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in the yard

flowers of the year!

Welcome to the first annual Bloomie Awards—our picks for the best new plants you’ll find in garden centers this year. And the winners are...
most surprising new color

‘First Yellow’ Zonal Geranium

You’ve surely seen geraniums in pink and red, but never in this sunny shade. The first truly yellow flower of its kind, it features a double layer of petals that bloom all summer long. Come winter, store potted plants in a cool garage (about 50°F), then bring them out in spring and they should bloom for years. Available at burpee.com and garden centers.

best for attracting birds and butterflies

Kniphofia Popsicle Series

We especially like ‘Orange Vanilla Popsicle.’ This take on the classic Red Hot Poker plant features spiky flowers that fade into white and bloom all summer. Its sweet nectar is a favorite of hummingbirds, orioles, and many kinds of butterflies. Visit terranovanurseries.com for stores.

easiest care (nonprickly!) rose

Oso Happy Smoothie Rose

No need to watch your fingers when you’re clipping this shrub—the stems are thornless. Its gorgeous clusters of hot pink blossoms bloom from June until the first frost, and they’re naturally disease-resistant, too. Visit provenwinners.com for stores.

hottest hybrid

Gerbera Hybrid Drakensberg Daisy Series

Most Gerbera daisies have little staying power in flower beds, but this resilient bloom lasts all summer, sprouting orange, red, pink, white, or pale yellow flowers on 18-inch stems. And its leaves remain fresh-looking even in the heat. Available at garden centers.

outstanding short

Heuchera Little Cutie Series

Attention, space-deprived “yarders,” this mini coral bell is for you! Perfectly at home in a container garden or itty-bitty flower bed, these plants deliver a double dose of color. Foliage, in hues ranging from frosted wine to chartreuse, looks like it’s practically glowing in the summer, and spikes of delicate pink or cream flowers pop up continuously. Bonus: They attract hummingbirds. Visit terranovanurseries.com for stores.