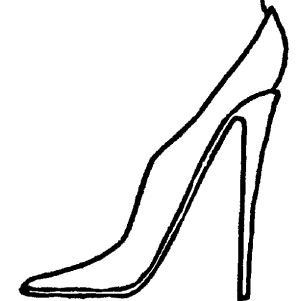
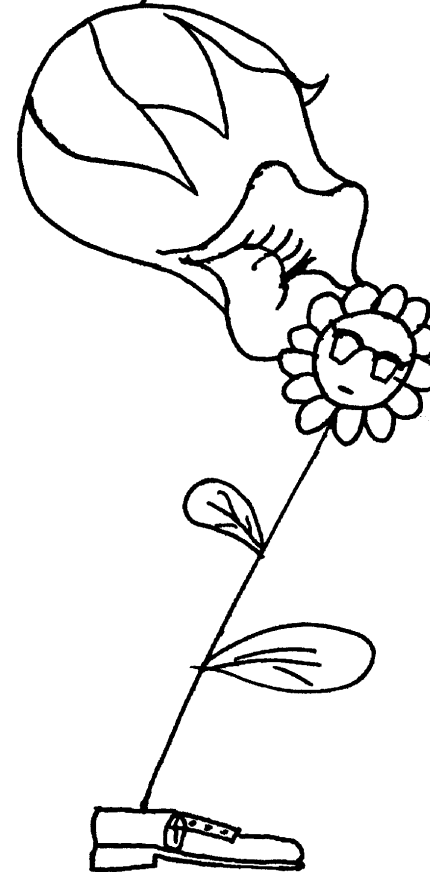


Usual & Unusual Plants

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2004 Catalogue



MISCANTHUS-

- s. "Morning Light(v)AGM** - A superb variety - the foliage is extremely narrow with vertical bands of green and white. It is a more elegant variety than most and as the base of the plant is narrower than the top it makes it more useful than some varieties in smaller gardens. 60"H
- s. 'Yakushima Dwarf(v)** - Very striking variegated variety with thin foliage, much smaller than most other varieties reaching only 18in. Good in large pot on in frontal position in the garden. Flowers 18"H

MOLINIA

I almost feel as if I am committing a sacrilege by saying that I think that these grasses outperform *Stipa gigantea*. They flower consistently throughout the Summer and remain a feature during the winter. As the foliage is low and the flower stems tall it is very effective as a frontal plant, providing a focal point without being too imposing. Retentive soil in sun suits best. I offer the following:

- caerulea 'Bergfreund'** - Very similar to 'Transparent' but growing about 18in less in height. 48"H
- c. 'Carmarthen(v)** - Cream-striped leaves, upright flowers during Summer. Improvement on the ordinary variegated form. Prefers sun. Deciduous 18"H
- c. 'Transparent'** - A graceful form reaching six foot, each resilient stem having a transparent inflorescence studded with golden beads. Of all the Molinias this seems to keep its seed heads the longest, and is best cut down when it falls apart about the end of January. 72"H

PENNISETUM

glaucum 'Purple Majesty' - All America Select Winner - only awarded once or twice a decade and fabulous it is too. Tall, dark and handsome with deep purple foliage and upstanding purple seed heads, which in their floral stage are excellent cut. The stem and mid-rib of foliage first turn purple after about eight leaves have developed. 40"H An imposing annual.

macrourum - A real star - the pencil-like flowers are almost constantly produced from early Spring, I even picked some for Christmas decorations. Always stays quite upright even when buffeted by the wind. 60"H

orientale AGM - A warm, dry Summer suits this grass best when the dense hummocks of fine, narrow leaves become crowned with flower heads. They dangle, fat and hairy, like soft grey-mauve caterpillars suspended from thin wiry stems. 20"H

- o. 'Karley Rose' - New American selection with darker green foliage and a taller and more upright habit, the early Summer plumes are a much richer pink. It has a hardier constitution than the species as an added bonus. 36"H

setaceum 'Rubrum' - This is the showiest of tropical grasses with burgundy-red foliage and pink, bottle-brush plumes. It is highly ornamental but will not withstand a hint of frost so bring indoors for the winter. 36+ "H Not available until the end of May or later it depends on the weather.

villosum - The clump of grassy leaves might well be pulled up for a weed before the lovely display of flower tufts, composed of long white caterpillar like awns. Successful in heavy soil in the rose garden at Sissinghurst. Do not divide until Spring. 18"H

PANICUM

virgatum 'Blue Tower' - More upright and bluer in habit and taller at about 8ft than the following. Sun, well drained soil. 96"H. Later

- v. 'Cloud Nine' - Broad arching blue leaves making a rounded steely blue mound. Full sun and good drainage. 72"H. Later

- v. 'Warrior' - Airy panicles in great profusion of a superb variety of switch grass - vigorous with huge heads of purplish spikelets with yellow Autumn colour. 40"H

POA labillardierei - I bought the original plant after seeing it looking wonderful in Beth Chatto's new Gravel garden. Evergreen, narrow stiff grey leaves which arch elegantly outwards - well drained soil in sun. 36"H

RESTIO tetraphyllus - Beautiful Australia variety, hardy to minus 10C, maybe more. Dense clumps of 3ft slender smooth stems, looking like a Bamboo with bright green leaves which emerge from brown nodes. Much used in Oz by flower arrangers. Luxuriates in sun but in moist, retentive nutrient poor soil.

SCHIZACHYRIUM scoparium - Known as the Little Blue Stem - this produces slender upright blue stems with arching blue leaves which become flushed with purple and orange when it turns cold, lasting several weeks. Fluffy inflorescences in early Autumn. Light well drained soil in sun. 24"H

STIPA

barbata - A very sought-after grass whose glory is when it flowers, silky feathery awns fall from the grass catching every breath of wind that passes. Great in the white garden at Sissinghurst. Sun, well drained soil. 24"H

gigantea AGM - Huge oat-like flowers, glistening purple on opening, turning harvest yellow, which shimmer and shine as if made from beaten gold. A long lasting feature for months. Tall stems withstand wind without staking. Makes weed proof clump. 72"H

tenuissima - Graceful tufts of very narrow yellow-green leaves. Feathery plumes of buff flower heads just above the foliage. Sun, in a retentive soil. Used for making cigarette papers and in one catalogue, called the Andrex of the grasses 18"H

turkestanica - Needle grass - showy grass bearing elegant panicles of long feather-like awns which move in the slightest breeze - good through Summer to early Autumn. Much used in some of the Oudolf creations. 24"H

ACANTHUS

mollis 'Hollard's Gold' - Usually evergreen the winter and Spring foliage is particularly effective with a golden-yellow hue, fading to lime-green in Summer. Although *Acanthus* are sun lovers they are tolerant of shade, however the stout flowering stems are less prolific. 60"H

- m. 'Rue Ledan' - From France this handsome form has pure-white flowers with green bracts and dark green glossy leaves. Sun/part shade. Makes a more compact plant than the usual *A.mollis*. 36"H

ACHILLEA

These last a long time in flower with flat heads which often fade giving a multi-toned Persian Carpet effect. They also pick and dry well. They prefer decent drainage in the sun, the addition of grit in heavy soils helps a great deal. Much used in the fashionable 'Prairie Planting' in association with, amongst other plants, *Verbascum*, *Sedum* and ornamental Grasses. The following have been chosen from the vast array as the best of the colour forms presently available. For continuous flowering cut back after the first flush. Many flowers can be used for winter decoration, pick before fully out. They are all best divided every three years to retain vigour. Remember that the trials at Wisley recently awarded many of the following cultivars Awards for their excellent performance.

'Credo' AGM - A Pagel's selection so it must be good. Strong tall stems with large domed clear yellow flowers which fade to cream in June and July. 40"H

'Faust' - This is the best of the deepest reds I have seen, and more vigorous than some. Introduced since the trials, otherwise it would have got an award. Flowers from June to September. 24"H

'Feuerland' - Upright and compact this attractive variety has deep rusty, yellow-centred flowers fading to all colours of a fire, from oranges to apricot and yellow from June to October. 36"H

'Lachsschönheit' AGM - The flat flowers open coral-red, changing to soft-peach with both these colours on the plant at the same time. Flowers in mid Summer and again in Autumn.. A reliable performer. 30"H

'Lucky Break' AGM - Reaching 3ft this is more vigorous than the old *A. 'Taygetea'* and was introduced by Christopher Lloyd. Showy grey-green foliage with beautiful flowers that start pale yellow and become several different shades of yellow depending on bloom age. 36"H

millefolium 'Lansdorferglut' AGM - Sturdy, floriferous, rich pink flowers which fade to ivory-pink making an excellent colour patchwork. When awarded its AGM the comment 'The sort of plant that makes you say I must have it' was added 40"H

- m. 'Christel' - This is the first *Achillea* to flower and it is a striking deep red. 24"H

- m. 'Red Velvet' - Good new cultivar and considered to be one of the best reds to date this new variety does not fade but stays a good rosy-red even in the hottest sun. 30"H

'Mondpagode' AGM - Perhaps the best cream variety because it never fades into murky grey and the heads are elegantly layered. **Highly recommended.** 30"H

'Walther Funcke' - Fiery orange-red flat flowers. This one will also grow in dry part shade. Highly regarded for its neat and upright habit. 12"H

'Wesersandstein' - Earlier flowering than some with rounded soft-salmon pink flowers which fade extremely well, avoiding the need to constantly dead-head. 36"H

ptarmica 'Nana Compacta' - Unlike the above these have flowers more like daisies, each with conspicuous grey-green centre. A particularly attractive compact variety. Long flowering and good to pick.. 12"H

siberica camtschatica 'Love Parade' - Distinctive foliage from the other *Achilleas* and the flowers are much larger. This has large clusters of soft lavender pink flowers from May to September and longer if you deadhead. 24"H

ACONITUM

Monkshood, Wolf's Bane, this has many common names. All parts are poisonous so should be used with caution if you have children who garden. Easily satisfied as to soil, full sun suits but will also grow in shady areas. A great bonus is that rabbits will not touch it, nor slugs or snails so makes a good alternative to Delphiniums.

