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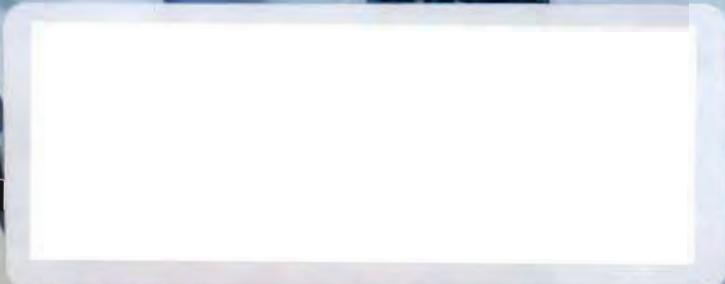
Greenhouse®

MANAGEMENT PRODUCTION

Retail ready ^{p.10}

Kaw Valley Greenhouses

Dan Parcel, Retail Director



Greenhouse

MANAGEMENT & PRODUCTION



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COVER STORY

10 Retail ready



Kaw Valley Greenhouses in Manhattan, Kan., dropped its wholesale operation in favor of growing solely for its own retail stores.

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ON THE COVER

Dan Parcel, retail director at Kaw Valley Greenhouses, said the company is enjoying strong sales after dropping its long-time wholesale customers to concentrate on growing for Kaw Valley's own retail stores.

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By Jennifer McLean

NEW PERENNIAL Varieties

Perennials continue to gain in popularity among growers, consumers and landscapers. Check out these new plants from breeders from around the world.

ACHILLEA

Blossoms of Bressingham introduces two new varieties bred by Sahin.

'Peachy Seduction' produces large, uniform flowering clusters of peach-colored flowers in mid-June through July. Its rich green, fernlike foliage forms sturdy upright columns and is disease resistant. It is very heat and humidity tolerant and is hardy in USDA Hardiness Zones 4-8. It grows to 23 inches tall and wide the first year.

'Pineapple Mango' is an addition to the Tutti Frutti series. It features a well-branched, vase-shaped habit and large, multi-hued flower clusters that start out a rich pink, mature to light pink/salmon and finish pale yellow. It blooms from mid-June through July. Plants, which have disease-resistant rich green, fern-like foliage, are very heat and humidity tolerant. It grows to 23 inches tall by 23 inches wide. It is hardy in USDA Hardiness Zones 4 to 8.

ACTAEA

'Misty Blue' from North Creek Nurseries is a striking, multi-stemmed woodland perennial with soft, bluish-green, finely cut foliage. Airy white flowers appear until April, followed by vivid, reddish pedicels which produce large, white 'doll's eyes' fruit in fall.

AGASTACHE

Green Fuse Botanicals new Acapulco Deluxe series includes Carmine Red, Chiffon and Rose. The leaves and flowers have a licorice fragrance and perform in most regions of North America including warm growing areas. The compact plants are day neutral. With a single pinch, the plants finish in full

flower at 12 inches tall.

AGAVE

'Dragon Toes' from Rancho Tissue Technologies has red tips and chunky thick leaves. Each leaf has a very distinct imprint on it. Plants grow to 12 inches tall and tolerate climate changes from freezing to high temperatures of 100°F.

AQUILEGIA

The Winky series from Kieft-Pro-Seeds consists of compact, mounded plants that have a uniform height and habit. Early Sky Blue has upright facing flowers on strong stems. This mildew tolerant series is useful for containers and landscapes. Flowering occurs from spring to early summer.

Thompson & Morgan has three new varieties. 'Rhubarb & Custard' has masses of bright red and yellow flowers and a neat, compact habit. It reaches a final garden height of 8 inches. 'Sunshine' has fully double pastel yellow flowers with long, 2-inch spurs on the back of each flower. It grows to 2 feet tall. 'Double Pleat Blackberry' has fully double pleated flowers in contrasting dark purple and white.



