

Spooner Agricultural  
Research Station

2011

Fruit, Flower  
and Vegetable  
Display Garden

Dear Garden Visitor:

Welcome to our horticulture teaching and demonstration garden. We have printed this book as a guide to flowers, vegetables and perennials planted in the garden. You are welcome to take a copy with you. **Please do not pick any of the flowers, fruits or vegetables. Many of the plants are being evaluated for fruit production and appearance.**

This garden is a joint effort between the Spooner Ag Research Station, operated by the University of Wisconsin-Madison College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, the University of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension Service, and area UW-Extension Master Gardener Volunteers.

This garden's purpose is to demonstrate perennial and annual plants that are suitable for growing in zone 3. In addition, there are many perennial plantings being evaluated for winter survival and growth habit. Part of the garden is an official All America Selections Display Garden. This AAS Display is one of only seven sites found in Wisconsin.

The windmill continues to be a focal point of the garden. It supplies water to an elevated tank, water from this tank is then used for low volume, low pressure drip irrigation to four different zones in the garden. This water system will help eliminate overhead watering, reduce water use, and is powered by "green" no carbon energy. The recently installed 24' x 60' high tunnel will be used to evaluate season extension for fall raspberry.

This is the first year we have a grape crop on the cold hardy wine grapes which were planted in 2007. The row of apples and fruit trees is under renovation. We removed several trees that died and replaced them with new trees. One of the challenges of growing fruit trees in this location is winter injury caused by prevailing westerly winter winds and sunscald.

The perennial landscape display, designed and maintained by local UW-Extension Master Gardener Volunteers, is another highlight of the garden. Plants are evaluated for their performance, and are dug, divided and even moved to prove esthetically pleasing displays. We hope you enjoy viewing our garden! The garden is open and free of charge for self-guided tours. Group tours are also available on request. Thank you for stopping by.

Kevin Schoessow

Area Ag Development Agent, University of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension

Phil Holman

Superintendent, Spooner Agriculture Research Station

## **The Spooner Agricultural Research Station** *UW-Madison College of Ag and Life Sciences* *University of Wisconsin-Extension*

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The UW Spooner Ag Research Station is a unique facility that houses five UW Faculty from both UW-Madison Ag Research Stations and UW-Extension. This administrative arrangement is referred to as the “Northern Wisconsin Ag Initiative” (NWAi). The NWAi’s main objective is to combine the skills and expertise of these five University of Wisconsin Faculty and Staff to better serve the needs of the surrounding community.

### ***History***

The Spooner Agricultural Research Station was established over one hundred years ago in 1909 when the city of Spooner donated 80 acres of sandy loam soil to the University of Wisconsin. An additional 80 acres adjoining the original was purchased from Mabel Dodge in 1911. In 1931, 243 acres were purchased from J.D. Thomas. Highway sales in 1963 and 1985 totaled 15 acres, resulting in the present size of 388 acres.

Crop improvement has been an important task at the station. The station produced Wisconsin #25 open pollinated dent corn and Spooner oats, both good selections at the time. The station was instrumental in the development, release, and maintenance of Wisconsin Early Black, Flambeau, 606 Manchu, and 507 Mandarin soybeans.

In 1923, the station undertook the inbreeding of corn and by 1929 made the first early experimental double hybrids. The station supervised the production and processing of foundation seed stocks, reaching a high of 3,602 acres in 1946. The station pioneered the use of irrigation on farm crops.

The sheep project on the Spooner station was taken on in 1936 after an outbreak of Brucellosis in the herd of dairy cattle. The herd of 25 was disposed of and the sheep project was initiated to utilize excess roughage. Research of all kinds, from pasture studies to introduction of the Targhee breed to Wisconsin, has been done. In 1995—as a response to the many Wisconsin sheep producers who had shown a strong interest—the Station began pioneering research in the dairy sheep industry and remains the definitive source for dairy sheep information in the country. A sheep milking parlor was opened in 1996. The station has hosted the Spooner State Sheep Day for over 50 years and is instrumental in the planning and execution of the Annual Great Lakes Dairy Sheep Symposium.

### ***Current Research***

**Crops:** The current field crop research at the Spooner Research Station is diversified. Crops include corn, alfalfa, forage grasses, kura clover, wheat, oats, rye, barley, and

soybeans. Research centers on weed control, variety evaluation, and planting date and plant population effects on yield and quality. In addition, research is done on insect and disease control, irrigation management, and effects of soil type, fertility, and pH.

In 1999, the Station undertook new research in fast-growing hybrid poplar trees, which was harvested and replanted in 2010. Establishment of 2 1/2 acre Native Prairie Restoration came in 2001. In 2008 a wine grape variety trial was established and a hybrid hazelnut evaluation was added in 2011. Crop research is performed not only on the Station’s sandy loam soils, but also on off-station silt loam soil. Off-station research is used to provide information to the many growers using similar soils in northwest Wisconsin.

**Sheep:** Sheep research is a major program at the Spooner Ag Research Station. Current research is focused on dairy sheep, especially the genetic improvement of dairy sheep and production of sheep milk for processing into cheese. Animal research resources include:

- \* 350 ewes of various ages; East Friesian crossbreds and Lacaune crossbreds.
- \* 14 rams
- \* Sheep barn (50' x 168'), 30 acres of rotationally grazed pasture, ram barn, hoop barn, and dairy sheep milking parlor.

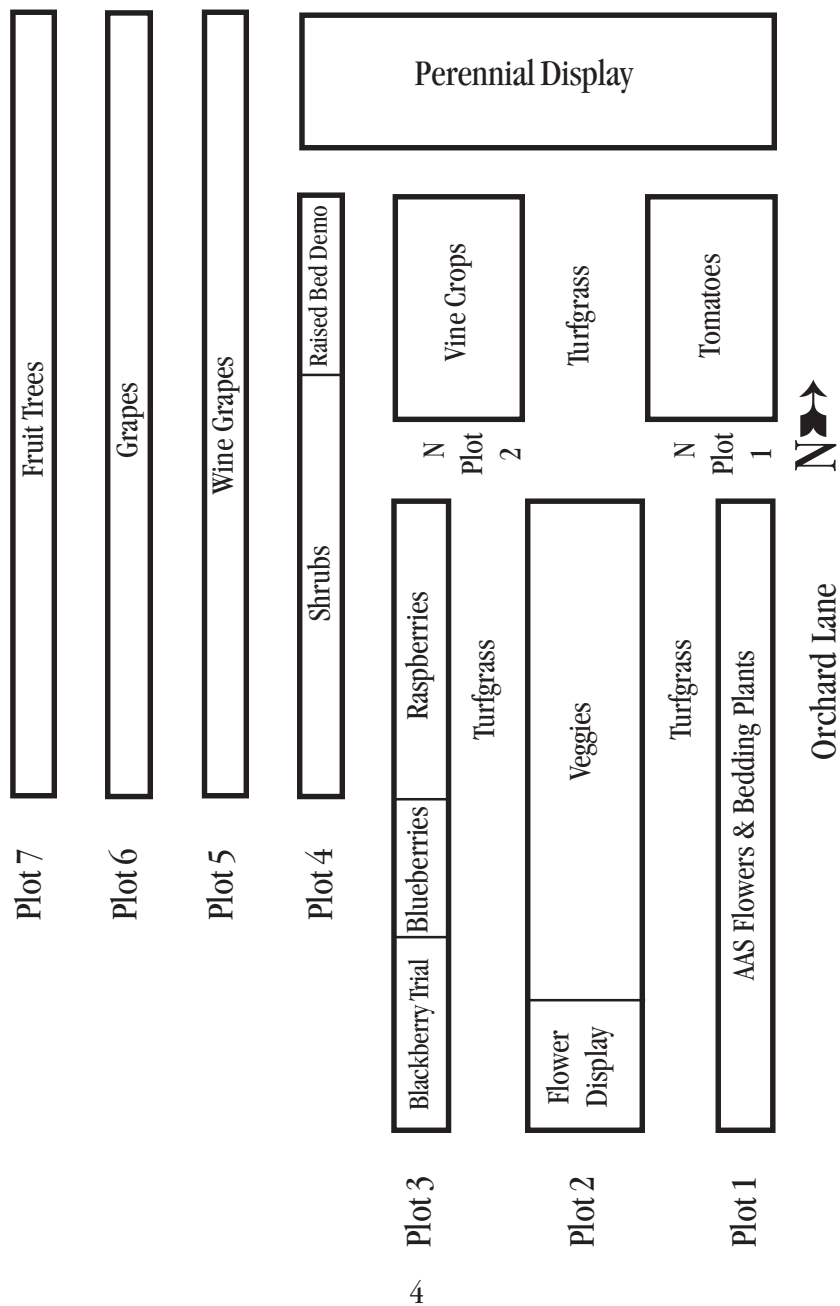
### ***Teaching and Outreach Activities***

The Spooner Ag Research Station has an “open door” policy for all visitors and welcomes many individuals as well as academic and civic tour groups each year; however, we ask that visitors receive authorization before entering animal facilities or touring the grounds outside of the demonstration garden. The Station hosts its annual Sheep Day as well as many other crop and horticultural field days, which furthers its mission to serve the people of the state through agricultural education.

Groups and individuals are always welcome. Tours may be arranged with advance notice. For more information about the Spooner Ag Research Station and its research and educational programs, please contact:

Spooner Ag Research Station  
W6646 Highway 70, Spooner, WI 54801  
715-635-3735 or 800-528-1914  
<http://www.cals.wisc.edu/ars/spooner>

## 2011 Garden Area Layout



## Field Content

Plot 1 - AAS Flowers .....	9-20
North Plot 1 - Garlic & Tomatoes .....	21-25
Plot 2 - Vegetables .....	25-31
North Plot 2 - Vine Crops .....	32-33
Plot 3 - Berries .....	33-34
Plot 4 - Raised Beds & Ornamentals .....	34-37
Plot 5 - Cold Hardy Wine Grapes .....	37-38
Plot 6 - Cold Hardy Table Grapes .....	38-39
Plot 7 - Fruit Trees .....	39-41



**AAS** - All America Selections is a non-profit organization for evaluating new seed-grown flowers and vegetables from around the world for home garden performance. To identify All-America flowers and vegetables, look for the All-America Selections Winner emblem on seed packets, seed catalogs, and on bedding plants.

 Denotes a “Master Gardener Favorite.” These varieties have performed well for local gardeners.

## Gardening Glossary

All of these terms are used for plants that you will find at your local garden centers, in seed and plant catalogs, and at farmers markets around the state.

All plants are placed in one of the three distinct life cycles:

Annuals - Plants that grow from seed to seed in one year or less.

Perennials - Plants that live for several years. Perennials should be listed for specific hardiness zones. The hardiness zones for this area range from Zone 3 to 4.

Biennials - True biennials have only vegetative growth the year they germinate and flower and die the second year.

In addition to the life cycle classification, each plant has a separate classification due to the different breeding methods used to reproduce each plant:

Cultivars - Plants that are bred by plant scientists to produce plants with specific characteristics such as flower color, winter hardiness, prolific fruit production, or disease insect resistances.

Varieties - Plants that are found in the garden or wild (are not products of crosses by plant scientists) and chosen for their distinct characteristics.

F1 Hybrids - Plants that are produced from a controlled cross between two distinct cultivars or varieties. Seed produced by hybrids will revert back to one or both of the parent plants.

Heirlooms - These are plants that are open pollinated. An open-pollinated plant is one that produces seed that retains the true characteristics of the plant from which it grows. Heirloom plants were grown in the past and are part of our history. Many of these seeds were grown and produced by Native Americans. Early European immigrants also brought many of the seeds to this country. The seeds have been gathered by home gardeners, farmers, and collectors and saved for future generations.

Determinate - *Bush* growth habit. Stem elongation stops when the terminal flower racemes of the main stem or lateral branches have developed. Fruit set occurs within a short period of time.

Indeterminate - *Vine or trailing* growth habit. Flowering and fruit set will continue simultaneously or alternately as long as temperature and moisture permits growth to occur. Continuously set fruit.

## How does our Garden Grow?

Our teaching/demonstration garden is managed in many ways like most home gardens. We try to grow things as natural or sustainable as possible. We utilize integrated pest management practices to monitor pest, and use management techniques to minimize the use of sprays. This approach does allow for some insect and disease presence and as a result some plants may have signs of pest damage.

Most transplants and seeds were planted June 6-8. Composted sheep manure was applied in fall of 2010 to the annual garden beds at a rate of ~50 lb/100ft<sup>2</sup>. Perennial flowers in the perennial display garden received one tsp/plant of Osmocote® (14-14-14) in May. Soil test levels indicate there are adequate phosphorus and potassium levels so no additional P or K fertilizer has been applied.

