Canna
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Trials Recorder, RHS Garden Wisley

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Botanist, RHS Garden Wisley

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RHS Plant Trials and Awards

We welcome comments on any aspect of this report.

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Objectives

One of the aims of the trial was to encourage the wider cultivation of cannas by creating a spectacular display on the Portsmouth Field. It also enabled us to review the range of new and old cultivars available, and helped to resolve some of the problems of identification. The entries were assessed by members of the RHS Floral Trials Subcommittee and outstanding entries were given the Award of Garden Merit. The entries were also described, pressed and photographed to provide a permanent record and specimens were deposited in the RHS Herbarium (WSY) at Wisley.

Entries

There were 152 entries in the trial submitted as plants by individuals, National Plant Collection holders and public gardens. The Nong Nooch Tropical Gardens of Thailand kindly supplied a range of new cultivars for interest, but not in sufficient quantity to be judged.

Background

Canna is a genus of about ten species, all of which are native to tropical and sub-tropical America, the majority coming from South America. Until the mid nineteenth century, the canna was known chiefly as a starch crop. Canna edulis is a genus of about ten species, all of which are native to tropical and sub-tropical America, the majority coming from South America. Until the mid nineteenth century, the canna was known chiefly as a starch crop. Canna indica, native to tropical and sub-tropical America, the majority coming from South America. Until the mid nineteenth century, the canna was known chiefly as a starch crop.

The structure of the individual blooms is unusual and rather complicated. The true petals are insignificant and the large, colourful staminodes and narrower labellum that resemble petals are actually modified stamens.

Cannas were first hybridised for ornamental purposes in the mid 19th century and became very popular in Victorian times - an earlier RHS trial in 1906 had over 270 entries. Their popularity declined in the 20th century until the 1990s when their exotic appeal started to be appreciated again. Most cultivars are complex hybrids, mainly derived from C. indica, C. flexuosa, C. glauca, C. indistincta and C. variegata. Breeding for ornamental use started in 1846 when Thunni Annable brought some Canna species he had collected in South America home to France. Annable’s plants were chiefly foliage subjects, but twenty years on a fellow French breeder, Antoine Cray, succeeded in developing larger flowering cultivars. Towards the end of the nineteenth century, Carl Springer in Italy and Wilhelm Pfitzer in Germany were continuing to produce novelties and all these varieties fuelled the sub-tropical bedding craze of the past. The trend in recent years has been to breed shorter cultivars with more stems per rhizome. These plants tend to be bushy and very floriferous, but those who desire the traditional, taller, more imposing varieties still have plenty to choose from, and even the tallest rarely require support.

Cultivation

Cannas grow from underground rhizomes that need to be dug up and stored or protected over the winter in a frost-free place. They will usually come into growth in March. Plants for the trial were requested to arrive at Wisley by January and to have three growing points. Entries were potted into 20cm pots, and those with extra growing points were divided into individual sections prior to potting. The plants were grown on in a frost-free greenhouse, where they were fed and watered well until the last frosts, and then gradually hardened off in their pots. Cannas do best in a very rich soil and entries were planted out in the first week of June into a site in full sun that had been manured and rotovated. Three rhizomes of each entry were planted, 50 cm apart for small cultivars and 100cm apart for medium and tall cultivars. Plants were watered by drip irrigation.

Plants for the garden benefit from some shelter from wind, but this is not essential and a mulch is recommended to conserve moisture. Depending on their ultimate size, for block planting of the same cultivar, a spacing of 15-30cm is sufficient, but 45-90cm is needed between different cultivars or other, similar sized plants. They should be watered and fed well throughout the summer, especially during dry weather.

The rhizomes should be lifted and labelled when the first frosts kill the foliage. Rather than storing in dry sand or vermiculite, they are best left with some soil on and sprinkled with water occasionally to maintain humidity. Over-winter in a frost-free place, ideally at about 6°C. Whilst rhizomes may survive outside through the winter in milder areas of the UK, especially if mulched deeply, they usually return to growth rather late and their flowering period is compromised. Cannas grown in conservatories can be kept in growth all year round.

Results of the Trial

22 Cannas were selected for the Award of Garden Merit (AGM) H3

- 'Picasso'
- 'Musifolia'
- 'Shenandoah'
- 'Russian Red'
- 'Annaeei'
- 'Ingeborg'
- 'Cheeky' (H3)
- 'Erebus'
- 'Aphrodite'
- 'Striata'
- 'Verdi'
- 'Kraumerii'
- 'Russian Red'
- 'Lor’ad' (H3)
- 'Mystique'
- 'Annaeei'
- 'Roi Soleil'
- 'Picasso'
- 'Musifolia'
- 'Wyoming'
- 'Wicanders'
- 'H3 - plants hardy outside in some regions or in particular situations or which, whilst usually grown outside in summer, need frost-free protection in winter.

Pests and Disease

The objectives of the 2002 trial at Wisley suffered a considerable set back due to virus in the plants. Many of the entries were infected before they arrived, and cross contamination was inevitable once the trial started. As the first plants unfurled their leaves, it was obvious from their distortion and yellow streaking that we had a severe problem with many entries. We were informed that stronger growing cultivars often grew out of the effects as the season progressed, and that some had long been thought to sustain low levels of infection anyway. Although there was serious disagreement among the ranks in the trial, many of the varieties performed superbly.

Two viruses have been detected in cannas in the UK and may occur together or separately. Canna yellow mottle virus (CaYMV) causes distortion, stunting and chlorotic streaks in the leaves. Tests on the Wisley trial plants confirmed the latter and the former was rather complicated. The true petals are insignificant and the large, colourful staminodes and narrower labellum that resemble petals are actually modified stamens.

