

2016 WINNING PLANTS

Fort Collins, CO (March 8, 2016) Plant Select[®], the country's leading source of plants designed to thrive in High Plains and Intermountain regions, is pleased to announce our new introductions and winning plants for 2016. Look for these and other Plant Select[®] winners at local, independent garden centers and nurseries all season long.



1. **NEW INTRODUCTION! Alan's Apricot ice plant** (*Delosperma* 'Alan's Apricot'^{PPAF}) With their neat habit and ability to suppress weeds, hardy South African ice plants make ideal small-scale groundcovers. This superior form has larger (2") showy blooms covering the foliage nearly all summer long. Flower color changes seasonally from a true orangey-apricot to soft orangey-pink and then back again. Brought to Plant Select[®] by Alan Tower, Spokane WA. The hardiest and longest-blooming of all of our ice plant selections!

Other benefits: Good for containers, attracts pollinators, useful in rock gardens and rock walls and for edging.

Size: 1-2" tall x 12-18" wide

Blooms: Apricot to pink blossoms late spring through fall

Sun: Full sun to part shade

Water: Moderate to xeric

Hardiness: USDA Zones 4-9

Culture: Clay, loam or sandy soils



2. **NEW INTRODUCTION! RED MOUNTAIN**[®] Flame ice plant (*Delosperma* 'PWWG02S'). This new hybrid selection of South African ice plant is a tough, vigorous cold-hardy form with large, blazing orange-red flowers in late spring and early summer. It was selected from an evaluation plot of seedlings by David Salman, Waterwise Gardening, for its superior flower size, unusual flower color and attractive habit. Like most of the hardy ice plants, the small succulent leaves are evergreen.

Other benefits: Attracts pollinators, useful in rock gardens and rock walls and for edging.

Size: 1-2" tall x 12-24" wide

Blooms: Red with white center, late spring to summer

Sun: Full sun to part shade

Water: Moderate to xeric

Hardiness: USDA Zones 4-9



- Culture:** Clay, loam or sandy soils
3. **NEW INTRODUCTION! Autumn Sapphire™ sage** (*Salvia reptans* 'P016S') Commonly known as West Texas grass sage, the species *S. reptans* blooms very late in the season on plants up to 4' tall in the garden. After years of trials and selections, this superior form was chosen for its compact and consistent growth habit. Glossy green, willowy leaves all season long are topped with clouds of small, sapphire-blue flowers through autumn this is an excellent addition to water-wise gardens. Pollinator-friendly, this late-blooming native provides a rich nectar source when many other flowers have faded. **Other benefits:** Deer resistant, attracts pollinators and is a Southwestern U.S. native plant selection. **Size:** 18-24" tall by 18-24" wide
Blooms: Autumn
Sun: Full sun
Water: Dry to xeric
Hardiness: USDA Zones 5-10
Culture: Well-drained, sandy soils

The following are winning plants from our 2-year perennial and 3-year shrub trials.



4. **Standing Ovation little bluestem** (*Schizachyrium scoparium* 'Standing Ovation'^{PP25,202}) This patented selection of native plant deserves a big round of applause. A warm season grass that does well in poor, dry soils, this selection keeps a tight habit throughout the entire growing season. Spikey bluish-green leaves transition to a brilliant display of shades of red changing to deep purple in the autumn. Seed heads remain upright through winter and provide winter interest and food for birds. Brought to Plant Select® by North Creek Nursery. **Other benefits:** Deer resistant, useful in mass plantings or meadow designs, and is a North American native. **Size:** 2-3 tall x 12-18" wide
Blooms: Late summer to fall
Sun: Full sun
Water: Dry to xeric
Hardiness: USDA Zones 3-8
Culture: Well-drained, sandy soils



5. **Mini Man™ dwarf Manchurian viburnum** (*Viburnum burejaeticum* 'P017S') is a compact form of viburnum found in a seedling row of *V. burejaeticum* at Valley Nursery, Helena MT and introduced by Fort Collins Wholesale Nursery, CO. A charming, easy-to-grow shrub, Mini Man™ has all of the same great features of the species: medium green felted leaves in summer, clusters of white flowers in spring, persistent red to blue-black fruit and red fall color but with a very compact growth habit. Native to Russia and northern China, this is an excellent smaller shrub for cold climates. **Other benefits:** Deer resistant, drought tolerant, useful in mixed borders and foundation plantings. **Size:** 4-6' tall x 4-6' wide **Blooms:** White, late spring to early summer **Sun:** Full sun to part shade **Water:** Moderate to dry **Hardiness:** USDA Zones 4-9 **Culture:** Loamy soils



