

Check out the latest new perennials from breeders around the world.

By Jyme Mariani

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Companies offer new perennials

Agastache

'**Pink Pop**' is a long-flowering perennial from Walters Gardens. It produces bouquets of lavender-pink flower spikes from midsummer to early fall. Abundant flowers are presented atop well-branched stems lined with gray-green leaves. Plants are very uniform and compact with a terrific upright habit. Plants reach 28-32 inches tall with a 30-inch spread. Hardy to USDA Hardiness Zone 6; maybe Zone 5 with protection.

Alstroemeria

Letizia is the newest member of Royal Van Zanten's Princess Lilies series. Plants are quick



Princess Lilies Letizia

to flower and are full with a compact, rounded shape. Flowers are really red.

Aquilegia

'**Songbird Cardinal Improved**' was added to the PanAmerican Seed series.

Armeria

Kieft-Pro-Seed's new **Ballerina** series has two colors: **Red** and **White**.

Aster

Yoder Brothers has two new asters.

Pink Magic is for the very early fall season.

It has medium-sized, 1½-inch flowers similar to Magic in size in a solid-pink color. Color is darker than Patricia Ballard and is similar to Frolic and Thyra Viking. Approximate fall flowering is Sept. 10 in the North and Aug. 30 in the South.

Pink Henry III is part of the **Royalty** series. This 1½-inch, double-flowered aster is rich pink. Plants are a few days later than Marie III, so they are a more precise match to Henry III.



Royalty Pink Henry III

Astilbe

'**Diamonds and Pearls**' is the first pure-white-flowered *Astilbe chinensis* variety. This Darwin PlantSpotters is available from Ball Horticultural Co. Foliage is dark green.

Plants Nouveau is offering '**Delft Lace**,' which was bred by AB-Cultivars in the Netherlands. Deep-blue-green, waxy foliage is covered with a lacey silver overlay, like 'Visions.' Soft-



'Delft Lace'

peach flowers are held strongly above the foliage on candy-apple-red stems. Plants reach 12-15 inches tall and 24-36 inches wide. Hardy in Zones 5-7.

Bellis

Benary's new **Speedstar** series can be produced for both fall and spring sales. Plants



Speedstar series

have a compact habit and leaf size. There are three colors: **Carmine**, **Rose** and **White**. Hardy in Zones 3-5.

Brunnera

'**King's Ransom**' is a silver and gold sport of 'Jack Frost' that was found at Terra Nova Nurser-



'King's Ransom'

ies. It's being jointly introduced to the trade by Walters Gardens and Terra Nova. Plants have a wide, creamy-yellow margin and light-cream frosting over the remainder of the silver leaves. In spring it produces dainty, blue flowers and the leaf margins lighten to creamy white.

Campanula

'**Blue-Eyed Blonde**' is a campanula from Terra Nova Nurseries. Its bright-gold foliage gives rise to large, 1-inch bells of deep-blue flowers. Plants are slow spreading to form a low-growing mat. Hardy in Zones 4-9.

Caryopteris

PlantHaven is offering '**Hint of Gold**,' which was bred by English plantsman Peter Catt. Plants have golden foliage that holds up well in the heat in the Southeast. Plants have a com-



'Hint of Gold'

pact habit with large leaves that have a slight sheen. Mid- to deep-blue flowers form a complete whorl around the stem. Hardy to Zone 6.

Centaurea

Centaurea montana '**Amethyst Dream**' has deeper-purple colored flowers than the genus. This Blooms of Bressingham introduction has large flowers (2½ inches in diameter) and silver foliage that handles heat and drought. Flower buds are "shingled," which gives them interest before opening. Plants reach 20 inches tall and 27 inches wide. Plants were bred by K. Sahin,



'Amethyst Dream'

Zaden. Hardy in Zones 3-9; AHS Zones 9-1.

Chrysanthemum

Yoder Brothers made three additions to its Prophets collection.

Mildred has large, 2¼-inch, creamy-white, decorative flowers in fall. Plants have a great plant habit and uniformity. Approximate fall flowering is Oct. 11.

