patience to set up the right flower clock. The richly illustrated booklet „The Flower Clock“, which you can purchase in our sundial shop (www.helios-sonnenuhren.de/en/die-blumenuhr), will help you here. There you will find a compilation of suitable plants with information on the respective flowering times.

The aim should be that the flower clock and the sundial show the same time: a charming interaction of the two natural clocks that both follow the natural course of the sun!



Support

If you have any questions about the HORA Floris, please do not hesitate to contact us:

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We hope you enjoy many sunny days with your HORA Floris sundial.