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Breeding for ornamental use started in 1846 when Thunni Annable brought some Canna species he had collected in South America home to France. Annable’s plants were chiefly foliage subjects, but twenty years on a fellow French breeder, Antoine Cray, succeeded in developing larger flowering cultivars. Towards the end of the nineteenth century, Carl Springer in Italy and Wilhelm Pfitzer in Germany were continuing to produce novelties and all these varieties fuelled the sub-tropical bedding craze of the past. The trend in recent years has been to breed shorter cultivars with more stems per rhizome. These plants tend to be bushy and very floriferous, but those who desire the traditional, taller, more imposing varieties still have plenty to choose from, and even the tallest rarely require support.

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Background

Canna is a genus of about ten species, all of which are native to tropical and sub-tropical America, the majority coming from South America. Until the mid-nineteenth century, the canna was known chiefly as a starch crop. It is still grown on a small scale throughout the tropics for its edible rhizomes and has probably been cultivated in Peru for 4,500 years. Canna indica, the first species he had collected in South America home to France. Année’s plants were chiefly foliage subjects, but twenty years on a fellow French breeder, Antoine Croy, succeeded in developing larger flowering cultivars. Towards the end of the nineteenth century, Carl Springer in Italy and Wilhelm Pfitzer in Germany were continuing to produce novelties and all these varieties fuelled the sub-tropical bedding craze of the past. The trend in recent years has been to breed shorter cultivars with more stems per rhizome. These plants tend to be bushy and very floweriferous, but those who desire the traditional, taller, more imposing varieties still have plenty to choose from, and even the tallest rarely require support.

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Two viruses have been detected in cannas in the UK and may occur together or separately. Canna yellow mottle virus (CaYMV) causes distortion, stunting and chlorotic streaks in leaves. Tests on the Wisley trial plants confirmed the latter and the former was strongly suspected to be present also. The most seriously affected plants were destroyed before the trial was planted out, so there was no impact on the results. The most seriously affected plants were destroyed before the trial was planted out, so there was no impact on the results.

The rhizomes should be lifted and labelled when the first frost occurs. Rather than storing in dry sand or vermiculite, they are best left with some soil on and sprinkled with water. Cannas grown in conservatories can be kept in growth all year round.

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Award of Garden Merit Canna descriptions

The trial was assessed for the Award of Garden Merit by the Floral Trials Sub-committee using the following criteria:

- Impact
- Vigour
- Habit
- Flower (colour and shape)
- Foliage (colour, shape and poise)

Numerical colour references to the RHS Colour Chart (2001) are used in the descriptions.

C. ‘Alaska’
Sent by Agrexco.
Ivory-coloured flower, attractive glaucous leaf. Fairly short.
Available from the sender in 2004. A robust, open clump. Plant height 150cm. Foliage height 130cm. Leaves (137A) with pale margin. Staminodes and labelum cream (4D); stamen and stigma yellow (5C); petals yellow.
Start of flowering 24 June.

C. ‘Amundsen’
Sent by Great Dixter.
Well-shapped red flowers and good green foliage. Plant height 170cm. Foliage height 140cm. Leaves mid-green (137A) with pale margin. Staminodes vivid orange-red (44B); labelum as staminodes with some in the throat; stigma yellow; stamen mostly yellow, streaked and edged red; petals yellow-red. Start of flowering 26 July.

C. ‘Annaeae’
Sent by Hart Canna.
Very tall, with very large, glaucous green leaves. One of the first canna hybrids, raised about 1850. Particularly valued for its foliage, it makes a very open clump. Plant height 300cm. Foliage height 230cm. Leaves green (137A) with pale margin. Staminodes and labelum yellow (15A) with pewch blush (20A) in the throat; stigma yellow; stamen red-orange; petals yellow flushed red. Start of flowering 13 August.

C. ‘Aphrodite’
Sent by Hart Canna.
Pink, well-shaped flower. A good colour combination with young bronze leaves which become green but retain dark midrib.
Globule-shaped clump. Plant height 150cm. Foliage height 130cm. Long, narrow leaves are dark, mid-green (137A) with light bronzing to main veins and apex with dark border. Stems purple-bronze. Staminodes salmon-pink (51A); labelum, stigma and stamens slightly richer pink; petals pink-red. Start of flowering 24 June.

C. ‘Alcantara’
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Elegant nodding, pink flowers on arching stems. Large, green leaves, with a distinctive bronze edge to the leaf stalk where it clasps the stem. Spreading stems and gently spreading leaves create a goblet-shaped clump. Plant height 190cm. Foliage height 175cm. Leaves green (137A) with pale margin and dark outer edge. Staminodes, labelum and stamen red-purple (61B); stigma red; petals red, ringed yellow-green. Start of flowering 20 June.

C. ‘Amundsen’
Sent by Hart Canna.
Apricot-orange flowers above wavy bronze foliage. Plant height 140cm. Foliage height 105cm. Leaves dark green (147A) with main vein lightly purple-brown, and a narrow dark margin. Staminodes apricot (33D); flushed pink, especially in throat; labelum pale orange with yellow base; stigma orange-yellow; darker at tip; stamen apricot; petals orange-pink. Start of flowering 3 July.

C. ‘Alaska’
Sent by RHS Garden Wisley.
Splendid foliage plant.
Elegantly held leaves with attractive dark edges and red-tinted veins. Particularly valued for its foliage, it has thick stems and huge, gently spreading leaves. Overall height 300cm. Leaves yellow-green (137C) with slightly paler veins. Stems are dark and margin; main vein is impressed, red at base. Rarely flowers when grown outside in the UK.

C. ‘Aphrodite’
Sent by RHS Garden Wisley.
A sculptural plant with huge, dark burgundy leaves and attractive orange flowers. Plant height 140cm. Foliage height 110cm. Leaves dark, olive green (147A), heavily flushed with reddish-bronze, with dark veins (205A); dark red margins (187B) and dark red margin. Staminodes deep orange (31A), blushed and speckled red-orange (34A); labelum and stamen as staminodes with yellow in the throat; stigma dark orange-yellow. Start of flowering 29 July.

