# **NEW PLANTS FOR 2025**

BY CLAIRE SPLAN, ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Another year, another array of spectacular new plant introductions. Breeders spend years developing cultivars with new features such as different flower colors, improved hardiness, compact growth habit, or disease resistance. We've selected some of the most impressive new plants to highlight, but in reality, they're just the tip of the iceberg among the exciting lineup growers will be rolling out to retail nurseries in 2025.

## **Annuals and Tender Perennials**



Angelonia Angelflare™ Black (Angelonia angustifolia 'Balangflac') New series with open V-shaped form in stunning colors

The V-shaped structure of the angelonias in this new series makes them a colorful standout in a border or container. The black flowers and scented foliage grab your attention wherever they are, and the other colors in the series (Orchid Pink and Cranberry) are equally eye-catching. They also tolerate heat and humidity better than other angelonias.

Size: 8-12" tall, 12-18" wide Best Uses: Landscapes, mixed

containers

Conditions: Full sun, low water Breeder/Grower: Ball FloraPlant **Monarch Magic Flossflower** (Ageratum houstonianum 'Agerboyuma')

A one-of-a-kind spreading flossflower that's a butterfly magnet

This easy-care flossflower spreads out to cover the ground or tumble over the edge of containers with purple flowers that attract and feed butterflies from early spring through summer. As a bonus, it's drought tolerant.

**Size:** 6–12" tall, 8–16" wide **Best Uses:** Landscape, container,

hanging basket

Conditions: Full to part sun;

average water

Breeder/Grower: Ball FloraPlant



Sorghum Prairie Pearls™
(Sorghum bicolor)
A new series of sorghum for cut flower gardens

The Prairie Pearls™ sorghum series is a unique addition to the cut flower array, with attractive seedheads in shades of white, cream, bronze, or pink. Plants are quick to mature, with flowers appearing in 50–60 days. Green seedheads follow in another 20 days, with color developing in another 10 days.

**Size:** 30-36" tall

Best Uses: Cut flowers in fresh or

dried arrangements

Conditions: Full sun; medium to

low water

Breeder/Grower: Express Seed

Company





Dahlia Hypnotica® Candy Corn (Dahlia 'Candy Corn')

A new addition to the Hypnotica® series with bold, unique colors

Like other cultivars in this series, 'Candy Corn' is a medium-height, vigorous dahlia with great branching, producing many late summer flowers. The vivid orange, yellow, and white blooms make excellent cut flowers.

Size: 18-24" tall

Best Uses: Landscape, borders,

containers, cut flowers

**Conditions:** Full sun; well-drained

soil; average water

Breeder/Grower: Dümmen

Orange North America



FlameThrower™ Adobo Pink Coleus (Solenostemon scutellarioides 'Balflamobin') Uniquely shaped leaves and vivid coloring make this coleus stand out from the rest

This coleus is going to pop whether planted alone or in a mixed container. Long, deep pink leaves are edged with dark red, making an intense color statement. It's low maintenance and blooms late, if at all—a bonus for those who don't appreciate coleus flowers.

Size: 12-18" tall, 16-18" wide **Best Uses:** Accent plant, mixed or

single-plant containers

Conditions: Full sun to shade: well-draining soil; regular water Breeder/Grower: Ball Seed



SENETTI® Blue Spoon (Pericallis ×hybrida) Large flowers with spoon-shaped petals that rebloom through the spring

Uniquely shaped, bicolor flowers in an intense, nearly true blue shade make this heavy bloomer a standout. Blossoms are 3 inches across and number as high as 200 blooms per plant. Cut back plants after blooming for a fresh flush of flowers.

**Size:** 12–24" tall, 12–18" wide **Best Uses:** Landscape, borders,

container gardens

Conditions: Full to part sun; welldrained soil; moderate water Breeder/Grower: Suntory Flowers

## **Perennials**



**Prairie Winds® Brush Strokes Little Bluestem** 

(Schizachyrium scoparium)

An easy-to-grow native grass selection that handles heat, humidity, and drought with colorful flair

For multi-season interest, this North American native little bluestem offers powder blue stems that turn wine-red in fall. It withstands climate challenges, resists deer, and is a low-maintenance stalwart for many garden uses.

**Zones:** 3-9

**Size:** 32–36" tall, 22–26" wide **Best Uses:** Borders, landscape, mass planting, erosion control **Conditions:** Full sun, low water,

average soil

Breeder/Grower: Proven Winners

**Dietes Milky Way™** (Dietes bicolor 'DBV001')

## This grasslike perennial forms clumps topped with yellow flowers

The upright, clumping form and strappy variegated leaves of this iris family member native to South Africa give the appearance of a grass, but with the bonus of yellow flowers in the summer. It can withstand heat and drought—the more sun it gets, the more it blooms.

