

Breeding Breakthroughs: Game-Changers in the Annual Garden

Daedre McGrath, Trial Garden Manager
Michigan State University Horticulture Gardens

1. **Alyssum 'Snow Princess'** - *Proven Winners*, heat tolerant, vigorous, great design plant
 2. **Canna 'Cannova' Series – Ball Ingenuity**, same tropical look, but tolerant of cooler and shadier growing conditions, seed propagated (reduces spread of disease)
 3. **Cleome 'Senorita' Series** - *Proven Winners*, sterile, thornless, compact
 4. **Cyperus 'King Tut'** – *Proven Winners*, extremely vigorous, adaptable
 5. **Echinacea 'Cheyenne Spirit'** - Keift, first year flowering perennial from seed, color mix
 6. **Euphorbia 'Diamond Frost'** - *Proven Winners*, heat and drought tolerant, great filler and design plant
 7. **Geranium' TwoInOne Shadow' Series**- PAC-Elsner, shade tolerant geranium
 8. **Hibiscus 'Mahogany Splendor'**- PanAmerican, vigorous shrub-like annual propagated from seed
 9. **Impatiens hawkeri 'SunPatiens'**- Sakata, full sun tolerant, impatiens downy mildew resistant
 10. **Impatiens hawkeri 'Divine' Series**- PanAmerican, propagated from seed, impatiens downy mildew resistant
 11. **Impatiens Downy Mildew-resistant Impatiens walleriana**- 'Beacon' series from PanAmerican and 'Imara XDR' series from Syngenta
 12. **Petunia 'Supertunia Vista Bubblegum, Silverberry, and Fuchsia** - *Proven Winners*, extremely vigorous, long-time top performers
 13. **Petunia 'Black Velvet'**- *Ball Horticulture*, unique color on the petunia market
 14. **Petunia 'Night Sky'**- *Selecta*, groundbreaking color pattern
 15. **Helianthus 'Suncredible'**- *Proven Winners* and 'Sunfinity'- *Syngenta*, every-blooming sunflowers
 16. **Sedum 'Lemon Coral'**- *Proven Winners*, faster-growing alternative to hardy sedum. Extremely versatile.
 17. **Coleus 'ColorBlaze'**- *Proven Winners*, 'Main Street'- *DummenOrange*, and 'Premium Sun'- *PanAmerican*, Sun-Tolerant Coleus
- New Genera and/or Hybrids:**
18. **Jamesbrittenia 'Safari'**- *Proven Winners*
 19. **Heliotrope 'Augusta Lavender'**- *Proven DWinners*
 20. **Lophospermum 'Lofos' and 'Lofos Compact'**- *Suntory*
- New Concepts:**
21. **Multi-species seed pellets** - Examples: Fuseables, SimplySalad
- Multi-species plugs**- Examples: MixMasters, Trixi Combo, Confetti Garden