

2002 full of new flowers, greenery, to choose

GARDEN SPOT



MARTY FIELEY

There are many new things in the gardening world for 2002. Annuals, perennials, shrubs and trees and much more will make your gardening experiences more exciting and rewarding.

Goldsmith announces several new and improved annual varieties that will brighten your garden beds. They include "Kiss" gazania with daisy-like flowers that mound and grow low to the ground. With colors that include bronze, rose, orange, rose, white and yellow, it may be a tough decision to choose.

Colors are bluish, lavender, rose and white. "Bambin" trailing petunia is only 8-10 inches high but crawls to 2 to 2 1/2 feet. Colors are burgundy chrome, nu blue, peach glo and shades of pink.

"Leilani Blue" ngerantum is a delicate, clear blue and grows to 14-16 inches. The fluffy flowers are self-cleaning. And "Irina II" marigold grows to 12-14 inches in colors of gold, orange, primrose and yellow.

This information will whet

your appetite - look for other Goldsmith flowers that are new and improved.

All-America Selections now has a new trial category - the "First Season" trial, which was designed to test frost-tolerant annuals, perennials or biennials. The trial will be conducted over two seasons. The primary evaluation will occur the second season. Visit the AAS web site at www.all-america-selections.org and click on the 2001 Winner button for further details. You can also reach them at www.aas-winners.com to view the 13 winners available this year. Here are some of them. The following three are F I Highbreds: Pansy "Ultima Morpho," Cleome "Sparkler Blush," Petunia "Lavender Weave." Other winners are: Rudbeckia Hirta "Cherokee Sunset." Vegetables: Winter Squash "Cornell's Bush Delicata," Pumpkin "Orange Smoothie" and the herb Basil "Magical Michael."

Park Seeds also gleaned some winners from their trial gardens. Visit them online at www.parkseed.com to order, request a catalog, or for more information. You'll be able to grow the following new plants - Allium Fireworks Display - a mix of three species that will make a spectacular show. The Poppy Penny Mix - clear color on double blooms. The mix includes Flemish Antique (White blooms with

splashes of pale salmon red), pink, salmon, white and black. Then there is Salvia Jeweled Towers, a radiant mix of red, burgundy, lavender and dark purple - flower spikes are 10 inches on 10-16 inch plants. New vegetable introductions include blue wonder beans, Magda hybrid squash, and Lemon Lee hybrid watermelon.

Wayside Gardens (www.waysidegardens.com) also have some new introductions. Apricot flowers bloom on the shrub rose "Paul Bocuse," Lily "Silk Road" (white flowers with deep crimson-rose throats), Purple Emperor, a sun-loving sedum; Magnolia "Jane" is reddish purple the outside and white on the inside, and blooms late in the season. The Cornus kousa "Limon Ripple" has distinctive foliage - the central area is green and surrounded by a wide band of chartreuse yellow in the edges. Flowers are pure white. The Hibiscus "Kopper King" sports light pink flowers with deep purple foliage - reaches 4 feet tall. Full sun. All of these plants are hardy in one 5.

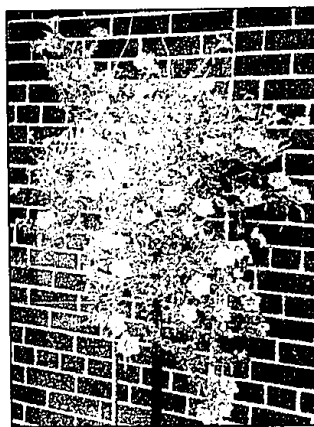
Two beautiful roses have received that All-America Rose Selections award for 2002. They are Love & Peace, a classic hybrid tea, and Starry Night, a landscape shrub. Five-inch, golden yellow flowers edged with

pink are surrounded by dark green glossy foliage on Love & Peace. Starry Night blooms in large clusters of pure white flowers, with medium green glossy foliage. These roses are available through mail order catalogs and at garden centers, nurseries, home centers and mass merchandisers in time for the 2002 planting season. Visit AARS web site at www.rose.org.

If you love to grow ivy and appreciate all the variances of the foliage, look for "Teardrop," which has been selected as "Ivy of the Year" 2002. The shiny dark green leaves are longer than they are wide and resemble a teardrop. It is self-branching and easy to grow in pot or basket. It's hardiness has been tested as low as minus 15 degrees F. in Ohio. Additional information: Suzanne Warner Pierot, phone or fax 846-688-6318.

Good garden tip: Use the boughs of a discarded Christmas tree as a mulch to protect tender broadleaf evergreens and small plants from sunscald and frost heave.

Marty Fieley is an advanced master gardener based in Birmingham. You can leave her a message by dialing (734) 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone. Her fax number is (248) 644-1314.



Trailing: Trailing petunias are perfect for hanging containers. Lavender pink is a winner.

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