**Zones:** 8b-11

**Size:** 2.5–3.5' tall, 2–3'wide

Best Uses: Accent, border, contain-

er, mass planting

**Conditions:** Full sun to part shade; well-draining soil; average water Breeder/Grower: Plant Development Services/Southern Living and

Sunset Plant Collections





**Stripe It Rich Japanese Forest** Grass (Hakonechloa macra 'Stripe It Rich')

## White-striped, golden foliage with a spreading, trailing habit

This new Japanese forest grass makes a great addition to an Asian garden or any garden. It grows vigorously to create a graceful, flowing groundcover and does best when allowed to dry out slightly between waterings. A great choice to fill in shady areas.

**Zones:** 5-9

**Size:** 10" tall, 20" wide

Best Uses: Edging, borders, mixed

beds, accent

**Conditions:** Full to part shade; well-drained soil; average water Breeder/Grower: Monrovia

## **Sedum Puff Pastr**∨™ **White Chocolate**

(Sedum 'Holtpupascho093')

## A succulent with stunning dark foliage and creamy blossoms

Drought- and heat-tolerant, this succulent has an upright, mounded form with purple-bronze foliage and white flowers in late summer that dry on the plant without forming brown seedheads. It attracts hummingbirds and butterflies while resisting deer and rabbits.

**Zones:** 5-9

Size: 12-14" tall, 14-16" wide **Best Uses:** Focal point, landscape, border, rock garden, makes great

cut or dried flowers

Conditions: Full sun; well-draining

soil; average to low water

Breeder/Grower: Bloomin' Easy





**Cookies and Cream Hardy** Hibiscus (Hibiscus 'Cookies and Cream')

## Large pure white flowers stand out against black foliage

Marketed as a perennial, this fast-growing, pollinator-friendly, native shrub is sure to attract attention with its black-and-white foliage and flower combination. It blooms heavily from mid- to late summer on compact, sturdy branches. As a bonus, it's deer resistant.

**Zones:** 4-9

**Size:** 2.5-3' tall, 3.5-4' wide

Best Uses: Focal point, border, bog Conditions: Full sun to part shade;

average, consistent water

Breeder/Grower: Walters

Gardens/Proven Winners Perennials

**Windflower HARLEQUIN™ 'Cameo'** (Anemone 'Cameo') A heavy bloomer from July through October that attracts pollinators

A pollinator garden favorite, this anemone features spring mounds of leathery green foliage followed by bright pink flowers on tall stems from summer to autumn. Bees and butterflies love it, and it spreads less aggressively than other anemones.

**Zones:** 4-9

Size: 14" tall, 18" wide

Best Uses: Pollinator attractor Conditions: Full sun to part shade; well-drained soil; average water to

keep evenly moist

Breeder/Grower: Terra Nova

Nurseries



# Trees, Shrubs, and Vines



Better Boxwood® Renaissance™ (Buxus hybrid 'HER200B01') The first boxwood sustainably bred to resist blight

Ideal for creating low hedges and borders or small topiaries, this compact cultivar is the first boxwood bred to resist boxwood blight. It holds its color longer than other boxwoods and requires minimal maintenance—typically just once-a-year pruning. Its makes it a good choice for any size garden.

**Zones:** 5-9

Size: 1-2' tall and wide

Best Uses: Low hedge, mass planting, knot garden, containers Conditions: Part shade; welldrained, evenly moist soil

Breeder/Grower: Plant Develop-

ment Services, Inc.

Paisley Pup® Doghobble (Leucothoe fontanesiana `SMNLFGRV') All-season color interest with

This broadleaf, native evergreen bears variegated foliage in shades of pink, green, cream, and bronze. In spring and summer, fragrant white, bell-shaped blooms dangle on arching branches to attract pollinators. It's also deer- and disease-resistant.

**Zones:** 5-8

multiple uses

Size: 3-4' tall, 4-5' wide

Best Uses: Border, container, edging, groundcover, mass planting **Conditions:** Part shade, average

water, acidic soil

Breeder/Grower: Spring Mead-

ows/Proven Winners





GreatMyrtle™ Crepe Myrtle (Lagerstroemia hybrids) A series of compact, earlyflowering dwarf crepe myrtles with improved hardiness

Now, smaller gardens can enjoy the brilliant flowering of crepe myrtles with these dwarf varieties in shades of white (French Vanilla), pink (Cotton Candy and Red Velvet), and red (Cherry Delight). Flowering from late June until heavy frost, these versatile shrubs require only minimal annual pruning.

**Zones: 5b-10** 

Size: 24-36" tall, 36" wide Best Uses: Foundation shrub, accent, mass planting, container

Conditions: Full sun

Breeder/Grower: Garden Choice



Funyella® Clematis (Clematis 'Golden Dream') A low-maintenance vine with strikingly colorful blossoms

With bell-shaped, yellow and pink blooms and grapefruit fragrance, this is not your typical clematis. Flowering on old wood from spring to midsummer, this easy-care climber is disease-resistant and heat-tolerant and requires little to no pruning.