Thanks to our summer student intern Megan Smith and student worker Emma Mechtel, we were able to do nearly all of our weed control using the Christmas herbicide – hoe-hoe-hoe. This control option involves hand weeding, tilling and of course hoeing. Glyphosate (round up) was applied around the base of some of the perennial shrubs and along the grass edges of the grapes.

Insect and disease pest are monitored and treated ONLY AS NEEDED. Septoria leaf spot and early blight disease on tomato and other leaf disease are managed using a flowable liquid copper fungicide (Soap Shield®). Soft bodied insects (aphids, lacebugs, mealybugs) are sprayed with insecticidal soap. Other insects pest (beetles, caterpillars, leafrollers, and thrips) are sprayed with a bioinsecticide spinosad (Bull's-Eye™). Floating row cover was placed over cabbage to minimize cabbage looper and flea beetle damage. Grape fungal diseases (black rot, phomopsis) infected grapes this season, but were not treated. A severe infestation of leaf rollers resulted in little or no apple crop.

## Perennial Display Garden

This display garden was designed to show gardeners how they might incorporate roses and other perennials into their home landscaping setting. Each of the eight garden beds has different shrub rose varieties. To compliment the roses, beds were designed to include other perennial flowers, shrubs and trees. Each bed is meant to be viewed from all sides. They were designed to work together as a whole, while at the same time, each bed can be considered as a compete and unique individual garden. This display was made possible by the time, talents and financial support of the UW-Extension North Country Master Gardener Association, and by generous donations from local businesses and greenhouses. More information on the perennial display garden can be found in the display garden booklet found in the mailbox at the garden entrance.

## Garden Weeds

As with any garden we have our fair share of “troublesome or unwanted plants”. Below is a list of some of the more common weeds found in the garden and in farm fields here on the Ag Research Station.

*Perennials:* Yellow nutsedge, Quackgrass, Yellow rocket, Hoary alyssum, White cockle, Common dandelion, Canada thistle, Common milkweed, Blackseeded plantain, curly dock, and Mouse-ear chickweed.

*Biennial Species:* Bull thistle, Common Mallow, Common mullein, Burdock

*Annual Grasses:* Large crabgrass, Green foxtail, Giant foxtail, Fall panicum, and Witchgrass.

*Annual Broadleaves:* Pennsylvania smartweed, Redroot pigweed, Common lambsquarter, Veveleaf, Shepherd’s purse, Field pennycress, Wild mustard, Eastern black nightshade, Hairy black nightshade, Carpet weed, Common ragweed, Giant ragweed, Common purslane.

## Garden Watering System and Windmill

To better meet the water needs of the demonstration garden, an “off the grid” watering system has been developed. The system includes a 60 foot deep six inch cased drilled well, an elevated 500 gallon storage tank and an Airliftech windmill. A compressor mounted on top of the windmill produces air pressure, which is then transferred from the windmill to the airpump in the cased well by a buried airline. A 5-7 mph wind is needed to pump water from the well to the elevated tank. Under these wind conditions it takes about 5 hours to fill the tank. The elevated tank provides ~10 psi of water pressure.

Water from the elevated tank is distributed to the garden by a buried ¾ inch plastic water line that is hooked up to three upright water faucets, and a drip irrigation system. A solar powered battery operated controller will distribute water to five zones in the garden. The apples, and two rows of grapes demonstrate three different dripper lines, while the perennial display uses a combination of drip hoses, and drip emitters. The high tunnel will also be drip irrigated with this system. Given the potential demands for drip irrigation, the 500 gallon tank is undersized for our needs and will need to be supplemented with another tank. More information on the Airlift Technologies windmill can be found at their website: <http://www.airliftech.com/>.

## Plot 1-AAS Flowers

Many of the annual flowers in this plot are AAS winners, however other non AAS annual flowers have been incorporated into this display. There are 15 individual beds that have been planted. When designing each bed, plants were selected based on color, texture, and mature height and width. These characteristics are mixed and matched for a pleasing combination. Usually a simple layout for each bed is best.

### *Bed 1A:*

*Kale “Glamour Red”* - This is All-America Selections’ first winning kale (edible or ornamental) in seventy-eight years of trialing! ‘Glamour Red’ is an excellent achievement in breeding for its unique shiny leaves. The waxless quality of the leaves makes them shiny with a more intense, vivid color as compared to existing ornamental brassicas. Judges noted that the shiny foliage is striking in the landscape and it out-performed comparisons with outstanding success. It is a fringed leaf type *Brassica oleracea* with flower head size of 10 to 12 inches. This full sun annual will bloom 90 days from sowing seed to first color. Leaf coloring begins when night temperatures fall below 55°F for approximately two weeks. **AAS 2011**

*Snapdragon “Twinny Peach”*- ‘Twinny Peach’ the AAS Winner is a double or butterfly flower form that does not have the jaws or joints to snap. The double flower form is the origin for the name ‘Twinny’ or twins. Another unique quality is the blend of peach tone colors. The soft shades of peach, yellow and light orange are distinct, and no other snapdragon offers this range of colors. In the full sun garden, ‘Twinny Peach’ will produce abundant flower spikes, plenty to cut and place in vases for fresh indoor bouquets. Plants will continue to flower all season with little garden care. Like all snapdragons, ‘Twinny Peach’ is easy to grow and it exhibited heat tolerance in the AAS Trials. **AAS 2010**

*Zinnia “Double Zahara Fire”*- Large 2 ½ inch, fully double flowers crown these disease resistant plants. ‘Double Zahara Fire’ has proven leaf spot and mildew resistance. This is linked to the ease of growing in the greenhouse for spring flowering plants and the length of flowering season. There is less risk of plant loss while growing these zinnias under cool, low light conditions. Gardeners can rely on ‘Double Zahara Fire’ for reliable, season long performance. Plants will continue to bloom from spring to the end of the growing season, with little garden maintenance. Mature plants will be about 14 inches tall and spread 12 inches. Similar to all zinnias, this AAS Winner will perform best in full sun and thrive on summer heat. **AAS 2010**

*Gaillardia* “*Arizona Apricot*”- A new and unique apricot color for this class. Blooms have yellow edges that deepen to a rich apricot in the center. Judges noted the award-winning distinctive flower color of the 3 to 3.5 inch daisy-like flowers, described as exceptionally lovely and lighter in color than traditional gaillardia. Just 105 days after sowing seed, this *Gaillardia x grandiflora* will bloom from early summer into autumn. The compact 12-inch tall plants offer bright green foliage and a tidy uniform habit best viewed when planted to the front of the flower bed. ‘Arizona Apricot’ is free-flowering, blooming heavily without vernalization, covering the plant with bright blooms that look great in mass. This long-flowering perennial is hardy in USDA Zones 2-10, is relatively maintenance free, and drought-tolerant once established. Gardeners will want to remove old flowers to encourage additional blooming.

**AAS 2011**

### ***Bed 1:***

*Viola* “*Shangri-La Marina*”- An early-flowering, mounding viola in a vibrant new color for this type. In trials, the 6-inch tall plants kept a low-growing mounding habit. Colorful and prolific 1¼ inch blooms have light blue petals with a velvety dark blue face that is surrounded by a narrow white border. Judges noted earlier (70 days from sowing to first flower) and showier blooms with noticeable drive-by flower power. Flower color was a consistent deep Marina blue throughout the season. This vigorous frost-tolerant biennial provides a solid mat of fall color until covered with snow followed by a great recovery in spring. Grow in full sun as a low edging in the garden or in hanging baskets and pots. **AAS 2011**

*Celosia* “*Fresh Look Gold*”- Correctly named, these plants look as fresh in September as they did when planted in the spring. ‘Fresh Look Gold’ plants are embellished with bright golden plumes that remain colorful all season, not “browning” with maturity. Since the plumes remain attractive, there is no reason to deadhead and no pest problems are expected, thus ‘Fresh Look Gold’ needs little maintenance in a sunny garden. It is a carefree annual useful in formal or informal gardens. The golden plumes can be woven into a garden bed like a living tapestry because the plumes have a soft layered texture. ‘Fresh Look Gold’ proved to be heat, humidity and rain tolerant in AAS Trials across North America. Plants will grow to a height of one foot. This celosia is one of the best annuals for season-long performance. **AAS 2007**

*Millet* “*Purple Baron*”- Robust, compact plants add a balanced look to mixed combos. The young plants are green at first and the stem and mid-rib begin to develop purple color as they mature. The color development is best when plants are grown in full sun. Large, thick flower spikes on plants that are well-branched at the base.

### ***Bed 2:***

*Osteospermum* “*Asti White*”- Pure white daisy flowers with blue centers are the main attraction for ‘Asti White.’ The large blooms, 2 to 2-1/2 inches across are born on stems that gracefully wave in the wind. The thick fleshy leaves indicate its drought tolerance, which makes this a preferred annual in any area subject to dry conditions. The flowers will remain open under cloudy conditions, unlike other daisy flowers originating from South Africa, which close. ‘Asti White’ plants will flower uniformly about 17 weeks from seed. ‘Asti White’ plants will bloom and recover from a slight frost. These plants can be placed in the spring or fall garden, weeks earlier than other tender annuals. The uniform plants thrive in a sunny garden, reaching about 17 to 20 inches tall and wide. ‘Asti White’ plants adapt perfectly to growing in containers, preferably 6-inch pots or larger. **AAS 2008**

*Ipomea* “*Sweet Caroline Raven*”- Great foliage component plant in combinations; excellent heat tolerance and good vigor. Deadheading is not necessary for this plant. “Sweet Caroline Raven” has foliage of great interest and high heat tolerance. This plant is commonly used as a landscaping ground cover and has relatively low maintenance. This is a new variety to be planted in sun gardens. Ipomoeas are great additions to combination planters, but they can sometimes overwhelm less vigorous plants. Potatoes formed by ornamental sweet potato vines are edible but are not as flavorful as those selected as a food crop.

*Trachelium* “*Lake Louise Purple*”- This flowering trachelium is dark purple with dark foliage. “Lake Louise Purple” has great tolerance for high heat and high light of the Lake Collection. Transplant in late spring through summer for summer through early autumn flowering.

### ***Bed 3:***

*Petunia* “*Ramblin’ Burgundy Chrome*”- Vivid, shimmery burgundy blooms cover this 8-inch tall early flowering hybrid. Spreading up to 2 1/2 feet, “Ramblin’ Burgundy Chrome” is ideal for baskets and containers with a slightly more compact growth habit than other spreading types of petunias and is extremely free flowering. This plant is attractive to bees, butterflies and birds. Flowers are fragrant and require consistently moist soil; do not let dry out between watering.

*Gaillardia* “*Arizona Apricot*”- A new and unique apricot color for this class. Blooms have yellow edges that deepen to a rich apricot in the center. Judges noted the award-winning distinctive flower color of the 3 to 3.5 inch daisy-like flowers, described as exceptionally lovely and lighter in color than traditional gaillardia. The compact 12-inch tall plants offer bright green foliage and a tidy uniform habit best viewed when

planted to the front of the flower bed. 'Arizona Apricot' is free-flowering, blooming heavily without vernalization, covering the plant with bright blooms that look great in mass. This long-flowering perennial is hardy in USDA Zones 2-10, is relatively maintenance free, and drought-tolerant once established. Gardeners will want to remove old flowers to encourage additional blooming. **AAS 2011**

#### **Bed 4:**

*Viola F1 'Rain Blue and Purple'* - This variety creates a spreading pool of cool blue colors. The plants are cold and heat tolerant resulting in flowers throughout the seasons. Viola 'Rain Blue and Purple' will bloom in the south during fall and winter; in the north in the spring and summer. There is always a season of bloom for 'Rain Blue and Purple.' Another appealing trait is that the one and a half inch blooms change color from purple and white to purple and blue as they mature. Few flowers change colors naturally and 'Rain Blue and Purple' is one of them. The plants spread 10 to 14 inches in the garden or container. The trailing habit is perfectly designed for hanging baskets or patio urns. **AAS 2009**

*Geranium "Pinto Premium Lavender"* - Pinto is absolutely uniform. Varieties coordinate in bloom time, habit, flower time and earliness. Pinto offers the most vigor in the garden compared with any other seed geranium. Pinto displays large, full flower heads. Best for 3 1/2 to 4 1/2" pots. Early blooming, healthy compact plants produce enormous 5-6 inch flowerheads. Extra large blooms in a rich shade of lavender make a beautiful contrast to green foliage on well-branched plants. Pintos are an early blooming variety and a vigorous grower when planted. Ideal for beds and borders and mixed containers, geraniums require well drained soil.

