NEW CULTIVARS < livescapes



Love at first blush

As the first of the michelia hybrids by New Zealand breeder Mark Jury to be released in the U.S., **Tesselar**'s Fairy Magnolia Blush delivers lilac-pink, lightly fragrant flowers, preceded by velvet-textured, russet-colored buds and accompanied by evergreen foliage — resembling a camellia without the gloss. The upright, compact, bushy shrub reaches 8 ft. high by 6 ft. wide, and is hardy in Zones 7b through 10. It blooms in late winter to early spring when sited in full sun to partial shade. **Tesselaar.com**

Fabulous phlox

Phlox Early Start is a series of new hybrids bred in Holland and offered as liners from **Pacific Plug and Liner**. Early Starts are most notable for their ability to flower four to six weeks earlier than traditional paniculata type phlox, according to the company. Currently available in three colors — pink, light pink (pictured) and velvet — it offers a nicely compact plant with flowers that will reach 8 to 12 in. while in the container. The appearance of Early Starts is similar to other paniculata phlox, but with smaller and more abundant blooms. The fragrant plants are densely branched and will put on an impressive show of color from April to July. **PPandL.net**



Snapless snapdragon

Twinny Peach from Hem Genetics is a double, or butterfly, flower form that does not have jaws or joints. With distinct, soft shades of peach, yellow and light orange, the heat-tolerant plant rewards a full sun garden with abundant flower spikes. Plants will continue to flower all season with little garden care, according to the company. HemGenetics.com



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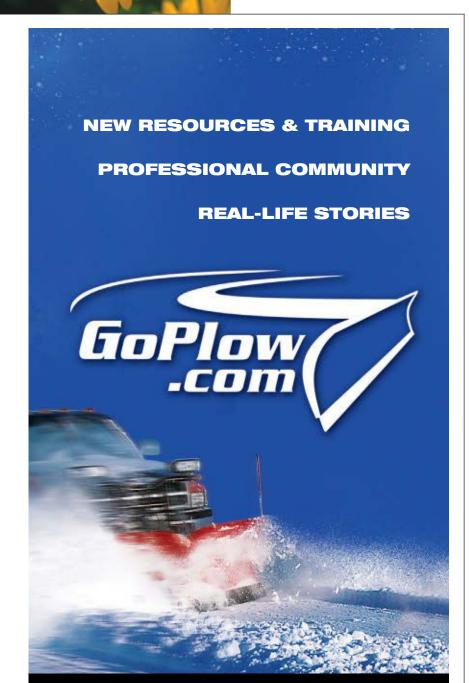
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AMERICA

WINNER

Ball's award-winning, first year-flowering perennial Gaillardia, Mesa Yellow, flowers early and fills landscapes quickly. It maintains a controlled height of 16 to 18 in. without "flopping" over. Drought tolerant once established, Mesa Yellow shows intense, non-fading color all season on upright, well-branched plants.
BallLandscape.com



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Early-season color splash

Monrovia's Sun Parasol Mandevillas are hybrids that have been available in North America for just a few years. Sun Parasols are valued for their intense flower color and glossy foliage. They are floriferous and will bloom with shorter daylight hours, so clients can enjoy the flowers as early as February, depending on variety. Colors include Giant Crimson, Giant Pink and Stars and Stripes. Monrovia.com



Orange intensity

The fade-resistant, double blooms of **Syngenta Flowers'** Moonsong Deep Orange hybrid African marigold make others look more golden than orange. The flower size ranges from 2.5 to 3.5 in. Plants will flower in about 70 days under short days or 84 days under long-day growing conditions. The vigorous, stress-tolerant plants will reach 12 to 15 in. tall. Over the summer, the old blooms will be covered with green foliage, which keeps the plants looking fresh throughout the season. **Syngenta-Flowers.com**