

LAND

HOT *New* PERENNIALS 2021

TWELFTH ANNUAL EDITION



Eason Horticultural Resources



Hot New Perennials of 2021 & THE BEST JUST KEEP GETTING BETTER

This year's new introductions are an interesting mix of improvements on best sellers, new, lesser used species within top selling genera, and a few surprise additions that we had not even glimpsed on the horizon! Breeding companies continue to be aggressive about finding longer blooming selections, new colors and textures, and plants that can be made to bloom whenever we want them to. We wish to extend a special thank you to all of the contributing breeding companies and young plant producers for sharing pictures and information during this period of time when the EHR team is not able to get out see all of the trials and production facilities.

 Eason Horticultural Resources

PHOTO COURTESY OF DARWIN PERENNIALS®/BALL HORTICULTURAL COMPANY



**ACHILLEA MILL.
'MILLY ROCK™' 'YELLOW'**
Darwin Perennials

Milly Rock™ is the new series of Yarrows from Darwin that features a compact, mounding habit instead of the tall, gangly, flopping forms that gardeners in the East and Midwest have grown for years. The newest addition to the series is 'Yellow', with bright yellow blooms from late spring, through summer, with some re-bloom into fall. It grows 10-12" tall and wide. Grow in full sun, hardy zones 5-9.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CONCEPT PLANTS®



**ACHILLEA PTARMICA
'DIADEM'**
Concept Plants

There are a lot of Achilleas in the marketplace, but very few *A. ptarmica* selections. 'Diadem' is a blooming machine with fully double snow white pom-pom flowers that cover this plant in summer, and with an exceptional re-bloom if sheared. The foliage is narrow and green; different from the feathery foliage of *A. millefolium* varieties. They form neat, rounded shrubs, only 12" tall. Plus it's a bee and butterfly magnet! Grow in full sun, hardy zones 4-9.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CONCEPT PLANTS®



**AGASTACHE
'CRAZY FORTUNE'**
Concept Plants

Agastache 'Blue Fortune' continues to be a best selling perennial throughout the world, and now Concept Plants is introducing a variegated form of it - Agastache 'Crazy Fortune'. It's just as easy to grow, but with a variable edge or center of white in each leaf. In cooler temps it will have pink mixed into the leaf as well. Foliage is sweetly scented and loved by bees and butterflies. Upright growing to 36" tall, with oversized clusters of soft blue blooms in summer. Grow in full sun to partial shade, hardy zones 5-10.

PHOTO COURTESY OF TERRA NOVA® NURSERIES, INC.



**ANEMONE
SATIN DOLL™ 'BLUSH'**
Terra Nova Nurseries

Abundant, large, dogwood-like flowers held just over the glossy foliage. Doesn't have a large foot print in the garden and runs less than other varieties on the market. One of the earliest blooming with an extended bloom period. Very high flower count on genetically dwarf plants. Excellent foliage cover, beautiful in pots. Grows 9-12" tall in full sun to partial shade, hardy zones 4-9



PHOTO COURTESY OF WALTERS GARDENS, INC.®

ASTER NOVAE-ANGLIAE 'GRAPE CRUSH' & 'PINK CRUSH'
Walters Gardens

The team at Walters are introducing a sort of forgotten genus and species with some breakthrough breeding in New England Asters. The Crush series brings refinement with large, very round mounds of densely packed flowers that completely cover the plants in late summer/fall. Best of all, in trials they have shown no splitting down the middle, holding perfect shapes into the winter. They will grow to 2' tall and 3+' wide in full sun. Hardy zones 3-8.

PHOTO COURTESY OF DARWIN PERENNIALS®/BALL HORTICULTURAL COMPANY



**ARMERIA
DREAMARIA™ 'DREAM CLOUDS'**

Darwin Perennials

The Dreameria series offers entirely new and unique breeding for the Armeria class. Dreameria moves the genus from strictly early-Spring and late-Fall, cool-season perennial to flowering throughout the Summer as well. Its tidy habit and heat tolerance make this series perfect for landscape and patio containers. NEW 'Dream Clouds' adds a perfect, pure-white accent color to Dreameria™ combos. Height & Spread: 10 to 12 in. Hardy Zones 5a to 9a

PHOTO COURTESY OF PAN AMERICAN SEED®/BALL HORTICULTURAL COMPANY



**AURINIA SAXATILE
'GOLD RUSH'**

PanAmerican Seed

This attractive new hardy alyssum features shorter stemmed than other selections, and with a more uniform plant habit and earlier flowering. Early spring bloomer, perfect for spring sales in the garden center. The attractive evergreen foliage gives it all year interest. Grow in full sun, hardy zones 3-9.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF PAN AMERICAN SEED®/BALL HORTICULTURAL COMPANY

AQUILEGIA EARLYBIRD™ SERIES *PanAmerican Seed*

This exciting new series of columbines from Kieft seeds may be a game-changer! It has a low cold requirement and short juvenility for growing in warm winter climates, plus performs beautifully in the north. 8 colors in the series, all featuring tight, controlled habits with relatively short stems on well-mounded plants - perfect for pots and in the garden. 3 of the new color combinations, Purple White, Purple Yellow, and Red yellow are unique in F1 aquilegia. 8 colors in all, with all except the Purple Yellow (5-7 days later) flowering at the same time. Grow in partial shade, hardy zones 3-9.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SYNGENTA

AUBRIETA GLACIER™ SERIES *Syngenta*

Syngenta is introducing a new series of aubrietas that we believe will be a better fit for the independent garden center trade, blooming 2-3 weeks later than other aubrieta series. Most aubrietas finish blooming before the busy times in the garden center. The Glacier™ series are compact with medium vigor, making nicely rounded mounds of color, and come in 3 colors (in order of photos): 'Violet', 'Red', and 'Sky Blue'. Ideally suited for quart and 2.5 quart production, these beauties will drive sales in spring and provide gardeners with beautiful color in the garden. Grow in full sun to light shade, hardy zones 5-9.





