

## The University of Tennessee Gardens 2003 Variety Trial Report

### Prepared by:

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The University of Tennessee Gardens were initiated 20 years ago and are one of 34 All-America Selections Flower Test Gardens located around the country. The purpose of the Gardens is to promote interest and use of herbaceous plants in the landscape, determine the landscape performance of various herbaceous plants under Tennessee's climatic conditions, and to introduce new plants into the trade. Over 1000 different herbaceous plants including annuals, perennials, and herbs are tested and evaluated each year from a landscaper's perspective for maintenance, flower and foliage integrity, profuse blooming, and insect and disease resistance. In 2003, the Knoxville Gardens expanded their trial site to Jackson, Tennessee which is in the Western part of the state about an hour east of Memphis. Having trial locations in both the Eastern and Western portions of the state provides the industry with evaluations from the different climatic regimes found in Tennessee.

Both test Gardens are open and free to the public during daylight hours and are designed for self-guided tours. A field day and open house are annually held in each of the gardens where guided tours and garden performance information is provided. Additional information about the herbaceous plant trial program at the University of Tennessee is available from:

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**The 2003 Growing Season:** All variety trials were grown in the University of Tennessee Teaching and Research Greenhouses located in Knoxville and Jackson, Tennessee from January through April. Plants were either grown in 4" azalea containers or in 1803 cell packs except for geraniums that were grown in 6" azalea pots. Berger's™ BM1 growing media was used to produce all plants. Plants were planted in the Gardens during the last two weeks of April and through mid-June. The second wettest spring in Tennessee history along with tornadoes and flooding delayed planting by a month. Knoxville had only 3 sunny days between the end of May to the end of June while Jackson had 15 sunny days. We had lots of root diseases and botrytis fungal disease due to the excessive rainy season. When irrigation was required, in Knoxville it was done primarily with

subirrigation soaker hoses though overhead irrigation was used in some areas of the garden. All irrigation in Jackson was overhead but it was only used approximately 5 times due to good amounts of rainfall spaced well through most of the summer. No pesticides were used to control any insect or disease problems. In Knoxville, an organic fertilizer with a 4-4-2 analysis was incorporated into the planting beds prior to planting at the rate of 40-lbs./700 sq. ft. Jackson incorporated 50 lbs. of 15-15-15 per 800 sq. ft.. Both gardens toppedressed with ammonium nitrate in June. Treflan<sup>tm</sup> pre-emergent herbicide was applied 2 weeks after all variety trials were planted. The soil pH for the trial evaluation beds was 7.2. Pine needles were used as mulch around all trials in Knoxville while Jackson used hardwood mulch on everything except geraniums, which was mulched with soil conditioner.

### **Knoxville's Monthly Weather Data**

Month	Avg. Min. Temp.	Avg. Max. Temp.	Avg. Rainfall
May	59	76	8.09"
June	63	82	4.60"
July	68	85	10.03"
August	69	87	4.94"
September	60	79	4.95"

### **Jackson's Monthly Weather Data**

Month	Avg. Min. Temp.	Avg. Max. Temp.	Avg. Rainfall
May	60	78	9.77"
June	64	82	4.99"
July	70	88	4.74"
August	70	89	2.99"
September	59	82	3.91"

### **Acknowledgements**

The maintenance and operation of the UT Gardens herbaceous variety trial program would not be possible without the support and help of many individuals. Thanks to James Newburn and Jason Reeves, both UT Gardens Curators, who organized and grew the variety trials and oversaw their installation and season-long maintenance. Thanks to Betty Tipton, UT Gardens Evaluation Assistant, who organized and conducted the summer evaluations and compiled this final report. Thanks also to Dr. John Hodges and Dr. Bob Hayes and the UT Experiment Station staff for their support in the Gardens operation and maintenance. Thanks to the UT Friends of the Gardens for financially supporting student interns during the Gardens' 2003 growing season.

Finally, no gardens would exist without the monetary, supply, and seed/plant donations from numerous horticultural companies. Special thanks are extended to each of the following companies for their donations to the UT Gardens and for supporting the efforts of the herbaceous plant variety trial program:

Ball Seed Company, P. O. Box 355, West Chicago, IL 60185

Ball FloraPlant, 622 Town Rd., West Chicago, IL 60185-2698

Beaty Fertilizer Co. Inc. P.O. Box 2878, Cleveland, TN 37320

Benary Seed Company, 1444 Larson St., Sycamore, IL 60178

Berger Peat Moss, 121, R.R.1, Saint-Modeste (Quebec) Canada G0L3W0

Bodger Seed Company, 1800 Tyler Ave., El Monte, CA 91733-3618

Fischer USA, 2995 Wilderness Place, Suite 102, Boulder, CO 80301

Goldsmith Seed Company, P. O. Box 1349, Gilroy, CA 95021

J.P. Bartlett Co., 578 Boston Post Rd., Rte 20, South Sudbury, MA 01776

Jackson & Perkins, Box 9100, 2518 South Pacific HWY, Medford, OR 97501

Oglevee Ltd., 152 Oglevee Ln, Connellsville, PA 15425

Pan American Seed Company, P. O. Box 438, West Chicago, IL 60185

Proven Winners, 550 West State Street Suite D, Sycamore, IL 60178

Syngenta Seeds, 5300 Katrine Ave., Downers Grove, IL 60515

## 2003 UT Garden Winners

Despite periods of excessively wet weather, several plants emerged as outstanding performers. The following is a summation of our top picks for the 2003 season.

**Argyranthemum** 'Madiera' series from Ball FloraPlant– Profuse flowering all season atop uniform and vigorous foliage.

**Begonia (Hiemalis)** 'Solonia' series from Oglevees – Large and extremely show blooms in bright vibrant colors.

**Begonia (Double Fiberous) 'Doublette'** series from Oglevees – Double flowers bloomed prolifically all season. Quite showy.

**New Guinea Impatiens** 'Sonic' and 'Super Sonic' series from Fischer – Large flowers against strikingly dark foliage.

**Gaillardia** 'Torch Yellow' & 'Torch Flame' from Ball FloraPlant – Self-cleaning and profuse flowering all season. Bright, showy colors.

**Geranium** 'Rocky Mountain' series; 'Patriot', 'Red Coat', 'Puritan 2', 'Quaker White', and 'Anne' from Bartlett. All were prolific bloomers on uniform plants with dark foliage. These selections survived the wet, rainy weather the best.

**Impatiens wallerana** 'Accent Midnight Rose' from Goldsmith, 'Hot Rose' from Ball FloraPlant, 'Fiesta Ole'

**Double Impatiens** from Ball FloraPlant – Large, showy blooms on compact and uniform plants.

**Dianthus** 'Dynasty' series from Ball Seed – Double blooms growing to about 18” tall. Nice cutflower. Long-lasting and showy colors.

**Zinnia** 'Swizzle Cherry & Ivory' and 'Swizzle Scarlet & Yellow' from Goldsmith – Unique swirled bicolored flowers. Novel.

**Portulaca** 'Margarita Scarlet' from Pan American Seed. Blooms stay open into late afternoon. Bright, showy color.

**Salvia splendens** 'Picante' series Goldsmith Seeds – Compact and uniform with deep red color blooms.

**Vinca** 'First Kiss' series from Benary Seeds – Uniform and profuse flowering habit. Showy colors.

### The 2003 UT Gardens Annual Species Ratings and Summaries

Due to the excessively wet season and planting being delayed by a month, only two overall plant evaluation ratings were recorded; one at the end of July and August. These two ratings were combined to create an average rating for the season. Field notes were recorded throughout the season, and all relevant information is included in the summary section of each listing. The following evaluation scale was used to rate the trials:

- 5 Excellent (No insects or disease present. Plants uniform in flower form, growth habit, flower color; profuse blooming. Overall, the pinnacle of perfection- hard to imagine any area in which the plant could be better.)
- 4 Very good (No insects or disease present. Plants fairly uniform in flower form, growth habit, flower color; fairly profuse blooming. Close to perfect but some areas that could be even better.)
- 3 Good (Minimal insect and/or disease damage. Plants fairly uniform in flower form, growth habit, flower color; satisfactory blooming. Overall, not spectacular, just an average plant.)
- 2 Fair (Moderate insect and/or disease damage. Plants poorly uniform in flower form, growth habit, flower color; poor blooming. Overall, not a satisfactory plant.)
- 1 Poor (Extensive insect and/or disease damage. Plants not uniform in flower form, growth habit, flower color; Little to no blooming. Overall, a plant that you would not want in your garden.)