*Geranium "Pinto Deep Rose"* - Pinto is absolutely uniform. Varieties coordinate in bloom time, habit, flower time and earliness. Pinto offers the most vigor in the garden compared with any other seed geranium. Pinto displays large, full flower heads. Best for 3 1/2 to 4 1/2" pots. Early blooming, healthy compact plants produce enormous 5-6 inch flowerheads. Extra large blooms in a rich shade of deep rose make a beautiful contrast to green foliage on well-branched plants. Pintos are an early blooming variety and a vigorous grower when planted. Ideal for beds and borders and mixed containers, geraniums require well drained soil. This plant is terrific for the landscape. The Pinto series has great popularity because of performance in uniform color and bloom.

*Ornamental Pepper "Black Hungarian"* - Tall 3' plants produce abundant yields of 4" long fiery fruits similar in shape to jalapenos, but shiny black ripening to red. The fruit is highly ornamental and useful in the kitchen. The foliage is highlighted by

dark purple veins and beautiful purple flowers. Good flavor. The pepper produced is medium hot.

#### **Bed 5**

*Snapdragon "Twinny Peach"* - This AAS Winner is a double or butterfly flower form that does not have the jaws or joints to snap. The double flower form is the origin for the name 'Twinny' or twins. Another unique quality is the blend of peach tone colors. The soft shades of peach, yellow and light orange are distinct, and no other snapdragon offers this range of colors. In the full sun garden, 'Twinny Peach' will produce abundant flower spikes, plenty to cut and place in vases for fresh indoor bouquets. Plants will continue to flower all season with little garden care. Like all snapdragons, 'Twinny Peach' is easy to grow and it exhibited heat tolerance in the AAS Trials. **AAS 201**

*Celosia "Fresh Look Red"* - This flower performs like a fresh floral arrangement all summer. Thriving in the summer heat and humidity with drought or rainy conditions, it decorates a garden or patio container with rosy red plumes. It won the coveted Gold Medal for its consistent performance with minimal maintenance and pest-free growth. Covers up spent plumes by producing new foliage and blooms. The plant always looks fresh, needing no grooming. When grown in the full sun, plants mature at 12 to 18 inches tall and spread 12 to 20 inches. The central plume can be 8 to 10 inches tall and 5 inches wide. Like all *Celosia plumosa*, the flowers can be cut and dried for everlasting homemade bouquets. **AAS 2004**

*Dahlia "Maxi Tampico"* - This dahlia flowers early and abundantly. By flowering continuously their growth is beautifully consistent and their flowering time is uniform. There is no pause in flowering during the summer months. The use of growth regulators is recommended. "Maxi Tampico" is a double dahlia that is red with white tips. Cut flowers are long-lasting.

#### **Bed 6**

*Marigold "Moonsong Deep Orange"* - Has an intense deep orange flower color that cannot be captured by a picture or digital image, as noted by judges. The fade-resistant orange flowers make others look more golden than orange. This unique color is one of three desirable, improved traits. The flower size from 2 1/2 to 3 1/2 inches and fully double blooms rank among the best of the class. 'Moonsong Deep Orange' plants are vigorous, tolerating stress such as heat or drought. In the full sun garden, the erect plants will reach about 12-15 inches tall. Over the summer, the old blooms will be covered with green foliage, which keeps the plants looking fresh throughout the growing season. **AAS 2010**

*Gaillardia* “*Mesa Yellow*”- The first hybrid blanket flower with a controlled plant habit and prolific flowering. The 3-inch daisy like flowers and globe shaped seed heads offer a superior presentation of color which continues throughout the summer. Gardeners will be glad to know they can cut the blooms for casual bouquets. The flowers, when left on the plants, will attract butterflies. Judges noted the improved plant habit of ‘Mesa Yellow’ with mature plants reaching 20 to 22 inches in a full sun garden location. The neat, mounded plants are adaptable to smaller space gardens or any type of containers. When planted near the inside edge of the container, they will cascade down the container. They are relatively maintenance free. ‘Mesa Yellow’ plants proved to be wind and rain resistant, meaning the plants recover quickly from severe weather. **AAS 2010**

*Trachelium* “*Lake Louise Blue*”- This trachelium is medium blue with medium green foliage. It is a late flowering plant with great tolerance for high heat and high light like the rest of the Lake Collection. Transplant flowers in late spring for summer through early autumn flowering.

*Trachelium* “*Lake Forest White*”- This trachelium is pure white with medium green foliage. Bred to flower more easily under conditions of shortening daylength. Long days of 16 to 18 hours are still needed to flower, but due to breeding, flowers are initiated more easily, uniformly and quickly. This plant has high heat tolerance just like the rest of the Lake Collection.

### **Bed 7:**

*Ornamental Kale* “*Glamour Red*”- This is All-America Selections’ first winning kale (edible or ornamental) in seventy-eight years of trialing! ‘Glamour Red’ is an excellent achievement in breeding for its unique shiny leaves. The waxless quality of the leaves makes them shiny with a more intense, vivid color as compared to existing ornamental brassicas. Judges noted that the shiny foliage is striking in the landscape and it out-performed comparisons with outstanding success. It is a fringed leaf type *Brassica oleracea* with flower head size of 10 to 12 inches. This full sun annual will bloom 90 days from sowing seed to first color. Leaf coloring begins when night temperatures fall below 55°F for approximately two weeks. **AAS 2011**

*Zinnia* “*Double Zahara Cherry*”- This interspecific cross between zinnia species, results in dependable resistance to leaf spot and mildew diseases. Growers can easily produce ‘Double Zahara Cherry’ flowering plants for spring bedding plants without the fear of plant loss due to these two diseases. Recommended for 4-inch pots or larger, the handsome symmetrical dark green plants produce fully double 2 ½ inch blooms. Growing in a full-sun garden, this AAS Winner will mature at about 12 inches tall

and wide. Heat tolerant in the garden, ‘Double Zahara Cherry’ can be perfectly matched with other sun loving annuals for container plantings. **AAS 2010**

*Statice* “*Dark Blue*”, “*Apricot*”, “*White*”, “*Rose*”- Plant is very resistant to drought. Produces a large number of small flowers joined in panicles, creating a magnificent effect. One of the most popular everlasting flowers. This annual should be planted in full sun. Use this sturdy, long-stemmed flower fresh or dried. The plants produce rich shades of dusty rose, blue, yellow and white that are always vivid. Statice will attract butterflies and blooms all summer. It tolerates heat, drought and salt spray. Plant in well-drained soil and water when the top 3-inch layer of soil is dry. Do not fertilize.

### **Bed 8**

*Viola F1* “*Skippy XL Plum-Gold*”- Sunny gold faces charm people gazing at ‘Skippy XL Plum-Gold.’ The flowers are uniquely designed with plum shades surrounding the golden centers (face), which contain radiating black lines affectionately called whiskers. The blooms are small, about 1-1/2 inches, but are not to be underrated. The number of blooms produced more than makes up for the size. Gardeners can rely on ‘Skippy XL Plum-Gold’ to provide abundant blooms whether growing in containers, window boxes, annual or perennial garden. **AAS 2008**

*Vinca* “*Hotlik Orchid Eye*”- This is a cool weather vinca that is easy to grow. It is great for pots, raised beds, and landscaping. This hybrid will astound the gardener.

*Vinca* “*Nirvana Pink Blush*”- This simple vinca has pink faces that contrast well with its light green foliage. The “Nirvana Pink Blush” grows well in full sun with a medium supply of water. Vincas can be used in potting and bedding.

*Osteospermum* “*Asti White*”- Pure white daisy flowers with blue centers are the main attraction for ‘Asti White.’ The large blooms, 2 to 2-1/2 inches across are born on stems that gracefully wave in the wind. The thick fleshy leaves indicate its drought tolerance, which makes this a preferred annual in any area subject to dry conditions. The flowers will remain open under cloudy conditions, unlike other daisy flowers originating from South Africa, which close. ‘Asti White’ plants adapt perfectly to growing in containers, preferably 6-inch pots or larger. **AAS 2008**

### **Bed 9:**

*Celosia* “*Fresh Look Gold*”- Correctly named, these plants look as fresh in September as they did when planted in the spring. ‘Fresh Look Gold’ plants are embellished with bright golden plumes that remain colorful all season, not “browning” with maturity. Since the plumes remain attractive, there is no reason to deadhead and no pest

problems are expected, thus 'Fresh Look Gold' needs little maintenance in a sunny garden. It is a carefree annual useful in formal or informal gardens. The golden plumes can be woven into a garden bed like a living tapestry because the plumes have a soft layered texture. 'Fresh Look Gold' proved to be heat, humidity and rain tolerant in AAS Trials across North America. Plants will grow to a height of one foot. This celosia is one of the best annuals for season-long performance. **AAS 2007**

*Geranium "Pinto Premium Scarlet"* - This geranium is an improved flower that is bred for earliness, uniformity and habit! Well-branched, vigorous plants adapt easily to high density production in pots. Uniform, early flowering makes beautiful displays in the spring. This geranium will produce large flowers on shorter stems

*Petunia*-unknown variety (tag lost in transit).

*Salvia "Summer Jewel Red"* - Consistently rated "superior" or "above average" by the AAS judges because of its early and generous flower blossoms, continuing from spring to autumn. Additionally, each dwarf and densely branching plant remains a tidy 20 inches tall, even at full maturity. The bright red flower spikes are covered with half inch blooms making it perfect for the bird lover's garden where the bright red color acts as a magnet for hummingbirds. As an added bonus, goldfinches swarm the plant for seeds. Even the leaves add beauty with their finer-textured, dark-green color. 'Summer Jewel Red' is approximately two weeks earlier than comparisons. Expect long season performance and superior holding ability in both wind and rain. This annual is ideal for full sun containers, mixed beds and borders where uniformity is desired. **AAS 2011**

*Snapdragon "Tall Scarlet"* - Produces fragrant blooms of bright scarlet-orange on upright plants that reach 24 to 30 inches tall. This plant produces pretty and petite sturdy flower spikes with uniform habit that bloom in the cool season. Valued for their long-blooming and profuse display of stunning flowers from pastels to dark shades. Flowers are densely packed along stalks, and are about 1-inch wide, with a distinctive lipped shape. Colorful spikes or snaps are popular for adding informal charm to flower beds and indoor bouquets. Plants grow as one or several tall stalks covered with bright flowers. Outstanding in mass plantings or borders.

### **Bed 10:**

*Lantana "Bandana White"* - Has large, bright white flowers that look great in pots or in the landscape. It has a mounding habit and extremely heat tolerant flowers. It is a great choice to extend the season. This flower will add fantastic texture and color to the garden!

*Lantana "Bandana Peach"* - If you have a hot, baked spot, lantana is your answer. This hardworking plant not only thrives with little moisture and in full, unyielding sun, it does so with ease. In fact, lantana is a flower that seems to have it all: it produces an abundance of brightly colored flowers all summer and fall, and it's a magnet for butterflies and hummingbirds. It's easy to grow and a great choice for containers. Plus, if you have a sunny spot indoors, you can grow it as a charming indoor plant.

*Zinnia "Zahara Starlight Rose"* - Zinnias are old-fashioned flowers but these rose and white flowers are a new bicolor for this sun loving class of annuals. Other new traits are the proven resistances to leaf spot and mildew, which can devastate healthy plants and cause an early death. These superior qualities resulted in long lasting zinnia plants that provide generous color all season. 'Zahara Starlight Rose' is heat and drought tolerant, and easy to grow in gardens. This is the perfect plant for the novice or experienced gardener because it is so undemanding with a maximum number of blooms. **AAS 2010**

*Incarvillea "Cheron White"* - Hardy perennials that grow in clumps and range in height from 1 to 4 feet. They are native to the high mountains of central and Eastern Asia. Incarvillea have fern-like leaves and carry exotic trumpet shaped flowers. They are great plants for use in borders, and the smaller varieties are of use in rock gardens. Some of the common names for Incarvillea are trumpet flower, Hardy Gloxina, and Chinese trumpet flower.

*Geranium "Pinto Premium Deep Rose"* - Pinto is absolutely uniform. Varieties coordinate in bloom time, habit, flower time and earliness. Pinto offers the most vigor in the garden compared with any other seed geranium. Pinto displays large, full flower heads. Best for 3 1/2 to 4 1/2" pots. Early blooming, healthy compact plants produce enormous 5-6 inch flowerheads. Extra large blooms in a rich shade of deep rose make a beautiful contrast to green foliage on well-branched plants. Pintos are an early blooming variety and a vigorous grower when planted. Ideal for beds and borders and mixed containers, geraniums require well drained soil. This plant is terrific for the landscape. The Pinto series has great popularity because of performance in uniform color and bloom.

