



HighLights



Trial Gardens and HortResearch at the South Mississippi Branch Experiment Station

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Published by Dr. Gene Blythe

A light, fruity sorbet or a lemony cup of shaved ice sounds just right for enjoying on a warm summer afternoon in the garden. The colors of these frosty treats seem to be reflected in the floral display of some recent and upcoming ornamental introductions currently growing in full sun beds in the Trial Gardens. Would you prefer a cool lime-green? We have that too.



Euphorbia graminea 'Glamour' (above), a new seed-grown variety for 2016 from PanAmerican Seed, has produced mounds of green covered with frosty white flowers reminiscent of ice crystals, but plants are standing up to the heat. We also included this variety in mixed containers where it serves as an easy-to-grow alternative to *Gypsophila* (baby's breath) for our warm climate.



The Sriracha series of *Cuphea ilavea* (currently on the market from Syngenta Flowers) takes the heat, grows compact and bushy, and is easy to grow from seed. Three varieties are available in fruity sorbet colors (above, counterclockwise from the top): Violet, Rose, and Pink.



Cleome 'Señorita Mi Amor' (above, lower left) and 'Señorita Blanca Improved' (above, upper right) will be new for gardens in 2016. Since these sterile varieties from Proven Winners do not produce seed, they continue flowering over a longer period than seed-grown varieties.



The rich, cool, lime-green foliage and tight, uniform habit of 'Dolce Fresca' basil (left) allows this 2015 All-America Selections (AAS) winner to be used as an ornamental in the garden or an herb for the kitchen. Bees visiting our AAS Display Garden enjoy the small, white flowers on this award-winning introduction from PanAmerican Seed.



The South Mississippi Branch Experiment Station is located at 711 W. North St., Poplarville, MS 39470 (across from Pearl River Community College). From the intersection of Highways 11 and 26, go ½ mile north on Hwy. 11 and one block west on W. North Street. The Trial Gardens are open daily during daylight hours. Removal of plant materials is prohibited. For questions about the gardens, call 601-795-4525.

