

# Nursery

## MANAGEMENT

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Learn how Loma Vista Nursery reduced risks and improved plant health with careful considerations.

# Challenge ACCEPTED



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## EVENTS

# SHOW STOPPERS AT SPRING TRIALS

At the 2019 California Spring Trials, breeders showcased their latest roses, perennials and more.

It wasn't all about annuals at the 2019 California Spring Trials. The GIE Media Horticulture Group saw roses, perennials (hardy and tender), a few woodies and some tropicals. Breeders and distributors know there's a market beyond pansies and petunias. Check out the photo gallery for some inspiration. You may see your next big seller. Plant descriptions and culture information were provided by the breeders. For complete California Spring Trials coverage, visit [http://bit.ly/2019\\_CAST](http://bit.ly/2019_CAST)



**Star Roses & Plants** featured a fun idea that will hit the market in 2021 – Bushel and Berry blueberries (**Sapphire Cascade and Midnight Cascade**) in a hanging basket. They should command a high price at retail and consumers will appreciate the convenience.



Heuchera **LITTLE CUTIES 'Shimmer'** from **Terra Nova Nurseries** is constantly blooming and has multiple crowns. Hardy to USDA Zones 4-9, 'Shimmer' is able to fill pots quickly, but won't overpower in a mix, says sales manager Larry Finley.



Someone on your crew may ask, "Which way is up?" when planting caladiums. Classic Caladiums, which are now available through a new partnership with **Proven Winners**, helped solve this dilemma by painting the eyes of the tubers so there's no question that the painted side faces up. New to the Proven Winners line is The **Heart to Heart Series** including 'Caribbean Coral', 'Heart and Soul' and 'Lemon Blush'.



*Athyrium niponicum* '**Crested Surf**' is the first perennial fern in the **Proven Winners** lineup. It looks similar in color to a traditional Japanese painted fern, but the tips of the fronds are double crested. This taller variety is hardy in Zones 3-8.



**Echibeckia Summerina Blazing Fire** was one of the star plants at **Pacific Plug & Liner**, planted in containers near the entrance of their Spring Trials display with its own vignette. Echibeckia is fast-growing, good for shoulder season sales, can be grown in multiple pot sizes and is heat tolerant. One 72-cell liner can easily fill larger pots such as 1.5 gallons and deco pots.



**American Pie 'Cherry Pie'** dianthus from **Pinks by Whetman** will follow in the footsteps of the top-selling 'Georgia Peach Pie' for the 2020 season. Robert Bett of PlantHaven says he's quite impressed with its foliage color and prolific bud set. As a bonus, the cherry-red flowers on strong stems work great as a cut flower for the consumer.



**Digitalis Arctic Fox Rose** from **Darwin Perennials** is a Zone 5 hardy hybrid that is a good alternative for the fall selling market. It's pollinator friendly because of its nectar production, but it will not seed. It flowers from mid-spring until frost.



For 2020, **Dümmen Orange** is introducing **Fleur de Rock**, a new collection of alpine garden plants consisting of an Iberis, two Delosperma, an Aubretia and a Saxifraga. Consumers want crops that are easy to plant in the garden, with low-water and low-maintenance requirements, and this collection fits the bill. Pictured is Saxifraga Scenic White.



**Sunrosa Yellow Delight** from **Suntory** is a compact, bushy landscape rose that was bred for disease resistance and a long flowering period. It grows up to 24 inches high and 18 inches wide.



**Salvatore Blue** salvia from **Kieft Seed** is more vigorous than New Dimension Blue and is better suited for gallons. The black stems and striking flowers garnered a lot of attention at Spring Trials. With a critical daylength of 10 hours, it's possible to finish for early spring, which was previously only possible with vegetative varieties.



The pink, fragrant flowers of '**Pink Diamonds**' Dicentra from **Walters Gardens** will flower all season long. This bleeding heart attracts bees and hummingbirds and is deer-resistant. Growing to 12 to 16 inches high with a 16- to 18-inch spread, it is easy to produce in a container and to get to flower.

PHOTOS BY KELLI RODDA, MICHELLE SIMAKIS AND PATRICK WILLIAMS