

MICHIGAN GARDENER

Your guide to Great Lakes gardening 🌿 June 2011 🌿 MichiganGardener.com

PLANT FOCUS

Astilbe



INSIDE:

Feature: New Perennials for 2011

Garden Profile: Bewitched by butterflies

Weed Watch: Motherwort

Tree Tips: Understanding and preventing disease

Perennial Perspectives: Betony (*Stachys*)

FREE

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June is National Rose Month.

Telly's has cultivated a reputation for offering the finest collection of high quality roses available anywhere. We offer a selection of roses that everyone, even the most casual gardener, can grow and enjoy. Our offerings include the 2011 All-America Rose Winners 'Dick Clark' and 'Walking on Sunshine,' Hardy Shrub Roses, Knock Outs, breathtaking Hybrid Teas, Floribundas, fragrant English Roses, Easy Elegance Roses, Own Root Roses, Climbing Roses and many more.



**Welcome to where
Summer always
comes up roses.**

At Telly's, Summer is our time to bloom.

From roses to perennials to annuals and beyond, we truly are a summer gardener's paradise. Come in for a visit and let us make your season really bloom.

Telly's June Events

Spring Rose Show

Saturday-Sunday, June 11-12
Presented by The Detroit Rose Society
See www.detroitrosesociety.org
for information

39th Annual Bonsai Show

Saturday-Sunday, June 25-26
Presented by Four Seasons
Bonsai Club of Michigan
See www.fourseasonsbonsai.com for info

contents

June 2011

To-Do List.....	6
Ask MG.....	8
The Vegetable Patch.....	11
Healthy Lawns.....	13
Advertiser Index.....	13
Tree Tips.....	14
Garden TV.....	16
Perennial Perspectives.....	17
Where to pick up <i>Michigan Gardener</i>	18
2011 Perennial Plant of the Year.....	19
Classified Ads.....	23
Weather Wrap.....	24
Subscription Form.....	24
Calendar.....	25
Places to Grow.....	28
Books for the Michigan Gardener.....	30
New Perennials for 2011.....	31
Profile: Butterfly Gardeners.....	34
Weed Watch.....	37
Janet's Journal.....	Back Cover

On the cover: Astilbe adds a burst of color to shade gardens between spring and fall.

Photo: Eric Hoffee / Michigan Gardener



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Plant Focus: Astilbe..... 20

Garden Wisdom

If you have a garden and a library, you have everything you need.

—Marcus Tullius Cicero

New Perennials FOR 2011



Julia
Hofley



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'Shockwave' Phlox

'Shockwave' is a variegated sport of 'David's Lavender' phlox which is, of course, an offspring of the award-winning, white 'David' upon which most garden phlox are compared to today. Shocking yellow and green foliage will brighten up your border and in the summer, the foliage lightens up to a creamy yellow with large clusters of fragrant, lavender-pink flowers centered with a white starburst. 12 to 18 inches tall and 12 inches wide. Full sun. Zone 4.



Van Bourgondien/dutchbulbs.com

'Magic Star'



Gene Sasse/Courtesy of Weeks Roses

'Pink Home Run' Rose

All from one lone branch that had sported (mutated) to produce pink blossoms from the original red Home Run rose comes the Pink Home Run rose. As such, the new pink version will have the same fantastic attributes as the original red. If you've grown the original Home Run, you know what I'm writing about. It's known as a "landscape" rose because, put simply, it performs without handholding. Glossy leaves, remarkably clean of black spot as well as powdery and downy mildew, support a flowering rose bush that blooms all season long. It has a slight fragrance and clusters of single, medium pink flowers with a petal count of 5. Full sun. 3-1/2 to 4 feet tall and 5 to 6 feet wide. Zone 4.



Van Bourgondien/dutchbulbs.com

'Lodewijk'

Double Oriental Lilies

With their double and sometimes triple row of flower petals, these are certainly not your Grandma's lilies. Garden visitors will also smell their fragrance before they come upon them in your garden. While they have the classic, intense Oriental lily scent, it's the unusual, fully double flowers that sets them apart. These flowers are pollen-less, making them better cut flowers for the table—you won't stain yourself or your tablecloth while arranging. The flowers eventually grow to a very large size and may take a year or two in the garden to reach maturity. Available in 5 different varieties: 'Magic Star,' 'Lodewijk,' 'Soft Music,' 'Serene Angel,' or 'Distant Drum.' 32 to 40 inches tall, they need excellent drainage and full sun. Zone 3.

continued on page 32

continued from page 31



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'Hocus Pocus' Veronica

Showy flowers of long, violet-purple wands are well-branched and extend the bloom time of this new speedwell (*Veronica*). The uniform habit and short, clean foliage support a garden-worthy plant that was hybridized in Michigan. 16 to 20 inches tall and 12 inches wide. Full sun to part sun. Zone 4.

Pretty Lady Series Japanese Anemones

There's a new series of Japanese anemones that are newsworthy for gardeners who have been bullied for space by older cultivars of Japanese anemones and have regretted or avoided growing them. These diminutive ladies display a dwarf habit and floriferous nature with masses of flowers reaching over 2 inches in diameter. They are 'Pretty Lady Diana' (single pink), 'Pretty Lady Emily' (double light pink), and 'Pretty Lady Susan' (single pink). They would work well in fall containers, along a path, or at the front of the border. I think they are pretty as a picture. 16 inches tall and 20 inches wide. Moist but not wet soil, full sun to part shade. Zone 5.



Blooms of Bressingham

'Pretty Lady Emily'



Terra Nova Nurseries

'Solar Eclipse' Heucherella

For shade gardeners always on the hunt for something different to grow, 'Solar Eclipse' has interesting, large cut leaves of red-brown bordered in lime green, making a nice addition to hostas, ferns, and other shady characters. This cross between a coral bell (*Heuchera*) and a foamflower (*Tiarella*) will form a vigorous mound of dense crowns. 10 inches tall and 16 inches wide. Full sun to shade. Zone 4.



Terra Nova Nurseries

'Amethyst Gem'

'Winter Jewels' Hellebores

From world-renowned hellebore hybridizer Marietta O'Byrne comes an entire line of double hellebores that are now available in individual colors, not just as a mix, which takes the guessing out of what you are planting. Perfect for the sophisticated collector gardener who is very discriminating with each gem they add to their jewel box garden. 'Amethyst Gem' has amethyst-rose double flowers margined in pink that last many weeks in early spring, delighting the color-starved Michigan gardener. 12 inches tall and 24 inches wide. Sun to shade. Zone 5.



Walters Gardens, Inc.

'American Hero' Hosta

This "Made in Michigan" hosta is a sport of 'Revolution' and has wider, dark green margins and a creamy white to pure white center speckled with green and lavender flowers. For every plant sold, Walters Gardens, a Michigan-based wholesale perennial producer, will donate 25 cents to Project EverGreen, a national non-profit organization and founder of GreenCare for Troops. The mission of GreenCare for Troops is to provide free lawn and landscape services to U.S. military families at home while their loved ones serve in the Armed Forces. The funds raised through the sale of Hosta 'American Hero' will go directly toward supporting over 9,000 military families registered for the program. To learn more, visit www.ProjectEvergreen.com. 12 inches tall and 18 inches wide. Shade to part shade. Zone 3.



Walters Gardens, Inc.

'Ruby Spider' Daylily

An award-winning daylily that has huge, dark ruby-red flowers with long, spoon-shaped petals that open wide and flat, displaying the large, golden yellow throat and matching mid-ribs. Strong stalks support larger flowers and more blooms per stem. Now that's flower power! 34 inches tall and 21 inches wide. Full sun.