'Stainless Steel' - Hooded metallic grey-blue flowers, June to August. A new continental selection. 40"H

carmichaelii 'Pink Sensation' - A new colour break and a very pretty shade of pale pink it is. The stems are sturdy and make good cut flowers. 48"H

x cammarum 'Bicolor' AGM -Lovely blue and white flowers on arching branches. 72"H

AGAPANTHUS

African Lilies - require full sun in fertile soil, moist rather than dry but not boggy and don't like being planted too deeply. They blend with softer colours and look great with grasses. They cut well and have attractive seed heads which last all winter. They make very good frontal plants as they stay tidy all season. As well as the following I will have small numbers of several other varieties.

'Lilliput' - The smallest *Agapanthus*, only reaching 15" with deep blue flowers. Excellent for cutting.

'Ardernei hybrid' - Well shaped large heads of white flowers tipped with purple at end of petals, noticeable black anthers, this is a good repeat flowering form. 30"H

AGASTACHE

Sun lovers with fragrant leaves, preferring fertile well-drained soil, long flowering throughout the Summer, into Autumn with deadheading. Bees and butterflies colonize around most varieties. The following cultivars are offered.

'Apricot Sprite' - A showy free-flowering mass of upright apricot spikes. Compact with sweetly aromatic foliage, which can be dried for excellent potpourri. The flowers can also be added to salads. 15"H

'Firebird' - The lovely copper colour of the flowers are useful in many colour schemes. The stiff flower spikes appear from midsummer through until Autumn. Leaves very aromatic. 24"H

VERBASCUM

'Gainsborough' - Lovely pale yellow spires from June to late September. Everyone's favourite. Goes with everything but does need good drainage. 48"H

phoeniceum 'Violetta' - Deep purple flower spikes in airy spikes. The rich green crinkled leaves are a good backdrop for the flowers, which look fabulous in flower arrangements. Sun, well drained soil. Dead heading aids repeat flowering. 36"H

VERBENA

bonariensis - Rough dark leaves make a satisfactory base for the wiry, angular branching stems, each branch topped by a dense tuft of tiny lavender-blue fragrant flowers. A plant much used by Christopher Lloyd at Great Dixter and adored by bees and butterflies. 60"H

hastata rosea - I found this pink form in Holland, and very striking it is too. The flowers appear to be two-tone due to the deeper colour bracts. An erect plant, with branching candelabra heads, worthy of inclusion in any border but it does seed about. 36"H

'Homestead Purple' - One of the best plants to come from America where it was discovered growing at an old homestead. Hardy and vigorous and covered with medium dark purple flowers all Summer. Do not prune until well into Spring. 8"H 24"S

Lois' Ruby - This wonderful verbenas has the dark red ruby-red flowers over an extended period. Found unnamed as a bedraggled plant in a French Market by my friend Lois Machin and thus named in her honour. Perennial and seems to be hardy to a couple of minus Cs. Easy from cuttings. 12"H

rigida 'Polaris' - A much rarer plant than the type, with same habit, but flowers a pale lilac. I've been told its very effective in pots with other plants. Extremely long flowering probably about 7 months. 12"H

'Silver Ann' AGM - This perennial tender verbenas has one of the loveliest perfumes. The pink flowers fade to a darker pink as they age. It flowers all Summer until the frosts. This has been hardy the last few winters, but I always take a few insurance cuttings. 18"H

VERONICA

'Pink Damask' - Clear pink flowers in narrow racemes, glossy leaves. 36"H

spicata 'Eveline' PBR - Very floriferous variety with rich rose-purple flowers on tall, fat spikes, from June to September. Deep green long leaves. Cuts well. 22"H

- **s. 'Icicle'** - Compact plant, ideal for sunny positions in front of beds, many dense flowers spikes, this is a good white form with particularly large flowers from the United States. 12"H

- **s. 'Royal Candles' PBR** - Bushy and compact variety with dark violet-blue flowers interspersed with green on 12" spikes from June, if dead-headed regularly it will flower through the Autumn. Great frontal plant for sunny fertile soil. 12"H

- **'Sunny Border Blue'** - As above, blue flowers - a past perennial plant of the year award winner. 24"H

VERONICASTRUM

As GS Thomas says 'For the perpendicular and the horizontal in borders this is hard to beat.' Gives vertical accents with the erect stems, topped with spikes of plentiful small flowers. Fast becoming 'must-have' plants as they are such good performers. Easy in fertile soil.

virginicum 'Fascination' - Erect long pinky-mauve spikes. 60"H

- **'Pointed Finger'** - The description name is well chosen, the pink flowers really appear to point right at you, this makes for interesting outlines in borders. Leave the heads all winter to enjoy the effect. 36"H

- **'Temptation'** - Long racemes of loosely formed purple-rose flowers - tall variety which lasts and lasts as a feature in the garden. 60"H

VIOLA

Pansies - most are profuse flowerers with lovely 'faces' - all prefer fertile, humus-rich soil in sun or part shade. Protect from slugs and cut back to juvenile growth in early Autumn to ensure good plants for the following year, the following varieties will appear from time to time during the year.

cornuta alba - A fine white form, very long flowering, benefits from a tidy-up every so often. Great for scrambling up roses, over plants that have finished flowering. Sun or shade. 3"G

cornuta Liliacina Group (C) - Pale lilac flowers throughout Summer into Autumn, cut back when untidy, scrambles through roses of whatever you put near it. 10"H

'Heaseldands' - Large scented violet-blue flowers cover this strong growing variety for months. I highly recommend this for its flower power and reliability. Many violas come and go in the garden, this is a real stayer. 8"H

'Huntercombe Purple' (Va) AGM - A particularly effective dark-purple variety with masses of flowers in the Summer, scented and usually very long-lived in the garden. 4"H

'Merry Cheer' (C) - A lovely hybrid, upstanding flowers mauve each with a distinctive white eye. 6"H

ZANTEDESCHIA

aethiops. 'Green Goddess' AGM - Large green flowers with a white throat, magnificent foliage. Grows well in deeply prepared soil, kept moist in Summer. Protect in winter with heavy mulching until established. Will thrive in deep mud in natural ponds. In all its glory, in dry soil near my shed. 40"H

aethiopica 'Crowborough' - An Arum lily which is hardy when established but needing a bit of protection for the first winter before its mature roots delve very deeply. Great white spathes with deep yellow spadices. Thrives in deep mud in natural ponds. 48"H

ZAUSCHNERIA

Difficult to pronounce but easy to grow in dry, even droughty soil in sun. Their slender erect stems hold brightly coloured fuchsia-like flowers continuously from late Summer until Autumn

californica 'Dublin' AGM - Masses of tubular scarlet flowers for many weeks in late Summer to Autumn, this is a particularly good form with small matt-green leaves. Hot dry and sunny. 15"H

Olbrich's Silver' - Striking silver-white foliage with large orange flowers from July to October. Sun, well

ANTHEMIS

inctoria 'E C Buxton' - One of Beth Chatto's ten best plants. Above a low neat mound of ferny, green leaves, thin stiff stems carry creamy-yellow daisies endlessly throughout Summer until frosts. Invaluable in the garden or picked. The individual daisies last for weeks. 20"H

- **t. dwarf** - At last a truly dwarf variety of this endlessly flowering yellow daisy. Ideal for the smaller garden. 12"H

ANTHERICUM ramosum - Grassy leaves and erect airy spikes of pure white Gypsophila-like flowers. Stays good for a long time. Excellent frontal plant in sunny position. Much admired 24"H

ANTIRRHINUM molle - A sub-shrub with leaves covered with soft grey hairs. White flowers produced in terminal racemes, which are cream in bud. Plant in well drained poor soil in sun. A useful, easy plant, particularly suited to chalk, or stony ground. 10"H 18"S

AQUILEGIA

Columbines or Granny's Bonnets come in a dazzling array of colours. Herbaceous varieties prefer a little shade in fertile soil while alpines thrive in scree conditions.

candensis - Originating from the Northern USA and Canada, this beautiful 'columbine' has eye-catching scarlet and yellow flowers from May to July. 15"H

vulgaris 'Ruby Port' (d) - Double pom-poms of deepest ruby red - a reliable 'stayer' which seeds true in isolation. 24"H

ARCTOTIS x hybrida 'Mahogany' AGM - A cousin of the more well-known gazania, with silver foliage and dark mahogany daisy flowers which last until the frosts, a must for tubs, patios or Summer bedding. 4"H 12"S - availability not assured.

