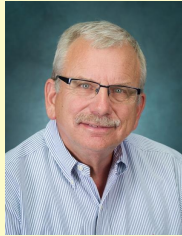


# Colorado State University



### From the Desk of Dr. Klett



We are still experiencing summer like weather here in Fort Collins and actually we were breaking records for warm temperatures in early September. Visitation in the Trial garden continues to be very high and the Annual Trials are still looking good. Some varieties are showing some decline but other are liking the little cooler nights here in mid-September. Let's hope we can continue to enjoy the garden without a frost until mid-October.

Our second evaluation day with the Trial Garden Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, September 8, 2022 on a warm September day. Most of the winners chosen on August 9, 2022 evaluation day held on to their top honors in the September evaluation. A partial list of the winners is listed below in this newsletter. We will be promoting the winners to all the growers throughout Colorado and the region next week. The list will also be sent to all national greenhouse and landscape type publications.

During the first half of October, we plan on planting our Cool Season Trials with the hope they will get well established before winter arrives. Ian McLellan, who currently is an undergraduate Environmental Horticulture major working in the Annual Trial Garden will be the Cool Season Trial Coordinator for the 2022-23 season.

As we start to plan for the 2023 Trials please forward to me any comments that you may have to improve the Colorado State University annual or perennial trials for 2023.

Our fall meeting of the Advisory Committee is scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 13, 2022 in the morning in Denver at the City and County Denver Greenhouse Complex.

An invite will be sent to committee in early October.





The Industry Evaluation Day was held at the trial gardens on Tuesday, August 9, 2022

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## 2022 "Best Of..." Winners!

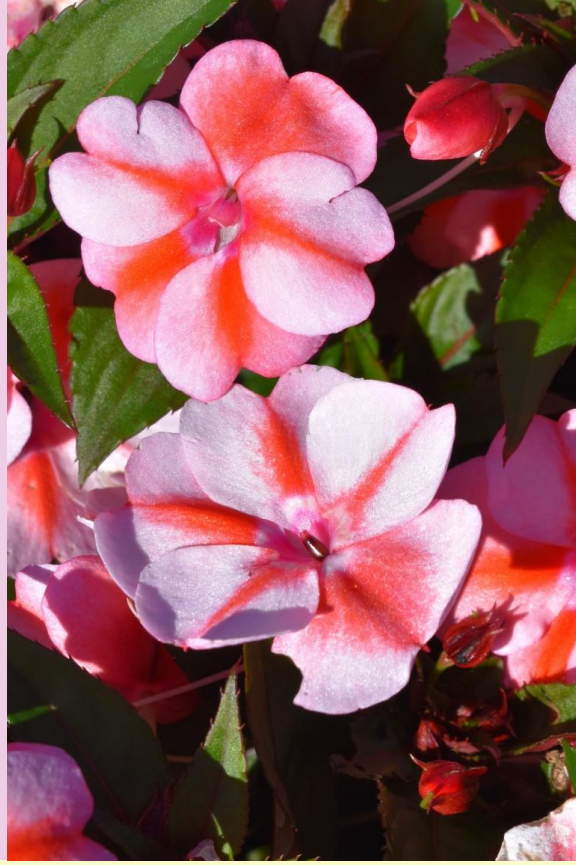
The results are in and the 2022 "Best Of" winners have been chosen! The following represents half of the complete list of winners with photos. In order to keep the newsletter a more manageable size the photos and text of the second half of the list will be sent out in the October issue but the names will still be listed at the end of this newsletter for those who can't stand the suspense until next month! The complete list and photos will also be on our website hopefully early next week. Look for the 2022 "Top Performer" perennials in the November newsletter!

