



ARISTRIAL GARDEN @GREEN LEAF PLANTS

SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS 2023

11/2/2023

Please contact Eileen Anderson (eileen.anderson@glplants.com) with any comments or questions.



11/2/2023

Trial Garden Key Facts

- ❑ Comprises one acre in a Zone 6b environment
 - ❑ Public garden $\frac{3}{4}$ acre (21 beds)
 - ❑ Private garden $\frac{1}{4}$ acre (6 beds)
- ❑ Public Garden:
 - ❑ 74 genera
 - ❑ 535 varieties
 - ❑ 32 Breeders represented
 - ❑ 60% sponsored trials
 - ❑ Remaining varieties are for comparison purposes
 - ❑ 50/50 1st and 2nd year planting
- ❑ Private Garden
 - ❑ 50 genera
 - ❑ 215 varieties
- ❑ All varieties are given a QR code for evaluation purposes

Caveats



Garden was rebuilt in 2022 so only 1st and 2nd year results are available

- No pesticides are applied in the garden. The exception being the Dendranthema breeding bed, which is not part of the trials.
 - Due to an infestation of Japanese beetles, we did use traps this season
- Overhead irrigation is used as needed; once established, plants are watered only if there has been no rain for roughly one week
- Though Zone 6b, we can have a Zone 6 or a Zone 7 winter
- Deer are not a factor, though rabbits are and at times we will spray a pest deterrent on susceptible plants



These data represent the results of our garden in Lancaster, PA and are not necessarily indicative of other areas of the country:

Clay soil leads to poor drainage and some varieties don't do well

Weather conditions:

- Winter 2022-23 had no snowfall
- Early spring warm-up followed by dropping temperatures
- Near drought conditions through early June 2023
- 'Feast or Famine' rainfall throughout July and August

Trial Garden Evaluation Process

PUBLIC GARDEN EVALUATIONS CONSIST OF:

Two-three full ratings per season (with photos):

- ✓ Overall
- ✓ Foliage
- ✓ Habit/Uniformity
- ✓ Flower (if applicable)

Periodic check-ins (with photos):

- ✓ Photos
- ✓ Overall Status
- ✓ Size/width
- ✓ Bloom status
- ✓ etc.

On average each variety receives 4-6 ratings per season

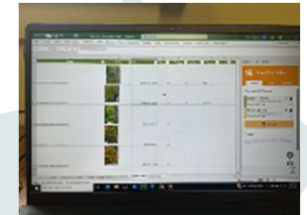
Spring survival rates are also noted for final ratings

