

2012 New Plant Pavilion Summer Edition



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Eye candy

From fabulous flowers to interesting shapes, breeders are making sure their plants stand out in the crowd

There are some exciting things going on in the plant world, and *Nursery Management* is pleased to present the summer edition of the New Plant Pavilion. Pick your favorites from this guide, share them with your staff and by all means add these beauties to your next production schedule.

Several of the entries are flowering plants – jewels on the retail shelf that will no doubt make a consumer stop, pick up the pot and put it in her basket. Many of the selections are early to flower and bloom for a long period of time – think extended selling seasons.

A number of the varieties we're presenting are compact – more room on the bench or ground, more room on the truck and more room on the retailer's shelf. Heck, how about more plants in the check-out line. Some of the compact varieties you'll find in our guide include a new salvia, the

latest Encore Azalea selection, a new hybrid geranium, a *Leucanthemum* hybrid with a fun name, a new Solomon's seal, a dwarf *Burgmansia* and an *Echinacea*.

Drought tolerance is another characteristic you'll find in some of the new plants presented here. This is an important factor with continued droughts and water restrictions in many areas of the country. Consumers, contractors and landscape designers will be seeking out drought-tolerant plants.

One of my favorite traits touted in this summer edition is fragrance. It's a fantastic way to get a consumer to pick up your plant. Look at the *Hypericum* and lilac in this guide for two new fragrant varieties.

The two new trees featured here are columnar selections – a fantastic habit for urban and landscape trees. My short stature and love for all things sweet keep me from being an expert on tall and slender, but I will say these two trees are really nifty. **NM**

All plant descriptions provided by participating companies.



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'Amistad' Salvia

Armstrong
Gold™ Maple



'Amistad' Salvia

A sought-after introduction from the new Sunset Western Garden Collection and the Southern Living Plant Collection, 'Amistad' Salvia, from Plant Development Services Inc., is more compact and has a fuller habit than other guaranítica types. Unlike other salvia blooms, Amistad's dark purple flowers with nearly black calyx bloom earlier in early spring and continue constantly until frost. The rich purple blooms are a magnet for butterflies and hummingbirds.

'Amistad' Salvia is hardy in USDA Hardiness Zones 8b-11 and Sunset Zones 9 and 14-24. Amistad Salvia is water-wise and drought and heat tolerant, key characteristics important for both Southern gardens and West Coast landscapes. It grows to 3-4 feet tall by 3 feet wide in full sun to part shade, and works well in containers or as a mass planting.

Armstrong Gold™ Maple

Armstrong Gold™ Maple (*Acer rubrum* 'JFS-KW78')

sets a new gold standard for columnar trees. It stood out as a top performer among hundreds of seedlings of Armstrong Maple, grown out in evaluation trials designed to improve upon 'Armstrong' at J. Frank Schmidt & Son Co.

Armstrong Gold™ Maple improves greatly on the parent in several areas. Most importantly, greater foliage and branch density combine with its more compact, less leggy growth habit to give it a tighter, densely columnar appearance as it reaches a height of about 40 feet with a spread of 12 feet at maturity. Stout branches with open angles reduce pruning costs in the nursery and long-term pruning and maintenance needs in the landscape. Brighter and richer fall colors – ranging from gold to rich golden orange inspired the name.

Urban foresters and landscape designers will appreciate the improved columnar form of this superior urban tree that's hardy through USDA Zone 4. Its tightly fastigiate shape makes Armstrong Gold™ a perfect choice for leafy allées along narrow streets as well as placing as landscape exclamation points.

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Encore® Azalea
Autumn Sunburst™



Enduring Summer™
Lagerstroemia

Encore® Azalea Autumn Sunburst™

One of four new Encore Azaleas introducing to retail in spring 2013, Autumn Sunburst from Plant Development Services Inc. is a bright highlight in the garden, growing compactly and blooming profusely in spring, summer and fall. Its visually unique blooms are coral pink with white ruffled edges and stand out against the compact dark green foliage.

Encore Azaleas are the world's best-selling reblooming azalea with rich, colorful blooms in spring, summer and fall, and like all Encore Azaleas, Autumn Sunburst offers sustainable color season after season. Unlike any other azaleas, Encore Azaleas perform equally well in sunny locations and

partial shade; Autumn Sunburst grows compactly to 3 feet high by 3½ feet wide, and works well in containers or as a garden feature.

Enduring Summer™ Lagerstroemia

One-of-a-kind reblooming series from respected horticulturist Michael Dirr. Featuring a nice, tight habit, Enduring Summer blooms earlier and lasts longer than other Lagerstroemia. Colorful berries set off the flowering fun, but deer won't join the party. Available colors are Fuchsia, Lavender, Pink, Red and White. It's available from Ball Ornamentals. It's hardy to Zones 6b-10.