### All America Selections Winners

Genus	Cultivar	Source	Year	Rating	Comments
Impatiens	Victorian Rose	Goldsmith	1998	4.5	uniform, compact, very free flowering semi-double
Petunia	Prism Sunshine	Floranova	1998	4	nice color, could have been more floriferous
Begonia	Pin Up Flame	Thompson & Morgan	1999	3.5	good color on compact plants, not vigorous
Marigold	Bonanza Bolero	Pan American	1999	4	uniform, held up well even late in the season
Osteospermum	Passion Mix	Takii	1999	2.5	some died, not vigorous or uniform, sparse blooms
Portulaca	Sundial Peach	Bodger	1999	4	profuse blooms, good coverage
Tritoma	Flamenco	Benary	1999	1	did not perform well for us, 1 survivor, no bloom
Verbena	Quartz Burgundy	Pan American	1999	3	good early, some foliage and bloom decline late
Zinnia	Profusion Cherry	Sakata	1999	4.5	uniform, compact, floriferous
Zinnia	Profusion Orange	Sakata	1999	4.5	uniform, compact, floriferous
Cosmos	Cosmic Orange	Benary	2000	4.5	vigorous, floriferous, bloomed all summer
Dianthus	Melody Pink	Sakata	2000	4	uniform, nice flowers, good floriferousness
Sunflower	Soraya	Benary	2000	4	vigorous, nice bloom color
Tithonia	Fiesta del Sol	Benary	2000	4	fairly compact, uniform, heavy bloom
Vinca	Stardust Orchid	Pan American	2000	4	vigorous, good floriferousness, nice bloom color
Eustoma	Forever Blue	Pan American	2001	3.7	uniform, compact, floriferous
Nicotiana	Avalon Bright Pink	Floranova	2001	3.5	slightly better heat and humidity tolerance than others
Portulaca	Margarita Rosa	Pan American	2001	4	compact habit, uniform coverage, good color
Sunflower	Ring of Fire	Benary	2001	4.5	vigorous, good bloom color contrast
Zinnia	Profusion White	Sakata	2001	4.5	uniform, compact, floriferous
Cleome	Sparkler Blush	Goldsmith	2002	3	uniform, compact, defoliated by Harlequin bugs late
Geranium	Black Magic Rose	Sahin	2002	4	uniform, vigorous, nice foliage color, moderate bloom
Ornamental Pepper	Chilly Chili	Pan American	2002	4.8	uniform, compact, vigorous, smothered in fruit
Pansy	Ultima Morpho	Sakata	2002	4.5	nice color, floriferous, held up well into June
Petunia	Lavender Wave	Pan American	2002	4.5	good habit, floriferous, held up well all summer
Petunia	Tidal Wave Silver	Pan American	2002	4.7	vigorous, floriferous, stood up well all season
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	Cherokee Sunset	Thompson & Morgan	2002	4	nice blend of color, double flowers, relatively compact
Vinca	Jaio Scarlet Eye	Dai-ichi Seed	2002	4	uniform, vigorous, nice bloom color
Agastache	Golden Jubilee	Sahin	2003	4	unique foliage color, uniform
Carnation	Can Can Scarlet	Sakata	2003	3.5	nice flowers, flowering somewhat inconsistent
Dianthus	Corona Cherry Magic	Pan American	2003	3.5	uniform, large blooms, consistent floriferousness
Eustoma	Forever White	Pan American	2003	3.7	uniform, compact, floriferous

### All America Selections Winners (Continued)

Genus	Cultivar	Source	Year	Rating	Comments
Gaillardia	Sundance Bicolor	Hem Zaden	2003	4	vigorous, uniform, quite floriferous
Ornamental Millet	Purple Majesty	Pan American	2003	4	vigorous, good foliage color, nice bloom, not uniform
Petunia	Blue Wave	Pan American	2003	4.5	excellent habit, good floriferousness
Petunia	Merlin Blue Morn	Sakata	2003	4	compact, uniform, dramatic flower color
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	Prairie Sun	Benary	2003	4.5	compact , upright, nice green eyed flowers
Vinca	Jaio Dark Red	Ibaraki Seed	2003	4	good performer, excellent color

### Fleuroselect Gold Medal Winners

Genus	Cultivar	Source	Year	Rating	Comments
Gazania	Daybreak Red Stripe	Pan American	1998	2.5	struggled all summer, not vigorous, sparse bloom
Impatiens	Victorian Rose	Goldsmith	1998	4.5	uniform, compact, very free flowering semi-double
Petunia	Prism Sunshine	Floranova	1998	4	nice color, could have been more floriferous
Nemesia	Sundrops	Pan American	1999	2	struggled early, didn't survive summer
Verbena	Quartz Burgundy	Pan American	1999	3	good early, some foliage and bloom decline late
Zinnia	Profusion Cherry	Sakata	1999	4.5	uniform, compact, floriferous
Delphinium	Sydney Purple	Kieft Seeds	2000	2	didn't survive the summer
Nicotiana	Avalon Bright Pink	Floranova	2001	3.5	slightly better heat and humidity tolerance than others
Zinnia	Profusion White	Floranova	2001	4.5	uniform, compact, floriferous
Dianthus	Noverna Purple	Kieft Seeds	2002	3	only moderate in vigor and floriferousness
Petunia	Lavender Wave	Kirin Flower	2002	4.5	good habit, floriferous, held up well all summer
Viola	Ultima Morpho	Sakata	2002	4.5	nice color, floriferous, held up well into June
Carnation	Can Can Scarlet	Sakata	2003	3.5	nice flowers, flowering somewhat inconsistent
Petunia	Blue Wave	Kirin Flower	2003	4.5	excellent habit, good floriferousness
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	Prairie Sun	Benary	2003	4.5	compact, upright, nice green eyed blooms
<i>Salvia superba</i>	Merleau	S & G	2003	3.5	not especially vigorous, inconsistent blooming
Viola	Sorbet Orange Duet	Pan American	2003	4	held up reasonably well into early summer

## 2002 Annual Variety Trials

### Abutilon

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.	Comments
Bella Pink	Pan American	3	3	2	2.7	Not uniform, flowers hidden

Summation: 'Bella Pink' was a moderate performer through most of the summer. The plants were not very uniform. The flowers were attractive but usually hidden in the foliage. By August, the foliage was chlorotic and showed significant insect damage.

### Ageratum

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.	Comments
Hawaii Mix	Bodger	4	4	3.5	3.8	Compact, uniform
Leilani Blue	Goldsmith	4	4.5	3	3.8	Tall, fairly uniform, sloppy by August

Summation: By late August, the taller and more open habit of 'Leilani Blue' resulted in sprawling and lodging plants, while 'Hawaii' was more compact and uniform. Both cultivars were blooming well at the end of August.

### Alternanthera

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.	Comments
Christmas Clover	Glasshouse Works	3	4	4	3.7	Open, sprawling, vigorous
<i>ficoidea</i> 'Gold Threads'	Glasshouse Works	3	4	4	3.7	Low mounding form, good performer
<i>ficoidea</i> 'Red Threads'	Glasshouse Works	3	3.5	3.5	3.3	Not as vigorous, insect damage late
<i>polygonoides rubra</i>	Glasshouse Works	3	4	4	3.7	Small leaf, good coverage, vigorous
Purple Knight	Pan American	3.5	4.5	4.5	4.2	Vigorous, excellent foliage effect
True Yellow	Glasshouse Works	3	3.5	3	3.2	Vigorous, insect damage very late
<i>versicolor</i> 'Snowball'	Glasshouse Works	3	4	4	3.7	Attractive white splashes, mounding

Summation: The vegetatively propagated *Alternanthera* selections provided an excellent opportunity for comparison with Pan American's seed grown 'Purple Knight.' The variety in form and texture was extreme ranging from the low mounding almost linear leafed 'Gold Threads' and 'Red Threads' to the large leafed, sprawling form of 'Christmas Clover.' Most varieties did well until September when some cultivars showed signs of insect damage and root rot. 'Purple Knight' was a slow starter with the cool snap in late spring, but once it became established, it was a real winner. The plants were vigorous and reasonably uniform. The color was outstanding. It did not suffer any insect damage as of the end of September.

## Alyssum

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.	Comments
Wonderland Copper	Bodger	3	2.5	0	1.8	Nice color, moderate bloomer
Wonderland White	Bodger	4	3	0	2.3	Profuse bloomer

Summation: The Alyssum selections performed well early but struggled as the summer progressed. By early August, they had completely melted out. ‘Wonderland Copper’ had excellent color, but ‘Wonderland White’ was more floriferous.

## Angelonia

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.	Comments
Angelmist Deep Plum (New)	Ball FloraPlant	2	2	2	2	Very sparse bloom, spider mites
Angelmist Light Pink (New)	Ball FloraPlant	2	2	2	2	Poor floriferousness, spider mites

Summation: As in the past, the Angelonia cultivars were in heavy bloom upon transplanting to the garden but quickly stopped blooming and sulked for the rest of the summer. Plants were vegetatively vigorous and healthy very early on, but the foliage ultimately turned chlorotic and there was evidence of spider mite infestation.

## Bacopa

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.	Comments
Abunda Breeze Indigo	Ball FloraPlant	2	2.5	0	1.5	
Abunda Breeze Pink	Ball FloraPlant	2	0	0	0.7	
Abunda Breeze Upright White	Ball FloraPlant	2	2.5	0	1.5	
Abunda Jumbo White	Ball FloraPlant	2	3	2	2.3	Best performer of all the Bacopa
Abunda Sky Blue	Ball FloraPlant	2	1	0	1	
Abunda White (New)	Ball FloraPlant	2	2	2	2	

Summation: The Bacopa got off to a nice start but declined as summer progressed. Most cultivars stopped blooming and dwindled. ‘Abunda Jumbo White’ and ‘Abunda White’ were the only survivors by late August. They were struggling but still managed to bloom sparsely.