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Plant height 170cm. Foliage height 140cm. Leaves mid-green (137A) with pale margin. Stamens and labellum vivid orange-red (44B); labellum as stamens with some pink in the throat; stigma yellow; stamens mostly yellow, streaked and edged red; petals yellow-red.  
Start of flowering 26 July.

#### C. ‘Annaeii’
Sent by Hart Canna.  
Very tall, with very large, glaucous green leaves. One of the first canna hybrids, raised about 1850.  
Particularly valuable for its foliage, it makes a very open clump. Plant height 300cm. Foliage height 230cm. Leaves green (137A) with pale margin. Stamens and labellum dark green (29A); labellum and stamen streaked and edged yellow-green flushed red; stigma yellow flushed red; petals yellow-flushed red.  
Start of flowering 13 August.

#### C. ‘Aphrodite’
Sent by Hart Canna.  
Pink, well-shaped flower. A good colour combination with young bronze leaves which become green but retain dark midrib.  
Goblet-shaped clump. Plant height 150cm. Foliage height 130cm. Long, narrow leaves are dark, mid-green (137A) with light bronzing to main vein and apex with dark border. Stems purple-bronze. Stamens salmon-pink (51A); labellum, stigma and stamen slightly richer pink; petals pink-red.  
Start of flowering 24 June.

#### C. ‘Aphrodite’
Sent by RHS Garden Wisley.  
A sculptural plant with huge, dark burgundy leaves and attractive orange flowers.  
Plant height 140cm. Foliage height 110cm. Leaves dark, olive green (147A) with green midrib and dark red margin. Stamens deep orange (34A); labellum and stamen as stamens with yellow in the throat; stigma dark orange-yellow.  
Start of flowering 29 July.

#### C. ‘Erebus’
Sent by RHS Garden Wisley.  
Distinct pale salmon flowers above glaucous green foliage.  
Often described as a water canna, but can also be grown in normal conditions. Plant height 175cm. Foliage height 150cm. Leaves glaucous green (913B/B) with pale margin. Stamens strong yellowish-pink (38A); labellum and stamen streaked and edged yellow-pink (38A) over yellow (4C); stigma deep pink at apex; petals yellow-red.  
Start of flowering 27 June.

#### C. ‘Geneva’
Sent by RHS Garden Wisley.  
Elegant nodding, pink flowers on arching stems. Large, green leaves, with a distinctive bronze edge to the leaf stalk where it clasps the stem.  
Spreading stems and gently spreading leaves create a goblet shaped clump. Plant height 190cm. Foliage height 175cm. Leaves green (137A) with pale margin and dark outer edge. Stamens, labellum and stamen red-purple (61B); labellum and stamen red-purple (61B); stigma yellow flushed red; petals yellow-red.  
Start of flowering 15 July.

#### C. ‘Hong Kong’
Sent by RHS Garden Wisley.  
Elegant nodding, pink flowers on arching stems. Large, green leaves, with a distinctive bronze edge to the leaf stalk where it clasps the stem.  
Spreading stems and gently spreading leaves create a goblet shaped clump. Plant height 190cm. Foliage height 175cm. Leaves green (137A) with pale margin and dark outer edge. Stamens, labellum and stamen red-purple (61B); labellum and stamen red-purple (61B); stigma yellow flushed red; petals yellow-red.  
Start of flowering 30 July.

#### C. ‘Ingeborg’
Sent by Hart Canna.  
Apricot-orange flowers above wavy bronze foliage.  
Plant height 140cm. Foliage height 105cm. Leaves dark green (147A) with main vein lightly purple-bronzed, and a narrow dark margin. Stamens, labellum green (300); flushed pink, especially in throat; labellum pale orange with yellow base; stigma orange-yellow; darker at tip; stamen apricot; petals orange-pink.  
Start of flowering 30 July.

#### C. ‘Louis Cayeux’
Sent by Great Dixter.  
Lots of flowering spikes opening to rich salmon flowers held well clear of the green foliage that has a waxy sheen.  
Plant height 150cm. Foliage height 125cm. Leaves olive green (147A) with pale, reddish edge. Stamens, labellum and stamen reddish-orange (43B/C); labellum as stamens with yellow-buff in the throat; stigma yellow with red tip; stamen reddish-orange; flushed orange petals yellowish-red.  
Start of flowering 15 July.

#### C. ‘Musifolia’
Sent by RHS Garden Wisley.  
Splendid foliage plant.  
Elegantly held leaves with attractive dark edges and red-tinted veins.  
Particularly valued for its foliage, it has thick stems and huge, gently spreading leaves. Overall height 300cm. Leaves yellow-green (137C) with slightly paler streaks, darker towards the tip and margin; main vein is impressed, red at base. Rarely flowers when grown outside in the UK.

#### C. ‘Pink Form’
Sent by RHS Garden Wisley.  
Elegantly held leaves with attractive dark edges and red-tinted veins.  
Particularly valued for its foliage, it has thick stems and huge, gently spreading leaves. Overall height 300cm. Leaves yellow-green (137C) with slightly paler streaks, darker towards the tip and margin; main vein is impressed, red at base. Rarely flowers when grown outside in the UK.
C. *Mytilique*  
Sent by Great Dixter.  
An attractive foliage plant with dark bronze foliage with very small red flowers.  
Plant height 230cm.  
Foliage height 185cm.  
Leaves olive green (darker than 138A), heavily flushed with purple-bronze (187A), main veins red-purple (187B) with green middles.  
Staminodes, labellum and stamen a blend of dusky pink (47B) and apricot (42C) streaks; stigma and petals red.  
Start of flowering 5 September.

C. *Roll Solar*  
Sent by RHS Garden Wisley.  
Brilliant red flower and handsome foliage.  
Plant height 180cm.  
Foliage height 155cm.  
Leaves mid-green (137B) with a red border and paler edge.  
Staminodes vivid orange-red (44A), labellum and stamen as staminodes with yellow throat, streaked red, stigma yellow orange-red; petals red tinged yellow.  
Start of flowering 26 June.