Geranium 'Azure Rush'

'Azure Rush' is a hybrid from *Geranium* 'Rozanne,' the 2008 PPA Perennial of the Year with the same traits, except for light blue flowers and a more mounding habit. Height is 22 inches and width is 32 inches. 'Azure Rush' loves the heat

Geranium
'Azure Rush'



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*Leucanthemum x
superbum 'Freak!'*

and blooms from late May until frost. It's a vigorous grower with a compact, self-branching habit. Grow in full sun to part shade in average, well-drained soil. It's hardy in USDA Zones 5 to 8 and AHS Heat Zones 12 to 2. Discovered by Jeddeloh Pflanzen in Germany and introduced through Blooms of Bressingham.

Leucanthemum x superbum 'Freak!'

'Freak!' is a grower's and retailer's dream variety. It's programmable for weekly flowering with a compact habit and first year flowering. A showstopper covered with 2- to 2 ½-inch flowers from June to frost. Height is 13 inches and width is 21 inches; container height is 9 inches. Grow in full sun, part sun in hot regions,

and well-drained, average to fertile soil. Hardy to USDA Zones 5-8; AHS Heat Zones 8 to 1. Bred by Har Stemkens of Syngenta Flowers and introduced through Blooms of Bressingham.

Little Angel Brugmansia

The only dwarf Brugmansia on the market scores big in curb appeal. Little Angel from Ball Ornamentals boasts enormous 4- to 6-inch, trumpet-shaped blooms that hang upside down and give off an intense fragrance after dark. Reaching 3 to 4 feet in height, this subtropical shrub is a real attention-grabber, and it's especially attractive to hummingbirds. It's hardy to Zone 10.

Nantucket Blue™ Hydrangea

Nantucket Blue™ Hydrangea is a new repeat blooming selection of the renown hydrangeas that adorn Nantucket Island. This great new plant from Garden Debut



Little Angel
Brugmansia

Nantucket Blue™
Hydrangea



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Prince Charming
Solomon's Seal

was developed by Green-leaf Nursery Company for its prolific blooming and vibrant bloom color.

Dense, leathery green foliage provides contrast for an abundant summertime display of blue (or pink) flower clusters that last until frost. Sweeten the soil with lime to turn the blooms to pink; acidify the soil to intensify the blue.

Nantucket Blue™ is fast growing and matures between 4 and 6 feet high. It is cold hardy to Zone 5, and blooms on both old and new wood.

Prince Charming Solomon's Seal

This vigorous selection of Solomon's Seal produces attractive medium-green foliage that can take on a bluish cast in full sun, contrasting with the gray undersides of the leaves. A profusion of creamy-white flowers produced in spring is followed by green berries that turn purple in autumn. The season ends with the

foliage turning an attractive golden yellow in October and November. A vigorous spreader, yet compact, it grows only to 12 inches high. The only other more compact Solomon's Seal is *Polygonatum humile*, which can be so short that it is often overrun by taller perennials.

'Prince Charming' can form a dense colony in a few years. Its leathery foliage gives a clue to its adaptability: shade to full sun, and medium moisture to dry soils. 'Prince Charming' appears to be a hybrid, possibly of the native *P. commutatum* and the Asian *P. humile*. Regardless of its parentage, it is unique in comparison to other Solomon's Seals. Use in the perennial border, woodland garden, or partially shaded rock garden; sites where you can appreciate its multiple seasons of interest. It is deer and rabbit resistant and hardy in Zones 4-7. Developed by Brent Horvath of Intrinsic Perennial Gardens and co-introduced with Chicagoland Grows Inc.

Purple Glory Lilac

A delicious fragrance permeates the air surrounding



Purple Glory Lilac

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Savant
Hydrangea

Skinny Genes™
Oak



the luxuriant deep purple flowers of Syringa 'Purple Glory' (*Syringa × hyacinthiflora*). Individual flowers the size of a juicy grape open on full racemes one to two weeks before common lilacs to provide a long lasting bloom. New leaves will emerge in spring with a purple blush and in fall these purple highlights return. Dense foliage fills branches low to the ground making Purple Glory an attractive specimen plant or useful massed in a hedge or screen. At maturity, it reaches 6- to 8-feet high and 6 feet wide. It's hardy to Zone 2. Purple Glory is deer resistant.

Famed lilac hybridizer Father John Fiala rated Purple Glory very fine to excellent. Available from Briggs Plant Propagators.

Savant Hydrangea

Gargantuan blooms on sturdy stems make Ball Ornaments' Savant one smart choice. Long-flowering Savant puts on an amazing color show, with massive

blooms that transform from white to pink to green. Programmable for year-round production, this unique variety will amaze and delight growers, retailers and gardeners. It's hardy to Zones 7-9.