## Begonia

Series	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.	Comments
Doublet (vegetative)	Oglevee	4	4.5	4.5	4.3	Uniform, vigorous, floriferous
Dragon Wing (seed)	Pan American	NR	3	3.5	3.3	
Eureka (seed)	Syngenta	NR	3	3.5	3.3	
Lotto (seed)	Benary	NR	3.5	3.5	3.5	
Olympia (seed)	Benary	NR	3.5	3.5	3.5	

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.	Comments
Doublet Pink	Oglevee	4	4.5	4.5	4.3	Uniform habit, very floriferous
Doublet Red	Oglevee	4	4.5	4.5	4.3	Uniform habit, very floriferous
Doublet Rose	Oglevee	4	4.5	4.5	4.3	Uniform habit, very floriferous
Doublet White	Oglevee	4	4.5	4.5	4.3	Uniform habit, very floriferous
Dragon Wing Pink	Pan American	NR	3	3.5	3.3	
Eureka Bronze Leaf Rose	Syngenta	NR	3	3.5	3.3	
Eureka Bronze Leaf Scarlet	Syngenta	NR	3	3.5	3.3	
Eureka Bronze Leaf White	Syngenta	NR	3	3.5	3.3	
Eureka Green Leaf Rose	Syngenta	NR	3	3.5	3.3	
Eureka Green Leaf Scarlet	Syngenta	NR	3	3.5	3.3	
Eureka Green Leaf White	Syngenta	NR	3	3.5	3.3	
Lotto Mix	Benary	NR	3.5	3.5	3.5	
Lotto Pink	Benary	NR	3.5	3.5	3.5	
Lotto White	Benary	NR	3	3	3	Not uniform
Olympia Sprint Bicolor	Benary	NR	3.5	3.5	3.5	
Olympia Sprint Rose	Benary	NR	3.5	4	3.8	
Olympia Sprint Red	Benary	NR	3.5	3.5	3.5	
Olympia Sprint White	Benary	NR	3.5	3.5	3.5	
Vodka	Benary	NR	3.5	3.5	3.5	

Summation: The seed begonias were not rated in June because they were late planted and weren't fully established. Realistically, the late planting probably had lingering effects for the rest of the season, so the ratings need to be interpreted accordingly. The vegetatively produced 'Doublet' series stole the show with uniform, compact, vigorous plants that were smothered in double blooms throughout the season. Of the seed varieties, 'Olympia Sprint Rose' appeared the most vigorous, uniform, and floriferous. 'Lotto White' was quite inconsistent and not uniform.

**Begonia (Tuberous)**

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.	Comments
Solenia Dark Pink	Oglevee	4	4	3	3.7	
Solenia Light Pink	Oglevee	4	4	3	3.7	
Solenia Orange	Oglevee	4	4	3	3.7	
Solenia Peach	Oglevee	4.5	4	4	4.2	Beautiful color blend
Solenia Red	Oglevee	4	4	4.5	4.2	Most floriferous of the series

Summation: We were overall pleased with the ‘Solenia’ series. All cultivars bloomed well throughout the summer, but ‘Solenia Red’ was particularly floriferous late in the summer as the others faded somewhat. Nearing October, it was still in heavy bloom while the others had nearly completely stopped flowering. ‘Solenia Peach’ was a strong bloomer early on, and its color is outstanding. All cultivars showed some stress by mid August. Plants could be more uniform and compact.

**Calibrachoa**

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.	Comments
Starlette Trailing Pink (New)	Ball FloraPlant	4	3	2.5	3.2	More floriferous than ‘Starlette Yellow’
Starlette Yellow (New)	Ball FloraPlant	3	3	2.5	2.8	Nice color blooms, not floriferous

Summation: Both of the Starlettes bloomed well and looked vigorous early, but as the summer progressed, both declined in health and floriferousness. ‘Starlette Trailing Pink’ was the better performer with more vigorous growth and heavier bloom.

**Canna**

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.	Comments
Tropical Yellow	Takii	3.5	4.5	4.5	4.2	Strong, uniform, not self-cleaning

Summation: ‘Tropical Yellow’ was dependable throughout the summer. Vigor, increase, and floriferousness were good. Plants were surprisingly uniform in height. Our only complaint is that the flowers did not self-clean.

**Capsicum**

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.	Comments
Chilly Chili	Pan American	4.5	5	5	4.8	Uniform, vigorous, covered in fruit

Summation: ‘Chilly Chili’ was an outstanding performer throughout the summer. Plants were uniform, vigorous and laden with attractive fruit all summer long.

## Cleome

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.	Comments
Sparkler Mix	Goldsmith	5	4	0	3	Super prior to Harlequin bug invasion.

Summation: 'Sparkler Mix' was fantastic early in the summer with vigorous growth, uniform habit, and generous floriferousness. By mid July, the Harlequin bugs made their appearance. From that point on, the foliage went into decline until the plants ultimately were stripped bare by the beginning of August.

## Coleus

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.
Alligator	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Aurora	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Aurora Chocomint	Ball FloraPlant	4	4	4	4
Aurora Red Velvet	Ball FloraPlant	4	4	4	4
Aurora Spotlight	Ball FloraPlant	4	4	4	4
Black Sun	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Blusher	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Brilliance	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Butter and Cream	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Butter Kutter	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Butterfly	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Cantigny Royale	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Careless Love	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Clown	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Coal Mine	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5

## Coleus (Continued)

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.
Crazy Quilt	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Crimson Velvet	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Dada Daddy	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Dark Star	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Downer's Ribbons	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
El Brighto	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Ella Cinders	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Flirtin' Skirts	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Fright Night	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Fusion	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Gay's Delight	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Glory	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Grace Ann	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Green Earrings	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Greening's Yellow	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Halelujah	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Hanover Surprise	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
India Frills	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Japanese Giant	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Killer Clown	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Kingsblood Rose	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Kiwi Fern	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Krispy Kritter	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Lima Limbo	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Meandering Linda	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Moonglow	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Othello	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Plum Frost	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Pretzel Love	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Religious Radish	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Rhapsody	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Schizophrenia	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Snowflake	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5

## Coleus (Continued)

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.
Solar Flare	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Sparkler	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Super Sun Plum Parfait	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Tabasco	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Telltale Heart	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Tilt A Whirl	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Victorian Ruffles	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Victorian Yellow Ruffles	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5
Watercolor	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5

Summation: The 'Aurora' series were good performers through the summer. We liked the small leaf and vigorous nature of the plants, but the growth habit was somewhat leggy and open. The plants were not of consistent color. Some plants appeared to bleach more severely than others, giving an overall dappled appearance to the plantings. The remainder of the Coleus cultivars were planted out as part of a color/texture demonstration garden along with other annuals. The different sizes, colors, and forms are mind boggling, but all of them held up well throughout the summer.

## Cuphea hybrida

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.	Comments
Twinkle Pink (New)	Ball FloraPlant	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	Uniform, vigorous, tiny flowers

Summation: 'Twinkle Pink' did well in the garden all summer long. The plants were uniform in habit and filled out nicely. The foliage remained healthy throughout the summer. This cultivar bloomed well through most of the summer, but the blooms were rather small and inconspicuous.

## Dahlia

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.	Comments
Hello Bronze Shades	Goldsmith	3	3.5	3.5	3.3	<i>Botrytis</i> problems
Hello Pink Shades	Goldsmith	2.5	3.5	4	3.3	Slow starter, best late
Hello Rose Shades	Goldsmith	3	3.5	3.5	3.3	Most uniform and consistent
Hello Scarlet Shades	Goldsmith	3.5	3	3.5	3.3	Uneven, inconsistent growth habit
Hello Yellow Shades	Goldsmith	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	Uneven, inconsistent growth habit
Hello White	Goldsmith	3	3.5	3.5	3.3	<i>Botrytis</i> problems

**Dahlia** (Continued)

Summation: As a whole, the 'Hello' series performed reasonably well throughout the summer. 'Hello Pink Shades' got off to a slow start but was the most floriferous in August. 'Hello Rose Shades' had the most uniform habit. 'Hello Scarlet Shades' and 'Hello Yellow Shades' were the least uniform. All cultivars bloomed moderately and consistently through most of the summer. 'Hello White' and 'Hello Bronze Shades' showed the most significant disease problems.

**Delphinium**

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.	Comments
Summer Blues	Benary	1	0	0	0.3	Never had a chance to establish.

Summation: 'Summer Blues' never had a chance to get established in the garden. It was struggling upon transplant in late spring and ultimately died.

**Dianthus**

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.	Comments
Amazon Neon	Pan American	5	4	3	4	Tall, vigorous grower
Corona Cherry Magic	Pan American	4	3.5	3	3.5	Consistent bloomer
Heritage Crimson	Takii	4	2	1	2.3	Nice early, poor late
Heritage Purple	Takii	4	2	1	2.3	Nice early, poor late
Heritage White	Takii	4	2	1	2.3	Nice early, poor late

Summation: The Dianthus cultivars were a mixed bag this year. 'Amazon Neon' was the best performer of the group and was particularly stunning early in the summer. The Heritage series started out well but peaked and went into decline by mid July. By the end of August, the 'Heritage' series were struggling for survival while 'Amazon Neon' and 'Corona Cherry Magic' were still blooming fairly well.

**Diascia**

Series	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.
Whisper	Ball FloraPlant	2.5	2.5	0	1.7
Wink	Ball FloraPlant	3	2.5	1	2.2

## Diascia (Continued)

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.
Whisper Apricot (New)	Ball FloraPlant	3	2.5	0	1.8
Whisper Cranberry (New)	Ball FloraPlant	3	2.5	0	1.8
Whisper Lavender Pink (New)	Ball FloraPlant	2	2	0	1.3
Whisper Salmon Red (New)	Ball FloraPlant	2	2.5	1	1.8
Wink Lavender Pink (New)	Ball FloraPlant	3	2.5	1	2.2
Wink Light Apricot (New)	Ball FloraPlant	2	2	1	1.7
Wink Pink (New)	Ball FloraPlant	3	2.5	0	1.8

Summation: The Diascia never appeared to become established in the garden. Plants were blooming profusely in the greenhouse but quickly sulked when planted in the open ground. All cultivars declined throughout the summer. By late August, only 'Wink Lavender Pink,' 'Wink Light Apricot' and 'Whisper Salmon' persisted and were struggling to bloom sparsely.