'TROPICAL TOUCAN'



'NOBLE NIGHTINGALE'



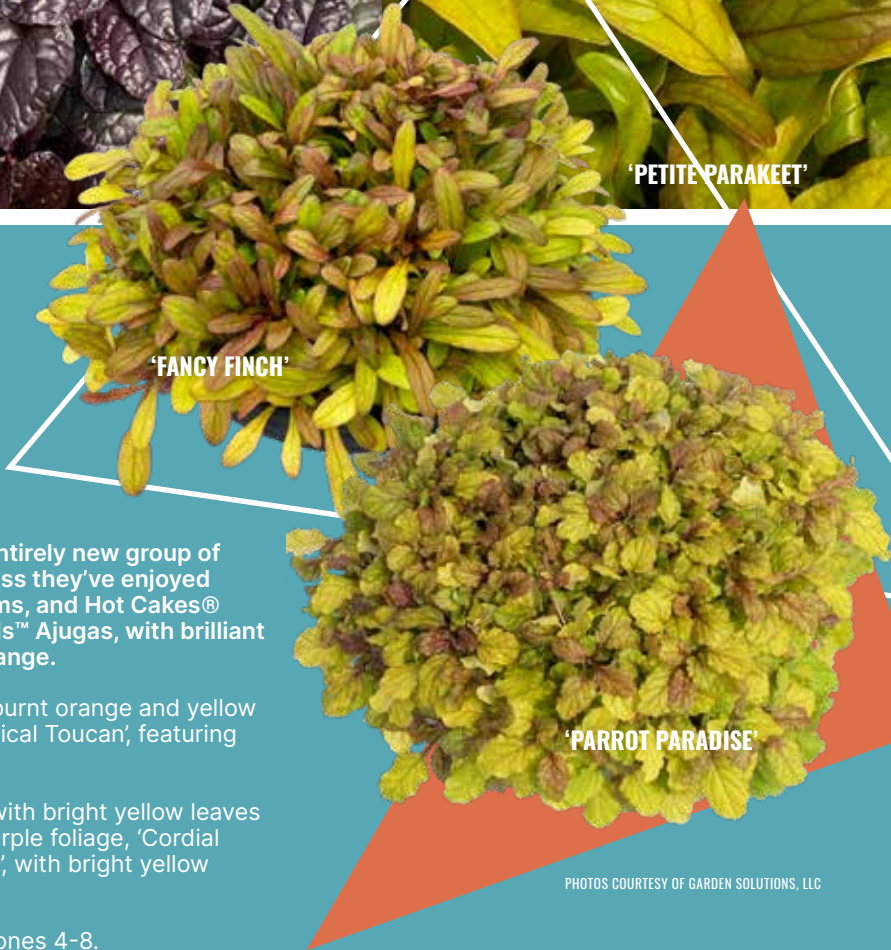
'CORDIAL CANARY'



'FIERCE FALCON'



'PETITE PARAKEET'



'FANCY FINCH'

'PARROT PARADISE'

AJUGA FEATHERED FRIENDS™ BIG & SMALL LEAF SERIES

Garden Solutions

The team at Garden Solutions is trying their hands at an entirely new group of plants, and we think they will have the same kind of success they've enjoyed with SunSparkler® Sedums, Chick Charms® Sempervivums, and Hot Cakes® Delospermas. Color is the answer on the Feathered Friends™ Ajugas, with brilliant yellows, dark, near black purples, and highlights of red/orange.

The large leaved group has 3 varieties: 'Parrot Paradise', a burnt orange and yellow combo, 'Fierce Falcon', with crinkly purple foliage, and 'Tropical Toucan', featuring brilliant yellow leaves.

The small leaved group has 4 selections: 'Petite Parakeet', with bright yellow leaves and red/orange veins, 'Noble Nightingale', with rich, dark purple foliage, 'Cordial Canary', a brilliant yellow leaved selection, and 'Fancy Finch', with bright yellow older leaves and new foliage emerging orange.

All should be grown in partial to full shade, and are hardy zones 4-8.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF GARDEN SOLUTIONS, LLC

PHOTO COURTESY OF PROVEN WINNERS®



**BAPTISIA
DECADENCE® DELUXE 'BLUE BUBBLY'**

Proven Winners

'Blue Bubbly' is the newest intro in Proven Winners line of bigger, bolder, more impressive baptisias, and it adds a unique new look to the series. Flowers are a lighter lavender blue, and are held on very long scapes, up to 16", for an extended bloom season. It will grow to 4 1/2' tall in an upright vase shape, and provide a dynamic focal point in a garden. Plus it makes great larger containers. Grow in full sun, hardy zones 4-9.

PHOTO COURTESY OF WALTERS GARDENS, INC.®



**BAPTISIA
'PLUM ROSY'**

Walters Gardens

'Plum Rosy' is an elegant bi-color baptisia with striking blooms of mauve pink that will lighten to near white with age. The long panicles of flowers will display both colors for an extended period of time. Upright vase shape growing, reaching 3 1/2-4' tall in full sun. Hardy zones 4-9.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PROVEN WINNERS®



**BERGENIA
'MISS PIGGY'**

Proven Winners

A beautiful perennial for the shade with the unfortunate common name of Pigsqueak, 'Miss Piggy' offers a stunning display of bright pink flowers above thick, dark green, evergreen foliage in spring. This selection has more consistent color, a larger canopy of lowers, and broader, more substantial leaves than any other varieties currently available. Grows 16-18" tall in partial or full shade, hardy zones 4-9.

PHOTO COURTESY OF INTRINSIC PERENNIALS GARDEN



**BOUTELOUA
'HONEY BLOND'**

Intrinsic Perennials Garden

A strong and sturdy selection of a native American grass, 'Honey Blonde' has upright wire like stems that stand 3' tall or taller, blooming with eyelash-like flowers in June. The flowers open tan colored and lighten with age, holding all the way into winter. Vigorous and adaptable, grow in full sun. Hardy zones 3-10

PHOTO COURTESY OF TERRA NOVA® NURSERIES, INC.



**BRUNNERA
'ALEXANDRIA'**

Terra Nova Nurseries

'Alexander's Great' has finally met its match. 'Alexandria' is the perfect companion to our favorite Brunnera. 'Alexandria' features brilliant mirror-silver leaves with the classic 'Alexander's Great' size and vigor. Tiny clouds of sky-blue flowers in the spring float above the foliage as it emerges.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THOMPSON & MORGAN.



