**Brooklin Horticultural Society Presentation for June 13, 2012 meeting**

Sofie’s Picks - A listing of plants presented at the Brooklin Horticultural Society meeting June 13, 2012, a combination of new and newer introductions and other interesting plants.

[www.masonhousegardens.com](http://www.masonhousegardens.com) 3520 Durham Road #1(Brock Rd), RR 4 PO Box 886Uxbridge,ON L9P 1R4  
Phone (905)649-3532 – New introductions, unusual plants, perennials, grasses, vines, shrubs, tropicals, vegetables + heritage tomatoes. All varieties and prices listed on their website

[www.gardenimport.com](http://www.gardenimport.com) Mail Order Company, Thornhill, Ontario Phone 1-800-339-8314 Prices & varieties listed on website

[www.kingswaygreenhouse.com](http://www.kingswaygreenhouse.com) Oshawa, Ontario 905-434-3851 – Plants are not listed on their website

[www.vandermeernursery.com](http://www.vandermeernursery.com) 905-427-2525 588 Lakeridge Rd. S., Ajax, ON (corner of Lakeridge and Bayley)

[www.goldenbrookhostas.com](http://www.goldenbrookhostas.com) Blackstock, Ontario, Mail order (Canada only) + pick up. Huge selection of hostas with photos, including newest varieties and prices

<http://www.lamrockscountrygarden.com> – hostas, roses, some perennials. Varieties & prices listed on website

John’s Perennials, 905-862-8175, Uxbridge, ON Perennials, annuals, roses, shrubs, trees, rare conifers + more

Peter Keeping, Bowmanville, Ontario – sells unusual & hard to find clematis as well as perennials at very reasonable prices– Peter imports clematis from Europe/England 905-697-7842

***You will notice that most of the varieties listed are from Mason House Gardens as Jeff Mason, the owner, lists his plants on his website so I know what is available. I have grown them all. Check with your local nursery for availability or ask them to order for you. Sofie Bigham***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Annual | Coreopsis Coloropsis Jive | A new series of tender varieties called the COLOROPSIS™ Series. All members of this series are highly floriferous, bearing masses of 1-2 inch, single flowers with toothed petals all summer. Their green, threadleaf foliage forms a strong, bushy clump, reaching a height of 16-24 inches. Planted en masse, these plants pack a huge punch of color.  “Jive” produces masses of white flowers with a large, saturated burgundy eye and an orange center. The burgundy eye is the dominant color. | Mason House |
| Annual | Coreopsis Coloropsis - Limbo | 'Limbo' PPAF produces masses of bronze flowers edged in white fading to chocolate brown, producing a multi-coloured effect. A standout plant! | Mason House |
| Annual | Coreopsis coloropsis Mambo | Mambo flowers open creamy white with a burgundy eye zone with the creamy white portion aging in a few days to a rose-pink color, producing a multi-coloured effect. | Mason House |
| Annual Grass | Pennisetum Purpureum Virtigo | Fast growing to a height of 36-48” tall, producing its striking dark burgundy almost black foliage much sooner than other annual pennisetum. It will maintain its best color in full sun. | Mason House |
| Annual | Salvia Patens Blue Angel (medium blue) or Cambridge Blue (light blue) or Oxford Blue (dark blue) | If you are looking for that elusive blue colour, not purple, try these salvias. Sporting true blue flowers, they form a tuber which can be overwintered in a pot on a windowsill indoors. Try cuttings as well. Best to grow at least 3 for a good show. (Easy from seed if you can find it – usually available at speciality seed houses on-line) | Mason House  Richter’s Herbs  Vandermeer? |
| Annual | Browalia Americana | Not your typical browalia and difficult to find, Americana grows about 1 foot tall, with delicate ½” blue with white centred flowers that look like lobelia. Unlike lobelia, which fizzles out in the heat of summer, it blooms all summer into fall. Grow enmasse for best effect – Mason House sells several plants in a cell pack. Will self-seed . | Mason House |
| Perennial  Sun Lover, average to dry soil | Amsonia hubrichtii | A wonderful plant with a long season of interest, with its blue spring flowers, attractive feathery leaves, and golden yellow fall color. Spectacular in the fall with golden foliage. It may look haggard when young; it doesn't shine until a few years old. Grow this one for the foliage! | Mason House  Try your favourite nursery |
| Perennial  Sun Lover, average to dry soil | Aster Frikartii Monch | A lovely aster (1 ½’ tall) that is not invasive, does not self-seed all over, does not get mildew, with bright yellow centered lavender blooms and blooming much earlier than other asters from mid-July to frost. Mulch well with leaves in the fall – may be a bit tender but worth growing as an annual. Full sun. | Mason House  Vandermeer  Pineridge in Pickering |
| Perennial – woodland garden, dappled shade | Ban Zia | This plant is similar to jack- in-the-pulpit. Delicate green spathes with a 6-12” whip. The whip is the interesting part! Green tripartite leaves; 12” high. Quite unusual. Can be late to emerge in spring (June) so mark the spot with a tag. | Richter’s Herbs |
| Perennial Sun Lover, average to moist soil | Rudbeckia subomentosa Henry Eilers | This rudbecki grows 5-6 feet tall, produces masses of 2 inch wide yellow flowers with unique finely quilled petals. A welcome addition to the late summer garden. Produces a good sized clump in about 3 years but flowers first year. Full sun/part shade | Mason House  Vandermeer |
| Perennial  Sun Lover, average to moist soil | Tradescantia Sweet Kate | Spiderwort. Gorgeous lime green colour with deep purple flowers – will scorch in hot afternoon sun – morning sun location is best or light shade. Mine grows in the woodland garden. Grows about 1-1 ½ feet tall. Blooms in June/July. | Mason House  Most nurseries |
| Perennial  Shady Average to moist | Heuchera Blackout | Similar to Obsidian, but darker and more vigorous, this hybrid has very glossy, near-jet black leaves, the blackest yet. White flowers on tall black stems in June/July. Very dramatic. | John’s Perennials |
| Perennial  Shady Average to moist | Huechera Rave On | Blooming since mid-May in my garden and showing no signs of stopping, it is one of the heaviest spring bloomers producing masses of pink flowers above highly silvered foliage. Very long blooming, more spring flowers than any other heuchera. Compact plant with small leaves, plant enmasse for a huge display of flowers, use as an edger or in pots. Flowers are very long lasting in a vase. | Vandermeer |
| Perennial  Shade/Part Sun | Hosta Bridegroom | Medium size. This hosta really stands out from its peers with shiny dark green leaves with twisted tips that turn upward, reaching for the sky! Purple flowers. Recipient of the '04 AHS Alex J. Summers Distinguished Merit Award | Mason House  Goldenbrook Hostas |
| Perennial  Shade/Part Sun | Hosta Minuteman | (Machen 94)Medium-sized, 22" high x 50" wide. You will notice this hosta from a distance! The leaves are cupped, with a very stark contrast between the dark green centre and the white wide border. Lavender flowers in July. Rapid growing. | Goldenbrook Hostas |
| Perennial  Shade/Part Sun | Hosta Niagara Falls | Extra-large sized, 30" high x 60" wide. The clump resembles a waterfall, hence the name. This semi-upright hosta has dark green, heart-shaped leaves with wide, deeply impressed veins and pie-crust edging. Pale lavender flowers**. Winner of several awards. Spectacular showpiece!** | Golden Brook Hostas |
| Perennial Shade/Part Shade | Hosta Ripple Effect | Narrow, elongated leaves are trimmed by a very wavy, narrow, blue-green edge that randomly streaks into the yellow center. It forms a low, horizontal mound of twisty foliage about 12" tall and 18" across – lavender flowers. The very first plant to be released in the 2010 American Hosta Society Online Auction brought over $100. This is a really nice hosta! | John’s Perennials  Goldenbrook Hostas |
| Perennial Groundcover  Shady Average to dry | Vancouveria Hexandra – groundcover | Vancouveria will grow in rich moist or dry soil, full shade or part shade. 6-8” tall, it looks like epimedium but with white upside-down flowers and leaves that resemble a duck’s foot. The leaves emerge bright green, then darken with age, creating a two-toned effect. Easy to control without invasive roots, it slowly forms a lacy carpet under conifers or deciduous trees. Beautiful! | Rarely offered, listed at Mason House Gardens website |
| Shrub | Sambucus racemosa Morden Golden Glow | Features fine-textured, ferny, golden foliage all season long which often emerges with a reddish tint, along with showy creamy white flowers in spring followed by red berries; ideal compact size for the home landscape. More compact at 5’x5’, great alternative to Japanese maples. Full sun or part shade, moist or dry sites. More refined than Sutherland Gold and smaller. | Mason House |
| Vine | Clematis Suzanne | New compact variety with large 6 inch semi-double blooms. It looks different because the flower petals are rounded, not pointed. Petals are a light mauve pink and highlighted by a dark rose bar. The second row of petals gives the flowers a very full appearance. Really different. | Mason House |