ARGYRANTHEMUM

Excellent container plants or Summer bedding flowering continuously throughout the Summer. Although not reliably frost hardy a deep mulch usually ensures regrowth from the bottom even if the top growth is lost. Easy from late Summer cuttings.

'Petite Pink' - Finely divided blue-grey leaves and an endless succession of pink marguerites. Repays a mid-season trim. In my greenhouse this flowered all winter. 8"H

maderense AGM - The grey-green evergreen foliage is a magnificent foil for the flowers, lovely citron yellow daisies. Although it is not 100percent hardy it often comes through a hard winter if grown hard (gritty soil) and is very easy from cuttings taken in late Summer. Great in pots or tubs or even in conservatory where it can flower at Christmas. 30"H

ARTEMISIA lactiflora Guizhou Group - Erect mahogany brown stems, softened by aromatic deeply cut blackish green foliage. The flowers are open sprays of creamy white tiny flowers. Prefers soil which does not dry out. Should only need staking in the windiest gardens. 48"H

ASTER

For late Summer and Autumn colour Michaelmas Daisies are indispensable. They are best in a retentive soil, sun or part shade. Taller ones can be given the 'Chelsea Chop', i.e. cut by half after Chelsea week but before end of June, this gives more side shoots, thus more flowers and often means no staking.

Most of the following are mildew-resistant varieties.

'Andenken an Alma Pötschke' - It's the outstanding colour of this plant, which makes it so desirable for the Autumn garden, a stunning strong red-purple. 36"H

asperulus - Broad, almost heart-shaped hairy foliage with well branched stems which carry largish, rich, deep lavender blue flowers from July to October. Sun in ordinary soil or light shade in good soil. 26"H

'Coombe Fishacre' AGM - One of the best, arching growth with thousands of dark-eyed pink daisies.

Flowers in September and October. 48"H

delavayi - A recently introduced Aster ideal for front of border. It is a lovely plant with large finely rayed lavender flowers, its central disc is brown-rust changing to orange as the pollen collects. **Highly Recommended** 12"H

x frikartii 'Mönch' AGM - This is without doubt the finest Aster. The blooms are beautifully rayed, in clear lavender-blue surrounding a greenish yellow disc from July to October. Preferring sun, give it the best position in the garden in good fertile soil. 36"H

x frikartii ex Helen Dillon - From Helen Dillon's Dublin garden. Has all the flower power of Monch but with a much sturdier and denser habit. Impressive indeed. 30"H

'King George (amellus) - Old but still one of the best, many terminal daisy-like deep blue-violet flowers with prominent yellow centres. 20"H

'Little Carlow (cordifolia hybrid) AGM - Countless small rich blue flowers cover this mildew-resistant aster in late Summer. One of the best October perennials. 36"H

'Monte Casino' AGM (pringlei) - Delicate small white flowers in open sprays on slender stems, attractive cut flowers. Mildew proof. Originally grown specifically for the cut-flower trade so is very free-flowering. Garden-worthy plant. 36"H

'Prince (lactiflorus) - A striking variety with dark maroon stems and leaves, masses of small pink flowers in Autumn. Good soil, best foliage colour in sun. 30"H

'Purple Dome (novae-ang.) - Small bushy variety with large intense violet purple flowers. 20"H

radula - Small growing variety with large soft lilac-blue flowers from June to September. Any fertile soil in sun. This just goes on flowering and flowering. Wonderful frontal plant. 12"H

'Rosa Sieger (novae-ang.) - An excellent aster, mildew resistant, with pinky-mauve flowers which look wonderful with Penstemon Firebird and Sedum Joyce Henderson. 30"H

'Septemberrubin (novae-ang.) - Striking variety usually the first novae-ang variety to flower, it has brilliant ruby flowers. No mildew 48"H

SISYRINCHIUM

Grassy evergreen leaves, almost like small iris, I find these very useful as plants for border fronts although they are good in rockeries as well. The flowers on tufty stems are produced throughout the Summer opening when the weather is warm.

'Californian Skies' - Large bright deep sky-blue flowers on 6in stems, still one of the best. 6"H

'Deep Seas' - Large deep blue flowers. 4"H

'Iceberg' - New with particularly large icy-blue flowers. 4"H

'Marion' - Excellent hybrid with perhaps the largest flower so far, a lovely deep shade of mauve. 4"H

SOLIDAGO rugosa 'Fireworks' - Beth Chatto recommended this to Christopher Lloyd in their book 'Dear Friend and Gardener'- what better recommendation is there than that. It has deep yellow flowers on slender branches from September to November. Extremely elegant and less aggressive than most Goldenrods. 36"H

SPHAERALCEA

'Hopley's Lavender' - New colour break in these fairly hardy and exceptionally long-flowering shrubs, lavender flowers with an appealing eye. Sun, well drained soil. 36"H

munroana - Almost hardy and making good ground cover for a hot dry spot. Multitudes of coral pink mallow flowers until the frosts. Good in tubs, chimney pots, etc. 2"H 24"S

'Newleaze Coral' - Upright bushy form, with bright coral-red flowers on slender stems, a really stunning colour against the grey-green foliage. Very long flowering. Must have sun in well drained soil. 24"H

SPIRANTHES cernua odorata 'Chadd's Ford' - A fragrant form of 'Nodding Ladies Tresses'. It is easy to grow and forms good colonies. The sweetly scented white orchid-like flowers on 18" spires appear from September and smell of vanilla or jasmine. Well worth growing in a shady spot, flowering as it does when there are so many daisies about. 18"H. **Highly recommended**

STACHYS

coccinea - This has small leaves and slender spires of long-tubed scarlet flowers protruding from purplish red calyces. In flower for months throughout the Summer. Sunny spot in well drained soil. Good in tubs, etc. American native very attractive to hummingbirds. We are becoming very tropical, who knows? 24"H

dregeano - Stunning new plant, bound to become very popular, dusky purple red tubular flowers are produced from May to first frost, on stems reminiscent to *Diascia rigescens*. Evergreen but tops often burnt off in frosts, slightly stoloniferous. Sun, well drained soil. I have seen this around under several different names, hopefully the Plant Finder will sort it out. 24"H

monieri 'Hummelo' - Neat clumps of foliage and striking lilac flowers in June and July. 18"H

'Spitzweg' - Long green-tipped pink spikes, the bees love it. A Page's selection. These flowering Stachys make wonderful foreground plants. 15"H

STEMMACANTHA centauroides - Handsome plant with large silver-grey foliage but the rounded rosy purple globular buds and flowers are the striking feature. Best in full sun with drainage. One of those plants that have been through a name-change frenzy, this is the latest (previous incarnations include, *Centaurea pulchra major*) 48"H

STOKESIA

Stokes Aster - Hardy, evergreen plants with long-lasting, colourful, cornflower-like flowers, borne in clusters, which cut well. If you pull off the old petals when the flower is dying you are left with an ornamental thimble which lasts for weeks. New additions appear from America all the time. Excellent frontal plants. For well drained soil in full sun.

'Omega Skyrocket' - Taller than some at 30", this outstanding variety has large purple July to October.

'Purple Parasol' - Large 4--5" frilly deep violet flowers above 12" above the evergreen foliage. 12"H

SYMPHYTUM 'Mereworth' - Long, broad, hairy, pale green leaves spasmodically splashed yellow, some leaves even being almost totally variegated. Striking foliage plant for shade. Purple flowers in June and July. Rarely offered. 36"H

TANACETUM

coccineum 'Eileen May Robinson' AGM - Single rich shell-pink, good for cutting. Still remembered by some as *Pyrethrum* these flower in May and June and sometimes again in Sept. Attractive, graceful, ferny foliage. Rich, retentive soil suits best. 24"H

- **c. 'H M Pike'** - As above but deepest red. 24"H

parthenium 'Rowallane' - Green fragrant leaves, fully double large flowers, talk about Persil white, they are almost blinding. Sterile so extremely long-flowering, a very worthwhile addition. Striking in the white garden at Sissinghurst. 15"H

unknown double - This has very pretty white double centred flowers framed by notched-like outside petals - exceptionally long-flowering - is it a double *Feverfew*? It has neat habit and was given to me by a very keen plantswoman, it was new to her, and she has been gardening for years. 12"H

TELLIMA

grandiflora 'Delphine'(v) - Much praised new introduction from France - pale green/yellow foliage, looks lovely in shade where it grows best. White, flushed pink flowers in Spring and sometimes spasmodically through the year. 8"H. Few

TEUCRIUM

hircanicum - Hairy leaves, bushy habit, and in July and August spikes of rich purple flowers enhanced by purple-grey calyces. An excellent plant deservedly becoming better known. Another good Bill Baker introduction. 18"H

CENTAUREA

Reminiscent of cornflowers but with larger thistle-like centres, these knapweeds prefer full sun but are easily pleased in any well drained soil. Easy, long flowering plants.

bella - Well suited to the front of a sunny border, where its evergreen silvery pinnate foliage makes a slow-spreading mound. Pink 'cornflowers' in mid Summer. 12"H

benoistii - This is such a good colour, blood-red thistle-like flowers and long lasting too. 24"H

'Caramia' - New variety with purple flowers in June and July. Grows to about 3ft and makes a good cut flower. 36"H

CEPHALARIA gigantea - The giant scabious has wonderful soft primrose yellow flowers, it takes ordinary soil in sun, and flowers intermittently all Summer. 72"H

CERATOSTIGMA plumbaginoides AGM - Valuable in the Autumn when the creeping wiry crimson red stems carry clusters of gentian-blue flowers. An excellent groundcover beneath shrubs, at the border front and sunny rock garden. Grows in full sun in most soils. 20"H 18"S

CERINTHE major 'Purpurascens' - This has hit the gardening world by storm with deep purple flowers of a curious but beautiful shape. Can be used to great effect in the garden. A self-seeding annual. 20"H

CESTRUM

fasciculatum (ex Dexter) - Evergreen shrub with crimson tubular flowers from Summer to Autumn.

