



Regionally Recommended Cultivars



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The following poinsettia cultivars are recommended for growers to consider. The recommendations are based on university trials and observations of commercial crops. Primarily, this list includes cultivars that the authors have grown at least two years. The cultivars listed as “worth watching” are the new ones that performed well in the Fall 2001 trials.

The best cultivar for an individual grower varies with location, production practices and markets. There are other poinsettia cultivars not listed that can be grown successfully when the grower is very familiar with the cultivar and can provide the required culture for that cultivar.

Large growers are those who are supplying mass-market retailers. Specialty growers are those who are supplying other retail markets and want to produce a differentiated product. It is also important to remember that growing the plants in different forms and containers can also differentiate many of the cultivars listed for large growers.

CATEGORY/ PREFERENCE	SOUTH		NORTH	
	Large growers	Specialty growers	Large growers	Specialty growers
EARLY DARK-LEAF RED				
GOOD BET	Freedom Red	Freedom Red	Festival Red	Festival Red
	Orion Red	Galaxy Red	Freedom Red	Freedom Red
		Orion Red	Orion Red	Orion Red
OKAY	Festival Red	Festival Red	Pepride Red	Pepride Red
	Pepride Red	Pepride Red	Galaxy Red	Galaxy Red
	Royal Red	Royal Red	Red Angel	Red Angel
	Red Elf	Red Elf	Royal Red	Royal Red
	Early Joy Red	Early Joy Red	Early Joy Red	Early Joy Red
WORTH WATCHING	Eternity Red	Eternity Red	Eternity Red	Christmas Dream
	Christmas Dream	Christmas Dream		Ecke 1-99
	Gala Red	Gala Red		Eternity Red
	Ecke 1-99	Ecke 1-99		Premium Red
	Premium Red			
MIDSEASON DARK-LEAF RED				
GOOD BET	Delayed early cultivars	Delayed early cultivars	Delayed early cultivars	Delayed early cultivars
	Prestige	Red Velvet	Prestige	Prestige
OKAY	Bright Red Freedom	Cortez Fire	Bright Red Sails	Bright Red Sails
	Cortez Red	Cortez Red	Cortez Fire	Cortez Fire
	Cortez Fire	Max Red	Cortez Red	Cortez Red
	Malibu Red	Prestige	Malibu Red	Red Velvet
	Red Velvet	Sonora Dark Red	Red Velvet	
		Sonora Fire	Sonora Red	
WORTH WATCHING	Red Angel	Red Angel		
	Christmas Season	Christmas Season		
MIDSEASON GREEN-LEAF RED				
GOOD BET	None	Nutcracker Red	None	Nutcracker Red



CATEGORY/ PREFERENCE	SOUTH		NORTH	
	Large growers	Specialty growers	Large growers	Specialty growers
GOOD BET	None	Peterstar Red Christmas Cookie	None	Peterstar Red Petoy Red
OKAY	Candle Light Christmas Cookie Nutcracker Red Peterstar Red	Red Satin Candle Light	Nutcracker Red Peterstar Red	Red Satin Christmas Bells
WORTH WATCHING	None	None	None	None
LATE SEASON RED				
GOOD BET	Delayed early cultivars Success Red	Delayed early cultivars Success Red	Delayed early cultivars Success Red	Delayed early cultivars Success Red
OKAY	Victory Red	Victory Red	Victory Red	Victory Red
WORTH WATCHING	Red Diamond	Red Diamond	None	None
ROSE				
GOOD BET	Freedom Rose	Freedom Rose	Freedom Rose	Freedom Rose
OKAY	Cortez Hot Pink Sonora Hot Pink	Cortez Hot Pink Sonora Hot Pink	Cortez Hot Pink Sonora Hot Pink	Cortez Hot Pink Sonora Hot Pink
WORTH WATCHING	None	None	Festival Rose	Festival Rose
WHITE				
GOOD BET	Freedom White	Peterstar White Snowcap Whitestar White Christmas	Snowcap White Christmas Whitestar	Snowcap White Christmas Whitestar
OKAY	Sonora White Pepride White Peterstar White Whitestar White Christmas	Nutcracker White Pepride White Sonora White Santa Claus White	None	Nutcracker White Peterstar White Santa Claus White
WORTH WATCHING	Malibu White Elegance White	None	None	None
PINK				
GOOD BET	Freedom Pink Pepride Pink	Maren Nutcracker Pink	Maren	Maren Nutcracker Pink



CATEGORY/ PREFERENCE	SOUTH		NORTH	
	Large growers	Specialty growers	Large growers	Specialty growers
GOOD BET		Success Light Pink		Nutcracker Salmonstar Peterstar Pink Success Light Pink
OKAY	Maren Nutcracker Pink Sonora Pink Early Joy Pink	Flirt Pepride Pink Peterstar Pink Santa Claus Pink Early Joy Pink	Sonora Pink Pepride Pink Early Joy Pink	Pepride Pink Santa Claus Pink Early Joy Pink
WORTH WATCHING	Freedom Bright Pink Malibu Pink Elegance Pink	Freedom Bright Pink	Winterfest Pink	Winterfest Pink
MARBLE				
GOOD BET	None	Marblestar Santa Claus Marble	Marblestar Santa Claus Marble	Marblestar Santa Claus Marble
OKAY	Freedom Marble Marblestar Pepride Marble Sonora Marble Cortez Marble Santa Claus Marble	Pepride Marble Peterstar Marble Puebla	Cortez Marble	Cortez Marble Peterstar Marble
WORTH WATCHING	None	None	None	None
JINGLE BELLS				
GOOD BET	Jingle Bells 4.0	Sonora Jingle	Freedom Jingle Bells Sonora Jingle	Freedom Jingle Bells Sonora Jingle
OKAY	Freedom Jingle Bells Sonora Jingle Cortez Jingle	Peterstar Jingle Bells Jingle Bells 4.0	Jingle Bells 4.0	Jingle Bells 4.0
WORTH WATCHING	Sonora White Glitter	Sonora White Glitter	Sonora White Glitter	Sonora White Glitter
NOVELTY				
GOOD BET	Amazone Peppermint Champagne Cranberry Punch Winter Rose Pink	Amazone Peppermint Cranberry Punch Monet Twilight Plum Pudding	Amazone Peppermint Champagne Cranberry Punch Winter Rose Jingle Bells	Cranberry Punch Monet Twilight Plum Pudding Winter Rose Jingle Bells