**Zones:** 4-9

**Size:** 6-10' tall, 3-4' wide

Best Uses: Border, container, landscape, specimen or focal point **Conditions:** Full sun to part shade; well-draining soil; average water **Breeder/Grower:** Spring Meadows/

Proven Winners

**Green Wall Spire™ Crabapple** (Malus ×adstringens 'Jefwall') A versatile columnar tree with multi-season interest

Used singly as a focal point or in multiples for screening, this columnar crabapple provides visual interest throughout the year as well as food for birds and pollinators. Pink buds forming in the spring open into white flowers, then develop into red fruits in the summer. Foliage turns bronze in the fall.

**Zones:** 2-8

Size: 18-20' tall, 5-6' wide Best Uses: Specimen plant, sea-

sonal privacy hedge

Conditions: Full sun; well-draining

soil; low to medium water Breeder/Grower: Bailey Nurser-

ies/First Editions





Loves Me, Loves Me Not™ Rose (Rosa 'Meicatess') A hybrid tea rose bursting with fragrance and boasting hundreds of petals in each bloom

This deep pink hybrid tea rose will delight with its fragrance reminiscent of lilac, pineapple, and gardenia. Each bloom can be up to 5 inches across and contain 150 to 200 petals for a lush, full look. It has an upright, bushy form with strong stems and grows on its own roots.

**Zones:** 6-11

Size: 5' tall, 2-3' wide

**Best Uses:** Landscape, cut flowers Conditions: Full sun; well-draining soil; regular water until established **Breeder/Grower:** Meilland®/Star

Roses and Plants

## Edibles

# Tomato WonderStar Red F1 (Solanum lycopersicum)

## An early-maturing beefsteak tomato with great disease resistance

If beefsteak tomatoes have been challenging due to disease or a short season, try this variety. Early maturity delivers great flavor faster, while resistance to late blight and septoria leaf spot helps protect your crop. Its compact, determinate size also ensures a good harvest in less space.

Days to Maturity: 60-65 days **Size:** 18-24" tall, 24-36" wide Conditions: Full sun; fertile, acidic, well-draining soil; average water Breeder/Grower: PanAmerican

Seed





Sahara Kale (Brassica oleracea var. ramosa)

#### A highly adaptable kale that thrives in heat and cold

As climates shift, this nutrient-rich kale from North Africa is going to prove very popular for its tolerance of temperature extremes. Its smooth, broad, blue-green leaves with white veins stand tall through blazing hot days and chilly nights. It does best with regular water but can tolerate drought as well.

Days to Maturity: 60-80 days

Size: 24" tall

Conditions: Full to part sun; well-draining soil; average water Breeder/Grower: Baker Creek

Heirloom Seeds

# Poppin' Passion™ Passion Fruit (Passiflora 'Wellington 101') A taste of the tropics in a compact climber with pollinator-friendly flowers

This vine not only offers exotic flowers that pollinators go wild for, but it follows up with refreshingly sweettart fruits all summer. With a trellis it can be successfully grown in a container and overwintered indoors in cooler climates.

**Zones:** 9-11

Size: 4-5' tall, 3-4' wide Conditions: Full sun to part shade; well-draining, acidic soil;

average water

**Breeder/Grower:** Star® Roses

and Plants



# Houseplants



'Malachite' Dragon Tree (Dracaena cantleyi) A unique houseplant with spotted foliage and a strong structure

Dark, strappy leaves covered with lime-green bullseye spots will stand out in a brightly lit site. Its central stalk grows into a sturdy trunk, making it an indoor tree that will grab everyone's attention. It can also grow happily outdoors in Zones 10 to 11, where its striking foliage adds a bold, tropical vibe to the landscape.

Size: 4' tall and wide **Conditions:** Bright indirect light; water when top inch of soil is dry Breeder/Grower: Monrovia



Space Age™ Black Hole™ Rex Begonia (Begonia rex-cultorum 'BBENO33-0')

## Mounded foliage in shades of silver, black, and dark green brighten shady corners

Stunning foliage steals the show with this lush, mounding Rex begonia: the occasional red blossoms are just a bonus. The leaves explode with color-silver with dark red centers, dark green veining, and black outlining the jagged edges. It can also serve as a shade plant outdoors, perennial in Zones 10 to 12, or as an annual in cooler climates.

Size: 15-18" tall and wide **Conditions:** Part to full shade: well-drained soil; average water Breeder/Grower: Proven Winners



Ornamental Pepper Acapulco™ **XP** (Capsicum annuum) **Bold-colored fruits make this** compact pepper plant highly decorative indoors

This compact pepper plant brings a lot of color indoors when it sports its petite, ornamental fruits in bright shades of red, yellow, purple, dark orange, and multicolor orange or red. You can also grow it outdoors in Zones 10 to 11.

Size: Under 12" tall Conditions: Bright light; well-draining soil; average water **Breeder/Grower:** PanAmerican

Seed