Although it grows outside on a wall in Dexter it does need a warm spot. Can make a great showy pot plant and if the stems are pruned to 4-6 buds in early Spring, this does control the height (usually 7ft) and also produces lots more flowers. Just a few.

parqui AGM - Highly attractive shrub in late Summer through Autumn when the willowy stems carry clusters of greeny yellow flowers in great profusion. Treat it like a hardy Fuchsia and cut down in Spring. If you are every lucky enough to go to Glyndebourne you will not miss this flowering its heart out against the house. You will never see a better specimen. 60"H. Later

CHAEROPHYLLUM hirsutum 'Roseum' - This lovely Cow Parsley is one of the joys of early Summer, few herbaceous plants can hold a candle to it in early May. The flat topped head of lilac mauve tiny flowers will often appear a second time in late Summer. Moist, fertile soil in sun. 24"H

CHRYSANthemUM

Essential for the Autumn garden, the following varieties are sound perennials associating well with Aconitum, Miscanthus and other Autumn flowering plants. Slugs can enjoy the young shoots. Other varieties are sometimes offered in small quantities.

'Brightness' (29K) - Medium sized luminous copper flower, extremely striking in the paler light of Autumn. There is a bit of confusion about the correct name of this plant, as it does not fully fit the description, but those in the know call it Brightness. 18"H

'Doctor Tom Parr' (28) - Neat button variety with weatherproof flowers of deep copper red. Very free flowering September to November. 24"H 12

'Mary Stoker' (29Rub) - Single soft apricot flowers which age to yellow. 36"H

'Perry's Peach' - Very attractive single pale peach flowers from October. 24"H

CIRSIUM

heterophyllum - Known as the Melancholy Thistle, this rare native has large purple thistles from May to November. The attractive foliage is barely spiny and the leaves are green above and almost white and cottony beneath. Looked great with *Miscanthus Cosmopolitan* at Chelsea one year. 30"H

rivulare 'Atropurpureum' - Fashionable rich plumy-red thistle-like flowers on upright stems all Summer-long and sometimes longer. Not too dry in sun and don't overcrowd it. 36"H

CISTUS

Rock or sun rose - evergreen shrubs for well drained, even poor soils in sun. As well as the following sometimes I have small numbers of other rarish varieties due to the generosity of the national collection holder. Thank you Bob.

'Ann Baker' - Usually the last Cistus to flower, well into August and sometimes even September, white 7cm flowers with each petal having blood-red blotches and yellow stains at base. Very hardy. 32"H

'Grayswood Pink' AGM - A profusion of lovely pink flowers carried in long clusters. Downy grey to grey-green foliage on this very hardy variety. Trim lightly each year to increase flowering. Best in light soils in bright sunlight.

'Jessamy Beauty' - Large two and half inch white flower with dark red blotch. Vigorous, hardy arching shrub making a striking display when in full flower in July. An Eric Sammons hybrid, only just released from the national collection

x laxus 'Snow White' - Spectacular in flower and one of the most floriferous. Its main flowering is in June and it continues to flower sporadically until Autumn. Can be hard pruned and could even stand being made into a low clipped hedge, (at the expense of the flowers). 48"H

x purpureus AGM - Fresh green foliage all year, slightly crinkled, smothered in Summer with large rich pink flowers each with a purple splash. 60"H 36"S

CONVOLVULUS sabatius dark form - The deep-blue form of this increasing popular plant, in flower from Summer to Autumn. 12" stems

COREOPSIS

grandiflora 'Astolat' - Exceptionally long flowering with yellow flowers with striking maroon centres from June to September. Easy in well drained sunny borders. Good as cut flower. 30"H

verticillata 'Moonbeam' - One of the loveliest pale yellow plants in the garden, moonbeam being a good description of the colour. Easily grown in sunny herbaceous beds and in flower for weeks from June - October. The yellow "daisies" pick well. Good with blues and a good foil for magenta.. 15"H

SALVIA

guaranitica 'Black and Blue' - Cobalt blue flowers accentuated by black calyces marks the difference in this selection. Sun, well drained soil. 36"H

- **g. 'Blue Enigma' AGM** - Striking branching spikes of dark blue hooded flowers from Summer to Autumn. Well drained soil, this seems to be quite hardy. 48"H

haenkii - New. Tender from Peru. Masses of bright red tubular flowers all Summer. 4-5ft. 48"H

'Indigo Spires' AGM - One of the best plants to appear from the USA. Spikes of intense blue flowers on erect stems. Useful late flowering plant, the blue intensifies as the light levels decrease. Not totally hardy but worth any trouble. Spectacular at Wisley last year with *Hordeum* 48"H

'Moonlight over Ashwood' - Golden variegated leaves with creamy flushed pink flowers held within dark calyces. A beautiful new addition. Reasonably hardy in sunny well drained spot but easy from cuttings. 24"H

'Mulberry Wine' - An excellent new introduction with large, rounded, dusky magenta buds which open into vivid, pink tubular flowers which are held in deep purple calyces. A selection from the Author of the Book of Salvias, which is why it is so good. 30"H

nemerosa 'Amethyst' - Clump-forming with many erect spikes of lilac pink flowers all Summer. Full sun, well drained soil. Excellent frontal plant. 24"H

- **n. 'Marcus'** - New, attractive compact variety with intense blue flowers from June to August. Excellent frontal plant for a sunny spot. 10"H The smallest of this type of Salvia to date.

- **n. 'Pusztaflamme' AGM** - Very long flowering with dense triangular heads of double sepalled flowers a 'mournful purple'. Dries well with aromatic leaves. 20"H

- **n. 'Schwellenburg'** - New with richly-coloured thickly double and very persistent rose purple flowers. Clump forming with erect flower spikes which are attractive to bees and butterflies. Sun, well drained soil. Dead head, and then cut back after end of flowering so it can rebloom. 18"H

patens AGM - Few plants rival the blue of this salvia, which returns from underground tubers on well drained soil. In flower from Summer to Autumn. 24"H. Watch the slugs in Spring they eat new shoots.

- **p. 'Guanajuato'** - Recently collected in Mexico, the flowers are twice the size of the usual plant in cultivation, an amazing sight. The leaves too are magnificent with a metallic sheen and very heart-shaped. 30"H

'Red Velvet' - Of the greggii/jamensis persuasion and kindly given to me by the legendary Irish Gardener, Helen Dillon, this has perhaps one of the largest red flowers of any cultivar so far. Sun well drained soil. I have not tried over-wintering this yet. 12"H

'Silke's Dream' - A recent American hybrid between darcyii and microphylla this has long spikes of pale orange-red flowers produced in abundance from July to November. Well drained soil essential as this does not like the winter wet.

uliginosa AGM - A graceful tall plant with waving sprays of clear azure blue flowers in stout branching spikes are unique in the garden and last for many weeks. Worth protecting the underground shoots in cold districts. Usually hardy in Kent and Sussex.. 60"H

verticillata 'Purple Rain' - One of the longest plants in flower, easily six months. Well leafed all the way up the stems with long arching spikes of dark purple flowers. Showy and strongly **recommended**. 24"H

SAMBUCUS 'Black Lace' - Launched at 2003 Chelsea to a storm of approval. Dramatic dissected black foliage, reminiscent of an Acer but withstanding frost and wind damage. Creamy pink buds and pink flowers in clusters, blackish red berries in Autumn. Sun or part shade

SANGUISORBA

canadensis - The late Summer garden is enriched with the showy 'Canadian Burnet', the 4ft stems hold copious amounts of white bottle-brush like flowers. The handsome foliage is elegant pinnate and toothed. Thrives in moist soil in sun. 48"H 24"S

menziesii - Attractive pinnate foliage with deep red stems. Fat deep maroon bottlebrush flowers from May to July. Great for flower arranging and I just love the colour. Sun or part shade in good soil. Looks very good with white *Camassia*. 24"H

officinalis 'Arnheim' - Reaching 7ft this has rich glowing-red tubby bottlebrush-like flowers which hover aloft over the attractive pinnate foliage. In flower from June to August.