## Dichondra

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.	Comments
Silver Falls	Pan American	4.5	4.5	4	4.3	Strong grower, excellent foliage effect

Summation: 'Silver Falls' was very impressive throughout the season. The color and texture were excellent. The plants were quite vigorous and spread well. Our only complaint was some slight melt out towards the very end of the summer.

## Eustoma

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.	Comments
Forever White	Pan American	4	4	3	3.7	Uniform, floriferous

Summation: 'Forever White' was a good performer through most of the summer. Plants were uniform and bloom was fairly heavy and consistent up until mid August.

## Fuschia

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.	Comments
Angel Earrings Snowfire	Jackson & Perkins	3	3	3	3	Moderate bloomer

Summation: 'Angel Earrings Snowfire' was a moderate performer. The flowers were nice, but blooms were not as profuse as they could have been. The plants didn't appear especially vigorous.

## Gazania

Series	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.
Daybreak	Pan American	3.5	2.5	1	2.3
Frosty Kiss	Goldsmith	3	2.5	1	2.2
Kiss	Goldsmith	3.5	2	1	2.2
Tiger	Ball Seed	3.5	2	1	2.2

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.
Daybreak Orange Cream	Pan American	3.5	2.5	1	2.3
Frosty Kiss Mix	Goldsmith	3	2.5	1	2.2
Kiss Bronze	Goldsmith	3.5	2	1	2.2
Kiss Bronze Star	Goldsmith	3.5	2	1	2.2
Kiss Golden yellow	Goldsmith	3.5	2	1	2.2
Kiss Mahogany	Goldsmith	3.5	2	1	2.2
Kiss Orange	Goldsmith	3.5	2	1	2.2
Kiss Rose	Goldsmith	3.5	2	0	1.8
Kiss Yellow	Goldsmith	3.5	2	1	2.2
Kiss White	Goldsmith	3.5	2	2	2.5
Tiger Mix	Ball Seed	3.5	2	1	2.2

Summation: The Gazania performed moderately well early in the summer but went downhill from there. All the cultivars struggled to bloom with the onset of heat and humidity. At the time of the July rating, 'Daybreak Orange Cream' and 'Frosty Kiss Mix' appeared the most vigorous and had the most consistent bloom. By the end of August, most plants were nearly dead with the exception of 'Kiss White' which was struggling to bloom.



## Geranium

Series	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.
Maverick (seed)	Goldsmith	NR	3	3.5	3.3
Bravo (vegetative)	Fischer	5	3	3.5	3.8
Happy (vegetative)	Fischer	5	2.5	3	3.5
Patriot (vegetative)	Oglevee	4	4	3	3.7
Rocky Mountain (vegetative)	Fischer	5	3.5	4	4.2
Tango (vegetative)	Fischer	4	3	3	3.3

### Seed cultivars

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.
Maverick Quicksilver	Goldsmith	NR	3	3.5	3.3
Maverick Lavender	Goldsmith	NR	3	3.5	3.3
Maverick Coral	Goldsmith	NR	4	3.5	3.8
Maverick Pink	Goldsmith	NR	3	3.5	3.3
Maverick Red	Goldsmith	NR	3	3.5	3.3
Maverick Salmon	Goldsmith	NR	3	3	3
Maverick Light Salmon	Goldsmith	NR	4	4	4
Maverick Scarlet	Goldsmith	NR	3	3	3
Maverick Star	Goldsmith	NR	3.5	3.5	3.5
Maverick Violet	Goldsmith	NR	3	3.5	3.3
Maverick White	Goldsmith	NR	3	3.5	3.3

### Vegetative cultivars

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.
Alba	Fischer	4.5	3	3.5	3.7
Appleblossom	Fischer	4	4	4	4
Atlantis '96	Fischer	5	3.5	3.5	4
Avenida	Fischer	5	3.5	4	4.2
Blues 2001	Fischer	5	3.5	4	4.2
Brazil '99	Fischer	5	3	3.5	3.8
Bravo	Fischer	5	3	3	3.7
Bravo Dark Pink	Fischer	5	3	3	3.7

**Geranium**, vegetative cultivars (Continued)

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.
Bravo Light Pink	Fischer	4	3	3.5	3.5
Bravo Pastel	Fischer	5	3	3.5	3.8
Calypso 2001	Fischer	5	3.5	4.5	4.3
Cassanova 2002	Fischer	5	3	4	4
Charleston 2001	Fischer	5	3.5	3.5	4
Charmant '98	Fischer	5	3.5	3	3.8
Diablo '98	Fischer	5	4.5	3	4.2
Grand Prix	Fischer	5	4.5	3	4.2
Happy Orange	Fischer	5	2.5	3	3.5
Happy Violet	Fischer	5	2.5	2.5	3.3
Jazz '99	Fischer	5	4	4.5	4.5
Kardino 2001	Fischer	5	3.5	3	3.8
Magic '99	Fischer	5	3.5	2.5	3.5
Noblesse '99	Fischer	5	4	4.5	4.5
Omega 2000	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
Rocky Mountain Deep Salmon	Fischer	5	3	4	4
Rocky Mountain Lavender Pink	Fischer	5	3	3.5	3.8
Rocky Mountain Light Pink	Fischer	5	3.5	4.5	4.3
Rocky Mountain Light Salmon	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
Rocky Mountain Magenta	Fischer	5	4	3.5	4.2
Rocky Mountain Orange	Fischer	5	3	4	4
Rocky Mountain Red	Fischer	5	3	3.5	3.8
Rocky Mountain Red 2002	Fischer	5	4	3	4
Rocky Mountain Royal Red	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
Rocky Mountain Salmon	Fischer	5	3.5	3.5	4
Rocky Mountain Scarlet	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
Rocky Mountain Violet	Fischer	5	3.5	4.5	4.3
Rocky Mountain White	Fischer	5	3	3.5	3.8
Rumba Fire	Fischer	4.5	3.5	3	3.7
Samba	Fischer	4.5	3.5	2.5	3.5
Schoene Helena	Fischer	4.5	3.5	4.5	4.2
Shallmar	Fischer	5	2.5	3	3.5
Swing 2001	Fischer	4.5	4	4.5	4.3

**Geranium, vegetative cultivars (Continued)**

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.
Tango	Fischer	4	3	3.5	3.5
Tango Dark Red	Fischer	4	3	2.5	3.2
Tango Hot Pink	Fischer	4.5	3	2	3.2
Tango Lavender Pink	Fischer	4	3.5	2.5	3.3
Tango Light Orchid	Fischer	4.5	3	3	3.5
Tango Magenta	Fischer	4.5	3	3	3.5
Tango Neon Purple	Fischer	4.5	3.5	2.5	3.5
Tango Orange	Fischer	4.5	3	3	3.5
Tango Pink	Fischer	4.5	3.5	3.5	3.8
Tango Violet	Fischer	3	3	2.5	2.8
Tango White	Fischer	3	3	2.5	2.8
Tiffany '95	Fischer	3	3	2.5	2.8
Twist 2001	Fischer	5	3.5	3.5	4
Vulcan 2001	Fischer	5	4	3	4
White Glitter	Fischer	5	2.5	3.5	3.7
Wilhelm Langguth	Fischer	5	3.5	4	4.2

Patriot Bright Pink	Oglevee	4	4	3	3.7
Patriot Bright Red	Oglevee	4.5	4	3	3.8
Patriot Cherry Rose	Oglevee	4	3.5	3	3.5
Patriot Cranberry Red	Oglevee	3	3.5	3	3.2
Patriot Light Pink	Oglevee	3.5	4	3	3.5
Patriot Salmon	Oglevee	4.5	4	3.5	4
Patriot Salmon Blush	Oglevee	3.5	4	3	3.5
Patriot Violet	Oglevee	3.5	4	2.5	3.3
Patriot Watermelon	Oglevee	4.5	4.5	3.5	4.2

Abigail	J.P. Bartlett	4.5	3	3.5	3.7
Amy	J.P. Bartlett	4.5	3	3	3.5
Anne	J.P. Bartlett	4.5	4	4.5	4.3
Beth	J.P. Bartlett	4	3	3.5	3.5
Cherokee	J.P. Bartlett	3.5	2	2	2.5

**Geranium (Continued)**

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.
Dot	J.P. Bartlett	2	2	1	1.7
Emily	J.P. Bartlett	4.5	3	3.5	3.7
Mayday	J.P. Bartlett	4	2.5	2.5	3
Mayflower	J.P. Bartlett	4.5	3	4	3.8
Mohawk	J.P. Bartlett	4.5	2.5	3	3.3
Olivia	J.P. Bartlett	4.5	3.5	3	3.7
Pastel Dot	J.P. Bartlett	4.5	3	3.5	3.7
Patriot	J.P. Bartlett	4.5	3	4	3.8
Puritan 2	J.P. Bartlett	4.5	3	4	3.8
Quaker	J.P. Bartlett	4.5	3	3	3.5
Red Coat	J.P. Bartlett	4.5	3	3	3.5
Samaritan	J.P. Bartlett	4.5	3	3.5	3.7

Summation: The Geraniums overall were knockouts throughout the summer. The 'Maverick' series from seed were planted out late, so they were not rated in June while they were getting established. In the past this series has performed extremely well for us, but this season, plants were not quite as vigorous or as floriferous. Considered as series, 'Rocky Mountain' was the best from start to finish. The standouts were 'Rocky Mountain Light Pink' and 'Rocky Mountain Violet.' Both cultivars maintained vigor and heavy bloom throughout the summer. The Tango series started off well but was the poorest as the season progressed with many instances of weak plants, sick foliage and sparse blooms as compared with the other series. Of the assorted Fischer cultivars, 'Calypso 2002' and 'Noblesse '99' were vigorous, consistent and heavy bloomers. Bartlett's 'Anne' was the class of the Bartlett group while 'Dot' and 'Cherokee' were extremely weak with poor bloom. All Geraniums were deadheaded at least once every two weeks throughout the season.