**Hostas**: A hosta in a pot looks very deceiving, in most cases uninteresting, but wait ‘til they get in the garden. Hostas, like most perennials, roses and clematis, follow the old adage,”the first year they sleep, the second year they creep and the third year they leap”. Be patient.

**Heuchera’s:** There are so many new heucheras. I like them as an alternative to hostas as slugs don’t bother them, they flower for a long time and some have unique ever-changing leaf patterns and colours as the season progresses. Most nurseries carry a selection of heuchera’s so you may have to shop around to get the ones you want. Heuchera’s vary in their site requirements, from full sun (with adequate moisture), to morning light only to filtered shade to full shade. You may have to move your heuchera to get the best growing conditions. I find that most of mine do best in filtered light or morning sun.

**Red Lily Beetle**: Shown below is a formula which I discovered by accident which was recommended for aphids, but which I ended up using on the red lily beetle as I had the spray bottle in my hand, and low and behold, all the beetles I sprayed succumbed within 1 minute. This spray is great as you can leave it in the garden – it won’t go bad but you must be persistent and hunt down the beetles regularly or they will get out of hand. The beetle larvae – covered in their own black excrement – look like black blobs and are usually hidden under the leaves. Brush them off with a brush – a long handled barbecue basting brush works well. Look for tiny orange eggs under the leaves and brush off or crush. The eggs will hatch in a few days, hence the need to be on the lookout. This spray is good for those who don’t like to crush with their fingers, or go through the tedious task of picking them off and crushing.

**Here is the formula** – 1 teaspoon (5 ml.) dish soap, 1 Tablespoon (15 ml.) mouthwash like Listerine or Scope, 1 quart or 1 litre of water in a spray bottle. Mix gently or you will get a bottleful of bubbles. Hit the beetles with the spray. Try spraying the black blob larvae also. I think the amber coloured Listerine would be the most powerful.