Skinny Genes™ Oak

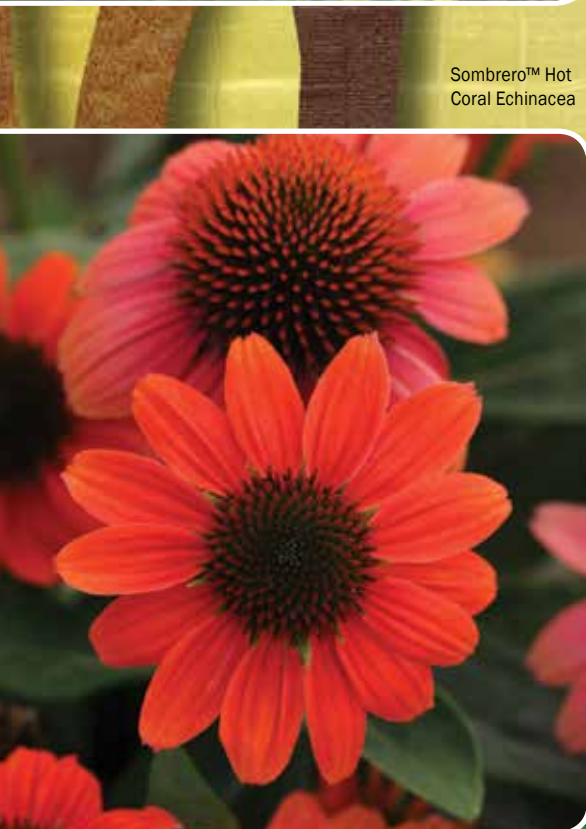
Skinny jeans turn heads in the fashion world. The same can be said of Skinny Genes™ Oak (*Quercus robur × alba* 'JFS-KW2QX'), a show-stopping new columnar tree that's turning heads in the plant world from J. Frank Schmidt & Son Co. Skinny Genes™ Oak is a leafy, elegant exclamation point – perfectly suited for planting along narrow streets and other restricted urban planting spaces. This new, tightly fastigate hybrid of English and White Oak may be the narrowest yet as it matures to a height of 45 feet and spread of only 10 feet.

Columnar form and glossy dark green summer foliage make it a showstopper in the fields, on the streets and in the landscape. Clean, mildew resistant foliage stays fresh and green through the heat of summer before turning tawny yellow

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Snow Splash™
Hypericum



Sombrero™ Hot
Coral Echinacea

in autumn. Hardy through USDA Zone 4, it was selected from second generation seedlings of a sister of the adaptable, time-tested and widely planted Crimson Spire™ Oak.

Snow Splash™ Hypericum

LCN Selections' *Hypericum androsaemum* 'Snospzam' Snow Splash™ is a compact spreading variety selected for its variegated foliage.

Its leaves are a mix of cream, pink and green variegation and it produces the typical single, gold Hypericum flowers. During fall the foliage takes on deeper tones of pink and red. It also has attractive red fruit which turns a purple-black. And

almost all parts of the plant are pleasingly aromatic. A hard early spring pruning is suggested to encourage a flush of new and colorful growth. It will mature to approximately 18-24 inches in height and width, and it can be grown in full sun or part shade. It is hardy to Zone 5.

Sombrero™ Echinacea

The new Sombrero™ echinacea series from Darwin Perennials is filled with bright, rich colors on well-branched and floriferous plants. These sturdy, compact plants were bred from selections of overwintered echinacea and are extremely hardy – to at least Zone 5. This is contrary to other brightly colored coneflowers on the market, which may reach Zone 6. Sombrero grows up to 24 inches high and spreads up to 26 inches.

Perfect for use in Spring-planted programs. They're

Tidal Pool
Speedwell



bred for years of enjoyment. Sombrero is available in Hot Coral, Salsa Red, Sandy Yellow and new Lemon Yellow.

Tidal Pool Speedwell

Selected from a cross made at Chicago Botanic Garden in 2007 between *Veronica armena* and *V. pectinata* 'Rosea,' Veronica 'Tidal Pool' seems to have inherited the best traits from both parents. Plants are covered with medium to deep blue violet flowers from late April into mid-May in North Illinois. Denser and faster spreading than either parent, plants will grow from 3 to 4 inches tall and will spread upwards of 30 inches wide in a single season. The attractive, fine-textured foliage is evergreen, providing an excellent backdrop to its spring flowers and as a complement to bulbs and other perennials.

The small oak-like leaves are medium green with a

faint silvery-blue cast from its slight pubescence. This selection is in active growth much of the growing season, giving it a "fresh" appearance for much of the year. The spent inflorescences are quickly covered by new growth. It does not develop openings in the crown like many speedwells. Full sun and a well-drained, medium-moist to dry soil is recommended. Drought-tolerant once established. 'Tidal Pool' has grown equally well in sandy soil and in a heavy clay soil, as long as the latter was well drained. Deer and rabbit resistant, and will tolerate some foot traffic. Hardy in Zones 4-7. A Chicagoland Grows Inc. plant introduction. NM

Snow Splash™
Hypericum



Sombrero™ Lemon Yellow
Echinacea





New Plant Pavilion Sources Nursery MANAGEMENT

Ball Horticultural Co.

www.ballhort.com
(630) 231-3600

Blooms of Bressingham

www.bloomsofbressinghamplants.com
(800) 321-9573

Briggs Plant Propagators

www.briggsnursery.com
(800) 444-1515

Chicagoland Grows

www.chicagolandgrows.org
(847) 835-8244

Darwin Perennials

www.darwinperennials.com
(800) 879-2255

Garden Debut

www.gardendebut.com
(877) 663-5053

J. Frank Schmidt & Son Co.

www.jfschmidt.com
(503) 663-4128

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