**Buddleia
'BUTTERFLY GOLD'**

Thompson & Morgan

This new intro offers the most spectacularly variegated foliage on a Butterfly Bush that we've ever seen! Bright yellow and green leaves cover full, dense, rounded shrubs that will grow up to 6' tall and 5' wide, with a bonus of large panicles of mauve purple spikes in summer and into fall. The flowers are irresistible to bees and butterflies. Grow in full sun, hardy zones 5-9.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SYNGENTA®

**CAMPANULA
CARIBOO™ 'FORTE BLUE'**

Syngenta

The Cariboo series of campanulas from Syngenta breeding and the Think Plants group are interspecific, compact, heavy blooming flower machines in late spring and summer. 'Forte Blue' is the largest in the series, growing 14-18" tall, with the vigor to finish in larger containers. This series is the earliest to bloom of all of the interspecific campanulas, and will be ideal for spring sales as a container plant or for the garden. Grow in full sun to partial shade, hardy zones 5-9.



PHOTO COURTESY OF DANZIGER

**CARYOPTERIS INCANA
PAVILION™ 'BLUE' & 'WHITE'**

Danziger

This new series of caryopteris from Danziger is from the lesser known species incana, and look more like a perennial and less like a shrub. Foliage is green instead of gray, a perfect foil to the bloom clusters on the tips of every branch. Compact with a tidy habit, growing 18" tall and wide, in well formed rounded mounds. Flowers in summer and continue well into the fall. An added bonus! No vernalization is required, they bloom the first year. Grow in full sun to light shade, hardy zones 5-9.



**CLEMATIS
'OLYMPIA'**

Raymond Evison Clematis

A gorgeous new clematis from Raymond Evison that has attractive, blue single (and sometimes semi-double) blooms, with overlapping petals and yellow anthers. It flowers off the new and old wood. Very free and repeat flowering, producing flower buds from the leaf axils and end of stems. Ideal for growing in containers on the patio. Grows 3-5'. Zone 4-9



**CLEMATIS
'SARAH ELIZABETH'**

Raymond Evison Clematis

This distinct, attractive pink almost seems to glow. The mass of flowers appear from late Spring until late Autumn. It produces these at the base of the plant and on new growth often producing a top to bottom flowering effect. Raymond Evison's clematis breeding program continues to introduce beautiful, best-selling selections. It grows 4-5'. Full sun or partial shade, Zone 4-9.



**CLEMATIS
'PACIFIC CUP'**

Pride of Place Plants

An aptly named new Clematis from the folks at Pride of Place Plants, the flowers are distinctly cup shaped. The leaves are a uniquely heart shaped, with a leathery sheen, veined texture. The flower color can vary through violet colors and bar, with a cluster of yellow to white stamens. And a big bonus with this variety, the flowers are sweetly scented! Grow in full sun to partial shade, hardy zones 3-9.



**CLEMATIS
'SPARKLER'**

Pride of Place Plants

Clematis 'Sparkler' is a very bright white with pretty reddish stamens/ anthers, then with crisp dark green foliage, cold hardy, reasonable size not taller than 6 feet, and flowers double and single abundantly. Sparkler grows very uniform with a short habit and flowers sometimes as early as May! Grow in partial to full shade, hardy zones 4-9.



'BURGUNDY'



'PINK'



'ROSE'



'ORANGE'

DIANTHUS CONSTANT BEAUTY® CRUSH SERIES

Green Fuse Botanicals

Constant Beauty® Crush is the newest sub-series of everblooming dianthus from the team at Green Fuse. They have cracked the code on day-length sensitivity, giving us dianthus that will bloom from spring all the way into fall, with no vernalization required.

The Crush series includes 6 varieties of doubles with multi-colored flowers, on 6-10" compact plants of silver-blue foliage. Our favorites of the series are 'Burgundy', a deep red with some lighter red splotching and a distinct white edge, and 'Orange', with unique salmon-orange petals with a bright white picotee edge. Grow in full sun, hardy zones 4-9.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF CONCEPT PLANTS®

DIANTHUS MOUNTAIN FROST™ 'RUBY GLITTER' & 'RUBY SNOW'

Darwin Perennials

Mountain Frost™ is the collection of dianthus from Darwin perennials that will bloom consistently from early spring until frost, they have bred the day-length sensitivity out of them! Two new selections, 'Ruby Glitter', with non-fading red blooms with cream-white blotches, and 'Ruby Snow', with pure white blooms around a bright red eye. Both are tight, mat-forming groundcovers with steel blue foliage, growing 6-8" tall. Grow in full sun, hardy zones 4-9.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF DARWIN PERENNIALS®/BALL HORTICULTURAL COMPANY



PHOTOS COURTESY OF PROVEN WINNERS®



**DIANTHUS
'PAINT THE TOWN' SERIES ADDS**

Proven Winners

The Paint the Town series from Proven Winners have brought us dianthus for uses throughout the country, not just in the north, with striking bright colors and much improved heat tolerance. This year they are adding 2 gorgeous new colors, 'Fancy' is a rosy fuchsia with a red eye, and 'Red' is a deep magenta with serrated petals. All in the series are flat mat groundcovers with deep blue foliage. Grow in full sun, hardy zones 4-9.

PHOTO COURTESY OF TERRA NOVA® NURSERIES, INC.



**DICENTRA
'RUBY GOLD'**

Terra Nova Nurseries

The first gold foliage Dicentra spectabilis with true red flowers. Developed from purposeful breeding, all other gold foliage varieties have been mutations. The stems are strong and upright, the flowers are large and numerous but the color... WOW, brilliant red with a touch of unusual orange! A great container habit and is long lasting in the garden; a great improvement over the still popular 'Gold Heart'. Exceptional vigor. Grow in partial to full shade, hardy zones 4-8.



