

ODERINGS

The First Name In Good Gardens

Live & Grow

ISSUE 31 SPRING 2013

COMPLIMENTARY COPY



PERENNIAL PETUNIAS | CROPS IN POTS | HONEYSUCKLE

Gypsophila Carpet of Snow

White flowers with whiskers.
Excellent for hanging baskets.



NEW



Impatiens Tumbler

Beautiful cascading Impatiens in colours of Mixed, White, Red or Pink.



NEW



Viola Penny Apricot

Unique creamy apricot flowers on dwarf foliage.

NEW



Dianthus Boysenberry Parfait
Large showy lavender bicolor flowers.

Must Have for 2013



NEW

Petunia Sublime

North Island only. Stunning new addition with pure lime flowers.



Godetia

An all time customer favourite. Bright vivid colour great border plant.

NEW



Viola Penny Bronze

North Island only.
Unique bronze shaded flowers on dwarf foliage.



Petunia Day and Night

One of our most popular mixes.

must have in your vege garden

Carrot Little Fingers

Sweet baby cylinder shape carrot.



Tomato Tear Drop

North Island only.

Very sweet and tasty grape-type tomato.



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Welcome to Oderings Live & Grow Issue 31

**Check out our
Gift Vouchers &
Specials on-line**

ODERINGS
The First Name In Good Gardens

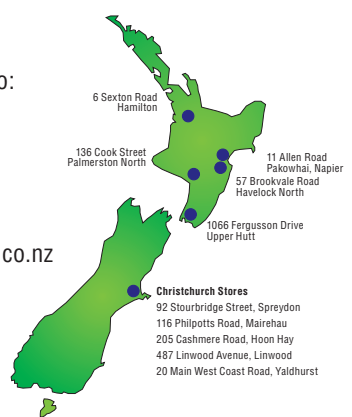
www.oderings.co.nz

Send any comments to:

Oderings Nurseries

P.O Box 33-125,
Christchurch 8244.

Email: info@oderings.co.nz



Cover Shot: Exclusive to Oderings this spring is this stunning double petunia Double Trouble Lilac.



Digging In

with Daniel

Daniel Hart
Havelock North



BIG CHANGES

affordable prices

Oderings specialises in growing and selling bedding plants and vegetables and has been expertly producing them with love since 1929.

Our current standard white pack bedding range has over 120 varieties. We trial and grow the best seed to make sure you have the best garden possible and most of the seed we grow is F1 Hybrid, meaning it's the best you can buy. We take pride in the selection we offer and the service and quality we provide.

Up until 1993 Oderings was a Christchurch-based

and operated business that then branched out into the North Island starting in Palmerston North, moving into Havelock North, Hamilton, and Upper Hutt, followed by the recent addition of Napier.

To stay abreast of changing gardening trends and customer desires Oderings are making some changes e.g., in the North Island we are bringing back the six packs of bedding plants (which were nines) and will reduce the price to

\$2.89. We also have listened to our customers saying that six plants of one vegetable in a pack are too many so we have changed this to four plants per pack and also reduced the price to \$2.89. This will not change the quality that we pride ourselves on. We sincerely hope you like the changes, and please give us your feedback.

Oderings have it all, the best price, the best service and the best quality and range in New Zealand.



ODERINGS 'TOMATO & VEGGIE MIX'

The days are getting longer, the sun is warming up and plants are starting to burst into life again we find ourselves wanting to get out into the garden and tidy up after a few months of hibernation.

The vegetable garden is no exception and in most cases will be looking a little tired after the winter. But now is the time to rejuvenate it and there is no better way than with Oderings 'Tomato & Veggie Mix'.



This specially designed mix has everything that your vegetables need to get them started and keep them going through the growing season. With a mixture of quality compost and potting mix it gives the plants the best of both worlds. The compost gives the seedlings the right nutrients from the start, to produce strong, healthy root systems and gives excellent drainage, while the potting mix provides a six month controlled release of NPK fertiliser for sustained growth until harvest.

