

Hot New Annuals plus Old Favorites

~Don Kinzler, NDSU Extension Horticulture Agent/Cass County

Annual Flowers are those we typically enjoy for one growing season, until frost ends the show. Annuals are stars of container gardens, window boxes, and in-ground flower beds.

Plant breeders have been prolific! Current breeding efforts emphasize containers, heat-loving, easy care, self-cleaning (no deadheading needed), vibrant or clear colors, and all-season bloom.

Wave Petunias started a hot new trend over 30 years ago.

Besides the original Purple Wave Petunia, entire series have been built, including Shock Wave, Easy Wave, Tidal Wave and Original Wave with dozens of colors within each series.

New Cultivars previewed during this program:

Carmine Velour Wave Petunia

Supertunia Vista Series including the popular Bubblegum

Supertunia Mini-Vista Pink Cloud

Supertunia Hoopla Series Vivid Orchid

Bees Knees Petunia

Calibrachoa (aka Million Bells) Superbells Series including Coral Sun and Black Currant Punch

Petchoa (breeding breakthrough crossing petunia and calibrachoa) Enviva Pink

Big Duck Yellow Marigold

Mango Tango Marigold

Sunfinity Double Yellow Sunflower

SunBelievable Brown Eyed Girl Helianthus Sunflower

Coleus – too many great new vegetative varieties to mention them all

Premium Sun Coral Candy Coleus

Kong Series of Coleus

Beacon Series Impatiens including Blue Pearl – Resistant to Impatiens Downy Mildew disease

Imara XDR Series Impatiens – Resistant to Impatiens Downy Mildew disease

Megabloom Vinca series

Profusion and Zahara Zinnia series

Profusion Double White Improved Zinnia

Profusion Red and Yellow Bicolor Zinnia

Zahara Starlight Rose Zinnia

Sweet Potato Vines – new color shades

A Few Old Favorites

Cleome – Tall Queen Series and Dwarf Sparkler Series

Lisianthus

Lemon Gem Marigold

Victoria Blue Salvia

Sweet Pea Vines