**Geranium (Ivy)**

Series	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.
Blizzard	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
Cascade	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
Summer	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3

## Geranium, Ivy (Continued)

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.
Barock '99	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
Beach '99	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
Belladonna '99	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
Black Magic	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
Blanche Roche	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
Blue Blizzard	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
Dark Red Blizzard	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
Fire Blizzard	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
Pink Blizzard	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
Red Blizzard	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
Salmon Blizzard	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
White Blizzard	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
Bolero	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
Butterfly	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
Acapulco Compact Cascade	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
Bright Cascade	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
Lila Compact Cascade	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
Lila Mini Cascade	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
Pink Silver Cascade	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
Red Mini Cascade	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
Salmon Compact Cascade	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
Sofie Cascade	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
PAC White Compact Cascade	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
Chirocco	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
Comedy	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
Lambada '98	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
Mandarin	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
Marimba	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
Molina	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
Picasso	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
Ragtime 2000	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
Reggae Red	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3

**Geranium, Ivy (Continued)**

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.
Shiva 2002	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
Summer Rose Lilac	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
Summer Rose Red	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
Sybil Holmes	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
Taj Mahal	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3
White Helix	Fischer	5	4	3	4
Wico	Fischer	5	4	4	4.3

Bartlett's Bluebeard	JP Bartlett	NR	4	4	4
Bartlett's Burgundy	JP Bartlett	NR	4	4	4
Bartlett's Light Pink	JP Bartlett	NR	4	4	4
Bartlett's Light Purple	JP Bartlett	NR	4	4	4

Summation: The Ivy Geraniums were excellent performers throughout the summer. It was difficult to rate them with so many strong, uniform, and floriferous selections. 'White Helix' was a standout with good foliage texture and variegation, but it was by far the poorest bloomer of the group. It stopped blooming in mid July and never attempted to bloom again. The deep purplish color of Bartlett's 'Bluebeard' and 'Black Magic' from Fischer was impressive. The 'Cascade' group were impressive with their lacy foliage. All of the Ivy Geraniums were deadheaded at least once every two weeks throughout the summer.

**Helichrysum**

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.	Comments
Silver Mist (seed)	Pan American	3	2.5	2	2.8	Weak grower
Silver Star (vegetative) (New)	Ball FloraPlant	3	2.5	2	2.8	Weak grower

Summation: Both Helichrysum started out moderately well but never appeared happy in the garden. They were weak growers and suffered considerable foliage damage as the summer progressed. The plants in containers fared better than those in the ground.

## Impatiens

Series	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.
Dazzler	Ball Seed	NR	3.5	3.5	3.5
Fanciful	Ball Seed	NR	3.5	3.5	3.5
Tempo	Bodger	NR	3.5	3.5	3.5
Accent	Goldsmith	NR	4	3.5	3.8
Cajun	Syngenta	NR	3.5	3.5	3.5

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.	Comments
Dazzler Rose Swirl	Ball Seed	NR	3.5	3.5	3.5	
Dazzler Orange	Ball Seed	NR	3.5	3.5	3.5	
Fanciful Coral	Ball Seed	NR	3.5	3.5	3.5	
Fanciful Orchid Rose	Ball Seed	NR	3.5	3.5	3.5	
Fanciful Red	Ball Seed	NR	3.5	3.5	3.5	
Fanciful Salmon	Ball Seed	NR	3.5	3.5	3.5	
Fanfare Orange	Ball FloraPlant	NR	3	3	3	
Fiesta Ole Peppermint	Ball FloraPlant	NR	3.5	3.5	3.5	Not a heavy bloomer
Fiesta Sparkler Cherry	Ball FloraPlant	NR	3.5	3.5	3.5	

Tempo Cinnamon	Bodger	NR	3.5	3.5	3.5
Tempo Cancun Mix	Bodger	NR	3.5	3.5	3.5
Tempo Crystal Mix	Bodger	NR	3.5	3.5	3.5
Tempo Peach Butterfly	Bodger	NR	3.5	3.5	3.5
Tempo Pink	Bodger	NR	3.5	3.5	3.5
Tempo Red	Bodger	NR	3.5	3.5	3.5
Tempo Strawberry Butterfly	Bodger	NR	3.5	3.5	3.5
Tempo White	Bodger	NR	3.5	3.5	3.5

Accent Apricot	Goldsmith	NR	4	4	4	
Accent Carmine	Goldsmith	NR	4	4	4	
Accent Lilac	Goldsmith	NR	3.5	3.5	3.5	
Accent Midnight Rose	Goldsmith	NR	3.5	3.5	3.5	
Accent Red (New)	Goldsmith	NR	4	4.5	4.3	Vigorous, profuse bloomer
Accent Red Star	Goldsmith	NR	3.5	3	3.3	Weaker growth, sparser blooms
Accent Violet Star (New)	Goldsmith	NR	3.5	3	3.3	Weaker growth, sparser blooms

**Impatiens** (Continued)

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.	Comments
Accent Watermelon (New)	Goldsmith	NR	3.5	3.5	3.5	
Accent White	Goldsmith	NR	4	4.5	4.3	Strong grower, very floriferous
Mosaic Violet	Goldsmith	NR	3.5	3.5	3.5	
Victorian Rose	Goldsmith	NR	3.5	3.5	3.5	

Cajun Cranberry	Syngenta	NR	3.5	3.5	3.5	
Cajun Deep Pink	Syngenta	NR	3.5	3.5	3.5	
Cajun Salmon	Syngenta	NR	3.5	3.5	3.5	
Cajun Red	Syngenta	NR	3.5	3.5	3.5	
Cajun Watermelon	Syngenta	NR	3.5	3.5	3.5	
Cajun White	Syngenta	NR	3.5	3.5	3.5	

Swirl Coral (New)	Pan American	NR	3.5	3.5	3.5	
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Summation: We got a late start with the impatiens, so they were not rated in June to give them time to get established. Most of the impatiens were solid and consistent performers throughout the summer, but a few really stood out for superior performance and inferior qualities. 'Fiesta Ole Peppermint' was not a consistently heavy bloomer, but the combination of creamy variegated blue green foliage with double pink flowers was impressive. Ironically, the best and worst performers came from the 'Accent' series. 'Accent Red' and 'Accent White' were outstanding in vigor, fullness, and floriferousness. 'Accent Red Star' and 'Accent Violet Star' had attractive flowers, but the plants were weak, small, and shy blooming compared to the rest of the series. 'Fanfare Orange' did not appear especially vigorous, failing to fill in the hanging baskets and never taking on the trailing habit the series is known for.

**Lantana**

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.	Comments
Lucky Lemon Cream	Ball FloraPlant	3	2.5	2.5	2.7	Weak grower, not uniform
Lucky Peach Sunrise	Ball FloraPlant	3.5	3.5	4.5	3.8	Vigorous, good bloom
Lucky Red Hot	Ball FloraPlant	3.5	3.5	4.5	3.8	Vigorous, floriferous
Lucky Yellow	Ball FloraPlant	2	2	2	2	Very weak grower

Summation: The 'Lucky series' was quite inconsistent. 'Lucky Yellow' and 'Lucky Lemon Cream' were poor performers overall. 'Lucky Yellow' was the weakest and least floriferous. 'Lucky Peach Sunrise' and 'Lucky Red Hot' filled out well and bloomed profusely, performing particularly well through the month of August.



## Marguerite Daisy

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.	Comments
Luna White	Ball FloraPlant	3	2	0	1.7	Declined throughout the summer
Radiance White	Ball FloraPlant	3	2	2	2.3	Attempted rebloom in cooler weather

Summation: Both cultivars were poor performers. They started out with promise, blooming well early. They quickly stopped blooming and went into decline. By August, 'Luna White' had completely died while 'Radiance White' still had healthy foliage and was blooming sparsely.

## Marigold

Series	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.
Antigua (American)	Goldsmith	3	4	1	2.7
Perfection (American)	Goldsmith	3.5	4	2.5	3.3
Inca II (American)	Goldsmith	3.5	4	2.5	3.3
Discovery (American)	Bodger	4	4	1	3
Durango (French)	Pan American	4.5	3.5	3	3.7
Bonanza (French)	Pan American	4	4	3	3.7
Safari (French)	Bodger	4	4	2.5	3.5

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.
Antigua Mix	Goldsmith	3	4	1	2.7
Inca II Gold	Goldsmith	3.5	4	2.5	3.3
Inca II Orange	Goldsmith	3.5	4	2.5	3.3
Inca II Primrose	Goldsmith	3.5	4	2.5	3.3
Inca II Yellow	Goldsmith	3.5	4	2.5	3.3
Perfection Mix	Goldsmith	3.5	4	2.5	3.3
Discovery Orange	Bodger	4	4	1	3
Discovery Yellow	Bodger	4	4	1	3

**Marigold** (Continued)

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.
Bonanza Harmony	Pan American	4	4	3	3.7
Durango Bolero	Pan American	4.5	3.5	3	3.7
Durango Mix	Pan American	4.5	3.5	2.5	3.5
Durango Red	Pan American	4.5	3.5	3	3.7
Durango Tangerine	Pan American	4.5	3.5	2.5	3.5
Durango Yellow (New)	Pan American	4	3.5	2.5	3.3
Safari Red	Bodger	4	4	1	3
Safari Tangerine	Bodger	4.5	4	2.5	3.7
Safari Yellow	Bodger	3.5	4	2.5	3.3

Summation: Most of the Marigold selections got off to a great start early in the summer. The least impressive was ‘Antigua Mix,’ which was not as uniform as the others were and was beset by disease by mid August. The ‘Durango’ series started out very well with good vigor and good uniformity. In mid summer, the ‘Durango’ series waned slightly in floriferousness but finished well in August, standing up to disease pressure better than the other series. By early September, *Botrytis* had taken its toll and crown gall was discovered, so all cultivars were removed and destroyed. ‘Bonanza Harmony’ was another strong performer with reasonably uniform plants, profuse bloom, and good disease resistance.