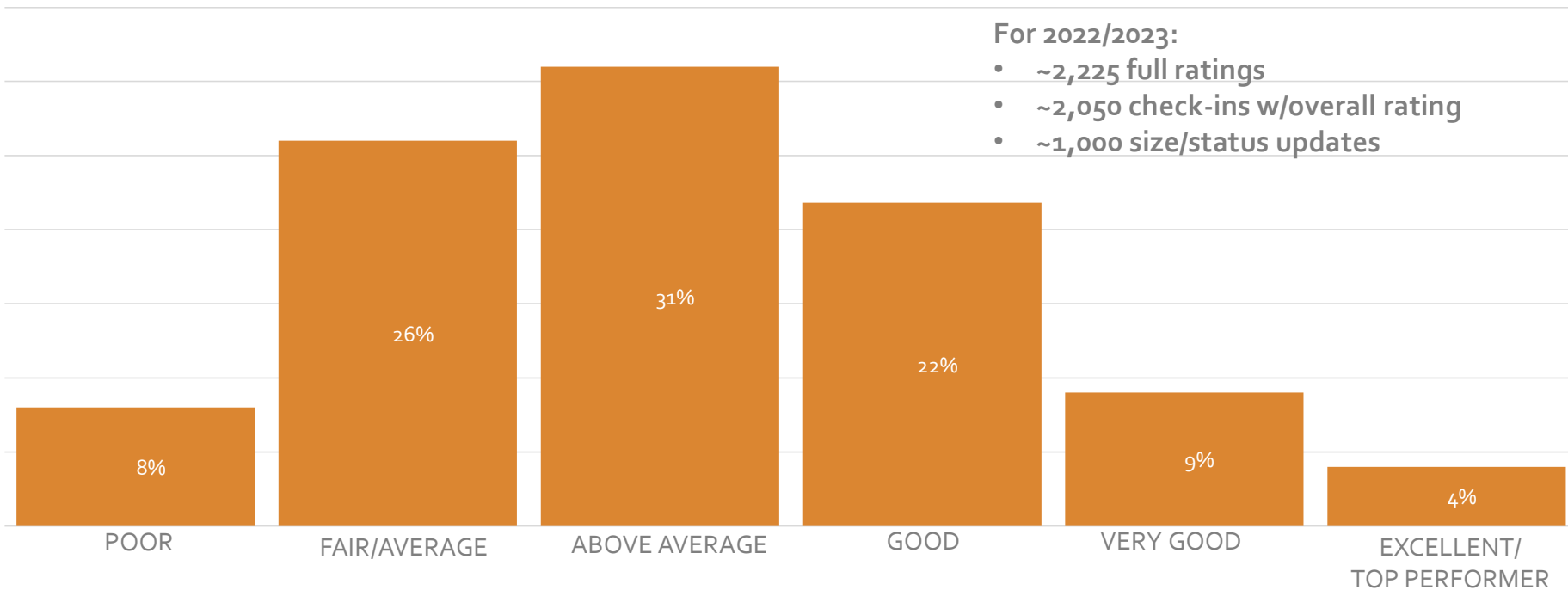
QR code scanned
in garden



SCAN-IT FORM
on iPhone
completed in
garden

Connects to
Excel
spreadsheet in
office





Distribution of Average Overall Ratings

(FIRST AND SECOND YEAR)

Total ratings: ~4,275



Key Findings

2023

FINDINGS FOR TWO- YEAR TRIALS



TOP PERFORMERS OVER TWO YEARS

(TWO-YEAR AVERAGE RATINGS EXCELLENT OR ABOVE)



6/5/23: Amazing habit and uniformity. Great foliage. Beautiful flower

GERANIUM Blushing Turtle
Must Have Perennials®



6/12/23: Beautiful form and flower, tons of buds. Slightly wilder than others

VERONICA 'Seaside'
GardenChoice™



8/29/23: Very floriferous and larger than the Chrysalis but more compact habit than Summer Bird. Nice cascading look and keeps flowering.

BUDDLEJA BABY BUZZ® Candy Pink
PlantHaven International



9/9/23: The habit is nearly perfect, and the flowers are drying very nicely. Still very attractive plant even this far late in the season

LAVANDULA x intermedia Sensational
Peace Tree Farms/Concept Plants



5/15/23: Simply gorgeous and a bee magnet

SALVIA nemorosa 'Blue By You'
Darwin Perennials®



8/3/23: Lots of buds. Very floriferous. Great habit and consistency

RUDBECKIA American Gold Rush
Intrinsic Perennials



6/12/23: Beautiful habit. Tons of buds and blooms. More compact than Seaside

VERONICA longifolia 'Blue Skywalker'
Walters Gardens

CONSISTENTLY STRONG PERFORMERS

(RATED VERY GOOD FOR TWO YEARS)



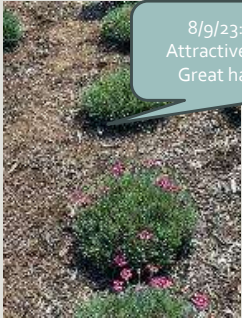
7/5/23: This plant has almost perfect uniformity. The flower is very attractive. Plants very floriferous, and many buds are coming.

