

HighLights ?



Trial Gardens and HortResearch at the South Mississippi Branch Experiment Station

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We evaluated more than three dozen viola (Viola cornuta) and pansy (Viola wittrockiana) varieties for flowering performance over 6 months during our 2015-2016 cool season trials. Plants were planted in the ground in mid-October and evaluated eight times through mid-April. Two varieties of viola received top ratings of 4 or 5 (out of 5) at each evaluation. One pansy and two other violas received top ratings for six of the eight evaluations (and no lower than a 3 for the other two evaluations). All five varieties were sent to us by Benary as primed seed (which provides faster and more uniform germination than raw seed).



Two cool season entries, viola Admire® Marina (above) and viola Admire® Yellow Improved (below), tied for first place with top ratings throughout the 6-month cool season trial period.





The middle spot in our Top 5 was filled by pansy Inspire Plus™ Violet Face (above), a large-flowered variety.



Viola Admire® Yellow Purple Wing (above) and viola Admire® Deep Blue (below) completed our Top 5.





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.