C. *Shenandoah*  
Sent by RHS Garden Wisley.  
Attractive large, showy, pink flowers and bronze foliage.  
An old cultivar dating from 1894.  
Plant height 160cm.  
Foliage height 145cm.  
Leaves dark olive green (147A), heavily bronzed especially on the veins with dark margins.  
Staminodes, labellum and stamen pink (50C), blushed slightly darker pink (50B); stigma pink, tinged orange; petals red.  
Start of flowering 6 June.

C. *Verdi*  
Sent by RHS Garden Wisley.  
Well-shaped spike of tangerine flowers with a yellow throat.  
Wonderful colour combination with dark, bronzed foliage.  
Elegant, upright stems and leaves.  
Plant height 160cm.  
Foliage height 155cm.  
Leaves large, dark green (147A); main veins deep purple-bronze (187B – 187A); margin dark.  
Staminodes bright orange-red (530A) with yellow in the throat (145-D); labellum as staminodes; stigma mostly yellow but with dark red tip; stamen orange with yellow inner edge; petals reddish yellow.  
Start of flowering 5 June.

C. *Picasso*  
Sent by Hart Canna.  
Large individual flowers are yellow, strikingly spotted red.  
Plant height 155cm.  
Foliage height 120cm.  
Leaves green (146A).  
Broad staminodes are yellow (13B) spotted red (N30A); labellum and stamen yellow (13B) streaked red (N30A); stigma orange, unspotted; petals yellow, lightly tinged red at base.  
Start of flowering 26 June.

C. *Indica ‘Russian Red’*  
Sent by Hart Canna.  
Orange flowers are held well above the attractive foliage.  
Particularly valued for its foliage.  
Plant height 290cm.  
Foliage height 265cm.  
Leaves dark olive green (147A), heavily flushed with reddish bronze (redder than 2008), mid-vein bluish red (183C), margin pale.  
Staminodes orange (30D), flushed pink (39E) towards margin; labellum and stamen as staminodes but slightly redder in the throat; stigma dark orange; petals red.  
Start of flowering 6 August.

C. *Trianta*  
Sent by RHS Garden Wisley.  
Orange flowers are held well above the attractive foliage.  
Particularly valued for its yellow-veined foliage.  
Plant height 190cm.  
Foliage height 140cm.  
Leaves green (137A) with contrasting veins that are yellow (mostly 138B) but paler (135A) in places; margin dark.  
Staminodes, labellum and stamen bright orange (288), blushed darker red (32A) in place and with yellow (15A) margin; stigma deep orange-red, petals strongly flushed red.  
The flower has a crumpled silk appearance.  
Start of flowering 13 August.

C. *Wighthelm Pride*  
Sent by Agrexco.  
Salmon-pink flowers on purple stems, held above dark, bronzed green leaves.  
Available from the sender in 2004.  
Plant height 140cm.  
Foliage height 125cm.  
Leaves green, moderately dashed with bronze; dark margin.  
The broad staminodes and labellum are pink (52D) with deeper pink (52C); flushing apricot (52C) as flower ages; stigma orange-peach; stamen peach with some yellow; petals copper.  
Start of flowering 18 June.

C. *Picasso M*  
Sent by RHS Garden Wisley.  
Attractive large, showy, pink flowers and bronze foliage.  
An old cultivar dating from 1894.  
Plant height 150cm.  
Foliage height 140cm.  
Leaves mid-olive green (slightly darker than 146A), with a pale margin.  
Staminodes and labellum bluish-red (53C); stigma, stamen and petals red.  
Start of flowering 13 August.

C. *Schwäbische Heimat*  
Sent by Munich Botanic Garden.  
Rich red flower above green foliage.  
Upright stems clothed to the ground with spreading leaves.  
Plant height 155cm.  
Foliage height 140cm.  
Leaves mid-olive green (slightly darker than 146A), with a pale margin.  
Staminodes and labellum bluish-red (53C); stigma, stamen and petals red.  
Start of flowering 13 August.

C. *Treskeve*  
Sent by Munich Botanic Garden.  
Rich red flower above green foliage.  
Upright stems clothed to the ground with spreading leaves.  
Plant height 150cm.  
Foliage height 135cm.  
Leaves are very dark olive green (147A), striped with pale green yellow and red veins (46C).  
Staminodes orange (26A), blushed pink (42D) especially on the edge; labellum and stamen an auburn more as the staminodes with some yellow in the throat; stigma orange-pale; petals pink-red.  
Start of flowering 26 July.

C. *Wyoming*  
Sent by RHS Garden Wisley.  
Very tall, striking plant with orange flowers and dark bronze foliage.  
Plant height 230cm.  
Foliage height 180cm.  
Leaves green (137A), heavily flushed with dark bronze (2004A); main vein edged purple-red (187B); dark margin.  
Staminodes and labellum orange (25A), blushed and edged red (133A); stigma yellow-orange; petals yellow-orange with yellow throat.  
Start of flowering 3 July.

C. *Roi Soleil*  
Sent by RHS Garden Wisley.  
Attractive large, showy, pink flowers and bronze foliage.  
An old cultivar dating from 1894.  
Plant height 160cm.  
Foliage height 145cm.  
Leaves dark olive green (147A), heavily bronzed especially on the veins with dark margins.  
Staminodes, labellum and stamen pink (50C), blushed slightly darker pink (50B); stigma pink, tinged orange; petals red.  
Start of flowering 6 June.

C. *Shenandoah*  
Sent by Great Dixter and RHS Wisley.  
Attractive large, showy, pink flowers and bronze foliage.  
An old cultivar dating from 1894.  
Plant height 160cm.  
Foliage height 145cm.  
Leaves dark olive green (147A), heavily bronzed especially on the veins with dark margins.  
Staminodes, labellum and stamen pink (50C), blushed slightly darker pink (50B); stigma pink, tinged orange; petals red.  
Start of flowering 6 June.
C. 'Bolero' Sent by RHS Garden Wisley. Upright stems clothed with spreading leaves. Plant height 155cm. Foliage height 125cm. Leaves green (146A). Broad staminodes and yellow (13B) spotted red (N30A); labellum and stamen yellow (13B); staminal ridge red (N30A); stigma orange, unspotted; petals yellow, lightly tinged red at base. Start of flowering 26 June.