GAILLARDIA REALFLOR®
'Sunset Orange Ruffles'
PlantHaven International



6/12/23: Habit and flowering a bit inconsistent but very attractive

VERONICA longifolia
Skyward™ Pink
Darwin Perennials®



8/9/23: Attractive foliage. Attractive flower. Lots of buds. Great habit and consistency

DIANTHUS Mountain Frost™
Ruby Glitter
Darwin Perennials®



8/1/23: Definitely one of the top performing at the Heuchera. Very attractive foliage with minor Japanese beetle damage. Great habit.

HEUCHERA 'Carnival Cinnamon Stick'
Darwin Perennials®



6/12/23: Beautiful plant great compact habit full of blooms and buds

LAVANDULA angustifolia
Blue Spirit Purple Blue
Dummen Orange®



8/18/23: Has the strongest rebloom of any of the cut back Achillea.

ACHILLEA millefolium
New Vintage™ 'Violet'
Darwin Perennials®

MOST IMPROVED YEAR OVER YEAR

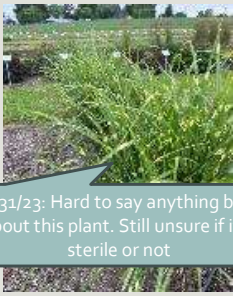
(Rated Top Performer or Excellent in 2023 and showed the most improvement over 2022)*

7/11/23: There was some concern that the white would fade to more of a muddy brown and it really doesn't.



LAVANDULA angustifolia
Blue Spirit White
Dummen Orange®

7/31/23: Hard to say anything bad about this plant. Still unsure if it is sterile or not



MISCANTHUS High Frequency Darwin Perennials®

6/28/23: Very floriferous. Upright habit. Great habit and consistency



ASTILBE arendsii 'Rhapsody' Benary

5/22/23: Awesome habit and uniformity.



NEPETA faassenii 'Purrsian Blue' Walters Gardens

8/29/23: Attractive foliage. Attractive flower. Great habit and consistency



MISCANTHUS MYSTAL™ 'Little Miss' PlantHaven International

8/9/23: Very solid re-bloom with the number of buds coming up and again a really nice great rounded habit.



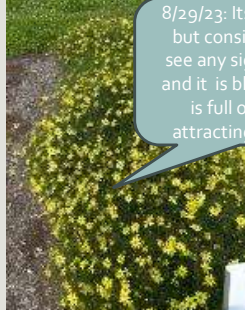
DIANTHUS Beauties Series (especially Vida) Dummen Orange®



8/16/23: This is the largest of our second year Buddleja. Color is really magnificent. Also been a visitor favorite.

BUDDLEJA hybrida Summer Bird® Classic Blue Benary

8/29/23: Its habit is open but consistent. I don't see any signs of mildew and it is blooming and it is full of buds and attracting pollinators.



COREOPSIS verticillata 'Moonbeam' Open Variety

8/9/23: Flowers faded but habit is still great.



LAVANDULA x intermedia Phenomenal Peace Tree Farms/Concept Plants

8/1/23: Large Perovskia with consistent habit. Attracts numerous pollinators


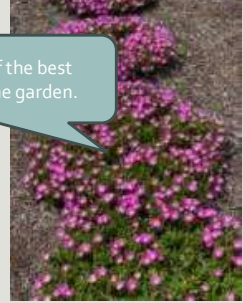
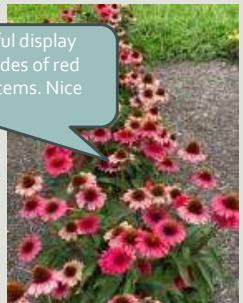
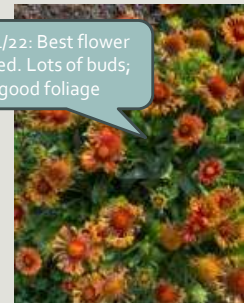