**Melampodium**

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.	Comments
Lemon Delight	Takii	4.5	5	4.5	4.7	Uniform, vigorous, heat tolerant

Summation: This cultivar of Melampodium was a showstopper in the garden all summer long. It was vigorous, uniform and free flowering through the heat. The pale yellow blooms were a nice departure from the usual deep yellows.

**Nemesia**

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.
Aromatica Dark Lavender (New)	Ball FloraPlant	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5
Aromatica Deep Blue (New)	Ball FloraPlant	2.5	2.5	3	2.7
Aromatica Lavender Pink (New)	Ball FloraPlant	3.5	3	2.5	3
Aromatica Light Pink (New)	Ball FloraPlant	3	2.5	2.5	2.7
Aromatica White (New)	Ball FloraPlant	3.5	3	2.5	3

Summation: While the Nemesia cultivars fared better than the Diascia, it’s fair to say they were not showstoppers. Overall, plants never looked happy. Plants were weak, not uniform, and bloom was sparse and inconsistent. Of the series, ‘Aromatica Dark Lavender’ was the strongest grower and most consistent bloomer.

## New Guinea Impatiens

Series	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.
Celebration	Ball FloraPlant	4	4	4	4
Celebrette	Ball FloraPlant	4	4	4	4
Sonic	Fischer	4	4	4	4
Super Sonic	Fischer	4.5	4.5	4	4.3
Ovation	Oglevee	4	4.5	4	4.2

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.
Celebration Pink	Ball FloraPlant	4	4	4	4
Celebration Tropical Peach	Ball FloraPlant	4	4	4	4
Celebrette Apricot Star	Ball FloraPlant	4	4	4	4
Celebrette Grape Crush	Ball FloraPlant	4	4	4	4
Celebrette Orchid Star	Ball FloraPlant	4	4	4	4
Ovation Blush Rose	Oglevee	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5
Ovation Bright Pink	Oglevee	4	4.5	4	4.2
Ovation Cherry Rose	Oglevee	4	4.5	4	4.2
Ovation Purple	Oglevee	4	4.5	4	4.2
Ovation Red Spice	Oglevee	4	4.5	4	4.2

## New Guinea Impatiens (Continued)

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.
Sonic Amethyst	Fischer	4	4.5	4	4.2
Sonic Burgundy	Fischer	4	4.5	4	4.2
Sonic Cattleya	Fischer	4	3	3.5	3.5
Sonic Cherry	Fischer	4	3.5	3.5	3.7
Sonic Dark Salmon	Fischer	4	3	3	3.3
Sonic Flame	Fischer	4	3	3	3.3
Sonic Hot Pink	Fischer	4	4.5	4	4.2
Sonic Hot Rose	Fischer	3.5	3	3.5	3.3
Sonic Light Lavender	Fischer	4	3.5	4	3.8
Sonic Light Pink	Fischer	4	4.5	4	4.2
Sonic Orange	Fischer	4	4.5	4	4.2
Sonic Pastel 2003	Fischer	4	4.5	4	4.2
Sonic Peach	Fischer	4	4.5	4	4.2

Sonic Pink	Fischer	4	4	4	4
Sonic Purple	Fischer	3.5	3	3	3.2
Sonic Red 2003	Fischer	4	4.5	4	4.2
Sonic Salmon	Fischer	4	4.5	4	4.2
Sonic Salmon Ice	Fischer	4	4	4	4
Sonic Scarlet	Fischer	3.5	2.5	3	3
Sonic Scarlet Blush	Fischer	4	4.5	4	4.2
Sonic Sweet Cherry	Fischer	4	3	4	3.7
Sonic Sweet Orange	Fischer	4	4.5	3.5	4
Sonic Sweet Purple	Fischer	4	4.5	4	4.2
Sonic Sweet Red	Fischer	4	4.5	4	4.2
Sonic White 2003	Fischer	4	4.5	4	4.2
Super Sonic Cherry Cream	Fischer	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5
Super Sonic Coral Ice 2003	Fischer	4	4.5	4	4.2
Super Sonic Deep Orange	Fischer	5	5	4.5	4.8
Super Sonic Hot Pink	Fischer	4	3.5	4	3.8
Super Sonic Lavender	Fischer	4.5	4.5	4	4.3
Super Sonic Lilac	Fischer	4.5	4.5	4	4.3
Super Sonic Magenta	Fischer	4.5	4.5	4	4.3
Super Sonic Orchid	Fischer	4	4.5	4	4.2

### New Guinea Impatiens (Continued)

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.
Super Sonic Pastel Pink	Fischer	4.5	4.5	3.5	4.2
Super Sonic Peach	Fischer	4	4.5	4	4.2
Super Sonic Red	Fischer	4	4.5	4	4.2
Super Sonic Salmon 2003	Fischer	3.5	4.5	4	4
Super Sonic White 2003	Fischer	5	4.5	3.5	4.3

Summation: This was an excellent year for New Guinea impatiens. There wasn't a single weak performer in the lot, though there was some variation in vigor and floriferousness. Broadly speaking, the 'Sonic' series had the most moderate performers while most of the standout performers came from the 'Super Sonic' series. Lower ratings indicate a lack of vigor, sparser bloom, and failure of plants to fill out as well compared to the higher scored cultivars. 'Sonic Hot Rose' had nice variegated foliage but appeared less vigorous and floriferous than most of the other cultivars. 'Super Sonic Cherry Cream' was a knockout because of its excellent performance and gorgeous pink blushed cream flowers on dark foliage. 'Super Sonic Deep Orange' was especially vigorous and a consistently heavy bloomer. 'Ovation Blush Rose' was the standout of its series with excellent performance and pale pink flowers on dark foliage.

## Nicotiana

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.
Saratoga Antique Shades	Goldsmith	3.5	2	2	2.5
Saratoga Mix	Goldsmith	3.5	2	2	2.5
Saratoga Rose	Goldsmith	3.5	3	2	2.8
Saratoga White (New)	Goldsmith	3.5	2	2	2.5

Summation: The Nicotiana performed well early in the summer but went into rapid decline with the onset of high heat and humidity. Plants were not uniform, and bloom was not particularly heavy. 'Saratoga Rose' did seem to hold up slightly better than the others in the heat and humidity.

## Nierembergia

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.	Comments
Summer Splash Blue	Jackson & Perkins	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	Vigorous, heavy bloomer
Summer Splash Compact White	Jackson & Perkins	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	Vigorous, quite floriferous

Summation: We were very impressed with the 'Summer Splash' selections. They bloomed heavily and consistently all summer long. Plants were still in full bloom at the beginning of October. The fine textured foliage remained healthy, and the plants were uniform and filled in nicely.

## Perilla

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.	Comments
Magilla (New)	Ball FloraPlant	4.5	5	5	4.8	Vigorous, uniform, excellent foliage

Summation: 'Magilla' was a standout performer this summer. Plants filled out well, remained uniform and appeared healthy and vigorous throughout the summer. Unlike the sun coleus cultivars, it did not require any pinching.

## Persian Shield

Species	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.	Comments
<i>Strobilanthes dyerianus</i>	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5	Vigorous, excellent texture and color

Summation: Persian Shield is a vigorous grower and excellent foliage plant. The texture is dramatic and colors are stunning throughout the summer. Morning sun followed by light shade or filtered sun in afternoon appear to allow for best color attainment and retention.

**Petunia**

Series	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.
Aladdin (grandiflora)	Bodger	4	4	3	3.7
Avalanche (multiflora)	Bodger	4	4	4	4
Bella (miniflora)	Farmen	NR	4	3.5	3.8
Candy (multiflora)	Farmen	NR	4	3.5	3.8
Celebrity (multiflora)	Bodger	4	4	3	3.7
Dreams (grandiflora)	Pan American	4	4	2.5	3.5
Easy Wave (spreading)	Pan American	4	4	3	3.7
Fantasy (milliflora)	Goldsmith	4	4	3	3.7
Madness (multiflora)	Ball Seed	5	4	3	4
Opera (trailing)	Takii	4	4	3	3.7
Primetime (multiflora)	Goldsmith	4.5	4	3.5	4
Ramblin (trailing)	Goldsmith	4.5	4	3.5	4
Ruffle (trailing)	Ball FloraPlant	3.5	4	3	3.5
Storm (grandiflora)	Goldsmith	4.5	4	3.5	4
Suncatcher (trailing)	Ball FloraPlant	4.5	4.5	3.5	4.2
Surfinia (trailing)	Jackson & Perkins	5	5	4	4.7

**Petunia (Continued)**

Series	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.
Symphony (multiflora)	Takii	4	4	3	3.7
Tidal Wave (hedgiflora)	Pan American	5	5	4.5	4.8
Ultra (grandiflora)	Goldsmith	4	4	3.5	3.8
Wave (trailing)	Pan American	4.5	4.5	4	4.3