*Geranium "Pinto Premium Salmon Splash"* - Pinto is absolutely uniform. Varieties coordinate in bloom time, habit, flower time and earliness. Pinto offers the most vigor in the garden compared with any other seed geranium. Pinto displays large, full flower heads. Best for 3 1/2 to 4 1/2" pots. Early blooming, healthy compact plants produce enormous 5-6 inch flowerheads. Extra large blooms in a

light shade of salmon pink make a beautiful contrast to green foliage on well-branched plants. Pintos are an early blooming variety and a vigorous grower when planted. Ideal for beds and borders and mixed containers, geraniums require well drained soil. This plant is terrific for the landscape. The Pinto series has great popularity because of performance in uniform color and bloom.

*Geranium "Pinto Premium Violet"* - Pinto is absolutely uniform. Varieties coordinate in bloom time, habit, flower time and earliness. Pinto offers the most vigor in the garden compared with any other seed geranium. Pinto displays large, full flower heads. Best for 3 1/2 to 4 1/2" pots. Early blooming, healthy compact plants produce enormous 5-6 inch flowerheads. Extra large blooms in a rich shade of pink violet make a beautiful contrast to green foliage on well-branched plants. Pintos are an early blooming variety and a vigorous grower when planted. Ideal for beds and borders and mixed containers, geraniums require well drained soil. This plant is terrific for the landscape. The Pinto series has great popularity because of performance in uniform color and bloom.

### **Bed 11:**

*Petunia "Opera Supreme Pink Morn"* - Iridescent pink blooms are the unique feature of this vigorous trailing petunia. A silvery shine causes blooms to shimmer, capturing an admirer's attention from a distance. The hybrid plants are capable of growing three feet in sunny locations. This spreading quality covers garden soil and can choke weeds beautifully. 'Opera Supreme Pink Morn' can be relied on for exceptional garden performance without pruning or deadheading. Less work enables gardeners more leisure time in the garden. **AAS 2007**

*Trachelium "Lake Michigan Wine Red"* - Trachelium is native to the west Mediterranean. The word 'Trachelium' is derived from Greek meaning 'rough throat'. This is because trachelium was used in herbalism to treat throat disorders. The best red cut flower trachelium; dark burgundy-red flowers with dark reddish foliage and stems. This plant has the greatest potential for year-round production in mild climates.

*Petunia "Easy Wave Mystic Pink"* - Exceptional uniformity, the best-matched habit and the widest colour range make Easy Wave the easiest to produce and most versatile of all large-flowered spreading petunias. The uniformity of Easy Wave means simplified production, maximized plug yields and the ability to meet every ship date for every colour. This uniformity also allows you to grow specialty mixes! Easy Wave offers the broadest range of applications of any large-flowered spreading petunias, including gardens and landscapes, and solo or mixed containers and baskets.

*Petunia*-Unknown variety (tag lost in transit).

### **Bed 12:**

*Marigold "Moonstruck Lemon Yellow"* - This outstanding series took center stage in our flower trials. The semi-dwarf, 12-15 inch plants sport colossal, 3-inch, globe-shaped, double flowers. The sturdy plants are exceptionally uniform and lavished in bold color throughout the summer.

*Gaillardia "Sunrita Scarlet Halo"* - Midsized in habit, ideal for containers or near the front of a sunny border. This selection has soft-yellow daisy petals surrounding a slightly darker button center. Removing faded flowers will greatly extend the blooming season. Clumps should be divided in early spring every 2 to 3 years. Plants will not tolerate wet, heavy clay soil, particularly in the winter. Flowers are attractive to butterflies, and also excellent for cutting.

*Gaillardia "Mesa Yellow"* - The first hybrid blanket flower with a controlled plant habit and prolific flowering. The 3-inch daisy like flowers and globe shaped seed heads offer a superior presentation of color which continues throughout the summer. Gardeners will be glad to know they can cut the blooms for casual bouquets. The flowers, when left on the plants, will attract butterflies. When planted near the inside edge of the container, they will cascade down the container. They are relatively maintenance free. 'Mesa Yellow' plants proved to be wind and rain resistant, meaning the plants recover quickly from severe weather. **AAS 2010**

*Zinnia "Double Zahara Fire"* - Large 2 1/2 inch, fully double flowers crown these disease resistant plants. 'Double Zahara Fire' has proven leaf spot and mildew resistance. This is linked to the ease of growing in the greenhouse for spring flowering plants and the length of flowering season. There is less risk of plant loss while growing these zinnias under cool, low light conditions. Similar to all zinnias, this AAS Winner will perform best in full sun and thrive on summer heat. **AAS 2010**

### **Bed 13:**

*Viola "Endurio Sky Blue Martien"* - A burst of clear blue greets gardeners with 'Endurio Sky Blue Martien.' This unique spreading viola may look delicate, but delivers tough-as-nails performance in the garden. In northern temperate climates, it dazzles gardeners with two-season color – flowering well after first frost when planted in autumn and once again in spring after snow has melted and soil has warmed. It is also perfectly suited to window boxes and hanging gardens, as well as balcony and patio planters. **AAS 2010**

*Gaillardia "Arizona Apricot"* - A new and unique apricot color for this class. Blooms have yellow edges that deepen to a rich apricot in the center. Judges noted the award-

winning distinctive flower color of the 3 to 3.5 inch daisy-like flowers, described as exceptionally lovely and lighter in color than traditional gaillardia. This long-flowering perennial is hardy in USDA Zones 2-10, is relatively maintenance free, and drought-tolerant once established. Gardeners will want to remove old flowers to encourage additional blooming. **AAS 2011**

*Salvia "Summer Jewel Red"* - Consistently rated "superior" or "above average" by the AAS judges because of its early and generous flower blossoms, continuing from spring to autumn. Additionally, each dwarf and densely branching plant remains a tidy 20 inches tall, even at full maturity. The bright red flower spikes are covered with half inch blooms making it perfect for the bird lover's garden where the bright red color acts as a magnet for hummingbirds. As an added bonus, goldfinches swarm the plant for seeds. **AAS 2011**

### **Bed 13A:**

*Viola "Shangri-La Marina"* - An early-flowering, mounding viola in a vibrant new color for this type. In trials, the 6-inch tall plants kept a low-growing mounding habit. Colorful and prolific 1¼ inch blooms have light blue petals with a velvety dark blue face that is surrounded by a narrow white border. Judges noted earlier and showier blooms with noticeable drive-by flower power. Flower color was a consistent deep Marina blue throughout the season. This vigorous frost-tolerant biennial provides a solid mat of fall color until covered with snow followed by a great recovery in spring. Grow in full sun as a low edging in the garden or in hanging baskets and pots. **AAS 2011**

*Dahlia "Dalina Midi Fiji"* - Masses of continuous color, spring to first frost; deadhead as needed. This flower attracts butterflies and works well as a landscape plant. The purple flower contrasts nicely against the beautiful green foliage. This flower will grow up to one foot tall and likes well drained soil.

*Geranium "Multibloom Violet Centerzone"* - This is an upright flower that is violet in color with dark zoning on the foliage. It will grow to one foot tall and works well in container gardens and as a uniform color mass.

*Dahlia "Victoriana Mix"* - The tall stems of single pastel flowers make this mix ideal for cutting. Colors range from lilac-mauve to soft pink. These are great for cutting since they bloom non-stop. The single blooms look faded water colors. These are the old fashioned single dahlias and the blooms are about 2" across.

## North Plot 1 - Garlic & Tomatoes

### **Garlic**

*(Allium sativum)* - Differs from onions in that its bulb is composed of as few as four to as many as 25 cloves arranged inside a papery bulb cover. Garlic is planted in the fall from cloves. Larger cloves yield larger sized mature bulbs at harvest. Plant the cloves 3-5" apart in an upright position at about 1" deep. Dig bulbs as the tops begin to dry and then clean, dry and cure after harvest.

**Hardneck types** - Also known as bolting or stalking. More closely related to wild garlic and still produce a woody flower stalk called a scape. Because of this scape, hardneck garlic varieties can't be braided. Bulbs contain 4-12 cloves that are relatively the same size.

**Softneck types** - Never produce a scape and therefore can be braided. Softneck garlic also has a much longer storage period - up to 9 months for the typical artichoke types commercially available at retail grocery stores. Bulbs contain 12-24 cloves that are much smaller are more variable in size than the cloves of hardneck garlic.

*German White* - This hardneck porcelain usually has paper white bulbs and tight wrappers. It also sports white cloves with a moderately spicy flavor. Averages 4-6 cloves per bulb. Harvest late and will store well into winter.

*Giant Siberian* - Purple stripe, hardneck garlic with a hot, zippy flavor. Very large bulbs with 5-7 fat brown cloves per bulb.

**Music** - Porcelain hardneck garlic originating from Canada that produces very large bulbs and cloves with a hot flavor.

*Estonian Red* - hardneck, marbled purple stripe variety. Produces large bulbs with a nice smooth, pleasing garlic flavor. This is a popular garlic for shrimp scampi. It's said to be the largest variety of garlic bulbs grown in Denmark. It has a very good storage life for a hardneck. Averages 6 cloves per bulb.

*Germany Extra Hardy* - Among the most winter-hardy garlic varieties. Very large bulbs with 4-5 large cloves. The outside skin is very white and the skin covering the cloves is dark red.

*Elephant* - It is probably more closely related to the leek than to the normal variety. The bulbs are very large and can weigh over a pound. A single clove of elephant garlic can be as large as a whole bulb of ordinary garlic. In terms of flavor, elephant garlic is to garlic what leeks are to onions. It is much less intense and sweeter.

*Killarney Red* - Well adapted to wet conditions. The bulbs are large and easy to peel making them a favorite in the kitchen. Averages about 10 cloves per bulb.

*Kettle River Red* - Softneck that produces extra-large, somewhat flat bulbs with cloves arranged in two layers. A very productive variety in all climates. Rich flavor with a medium-hot after-taste. Averages 3 bulbs per 1/2 lb. with 7-8 cloves per bulb.

*Northern Giant* - Produces large bulbs with a purple streaking. Has a hot initial taste that subsides slowly. Holds its flavor well when cooked this is a locally adapted heirloom which is ideal for northern growing.

*Transylvanian* - Artichoke softneck variety. This has nice plump cloves. Has crisp, fresh garlic flavor with a very mild pleasant aftertaste that doesn't linger too long. It smells incredible when cooking. It holds flavor well in cooked dishes and adds a nice fresh garlic flavor without being too overwhelming with other ingredients. A good one for braids, the shape of the bulbs makes you think of a garlic necklace of folklore worn to repel the vampires. Averages about 7 to 9 cloves per small bulbs and 15+ for larger bulbs.

*Sarona Red* - A locally adapted variety selected for its large cloves and hardiness.

*German Red* - Has a rich, strong flavor. Hot and spicy, lingering flavor, 8-9 cloves per bulb.


*Simonetti Artichoke* - Artichoke softneck variety. It retains flavor well when cooking. The bulb size has been large and the flavor is very nice. Originally from village of Simoneti, Republic of Georgia. Many layers of cloves with up to 20 cloves possible, averages 14 cloves per bulb.

*Pescadero Red* - Beautiful, symmetrical bulbs with brilliant color cloves. This has a really nice solid classic garlic taste with an initial heat that fades quickly to a mild aftertaste with no lingering burn. It retains a nice classic flavor with cooking as well. Averages 7 cloves per bulb.

## **Tomatoes**

In general an heirloom is a variety that has been passed down through several generations because of its valued characteristics. Each variety is noted for its unique color, size, fruit shape, texture and or flavor. All heirloom varieties are open pollinated and as a result their seeds can be saved and passed down from generation to generation, while maintaining the desired variety characteristics. This display is a small selection of the hundreds of heirloom tomato varieties. Each variety is being evaluated for earliness, fruit quality and appropriateness for fresh market sales.

Heirloom tomato seeds can be purchased from a variety of on-line catalogs. If you don't wish to start your own plants, many of the varieties listed below can be purchased as transplants from the North Country Master Gardeners at their spring plant sale held the third Saturday in May at the Spooner Ag Research Station.

 *Stupice* - (Stu-peach-ka) (Heirloom) This potato-leaf heirloom from Czechoslovakia is a cold-tolerant tomato that bears an abundance of very sweet, flavorful 2 to 3-inch, deep red fruit. Heavy yields all season. Excellent for eating fresh or on salads.


*Yugo Pink* - Yugoslavian Pink- (Heirloom) Large beefsteak fruits have perfect top quality, extremely uniform strain, very productive. Great full tomato flavor.

*German Matina* - (Heirloom) Most early tomatoes don't have good taste, but Matina is known for outstanding flavor. This is a rather small tomato, but well worth growing. German heirloom. Potato leaf foliage.