- **'Tanna'** - The smallest and best behaved of the 'Burnets'. The dusky red bobby heads remain good for many weeks. Great front of border plant with attractive pinnate foliage when not in flower. 12"H

'Pink Tanna' - Highly ornamental plant. Compact mound of tiny toothed leaflets set with masses of dense, deep pink cones throughout the entire Summer. Easy to grow in full sun to partial shade in any good garden soil. 30"H

SCABIOSA

Sun-lovers for well drained soil, preferably limey - acid conditions make them short-lived. Good as cut flowers with long stems. Best divided every few years as young plants flower the best.

atropurpurea 'Chile Black' - There is some doubt about the correct name of this plant, but it has very dark crimson pin cushion heads. Long flowering. 20"H

- **a. 'Chile Sauce'** - Very attractive new selection with white-edged ruffled burgundy-purple flowers. If your soil is wet in winter you will need to take cuttings. 24"H

- **a. 'Mixed Chile'** - I have named these plants thus as they are from seed from Chile Black and seem to vary - Sun, well drained essential. 24"H

caucasica 'Stafa' - Wide deepest blue flowers on long stalks and lots of them for many months. Best in full sun on fertile but well drained soil. Younger plants produce the best flowers so divide every three years. 36"H

DAHLIA

'David Howard' AGM - Wonderful dark glossy foliage and striking double orange flowers. 36"H

'Moonfire' - Wonderful rich bronzed foliage, compliment the single pale orange flowers, the petals of which are stained red. A useful addition to that 'hot border'. 36"H

'Rutland Water' - From the purple border at Sissinghurst this eye-catching decorative Dahlia has deep lilac petals with a deep purple centre. 30"H

DALEA

candida - This American prairie plant is smoothly delicate with white flowers which begin to bloom at the base of the spike and proceed upward making a narrow wreath of white on a green column. For all the world it looks like a mini-bottlebrush. Full sun in average soil, tolerant of drought. Bees like it. June/July 22"H

purpurea - Similar to the above but a magenta to rose-purple, a magnificent colour spike.

DAPHNE

Large and interesting genus, containing many dwarf shrubs, usually highly scented and suitable for troughs, alpine house and borders. Many have a reputation for being difficult but with care they can be grown successfully.

cneorum 'Eximia' AGM - The prostrate evergreen branches are smothered in terminal clusters of crimson buds, opening to deep rich rose-pink, highly scented flowers in April and May. Needs open sunny position. 6"H 36"H. Hopefully available in May.

odora 'Aureomarginata' - In Spring the scent of this floods the garden with its wonderful fragrance. Forms a low, loose, evergreen shrub, covered with rosettes of shining green leaves, each finely edged with cream. Plant away from N.E. winds. 30"H

x hendersonii 'Ernst Hauser' - Vigorous variety, with evergreen low spreading branches covered in terminal sweetly scented pale pink flowers from deep red-purple buds. Good drainage with a long root run, flowering best in sunny position. In strongly acidic soil add some lime. 12"H 24"H (in May)

x napolitana AGM - Superb small and neat rounded evergreen bush. Masses of bright pink scented flowers from March throughout the Summer to November, if you are very lucky. 36"H (in May)

DIASCIA rigescens AGM - Deservedly one of my most popular plants. Stiff stems of rose-pink flowers from June-Oct. Hardy on well drained soil. Take cuttings as an insurance as after a year or two the plants can become woody and fail in the winter. Well drained warm situation. 15"H

DICENTRA scandens - Quite distinct in being one of the several climbing species, the herbaceous stems reaching eight to ten foot annually, with straw yellow flowers in Summer. Maybe

DIERAMA

Wand flower or Venus' Fishing Rod are unparalleled for their beauty and grace in early Summer. Trumpet shaped bells emerge from silvery calyces and wave in the slightest breeze. Full sun in retentive soil (they need moisture in the Summer) but dislike being waterlogged in the winter. Incorporation of grit in the planting holes ensures the corms do not sit in water during the Winter. They are lovely plants and well worth the trouble. Several distinctive forms are offered:

dracomontanum - Only reaching about 18", the flowers are a lovely shade of clear-reddish pink on small pendulous stems. Well drained soil, hardy to -10C. 18"H

igneum - tomato-red flared tubular flowers, on arching stems, a vigorous variety. 24"H

pulcherrimum - Large pink flowers which opening from end of stem first. A lovely plant 60"H

medium - Requires deep moist but well drained soil in full sun this unusual Angel's Fishing Rod has beautiful pale lilac/blue flowers in May. Hardy to -10C. 30

pauciflora - Large almost shocking pink flowers on small floriferous dierama as it sends up many flowering stems. Flowers from a young plant. 12"H

pulcherrimum 'Blackbird' - Very dark form, plum-red- fantastic 60"H- These are seed grown but so far they have come true.

- **p. var. album** - Pure white bell-like flowers. 40"H

DIPLARRHENA Helen Dillon's form - One of my favourite plants, related to the Iris, it has almost orchid-like white flowers marked with blue and yellow in the centre, its scented as well. Evergreen leaves in tufts, well drained but fertile soil in some shade. Not the easier plant in the world to grow but it is worth it. 12"H

DISPOROPSIS pernyi - Newly introduced from China, this looks like an evergreen Solomon's Seal with white flared lemon-scented flowers. Semi-shade in fertile soil. 9"H

DISPORUM flavens - Choice Korean woodland plant which gives a spectacular display of long hanging pale yellow flowers in April-May, reminiscent of an *Uvularia* (I saw this priced at 17 per plant in an American catalogue recently so you are getting a real bargain here.) 20"H

ECHINACEA

'Coneflowers' are usually fragrant, long-flowering, easy and popular garden plants. They are attractive to bees and butterflies and also cut well. They perform better in sun with good drainage but will take a little shade. Good in mixed planting, including prairie - what more could a gardener ask - several distinct forms are offered:

angustifolia - Large scented flowers with long narrow drooping pinky-red petals. Long flowering, usually June to October. 30"H

paradoxa - A paradox indeed - this has bright yellow ray flowers with classical brown bristly raised cones, the flowers are surprisingly fragrant. 30"H

purpurea 'Kim's Knee High' - Exciting new US introduction (as if the name didn't tell you that) - Smaller than the rest with bright pink flowers in early June at 15", growing eventually to 24"H" with continual flowers un til frosts. 24"H

PHLOX

- **p. 'Katarina'** - Large lavender flowers with white centres. This variety is mildew resistant and in flower from July to September 30"H
- **p. 'Rosa Pastel'** - Lovely variety with large heads of very large pale pink flowers which also cut well. Flowers from July into September. 24"H
- **p. 'Utopia'** - New variety with good mildew resistance - tall palish pink with very strong fragrance. Looks lovely with Lythrum Blush and Eupatorium.60"H

PHYSOSTEGIA 'Miss Manners' - Well named this white flowered beauty is a good clump-forming, non-running, Obedient Plant. The two foot pure white flower snap-dragon-like flowers appear from early Summer to Sept. 24"H

PLECTRANTHUS argentatus - In Helen Dillon's garden this makes a wonderful pot plant. Evergreen with an erect habit and woolly silvery grey leaves. Red stemmed spikes with small white flushed blue flowers are particularly effective. Protect in winter, easy from tip cuttings. 36"H

POLEMONIUM Jacobs Ladders are sound perennials if divided from time to time. Attractive finely divided foliage and cup-shaped silky flowers in soft muted tones. Fertile soil in sun or part shade.

'Northern Lights' - Well scented large pale blue flowers on upright stems over neat clump of green ferny foliage. Long flowering sterile plant previously known as P.richardsonii. 15"H Few

'Pink Beauty' - Very like 'Lambrook Mauve' long-flowering silky pink-mauve flowers with slightly bronzing foliage. Fertile soil, sun or part shade. 12"H 15"S

reptans 'Virginia White' - A exciting new low growing hybrid, with large pure white flowers, very good bronzed foliage in Spring. 8" This is good.

POLYGONATUM

humile - A 6in Solomon's Seal, slender stemmed with fat cream flowers. Semi-shade, woodland aspect ideal. Slow ground cover. 6"H

x hybridum 'Striatum' (v) - Foliage striped with creamy white, less vigorous than the green type. It is seldom seen and usually desired on sight, if only I could propagate enough to supply demand. 24"H

POTENTILLA

Foliage often mistaken for strawberries before flowering, the herbaceous varieties are brilliant early Summer flowerers, some even flowering through until Autumn. Well drained, even poor soil in sun. Most offered are divisions of the true plant and not seedlings which can vary. Many will repeat flower if they are deadheaded after the first flush.

alba - Unlike the following as it forms mats of silvery alchemilla-like leaves which are covered with pure white orange-eyed flowers in Spring and again in Autumn. Always admired and a useful frontal ground-cover plant for sun or light shade.

