



HighLights



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Snapdragons can be a hit-and-miss cool season crop in our area, depending on winter temperatures. Plants can typically tolerate brief dips below freezing, but longer exposure to colder temperatures can be deadly. We planted mixed colors of five series (Arrow, Floral Showers, Montego, Sonnet, and Twinny) into the Trial Gardens during the last week of September 2016. One week into 2017, temperatures over three nights dipped well below freezing, with a low of 18°F on January 8. Cold damage eventually resulted in the loss of all plants, except those in the Sonnet series, which produced new shoots and were in flower by the beginning of April (photos above). Long-dead plants of a different series are seen in the background of the photo on the left. We will certainly be growing Sonnet snapdragons again!



Seed-grown and cutting-grown cultivars of *Salvia farinacea* (mealycup sage) seem to come and go in the Trial Gardens, but plants of 'Henry Duelberg' (above) have been happily growing in a field row for over 5 years, and thriving with only minimal care. *Salvia farinacea* 'Henry Duelberg' is currently in full bloom and attracting pollinators.



Among the cultivars of *Salvia microphylla* that we have grown in the Trial Gardens, 'Hot Lips' (above) has been the most durable grower and dependable flower producer. The flowers may be two-toned, solid white, or solid red — all on one plant.