C. 'Verdi' Sent by RHS Garden Wisley. Well-shaped spike of tangerine orange flowers with a yellow throat. Wonderful colour combination with dark, bronzed foliage. Erect, upright stems and leaves. Plant height 160cm. Foliage height 130cm. Leaves large, dark green (147A); main veins deep purple bronze (187B – 187A); margined dark. Stamens bright orange (930A) with yellow in the throat (145-D). Labellum as staminodes; stigma mostly yellow but with dark red tip; staminode orange with yellow inner edge; petals reddish yellow. Start of flowering 6 June.

C. 'Whithelm Pride' Sent by Agrexco. Salmon-pink flowers on purple stems, held above dark, bronzed green leaves. Available from the sender in 2004. Plant height 140cm. Foliage height 125cm. Leaves green, moderately dished with bronze dark margin. The broad staminodes and the labellum are pink (52D) with deeper pink (52C). Fusing apricot (32C) as flower ages; stigma orange-peach; stamen peach with some yellow; petals copper. Start of flowering 18 June.

C. 'Picasso' Sent by Hart Canna. Large individual flowers are yellow, strikingly spotted red. Plant height 155cm. Foliage height 125cm. Leaves green (146A). Broad staminodes are yellow (13B) spotted red (N30A); labellum and stamen yellow (13B); staminal ridge red (N30A); stigma orange, unspotted; petals yellow, lightly tinged red at base. Start of flowering 26 June.

C. Canna indica 'Russian Red' Sent by Hart Canna. Bronze foliage held at a wider angle than 'Purpurea'. Particularly valued for its foliage. Plant height 290cm. Foliage height 265cm. Leaves dark olivegreen (147A), heavily flushed with reddish bronze (redder than 2008), iridoid red (183C), margin pale. Stamens orange (32D); Flushed pink (398) towards margin; labellum and stamen as staminodes but slightly redder in the throat; stigma dark orange; petals red. Start of flowering 6 August.

C. 'Shenandoah' Sent by RHS Garden Wisley. Attractive large, showy, pink flowers, and bronze foliage. An old cultivar dating from 1894. Plant height 160cm. Foliage height 145cm. Leaves dark olivegreen (147A), heavily bronzed especially on the veins with dark margins. Staminodes, labellum and stamen pink (50C), flushed slightly darker pink (50D); stigma pink, tinged orange; petals red. Start of flowering 5 September.

C. 'Tomcowar' (‘Phasion’) Sent by Munich Botanic Garden. Rich red flower above green foliage. Upright stems clothed to the ground with spreading leaves. Plant height 155cm. Foliage height 145cm. Leaves mid-olivegreen (slightly darker than 146A), with a pale margin. Stamens and labellum bluish-red (55C); stigma, stamen and petals red. Start of flowering 13 August.

C. 'Verdi' Sent by RHS Garden Wisley. Well-shaped spike of tangerine orange flowers with a yellow throat. Wonderful colour combination with dark, bronzed foliage. Erect, upright stems and leaves. Plant height 160cm. Foliage height 130cm. Leaves large, dark green (147A); main veins deep purple bronze (187B – 187A); margined dark. Stamens bright orange (930A) with yellow in the throat (145-D). Labellum as staminodes; stigma mostly yellow but with dark red tip; staminode orange with yellow inner edge; petals reddish yellow. Start of flowering 6 June.

C. 'Whithelm Pride' Sent by Agrexco. Salmon-pink flowers on purple stems, held above dark, bronzed green leaves. Available from the sender in 2004. Plant height 140cm. Foliage height 125cm. Leaves green, moderately dished with bronze dark margin. The broad staminodes and the labellum are pink (52D) with deeper pink (52C). Fusing apricot (32C) as flower ages; stigma orange-peach; stamen peach with some yellow; petals copper. Start of flowering 18 June.
## Cannas in the garden

Cannas can look good as single specimens, but tend to look more comfortable in groups. The foliage is surprisingly varied and lends an instant tropical effect to any planting scheme, as well as associating well with herbaceous perennials. Their season of interest also happily coincides with the hotter colours found in Helium and Dahlia.

Flowering outside can extend from mid June, for the shorter cultivars, to first frost. Some of the taller ones may not start until mid August, giving plenty of time to enjoy the foliage. The individual flowers last a day or two and so many cultivars are shattered by rain, but each inflorescence usually has plenty of eager buds. Most benefit aesthetically from having the dead flowers picked off.

