

Chat ROOM

Editor's Note: Each month, we send out a survey to our readers on a variety of topics and report the results here. Chat Room is a perfect venue to get to know your peers and where you stand on different issues affecting the industry. Do you have a question you want us to ask? Contact editor, Jasmina Dolce, at jdolce@greatamericanpublish.com.

This month, we asked readers about new variety introductions and plant trials, novel petunias, popularity of perennials, and nursery production. Here's what they had to say.

Have you attended any plant trials this year?

NEARLY 40% SAID YES!

Some of the most-attended trials were:

- Raker-Roberta's → Plantpeddler
- Penn State → Mast Young Plants
- Costa Farms → Lucas Greenhouse

Do you have a favorite new introduction for 2022?

SOME OF YOUR RESPONSES:

- Petunia 'Crazytunia Mayan Sunset' • WESTHOFF**
- Ficus 'Fignomenal' • CONCEPT PLANTS**
- Petunia 'Headliner Enchanted Sky' • SELECTA ONE**
- Rex begonia Jurassic • BALL INGENUITY**
- Salvia 'Hummingbird Falls' • PLANTHAVEN/DÜMMEN ORANGE**
- Petunia E3 Easy Wave • PANAMERICAN SEED**

Do you grow/sell petunias?

70% SAID YES!



Breeders have been introducing more novel, unique petunias. What are your thoughts?

YOU SAID:

- "A fun departure from typical petunias."
- "Like them if color pattern is stable."
- "They have customer appeal."
- "Love how they look in pictures, in person they don't always look as nice."
- "Fun. Too many to pick from so try a few each year."
- "Some I like, some look diseased to me."
- "Excited orange is back."
- "Petunias are a staple in the annuals business. New varieties and colors are always a plus."

Turn to page 44 to learn about a new novel petunia introduction for 2022.

Have you witnessed an increase in perennials popularity recently?

NEARLY 90% SAID YES!

What are your favorite perennial varieties to grow/sell? **YOU SAID:**

- Echinacea • Hosta
- Salvia • Sedum
- Coreopsis • Peonies
- Rudbeckia • Leucanthemum
- Lavender • Heuchera

Turn to page 50 for perennial trial standouts.

Do you grow/sell nursery crops?

MORE THAN 60% SAID YES!

What is a challenge you have encountered with nursery production? **YOU SAID:**

- Overwintering
- Irrigation management
- Weed control
- Maintaining sufficient staff
- Availability of plugs/liners

Turn to page 28 to learn about issues facing nursery production.