



Perennial Plant Association

Blue false indigo (*Baptisia australis*) is the **Perennial Plant Association's** 2010 Perennial Plant of the Year. It grows 3 to 4

ft. tall and 3 to 4 ft. wide in an upright habit. It grows across a wide range of zones and is one of the most adaptable native species. Newly emerging shoots produce violet-blue, lupine-like flowers in erect 10- to 12-in. racemes atop flower stems, extending well above the foliage mound of clover-like, trifoliolate, bluish-green leaves. The spring flowers are present for three to four weeks. The flowers give way to inflated seed pods, which turn to an ornamental charcoal black when ripe. PerennialPlant.org



In Coleus we trust

Ball Horticultural Co.'s low-maintenance Trusty Rusty *Coleus* shines everywhere it's planted, and its large copper leaves are outlined in golden yellow. It is a vigorous and versatile plant and superior performer. Pairing with complementary varieties adds height, texture and contrast to combination plantings in both sun and shade. A free Landscape Resource CD about this and other Ball plants is available online at Ball's Web site. BallLandscape.com

Delicious 'dragons

New Aromas Intermediate Snapdragons were bred by **Goldsmith Seeds** for spring sales. Because they're very receptive to plant growth regulators, they're also cost-efficient. In the garden, the fragrant, well-branched plants produce numerous strong stems that resist lodging. They are available in seven colors (including French Vanilla, pictured) and a mixture. The upright plants reach 24 to 30 in. tall and spread 12 to 14 in. They bloom in spring and summer in relatively cool-weather areas, and in winter and spring in warm winter, hot summer areas. GoldsmithSeeds.com



Make a splash

The vigorous, variegated *Acanthus* Whitewater PPAF PVR from **Terra Nova** has striking, bold leaves with white margins and "splashing." It makes a large clump with 4- to 5-ft.-tall ornamental flower stalks of pink and cream in summer. This was bred with *A. Summer Beauty* for vigor, more hardiness, and heat and humidity tolerance. It is tolerant of most soils, but prefers the soil to be deep, fertile, moist and well-drained. TerraNovaNurseries.com



Beauty for a cause

Not only is Invincibelle Spirit the Holy Grail of the first pink mop-head *Hydrangea arborescens*, but it is also dedicated to help raise money for breast cancer research. Proven Winners is dedicated to raise at least \$1 million, with \$1 donated to the Breast Cancer Research Foundation for each Invincibelle Spirit sold. This new "Annabelle" **Proven Winners ColorChoice** is particularly special because its flowers emerge a dark, hot pink color and mature to a rich clear pink. As a continuous bloomer, it produces new mop-head flowers from early summer until frost for a grand and beautiful seasonal display. ProvenWinners.com



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