'Arc-en-Ciel' - Double crimson-red flowers the petals of which are edged with yellow. 18"H

'Emilie' - Semi-double mahogany-red flowers with yellow blotches. 18"H

'Flamenco' - One of the most vibrant of the herbaceous Potentilla, this has large deep red, eye-catching flowers with a velvety sheen. 5"H

'Gibson's Scarlet' AGM - An herbaceous potential with flowers of the brightest scarlet, a must for any 'hot border' 12"H

x hopwoodiana - The pick of the bunch - sterile hybrid so extremely long flowering with beautiful bi-coloured flowers of creamy flesh with a rosy centre, don't miss this.18"H

'Melton Fire' - Striking variety with large red flowers streaked with yellow. Flowers from June through August and sometimes beyond. Sun to part shade.Seed12"H

nepalensis 'Miss Willmott' AGM - From among near strawberry-like leaves emerge long sprays of raspberry-pink flowers, dark-eyed for weeks. A good perennial for foreground planting. 18"H

recta var. sulphurea AGM - Hairy divided leaves and ascending stems bear numerous palest yellow flowers, a most desirable and elusive colour. Usually starts flowering in late July then goes on and on with erect many-branched stems bearing innumerable flowers in succession. 24"H

thurberi 'Monarch's Velvet' - Silver leaves, deepest crimson red flowers, one of the best. 18"H

'Volcan' - Large semi-double velvet crimson flowers, silver foliage. An excellent continental introduction. Hopefully a few

'William Rollinson' AGM - A brilliant flower almost semi-double of flame orange with a yellow reverse, silvery foliage. Sun loving plant for any fertile, drained soil 18"H

PRIMULA

Gold Laced Group (poly)(30) - These gold or silver laced primulas resemble a twirling skirt with the petticoat showing. Preferring a shady damp spot they flower for weeks from early Spring to early Summer. Divide primulas at least 3-yearly to keep in good heart. 3"H

'Inverewe' (4) AGM - This legendary candelabra primula of the brightest (almost luminous) orange with white mealy stem is sterile, thus long flowering but slow to bulk up. Needs dividing regularly to keep in good heart. Only a few. 18"H

pulverulenta 'Bartley Pink'(4) - This is considered by some to be the Queen of the candelabra primulas, mealy stems and elegant inflorescence of soft shell pink. Remember candelabras desire retentive, moist soil in light shade or sun. The flowers are in whorls up the stems.

sieboldii (7) AGM - Collected and exhibited like auriculas in Japan, these primroses can equally be grown in the ground or pots, although preferring moisture when in growth, its natural home is hot and dry when dormant in the Summer. Wanders to make wonderful ground-cover. 10"H

ERYSIMUM

'Parish's' - New vigorous and exceptionally long-flowering perennial wallflower. Bushy, about one foot high and about twice as wide, with rich red-purple flowers. 18"H

EUCOMIS bicolor - Bold, late flowering bulbs with fresh, green star shaped leaves. The exotic stout flower stalk bears a cylinder of starry pale green, purple margined blooms capped by a tuft of leafy bracts, so like a green pineapple. Although it does not look hardy, it is, in sunny, well drained soil which is mulched well in winter. 12"H

EUPATORIUM

capillifolium 'Elegant Feather' - A lovely new foliage plant, reaching 8foot on good soil. The fine plumed stems are covered in tiny thread-like bright green leaves. Nothing quite like it. Used very successfully at Wisley in patches along the front of their long border 90"H

purp.mac. 'Atropurpureum' AGM -- I just love this plant because of its impressive height which you don't need to stake, even in my windy garden. The stout dark stems have bright rose-purple fluffyflowers in huge heads which bees and butterflies love. 84"H x 18"S

rugosum 'Chocolate' - Excellent new introduction definitely justifying a place. Chocolate tinted foliage on purple stems following by showy 6in clusters of creamy white flowers in late Summer and early Autumn. Again it is loved by insects seeking nectar later in the season. 48"H

EUPHORBIA

Spurges make handsome foliage plants on most fertile well drained soil. The bracts last for many weeks and most varieties offered are evergreen. CARE SHOULD BE TAKEN when pruning as the sap can be VERY IRRITABLE to skin and BURN the eyes.

amygdaloides 'Craigieburn' - A vigorous form from Scotland, larger leaves and longer lime green bracts than the type, and an added bonus, resistant to mildew. 24"H

mellifera - A handsome evergreen species with honey-scented flowers in Summer. Long, bright green leaves with a prominent pale midrib. Needs a warm sunny and sheltered spot. 60"H 24"

polychrome 'Midas' - Kindly given to me by the National Collection Holder, Don Whitton who considers this one of best garden euphorbias, this superb variety had sturdy stems with slight purple tint. Brilliant, eye-catching yellow florets in April and May and sometimes again in Autumn. Warrants a frontal position. 30"H

rigida - This superior plant may be likened to an erect-growing E.mysinites. Steely blue foliage surrounds the stems and is flushed pink in the cold of winter. Lime green flowers in Spring. Well drained soil, even stony. 18"H x 18"S

schillingii AGM - - This is a wonderful plant for both its flowers and foliage. Clump forming with erect pink stems with handsome leaves of grey green, edged with red and a conspicuous white mid rib, the clear lime-green flowers top the plant from July to October. A good bonus is the good Autumn colour, in shades of yellow and orange. 36"H **Recommended.**

seguieriana subsp. niciciana - A mass of slender stems clad in fine grey green leaves. Large, terminal clusters of yellowish-green flowers for about three months. Sunny, well drained. 18"H

FASCICULARIA bicolor -Terrestrial Bromeliad which can be hardy in warm well drained position. Its leaves are silver until it reaches the stage when the rosette is to flower. Then the leaves turn a spectacular bright red, and can be used in flower arrangements with stunning effect. The flower is an unusual mixture of turquoise blue, pink and yellow. Once the rosette has flowered, it then dies, but by then the plant has produced more rosettes which will flower a year or two later. Can make a spectacular pot plant. Few

FERULA communis - Giant fennel makes a foliage plant 'par excellence' with finely dissected green foliage making large mounds of filigree green lace. The dramatic 8ft flower spikes appear from early Summer, the deep yellow flowers resembling cow parsley. Full sun, well drained. 80"H

FRANCOA

sonchifolia 'Alba' -My favourite white plant, elegant stems with pure white long-lasting flowers. Evergreen rosettes. Well drained soil, sun.. 36"H **Recommended**

GAILLARDIA 'Burgunder' - Long flowering (May to August)with deep wine coloured flowers tipped withyellow. 24"H

GAURA

lindheimeri AGM - Flowers in late Summer when there is nothing else like it. White flowers float for weeks among graceful branches set with small willow-like leaves. Full sun and well-drained soil, plant deeper than in pot. The foliage develops dark spots. 36"H"

- **I. pink (pale)** - I raised some Gaura from seed and noticed that one had rich red foliage, when grown on it retains the foliage but the flowers were a very pleasing pale sugar pink. This is grown from cuttings to ensure it's the same as my original lovely seedling. Flowers all Summer to Autumn long.24"H

GAZANIA 'Aztec' AGM - Previously known as 'cream and purple this silver-leaved Gazania has striking bi-colour flowers cream and purple. Tender. In flower all Summer until the frost. Prefers a hot sunny spot. This can survive outside in well drained soil, its main enemy is the winter wet. 6 "H x10"S

GENTIANA 'Shot Silk' - Amongst the blue gentians this stands out for its flower size and luminous quality to the blue. Lime-free soils. 3"H

NERINE

***bowdenii* AGM** - These elegant pink lily-like flowers are so welcome in Autumn when not much else is at its best. Sun lovers in well drained soil. Plant with nose just showing. Large pots with large bulb and secondary bulbs in. The flowers pick well and last a long time in water.. 20"H

***bowdenii* 'Fenwick's Variety'** - Larger flowers and greater vigour are the attributes of this variety that GSThomas suggested you searched out. Well here it is. Pink flowers. 20"

NICOTIANA *langsdoerffii* AGM - The pale greenish yellow tubular flowers are extremely valuable not only for their lovely colour and form but if planted in midsummer they extend the flower season until the frosts. A semi hardy perennial which always leaves seedlings 24"H

OENOTHERA

Evening Primrose - perennial varieties are excellent in herbaceous beds, some offering striking foliage colours in Spring. Sun or part shade in fertile soil.

***frut.icos* subsp. *glauca*. 'Erica Robin'(v)** - Dramatic yellow and pink Spring foliage. Rich yellow flowers in clusters. 18"H

- ***f. 'Fruhlingsgold'(v)*** - Striking green leaves margined with gold, which fade to cream when in full flower. Yellow flowers. Any soil in sun. 24"H

glabra hort - The distinctive reddish foliage is an added bonus to this perennial evening primrose. Bright yellow flowers in Summer. 24"H

***macrocarpa* AGM** - Many large showy lemon-yellow flowers produced in succession in Summer on foot long sprawling stems. Narrow red-tinted leaves and red stems. The huge four-winged seed pods only produced in hot Summer. Well drained soil in sun. Good with Penstemon cobaea. 8"H

***speciosa* 'Siskiyou'** - Large rose-pink flowers all through the Summer on a low spreading plant. This also makes a great long-flowering pot plant. 8"H

***stricta* 'Sulphurea'** - A particularly beautiful plant with large pale sulphur yellow flowers opening in the late afternoon, turning to a pale orange as they fade. Usually perennial but always self seeds. 24"H

OMPHALODES *cappadocica* 'Cherry Ingram' - Forming dense clumps of crinkled green leaves over which float sprays of intense gentian-blue flowers, larger than forget-me-nots. Excellent ground cover among shrubs. This is a particularly good colour form. 9 "H x 18" S

ORIGANUM

'Kent Beauty' - Selected by Elizabeth Strangman, this has apple-green bracts flushed pink. Needs sharp drainage in full sun. 9"H

***laevigatum* AGM** - One of the longest flowering plants producing bunches of purplish pink flowers in dark calyces. Smooth grey-green leaves, flushed purple underneath and purple stems. Sunny position in almost any soil. 18"H