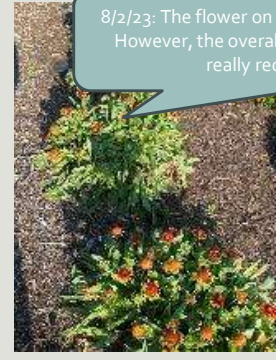


PEROVSKIA atriplicifolia 'CrazyBlue' Darwin Perennials®

*25%+ in scores from 2022 to 2023 ^{11/2/2023}

UNDERPERFORMED YEAR OVER YEAR

(Rated Top Performer or Excellent in 2022 and significantly DECLINED 2023)

 <p>7/7/22: Beautiful foliage really uniform habit.</p>	 <p>6/28/22: One of the best performers in the garden.</p>	 <p>8/17/22: Beautiful display with various shades of red and dark fresh stems. Nice habit.</p>	 <p>7/21/22: Best flower in bed. Lots of buds; good foliage</p>
<p>ARTEMISIA GardenGhost™ GardenChoice™</p>	<p>DELOSPERMA Ocean Sunset™ Violet Darwin Perennials®</p>	<p>ECHINACEA SunSeekers 'Red' Innoflora BV</p>	<p>GAILLARDIA REALFLOR® 'Fanfare Amber Glow' PlantHaven International</p>
 <p>7/31/23: Signs of insect damage. Inconsistent habit; Very aggressive</p>	 <p>7/11/23: Has the most attractive flower but a poor survival rate.</p>	 <p>7/16/23: Signs of insect damage. Very floriferous. Inconsistent habit</p>	 <p>8/2/23: The flower on this one is very attractive and unique. However, the overall plant health is declining and never really recovered from the winter.</p>



TOP FIRST YEAR VARIETIES

HIGHLIGHTS

11/2/2023

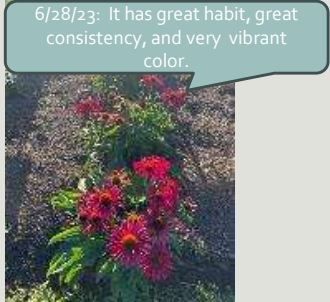
TOP PERFORMERS

(RATED EXCELLENT OR ABOVE 2023)



6/28/23: Perfect habit and foliage, unique attractive flowers

RUDBECKIA Lime & Pink AB Cultivars



6/28/23: It has great habit, great consistency, and very vibrant color.

ECHINACEA hybrid Kismet™ 'Raspberry' Terra Nova/ThinkPlants™



8/18/23: Flowers still in bloom; looks gorgeous; great habit; great foliage.

DIANTHUS American Pie® Bumbleberry Pie and Cherry Pie PlantHaven International/Whetman



7/20/23: The color is attractive and different from the others. The habit is almost perfect perfectly consistent across plants and there are lots of buds.

ECHINACEA hybrid Double Scoop™ Watermelon Deluxe Darwin Perennials®



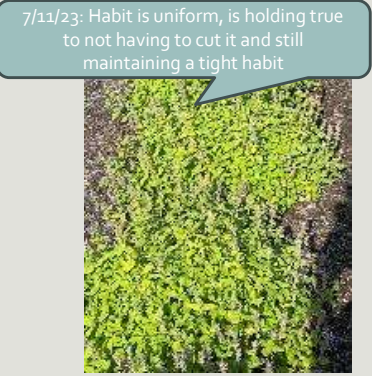
8/25/23: Color combination is beautiful, with dark purple leaves and bright pink/fuchsia flowers.

HEUCHERA hybrid 'Black Forest Cake' Terra Nova/ThinkPlants™



7/21/23: Best of the Candela series, great habit and is floriferous

VERONICA longifolia Candela Pink Dummen Orange®



7/11/23: Habit is uniform, is holding true to not having to cut it and still maintaining a tight habit

NEPETA 'Chartreuse on the Loose' Walters Gardens



7/23/23: It has a nice habit, slightly inconsistent but good. Great flower with yellow fading to white.

LEUCANTHEMUM maximum Sweet Daisy® Izabel Dummen Orange®



7/31/23: Has a really nice habit and very consistent. It also is very floriferous and still has a number of buds coming up.