Aquilegia, Winky Early Sky Blue

ALLIUM

'Rising Star' from Intrinsic Perennial Gardens is a short pink chive growing to just under 1-foot tall. It features nice grey green foliage all season long. This full sun plant should be dead headed for tidiness and to prevent reseeding.

AMSONIA

North Creek Nurseries offers 'Spring Sky' which displays a uniform, compact habit, consistent 18-inch stature and exceptional heat- and drought-tolerance. It produces sky blue flowers.

ASTER

Cultivaris' Kickin series is available from Plug Connection. Plants have a bushy, compact habit and are covered with semi-double flowers. Purple has deep violet-purple flowers with golden centers. Pink Chiffon has perfectly formed intense Barbie doll pink flowers with yellow centers. Carmine Red features vibrant carmine-red flowers with bright yellow centers. Lavender has soft lavender flowers on compact plants. Mauve has deep mauve-purple flowers with dark golden centers. Silver Pink has silver-pink flowers with dark centers. Lilac Blue has intense violet-blue flowers with dark centers.

'First Snow' from Intrinsic Perennial Gardens forms billowing mounds that grow 2 feet and taller and is covered with white flowers in October. It has needlelike foliage and prefers full sun and well-drained soil.

AUBRIETA

Proven Winners adds two new varieties to its Madly series. Blue Violet has a deep, rich blue color with long spring flowering and rebloom in fall. Magenta features a vivid magenta color.

BUDDLEIA

Plug Connection and Pacific Plug & Liner offer the Buzz series from Cultivaris. The compact, hardy plants flower quickly from liners and produce full-sized, graceful, tapering flower spikes. Ivory has pure white flower spikes. Magenta has intense magenta flower

spikes and is more vigorous than the other varieties in the series. Pink Purple has luscious deep purple flower spikes. Violet produces rich lavender flowers. Violet Blue features cool sky-blue flowers.

CAMPANULA

Part of the Benary FastraX perennial program, *Campanula cochlearifolia* Alpine Breeze Blue and White flower the first year without vernalization. They are also significantly earlier than other campanula varieties. A 4-inch pot flowers in 17-19 weeks. Their narrow flowering window and long shelf life assure easy scheduling.

Greenex introduces its Royal series with Blue and White. Plants produce many buds, large flowers and have a short production time.

CAREX

Variiegated Japanese sedge 'Everest' from Novalis is available through Pacific Plug & Liner. It produces fountains of narrow leaves, with wide, pure-white variegation that spill over to form compact clumps. This shade-loving grass grows best in partial sun to shade and reaches an average height of 12 inches.

COREOPSIS

'Golden Dream' is a dwarf sport of the Blooms of Bressingham variety 'Crème Brulee'. The smaller 'Golden Dream' is long blooming with 1-inch flowers that peak in June and July with lighter flushes well into September. The uniform, upright plants produce mounds of bright green foliage. It should be treated as a tender perennial since its USDA Hardness Zone is undetermined. Plants grow to 12 inches tall by 20 inches wide the first year.

Terra Nova Nurseries introduces three new varieties. 'Pineapple Pie' forms a low-growing mound with numerous red-eyed, golden-yellow flow-



Daylily, Toy Cameo

ers. 'Pumpkin Pie' forms a low-growing mound with numerous red-eyed, pumpkin-orange flowers. Both are free flowering and bloom from early summer to fall. They do great in containers, mixed beds and borders.

'Fruit Punch' is an addition to the Punch series. It produces two-toned flowers with a light pink edge and a red eye. It forms a low mound and is free flowering all summer. The flowers cover the foliage.

DAYLILY

Toy Cameo from All American Daylilies, is a petite, perfectly proportioned plant. Its compact habit, rust-resistant deciduous foliage, well-groomed appearance and repeat blooming habit make it a good choice for use as a low ground cover, in border plantings and patio containers. The 3½-inch flowers on 15- to 20-inch stems have peachy-pink petals that surround a chartreuse-green throat. Toy Cameo increases rapidly and thrives in USDA Hardness Zones 4-9.