### Cannas selection guide

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Flower Colour</th>
<th>Foliage</th>
<th>Height*</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C. ‘Alberich’</td>
<td>Apricot/pink</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Short (under 1m)</td>
<td>Seed pods are decorative.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. ‘Strasbourg’</td>
<td>Bright red</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Short (under 1m)</td>
<td>Rich flower colour.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. ‘Rose’</td>
<td>Deep pink</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Short</td>
<td>Very floriferous.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. ‘Apricot Dream’</td>
<td>Salmon-buff</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Short</td>
<td>Flowers of exceptional colour held clear of foliage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. ‘Tellulah’</td>
<td>Reddish orange</td>
<td>Bronze</td>
<td>Short</td>
<td>Architectural buds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. ‘Gladfilm’</td>
<td>Flame orange</td>
<td>Bronze</td>
<td>Short</td>
<td>Would suit pot culture.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. ‘Ingëborg’</td>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>Bronze</td>
<td>Short</td>
<td>Apricot-orange flowers above waxy bronze foliage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. ‘General Eisenhower’</td>
<td>Deep orange</td>
<td>Bronze</td>
<td>Short</td>
<td>A sculptural plant with huge, bronze leaves and attractive orange flowers,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. ‘Felix Ragout’</td>
<td>Yellow</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Clear colour.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. ‘Picasso’</td>
<td>Yellow, spotted dark red</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Large, yellow flowers are strikingly spotted red.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. ‘Patamorgana’</td>
<td>Deep pink</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Floriferous, rich deep pink.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. ‘Verdi’</td>
<td>Tangerine with yellow marks</td>
<td>Green, bronze veins</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Wonderful colour combination with dark, bronzed foliage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Louise Cotteri</td>
<td>Ember yellow</td>
<td>Bronze</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Flowers have a translucent quality.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. ‘Salathrin’</td>
<td>Salmon with apricot tinge</td>
<td>Bronze</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Very attractive colour combination.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. ‘Red Wine’</td>
<td>Pink-red</td>
<td>Bronze</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Very handsome dark foliage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. ‘Phaëton’ TROPICANNA</td>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>Variegated (purple/pink)</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Foliage is strikingly striped, vivid orange flowers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. ‘Blonde’</td>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>Variegated (green/yellow)</td>
<td>Tall</td>
<td>Green and yellow striped foliage, flowers orange.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. ‘N. ahemari’</td>
<td>Pink</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Tall</td>
<td>Elegant nodding, pink flowers on arching stems.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. ‘Ros Soleil’</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Tall</td>
<td>Brilliant red flower and handsome foliage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. ‘Cleopatra’</td>
<td>Yellow, red or bicoloured</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Tall</td>
<td>Attractive maroon streaking on buds. A spectacular curiosity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. ‘Australia’</td>
<td>Orange-red</td>
<td>Bronze</td>
<td>Tall</td>
<td>Darkest leafed cultivar, but can be blown over.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. ‘Tini’</td>
<td>Salmon-pink</td>
<td>Bronze</td>
<td>Tall</td>
<td>Attractive flower and dark olive foliage, flushed bronze.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Indica ‘Purpurea’</td>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>Bronze</td>
<td>Tall</td>
<td>Uplight, transudate leaves catch sunlight at either end of the day.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. ‘Wylmington’</td>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>Bronze</td>
<td>Very tall</td>
<td>A striking plant with orange flowers and dark bronze foliage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. ‘Mybiquar’</td>
<td>Cherry red</td>
<td>Bronze</td>
<td>Very tall</td>
<td>Dark bronze foliage with very small red flower.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. ‘Amsaal’</td>
<td>Apricot</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Very tall</td>
<td>Very tall, with very large, glaucous-green leaves.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. ‘Orange Perfection’</td>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Very Tall</td>
<td>Handsome foliage. Reputedly has some winter-hardiness.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. ‘Musafoli’</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Very tall</td>
<td>Elegantly held leaves have attractive dark edges and red-tinted veins.</td>
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*Water canna*, which can also be grown in normal conditions

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<tr>
<td>C. ‘Endisaucus’</td>
<td>Raspberry red</td>
<td>Glaucous green</td>
<td>Tall</td>
<td>Good foliage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. ‘Rai’</td>
<td>Yellow</td>
<td>Glaucous green</td>
<td>Tall</td>
<td>Slander stems. Clean, light yellow flowers over glaucous-green foliage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. ‘Bribus’</td>
<td>Salmon</td>
<td>Glaucous green</td>
<td>Tall</td>
<td>Distinct pale salmon flowers above glaucous-green foliage.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Cannas in the well-fed and well-irrigated trial at Wisley exceeded the height classifications often associated with them. Heights described here are at the cultivars performed in the trial: short (under 1.4m), medium (1.4m to 1.7m), tall (1.7m to 2m) and very tall (over 2m).*

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**Mixed Border at RHS Garden Wisley**

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**RHS Plant Trials and Awards**

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**Cannas**
### Canna selection guide