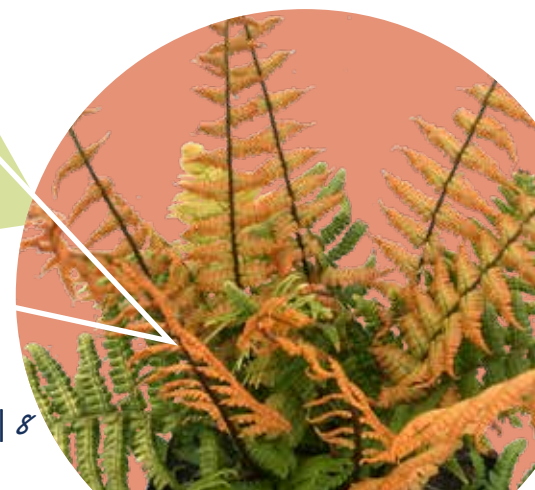
PHOTO COURTESY OF CONCEPT PLANTS®



**DRYOPTERIS WALLECHIANA
'JURASSIC GOLD'**

Concept Plants

New fronds on this exciting new intro are golden orange fading to bright golden yellow and eventually maturing to a dark green, bringing an entirely new color range for ferns in temperate gardens. Imagine the brightening effect of these colors in a dark, shady garden! This selection of Wallich's fern has a bold, rounded, upright habit, growing 24" tall and 18" wide. Hardy zones 5-9.





ECHINACEA ARTISAN™ COLLECTION

Pan American Seed

The 1st F1 echinacea from seed, bringing consistency of plant structure for a uniform, highly branched, full plant. Uniform flowering, so all plants are ready to sell at the same time, across both varieties. 'Red Ombre' has flowers that open red and soften in color with age. 'Soft Orange' has flowers that open deep orange and soften as they mature. Grow in full sun, hardy zones 4-10.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PAN AMERICAN SEED®/BALL HORTICULTURAL COMPANY

ECHINACEA COLOR CODED™ ADDS

Proven Winners

Color Coded™ is Proven Winners first series of echinaceas, and are prized for their excellent basal branching, large flowers, and horizontally held petals. 2 new colors are being added to the series this year. 'Frankly Scarlet' has 4" bright scarlet orange blossoms and grows 26-28" tall. 'The Price is White' with huge, 5" wide white, overlapping petals and a green cone, grows 20-22" tall. They are pollinator magnets and have seedheads that serve as winter food for birds. Hardy zones 4-8.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PROVEN WINNERS®

ECHINACEA PRAIRIE BLAZE™ SERIES

Syngenta

This new series of seed produced echinaceas from Syngenta are first year flowering, without vernalization! Both colors are upright growing and strongly branched, offering an impressive flower display, either in containers or in the garden. 'Orange Sunset' features large orange-red blooms, and 'Golden Yellow' is a pure golden yellow. Both varieties were awarded the gold medal by FleuroSelect as the best Novelty plant of the year for 2021. Grow in full sun, hardy zones 3-9.

PHOTO COURTESY OF SYNGENTA®

ECHINACEA 'PRETTY PARASOL'

Concept Plants

This new hybrid that incorporates some less used species of echinacea that are native to the U.S. has an entirely new look for coneflowers. It's sturdy and upright, growing up to 3' tall, and holds up in the worst of conditions without flopping. The flowers are unique, resembling little parasols of white with a blush of purple at the base of each petal. Grow in full sun, hardy zones 5-9.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CONCEPT PLANTS®

ECHINACEA SOMBRERO POCO™ 'YELLOW'

Darwin Perennials

The best selling and top performing Sombrero® series of echinaceas is getting a new subset of more compact forms, introducing the Sombrero Poco™ series! The first new intro is 'Yellow'. The habit is compact, better for forcing and greenhouse growing performance. The Poco's feature the same exceptional winter hardiness, strong branching and proven landscape performance. They will grow up to 14" tall. Grow in full sun to light shade, hardy zones 4 to 9.

PHOTO COURTESY OF DARWIN PERENNIALS®/BALL HORTICULTURAL COMPANY

ECHINACEA SOMBRERO® 'FIESTA ORANGE' & 'ROSADA'

Darwin Perennials

2 new intros in the popular, easy to grow series of Sombrero® echinaceas, 'Fiesta Orange' and 'Rosada'. Like the rest of the series, no vernalization is required, and they all feature excellent winter hardiness and landscape performance. 'Fiesta Orange' has both semi-double and single orange flowers on the same plant. 'Rosada' has bright pink blooms on dark stems. Both grow 18-20" tall with excellent branching. Grow in full sun to light shade, hardy zones 4-9.

PHOTO COURTESY OF DARWIN PERENNIALS®/BALL HORTICULTURAL COMPANY

ECHINACEA PRIMA™ 'SAFFRON'

Terra Nova Nurseries

Produces beautiful, bright saffron colored blooms all season long while maintaining a short, compact habit. This plant is perfect for containers or displayed in the front of a border. Cheery, daisy-like flowers appear on top of this plant from early summer until almost fall. Grow in full sun to light shade, hardy zones 4-9.

PHOTO COURTESY OF TERRA NOVA® NURSERIES, INC.



PHOTO COURTESY OF WALTERS GARDENS, INC.®



**EPIMEDIUM
'PRETTY IN PINK'**

Walters Gardens

Walters Gardens continues to bring exciting new epimediums to the trade, and this year's new intro, 'Pretty In Pink' will earn 'Got To Have' for all plant lovers quickly! It is a grandiflora type epimedium with small, heart-shaped foliage that takes on dramatic bronzing in cool temps. Flowers are an attractive dark pink and a little smaller in size than many of the intros, but come in huge clusters in spring. Grows up to 18" tall with a spreading habit in partial to deep shade, hardy zones 5-8.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF SYNGENTA®



**HELIUM
HAYDAY™ SERIES**

Syngenta

The team of breeders at Syngenta have created this delightful series of heleniums that are well suited for production. The species grows tall, upright and floppy when bloom time comes, but the HayDay™ series is compact and tidy, only growing 14-18" tall, but still keeping the upright habit. With the smaller size they can be produced in small containers or large ones. Flowers start in mid summer and continue well into the fall. 5 colors, 'Gold Bicolor', 'Orange', 'Red', 'Red Bicolor', and 'Yellow'. Grow in full sun, hardy zones 5-9.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF DS COLE GROWERS



**HELLEBORUS
'EMMA'**

A beautiful white-blossomed introduction from noted Hellebore breeder Het Wilgenbroek. This variety is a H. nigercors x H. orientalis hybrid which makes it very hardy in northern climates and early blooming. Early flowering with beautiful large white flowers that age to a mauve pink. Very floriferous from December to May on a neat habit of dark green foliage with a lighter green veining. Grow in sun or shade, hardy zones 4-9.