COREOPSIS grandiflora Solanna™ Sunset Bright Danziger/ThinkPlants™



TOP FIVE BASED ON VISITOR RATINGS (First & Second Year)

VISITOR FAVORITES



RUDBECKIA Lime & Pink
AB Cultivars



RUDBECKIA Divine
AB Cultivars

Pros:

- Two of the most popular varieties in the garden
- RUDBECKIA 1
 - Flowers transition from pale yellow to rose-yellow as they mature
 - Long bloom time with repeat budding
- RUDBECKIA 2
 - Nearly perfect habit and consistency
 - Large (~5" diameter) flowers on long stems
 - Extremely floriferous

Cons:

- Biennial hirta
- Not yet released; will be available 2024

VISITOR FAVORITES



ECHINACEA hybrid
Double Scoop™
Watermelon Deluxe
Darwin Perennials®

Pros:

- Outstanding color with contrasting stems
- Extremely floriferous
- Compact habit

Cons:

- No second-year trial, as of yet

VISITOR FAVORITES



VERONICA 'Seaside'
GardenChoice™

Pros:

- Elegant lavender-blue flower spikes on tall, sturdy stems
- Attracts pollinators
- Long-bloom time
- Responds well to a cut

Cons:

- Somewhat prone to mildew by end of season
- Deer resistance claimed but cannot be confirmed in our garden

VISITOR FAVORITES



AGASTACHE 'Crazy Fortune'
Concept Plants

Pros:

- Lightly variegated leaves
- Slightly smaller habit than Blue Fortune

Cons:

- Some (minor) signs of reversion on new leaves
- Flowers somewhat smaller than Blue Fortune

FOCUS ON HERBS



BASIL (OCIMUM) COMPARISON



OCIMUM basilicum Herbalea®
'Wild Magic'

Top Performer:

- "Attracts loads of pollinators, resistant to insect damage, has beautiful foliage, and exceptional habit"
- "Gorgeous basil, one of the healthiest, best performing first year plants in the garden"



OCIMUM basilicum
'Citriodorum' (Pesto Perpetuo)

Above Average:

- "Unique grow pattern on these where the foliage grows up around the flower"
- "Healthy plant. Attractive foliage. Unique foliage. Upright habit"



OCIMUM Rutgers DMR 'Devotion'

Fair:

- "This one is said to be resistant to mildew, which we can't say for sure it is, but it is susceptible to Japanese beetles"

ROSEMARY (ROSMARINUS) COMPARISON



ROSMARINUS officinalis
'Foxtail'

Very Good: "Foliage is attractive and unique, would make a good container plant or ground cover"



ROSMARINUS officinalis
'Gorizia'

Very Good: "Healthy plant. Upright habit. Great habit and consistency"



ROSMARINUS officinalis 'Arp'

Good: "One plant is in poor health, but the others have a strong upright habit"



ROSMARINUS officinalis
'Salem'

Above Average: "Healthy plant. Attractive foliage but the habit is not great"

OTHER TOP-RATED HERBS



Very Good: "Large presence in the garden; great habit and consistency"

CYMBOPOGON flexuosus East Indian (Lemon Grass)



Very Good: "These are looking absolutely stunning. Great habit, attractive flower and are definitely attracting a lot of pollinators."

ALLIUM tuberosum Garlic 'Geisha'



Very Good: "Habit is consistent and pollinators are flocking to this one, whether its birds, bees, wasps, butterflies, this has it all"

NEPETA cataria Catnip

Not everything thrives in clay soil.....



SALVIA officinalis
SALVIA officinalis 'Berggarten'
SALVIA officinalis Silver Scent

Fair/Poor:

"Struggled all season with clay soil conditions."

"Similar to the other SALVIAs in the herb bed, health is not strong"

"Foliage was originally good but is now declining in health"



SANTOLINA rosmarinifolia
(virens)

Poor:

"Plants never took off; very weak"



THANK YOU!