DELPHINIUM

'Moonlight Blues' from Dowdeswell's Delphiniums and available from Wal-



Dianthus, Twilight Star

ters Gardens has stunning sky blue flowers with the slightest hint of pink. The color of the bee ranges from black to brown to blue striped. The foliage tends to be a bit lighter green than others in the series.

DIANTHUS

Red Beauty from Darwin Perennials features beautiful red blooms. It is a repeat-flowering variety with a more compact habit. It is great for borders, cottage gardens, rock gardens and edging along walking paths.

The **SuperTrouper** series from Selecta fits well into pot, bedding plant and perennial programs. Plants have a good branching, uniform habit, large color range and a nice scent. **Butterfly Dark Red** adds a brilliant bicolor to the series. **Pink evol.** and **Light Pink evol.** are improved for habit. Plants are hardy to USDA Hardiness Zone 6.

PlantHaven has introduced several new *D. hybrida*.

The **Early Bird** series has a unique compact habit with repeat blooming and early season fragrant double flowers. **Chili** is electric-pink and produces sturdy stems. **Radiance** is crimson red. **Fizzy** features light lavender petals with a maroon eye. **Frosty** is pure white. **Sherbert** is magenta.

Coconut Surprise has masses of fragrant, double white flowers with burgundy red centers on short stems. It has a blue-green foliage and flowers spring through fall.

The **Star** series has a compact mounding habit with blue green foliage. **Starry Night** has hot pink semi-double blooms with a deeper eye, carried on sturdy stems; **Twilight Star** has semi double pink blooms with a maroon center carried on sturdy stems.

'**Diamond Flash**' from Walters Gardens is a bright white selection with steel blue foliage. Each fringed flower has a perfect magenta purple kissed eye. As the flowers age, they take on a pink blush.

DIGITALIS

Thompson & Morgan offer its new **Polkadot** series which includes **Princess**, **Pippa**, **Polly** and **Pandora**. These interspecific hybrids have a long flowering period with excellent basal branching, sterile flowers and a wide range of flower sizes and colors.

ECHINACEA

The **PowWow** series from PanAmerican Seed puts more flowers on every plant than any other seed echinacea, whether grown for first-year spring sales or as a traditional overwintered perennial. All-America Selections winner **Wild Berry** has unique, intense rose flowers with a dark rose center. It is faster to flower and genetically shorter, making it easy to grow, ship on racks, and sell. No growth regulators are needed to maintain control height in quart or gallon containers.

'**Mistral**' is a floriferous, compact coneflower introduced by Blooms of Bressingham from Dutch grower Ad Kempen. A sport of the very popular 'Kim's Knee High' this variety is shorter, faster growing and has more flowers (up to 80 in the second year). Covered in pink blooms from July to September, its petals are less prone to flop over and it branches extremely well. It can be used in border plantings and rock gardens and also in contain-

ers in sunny locations. Plants grow 18-20 inches tall by 12 inches wide in two years and are hardy in USDA Hardiness Zones 5-6.

'**Showoff**' from Intrinsic Perennial Gardens is a seed strain selected for extra wide and drooping petals along with showier orange centers. This flower form stands out at a distance especially compared with the newer upright petal forms. This long-blooming variety prefers full sun and well-drained soil.

In honor of the 25th anniversary of its **Mangus** series, Jelitto Perennial Seeds adds '**Mangus Superior**'. It is intense carmine-red in color with darker flowers and stem color, plus more consistent growth. It has an upright growth habit reaching up to 40 inches tall.

'**Mama Mia**' from Terra Nova Nurseries has very large flowers which change from red to orange to coral and finally pink. It has a big habit and long bloom time from summer to fall. Plants reach 26 inches tall.

ERYSIMUM

Cultivaris debuts four new series, all of which are available as liners from Plug Connection and Pacific Plug & Liner.

