



# High Lights



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Mid-July is certainly well past the Fifth of May, but the heirloom ornamental *Amaranthus* Cinco de Mayo (a seed-grown mixture; shown in the three photos above) is providing a fiesta of color in the Trial Gardens. Some plants display burgundy leaves or green leaves with burgundy markings, whereas others develop bright red and yellow colors in the leaves (bracts) as the plants grow taller.

*Cuphea* FloriGlory Diana (photo below at left), a vegetatively propagated selection of Mexican heather, is an All-America Selections (AAS) winner for 2018. When plants went through our AAS trials last year, it was easy to see that FloriGlory Diana stood apart from comparison varieties Allyson and Lavender Lace by displaying a more intense magenta flower color and maintaining their rich green foliage (with no yellowing) throughout the summer and into the fall. The compact plants thrive on hot weather. This award winning variety has quickly become one of our favorites in the AAS Display Garden.

*Ruellia* Machu™ Morado (photo below at right) is a new Mexican petunia coming to garden centers in 2019 from Proven Winners. Not a true petunia, the common name of Mexican petunia is due to the resemblance of the flowers to petunias. Plants grow and perform well in hot summer weather (and we have been having plenty of hot weather so far this summer).