'GARNET FRILLS'



'PINK'



'PLUM'



'RUBY HEART'

PHOTOS COURTESY OF TERRA NOVA® NURSERIES, INC.

**HELLEBORUS
NORTH STAR™ SERIES**

Terra Nova Nurseries

This new series of double flowered Hellebores from Terra Nova were developed to offer reliable production and timing from TC inputs. 5 colors so far, offering a broad enough range of colors for the most discriminating buyers.

All feature outward facing, large double flowers that are held above the foliage, giving a gorgeous spring display of blooms. 'Crystalline' is a shimmering white. 'Garnet Frills' features white petals with ruby laces and red veins. 'Pink' is an elegant pink, uniquely painted with dark sangria brush strokes. 'Plum' is a rich plum-purple. And 'Ruby Heart' features white blossoms with centers of ruby dots and freckles. Grow in partial shade, hardy zones 4-9.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ©2019 MICROFLOR

**HELLEBORUS VIV
'VICTORIA'**

Helleborus ViV 'Victoria' is part of the Joie de Vivre Collection from noted breeder Belgian Helleborus specialist Het Wilgenbroek. 'Victoria' is a very durable and long-blooming cultivar with masses of purple flowers blooming from September through winter and into spring. Grow in sun or shade, hardy zones 4-9.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF WALTERS GARDENS, INC.®

**HELLEBORUS
WEDDING PARTY®SERIES ADDS**

Walters Gardens

2 new intros to this popular series of double flowered hellebores from the breeding team at Walters Gardens, both having the same notable vigor and showy floral displays. 'Mother of the Bride' has large, 3" yellow with light pink blooms. 'Shotgun Wedding' has blooms that are heavily concentrated with burgundy speckling and a defined white edge. Great for growing in sun or shade, and hardy zones 4-9.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PROVEN WINNERS®

**HEUCHERA
DOLCE® 'TOFFEE TART'**

Proven Winners

This newest add to PW's Dolce® heucheras offers differing shades of ginger caramel throughout the seasons. In spring the leaves are amber with a silver overlay, maturing through the season to a ginger color with silver overlay. The more compact size and the unusual coloration will make this a fine addition in gardens, in containers, or in combos. Grow in partial shade to avoid scorching, and hardy zones 4-9.

SET YOUR GARDEN ABLAZE *with color*

**HEMEROCALLIS
RAINBOW RHYTHM® ADDS**

Proven Winners

The Rainbow Rhythm collection of daylilies from Proven Winners are the best of the best, featuring unique traits, exceptional floral displays, all thriving with little attention. 'King of the Ages' features huge blossoms on tall scapes, adding height to the perennial border. Flowers are a gorgeous blend of butter-yellow, peach and apricot, and a burgundy red eye and matching red picotee edge. 'Lake of Fire' has enormous 7" flowers that are apricot orange with an incredibly wide orange-red eye. The edges of the petals are ruffled and have a matching orange-red picotee edge and a razor thin golden yellow margin.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF PROVEN WINNERS®



'KING OF AGES'



'LAKE OF FIRE'

PHOTO COURTESY OF PROVEN WINNERS®



HIBISCUS SUMMERIFIC® SERIES ADDS

Proven Winners

Proven Winners is adding 2 gorgeous new colors to their lineup of best-selling Hardy Hibiscus. 'French Vanilla' is a new color for the collection, and a breakthrough for yellow flowering hibiscus. Soft yellow flower buds open to 7-8" creamy custard yellow flowers with a prominent red eye. Compared to the industry standard 'Old Yella', this new selection holds its yellow color longer, has a more compact habit, and more attractive foliage. 'Spinderella' features large fancy white flowers with medium pink edges and a dark red eye. Dark green leaves form a tidy, dense, well rounded habit. Grow in full sun, hardy zones 4-9.

PHOTO COURTESY OF DANZIGER



IBERIS 'FIRST FLUSH LAVENDER'

Danziger

A ground-breaking new selection from the team at Danziger and ThinkPlants, 'First Flush Lavender' is the first cold hardy to zone 5 Candytuft to offer more color than white! An added bonus is that it will flower without vernalization or winter bulking, eliminating the problem of late freezes browning the foliage or flowers. Tidy, compact growing, only 5-8" tall with a spreading habit. Grow in full sun, hardy zones 5-9.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF WALTERS GARDENS, INC.®



IRIS PSEUDATA 'YARAI' (NIGHT THUNDER)

Walters Gardens

Introducing the first commercial introduction of a new species of iris that is a cross between Japanese Iris, Iris ensata, and Yellow Flag Iris, Iris pseudacorus. 'Yarai' translates to 'Night Thunder', and is a tall, early bloomer with peach blended flowers that have deep purple veining, and standards that are more deep purple. Accepts normal garden conditions, but thrives in wet locations. Grow in full sun to partial shade, hardy zones 4-9.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MT. CUBA CENTER



IRIS VERSICOLOR 'PURPLE FLAME'

Mt. Cuba Research Center

Plainly stated, it's a show stopper. Beyond other Iris selections on the market, 'Purple Flame' has a richer, more intense cast to stems and flowers, yes. However, the true beauty lies in the irresistible foliage. Emerging in March, the purple flame-like foliage provides an unparalleled performance of vivid and intense eggplant purple foliage followed by an encore of rich and abundant flowers.

PHOTO COURTESY OF TERRA NOVA® NURSERIES, INC.



KNIPHOFIA 'POCO CITRON'

Terra Nova Nurseries

A lovely, citrusy addition to the immensely popular Poco™ series. Short, dense spikes emerge a creamy lime-green, followed by a color shift to fresh lemon, then canary-yellow and ending up a light butter crème. 'Poco Citron' pumps out huge numbers of blooms, hovering over the very upright, grassy foliage that match perfectly with the other Poco™s. Excellent as a container plant or front of the border star. Summer to fall blooming. Grow in full sun, hardy zones 6-9.