*German Johnson* - (Heirloom) Popular heirloom tomato from Virginia and North Carolina. Pink and red fruits that average ¾-1 ½ lbs. With smooth tops. Good for slicing and canning. Few seeds. Very productive plants and fairly resistant to disease.

*Neinbuis Paste* - F1 hybrid developed by UW-Madison plant breeder Jim Neinbuis by crossing an Italian paste tomato with a very short season. The hope of this breeding is to develop a very short season paste tomato variety with exceptional flavor, color, and disease tolerance.

*Amish Paste* - (Heirloom) Bright red 8-12 ounce fruits vary in shape from oxheart to rounded plum. Delicious flesh is juicy and meaty, excellent for sauce or fresh eating.

 *Speckled Roman* - Gorgeous 5" long fruits with jagged orange and yellow stripes. Meaty flesh with few seeds. Great tomato taste, ideal for processing and fresh eating. Very productive.

*Czech Bush* - (Heirloom) Heavy yields of round 4-6 ounce red fruits early in the season. Attractive stocky plants with rugose foliage. Excellent for containers.

*Big Beef* - (F1 hybrid) Extra meaty with a real "homegrown" flavor and just the right balance of sugars and acids. Produces extra large, "beefy" fruit that average 10-12 oz. in most growing areas. Fruit shape is deep oblate to globe. Bred to yield attractive, extra-smooth fruit in high numbers. **AAS 1994**

*Russian Persimmon* - (Heirloom) Plants grow 36 inches tall and the fruit is 3-4 inches in diameter. Fruit is smooth and free of blemishes. Ripens to the same yellow-orange color as a persimmon. Mild sweet flavor.


*French Montpellier* - (Heirloom) Heirloom variety that dates back to 1790. The 4-oz fruit hangs in clusters of 3-4. This variety was used for medicine and sauces. Flavor is very good and has spicy and rich taste. Large yields.

*French St. Pierre* - (Heirloom) Plant produces a good yield of large red tomatoes. A very sweet popular variety. Does well under adverse weather conditions including cold weather and little watering. A variety from France.

*Jaune'* - (Heirloom) Beautiful heirloom that originated with Norbert Perreira of Helliner, France. Early crops of apricot-colored 4 ounce fruits borne on elongated trusses. Excellent fruity flavor with a perfect blend of sweet and tart. Great for drying or roasting, retains deep orange color.

*San Marzano* - (Heirloom) From Italy. Compact and prolific producer of bright-red, slim, 2-3 inch, plum-type, fruit over a long season. A paste tomato with pointy end, heavy walls and little juice, so it's great for tomato sauce. Crack resistant.

*Roma* - (F1 hybrid) The classic paste tomato, Roma is popular all around the world. Several inch fruits are meaty, with few seeds and are perfect for sauces. Heavy bearing plants produce until frost. Bright red, 2 oz. elongated tomatoes have excellent flavor and firm flesh.

 *Cherokee Purple* - (Heirloom) At least 100 years old and was reported to be grown by Cherokee Indians. Fruits are large, 12-16 oz. dark pink with darker purple shoulders. Excellent complex flavor, slightly sweet aftertaste, perfect slices for sandwiches.

*Ukrainian Kidbit Tomata* - (Heirloom) Just so full of juice and flavor and ever so cute. It is wilt resistant besides. These kept on producing continuously all season long, right until hard frost. If you want a container growing type of tomato this rare Russian tomato is for you. It easily out produced many much larger plants.

*Terenzo F1* - (Hybrid) Terenzo' is a high yielding red cherry fruited. The round fruit is a standard size cherry having an approximate size of 1¼ inches and an average weight of 0.7 ounces. This compact variety is suitable for growing in hanging baskets or containers as a patio type tomato. This very easy-to-grow determinate bush variety requires little maintenance and produces fruits that are more resistant to cracking. 'Terenzo' is loaded with a bountiful harvest of flavorful, easy-to-pick fruits throughout the summer heat. **AAS 2011**

*Lizzano F1* - (Hybrid) A vigorous semi-determinate tomato variety with a low growing, trailing habit excellent for growing in patio containers or hanging baskets. The durable, appealing plants grow 16 to 20 inches tall with a compact spread of only

20 inches. Expect abundant yields of high-quality, bright red, baby cherry sized fruits. The small 1-inch fruits weigh about 0.4 ounces. The plentiful fruit set allows for continual harvest beneficial for the home gardener. Judges noted better eating quality, yield and plant habit than comparisons. **AAS 2011**

*Opalka* - (Heirloom) Originated in Poland circa 1900. Phenomenal set of 3" by 6" red paste tomatoes on vigorous wispy vines. Excellent flavor and very few seeds make this a perfect processing tomato. Fruits hold well on the vine.

*Mexico Midget* - (Heirloom) Many ½-¾" dark red cherry tomatoes on each plant. Huge tomato flavor for such small fruits. Great for salads or selling in pints. Plants produce throughout the entire growing season.


*Yellow Pear* - (F1) A very tasty pear shaped yellow tomato. Colorful in salads, sliced or in preserves. As rich in vitamins as it is flavorful, a very popular variety for the home garden. Growth is fairly tall.

*Red Pear* - (F1) This small, red pear shaped tomato makes a very nice salad garnish. The fruit typically weigh one-half ounce. The plants will tend to sprawl all over the place and will be loaded with large clusters of fruit.

## Plot 2 - Vegetables

### Peppers

**The Scoville Scale:** The Scoville Scale is a measuring system used to rate the spiciness of peppers. The scale begins with bell peppers and other sweet peppers at 0 and goes up to pure capsaicin at 16,000,000 units. Capsaicin is the oil that is commonly associated with the "hotness" of a pepper. Some of the ratings are listed.

 *King of the North* - The best red bell pepper we know for northern gardeners where the seasons are cool and short. Blocky, uniform fruits are excellent for stuffing or fresh eating. Great sweet flavor.

*California Wonder* - Peppers are thick-walled and blocky, about 4 inches tall and wide, with a crisp, mild flavor and terrific sweetness. One of the best tasting sweet bell peppers. They mature from green to red on the plant. If kept picked they will continue producing throughout the growing season.

*Chinese Giant* - Plant produces high yields of huge 6" long sweet bell peppers. Peppers turn from green to red when mature. Excellent for stuffing, salads, and cooking.

*Patio Red Marconi* - The perfect sweet pepper for growing in pots or raised beds. Ripe fruit are a glowing red and have a sugary-sweetness. Productive and easy to grow.

*Asti Rosi* - (Heirloom) Very thick, brilliant red flesh; the fruits are huge with delicious rich-sweet taste. Excellent for frying, salads or stuffing; one of the largest red bells, beautiful and blocky. The perfect pepper for home and market growers; produces large yields. Very popular with many fine markets in Italy.

*Big Bertha* - This massive plant produces 7-inch-long glossy green bells with thick, firm walls. Fruit matures all season and is delicious when cooked or raw.

*Red Belgium* - Red bell that is a Belgian heirloom. This pepper is prized for its earliness and high yields. Fruit turns from yellow to red and has a sweet, rich taste.

*Key Stone Giant* - Great pepper for eating fresh or in salads. 4" fruit that turns from dark green to red. Thick walled makes it ideal for cooking.

*Yellow Hot Wax* - Canary yellow, then bright red at full maturity. These medium-hot peppers are especially good for pickling. A hot version of the sweet banana pepper. Same heat as Jalapeno. 5,000-10,000 Scoville Units.


*Mariachi* - Perfect when you want a blast of color but just a hint of heat. The compact 18-24" plants yield loads of 4" cone shaped fruit that change brilliantly from creamy yellow to bright red all summer, yet taste spicy but only mildly hot. Early and continuously productive. 500-600 Scoville Units. **AAS 2006**

*Mini Red Belle* - Tiny, red, bell peppers are only about 1-1/2 inches tall and wide. They have thick, red flesh that is very sweet and great for stuffing. 2-ft tall plants produce loads of these little winners and early, too.

*New Ace* - New Ace sets a steady stream of high quality green bell peppers throughout the growing season, which ripen to red quickly. It is not as big, blocky, and thick walled as later varieties, but is favored because of its earliness and reliability. Highly recommended for short/cool season areas. Sets even in cool nights and sketchy weather.

*Toro Giallo* - (Heirloom) A traditional favorite in Italy. 8" long tapered fruit resemble a bull's horn. Large plants with high yields. Sweet and spicy, delicious fresh or roasted. Great in salads, sauteed or grilled.

*Orange Blaze* - The brightest bell on the block is Orange Blaze Hybrid, a crunchy-sweet pepper with early maturity, great disease resistance, and delectable flavor. They can be picked green if need be, but their best flavor and most vitamins occur in the final days of ripening, when the peppers abruptly turn from deep green to bright orange. **AAS 2011**

 *Carmen* - Both early maturing and extremely productive in a wide range of temperatures. The compact 28" tall plants yield abundant horn-shaped fruits so characteristic of grilled and sautéed peppers throughout the Mediterranean. As they mature from green to red they get even sweeter, making them excellent choice for fresh salsa or cooked dishes. **AAS 2006**

*Giant Marconi* - An improved Italian grilling pepper. About 6 to 8 inches long, the tapered green pepper will mature to red on the 30 inch plant. 'Giant Marconi' tastes excellent raw but is best when grilled. It has a memorable sweet, smoky flavor. Judged best in its class for earliness, yield, pepper size and flavor. Plants are resistant to Potato Virus Y and Tobacco Mosaic Virus, which means the plants tend to live longer for an improved yield. **AAS 2001**

*Sweet Banana* - Banana peppers get their name, as you may have guessed, from their shape and color. The banana pepper is about 2- 3 inches long and curved to a point and is one of the more popular garden variety peppers to be grown due to its sweet taste. 1,000-5,000 Scoville Units.

*Ampuis* - (Pronounced "om-Poo-ee") (Heirloom) Ampuis is a historic town in the Rhone valley in France, known for its winemaking. It has very almost paper thin walls. It is oddly shaped, and looks like a small lantern. The thin walls are very crisp. This is a very rare and hard to find pepper. Unique sweet flavor.

*Holy Mole'* - Mole' sauce is made from this type of pasilla pepper. Hole Mole' is a the first hybrid pasilla resulting in early 7 to 9 inch peppers. The green peppers will mature to a dark chocolate brown color, perfect for mole' sauce. The flavor is mildly spicy, about 700 Scoville heat units. **AAS 2007**

*Cajun Belle* - There's Cajun flavor in this southern belle. Peppers are both sweet and savory. The fruit look like small bell peppers about 2" x 3" with 3 or 4 lobes. When left on the plant, fruit will change color from green to scarlet and finish red, filled with vitamin C. 'Cajun Belle' plants produce a high yield of peppers due to vigor and excellent fruit set. **AAS 2010**

*Early Jalapeño* - A very early maturing hot jalapeno pepper. The compact plants produce many small green peppers that will slowly turn to red as the fruit matures. Jalapenos are used in a wide variety of recipes. They are popular fresh, cooked, pickled, dried and great in salsa.

*Habanero* - The habanero is the hottest chile pepper you'll find in your local grocery stores, and they are very hot. The oil in the habanero, as well as many other hot chiles,

can be very painful if you get it in your eyes or on open wounds on your hands. Unripe habaneros are green, but the color at maturity varies. Common colors are orange and red, but white, brown, and pink are also seen. Most habaneros rate 200,000 to 300,000 Scoville heat units.

## ***Eggplant***

*Fairy Tale* - Grow the most tender-sweet fruits of right on the patio in containers! Handsome enough for the annual flower bed but ready to produce enough yummy fruits to keep everyone coming back for seconds. Very slender and long, they are neon-lavender with bold streaks of white. **AAS 2000**

*Hansel* - Best described as a miniature eggplant with finger sized clusters of fruit. If the fruit clusters remain on the plant they continue to grow but remain tender and not as bitter as other varieties. Therefore making harvest season flexible for home gardeners who take a vacation in the summer. **AAS 2008**

*Gretel* - This is the earliest white eggplant. Glossy, pure-white fruit are produced in clusters. The mature plant reaches 3 feet tall and wide. **AAS 2009**

*Dusky* - An extra early hybrid variety for shorter season areas. A cylindrical shape with jet black, glossy skin. Dusky has excellent flavor and produces high yields.

## ***Cauliflower***

*Violet Queen* - Plant produces good yields of beautiful royal purple heads of cauliflower. Excellent for salads and dips. This variety is an intermediate between a cauliflower and broccoli plant.

*Self Blanche* - Plant produces flavorful snow ball type cauliflower. Leaves curl upward and cover head to keep sun from ruining white color. Plant early as it stops growing when it gets hot.