The **Glow** series has a ground-hugging, tight plant habit and produces a myriad of small, honey scented flowers

Echinacea, Magnus Superior



Autumn Leaves has foliage which offers warm and inviting tones of peach, apricot and copper-red undersides. **Jungle Green** leaves have green veins and a green, silver and burgundy-red underside. **Temperate Green** sports ever-fresh green veins that stand out through a silvery-grey overlay on the leaves. **Ti-aga Green** features dramatic orange-red young leaves. As the leaves mature, they turn greener. **Rain Forest** has beautiful purple-red young leaves with stand-out green veins at maturation. **Sunset Green** features dazzling foliage color in shades of red, orange and green with a purple underside.

'**Berry Marmalade**' from Terra Nova Nurseries has purple-black, ruffled leaves. The thick leaves stand up to intense heat and cold. It grows up to 12 inches tall with a foliage spread of 28 inches and a flower height of 18 inches.

HELLEBORUS

Skagit Gardens' Gold Collection adds **Cinnamon Snow** which has large, cinnamon pink buds that open to creamy white flowers suffused with rose and cinnamon and age to a deep mahogany. The back of the petals and stems are cinnamon pink, enhanced by deep green foliage. **Pink Frost's** rich colors begin as burgundy and white buds that open to pink flowers, aging to a burgundy red. Deep green leaves have red stems and veins and a silvery sheen across the top.

HIBISCUS

Fleming's Flower Fields introduces its **Fleming Dwarf** series. These hybrids reach 2½- to 3-feet tall and require no growth regulators. They are hardy to -30°F and bloom from top to bottom of



Hibiscus, Kui Nuku



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ries begin cream and age to bright pink. Foliage has a red tint to new growth. Plants are heat-loving and feature well-branched, vigorous foliage. In the garden, bright yellow flowers and berries continue into the fall. In a container, they produce attractive pots with showy berries for August sales.

IBERIS

Golden Candy from Darwin Perennials has pure white flowers atop vibrant chartreuse foliage. Very useful in the perennial border, it grows 9-12 inches tall and is often seen cascading over rocks and walls or used as groundcover.

Absolutely Amethyst from Proven Winners is a completely new color. Plants flower in late April to May. It grows 10-12 inches tall and 10-14 inches wide. Absolutely Amethyst is hardy to USDA Hardiness Zone 4.

KNIPHOFIA

'Pineapple Popsicle' is an addition to Terra Nova Nurseries' Popsicle series. It has flowers the color of ripe pineapples and a compact, grassy foliage that produces massive numbers of recurring pale-yellow spikes.

LAVANDULA

The **Ellagance** series from Kieft-ProSeeds are first year-flowering plants that spread with an upright and well-branched habit. More winter hardy and cold tolerant with good tolerance for foliar diseases, plants have very strong stems and large, dense flower spikes. **Ellagance Snow** is the only true white lavender from seed.

'Oxford Gem' from Blooms of Bressingham features uniform, compact mounding plants and vigorous silver-green foliage that forms dense



Lavandula, Oxford Gem

mounds. Dark purple flowers appear in late June through August. Plants prefer full sun and grow to 15 inches tall by 16 inches wide. Its compact habit makes 'Oxford Gem' an excellent choice for containers. These care-free and drought-tolerant plants are hardy in USDA Hardiness Zones 5-8.



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Cultivaris, www.cultivaris.com

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Darwin Perennials,
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Intrinsic Perennial Gardens,
www.intrinsicperennialgardens.com

Jelitto Perennial Seeds,
www.jelitto.com

Kieft-Pro-Seeds,
www.kieft-pro-seeds.com

North Creek Nurseries,
www.northcreeknurseries.com

Novalis, www.novalis.com

Pacific Plug & Liner,
www.pandl.net

PanAmerican Seed,
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Selecta, www.firstclassplants.com

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www.skagitgardens.com

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