LAVANDULA ANGUSTIFOLIA BEEZEE™ SERIES

Hishtil

– The first of its kind, The Beezee™ English Lavenders are a well matched series with the same growth patterns, size, and timing, so a grower can bring all 5 colors into bloom together. They are compact in habit, growing 12-14" tall, with silvery green foliage, and an extremely long bloom time, nearly the entire summer. Flowers and foliage are delightfully fragrant, and are loved by pollinators. 5 varieties; 'Pink', 'Light Blue', 'Power Blue', 'Dark Blue', and 'White'. Grow in full sun, hardy zones 5-8.

'LIGHT BLUE'



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CONCEPT PLANTS®

**LAVANDULA ANG.
'BLUE JEANS'**
Concept Plants

'Blue Jeans' is a beautiful new English Lavender with fragrant gray-green foliage and deep violet blue flowers. It offers best in class re-blooming when sheared, a trait you rarely find in English Lavender. Nicely rounded bushes grow 16" tall and wide in full sun, hardy zones 6-9.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SYNGENTA®

**LAVANDULA ANGUSTIFOLIA
VINTRO™**
Syngenta

Syngenta is adding 2 new varieties to this newish series of English Lavenders that have kind of flown under the radar so far, but deserve a second look. The Vintro™ series was bred for hardiness, not just from cold but also from cold/wet. 'Forte Blue' is a bigger and bolder selection, perfect for 2.5 quart to 2 gallon production, and 'Compact Blue' has a very tight, controlled habit that fits well for quart and 2.5 quart containers. Grow in full sun, hardy zones 5-9.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF PEACE TREE FARMS

**LAVANDULA
'SENSATIONAL!'**
Peace Tree Farms

From the same breeding as the best-selling L. 'Phenomenal' comes this exciting new intro with dense branching, a more compact habit, and flowers that are up to 4 times larger! Foliage is a fragrant bright silver. Trials tested, with extremely good heat and humidity tolerance. Blooms almost the entire summer with almost no cycling out of flower. Sure to be top-seller! Grow in full sun, hardy zones 5-9.



PHOTO COURTESY OF DARWIN PERENNIALS®/BALL HORTICULTURAL COMPANY

**LAVANDULA STOECHAS
'PRIMAVERA'**
Darwin Perennials

A genetic breakthrough, this is the first Spanish Lavender that can be programmed to bloom very early for markets in the Deep South, or for summer sales in the North. Flowers a deep purple all summer long, and appear above the silvery green foliage on stems from 16-18" tall. Grow in full sun, hardy zones 7-9.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF GREEN FUSE® BOTANICALS



**LEUCANTHEMUM
'CARPET ANGEL DAISY®'**

Green Fuse Botanics

Another first from the breeding team at GreenFuse, a groundcover Shasta Daisy! 'Carpet Angel' is a flat mat growing Shasta with bright white double pompom flowers in summer. Only growing 6" tall, it spreads nicely, creating a dense cover that will keep out weeds. Like the rest of the First Light® group of perennials from GreenFuse, no vernalization is required for first year flowering. Grow in full sun to light shade, hardy zones 5-9.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF WALTERS GARDENS, INC.®



**LEUCANTHEMUM
'ICE CREAM DREAM'**

Walters Gardens

This gorgeous new Shasta Daisy intro is considered by the team at Walters Gardens as an 'Essential Intro for 2020-21', and for good reason! The intense yellow buds open cream and expand to near white, fully double, pom-pom flowers with small yellow centers. Huge flowers, 2-1/2-3" wide, and they will fully cover the plants. Growing 12" tall by 18" wide, grow in full sun. Hardy zones 5-9.

PHOTO COURTESY OF DARWIN PERENNIALS®/BALL HORTICULTURAL COMPANY



**LEUCANTHEMUM
'WHITECAP'**

Darwin Perennials

This beautiful new compact Shasta from Darwin not only offers a perfect tidy habit with large white flowers that will completely cover the plant, but it will do it without being vernalized! 'Whitecap' is a first year flowering selection with strong branching, making perfect plants in all sizes of containers. Flowers are the purest of white with bright yellow centers. Grows 14-16" tall. Grow in full sun to light shade, hardy zones 5-9.

PHOTO COURTESY OF GARDENCHOICE™



**NEPETA
'SYLVESTERBLUE™'**

GardenChoice

This new intro from the team at GardenChoice™ has everything you want in a Catmint and more! Bigger, more vigorous and dense with strong stems, larger flowered, and continuously blooming from first flower to frost! It's almost day-length neutral, so no vernalization required and you can program them to bloom when you want. Grow in full sun to partial shade, hardy zones 4-9.

PHOTO COURTESY OF DARWIN PERENNIALS®/BALL HORTICULTURAL COMPANY



**NEPETA
'WHISPUR™' 'BLUE' & 'PINK'**

Darwin Perennials

Darwin is introducing an attractive matched pair of nepetas with huge, 8-10" spikes of flowers on strongly branched, upright rounded shrubs in summer. Foliage is more green than most of the faassenii hybrids, but still retains an attractive fragrance. They grow 24-28" tall, and will fill gallon or 2 gallon containers nicely. Grow in full sun to partial shade, hardy zones 4-9.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PROVEN WINNERS®



**ORIGANUM
'DROPS OF JUPITER'**

Proven Winners

We are loving this unique addition to the Proven Winners line of perennials, with chartreuse yellow foliage when planted in the sun, topped by clusters of mauve pink flowers held on purple calyxes. A true culinary oregano, with fragrant and tasty foliage, but not as intensely flavored as others. Bold and attractive bushes, reaching 24" tall by 36" wide, and worth consideration as a companion plant in larger combos. Grow in full sun, hardy zones 4-9.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CONCEPT PLANTS®

**PHLOX
BAMBINI® 'SWEET TART'**

Concept Plants

The Bambini® series has flown a little under the radar, but they are definitely worth a 2nd look! Compact, tidy growers with clean, dark green foliage, and brightly colored floral displays that completely cover the plants are the hallmark of this series. 'Sweet Tart' is the newest intro, and fits the series perfectly with bright pink flowers with a softer pink eye. Grows only 10" tall, making it ideal for the front of the border or for containers. Grow in full sun, hardy zones 4-9.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PROVEN WINNERS®