Nutty Fiona is a red-bronze decorative with 1¾-inch flowers. In fall, plants fill a spot in the early natural season. Plants are taller with less spread than Red-Bronze Urano, with richer color

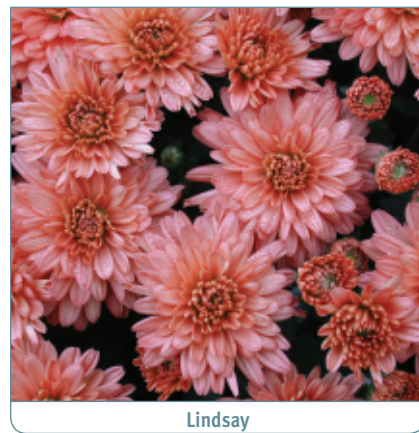
and better color retention. Approximate fall flowering is Sept. 17.

Delightful Mia has petite, 1½-inch, orange button flowers. Plants are a bit faster than Olivia and Sherry with a smaller plant size and rounder flower form. Approximate fall flowering is Sept. 30.

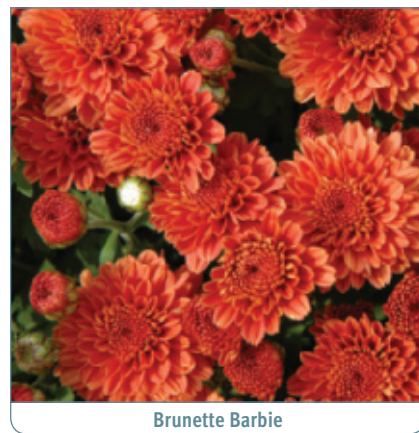
Yoder also has four new members in its European Collection of Prophets.

Yolanda has medium-sized, full, decorative, 2-inch, rich-yellow flowers. Plants produce a well-formed sphere habit with long-lasting flowers in fall. It flowers at the same time as Janice and has a better plant habit and flower longevity. Approximate fall flowering is Sept. 20.

Lindsay has 2-inch, coral, decorative flowers on a rounded sphere plant habit in fall. It is a week slower than Jenna with a rounder plant habit and more uniform flowering. Approximate



Lindsay



Brunette Barbie

fall flowering is Sept. 28.

Brunette Barbie has 1½-inch, decorative flowers that are reddish-bronze. It flowers with or a bit before Andrea with richer color, a rounder habit with less spread and better flowering uniformity. Approximate fall flowering is Oct. 16.

Crazy Victoria is a deep-yellow decorative

Gaura

Compact White is the latest addition to Ball FloraPlant's *Gaura lindheimeri* **Ballerina** series. It is a first-year-flowering perennial. Hardy in Zones 6-10.

G. lindheimeri '**Summer Breeze**' is a more robust selection from Jelitto Perennial Seeds. Breeding began from a plant selection made by Christian Kress of Sarastro Nursery in Austria. Buds are pink that open to pure-white flowers.

Geranium

EuroAmerican Propagators' **Bertie Crug** is a low-water-use geranium with deep-green to



Bertie Crug

chocolate leaves and rosy-pink flowers. Flowers appear all summer to create a carpet of color. Plants reach 4-6 inches tall. Hardy in Zones 6-11.

Hakonechloa

'**Stripe It Rich**' is a variegated Japanese forest grass from Terra Nova Nurseries. It has white-striped golden leaves, which is a twist on the traditional form. Plants have short, creeping rhizomes. Hardy in Zones 6-9.

Helleborus

Walters Gardens is offering the **Winter Jewels** series, which was bred by Marietta O'Byrne of Eugene, Ore. There are five colors in the series to start, with more coming in future years. **Golden Sunrise** is a mixed strain of canary-yellow hellebores so each plant is slightly different. Some are solid yellow, but most exhibit red veining and a red picotee edge. Some have a contrasting red starburst at the center. **Black**



Winter Jewels Golden Sunrise

Diamond has single, near-black flowers. **Cherry Blossom** has single, soft-pink flowers with a picotee. **Onyx Odyssey** has double flowers that are near black. **Peppermint Ice** has double, pink flowers with a picotee.

The **Regal Ruffles Strain** from Terra Nova Nurseries contains vigorous, double flowers with triple the number of petals. Flowers are a colorful mix of reds, greens, pinks, yellow and picotees. Hardy in Zones 5-8.

