

Chelsea 2010 Plant of the Year - short list

Aubergine 'Scorpio' (*Solanum melongena*)

Exhibitor: Birmingham City Council (GPE 8)

This cultivar has smaller fruit weighing 300-400g, of good quality and deep purple in colour

Available from: Suttons and Dobbies

***Impatiens* 'Masquerade'**

Exhibitor: Birmingham City Council (GPE 8)

A new plant for 2010, this variegated busy Lizzie was a lucky find by the Tucker family on their nursery in Burton-on-Trent. The plants are strong and robust and have a naturally spreading and creeping habit, to gently cascade over the edges of patio pots and large baskets and window boxes. Easy to grow for months of summer colour.

Available from: UK garden centres nationally, and as a mail-order plug plants through Gardening Direct, Thompson & Morgan and Mr Fothergill's.

Nepenthes spathulata* × *spectabilis

Exhibitor: Borneo Exotics (GPB 8)

Hybridized in 2005, the male parent (*N. spectabilis*) was selected for its size and vigour and when combined with *N. spathulata* the resultant hybrid bears pitchers that are even more impressive than either parent. This is the result of over 15 years of work and is an example of the future potential of *Nepenthes* hybridization.

Available from: Borneo Exotics

***Nepenthes* 'Bill Bailey' (*Nepenthes ventricosa* × *singalana*)**

Exhibitor: Borneo Exotics (GPB 8)

Hybridized in 2007, this cultivar embodies the singular beauty of both parent species while displaying hybrid vigour. Mature pitchers develop an unusual uniform plum-red coloration. It is being named at the 2010 RHS Chelsea Flower Show after the well-known musician/comedian Bill Bailey, in recognition of his many charitable works.

Available from: Borneo Exotics

***Iris* 'Impressions de Jouy'**

Exhibitor: Cayeux Iris (GPD 10)

Named after the exquisite 18th-century French Jouy printed cloth and bred from a famous Cayeux iris 'Chevalier de Malte'. Pure white standards and purple falls with a wide white centre around a bright red beard. Exemplary stalks and an average of nine buds.

Available from: Cayeux Iris catalogue and website

***Iris* 'Rose de la Vallée'**

Exhibitor: Cayeux Iris (GPD 10)

New for 2010, the flowers are a delicate, soft, pinkish-apricot with a tangerine beard. Nice wavy shape and good substance, with excellent branching. Early to mid-season flowering; a very decorative in-between colour.

Available from: Cayeux Iris catalogue and website

***Rosa* PRINCESS ANNE ('Auskitchen')**

Exhibitor: David Austin Roses Ltd (GPG 10)

This cultivar is the exciting result of a line of parents never before used in breeding David Austin's roses, from a cross in 2002. From 200,000 seedlings and following seven years of field trials, this was finally confirmed for introduction in 2010. It has a very distinctive character, but retains an extremely high level of disease resistance and a beautiful, fragrant flower.

Available from: David Austin Roses 2010/11 mail-order catalogue.

***Streptocarpus* 'Harlequin Blue'**

Exhibitor: Dibleys Nurseries (GPG 17)

Raised by Lynne Dibley and exhibited here for the first time. The first flat-flowering bi-colour streptocarpus, with yellow on the lower petals making a striking contrast to the baby-blue upper petals. A compact plant with masses of flowers.

Available from: Dibleys Nurseries, as plug plants, by mail order.

***Geum* 'Totally Tangerine'**

Exhibitor: Hardy's Cottage Garden Plants (GPF 16)

Bred in the UK and already in trial in North America, this cultivar is available in the UK this year following four years of breeding work. Large, warm apricot, single blooms.

Available from: Hardy's Cottage Garden Plants

***Gaura lindheimeri* 'Ruby Ruby'**

Exhibitor: Hardy's Cottage Garden Plants (GPF 16)

Hardy's Cottage Garden Plants have been working with *Gaura* breeding for the last six years. Initially with 'Chiffon' then 'Rosyjane', now on this line comes 'Ruby Ruby'. It is a continuing breeding programme using *G. lindheimeri* in open pollination and with judicious selection.