**PHLOX
LUMINARY™ COLLECTION**

Proven Winners

The Luminary™ collection is PW's offerings of tall Summer Phlox, with varieties selected especially for their improved disease resistance. They have trialed well, with excellent garden performance. 2 new intros this year, 'Ultraviolet', with dark magenta violet flowers on darker stems above bronzed foliage, and 'Opalescence', with light pink flowers and dark eyes. The team at Walters considers 'Opalescence' to be an 'Essential Intro for 2020-21' for its best in class mildew resistance, brilliant floral show, and dark foliage. Both are upright growing, to 36" tall. Grow in full sun, hardy zones 3-8.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PROVEN WINNERS®

**PHLOX
SPRING BLING™ COLLECTION**

Proven Winners

Spring Bling™ Phlox from Proven Winners are selections of *P. subulata* varieties that are more mounding, with a higher level of refinement and beauty. 3 colors, 'Pink Sparkles', with soft baby pink flowers with lighter halos in the center, 'Rose Quartz', with larger rose pink flowers, and 'Ruby Riot', with reddish pink blooms with darker eyes. 'Pink Sparkles' is considered by Walters as an 'Essential Intro for 2020-21' because of its huge blooms, up to 1 1/2" across - more than double the size of other *p. subulatas*. Grow in full sun, hardy zones 4-8.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF DUMMEN ORANGE®

**PHLOX
SPRING® SERIES ADDS**

Dummen Orange/Bartel's

From the breeding geniuses of Demmen/Bartels comes spring phlox reinvented! Spring phlox have always been a mixed bag of varying heights and habits, bloom times, and finish times. But with the Spring® series growers can confidently produce a full line of spring phlox in a broad range of colors at the same time. With the 4 new colors added this year there are now 12 colors in the series. Grow in full sun to light shade, hardy zones 3-8.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SYNGENTA®

**PHLOX
SUBULATA GOLDIPHLOX™**

Syngenta

The GoldiPhlox™ series of creeping phlox promised to bring uniformity in habit and bloom time to the species in the core colors that you'd expect. The flat groundcover habit will reach 6" tall and up to 24" wide, with attractive dark green, evergreen foliage, and an explosion of color that will completely cover the plants in spring. 5 colors in the series (in order of photos) 'Light Blue', 'Rose', 'Pink', 'Cherry', and 'White'. Grow in full sun, hardy zones 3-8.



PHOTO COURTESY OF DARWIN PERENNIALS®/BALL HORTICULTURAL COMPANY

**PHLOX
SUPER KA-POW™ SERIES**

Darwin Perennials

The team at Darwin Perennials have amped up the volume on this improved series from their original Ka-Pow®! Bigger, bolder, brighter flowers on strong, sturdy stems with strong branching all summer. They've shown strong disease resistance and solid winter hardiness in trials. 4 colors in order of photos; 'White', 'Pink', 'Lavender', and 'Fuchsia'. Upright growing in full sun to light shade, hardy zones 4-9.

2021 Perennial of the Year

CALAMINTHA

NEPETA SSP. NEPETA



The Perennial Plant of the Year® (PPOY) program began in 1990 to showcase a perennial that is a standout among its competitors. Perennials chosen are suitable for a wide range of growing climates, require low maintenance, have multiple-season interest, and are relatively pest/disease-free.

A plant whose time has come, Calamintha nepeta ssp. nepeta has toiled in obscurity for decades, but with changing times comes changing interests, and this garden workhorse is finally getting its due, and has been selected as the Perennial Plant of the Year for 2021. Today's public now recognizes the value of pollinator plants, and this beauty is not only a great pollinator attractant, it does it all summer long. The incredibly long bloom time starts in early summer and lasts past the first frosts. The tiny white flowers come in large clusters and are held above the tidy shrubs, 12"-14" tall and wide. An added bonus is the sweetly scented foliage. It performs best in full sun, and looks magnificent in mass.

PHOTO COURTESY OF WALTERS GARDENS.

Each year the American Hosta Growers Association selects 'the best of the best', and honors one variety as "Hosta of the Year". These special selections are acknowledged for being unique, easy to grow, and loved by many. These plants are usually the cornerstones of many hosta collector's gardens making them a good choice for beginning collectors and gardeners alike.

The 2021 Hosta of the Year is 'Rainbow's End', an amazing, show-stopping selection with incredibly variegated, shiny foliage, and a 'right-size' habit, growing about a foot tall and almost 2' wide. The bright yellow leaves have dark green edges that jet into the center, and centers that brighten to a creamy white in summer. The dark flowers in summer are held on showy red scapes, adding additional interest.

PHOTO COURTESY OF WALTERS GARDENS.



HOSTA

'RAINBOW'S END'

2021 Hosta of the Year



RUDBECKIA HIRTA MINIBECKIA™ 'FLAME'

GardenChoice

A genetic breakthrough from the team at GardenChoice™! This gorgeous, long blooming, giant flowered selection of Rudbeckia hirta is nearly day-length neutral, so you can flower them whenever you want.

It will quickly finish to its full height of 24" and continuously bloom for 8 weeks +. So far its been the hit of trial gardens all over the country, the floral display is amazing. And although R. hirta species aren't reliably hardy, MiniBeckia™ 'Flame' has wintered successfully in central PA. Grow in full sun, hardy zones 5-9.

PHOTO COURTESY OF GARDENCHOICE™



PLATYCODON TWINKLE™

Syngenta

Twinkle™ Platycodons will make a delightful add-on to late winter/early spring potted perennial programs – it's first year flowering without vernalization! Uniform, densely branched, with a compact habit, producing fuller plants with more flowers. They offer an added bonus too, they won't drop their flowers while being transported in lower light conditions. Available in Blue and White. This new series is a huge upgrade from the balloon flowers currently on the market. Grow in full sun to partial shade, hardy zones 4-8.