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.
Aladdin Burgundy (New)	Bodger	4	4	3	3.7
Aladdin Cherry (New)	Bodger	4	4	3.5	3.8
Aladdin Orange	Bodger	4	4	1	3
Aladdin Pink Morn	Bodger	4.5	4	3	3.8
Aladdin Strawberry Ice	Bodger	4.5	4	3.5	4
Aladdin White	Bodger	4	4	3	3.7
Avalanche Cherry	Bodger	4	4	4	4
Avalanche Lavender	Bodger	4	4	4	4
Avalanche Lilac (New)	Bodger	4	4	4	4
Avalanche Rose Pink	Bodger	4	4	4	4
Avalanche Tropical Red	Bodger	4	4	3	3.7

Avalanche White	Bodger	4	4	3.5	3.8
Bella Picotee Blue	Farmen	NR	4	3.5	3.8
Bella Picotee Burgundy	Farmen	NR	4	3.5	3.8
Bella Picotee Velvet	Farmen	NR	4	3.5	3.8
Candy Picotee Blue	Farmen	NR	4	3.5	3.8
Candy Picotee Burgundy	Farmen	NR	4	3.5	3.8
Candy Picotee Red	Farmen	NR	4	3.5	3.8
Candy Picotee Rose	Farmen	NR	4	3.5	3.8
Candy Velvet Picotee	Farmen	NR	4	3.5	3.8
Celebrity Burgundy (New)	Bodger	4	4	2.5	3.5
Celebrity Chiffon Morn	Bodger	4.5	4	2.5	3.7
Celebrity Mid Blue	Bodger	4	4	3	3.7
Double Wave Blue Vein	Ball FloraPlant	4	4.5	3	3.8
Dreams Mix Patriot	Pan American	4	4	2.5	3.5
Easy Wave Cherry	Pan American	4	4	2.5	3.5
Easy Wave Pink	Pan American	4	4	3.5	3.8

**Petunia** (Continued)

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.
Easy Wave Shell Pink	Pan American	4	4	3.5	3.8
Fantasy Mix	Goldsmith	4	4	3	3.7
Madness Clear Mix	Ball Seed	5	4	3	4
Madness Magenta	Ball Seed	4.5	4	3	3.8
Madness Waterfalls Mix	Ball Seed	5	4	3.5	4.2
Old Glory Mix	Ball Seed	4	4	3	3.7
Opera Deep Rose	Takii	4	5	3	4
Primetime Rose	Goldsmith	4	4	3	3.7
Primetime Violet Star	Goldsmith	4.5	4	3.5	4
Ramblin Burgundy Chrome	Goldsmith	5	4	3.5	4.2
Ramblin Deep Salmon	Goldsmith	4	4	3	3.7
Ramblin Misty Lilac	Goldsmith	5	4	4	4.3
Ramblin Neon Rose	Goldsmith	4.5	4	3	3.8
Ramblin Nu Blue	Goldsmith	3.5	4	3	3.5
Ramblin Peach Glow	Goldsmith	4.5	4	3.5	4
Ramblin Salmon Capri	Goldsmith	4.5	5	3.5	4.3
Ramblin Shades of Pink	Goldsmith	5	4	3.5	3.8
Ruffle Purple Twist	Ball FloraPlant	3.5	4	3	3.5
Ruffle Red	Ball FloraPlant	3.5	4	3	3.5
Stars and Stripes Mix	Ball Seed	4	4	3	3.7
Blue Storm	Goldsmith	4.5	4	3.5	4

Lavender Storm	Goldsmith	4.5	4	3.5	4
Pink Storm	Goldsmith	4.5	4	3.5	4
Pink Morn Storm	Goldsmith	4.5	4	4	4.2
Red Storm	Goldsmith	3.5	4	3	3.5
Salmon Storm	Goldsmith	4.5	4	3	3.8
Violet Storm	Goldsmith	4.5	4	4	4.2
White Storm	Goldsmith	4.5	4	3.5	4
Suncatcher Deep Plum	Ball FloraPlant	4.5	4.5	3.5	4.2
Suncatcher Sapphire	Ball FloraPlant	4.5	4.5	3.5	4.2
Surfinia Giant Purple	Jackson & Perkins	4.5	4.5	4	3.7
Surfinia Lime	Jackson & Perkins	5	5	4	4.7
Symphony Red Picotee	Takii	3.5	4	3	3.5

### Petunia (Continued)

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.
Symphony Rose Picotee	Takii	4	4	3	3.7
Symphony White	Takii	4.5	4	3	3.8
Tidal Wave Silver	Pan American	5	4.5	4.5	4.7
Ultra Red	Goldsmith	3.5	4	3	3.5
Ultra Salmon	Goldsmith	4	4	3.5	3.8
Ultra White	Goldsmith	4	4	3.5	3.8
Blue Wave	Pan American	4.5	5	4	4.5
Lavender Wave (New)	Pan American	4.5	5	4	4.5
Pink Wave	Pan American	4.5	5	4	4.5

Summation: All the petunias did well this summer, but many did show signs of stress by mid August. ‘Tidal Wave Silver’ was a knockout performer. The tall mounds of foliage were smothered in bloom all summer, and this cultivar was still blooming heavily and looking healthy as others waned in bloom and showed signs of foliar wear and tear in late August. The ‘Wave,’ ‘Surfinia,’ and ‘Avalanche’ series also performed exceptionally well down the stretch. They held up better to the rigors of summer than the other series. Of the ‘Storm’ series, ‘Violet Storm’ and ‘Pink Morn Storm’ were strong performers with consistently profuse bloom and healthy foliage. Of the ‘Ramblin’ series, ‘Ramblin Misty Lilac’ was the best performer- maintaining consistently heavy bloom throughout the summer. As a series, the ‘Celebrity’ series showed the most foliar meltout and sparsest bloom late in the season.

### Platycodon

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.
Miss Tilly Blue	Goldsmith	4	NR	NR	4

Summation: Plants were uniform, compact, and bloomed heavily. Deadheading resulted in a decent second flush of blooms. Afterwards, plants did the Platycodon norm, turned chlorotic and went into decline. Not a plant for season long color, but excellent for a burst of violet blue.



## Plectranthus

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.	Comments
<i>amboinicus</i> 'Variegata'	Glasshouse Works	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	
<i>argentatus</i> (Silver)	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5	
Athens Gem	Glasshouse Works	4	4	4	4	
<i>coleodes</i> 'Variegata'	Glasshouse Works	4	4	4	4	
<i>ecklonii</i> 'Erma'	Glasshouse Works	4	4	4	4	
<i>fosteri</i> 'Green on Green'	Glasshouse Works	4	4	4	4	
Nicodemus	Ball FloraPlant	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	Vigorous, sprawling habit
<i>oertendahlii</i> 'Uvongo'	Glasshouse Works	4	4	4	4	
<i>zuluensis</i>	Glasshouse Works	4	4	4	4	

Summation: 'Nicodemus' was a solid performer all summer. The plants were quite vigorous and filled in nicely. The spreading, low habit is a nice departure from the tall, upright types. Plants were a bit sprawling and open, so give them plenty of room or suffer the consequences. *Plectranthus amboinicus* 'Variegata' had the same vigorous growth and growth habit as 'Nicodemus' but with smaller variegated leaflets on more compact plants. The Silver Plectranthus was impressive with silver foliage and vigorous upright habit.

## Portulaca

Series	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.
Sundial (seed)	Bodger	4	4.5	4.5	4.8
Fairytales (vegetative)	Ball FloraPlant	4	4.5	4.5	4.8

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.
Sundial Gold	Bodger	4	4.5	4.5	4.8
Sundial Fuschia	Bodger	4	4.5	4.5	4.8
Fairytales Cinderella (New)	Ball FloraPlant	4	4.5	4.5	4.8
Fairytales Sleeping Beauty (New)	Ball FloraPlant	4	4.5	4.5	4.8
Fairytales Snow White (New)	Ball FloraPlant	4	4.5	4.5	4.8

Summation: Both series of Portulaca were strong performers this summer. Plants grew vigorously and bloomed quite heavily across the board. We were surprised to note a smattering of white blooms and white floral segments in the planting of 'Fairytales Sleeping Beauty.'

***Rudbeckia hirta***

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.
Autumn Colors	Benary	NR	4.5	NR	4.5
Cordoba	Benary	4	NR	NR	4
Prairie Sun	Benary	NR	4.5	NR	4.5
Toto Lemon	Benary	4.5	NR	NR	4.5
Toto Rustic	Benary	3.5	NR	NR	3.5

Summation: The *Rudbeckia* performed well through their respective bloom times, and then they did what *Rudbeckia hirta* does here after bloom- melt. We felt it was unfair to rate plants prior to bloom and after they had gone into senescence. As the ratings reflect, ‘Cordoba’, ‘Toto Lemon’, and ‘Toto Rustic’ were in bloom by mid June while the taller cultivars didn’t come into bloom until a few weeks later. ‘Toto Rustic’ appeared slightly less vigorous, uniform and floriferous than ‘Toto Lemon.’

**Salvia**

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.	Comments
<i>guaranitica</i> Black and Blue	Ball FloraPlant	4	4	4	4	Uniform, vigorous
<i>patens</i> Blue Angel	Benary	3	3	3	3	Nice bloom size and color, sparse
<i>sp.</i> Blue Ribbon	Pan American	3	3.5	3.5	3.3	Nice color, good floriferousness
<i>splendens</i> Salsa Mixture	Goldsmith	3	3.5	3.5	3.3	
<i>splendens</i> Salsa Purple	Goldsmith	3	3.5	3.5	3.3	
<i>splendens</i> Salsa Scarlet	Goldsmith	3	3.5	3.5	3.3	
<i>splendens</i> Salvador Red	Syngenta	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	

Summation: *Salvia guaranitica* ‘Black and Blue’ was a strong performer throughout the summer. Plants were uniform and vigorous with healthy green foliage. The bloom wasn’t consistently heavy, but the plants were in bloom sporadically throughout the summer. The black calyces set the purplish blue flowers off well. The hummingbirds loved it. *Salvia patens* ‘Blue Angel’ performed reasonably well through the summer. Plants were uniform and fairly vigorous. The huge intense blue flowers were gorgeous, but flowering was quite sporadic. It held up to the humidity better than expected but did not seem to like the occasional wet periods we had interspersed through the long dry stretches this summer. *Salvia sp.* ‘Blue Ribbon’ bloomed well with unusual bluish violet and white flowers. All the *Salvia splendens* selections got off to a rocky start thanks to a cool, wet period in spring. But by mid July, they had perked up and were blooming well. ‘Salvador Red’ was the most consistent in vigor and floriferousness from the start.