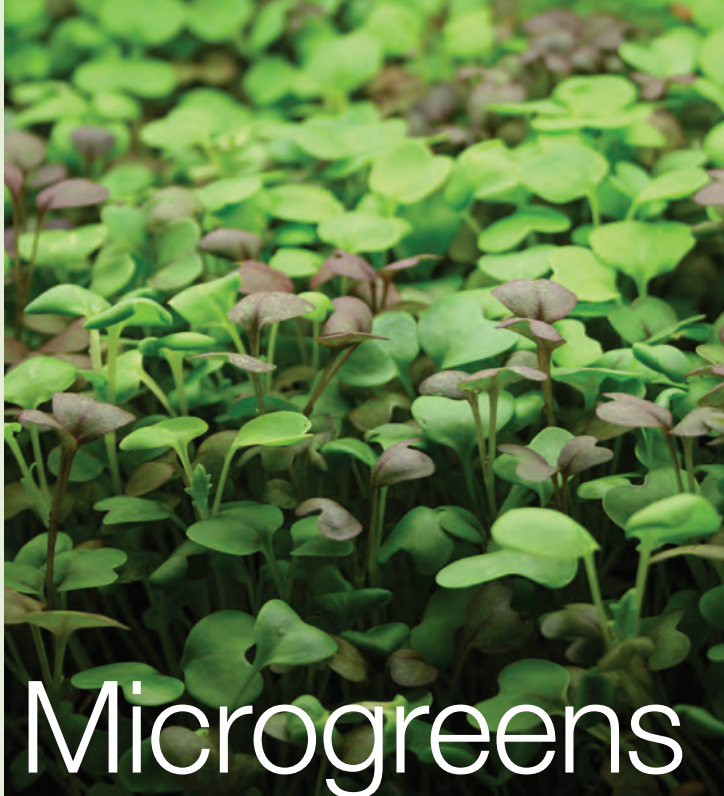
This 'Tomato & Veggie Mix' is great for boosting your existing vegetable garden, where a lot of the nutrients and goodness have already been used up by previous crops. One of the advantages of using Oderings 'Tomato & Veggie Mix' is that you can plant your seedlings straight into the mix as soon as you apply it and it will not burn the roots like some other products do. All your fruit and vegetable plants will benefit from the mix, including everything from spring onions to

strawberries, carrots and tomatoes and it can even be used as mulch around the roots of your favourite fruit trees.

Container growing has become more popular as section sizes have decreased and space has become a precious commodity. Oderings 'Tomato & Veggie Mix' is perfect for using in all containers, big or small, pots or raised vegetable boxes. It provides the required drainage and the food vegetables need to sustain growth under confined conditions.

With so many great reasons to try Oderings 'Tomato & Veggie Mix' give it a go today. You won't be disappointed.





Microgreens

Join the gardening revolution and try your hand at growing microgreens.

Microgreens are a gourmet range of seeds which, when grown, offer a high quality salad mix with a selection of colour, tastes and textures; they are used both as visual and flavour components in restaurants where they enhance the beauty and freshness of various dishes with their delicate textures and distinctive flavours. They are bigger than sprouts, but smaller than baby salad leaves. If you have limited space microgreens are an ideal crop to plant.

Microgreens are whole plants harvested at a young seedling stage after a few leaves have begun to develop from a variety of kind of vegetables, herbs or other plants.

Prepare the seed tray, pot or garden bed and smooth off the soil. Sprinkle the seed evenly but generously and then sift Oderings 'Seed Raising Mix' lightly over the seed. Microgreens require high light levels, preferably natural sunlight with low humidity and good air circulation; they can be grown indoors or out. If you want to make sure you have a good germination and rapid plant growth, keep the area moist but not wet. From sowing to eating you will only need to wait two to three weeks. If you want the best tender microgreens it's important to cut or pick them when they are young and the first true leaves appear. If left too long they can become bitter and not as tender to eat.

There is a range of microgreens available in selected Oderings stores or online at www.oderings.co.nz.



for the
Best Results
in your garden



Sieve

Our new solid metal garden sieves have just arrived and are strong, durable and lightweight for all day use. Available in fashionable blue!



Nitrophoska

Nitrophoska EXTRA is an all round fertiliser widely used in many crops worldwide, from shrubs, trees, flowers and vegetables. Can be used for both indoor and outdoor crops. **Nitrophoska EXTRA** has all the essential nutrients required for optimum plant growth.

For successful Propagation...