PHOTO COURTESY OF SYNGENTA®





SALVIA COLOR SPIRES® COLLECTION

Proven Winners

Color Spires® varieties of Salvia from Proven Winners are crosses between *S. pratensis* and *S. nemorosa* with some of the best features of both species - the huge floral displays of *pratensis* to go with strength and hardiness of *nemorosa*, and even some of the reblooming. 'Snow Kiss' is the first white in the series, with large white blooms and a soft pink lip. But the gem of the new intros, and the gem of the entire series, is 'Back to the Fuchsia', with an incredible display of the darkest fuchsia pink on dark charcoal stems. It's a solid rebloomer when sheared back. They grow 22-24" tall in full sun, hardy zones 3-8.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PROVEN WINNERS®

SALVIA 'FEATHERS FLAMINGO' & 'FEATHERS PEACOCK'

Concept Plants

This new series of Salvias from Concept Plants are completely different from any other salvias on the market, with unique, feathery, scented foliage that give the plants an airy and elegant look. Large flowered, with an extended bloom time, flowering from June to August, and with a rebloom in fall. The flower spikes are huge, and reminiscent of the large flowered *S. pratensis* varieties. 'Flamingo' is a soft pink flowered selection, and 'Peacock' flowers are a purple blue. Upright bold forms to both, growing to 22" tall in full sun to partial shade, hardy zones 4-9.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CONCEPT PLANTS®

SALVIA GREGGII MIRAGE™ 'BLUE' & 'ROSE BICOLOR'

Darwin Perennials

This stand out series of Greggii Salvias have proven to be some of the best on the market, with strong branches that resist breaking in shipping, attractive mounding habits, and exceptional flower displays. Two new additions this year, 'Blue' and the showy 'Rose Bicolor', with an entirely new look for salvias! Excellent drought tolerance and strong garden performance are hallmarks for this series. Grow in full sun, hardy zones 7-9.

PHOTO COURTESY OF DARWIN PERENNIALS®/BALL HORTICULTURAL COMPANY

SALVIA NEMOROSA 'CARADONNA PINK'

A great additional color to *Salvia nemorosa* type, big dark pink flowers with darker calyxes. A hardy perennial, long bloomer, producing spikes of flowers from late spring to autumn, drought, heat and humidity tolerant, attracts bees, butterflies and hummingbirds, low maintenance, easy to grow. Showy plants for containers, perfect for adding a splash of color at a front of a border, mix borders, beds, rock gardens, meadow gardens, gravel gardens, combinations, mass planting, cut flower, dried flower. Grow in full sun to light shade, hardy zones 4-8.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JALDETY

SALVIA 'PING PONG'

A *Salvia microphylla* hybrid, flowering with an abundance eye catching, large raspberry pink flowers with dark calyxes on darker stems. Drought tolerant once established, easy to care, deer tolerant, attracts butterflies, hummingbirds and bees. Use in big containers for patio and decks, mix borders, water wise garden planting, cottage and meadow gardens and beds. Grow in full sun to light shade, hardy zones 7-9.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JALDETY

SALVIA NEMOROSA 'MIDNIGHT PURPLE' & 'MIDNIGHT ROSE'

Dummen Orange/Bartels

This new series of *S. nemorosas* from Bartels adds refinement and elegance, with full, gorgeous, heavy blooming selections in purple and rose. Stems are much darker, adding contrast and interest. Well matched, they will finish at the same size and the same time. They both grow 12-15" tall in full sun to light shade, hardy zones 3-9.

PHOTO COURTESY OF DUMMEN ORANGE®



**SEDUM AIZOON
'EUPHORBIODES'**

A striking specimen, featuring strong, upright, red stems and green leaves that are serrated along the edges. Large yellow flower heads appear in midsummer. Flowers attract pollinators. Vastly underused in the industry, Sedum aizoon 'Euphorbioides' is one of the more interesting plants suitable for extensive green roof conditions. Grow in full sun, hardy zones 4-10.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PLANTS NOUVEAU, LLC

**SEDUM
MOJAVE JEWEL™ 'DIAMOND', 'RUBY', & 'SAPPHIRE'**

Plants Nouveau

A new series of upright mid-size growing sedums that feature strong, sturdy stems that won't flop in the summertime. All grow in the 15-18" height range and are super hardy, growing in zones 3-9. 'Diamond' offers great contrast with purple foliage and pink flowers. 'Ruby' has the darkest purple foliage, near black, topped by blood red blooms. 'Sapphire' is the bluest leaved of the series with baby pink flowers. Grow in full sun to light shade, hardy zones 4-9.

THE GARDEN IS FULL OF MAGIC *You just have to
Sedum to believe.*



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHICAGOLAND GROWS®

**VERNONIA
'SUMMER'S SWAN SONG'**

ChicagoLand Grows

This impressive new selection from the native American Ironweed is a more compact, but upright grower with attractive, mildew free thread leaves, topped by gorgeous violet-purple flowers in summer and fall. From the breeding team at the Chicago Botanic Gardens, 'Summer's Swan Song' is the 1st intro in what will be an entire series of late blooming beauties. Grows up to 40" tall in full sun, hardy zones 4-9.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF WALTERS GARDENS, INC.®

**YUCCA CERNAU
'POLE VAULTER'**

Walters Gardens

This new named selection of a fairly new species of Yucca from East Texas is surprisingly hardy, growing in zones 6-10. The name is in reference to the incredibly tall, ramrod straight flower spike that will reach up to 10' tall. Flowers are creamy white and nodding. Stiff, blue-green leaves form a large rosette, 18-24" tall and 34-36" wide. Grow in full sun. Hardy zones 6-10.



SEMPERVIVUM COLOROCKZ™

Concept Plants

Regarded for the exceptional root system and eye-catching colors and shapes, these semps are great for gardens and containers.

Colorockz™ is a new series of premium hens and chicks from the Concept Plants/Plantipp team, with 2 varieties being released for this year. 'Arctic White' is an exceptionally heavily cobwebbed selection with a compact habit and strong branching. 'Coral Red' features bright red color through most of the year, on a strong growing plant with a tidy habit. Easy to grow, thriving with almost no care, in full sun to light shade. Hardy zones 3-9.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF CONCEPT PLANTS®



THANK YOU

Thank you to our suppliers and breeders for the photographs and information shared for this years Hot New Perennials report! Without the help of these industry leaders, we could not spotlight the must-have varieties for the coming season!

THESE PHOTOGRAPHS ARE COPYRIGHTED PROPERTY OF THE BREEDER/GROWER LISTED FOR EACH VARIETY.

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