Available from: Hardy's Cottage Garden Plants

***Rosa* CLAIRE MARSHALL ('Harunite')**

Exhibitor: Harkness Roses (GPG 18)

New rose CLAIRE MARSHALL is an excellent example of a modern rose. Its fine, traditional shade of purple is redolent of the rich colouring of old roses, and splendid for colour-matching the blue, yellow or pink shades that are found in summer borders. Flowering repeats during the summer season for as long as growing conditions are maintained. Perfume is expected from roses in this rich, plummy shade, and CLAIRE MARSHALL certainly upholds the expectation. This floribunda rose was chosen in Claire's memory by her family.

Available from: Harkness Roses

***Lilium* 'Chelsea'**

Exhibitor: Harts Nursery (GPF 2)

An Oriental lily bred by De Jong Lelies.

Available from: Harts Nursery

***Digitalis* 'Serendipity'**

Exhibitor: Hillier Nurseries (GPE 15)

A new foxglove bred by Hillier Nurseries plantsman Alan Postill and being introduced at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show. *Digitalis* 'Serendipity' is one of a series of crosses involving *Digitalis* 'Saltwood Summer'. It has split, tubular, shell-pink flowers and uniquely curled petals that give the appearance of more flowers. 'Serendipity' is a prominently sterile, short-lived, repeat-flowering perennial that flowers in its first year.

Available from: garden centres nationwide

***Cypripedium flavum* white-flowered**

Exhibitor: McBeans Ltd (GPE 24)

A hardy lady's slipper orchid, *Cypripedium flavum* is found in China but these are mostly yellow flowered with reflexed sepals and petals. White flowers are very uncommon and superior. All orchids are CITES controlled; encouraging laboratory-raised plants such as this discourages collection in the wild. Plants can be grown in a pot or planted in the garden; they require partial shade, good drainage and moisture in summer.

Available from: McBeans Ltd

***Heuchera* 'Sugar Plum'**

Exhibitor: Plantagogo.com (GPJ 2)

A *Heuchera villosa* hybrid, 'Sugar Plum' was raised by Terra Nova Nurseries in North America. It was introduced there in 2009 and has since become available in the UK.

Available from: Plantagogo.com

***Dahlia* 'Ian Hislop'**

Exhibitor: Winchester Growers (GPD 15)

'Ian Hislop' is Winchester Growers' new dahlia introduction for 2010. With bright orange-yellow-red single flowers, it is suitable for a hot border. It is a *Dahlia pinnata* (syn. *D. variabilis*) species back-cross that retains the characters of the parents.

Available from: Winchester Growers in 2011

Viola Balconita Series

Exhibitor: Class Gardens (GPE 13)

Breeder David Kerley has produced the world's first true trailing pansy - named the Balconita Series. Successfully combining a vigorous trailing habit with characteristics of the much-loved pansy, including large flowers (up to 8cm across), some with faces. Extensive trialling in Europe and the USA has proven the patio performance of Balconita under a range of conditions. Available in four colours.

Available from: Thompson & Morgan, as young plants (as flowering plants from February 2011)

***Ophiopogon planiscapus* BLACK BEARD ('Yapard')**

Exhibitor: G & K Whiten (GPE 12)

Bred by Stephen Yandell at his nursery in Cornwall, *Ophiopogon* BLACK BEARD was the result of a quest for a plant that could move the genus from being a well-used ground-cover plant into the wider market. It has wider, longer leaves, fills space quicker and has superb pale pink, scented flowers followed by black berries. Already launched in North America, France and Spain, it will be available in the UK this summer.

Available from: Wyvale in 2011 (only limited quantities in 2010)

***Gerbera jamesonii* 'Landscape'**

Exhibitor: G & K Whiten (GPE 12)

This plant is a hardy patio *Gerbera* and is the result of a major 10-year plant-breeding programme in Holland. It is suited for growing on a patio, can be overwintered and will perform again the following summer. Each plant may produce up to 30 flowers and it is available in six distinct colours. This *Gerbera* flowers abundantly from spring to autumn and can be used for cut flowers.

Available from: Thompson & Morgan

***Buddleja davidii* Buzz Series**

Exhibitor: The Sun (GPE 11)

Following seven years of intensive breeding and selection for true dwarf habit, *Buddleja* Buzz Series has been launched by Thomson & Morgan. Plants reach only about 1m high and are ideal for patio pots and

containers, while still being fragrant and attractive to butterflies. The Buzz Series is currently available in two colours - lavender and magenta. Next season ivory and blue will be added to the collection.

Available from: Thompson & Morgan