

# gpn

GREENHOUSE PRODUCT NEWS

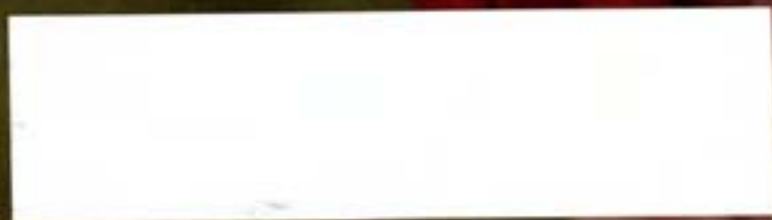
## Breeding Breakthroughs at Spring Trials

**Inside:**

**Can Dryer Sheets Repel  
Fungus Gnats?**

**Barrett Tours U.K.  
Garden Centers**

**Automating Hanging  
Basket Systems**





# gpn

The business magazine  
for commercial growers

GREENHOUSE PRODUCT NEWS

## FEATURES

### CALIFORNIA SPRING TRIALS

#### 22 Outstanding New Introductions

*These new varieties turned heads at the 2011 Spring Trials and impressed us with their striking color, strength and performance.*

By Jasmina Radjevic

### RESEARCH

#### 32 Identifying Poinsettia Nutritional Disorders

*With poinsettia growing season just around the corner, this research will help growers recognize nutritional problems in their crops and how to avoid them.*

By Brian Whipker, Ingram McCall and Jared Barnes

### GROWER 101

#### 42 Sustainability and Certification in Horticulture

*The debate concerning the value of third-party certification that began a few years ago continues to confound and divide industry participants regardless of size or segment.*

By Jim Snyder

### FROM THE ROAD

#### 48 As Seen in the United Kingdom

*In May, GPN's consulting editor spent a week in the London area touring nurseries and garden centers to gain insight into the nuances between the United States and United Kingdom markets.*

By Jim Barrett

### AUTOMATION & CONTROLS

#### 56 Increase Production with Hanging Basket Systems

*Is that money hanging up there? If so, how much?*

By Andrew Van Geest

### PESTS & DISEASES

#### 62 Repelling Fungus Gnats with Dryer Sheets

*For years, claims have been made that Bounce fabric softener sheets repel mosquitoes, but do they have the same effect on fungus gnats?*

By Raymond A. Cloyd, Karen A. Marley, Richard A. Larson and Bari Arieli

## CULTURE CONNECTION

#### 71 Perennial Solutions: Penstemon x mexicali Carillo Series

*New breeding gives growers a reliable series of easy-to-grow, first-year flowering penstemon available in two striking colors.*

By Paul Pilon

#### 74 Crop Culture Report: Verbena Estrella Series

*Combining vibrant colors with excellent growing characteristics, Estrella is a versatile series suitable for baskets, mixed containers and the landscape.*

By Marc Englert

#### 76 Variety Spotlight

*Geranium, osteospermum.*

#### 78 New Varieties

*Gaillardia, phormium, cuphea, New Guinea impatiens.*



## ON THE COVER

*While the annual Spring Trials combines the latest genetics with merchandising ideas, marketing programs and more, it's the new varieties that steal the show. Read all about them on page 22. (Photo: Suntory's 'Surfinia Bouquet Red')*

## IN EVERY ISSUE

- 8 EDITOR'S REPORT
- 12 NEWS
  - Scotts Professional Becomes Everris
  - Join AAS at the Summer Summit
- 14 CALENDAR
- 69 PRODUCT FOCUS: Structures, Equipment & Components
- 80 AD INDEX/CLASSIFIEDS
- 81 PRODUCT SHOWCASE

## COLUMNS

### THIS MONTH IN DISEASES

- 18 Lisianthus
  - By A.R. Chase and Margery Daughtrey

### TECHNICALLY SPEAKING

- 82 Holding Plugs and Liners
  - By Erik Runkle, Michigan State University



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## CULTURE CONNECTION

### NEW VARIETIES



## gaillardia

**'Red Sun'** has broad petals of hot orange-red floating over dense, mounding foliage. This blanket flower is tolerant of poor soil and the hottest sun. 'Red Sun' is strong growing and reaches about 16 inches tall and 20 inches wide.

**Terra Nova Nurseries**  
[www.terravanurseries.com](http://www.terravanurseries.com) | 800.215.9450  
Write in 1402

## phormium

**A New Zealand** Flax cultivar, 'Jubilee' has a tight clumping habit and grows to 3 feet. Long arching upright leaves have a green center and striking cherry-red foliage margins on the upper surface and are entirely red below. Hardy to Zone 8, plants will exhibit best color when grown in part shade and fed weekly with a balanced fertilizer high in trace element.

**PlantHaven** | [www.planthaven.com](http://www.planthaven.com)  
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