ORLAYA *grandiflora* - Hardy and self-sowing annual for sunny well drained soil. It is a stunning plant and very well worth growing for its fine ferny foliage with doily-like lacy cream flowers which last for several weeks. Loved on sight. 18"H

OSTEOSPERMUM 'White Pim' AGM - Indestructibly hardy, weed suppressing groundcover for any sunny spot, evergreen, strongly aromatic leaves. Slim buds, show metallic blue-mauve backs to the petals which open to the sun, blushed white daisies with blue centres. 4"H x 12"S

PAEONIA

***lactiflora* 'Krinkled White'** - Herbaceous variety with extra large single snow white flowers with ruffled crepe paper-like petals, the lovely yellow stamens as well as decorative seed heads are added bonus. Good cut flower as well, if you dare. Mid-season 32"H

***mikosewitschii* AGM** - The wonderful 'Molly the Witch' with cool lemon-yellow flowers with golden anthers appear over the clump of soft grey-green downy foliage. It thrives in any sunny position with good drainage. 24"H" - 2 and 3 year old plants

PAPAVER

***orientale* 'Karine' AGM** - Excellent new variety has clear salmon pink saucer-shaped flowers with a pale cerise blotch at base. Shapely plant with upright habit. 24"H

***orientale* 'Patty's Plum'** - One of the 'In' plants, but don't hold that against it because the colour of the flowers is mouth-watering, like squashed blackcurrant with a dash of cream. Don't put it in full sun otherwise it fades rather nastily.

PARAHEBE *catarractae* AGM - An evergreen bushy plant with light lilac flowers in the Summer and again in Autumn. Can be cut back hard to retain shape. 10"H

PATRINIA

scabiosifolia - Useful late flowering from July to October with vibrant yellow flat heads. 30"H, This looks wonderful in the Wisley borders and is one of my most requested plants.

triloba - Will grow in sun in good soil, but also lightens a shaded corner with fresh sprays of small lemon yellow flowers, held above neat round deeply lobed leaves. Useful late-flowering plant for rock garden or front of border. A very nice little plant which is considered worthwhile by all who buy it. 8"H

PELARGONIUM

'Ardens' - Bright red flowers with very dark purple brown marks on the petals. Wonderful and eye-catching plant. (cross *P. fulgidum* x *lobatum*). Slow to make a good plant. Requires careful watering, feeding and pruning to make an excellent pot plant. Not hardy. 12"H

'Lord Bute' (R) AGM - One of the oldest and one of the loveliest. Deep maroon, almost black, edged crimson flowers. Much used at Sissinghurst for Summer bedding schemes. 12"H"

'Voodoo' (U) AGM - Clusters of pale wine-red flowers, blazed with purple-black on each petal. Fantastic.

reniforme - Erect sub-shrub with tuberous roots, becoming woody at base with age. Kidney shaped leaves, grey-green with velvety texture. Deep magenta flowers in terminal clusters. 30"H

GERANIUM

- ***m. 'Czakov'*** - Deep magenta-purple. 10"H

- ***m. 'Lohfelden'*** - Very pale pink, almost white, veined deeper pink. 4"H

- ***m. 'Pindus'*** - A dwarf form with bright magenta-pink flowers collected by Bill Baker in the Pindus Mountains of Northern Greece 8"H

- ***m. 'White Ness'*** - At last a pure white variety, held in green calyces, the foliage is different too, it's a pleasing apple-green. 6"H

maculatumalbiflorum - The desirable white form, with handsome shiny leaves. Flower 1in shallow bowl-shaped in clusters. Fertile soil in part shade. 24"H

- ***m. 'Chatto'*** - Large pink flowers, early flowering 15"H

- ***m. 'Espresso'*** - I prefer a cappuccino myself but there is no doubt that it is the striking chocolate brown leaves that make this new American selection a very desirable plant. The pink flowers appear from late Spring. A very useful shade plant which can also grow in sun. 24"H

***nodosum* 'Whiteleaf'** - A particularly useful long-flowering shade plant with very strongly veined purple-magenta flowers, edged with white. Named after the house where it was found and not after its glossy green leaves. Clump-forming. 18"H

'Norah Bremner' - Magnificent variety, but alas so difficult to propagate, but well worth the slightly more expensive price. Soft violet blue, white eyed large flowers, over leafy clump

'Nunwood Purple' - Spectacular large purple/blue flowers, nicely veined, for a long season. 18"H-

'Orion' - A real star, this has exceptionally large deep blue flowers with indigo veining. It puts on a show almost without equal in Spring and again late Summer. One of the best new hardy geranium introductions. 20"H

x *oxonianum* 'Southcombe Double' - Plants grow to about 15" high and wide and have double pom-pom-like flowers of a unusual yellowish pink similar to Wargrave Pink. A worthwhile and pretty plant, not as vigorous as other oxonianum hybrids. 15"H

- ***o. 'Phoebe Nobel'*** - Strong purplish red flowers produced in quantity from May to Sept. A midsummer haircut is advisable for all oxonianums, fresh leaves and flowers are produced. 10"H

'Patricia' - Considered by many to be one of the best new hybrids this has large metallic magenta flowers with prominent maroon veins and centre. In flower from May to October 24"H

phaeum - Invaluable for their ability to withstand and even thrive in deep, dry shade, these evergreen plants are long-flowering and make excellent woodland plants. The reflexed flowers are plentifully produced. The following 5 forms are offered:

- ***p. 'All Saints'*** - Very pretty almost white flushed pink flowers on strong 2ft stems.

- ***p. 'Caligrapher'*** - Flowers with strongly ruffled petals, the edge and base of which are suffused bluish-purple, the centre is very pale with conspicuous violet veins. A very pretty cultivar much commented upon. 24"H

- ***p. 'Margaret Wilson'(v)*** - Spectacularly variegated leaves - slow growing to 9in with violet-blue flowers. Very rare variety, seldom offered. Slow to increase but reliable. Expensive because each plant gives only one division per year, necessitating a large stock. 9"H

- ***p. 'Samobor'*** - A wonderful foliage plant each leaf heavily zoned chocolate brown, typical red-brown flowers. 36"H

- ***p. var. lividum* 'Joan Baker'** - Strong growing with pale lavender flowers 1in across with a distinctive darker ring near the centre. Named after Bill Baker's wife. 36"H

***pratense* 'Mrs Kendall Clark' AGM** - Flowers of a pearly-grey (pale violet blue) flushed with a white veining making it appear paler. Handsome deeply divided leaves making a fine clump. Good in herbaceous borders flowering in June, July, sometimes August 24"H

- ***p. Midnight Reiter strain*** - Fantastic foliage plant - keeps these deep leaves most of the season although they do lighten a little. Bowl shaped blue flowers. 6"H hopefully a few.

***Psilostemon* 'Goliath'** - Originated from Axeltree but seldom offered, this may be the largest Geranium to date. Exceptional foliage plant making a magnificent statement, usual magenta black-eyed flowers, just bigger. Takes time to settle down and reach its full potential. 6ftH

***pyrenaicum* 'Bill Wallis'** - Much finer than the type with deep bluish flowers and altogether a much tidier and more desirable plant.

***renardii* 'Tcschelda'** - Sage-green textured foliage blue flowers in June and July. Sun well drained soil. Newish hybrid. 10"H

x *river. 'Russell Pritchard' AGM* - One of the longest flowering plants in cultivation with a continuous display from June onwards. Bright magenta-pink blooms over a mat of greyish green leaves. Dislikes winter wet, so put in sunny well drained soil. 9"H x 24"S

- ***r. 'Mavis Simpson'*** - Makes mats of grey-green leaves covered with endless, silvery shell-pink flowers on thin trailing stems all Summer to Autumn. Front of border, rock garden, low wall or bank in sun. Lovely with purple foliage plants. 10"H x 36"S

'Salome' - Mounds of golden early leaves with striking smoldering pale violet flowers with a deep violet eye from Summer to late Autumn. Part or full shade, moist well-drained soil. 4"H 24"S

sanguineum - All make leafy hummocks from which a succession of flowering stems emerge providing colour from Summer until Autumn. They are easy to grow and make fine plants for rockeries or front of borders. Seven distinct varieties are offered:

- ***s. 'Ankum's Pride'*** - Popular, easy to grow, making mounds and free flowering from May to October. Striking very large bright pink flowers. 6" x 12"S

- ***s. 'Belle of Herterton'*** - Differs from other sanguineum varieties in that the large dark pink flowers pale as they age. In flower May to October. Sun well drained soil. 24"H

very easily removed. 6"H x 12"S

LAMIUM

maculatum 'Pink Pewter' - Totally silvered leaves with crinkly green margins, make a perfect setting for the pleasing sugar pink flowers. 8"H x12"S

Earlvile - A beautiful non-invasive clump-forming dead-nettle with pairs of dark, pointed strongly veined leaves. The flower clusters are a subtle shade of coppery pink. At home in shade anywhere. 12"H

LATHYRUS

aureus - The fresh yellowish green leaves make a dense clump, and every shoot is tipped with erect heads of pea-flowers of a subdued brownish amber. Coppery foliage nearby brings it to life. 18"H

odoratus 'Capeen' - This eye-catching variety with flowers a deep maroon upper petal and violet lower petal was introduced in 1699 by Father Capeen. Its intoxicating scent can perfume a garden. Grows to about 6ft. 72"H You need to keep the seed for next year, it can self-seed but mice often get there first.

