



# HIGHLIGHTS



TRIAL GARDENS AND HORTRESEARCH AT THE SOUTH MISSISSIPPI BRANCH EXPERIMENT STATION

VOLUME 5 NUMBER 12

OCTOBER 29, 2018

PUBLISHED BY DR. GENE BLYTHE



AVAST YE SCALLYWAGS AND WENCHES  
THAR BE RICHES AWAITIN  
BUT ONLY FOR THE STRONGEST AND BRAVEST  
OR TRULY THE MOST FOOLHARDY AMONG YE



WHEN THE FULL MOON RISES AT TWILIGHT  
TO CAST A SWEET AROMA OVER THE NIGHT WIND  
THEN HOIST YE HIGH THE JOLLY ROGER  
AND SET SAIL ABOARD THE BLACK PEARL



BURIED TREASURES RIPE FOR THE HARVEST  
AND SILVER FROM THE ISLES OF THE GREAT SEA  
GOLDEN DOUBLOONS FROM FAR SOUTHERN LANDS  
AND DIAMONDS FROM DEEP IN THE MOUNTAIN OF FROST



LOAD YER CHESTS FULL WITH JEWELS AND BOOTY  
AND GEMS AND TREASURES PLUCKED FROM THE VINE  
BUT GREED MAY BE THE UNDOING OF YE ALL  
FOR MIGHTY RICHES ... THEY COMES AT A PRICE



A FEARSOME DRAGON STANDS WATCH OVER THIS PLENTY  
HIS GREAT FIERY BREATH WILL ROAST YE ALIVE  
NO BUCCANEER HAS YET RETURNED TO SPEAK TRUTH OF THE TREASURE  
SO BE YE FOREWARNED ... DEAD MEN TELL NO TALES



THE ADVENTURE CONTINUES ON PAGE 2



## HERE ARE SOME OF THE TREASURES FROM OUR 2018 VARIETY TRIALS



Fragrant moonflower (*Ipomoea alba*) casts a sweet, haunting fragrance in the evening garden. This heirloom vine is easily grown from seed.



Ornamental pepper 'Black Pearl', an All-America Selections winner for 2006, continues to be a favorite in our AAS Display Garden year after year.



Strawberry Berried Treasure™ Pink and Berried Treasure™ Red (from Proven Winners) produce colorful, semi-double flowers and edible fruit. Both varieties perform well in containers.



*Salvia elegans* Rockin'® 'Golden Delicious' (from Proven Winners), the golden-leaved pineapple sage, displays showy foliage that has a light, fruity fragrance.



*Artemisia mauiensis* MAKANA™ Silver (from Terra Nova Nurseries) shows its fine-textured, silvery foliage. This Hawaiian native may best be considered an annual in our zone 8 climate.



Petunia Tidal Wave™ Silver, an All-America Selections winner in 2002, may be the toughest, seed-grown, spreading petunia available, finding a place in our AAS Display Garden annually.



## HERE ARE MORE TREASURES FROM OUR 2018 VARIETY TRIALS ... AND THE DRAGON



Tomato 'Garden Gem' (left) and 'Garden Treasure' (right) combine heirloom tomato taste with modern disease resistance. Bred in Florida, both perform in our heat and humidity. 'Garden Gem' is semi-determinate with very good fruit set. 'Garden Treasure' is indeterminate, so requires support. Both varieties will be available from Proven Winners as plants in garden centers in 2019.



*Euphorbia* Diamond Frost® (left), currently on the market from Proven Winners, shimmers for weeks and weeks with an abundance of small, white flowers on plants that require no deadheading. *Euphorbia* Diamond Mountain™ (right), new for 2019 from Proven Winners, grows to a larger size than Diamond Frost® and will fit in well when a larger plant is needed in the landscape.



*Celosia* 'Dragon's Breath' is easily grown from seed and can perform in our climate from spring to fall. Plants with reddish-tinged foliage produce an abundance of fiery plumes in the spring (left). With the long days of summer, *Celosia* 'Dragon's Breath' transforms into a showy foliage plant (right). Finally, as the days shorten in fall, another crop of flower plumes is produced.