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### **Best of Show – SunPatiens® Vigorous Peach Candy from Sakata® Seed America**

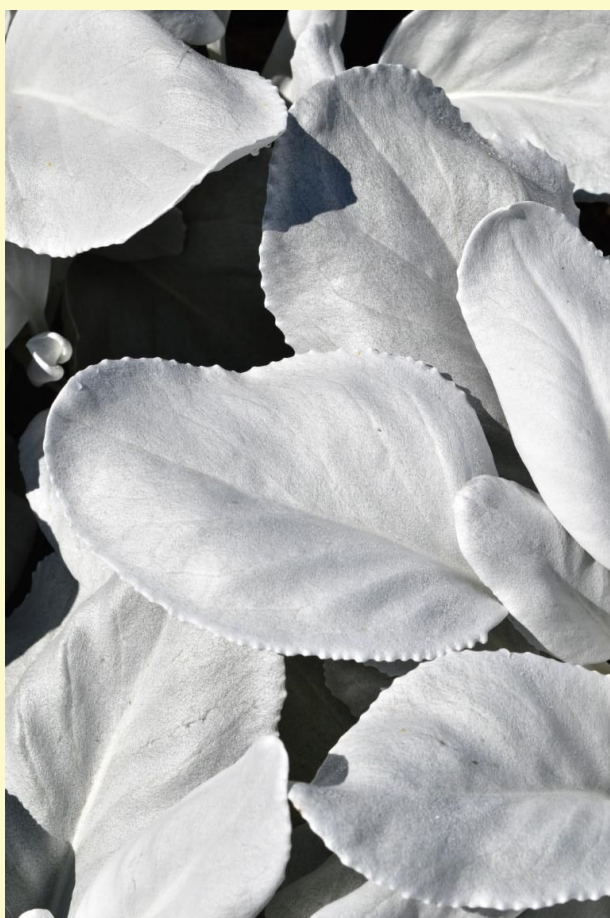
Prolific peach colored flowers blanket the attractive dark green foliage. Blooms kept a nice pattern and were a very nice bicolor with peach and white that maintained vibrant color even in the intense Colorado sun. Plants were noted for their great vigor and uniform shape. Plants would be ideal for the landscape with its ability to provide massive color.





**Best Novelty – Senecio Angel Wings (‘Senaw’) PP28,830 from Concept Plants**

Soft, silky white foliage shimmers in the sunlight and makes a very dramatic look in the landscape with broad wavy leaves. It is a “stunner” that attracts the eye and makes you want to touch it but also makes a great accent with other plants. Plants are very uniform in overall appearance. It also has the added benefit of being drought tolerant.



**Best New Variety – Salvia Rockin’® Deep Purple 2023 from Proven Winners®**

Deep purple flowers combined with dark calyx and stems made a great color contrast with the attractive foliage. Plants were very sturdy and did not lodge even with overhead irrigation. Growth habit was very uniform and plants had excellent vigor. Would make a good choice for either ground or containers.



**Best Angelonia, container – Archangel™ Blue Bicolor ('Balarclubi')  
from Ball FloraPlant®**

Plants had prolific flowering and had excellent rounded habits without any "spiking". Large bicolor flowers were very attractive against the glossy dark green foliage. Plants were very healthy and low maintenance.



**Best Angelonia, ground - Archangel™ Purple Improved from Ball FloraPlant®**

Blooms had an intense, solid purple color and abundant flowering. Plants had a nice spreading growth habit with dense branching and nice foliage. The uniform plants did well in a summer with many periods of extreme heat.



**Best Begonia (Rex) – Jurassic Jr.™ Fire Spike from Ball Ingenuity®**

Plants make attractive mounds of dense and very colorful foliage. Grown mainly for foliage, it does have small pink flowers later in season that also complement the pink shades in the leaves. A great choice to bring color to shady areas while also being very low maintenance. The Jurassic Jr. series provides all the same beauty as the Jurassic series but with ~40% smaller foliage.



**Best Begonia (seed), container – Hula™ Red Spreading Begonia (PAS1438024) from PanAmerican Seed**

This is a new class of begonia that features a nice spreading growth habit that looks great in containers and could also be used in the ground. Flowers are more traditional sized but are very prolific and provide abundant color combined with the dark foliage. Plants are very adaptable and can be used in sun or shade locations.