## ***Broccoli***

*Green Comet* - Plant produces very flavorful 1 lb size heads of dark green broccoli. Tolerates heat well. Disease resistant. **AAS 1969**

*Windsor* - This versatile, early variety produces heavy, blue-green domes from spring, summer and fall plantings. Medium-tall plants tolerate both heat and cold. Well protected heads are tolerant to downy mildew, brown head and head rot.

*Belstar* - Widely adapted broccoli suitable for late summer and fall harvest. This hybrid has a large domed head and tight heads that are blue-green in color.

## ***Kale***

*Winterbor* - One of the most winter hardy kales, Winterbor has finely curled, thick, blue-green leaves. Very vigorous, it can grow up to 2 feet, developing an abundance of ruffled, fancy leaves for salad mixes. Really sweet and juicy after frosts!

## ***Brussel sprouts***

*Purple* - One of the most flavorful brussel sprouts on the market. These rosy sprouts are simply delicious, with a mild, nut-like flavor that appeals more to children than other brussel sprout varieties may.

## ***Cabbage***

*Savoy* - Has ruffled, lacy, deeply ridged leaves. The leaves are more loosely layered and less tightly packed than green or red cabbage, although its uses are similar. Delicious thinly sliced in salads or quickly stir-fried.

*Early Jersey Wakefield* - Heirloom cabbage introduced from England. Easy to grow, they are very productive. Small pointed heads have a mild flavor and mature without splitting. 2-3lb., with a dark green outside and creamy light green inside.

*Ruby Perfection* - This heavy yielding variety produces beautiful 4 lb red cabbage. Very flavorful and crisp. Red color enhances any salad or slaw. It is easy to grow and perfect for home gardens.

*Late Flat Dutch* - Plant produces heavy crops of huge 15 lb. heads of cabbage. One of the best winter keepers. Suitable for home gardens and market growers.

## ***Collards***

*Vates* - Leaves tend to curl inward. Color varies from blue-green to gray-green. Greens have mild cabbage-like flavor; ideal boiled. This variety has a more uniform compact growth habit.

## ***Beans***

*Dragon Tongue* - This Dutch wax bean has large 6-8" cream-colored pods with vivid purple stripes that disappear when blanched. Pods are stringless, wide, and exceptionally crisp and juicy. Compact, high yielding plants. Bush habit

*Provider* - Can be planted earlier than other beans because it germinates well in cool soils. Compact plants are easy to grow and adaptable to diverse soil and climate conditions. Produces 5 1/2" fleshy round pod green beans. Purple seeds.

*Maxibel*- Looking for a terrific bush French/filet bean? Maxibel was the first full-size, high-quality, bush filet bean on the market. Very straight, dark green, Best suited for hand picking, the concentrated sets are easy to harvest. Unsurpassed bush bean flavor. This one is a must for flavor conscious gardeners or market growers who want French/filet beans without trellising.

### ***A note on onions***

For consistent quality and unique flavors it is recommended gardeners plant day neutral or long day onion transplant varieties. Onions are biennial plants meaning they need two years to complete their life cycle. In the first year biennials concentrate on vegetative growth, in the second year they concentrate their efforts into producing a flower. When onions are planted as seed or seedling transplants, their first year's growth is concentrated on root, bulb, and green top development. It is with this one year old plant we get the best quality and largest size bulb. When onions are planted as sets, they are technically already a one year old plant, and as a result they split their efforts into growing a bulb and producing a seed stalk. Day length and temperature can affect bulbing and size. Long day onions, which need 13-16 hours of daylight, do best in our northern climate. Short day types do best in the south, and day neutral types grow well anywhere. Another advantage to planting transplants is you can select varieties that have unique qualities such as bulb size and shape, sweetness or storability. Common pests can be onion thrips and phomopsis (fungus).

### ***Onions***

*Red Zeppelin* - Long keeping red storage onion. Large, hard, 3 to 4 inch globes have a moderately pungent flavor with deep red skins and interior rings of an excellent red color.

*Big Daddy* - Extra-large size for a storage onion. Big, uniform globes have excellent flavor, keep up to 10 months. Big Daddy Hybrid performs well in Northern regions.

*Copbra* - Uniform “rock-hard” storage onion with early maturity. These medium-sized, dark yellow-skinned storage onions have the preferred blocky round shape with thin necks that dry quickly. Firmness and skin are superior. Remains firm and sound after other varieties have sprouted.

*Red Wethersfield* - Grown by Thomas Jefferson at Monticello and first listed commercially in 1834 by Hovey & Co. This beautiful onion was once the prize production crop of Wethersfield, Connecticut in the 18th and 19th Centuries, harvested by young girls known as “the Onion Maidens.” This large flattened globe of

deep purplish-red skin, fairly firm pink-tinged white flesh with red concentric circles and fine pungent flavor, was also used as a poultice in its day!

### ***Potatoes***

*Yukon* - Developed in Canada and released in 1981. It was originally perceived as a gourmet variety, but has recently become a popular item in the produce aisle, commanding a premium price from supermarket shoppers. The skin of a Yukon Gold is smooth and golden white. The light-yellow color of its flesh gives the impression that it has been pre-battered.

*Russet* - Outstanding in both the commercial and domestic kitchen. Fried, baked, mashed, roasted, even dehydrated—these potatoes do it all. Oblong in shape, with light russet-brown netting, shallow eyes, and white flesh.

*Superior* - Potatoes are great early season potatoes to grow in your home garden! Produces buff colored skin and flesh.

### ***Beets***

*Golden* - Commercially available since 1828. Dual purpose beet for roots and greens. Roots are globe-shaped and bright orange, turning golden-yellow when cooked. Tender and mild even when large. Will not bleed like red beets. Sweet flavorful leaves.

*Detroit* - Smooth globe, flattened shape. Dark red. Large productivity. Uniform color, size, and shape. Sweet and tender flavor even when big.

*Chioggia* - Pre-1840 Italian heirloom, introduced to the U.S. before 1865. Named for a fishing town near Venice. Uniquely beautiful flesh has alternating red and white concentric rings that resemble a bull's-eye. A feast for the eyes; wonderful for fresh eating and pickling. Retains markings if baked whole and sliced just before serving.

### ***Carrots***

*Nantes* - The Nantes carrot was first described in a nineteenth century French vegetable seed catalog. Today there are more than a half dozen varieties of carrots that specifically bear the Nantes name, but more generally in general, Nantes cultivars are known for being sweeter and tenderer than other carrots.


*Kaleidoscope* - Five distinct colors of carrots in one special blend for a pretty rainbow effect that is sure to be noticed at the dinner table, even by the kids. This easy-to-grow mix combines 5 crispy carrots: Atomic Red, Bambino, Cosmic Purple, Lunar White and Solar Yellow.

## North Plot 2-Vine Crops

### *Melons*

*Lambkin* - Bred as a gourmet breakfast or dessert melon. Its distinctive visual feature is the smooth yellow skin with green mottling. The oval-shaped melon matures early.

**AAS 2009**


 *Amy* - Earliness and higher yield when grown next to similar “canary” type melons. Melons are bright golden yellow with smooth skin; without netting or sutures. The radiant color indicates when the melon is ready for harvest. There is a small seed cavity surrounded by moist, white flesh noted for its sweet flavor and firm texture. **AAS 2004**

*Delicious 51* - Very early melon. 6" round cantaloupes that have salmon orange flesh, sparse netting and very aromatic. Fruits weigh between 2-3 pounds and are slightly ribbed. If you like hybrid melons you should give this one a try for its disease resistance and early yields.

*Charentais* - (Heirloom) A true French cantaloupe that originated in the Poitou-Charentes region circa 1920. Considered by many to be the most divine and flavorful melon in the world. Smooth round melons mature to a creamy gray with faint ribs. Sweet, juicy, orange flesh with a heavenly fragrance. Typically the size of a grapefruit and weighing 2 pounds.

*Golden Midget* - (Heirloom) Golden-yellow skin and salmon pink flesh that is fairly sweet for such an early melon. Leaves are green and yellow so don't be alarmed. It turns yellow when at its peak ripeness.

*Shiny Boy* - Favored because of its sweet tropical flavor and crisp texture. A red fleshed melon with dark seeds; this globe-shaped melon weighs about 20 pounds, some larger. The hybrid plants are vigorous; vines can grow up to 12 feet. This can be grown successfully in any geographic region with warm summer growing conditions. **AAS 2010**

 *Extra Early Sugar Baby* - Sugar baby watermelon is a delicious super sweet, early maturing, small fruit bearing “icebox melon.” Flesh is fine textured and sweet. Sugar baby watermelon seeds vines are shorter than big fruited melon vines. Developed with the home gardener in mind.

### *Squash*

*Bon Bon* - Unlike other buttercup types, ‘Bonbon’ has an upright, semi bush habit. Bred for earliness. Squash can be harvested in about 80 days from transplanting, and

are definitely improved for sweeter flavor and smooth texture. Fruit are 6 inches in diameter, weighing 4-6 pounds and are entirely stringless. Bonbon plants exhibit tolerance to powdery mildew. **AAS 2005.**

*Sunshine* - The vibrant orange-red skin is distinctive. The 3-4 lb. fruit is a flattened bloge shape. The bright orange flesh is sweet, nutty, creamy smooth and completely stringless when baked, steamed or microwaved. **AAS 2004.**

*Honeybear* - A compact bushy plant that has powdery mildew tolerance. These traits enable gardeners to grow this winter acorn squash in smaller-space gardens and expect high yields. The mildew tolerance allows the late-season fruit on the plant to mature, increasing the overall harvest. Plants produce three to five dark-green squash weighing about a pound each. **AAS 2009**

*Waltham Butternut* - Among all of the colorful and unusual varieties to choose from, it's important not to overlook some of the familiar tried and true staples. Butternut squash is one of the most blandly colored yet sweetest and most richly flavored of the winter squashes. Once baked its yellow-orange flesh is smooth as silk. **AAS 1970**

### *Pumpkin*

*Sorcerer* - A high-yielding medium-sized beauty. Sorcerer is deep orange, very round weighing between 15-25 lbs and anchored by a large, firmly rooted handle. Ribbing is heavy. **AAS 2002**

*Hijinks* - Small-sized, 6 to 7 lb, globe-shaped pumpkins are just right for kids to handle. They're ideal for fall decorations, painting, and carving. The very uniform pumpkins have smooth, deep orange skin, distinctive grooves and strong, durable handles to give them a classy appearance. Notable advantages in AAS trials were very high yields, resistance to powdery mildew, easy fruit removal and excellent stem attachment. **AAS 2011**

*Orange Smoothie* - Dark orange, smooth skin is ideal for painting. Size is desirable for young hands, weighing 5-8 lbs. with a strong handle. Semi bush plant. **AAS 2002**

## Plot 3 - Berries

### *Raspberries*

*K81-6* - A recent introduction from Nova Scotia. Plants are winter hardy and vigorous. Fruit is large, attractive, and has good flavor. Excellent production.

*Boyne* - This extremely winter hardy variety is very productive with sweet, dark red fruit. Very popular cultivator in northern states.

*Killarny* - Early/midseason. Hardy, upright, short to medium-tall plants. Bright red, medium-sized fruit with great flavor. From Manitoba. Grows best in zones 3-8.

*Autumn Bliss* - Early season, fall fruiting variety from the East Malling breeding program. Fruit is produced two to three weeks before Heritage. Fruit quality in August is good, but deteriorates later in the season.

*Royalty* - This hybrid cross of a black raspberry and red raspberry features large fruit of high quality, insect resistance, excellent yields, hardiness and wide plant adaptability. Has delicate red raspberry flavor when red and as the berry matures it acquires the rich full-bodied flavor of purple raspberries. Ripens midsummer.

## **Blueberries**

*Chippewa (2)* - An extremely arctic hardy blueberry plant that grows to a height of 3 feet tall. The fruits are medium to large and produce huge crops despite the coldest weather conditions. The berries are prized for their firmness, attractive color and delicious wild-like flavor that makes blueberries so popular. Zones 3-7.

*Polaris (6)* - Extend the harvest season with this new variety. Harvest at least 2 weeks after Chippewa has finished with its last fruits. The 3-foot tall plant will yield up to 8 pounds of berries every year.

**Blackberry Trials:** “Prime-Jim” and “Prime-Jan” are new blackberry cultivars developed for fall harvest. As the soil freezes, all canes are cut back to the ground and the spring cane growth will produce fruit in that fall. These are for trial, being evaluated for productivity in shorter northern Wisconsin growing seasons.

## **Plot 4 - Raised Beds & Ornamentals**

**Square Foot Garden:** Whether you are a beginning gardener or an expert, the square foot gardening method will allow you to garden on a small scale without all the endless work and effort. Start with two or three four foot squares following the basic information in chapter two of Mel Bartholomew's book, “Square Foot Gardening.” The local library has the book for your use, or talk to one of the local Master Gardener Volunteers who is familiar with square foot gardening.