**Cannas in the garden**

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<td>Short (under 1m)</td>
<td>Seed pods are decorative.</td>
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<td>'Strasbourg'</td>
<td>Bright red</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Short (under 1m)</td>
<td>Rich flower colour.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Rosa'</td>
<td>Deep pink</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Short</td>
<td>Very floriferous.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Apricot Dream'</td>
<td>Salmon-buff</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Short</td>
<td>Flowers of exceptional colour held clear of foliage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Délàbri'</td>
<td>Reddish orange</td>
<td>Bronze</td>
<td>Short</td>
<td>Architectural buds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Slidflurk'</td>
<td>Flame orange</td>
<td>Bronze</td>
<td>Short</td>
<td>Would suit pot culture.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Ingelberg'</td>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>Bronze</td>
<td>Short</td>
<td>Apricot-orange flowers above waxy bronze foliage.</td>
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<tr>
<td>'General Eisenhower'</td>
<td>Deep orange</td>
<td>Bronze</td>
<td>Short</td>
<td>A sculptural plant with huge, bronze leaves and attractive orange flowers,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Félix Raguot'</td>
<td>Yellow</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Clear colour.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Louis Cayeux'</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Rich salmon flowers. Foliage has a waxy sheen.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Picasso'</td>
<td>Yellow, spotted red</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Large, yellow flowers are strikingly spotted red.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Fata Morgana'</td>
<td>Deep pink</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Floriferous, rich deep pink.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Brillant'</td>
<td>Rich red</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Attractive foliage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Verd'</td>
<td>Tangerine with yellow marks</td>
<td>Green, bronze veins</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Wonderful colour combination with dark, bronzed foliage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Louis Cottin'</td>
<td>Ember yellow</td>
<td>Bronze</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Flowers have a translucent quality.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Saladini'</td>
<td>Salmon with apricot tinge</td>
<td>Bronze</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Very attractive colour combination.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Red Wine'</td>
<td>Pink-red</td>
<td>Bronze</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Very handsome dark foliage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Phaëthes' TROPICANNA</td>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>Variegated (purple/pink)</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Foliage is strikingly striped; vivid orange flowers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Sibéral'</td>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>Variegated (green/yellow)</td>
<td>Tall</td>
<td>Green and yellow striped foliage; flowers orange.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'R. ethekrani'</td>
<td>Pink</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Tall</td>
<td>Elegant nodding, pink flowers on arching stems.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'R. Solé'</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Tall</td>
<td>Brilliant red flower and handsome foliage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Cleopatora'</td>
<td>Yellow, red or bicoloured</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Tall</td>
<td>Attractive maroon streaking on buds. A spectacular curiosity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Australia'</td>
<td>Orange-red</td>
<td>Bronze</td>
<td>Tall</td>
<td>Darkest leafed cultivar, but can be blown over.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Tinto'</td>
<td>Salmon-pink</td>
<td>Bronze</td>
<td>Tall</td>
<td>Attractive flower and dark olive foliage, flushed bronze.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Inedia Purpurea'</td>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>Bronze</td>
<td>Tall</td>
<td>Uplight, transudant leaves catch sunlight at either end of the day.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Wyoming'</td>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>Bronze</td>
<td>Very tall</td>
<td>A striking plant with orange flowers and dark bronze foliage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Mytikáki'</td>
<td>Cherry red</td>
<td>Bronze</td>
<td>Very tall</td>
<td>Dark bronze foliage with very small red flower.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Annaeë'</td>
<td>Apricot</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Very tall</td>
<td>Very tall, with very large, glaucous-green leaves.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Orange Perfection'</td>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Very Tall</td>
<td>Handsome foliage. Reputedly has some winter-hardiness.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Musafloria'</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Very tall</td>
<td>Elegantly held leaves have attractive dark edges and red-tinted veins.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Water canna*, which can also be grown in normal conditions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Flower Colour</th>
<th>Foliage</th>
<th>Height*</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>'Endtasia'</td>
<td>Raspberry red</td>
<td>Glaucous green</td>
<td>Tall</td>
<td>Good foliage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Rai'</td>
<td>Yellow</td>
<td>Glaucous green</td>
<td>Tall</td>
<td>Slander stems. Clean, light yellow flowers over glaucous-green foliage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Sibèrus'</td>
<td>Salmon</td>
<td>Glaucous green</td>
<td>Tall</td>
<td>Distinct pale salmon flowers above glaucous-green foliage.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Cannas in the well-fed and well-irrigated trial at Wisley exceeded the height classifications often associated with them. Heights described here are as the cultivars performed in the trial: short (under 1.4m), medium (1.4m to 1.7m), tall (1.7m to 2m) and very tall (over 2m).*

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Mixed Border at RHS Garden Wisley
Awards subject to availability

The following cannot receive the AGM recommended to them until they are available for purchase in the UK

C. *Bethany*  
**Sent by Brian West.**  
Flowers like ‘Florence Vaughan’ on leaves similar to ‘Titbit’.  
Plant height 160cm. Foliage height 110cm. Leaves green (137A), slightly glossy, pale edge. Staminodes lemon yellow (12A); stigma and stamen yellow; petals red.  
Start of flowering 22 July.

C. *Delaware*  
**Sent by Longwood Gardens, USA.**  
Extremely floriferous, yellow flowers, which are freckled red.  
Plant height 140cm. Foliage height 110cm. Leaves yellow-green (146-B), slightly glossy; veins yellow. Staminodes pink (18-B); stamen yellow-orange; petals yellow-orange flushed red.  
Start of flowering 14 June.

C. *Independence*  
**Sent by Longwood Gardens, USA.**  
Short, floriferous. Has clean, lemon-yellow flowers which fade to cream, held on well-shaped spikes above green foliage.  
Plant height 135cm. Foliage height 105cm. Leaves green (147A), slightly glossy, pale edge. Staminodes and labellum lemon yellow (12A); stigma and stamen orange-yellow; petals yellow.  
Start of flowering 6 June.

C. *India* cultivar  
**Sent by RHS Garden Wisley.**  
An excellent foliage plant. The attractively translucent, large paddle shaped leaves are green with a fine purple margin, and dark stem. Well furnished from the base. Flowers are insignificant, lobed, and bright red.  
Start of flowering 15 July.

C. *Lenape*  
**Sent by Longwood Gardens, USA.**  
Extremely floriferous, yellow flowers, which are freckled red.  
Plant height 140cm. Foliage height 110cm. Leaves mid green (137B), slightly bronzed on lower veins and margin. Staminodes and stamen orange (25A-B), dark orange (31A) on reverse label, as staminodes, flushed lightly yellow in the throat; stigma orange-red; petals red-orange.  
Start of flowering 15 July.

Background notes

RHS Trials

From the very early days of its foundation, The Royal Horticultural Society has undertaken trials, drawing on the extensive knowledge of specialists, scientists and professional gardeners. Today there are 13 different committees whose members each devote their time and expertise to the trials of plants in which they have a lifetime’s knowledge. In 2002 there were over 60 separate trials being held at RHS gardens, which demonstrated the plants and their cultivation, and during these the subject of pest and disease prevention and cure was investigated, as well as matters concerning the correct naming of plants. The combination of committee members, who recommend cultivars, as being excellent choices for the general gardener to grow, and the resources of the Society’s professional horticulturists and scientific staff enable the RHS to provide sound and useful information to gardeners and the horticultural trade.

