



## Flora - The Florans      Pre-game - Day 13/20

Despite its small size and position in the midst of the asteroid belt, Flora is the centre of the Sol system research into flora, both maintaining all genetic stocks from Earth in their pristine totality, as well as leading the active development of new strains of commercial (both aesthetic and utilitarian) crops for the other bodies within the system.

Aside from the many numerous laboratories spanning this 150 km diameter world, the exterior of Flora is covered with a mix of ornate habitation 'greenhouses'. These greenhouses contain expansive open spaces replicating many natural ecosystem simulations of Earth biospheres, as well of those of a more fantastical nature. The world has been artificially set spinning at a rate to simulate that of Earth, with cunning arrangements of lenses and mirrors allowing amplification of the moderate solar light hitting this body to simulate that of Earth in the greenhouses where this is required. Other arrangements of shielding, mirrors and computer control systems allow research domes to reproduce conditions found elsewhere in the Sol system, and even those experienced on the worlds beneath the duplicate suns of Alpha Centauri.

Residents of Flora tend to be well versed in many aspects of biology, and for belt dwellers they are particularly fond of open spaces. Politically the world government is made up of one representative from each dome with a population of about 1000 souls. All motions are carried by majority votes. A staunch ally of the slightly more distant Ceres, Flora acquires the majority of its water supply from that world, as well as using it as the main export hub for the novel botanical designs.

Recent successes include the Plutonian Tomato, the Mercurial CO<sub>2</sub> scrubbing fungus and, most deliciously, the Oort Cloud grapefruit.