Hemerocallis

Fooled Me is part of the **Designer Daylily** series that is available from Walters Gardens. Flowers measure 5½ inches across and are



Designer Daylily Fooled Me

radiant golden yellow with a deep-red eye and matching picotee edge. Their broad, rounded petals have a piecrust edging.

Heuchera

Blooms of Bressingham is offering '**Raspberry Chiffon**,' which was bred by Charles Oliver in Scottsdale, Pa. This heuchera can be grown for its foliage and its flowers. Individual florets are white with pink bases. They form clusters from May through July. Flowers sit atop burgundy wands. Foliage emerges purple-bronze. Silver marbling develops over time. Plants reach 24 inches tall and 22 inches wide. Hardy in Zones 5-9; AHS Zones 9-2.

'**Melting Fire**' is a cost-effective heuchera from Kieft-Pro-Seeds. The young leaves on a full-grown plant are bright blood red.

Monrovia is offering an exclusive heuchera collection from breeders Charles and Martha Oliver. It's offering four this year. All have larger flowers with stems that are strong enough to support the blossoms. They are also very disease resistant. Foliage is silver and purple.

'**Crystal Spires**' is a large plant that is very vigorous and floriferous. Its leaves are silver netted with purple-green. Large, cream-white flowers emerge from purple buds on erect, 24-inch stems.

'**Caroline**' is medium-sized with softly patterned silver and purple foliage. Very large, creamy-white flowers emerge from purple buds



'Caroline'

on 18-inch stems.

'**Moonlight**' is a 16- to 20-inch tall plant with striking purple and silver foliage. Stems are dramatic dark purple. Flowers are a luminous pale green.

'**Rose Majestic**' is a large plant with softly patterned silver and purple foliage. It has clear-pink flowers on dark-purple, erect, 26-inch stems. Flowers appear from late spring to early summer.

Terra Nova Nurseries' '**Mahogany**' has mahogany-red foliage with ruffles. Foliage changes from purple tones in spring to red in summer. Plants are extremely heat and drought tolerant. Hardy in Zones 4-9.

Heucherella

Terra Nova Nurseries' '**Tapestry**' has dark-centered leaves that are blue-green in spring and summer. Leaves change to green with dark centers in fall and winter. Soft-pink flowers appear in spring and last through summer. Plants reach 7 inches tall and 16 inches wide. Hardy in Zones 4-9.

Hibiscus

Walters Gardens' '**Jazzberry Jam**' was selected from thousands of seedlings. It has 9-inch, deep-magenta flowers with a red eye. Heavily ruffled, overlapping petals are produced for



Jazzberry Jam

several months beginning in midsummer. Plants reach 4-5 feet tall and 6-7 feet wide.

Hosta

Empress Wu is a giant hosta from Walters Gardens. Its leaves are dark green and deeply veined. They can measure 1½ feet wide and long. Plants are vigorous with an upright habit to form a wide, tall clump. Near-white flowers appear just above the foliage in early to mid-



Empress Wu

summer. Plants reach 3-4 feet tall with a 5- to 6-foot spread.

Hydrangea

'**Mystical Ruby**' is part of Novalis' Plants that Work program. In spring, ruby-red flower heads bloom. As they fade, flower heads take on a richer red color, each with a green eye. Hardy in Zones 5-8.

Juncus

Juncus effuses spiralis '**Twister**' is a Darwin Plants introduction that's available from Ball Horticultural. This seed-grown variety of curly juncus has small leaves. Hardy to Zone 5.

'**Blue Dart**' is a PanAmerican Seed introduction with linear, blue foliage with a strong, vertical habit. Plants reach 14-16 inches tall with a 10- to 12-inch spread. Hardy to Zone 5.

Kieft's '**Starhead**' is a compact, broad-leaved juncus with long-lasting flower heads.

Lavandula

Purple is an addition to Kieft's '**Ellagance**' series. It's a Fleuroselect Gold Medal winner.

Ligularia

Jelitto is offering *Ligularia dentata* '**Midnight Lady**,' which has a basis in breeding from Christian Kress, now of Sarastro Nursery in Austria. Plants have large, decorative, dark-purple



'Tapestry'