



NEWS FROM SOQUEL NURSERY GROWERS

July 2010

Open weekdays 8 am to 4:30 pm

What Does Soquel Have?

We have several options to keep you informed of what we have available:

By mail: Once a month we send out this newsletter and availability by postal mail.

By fax: We update our availability every Friday. If you need the most current copy, call and ask for one. We can also fax it to you automatically every week.

By email: You may receive our availability every Friday by email. We send it as an attachment in two different formats: PDF and Windows Excel 2000.

Our website: www.soquelnursery.com has our weekly availability list without prices. The web edition of this newsletter has photos of our featured plants.

Our email address is info@soquelnursery.com

If you would like to be put on or taken off any of these lists please call (831) 475-3533.

Gaillardia Oranges & Lemons

This lovely **Gaillardia** has ruffled semi-double petals with serrated tips. The center is orange and the petals are peachy-gold with yellow tips. **'Oranges & Lemons'** will bloom throughout the summer and fall. Its growth habit is more upright than other Gaillardias, growing to about 2' x 2'. Moist, well-drained soil is best, but it will tolerate heat and drought. Leave the spent flowers on so birds can enjoy the seeds. Grow in full sun.

Rudbeckias

Sunny and golden, carefree and easy...No flower says "Summer" like **Rudbeckia**, also known as **Gloriosa Daisy** or **Black Eyed Susan**. These are all hybrids of **Rudbeckia hirta**, a short-lived perennial usually grown as an annual. They thrive in many climates and soil types. They bloom for months and months and make wonderful cut flowers. Grow in full sun with moderate water. Drip irrigation or a soaker hose is best to avoid wetting the leaves.

Cordoba: Deep orange single flowers with golden tips and dark brown centers. Compact mounding habit to 20" x 20".

Indian Summer: Huge golden yellow flowers with dark brown centers. 40" tall.

Irish Eyes: Single yellow flowers with unique green center. 18" tall.

Maya: Large, fully double golden flowers. 18"x 10".

Prairie Sun: Unique and striking flower with green center and petals that are dark yellow at the base and pale yellow at the tips. 32" tall.

Sonora: Yellow and burgundy flowers with dark brown centers. 18" tall.

Tiger Eye: Long-lasting, 3" semi-double golden blooms with brown centers. Bushy growth habit to 18"-24" tall. Very mildew resistant.

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Alstroemerias

This year we are growing three of the 'Little Miss' series of clonal **Alstroemerias** in 2-gallon cans. Also known as **Peruvian Lilies, Inca Lilies, or Princess Lilies, Alstroemerias** are exotically striped and spotted flowers that resemble orchids or lilies. The 'Little Miss' series is very compact and mounding to about 1' x 1'. Clonal varieties have a long bloom season from spring to fall. Grow them in well-drained soil in cool sun or light shade with medium water. They will appear on our availability list as "**Alstroemerias Clonal Assorted**".

Little Miss Christine: White with pink stripe

Little Miss Sophie: Pale peach with pink and yellow stripes

Little Miss Tara: Deep reddish-pink with yellow stripes

Brugmansia

Brugmansia, sometimes called **Angel's Trumpets** or **Datura**, are large shrubs with fragrant trumpet-shaped flowers. **Brugmansia** was formerly included in the genus **Datura**, which now contains only the more vining or sprawling forms. We have three varieties in five-gallon cans. They grow fast and won't like being in such a small container for long, so plant them now! They won't bloom much until they are bigger. **Brugmansia** do best in rich, moist soil in a sheltered spot with light shade. The flowers are intensely fragrant at night. All parts of the plant are poisonous if ingested. They are somewhat frost hardy once established, but will die back a bit in the winter. Prune them heavily every spring and fertilize to refresh.

Betty Marshall: Dwarf variety to 4' x 4'. White flowers.

Charles Grimaldi: To 8' x 8'. Golden yellow-orange flowers.

Frosty Pink: To 7' x 7'. Pale peachy-pink flowers.

Gorgeous Gauras

We have both **Gaura lindheimeri (White Beeblossom)** and **Gaura 'Siskyou Pink.'** They are spectacular in the summer and fall, when they look like a cloud of little pink or white butterflies. The foliage of 'Siskyou Pink' is dark purple. Sometimes the leaves will be covered with darker purple spots, which may appear to be a disease, but is a naturally occurring pigment that will spread out into a mottled look as the leaves mature. **Gaura** is not bothered much by pests or diseases. It has a deep taproot, which makes it drought tolerant but also makes it difficult to transplant. Give it a sunny spot with good drainage and it will grow to about 3' x 2', beautifying your garden for years. If it sprawls you can prune it a bit, but its open, airy form is part of what makes it so lovely.

Solidago 'Little Lemon'

The wild **Solidago**, or **Golderod**, is native to the Eastern U.S. The hybrid '**Little Lemon**' is the most compact, only 8"-10" tall and wide. It has bright green foliage and spikes of fuzzy yellow flowers. **Solidago** makes a great cut flower and does not cause hay fever, as is widely believed. Butterflies love it, but deer and rabbits do not. **Solidago 'Little Lemon'** is very easy to grow in sun or light shade in just about any soil, requiring no supplemental fertilizer. It needs very little water once established. It blooms summer through fall and needs only an occasional light pruning to refresh it. This is a cute and sturdy perennial for the front of a border, container garden, or an informal meadow area.