**Best Begonia (seed), ground – Bionic™ Green Leaf Rose from Syngenta® Flowers**  
Huge flowers and large foliage made this plant stand out. Plant vigor was excellent and produced large blooms with two tone flowers of soft shades of pink. The self-cleaning plants will excel in sun or shade conditions.



**Best Begonia (vegetative) – BK Collection Vermillion Red from Beekenkamp Plants**  
Plants always had abundant, double flowers all season. The compact plants had strong stems and had a very attractive growth habit. Intense red blooms combined with the prolific blooming made them a standout for impressive flower power.



**Best Calibrachoa – Bumble Bee™ Hot Pink from Ball FloraPlant®**

From a distance it was impressive all season with good vigor, a great rounded habit and a blanket of bright pink flowers covering the container. Up close, the hot pink blooms stand out with a star-burst pattern of yellow in the center and throat.





**Best Celosia – Flamma Bright Red from Sakata® Seed America**

The vivid red color was very intense and did not fade in the bright Colorado sunlight. Excellent branching resulted in prolific flowering and abundant color. Flower heads were tight and did not flop even with overhead irrigation. The overall growth habit on the compact plants was very uniform.



**Best Combo – MixMasters™ Amped Up from Ball FloraPlant®**

Three different coleus combined to look good from "Day 1". Plants were uniform with excellent overall aesthetics and did not flower. Vigor was impressive and only recommended for large containers.







**Best Dahlia – City Lights™ Purple from Selecta One®**

For the second year in a row, this was a favorite plant from the Consumer Day voting as well as the industry evaluation due to the abundant rich, purple flowers and dark purple foliage. The consistent appearance was a reason for it being a repeat winner as well as in 2020. Plants were uniform in habit and maintained a fresh appearance by burying its dead.



**Best Geranium, container – Sunrise™ Brilliant Red 23 from Selecta One®**

Flowers were abundant with a bright shade of scarlet/red blooms. Plants had great vigor and produced many large flowers. The medium green foliage was reminiscent of "grandmother's geraniums".



**Best Geranium (interspecific) ground – Caliente® Coral Salmon from Syngenta® Flowers**

Bright coral flower color is very bold against dark green foliage and dark flower stems. The single petaled flowers were very abundant and covered the plants for a spectacular show of color. Plants had great vigor

and were very uniform.



**Best Geranium (zonal) ground – Dynamo™ Dark Red from Ball FloraPlant®**

Flowers have an intense shade of dark red and it was noted that there was nothing else quite like it in the trial. Plants were bred to have medium vigor and filled out nicely with a very uniform growth habit. Flowers were both striking because of their color but were also very prolific and created a high degree of flower power.





**Best Gerbera – Garvinea Sweet Sparkle from HilverdaFlorist**

Blooms have great eye-catching color and were also held high on stems which work well in both the landscape as well as a cut flower bouquet. The hot red/rose color held up to the intense summer sun. Plants were very healthy with above average number of breaks that resulted in more flowers. Entire Garvinea series is bred for the landscape and were excellent.



**Best Impatiens, container - Beacon® Portland Mix from PanAmerican Seed®**

Nice mix of colors brightened up the shade with abundance of flowers. Besides the obvious outstanding characteristics of uniform plants covered by many flowers, the Beacon series also provides high resistance to Impatiens downy mildew which can be devastating.