**Lasagna Garden:** This is one of various methods used to grow vegetables and flowers in raised beds. It's not about pasta, cheese and tomato sauce, but it is all about layering. Essentially you make a compost pile in a big box and grow things in it. The

box can be constructed of landscape timbers, boards or in my case, concrete blocks - about 4' wide and 4' to 8' long. It should be at least 7" deep but can be as much as 4'.

Chose a level site, construct your box and cover the ground inside with newspaper about an inch thick. This serves a weed barrier which will eventually decompose. Wet the paper down. Next add a layer of rough woody material: then a layer of chopped leaves or straw. Now add a green layer, such as grass clippings mixed with vegetable scraps. Keep layering in this manner - four parts brown to one part green until you have almost filled your box. The last layer should be plant friendly - 4" of bagged garden soil is best or top soil mixed with compost.

You are now ready for planting. Select flowers or veggies that are appropriate for compact spaces. Seed catalogs and garden centers have a wide variety of compact veggies these days -- container size tomatoes, cucumbers, carrots, eggplants to name a few. Treat your raised bed as a large container - watering more frequently than a normal garden bed. You'll be happily pleased with the results. For more information read “Lasagna Gardening” by Patricia Lanza and it's sequel “Lasagna Gardening for Small Spaces.”

**Combination Plants in a Square Foot Garden:** In this garden of combination plants you will find broccoli, brussels sprouts, spinach, chives, nasturtiums and cosmos. There are many other combinations that work together well.

Combining certain plants can help minimize pest and disease problems. This is known as companion planting. Some combinations include: Garlic and parsley next to roses to protect roses from black spot, a fungal disease. Chives and garlic next to peas and lettuce to protect the latter crops from aphids. Nasturtiums near broccoli to lure aphids away from the broccoli.

## **Ornamental Shrubs**

*Golden Currant* - Grows to 3 feet, low mounding, leaves are bright green- yellow, fragrant, with yellow flowers in spring. Colorful yellow fruit attracts birds. Native to western United States with edible fruit.

*Alpine Currant* - Zone 3. Rounded form. Good hedge plant.

*Hedge Cotoneaster* - Zone 4. Mounded form. White flowers, red fruits, very wide spreading. Upright branching habit. Subject to fire blight.

*Glossy Black Chokeberry* - Zone 3. Suckering form. White flowers, black fruits, red fall color.

*Hydrangea Grand Pagoda* - Almost all sterile white flowers on broad pyramidal inflorescences, 6 to 10 inches long. Flowers are borne in mid-July, continuing through August, then turning purplish pink and finally brown.

*Tamarisk* - Zone 4. Irregular-upright form. Salt tolerant; tiny, pink flowers; very fine.

*Ben Sarik Black Currant* - Released by the Scottish Crop Research Institute because of its frost resistant characteristics and mildew resistance. Bush is 3 feet tall and upright. Fruit are black and flavorful.

*Red Lake Currant* - The best and most widely grown red currant. Vigorous bushes produce clusters of large delicious red fruit. Bush upright and 3 feet tall.

*Black Consort Currant* - Very resistant to white pine blister rust, and hardy. Fruit is black in color.

*Pink Champagne Currant* - Hardy, produces long clusters of translucent white berries, blushed with pink. Plants are vigorous, upright in growth habit and have excellent resistance to leaf disease.

*Dwarf Red Spiraea* - Zone 4. Form: rounded to irregular, color: leaves are dark green in the summer and yellow in the fall. It has bright carmine-red flowers, provides low ground cover. Dense shrub growth tolerates dry soils. This shrub is known for its bright flowers.

*Roebeli Spiraea* - Zone 3. Form: round and mounding, color: new leaf growth purple-green, dark green in the summer and yellow in the fall, flowers are bright pink, and it provides low ground cover. Dense shrub, tolerates dry soils, hardier than most other selections.

*Smokey Amelanchier* - Zone 4. Originated from the Beaverlodge Research Station in the Smokey River basin in 1918 and introduced in 1952. Fruit up to ½ to 5/8 inch, blue-black with a bloom, typically 7 to 11 per cluster, fairly uneven ripening, mild flavor, one of the sweetest cultivars, relatively large seeds. Shrub 13 feet high, 15 feet wide, arching branches, freely suckers near crown and long lived.

*Honeywood Amelanchier* (Saskatoon) (*Amelanchier alnifolia*) - Zone 4. Fruit ½ to 5/8 inch, blue-black, typically 9 to 15 per cluster, cluster fairly tight, fairly even ripening, excellent full and tangy flavor, and seeds relatively large. Shrub to 15 feet high, initially upright to arching-spreading 10 feet to maturity. May have some resistance to powdery mildew. Very productive and fruitful.

*Pembina Amelanchier* (Saskatoon) (*Amelanchier alnifolia*) - Zone 4. Wild plant selection from the Pembina River valley. Fruit ½ to 5/8 inch, blue-black with bloom,

typically 9 to 13 per cluster, fairly even ripening, tangy flavor, fairly sweet, and fruit susceptible to cracking from excessive moisture. Shrub to 15 feet high and 15 feet wide, sparse suckering from crown and long lived. Quite productive and full flavored.

*Viking Chokeberry* (*Aronia melanocarpa*) - Zone 3. Chokeberry thrives in moist soil but will tolerate dry soil in sun or partial shade. This shrub native to the eastern U.S. grows 5'-6' tall and produces clusters of glossy, round, violet-black berries with a strong tart flavor and are high in flavonoid/anti-oxidants. Aronia are very popular in Europe. The Viking variety was bred in Sweden and is self-fertile.

## Plot 5 - Cold Hardy Wine Grapes

There has been much interest in growing wine quality grapes in the upper Midwest. The University of Minnesota is known worldwide for expertise in cold hardy varieties. They have bred grapes for over a century and formally initiated a breeding program for wine grapes in the mid 1980's. Their goal is to develop high quality, cold hardy, and disease resistant wine and table grape cultivars. These varieties will be given the test here in Spooner to see if they can withstand our Zone 3 winters. The vines will be trained for either Vertical Shoot Positioning (VSP) or Four Arm Kniffen, and will remain up on the trellis over the winter.

*Frontenac Gris* - (Pronounced "gree") This variety is a natural variant of Frontenac with light red-gray fruit. Makes a wine with peach flavor and tropical fruit/grapefruit undertones. Considered a white wine grape because of its connection to Frontenac. Ripens in late mid-season. University of Minnesota

*Frontenac* - Very cold hardy variety that has borne a full crop after 30 degrees below zero. It has near immunity to downy mildew. Frontenac's small black berries are produced on medium to large clusters that are usually slightly loose. Heavy producer and sometimes requires cluster thinning. University of Minnesota

*MN 1200* - New, cold hardy wine grape variety from the University of Minnesota.


*Marquette MN 1211* - This variety is a promising red wine variety from the U of M that combines high levels of cold hardiness and disease resistance with excellent wine quality. Has withstood temperatures of 36 degrees below zero without serious injury. University of Minnesota

*LaCrescent* - This variety is a combination of St. Pepin and Swenson grapes. This is one of the hardiest grapes surviving temperatures below 36 degrees below zero. Superior grape for production of off-dry or sweet white wines.

*Baltica* - Interspecies hybrid. A very cold hardy, early maturing grape selection originating from Estonia (Europe). Medium sized berries in long loose clusters. Blue-skinned berry, low tannin, moderate. Good for juice, jellies and light fruity wine with a cherry aroma and brilliant red coloring. Suited for areas with a very short, cool growing season; has potential for backyard production.

## Plot 6 - Cold Hardy Table Grapes

Based on a variety survival and production performance of grape varieties evaluated at the Ashland and Spooner Ag Research Stations, the following selections have potential for northern growing. Major factors in selecting varieties for northern growing trials were potentials for fruit maturing within the variable growing season, hardiness with limited to moderate winter vine protection, and consistent fruit production.


 *Beta* - Originated by Louis Suelter in central Minnesota in the late 19th century. This blue grape is very hardy, vigorous and disease resistant. It generally pushes buds around April 15th and can be harvested the second week in September. It has medium-sized acidic fruit and is best suited for making jelly. Hardy, with little or limited damage in a typical winter.

*Valiant* - The vine is productive and hardy, but somewhat susceptible to fungus disease. Clusters are small but well filled. The black fruit ripens very early and is much lower in acid than Beta. The fruit is small, good for fresh eating, and it makes excellent juice or jelly. South Dakota State University

*King of the North* - A hardy blue grape excellent for juice and jelly. The vine is very vigorous and productive and ranked highest in performance within the trials. Fruit is medium-size, juicy, tart, borne on tight clusters and ripens in late September. Requires annual pruning and performs best when provided winter protection.

*Suelter* - Like its sister seedling, Beta, this variety was developed a century ago by Louis Suelter in Carver County. Suelter is very cold hardy and disease resistant. Its berries are medium-large on medium size loose clusters and ripen 3-4 weeks before Concord. Makes excellent jelly. Requires cross-pollination. It can be grown almost anywhere in our region, and performs best with some winter protection. Cane prune.

*Swenson Red* - The unique, fruity flavor of this firm, meaty grape is like no other. While it is generally red, it may have blue in the color where nights are cool, and it can even be green in color when grown where nights are hot. Hardy to -30°F. Few major disease problems, except that it is susceptible to downy mildew.

 *Bluebelle* - An old University of Minnesota introduction that almost disappeared, but is now being planted again. It has very good eating quality and makes excellent juice. A blue grape, it pushes buds by May 1 and is fully ripe by mid-September.

*Foch* - This quite hardy French hybrid is one of the hardiest wine grapes. Bluish-black fruit with a good sugar/acid balance make it an excellent wine grape. Good disease resistance. Vine has small clusters and berries. Needs winter protection. Ripens in mid-September.


*MN-78* - An early Minnesota selection popular early in the century as a commercial market grape. The vigorous vine produces a blue, medium-sized berry, reflecting vinifera flavor, with medium sized tight clusters. Fruit ripens early. Cane prune.

*Somerset Seedless* - A seedless grape with small, orange-red berries and good flavor. It's hardy to about -30°F. Selected by Elmer Swenson.

## Plot 7 - Fruit Trees & Small Fruits

### Apple

*Priscilla* - A delicious hybrid from the Purdue-Rutgers-Illinois Breeding Program. Originally tested as Co-op 4. Short conic fruit, bright red finish, medium-large size. Rich flavor with distinctive licorice tang, on the sweet side. Annually productive. Quite resistant to fire blight and cedar apple rust.

 *Liberty* - (Disease resistant dwarf) An excellent quality apple highly resistant to major apple diseases such as scab, fire blight, mildew and cedar-apple rust. Medium-size fruits are heavily red-striped and have light yellow flesh that's crisp and juicy with flavor. Good for fresh eating as well as cooking. Keeps into February, the flavor intensifying in storage. Vigorous spreading trees are heavily spurred resulting in huge crops. Bears annually. Ripens mid-to late September.

*Prima* - First introduction from the Purdue-Rutgers-Illinois Breeding Program, originally tested as Co-op 2. Dark red blush over yellow-green. Good Jonathan-type flavor. Moderately resistant to fire blight but susceptible to cedar apple rust.

*Nova Easygro* - (Disease resistant dwarf) A Spartan daughter from Nova Scotia breeding program. Eating quality improves with storage. Very sweet; and moderately juicy.

 *Honeycrisp* - Developed at University of Minnesota. Cross between Macon and Honey Gold apples. Well-balanced sweet-tart flavor and unusually crisp texture. One of the best keeping apples, storing up to 7 months in refrigeration.

*Pristine* - (Disease resistant dwarf) Recently released from Purdue-Rutgers-Illinois Breeding Program. Resistant to scab, fire blight, powdery mildew, and cedar apple rust. Maturity date is quite early—late July, requires multiple pickings. A smooth, glossy golden-skinned apple with a slightly spicy flavor. Good shelf life for a summer apple. Very early bearing.

*Red Free* - (Disease resistant dwarf) Has ninety-percent full red Jonathan-type color. The flesh is firm. Aggressive thinning is required to get good size. In addition to resistance to scab, cedar apple rust, fire blight, and mildew, it appears to be somewhat resistant to red mites.

*Dutchess* - (Dwarf) Brought to this country over 150 years ago from Russia. Dutchess is extremely hardy and has resistance to apple scab, cedar-apple rust and fire blight. Fruit is medium size with skin color pale yellow with crimson stripes and splashes. Flavor is sprightly tart, superb for pies and sauce. Ripens mid-August to early September.