sativus var 'Aureus' - The striking blue flowers have red marks on them which look hand painted. It is very useful for scrambling though other plants or in pot. Annual ,

LESPEDEZA capitata - American prairie 'Round headed Bush clover' grows to about 2/3ft and has tiny creamy-white, pea-like flowers with a magenta spot at the base in dense rounded heads from July to September. Prefers average to dry soil in Sun or light shade. 30"H

LEUCANTHEMUM

More easily recognized as Shasta Daisies, these robust clump forming perennials flower from early Summer to Autumn. Fertile soil in sun or part shade. Most are excellent picked and loved by flower arrangers.

x superbum 'Aglaia'(d) AGM - Short, sturdy variety with good white flowers which are double feathered, one of the best. 15"H

-s. 'Cobham Gold'(d) - A beautiful new variety with semi-double flowers a soft golden shade. Reaching 15-18" best suited to a frontal position. 18"H

-s. 'Schneehurken'(d) - A short version with white double flowers with a cut edge. Good for flower arrangers. 18"H

x s. 'T.E.Killen'(d)AGM - One of the best for cutting this has extra large flowers with double rows of white petals with a crested gold centre. 30"H

LIBERTIA

'Amazing Grace' - Valuable evergreen with narrow leaves and clouds of small three-petalled pure white flowers in May and June. (Ixiodes x grandiflora cross). 36"H

peregrinans - Individual fans form clumps of very narrow, stiff leaves with such wide central veins stained orange, the entire plant gives off an orange glow, especially in winter. Increases by running stolons so babies may appear some way off. 18"H

LIGULARIA denticata 'Britt-Marie Crawford' - NEW - The deepest and darkest leaved form, the chocolate-maroon coloured leaves being purple on the reverse. Orange-yellow flowers in August and September. Spectacular leaves for 9 months. 24"H

LINARIA purpurea 'Springside White' - A particularly lovely white form of slender white antirrhinum-like flowers over an array of narrow greying leaves. Probably prefers poor soil for better flowers as do the other varieties 24"H

LINUM

perenne - Perennial flax. Much valued for its graceful slender habit and silky clear blue flowers which are replaced daily leaving a mass of blue petals on the ground. Well drained soil, in sun, moderately fertile. 20"H

- p. album - As above but with pure white glistening flowers. 18"H

LIRIOPE muscari 'Silvery Midget'(v) - Unsure this is the correct name but this is a rare miniature silver variegated Liriope obtained from the national collection (unnamed!). Makes effective frontal ground cover in any soil, including very dry. 3"H

LOBELIA

Not your bedding variety but stately herbaceous plants flowering many weeks from Summer to Autumn. Deep fertile moistish soil suit them best. In Spring slug precautions are needed or they will succumb to their ravages. In cold areas mulch well in Autumn.

'Fan Tiefert'(Fan Deep Red)AGM - Deepest red variety for deep moistish soil. 30"H

'Peter's Pink' - Kindly given to me by a dear friend, this probably has another name, lost the mists of time. It has been perfectly hardy growing in a boggy position for several years and has large sugar pink showy flowers. 36"H

'Ruby Slippers' - The top American breeder of this considers it one of his top introductions. The ruby-garnet flowers last longer than most other lobelias. 32"H

'Russian Princess' - Elegant plant with dark purple leaves, and stunning flowers of deep magenta. 30"H

'Tania' - Crimson purple, hardy and long flowering. Flowers a rich crimson purple. 42"H

cardinalis. 'Queen Victoria' AGM - The beetroot-red leaves combine with brilliantly scarlet flowers to create a wonderful effect. 24"H

laxiflora angustifolia -Different in appearance to the above this has many ascending stems producing lots of narrow dark green leaves and lots of narrow, tubular red and yellow flowers, creating a unique display for weeks. Hardy in well drained soil in sun, but not too dry. 24"H

LOESELIA mexicana - Newly introduced half-hardy perennial adorned in each leaf axil with slender crimson trumpets which on closer inspection have extended lower lips and prominent black anthers. This has flowered all winter and is still going. Easy from cuttings. 20"H

HEBE

'Simon Delaux' - One of the best speciosa hybrids, making a good rounded shrub .Reddish brown branches, large deep green leaves, flushed purple. 4" bright deep crimson flowers spikes from mid Summer to Autumn. Needs a warm spot to give of its best, hardy to -5C. 48"H

stenophylla - A Summer long succession of long racemes of white flowers, tinged lilac on this graceful narrow green-leaved species with striking brown stems making a good open-textured shrub. This was H. parviflora angustifolia and its name change is due to the flavonoid chemistry (whatever that is)

HEBENSTRETIA dura - Long flowering bushy, grey-leaved perennial, with many strong upright stems of small white flowers conspicuously marked with an orange blotch in the throat. South African plants which are hardy with good drainage. In flower from Summer until the Frosts. 18"H x 24"H. Hopefully

HEDYCHUM

coccineum 'Tara' AGM - Superb, strong growing with 6ft leafy shoots and glaucous foliage. In late Summer the large orange-red flowers are a real show-stopper. Tara is one of the hardiest and reliable 'Ginger Lilies' which still benefits from winter mulching.

gardnerianum AGM - Butterfly-like highly fragrant yellow flowers with red-stamens appear in late Summer. This spectacular rhizomatous ginger is a native of India and the Himalayas, growing to a height of 4 to 6ft. 2ft long leaves and flowers spikes 18in long. Min. temp 2C. 60"H

HELIANTHUS 'Lemon Queen' - Atop strong seven foot stems the cloud of citrus yellow sunflowers start in August and go through to October. Non-invasive , clump-forming stately plant loved by bees and hoverflies. Gives great architectural feature in any border. 84"H

HELENIUM

The 'Backbone' of the late Summer garden, GS Thomas calls them, flowering from July with stout stems with branching sprays of various coloured daisies usually with a brown central knob. Tried by the RHS and thus the AGMs are bang up to date. I may also have a few plants of one or two other varieties.

'Biedermeier' - Flowering from August this bicoloured variety has rich yellow tips with a bright red band, the petals reflex when mature. 48"H

'Indiansommer' - Bright well-petalled copper-red flowers with bright yellow centre flowering in July and August. 40"H

'Karneol' AGM - Very floriferous with overlapping petals of soft Terracotta, rusty orange-red flowers. The green eye matures to brown. 72"H

'Moerheim Beauty' AGM - Excellent variety and one of the longest flowering. Uniform rich dark orange-red flowers surrounding dark brown eye. 48"H

'Riverton Beauty' - Clean egg yellow flowers with slight red marking on reverse of petals. 40"H

'Rubinzweg' AGM - Rubinzweg means Red Gnome in German. Masses of mahogany-red flowers, like a particularly rich Moreham Beauty, but a much better colour.30"H. Very few

'Sahin's Early Flowerer' AGM - Long flowering with good sized rich bright yellow and orange flowers with dark brown centres. Starts flowering earlier than others and goes on and on. Picked up an AGM in the recent Wisley trials. 36"H

'Waldtraut' AGM - Two shaded flowers, golden overlaid with copper orange petals, the rusty orange undersides mature to soft orange. Brown centres. 48"H

'Wyndley' - Early and compact variety with golden yellow flowers conspicuously splashed with red, giving a coppery effect. 24"H

HEMEROCALLIS

Day Lilies - wonderful, easy plants, best in sun in fertile, humus-rich soil, some are fragrant and all make good ground cover. The flowers and buds are considered a delicacy in China, fresh and just withered flowers are good additions to salads.

'Arctic Snow'(Ext) - Five inch ivory-white flowers with green throat - recommended as one of the best whites by an Amateur Breeder. July. 30"H

'Chicago Apache'(T) - Seven inch intense red flowers with ruffled edges in July 30"H

'Chicago Sunrise' - Broad yellow flowers with a deeper yellow throat in June and July 30"H

'Custard Candy'(R and T) - Four inch sturdy rounded creamy-yellow flowers, the petals edged with gold and a eye-catching maroon eye-zone and a green throat. Dependable variety, growing well with lots of flowers, and a multiple award winner. June and July flowering. 24"H

'El Desperado'(Ext, T) - Four inch mustard-yellow flower with purple eye-zone, red edge and green throat. Recent award winner. August. 30"H

'Elizabeth Salter'(R, T) - Considered by many to be the best pink, five inch pale pink flowers with green throat. Recent award winner. July and August. 20"H

'Frans Hals' - Long blooming variety with striking bicoloured flowers of cinnamon and apricot. Lots of flowers in mid-season. 30"H

'Jenny Wren' - Free flowering variety with small elegant pale bronze flowers. 24"H

'Joan Senior' - Wonderful white petals stained green in the throat from July to September 20"H

lilioasphodelus AGM - This lovely old species has been grown since the sixteenth century. Perfect lily-shaped flowers of clear light yellow are very sweetly scented, lovely in early Summer. 30"H

'Summer Wine' - Good flowers of good substance and a eye-catching maroon red from June to September. 24"H

HEPATICA transsilvanica 'De Buis' - Vigorous and free flowering Dutch cultivar with mid-blue large flowers. Hepaticas acidic soil, a bit of shade and not too dry. This one clumps up well.