Perlite improves drainage and aeration in potting mixes



Vermiculite seed cover for retaining nutrients for successful germination

Pumice 100% NZ Pumice for healthier roots and increased survival rates.

Lawn Moss Control

Sulphate of Iron

2.5 litre. Controls Moss in Lawns while protecting natural spring & summer lawn growth.



Easi-Gro Pots

Great for Veges & Plants

The totally Biodegradable easy grow pot. Ideal for propagation then plant complete into soil. No stress on root systems - watch them grow!



Christchurch (03) 349 5546. Auckland (09) 838 2960.
email: enquiries@egmontnz.com www.egmontnz.com

What's New for Spring 2013



Oderings Exclusive PERENNIAL PETUNIAS

There is a huge range on offer but here are some of our top spring picks. They will be available in store or online from mid-October. You can pre-order online or in store.



Lawn Master Rapid Green

This is a premium lawn fertiliser in a liquid that is ready to use. It offers a high level of nitrogen plus added iron for rapid lawn greening, which is visible within two days. It will be available in September.



Bamboo Buster

It is recommended that you use Bamboo Buster for some of the tough weeds such as Chinese privet, Acmena, gorse and of course bamboo. Just dab the gel onto the cut stalks immediately after cutting. This will be in store in September.



Multi-Purpose Sprayer

This sprayer connects to most household 1.5 litre bottles and has a double nozzle that makes it easy to spray underneath foliage, available now.

Hydroponic Kitset

Hydroponics is an easy technique of using only water in containers as the growing media rather than soil. It also works as a space saving way of growing plants that normally take up a lot of garden or land space. The kitset is available now.

Baby Bio Orchid Food Drip Feeders

These are convenient, ready to use orchid feeders that feed for one month each. Use during the growing season for health and vibrancy, available mid-September.



Nemesia 'Strawberry & Blueberry Ripple'

A delightful new nemesia from the 'Berry Delight Collection', it produces a prolific display of blooms in early spring providing fragrance and colour in outdoor entertaining areas. It will be available mid-September.



Oderings Seeds

We have added some favourites and obscure lines, which gardeners are sure to know and love, these will be available in September.





Grotabs

Grotabs are specially formulated for New Zealand native plants, to provide the start they need and provide sufficient fertiliser for up to two years. Place tablets in the bottom of the planting

hole or push into soil beside root ball after planting; these are available now.



Ultra Leather Pruner Glove

Available now, this premium leather pruning glove provides excellent hand and lower arm protection against prickles and thorns. The supple suede sleeve provides the wearer with exceptional comfort without compromising the robustness of the natural leather palm of the glove.



Rose Flower Carpet 'Pink Splash'

A long flowering, easy care, ground cover rose with deep, vivid pink-splashed flowers. This is an ideal landscaping plant suitable for mass plantings or it makes a great subject for a container. These will be available mid-October.

The Princess Lavender

This exciting new lavender has intensely, vibrant pink bracts and flowers. With a long blooming season, compact habit and aromatic grey foliage it is a 'must have' for low hedging, containers, and water wise gardens. It will be available from mid-October.



Cloche Hoops

This jumbo cloche hoop is 1.2m high. A New Zealand product, the hoop allows you to make the area covered as long as you like by adding more hoops. In store now, we also have all the pins, covers and clips.



'Crazytunia'

Go crazy with 'Crazytunia'. This unique series of perennial petunias is characterised by new dramatic flower colours and patterns. Plants will be available in October in five different colours.



Iriso Drip Feed Irrigation System

The Iriso drip feed irrigation system is a unique system. It automatically waters your plants without mains water, electricity, pumps, batteries or timers. It is ideal for areas with water restrictions. Once you try this, you will not be without it. It is the ideal watering solution; you can leave it for weeks at a time and return to healthy plants in the garden, home or office. This will be available in September.



Potato 'Rudolph'

In store now, potato 'Rudolph' is a new introduction that will mature in 90/100 days; it has oval tubers and a smooth red skin with dark red eyes and white flesh. Oderings exclusive.



Bean and Pea Ring

A great idea, the bean and pea ring is a clever, quick and simple product to hold a tee-pee together for growing your beans or sweet peas. Each ring will hold up to 10 canes; these are also ideal for containers or people with limited amounts of space and will be in store in September.