## **Plum**

*Black Ice* - A large-fruited dessert plum with superior winter hardiness. Bred by Professor Brian Smith of UW-River Falls who spent years crossing cherry plums with Japanese dessert plums. The large, round plums are blue-black with very sweet, juicy, yellow flesh. Fruit ripens in early August, about 2 to 4 weeks earlier than other plums grown in the Midwest.

*Superior* - Fast-growing clingstone bears red-blushed crimson fruits bursting with super-sweet yellow flesh. Ripens mid to late Aug. Hardy Japanese- American hybrid.

*Toka* - The Toka plum tree produces a fruit that is red and of medium size, this is one of the best pollinators for other plums. Richly flavored with apricot colored flesh. Ripens mid August.

## **Pear**

*Luscious* - This pear produces a medium to small, bright yellow pear that is very juicy and sweet. It blooms in early May and fruit ripens mid-September.

## **Composting**

**Black Gold:** Compost is perhaps one of the more common amendments to add to garden soil. While compost from various sources can be purchased through local garden centers and greenhouses, it can also be made at home. The display of compost bins along with the larger three-bin compost next to the garden shed demonstrates the many ways gardeners can recycle their kitchen and garden waste. The smaller compost bins are more

critter proof and easier to manage than a larger three bin system. More information on composting can be found in the information mailbox at the garden entrance.

## **A Note on Vegetables**

To accommodate our shortened growing season, most annual vegetable selections are less than 100 days to maturity. Varieties with greater than 100 days cannot be reliably grown, and are for demonstration purposes only.

## **Share the Bounty**

Share the Bounty is a nation wide program that encourages gardeners to share their extra produce with families in need. The extra garden plot located outside the display garden fence was planted with extra transplants and seeds. Along with extra produce from the display garden all the produce grown in this garden plot will be donated to local area food shelves and senior centers.

## Seed and Plant Sources

We have just listed one seed company for each selection, but many of these varieties or cultivars are available from several sources.

**All America Selections**, 1311 Butterfield Road, Suite 310, Downers Grove, IL 60515-5625, [www.all-americaselections.org](http://www.all-americaselections.org)

**Ball Horticultural Company**, 622 Town Road, West Chicago, IL 60185, [www.ballseed.com](http://www.ballseed.com), 800-879-2255

**Burpee**, 300 Park Avenue, Warminster, PA 18974, 800-333-5808, [www.burpee.com](http://www.burpee.com)

**Dixondale Farms**, PO Box 129, Dept. WP08, Carriso Springs, TX 78834-6129, [www.dixondalefarms.com](http://www.dixondalefarms.com), 877-367-1015

**FedCo Seeds**, P.O. Box 520-A, Waterville, Maine, 04903, [www.fedcoseeds.com](http://www.fedcoseeds.com), 207-873-7333

**Filaree Farm**, 182 Conconully Highway, Okanogan, WA 98840, 509-422-6940, [www.filareefarm.com](http://www.filareefarm.com)

**Goldsmith Seeds**, 800-549-0158, [www.goldsmithseeds.com](http://www.goldsmithseeds.com)

**Grimes**, 11335 Concord-Hambden Road, Concord, OH 44077, [www.grimesseeds.com](http://www.grimesseeds.com), 800-241-7333

**Harris Seeds**, 355 Paul Road, P.O. Box 24966, Rochester, NY 14624-0966, [www.harriseseeds.com](http://www.harriseseeds.com), 800-514-4441

**Hartmann's Plant Company**, PO Box 100, Lacota, MI 49063-0100, 269-253-4281, [www.hartmannsplantcompany.com](http://www.hartmannsplantcompany.com)

**Henry Field Seed and Nursery**, P.O. Box 397, Aurora, IN 47001-0397, [www.henryfields.com](http://www.henryfields.com), 513-354-1494

**Indiana Berry and Plant Co.**, 5218 West 500 South, Huntingburg, IN 47542, [www.inberry.com](http://www.inberry.com), 800-295-2226

**J.W. Jung Seed Co.**, 335 S. High St., Randolph, WI 53957, [www.jungseed.com](http://www.jungseed.com), 800-247-5864

**Johnny's Selected Seeds**, 2580 Foss Hill Rd, Albion, ME 04910, [www.johnnyseeds.com](http://www.johnnyseeds.com), 877-564-6697

**Kieft-Pro-Seeds**, Holland, PO Box 63, 1606 ZH, Venhuizen, Holland, [www.kieft-pro-seed.com](http://www.kieft-pro-seed.com)

**Livingston Seed Company**, 800 KInnear Road, Columbus, OH 43212, [www.livingstonseed.com](http://www.livingstonseed.com), 614-488-1163

**McClure & Zimmerman**, P.O. Box 368, Friesland, WI 53935-0368, [www.mzbulb.com](http://www.mzbulb.com), 800-883-6998

**New Dimension Trade Co., LLC**, P.O. Box 1294, Scappoose, OR 97056, [www.newdimensionseed.com](http://www.newdimensionseed.com), 503-577-9382

**Nourse Farms**, 41 River Road South, Deerfield, MA 01373, 413-665-2658, [www.noursefarms.com](http://www.noursefarms.com)

**PanAmerican Seed Co.**, 622 Town Road, West Chicago, IL 60185-2698, [www.panamseed.com](http://www.panamseed.com), 800-231-4868

**Park Seed Company**, 1 Parkton Ave., Greenwood, SC 29647, [www.parkseed.com](http://www.parkseed.com), 800-213-0076

**Pinetree Garden Seeds**, P.O. Box 300, Gloucester, ME 04260, [www.superseeds.com](http://www.superseeds.com), 207-926-3400

**Potato Garden**, 12137 2135 Road, Austin, CO 81410, 970-835-4500, [www.potatogarden.com](http://www.potatogarden.com)

**Rupp Seeds, Inc.**, 17919 County Rd. B, Wauseon, OH 43567-9458, [www.ruppseeds.com](http://www.ruppseeds.com), 800-700-1199

**Seed Savers Exchange**, 3076 N. Winn Rd., Decorah, IA 52101, [www.seedsavers.org](http://www.seedsavers.org), 563-382-5990

**Seeds of Change**, P.O. Box 14,700, Santa Fe, NM 87506, [www.seedsofchange.com](http://www.seedsofchange.com)

**Spooner Country Store**, Spooner, WI 54801, 715-635-3236

**Stokes**, P.O. Box 548, Buffalo, NY 14240-0548, [www.StokesSeeds.com](http://www.StokesSeeds.com), 716-695-6980

**Territorial Seed Co.**, P.O. Box 157, Cottage Grove, OR 97424, [www.territorial-seed.com](http://www.territorial-seed.com), 800-626-0866

**Thompson & Morgan, Inc.**, P.O. Box 1308, Jackson, NJ 08527, [www.thompson-morgan.com](http://www.thompson-morgan.com), 800-274-7333

**Tomato Growers**, PO Box 2237, Fort Myers, FL 33902, [www.tomatogrowers.com](http://www.tomatogrowers.com), 888-478-7333

**Totally Tomatoes**, 334 West Stroud Street, Randolph, WI 53956, [www.totallytomato.com](http://www.totallytomato.com), 800-345-5977

**Veseys Seeds**, PO Box 9000, Calais, ME, 04619, [www.veseys.com](http://www.veseys.com), 800-363-7333

## UW-Extension Websites

Spooner Agricultural Research Station: <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/sars/index.htm>

UW-Extension Horticulture: <http://www.hort.wisc.edu/>

Southeast Wisconsin Commercial Horticulture: [www.uwex.edu/ces/secommhort](http://www.uwex.edu/ces/secommhort)

The Wisconsin Master Gardener: [www.hort.wisc.edu/mastergardener](http://www.hort.wisc.edu/mastergardener)

UW-Madison Entomology Insect Diagnostic Lab: [www.entomology.wisc.edu/entodiag.html](http://www.entomology.wisc.edu/entodiag.html)

UW-Madison Plant Disease Diagnostics Clinic: [www.plantpath.wisc.edu/pddc](http://www.plantpath.wisc.edu/pddc)

Infosource Scripts: <http://www.uwex.edu/disted/infosrce/>

## Gardening Websites

Perry's Perennial Pages: <http://www.uvm.edu/~pass/perry/>

UMN Extension Yard & Garden Line: <http://www.extension.umn.edu/projects/yardandgarden/>

Ohio State University Webgarden: <http://webgarden.osu.edu/>

Purdue University Horticulture: <http://www.hort.purdue.edu/ext/conhort.html>

University of Illinois Yard & Garden Solutions: <http://www.solutions.uiuc.edu/index2.cfm?series=4>

USDA Plants Database: <http://plants.usda.gov/>

The Virtual Orchard for apple production: <http://virtualorchard.net/>

NW Berry & Grape Information Network: <http://berrygrape.oregonstate.edu/>

Wisconsin Public Television - The Wisconsin Gardener: <http://www.wpt.org/garden/>

Midwest Aronia Association: [www.midwestaronia.org](http://www.midwestaronia.org)

## Recycle your Plastic Garden Pots and Trays

More than 80 million tons of plastic are generated in this country every year, and in the horticultural industry alone, about 350 million pounds of plastic are produced annually. In an effort to help take some of this burden off of our landfills a new garden-pot recycling program has been organized and will run thru the summer months. With this program, horticultural plastic will be reused or ground, commingled and reformulated into landscape lumber and other reusable products.

Jennifer Barton, Environmental Specialist from the Recycling Control Commission serving Burnett and Washburn Counties, is excited about this new collection and wants to invite all residents of Burnett and Washburn County to drop-off their clean #2 and #5 garden pots and trays for recycling. You can recycle your garden pots and trays in the specially marked carts located at a number of locations throughout the two-county region. In Washburn County, the Spooner and Minong Recycling Sites and the Bashaw Valley Greenhouse are drop-off locations. Burnett County locations are: Grantsburg, Oakland, and A&H Recycling Sites, and the Wood River Garden Store in Grantsburg.

How will I know if my container is acceptable, you ask? Just flip it over, look for either a #2 or a #5 enclosed in the triangular recycling symbol, rinse it out with a garden hose and set it aside for recycling. Please keep #2s and #5s separated at drop-off sites and place in appropriate black cart. If the container does not have either number, please do not recycle it. Currently the only acceptable numbered containers are #2 and #5.

Greenhouses, landscaping businesses, and nurseries have voiced their need for such a program and the need is being met. Due to the success of the program, it will be continued indefinitely. For more information, call 715-635-2197.

## UW-Extension North Country Master Gardeners Annual Spring Plant Sale 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in May

Each spring the UWEX North Country Master Gardeners Association holds a plant sale. The sale is typically on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in May and is located at the Spooner Ag Research Station. This is a major fund raiser for the organization. Money raised from the sale is used to support local horticulture education projects, including funding support for the Spooner Ag Research Station Demonstration Garden. Featured plants at the sale have been heirloom tomato transplants, perennial flowers and miscellaneous annual flowers and vegetables. For more information contact the Spooner Area UW-Extension Office at 635-3506 or 1-800-528-1914.

## **Your gifts help this garden to continue!**

Your gift to the Spooner Agricultural Research Station will help the station continue its record of outstanding research and service to the State. Funds will support a variety of areas including maintaining this demonstration garden, as well as many informative field days for home and market gardeners offered throughout the year. Enhanced out-reach programming and facilities improvements are possible with your help. Your gift is tax deductible and does make a difference!

For more information on contributing to the Spooner Agricultural Research Station Fund, please stop by the Station office for a brochure, or call 635-3506 or 1-800-528-1914. All gifts should be made payable to the University of Wisconsin Foundation, which will hold the funds in trust to be used exclusively for the demonstration garden here at the Spooner Ag Research Station.

## **Notes:**

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A joint effort of:



### **UW-Extension Master Gardener Volunteers**

*University of Wisconsin, United States Department of Agriculture and Wisconsin Counties Cooperating. UW-Extension provides equal opportunity in employment and programming. Including Title IX and ADA requirements.*

*If you have any special needs or require special accommodations, please write to UWEX Area Agricultural Agent, Spooner Ag Research Station, W6646 Highway 70, Spooner, WI 54801, or call 635-3506 or 1-800-528-1914.*

# Thank You!

Anyone who gardens knows the amount of hard work and dedication it takes to grow a garden. This beautiful educational display garden is the result of countless volunteer hours by local UW-Extension Master Gardener Volunteers and other garden enthusiasts. Without their time and talents this display garden would not be possible.

Special thanks to Megan Smith, Spooner Ag Research Station Summer Garden Intern; Lorraine Toman, UWEX/CALS Program Assistant; Susan Armstrong, Summer Horticulture Assistant; and Spooner Research Station staff.