6. A fabulous xeric alternative lawn grass for high traffic areas, **DOG TUFF™ grass** (*Cynodon* 'PWIN04S') is named for its exceptional durability in yards with dogs. A sterile hybrid African form that spreads via runners, this grass similar to American buffalo grass but more resilient to wear and tear. Once established, it is highly weed-resistant, deep rooted and provides a soft, cushioned feel for bare feet. A warm-season grass, Dog Tuff™ turns green in late spring and goes dormant in mid-Autumn. Detailed instructions for planting and establishing are online at: <http://plantselect.org/learn/dog-tuff-grass-everything-you-need-to-know/>. **Other benefits:** drought tolerant, resistant to dog urine, and useful for erosion control. **Size:** 2 ½" – 4" tall x 2'+ wide **Sun:** full sun **Water:** xeric **Hardiness:** USDA Zones 5-10 **Culture:** clay, loam or sandy soils

Plant Select® Petites are well-adapted, unusual plants of smaller stature that haven't yet been readily available or known to gardeners. These are generally available earlier in the season than some of the other winners.



1. **Yellow stardust draba** (*Draba rigida*) To appreciate this treasure with its tiny green leaves and bright yellow flowers locate yellow stardust draba in an easily observable site - close to the edge of a rock or in a container garden. Its slow growth will reward you with tight green cushions and bright yellow starry flowers in the spring. This true miniature will thrive if given a few rocks to nestle up to. Try to isolate it from more vigorous growing plants so that its diminutive, mounding habit can perform its best.

Other benefits: Attracts bees in early spring, good for rock gardens, fairy gardens & permanent containers,

Size: 2-3" tall x 6-10" wide

Blooms: Tiny but numerous yellow blossoms in spring

Sun: Full sun to part shade

Water: Moderate to xeric

Hardiness: USDA Zones 4-8

Culture: Well-drained or sandy soils



2. **Blue Jazz pinyon pine** (*Pinus monophylla* 'Blue Jazz') is the most ornamental of all the dwarf pinyon pines collected by Jerry Morris (a noted Denver plantsman) from naturally-occurring witches' brooms and introduced into cultivation. A dwarf globe shape, true blue needle color, and xeric nature make this conifer a real winner for water-wise gardens. This slow-growing dwarf conifer is the perfect addition to any garden that needs a permanent small evergreen presence for herbaceous plants to revolve around and play off. **Other benefits:** Useful in rock and fairy gardens, large containers, and offers winter interest.

Size: Grows 1-3" per year

Sun: Full sun to part shade

Water: Xeric once established

Hardiness: USDA Zones 4-7

Culture: Well-drained or sandy soils



3. **Moroccan pincushion flower** (*Pterocephalus depressus*)
This high-altitude native of the Moroccan Atlas Mountains possesses many ornamental characteristics: low mat-like growth with textured evergreen greyish leaves, short-stemmed pincushion-like dusty-rose-colored flowers, and attractive silvery seed heads. It is truly a four season stunner. **Other benefits:** Excellent for rock gardens, raised beds and large containers.
Size: 3” x 12” wide
Blooms: Summer
Sun: Full sun to very partial shade
Water: Moderate to xeric
Hardiness: USDA Zones 4-8
Culture: well-drained or sandy soils

Plant Select® is the country’s leading brand of plants designed to thrive in high plains and intermountain regions, offering plants that provide more beauty with less work so gardeners of all levels can achieve SMART, STUNNING and SUCCESSFUL gardens using fewer resources and with a positive environmental impact.

Plants in the program are:

- Beautiful
- Adaptable
- Durable
- Water-wise
- Easy care
- Wildlife habitat-friendly

For more information on Plant Select®, visit www.plantselect.org. High resolution images of the 2016 Plant Select® offerings:

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/b54iehp1ghzm799/AACr2bbbpnH_PLYH5sIMPZsLa?dl=0

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