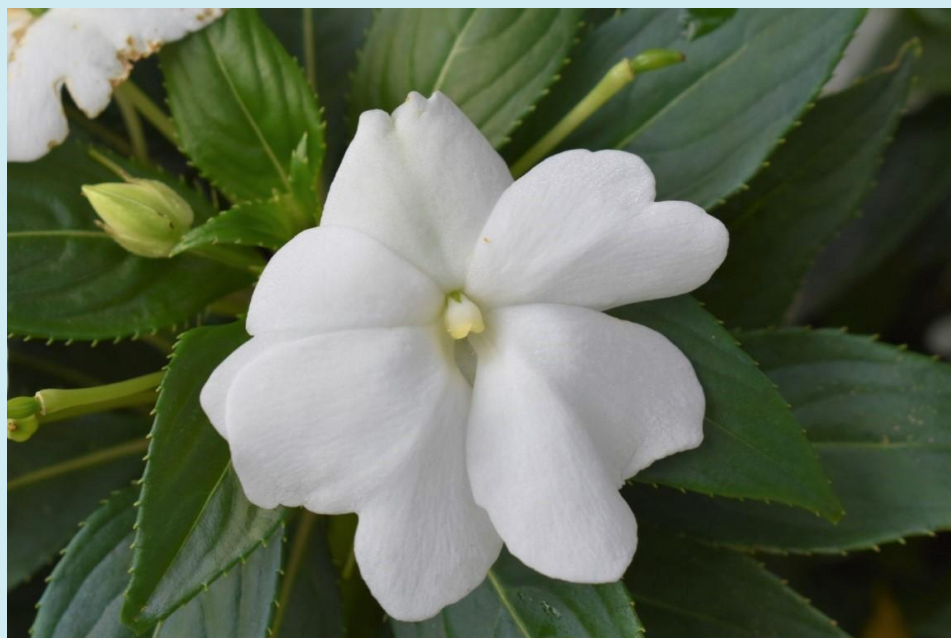
**Best Impatiens, ground – Imara XDR Rose from Syngenta Flowers**

Plants had good vigor with dark green foliage and a compact branching habit. Flowers had a strong rose color that was consistent all season. It also has a high degree of resistance to downy mildew.



**Best Impatiens, New Guinea – Super Sonic® White from Syngenta® Flowers**

Huge clear white flowers bloomed atop uniform plants with a nice dark green foliage that really made the flower color “pop”. Full, well-branched plants filled the container with a well balanced growth habit.



**Others on the list to be featured in the next newsletter:**

- Best Lantana, container – Bandolista™ Pineapple from Syngenta® Flowers
- Best Lantana, ground – Bandolista™ Mango from Syngenta® Flowers
- Best Marigold – Endurance™ Yellow from Syngenta® Flowers
- Best Osteospermum – Gelato Prune from Westhoff
- Best Petunia, container – SureShot™ White from Ball FloraPlant®
- Best Petunia (mini) ground – Supertunia Mini Vista® Yellow from Proven Winners®
- Best Petunia (seed), ground – FotoFinish™ Pink from Syngenta® Flowers
- Best Petunia (vegetative), ground – DuraBloom® Electric Lilac from Dummen Orange®
- Best Portulaca – Pazaaz™ Yellow Improved from Danziger
- Best Rudbeckia – Sunbeckia Maya from Bull Plant Genetics
- Best Salvia - Rockin'® Deep Purple 2023 from Proven Winners®
- Best Sun Impatiens - SunPatiens® Vigorous Peach Candy from Sakata® Seed America
- Best Verbena, ground – EnduraScape™ Pink Bicolor (Balendpibi)<sup>®P28,455</sup> from Ball FloraPlant
- Best Verbena, container – Vanessa™ Compact Neon Pink from Danziger
- Best Vinca – Cora® XDR Punch from Syngenta Flowers®
- Best Zinnia – Magellan™ Orange from Syngenta Flowers®

**Other Outstanding Plants**

- Dahlia Labela® Maggiore Fun Chocolate Yellow from Beekenkamp Plants
- Lantana Bandolista™ Red Chili from Syngenta Flowers®
- Gerbera Garvinea Majestic Light Pink from HilverdaFlorist
- Sun Impatiens - SunPatiens® Compact Classic White ('SAKIMP068') from Sakata® Seed America
- Zinnia Zesty™ Purple form Syngenta Flowers®

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