## Scaevola

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.	Comments
Blue Ribbon	Ball FloraPlant	4	4.5	4.5	4.8	Vigorous, consistent bloom
Zig Zag	Ball FloraPlant	4	4.5	4.5	4.8	Strong grower, consistent bloom

Summation: Both Scaevola cultivars performed well throughout the summer. ‘Zig Zag’ was an excellent groundcover type that filled in nicely along a path. ‘Blue Ribbon’ was planted in a raised bed and started out the season with a low mounding growth habit. By August, the plants were gracefully cascading over the edge of their bed. Both cultivars were vigorous, uniform, bloomed heavily and stood up well in the dry heat.

## Sedum

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.
Sea Stars	Ball FloraPlant	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5

Summation: ‘Sea Stars’ was a good performer throughout the summer. It was somewhat of a slow starter but gradually filled in well. The tiny foliage was very effective and a nice textural departure, but growth and coverage were not uniform.

## Snapdragon

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.	Comments
La Bella Mixture	Goldsmith	4	4	3.5	3.8	Uniform, consistent bloomer
Liberty Classic Mixture	Goldsmith	4	4	3.5	3.8	Uniform, consistent bloomer
Luminaire Harvest Red	Ball FloraPlant	4	3.5	3	3.5	
Luminaire Red	Ball FloraPlant	4	3.5	3	3.5	
Luminaire White (New)	Ball FloraPlant	4	3.5	3	3.5	

Summation: We were quite pleased with how well all the snapdragons performed through the ravages of summer. Both the ‘La Bella Mixture’ and ‘Liberty Classic Mixture’ appeared vigorous and were blooming moderately at the end of August. The ‘Luminaire’ series were plated in hanging baskets to accentuate their weeping, trailing habit. They started out strong but declined somewhat in vigor and bloom as the summer progressed.

## Spilanthes

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.	Comments
Olerac Peek A Boo	Pan American	4.5	5	3.5	4.3	Uniform, consistent, strong

Summation: ‘Olerac Peek A Boo’ was a solid performer throughout the summer. Plants were uniform and vigorous. By mid August, the foliage showed some minor insect damage and most of the flowers began to senesce.

## Sweet Potato Vine (*Ipomoea batatas*)

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.	Comments
Ace of Spades	Glasshouse Works	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	Entire, spade shaped leaf
Blackie	Glasshouse Works	4	4	4	4	Serrated leaf
Margarita (Margarite)	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5	Very vigorous, bright color
Tricolor	Glasshouse Works	4	4	4	4	Stunning but not a rampant grower

Summation: All the sweet potato vines performed well for us this summer. ‘Margarita’ is by far the strongest and most rampant grower, so give this chartreuse beauty plenty of room or keep it trimmed back. The full, spade shaped leaf of ‘Ace of Spades’ adds a new textural dimension to the dark leaf color palette. The serrated dark leaves of ‘Blackie’ provide good textural contrast as well as color contrast when used with ‘Margarita.’ The variegation and heavy suffusion of pink on the new growth of ‘Tricolor’ make it a standout, but it is a weaker grower than the others and is probably better utilized as a container plant rather than a groundcover. Late in the summer, all cultivars showed signs of insect damage.

## Torenia

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.	Comments
Duchess Deep Blue	Goldsmith	4	5	4	4.3	Uniform, heavy bloom
Duchess Pink	Goldsmith	3.5	5	4	4.2	Uniform, heavy bloom
Summer Wave Amethyst	Jackson & Perkins	4.5	5	4	4.5	Mounding habit, strong grower

Summation: All the Torenia were excellent performers throughout the summer. The ‘Duchess’ series were planted in full sun, while the ‘Summer Wave Amethyst’ was planted in both full sun and part shade. Plants were slow to get established due to a cool snap in May. Once they got started, all selections were uniform, bloomed heavily and held up well in the heat. ‘Summer Wave Amethyst’ had good spreading habit and performed well in sun and shade. Floriferousness waned slightly and there was some minor foliage decline at the very end of August.

## Verbena

Series	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.
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Merlot (seed)	Ball Seed	4	2.5	2.5	3
Quartz (seed)	Pan American	4	2.5	2.5	3
Aztec (vegetative)	Ball FloraPlant	3	3	2.5	2.8
Tapien (vegetative)	Jackson & Perkins	3	2.5	2.5	2.7
Temari (vegetative)	Jackson & Perkins	3	3	3	3

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.
Aztec Deep Lavender (New)	Ball FloraPlant	3	3	2.5	2.8
Aztec Lilac Picotee	Ball FloraPlant	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5
Aztec Pink	Ball FloraPlant	2.5	2.5	2	2.3
Aztec Raspberry	Ball FloraPlant	2.5	3.5	2	2.7
Aztec Silver Magic	Ball FloraPlant	3.5	3.5	2.5	3.2
Liberty for All	Ball Seed	4	2.5	2.5	3
Merlot Mix	Ball Seed	4	2.5	2.5	3
Quartz Burgundy Eye	Pan American	4	2.5	2.5	3
Quartz Mix Waterfall	Pan American	4	2.5	2.5	3
Tapien Salmon	Jackson & Perkins	3	2.5	2.5	2.7
Temari Bright Coral	Jackson & Perkins	4	4	3.5	3.8
Temari Red with White Eye	Jackson & Perkins	2	2.5	2.5	2.3
Temari Rose	Jackson & Perkins	2.5	3.5	2.5	2.8

Summation: The seed cultivars started out strong but declined as the summer progressed. Most of the vegetative cultivars never seemed to get established. By July, bloom was inconsistent and sparse. Plants looked weak and were not uniform. ‘Temari Bright Coral’ was by far the most vigorous and floriferous of the verbena. Of the Aztec series, ‘Aztec Silver Magic’ was the strongest grower and had beautiful silvery lavender blooms.

**Vinca**

Series	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.	Comments
First Kiss	Benary	2.5	4.5	4.5	3.8	Most susceptible series to root rot.
Heatwave	Bodger	3.5	4.5	4.5	4.2	
Pacifica	Pan American	3	4.5	4.5	4	
Sunstorm	Syngenta	3	4.5	4.5	4	Not uniform early, filled in well later

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.
Big Ruby	Pan American	4	4.5	4.5	4.3
First Kiss Coral	Benary	2.5	4.5	4.5	3.8
First Kiss Peach	Benary	3	4.5	4.5	4
First Kiss Ruby	Benary	2.5	4.5	4.5	3.8
Pacifica Icy Pink	Pan American	3	4.5	4.5	4
Heatwave Blue with Eye	Bodger	3.5	4.5	4.5	4.2
Heatwave Cherry	Bodger	3.5	4.5	4.5	4.2
Heatwave Raspberry	Bodger	3.5	4.5	4.5	4.2
Heatwave Red	Bodger	3	4.5	4.5	4
Heatwave White	Bodger	3.5	4.5	4.5	4.2
Sunstorm Apricot	Syngenta	2.5	4.5	4.5	3.8
Sunstorm Bright Red	Syngenta	2.5	4.5	4.5	3.8
Sunstorm Lilac	Syngenta	3	4.5	4.5	4
Sunstorm Orchid	Syngenta	3.5	4.5	4.5	4.2
Sunstorm Rose	Syngenta	3	4.5	4.5	4
Sunstorm White with Eye	Syngenta	2.5	4.5	4.5	3.8

Summation: A cool, wet period in late spring caused root rot problems with all the Vinca. The June ratings reflect the relative incidence of the disease and uniformity issues. The 'First Kiss' series was the most susceptible to root rot. The 'Sunstorm' series started out not uniform and with sparse blooms in general. By mid June, all surviving plants had filled in nicely and were blooming profusely. All cultivars were blooming heavily and thriving at the end of August. 'Big Ruby' was a standout performer from the onset.

## Yellow (Golden) Shrimp Plant

Species	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.	Comments
<i>Pachystachys lutea</i>	Glasshouse Works	5	5	5	5	Prolific, showy bloomer

Summation: The Yellow Shrimp Plant, also known as the Golden Shrimp Plant, was a surprisingly good performer throughout the summer. Plants tolerate full sun but seem to prefer some afternoon shade. Ours were planted in full sun and flourished with some supplemental watering through the dry spells. The exotic yellow blooms persisted throughout the summer months.

## Zinnia elegans

Cultivar	Source	June Rat.	July Rat.	Aug. Rat.	Avg. Rat.	Comments
Zinnita Orange	Benary	4	3	1	3.3	Poor down the stretch, diseased foliage
Zinnita Yellow	Benary	4	3	1	3.3	Poor down the stretch, diseased foliage
Zinnita White	Benary	4	3	1	3.3	Poor down the stretch, diseased foliage

Summation: The Zinnita series started out well in early summer with good vigor, relatively good uniformity, and heavy bloom. As the summer progressed, bloom was less consistent and disease affected foliage and flower. By the end of August, the plants were quite unsightly and were struggling for survival.