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**Chairman:** Tony Lord  
**Vice-Chairman:** Roy Cheek, Pam Schwartz

Bill Beardman  
Bob Brown  
John Coke  
Nigel Colborn  
David Crease  
Ivan Dickings  
Fergus Garrett  
John Gibson  
Diana Hart Dyke  
Tony Harmer  
Steffy Krautzberger  
Christopher Lloyd  
Alison Mulvaney

**Sonders of plants to the trial of Canna**

**Agricoco UK:** Camel House, 4F Swallow Way, Hayes, Middlesex UB3 1DQ  
**Brian West:** c/o Trials Office, RHS Garden Wisley, Woking, Surrey GU23 6QJ  
**Country Lane Nursery:** Stellenbosch, South Africa (agent Hart Canna)  
**Great Dixter Nurseries:** Northiam, Nr. Rye, East Sussex TN33 6PH.  
**Hart Canna:** 25-27 Guildford Road West, Farnborough, Hampshire GU14 6PS.  
**Ian Cooke:** Hightfield House, University of Nottingham.  
**James Ranger:** c/o Trials Office, RHS Garden Wisley, Woking, Surrey GU23 6QJ.  
**Longwood Gardens:** PO Box 501, Kennett Square, Pennsylvania 19348-0501 USA.  
**Martin Davis:** c/o Trials Office, RHS Garden Wisley, Woking, Surrey GU23 6QJ.  
**Munich Botanical Gardens:** (agent Hart Canna)  

Nong Nooch Tropical Gardens, KM. 163 Sukhumvit Hwy, Sattahip, Chonburi 20250, Thailand.  
**Oakland Nurseries:** 147 M Alton Rd., Burton-on-the-Wolds, Loughborough, Leicester LE12 9TG.  
**English Heritage:** Osborne House, East Cowes, Isle of Wight PO32 6DR.  
**Ets Pierre Turc et Fils:** Les Richelots, 49630 Mali, France (agent Hart Canna).  
**Restormel Borough Council:** The Parks Office, 39 Penwinnick Rd., St. Austell, Cornwall PL25 5DR.  
**RHS Garden Wisley,** Woking, Surrey GU23 6QJ.  
**Sampford Shrubs,** Sampford Peverell, Tiverton, Devon EX16 7EN.

Acknowledgements

Plant descriptions by Barry Phillips (RHS Herbarium)  
Photography by RHS Herbarium and Mike Sleigh (RHS)  
Illustration by Nikki Simpson

Both the National Plant Collection holders of Canna have provided invaluable advice; Ian Cooke particularly during the planning stages and Keith Hayward who gave very freely of his time during the growing season.  
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Floral Trials Sub-committee.  
RHS staff in Trials, Herbarium, Botany and Propagation departments.

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Further reading

RHS Advisory leaflet, No.801, May 2003.  
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ISBN: 1477-9153 (print)  
ISBN: 1477-9161 (online)
C. **‘Bethany’**
Sent by Brian West.
Flowers like ‘Florence Vaughan’ on leaves similar to ‘Titania’.
Plant height 160cm. Foliage height 110cm. Leaves green (137A), slightly glossy, pale edge. Staminodes and labellum lemon yellow (12A); stigma and stamen yellow; petals red. Start of flowering 22 July.

C. **‘Delaware’**
Sent by Longwood Gardens, USA.
Orange-pink flower, green leaf. Very floriferous.
Upright stems clothed to the ground with gently spreading leaves. Plant height 140cm. Foliage height 110cm. Leaves yellow green (144-A-B), Staminodes reddish pink (35A-B); labellum reddish pink with a touch of apricot in the throat; stigma orange; stamens striped orange; petals yellow flushed red. Start of flowering 20 June.

C. **‘Independence’**
Sent by Longwood Gardens, USA.
Short, floriferous. Has clean, lemon-yellow flowers which fade to cream, held on well-shaped spikes above green foliage.
Plant height 135cm. Foliage height 105cm. Leaves green (147A), slightly glossy, pale edge. Staminodes and labellum lemon yellow (12A); stigma and stamen orange; petals yellow. Start of flowering 6 June.

C. **‘India cultivar’**
Sent by RHS Garden Wisley.
An excellent foliage plant. The attractively translucent, large paddle shaped leaves are green with a fine purple margin, and dark stem. Well furnished from the base. Flowers are insignificant, large, and bright red.
Plant height 240cm. Foliage height 210cm. ‘Barns copper-caps’. Leaves dark green (147-A), slightly bronzed on lower veins and margin. Staminodes and stamen orange (25A-B), darker orange (31A) on reverse. Labellum as staminodes, flushed lightly yellow in the throat; stigma orange-pink; petals red. Start of flowering 15 July.

Subject to naming and availability

C. **‘Lenape’**
Sent by Longwood Gardens, USA.
Extremely floriferous, yellow flowers, which are fringed red.
Plant height 140cm. Foliage height 106cm. Leaves mid green (137B), paler margin. Staminodes yellow (13C), dotted orange-red (32A); labellum as staminodes, more streaked in the throat; stigma orange-yellow; stamens striped orange-red; petals yellow flushed red. Start of flowering 14 June.

C. **‘Peru’**
Sent by Longwood Gardens, USA.
Floriferous, coral-red flowers, and glossy green leaves.
Plant height 110cm, Foliage height 80cm. Leaves dark, mid green (137A); edge bronze-purple. Staminodes pink (38A-B); labellum pink with cream-yellow (18B) in the throat; stigma and stamen orange-red (41A) with yellow; petals red. Start of flowering 26 June.

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**Awards subject to availability**

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C. **‘Bethany’**
Sent by Brian West.
Flowers like ‘Florence Vaughan’ on leaves similar to ‘Titania’.
Plant height 160cm. Foliage height 110cm. Leaves green (137A), striped with yellow (78) veins; margin pale. Staminodes yellow (12A-B), heavily blushed in centre with orange (25B); labellum mostly orange (25A-B), yellow in the throat; stigma yellow; tipped orange; stamen yellow blushed orange; petals two yellow; one yellow flushed red toward tips. Start of flowering 22 July.

---

**Further reading**


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**Acknowledgements**

The Parks Officer, Restormel Borough Council, Les Richelets, 49630 Mazé, France.

Chris Prior, Head of Plant Pest & Disease Science, RHS, Woking, Surrey. GU23 6QB.

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**Further reading**


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We welcome comments on any aspect of this report.

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