BEST PEPPER GROWING TIP YOU NEED TO KNOW

Remove the crown fruit to get the best possible yield from your capsicum plants. The crown fruit will appear in the first 'Y' junction the plant forms; pick this out when it starts to flower.

Peppers

This year we have decided to introduce four new peppers to the Oderings range. Peppers are ideal to add fantastic colour and flavour to your meals, and the four new varieties are no exception. Each offers something unique.

First, we are excited to offer the 'Lunchbox' Series, which are a miniature, sweet bell pepper in vibrant red, yellow or orange. Each plant grows to about 60cm tall and is quite compact in its growth, making it an ideal choice for pots and containers. I am going to plant them as a border in my veggie patch and can just imagine how vivid these are going to look. They produce high yields of 5-6cm long fruit that are of high quality and very flavoursome. Slice the peppers

horizontally to create bite sized rings of colour to add to stir-fries, salads, pizzas, or simply put them into your lunch box whole for a healthy, yet tasty snack. These peppers are a taste experience that is deliciously sweet and mild.

Deli Delight is our next new introduction; this is a baby bell variety which produces highly uniform, 4cm round fruit, on a strong vigorous plant which grows to about 50cm. These fruit are great in

salads and stir-fries, but the special thing about these cute wee peppers is they are great for bottling and stuffing for use as appetisers. I have often seen them in the delicatessen section of the supermarket stuffed with cream cheese or feta.

All of these new peppers will grow well in a glasshouse, veggie garden or in pots on your patio. If you are growing peppers in pots or raised beds it's important to use a potting mix that has calcium in it. Oderings 'Tomato & Veggie Mix' is ideal; otherwise add gypsum into the soil. Regular watering will help prevent blossom end rot. Place peppers in full sun for optimum growth and fertilise with a tomato or vegetable fertiliser every four weeks.



Lunchbox Orange



Lunchbox Red



Lunchbox Yellow



Deli Delight

Bottling

500-750g Deli Delight Peppers
60g coarse salt (koshering salt)
600ml water

Cut off the top of the peppers, carefully scrape out the seeds with a small teaspoon, rinse, and remove as many of the seeds as possible (do wear surgical gloves from any pharmacy as the seeds start stinging the hands after a while and keep hands away from your face and eyes). Combine the chopped peppers, salt and water and leave to rest overnight. To make sure all the peppers are covered in the brine you may need to place a plate over the top to hold them in place.

The next day using clean bottles or jars put onto an oven tray and place into a cold oven. Heat oven to between 160-170 degrees Celsius.

Rinse the brine off the peppers in cold water and leave in a colander to drain.

Measure the following ingredients into a large pot (leave out the chillies) and stir well over a low heat until all the sugar has dissolved and then bring to a rolling, foamy boil.

375ml vinegar (white grape vinegar preferred, not spirit vinegar)

300g white granulated sugar

250ml water

4 pieces of fresh ginger, peeled, size of a \$2 coin each

4 garlic cloves, peeled, whole

2 teaspoons of mixed peppercorns

4 bay leaves

2 small hot peppers (e.g. chilli) remove stem but keep whole

Add all peppers and chillies and boil for only one minute more.

Take hot bottles from the oven (be careful). First, fill the bottles with peppers and then fill to about 1.5cm from the top with the boiling liquid. Carefully wipe bottles around the top, screw on the tops. The bottles should pop softly as they seal, if any do not seal, set aside and use first. If sealed correctly these peppers will keep indefinitely.

When you are ready to use the peppers simply drain the excess liquid out of the jar and stuff the peppers with feta or cream cheese. Yum!



Strawberry sensations

I love strawberries in summer, but my advice is do not wait until then to plant them. Spring and autumn are the ideal times to plant strawberries to ensure you get bigger crops in summer.

Strawberries are one of the quickest of all the berry fruits to produce a crop. The plant is usually only retained for one or two years before it is replaced with a new one. This is because they produce at their best on their first year and decline each year thereafter. There is, however, still hope after you have bought these little gems. Each plant usually sends out runners, these can be cut off the mother plant and replanted to create new plants; by doing this you are guaranteed successful production year after year.

Soil preparation

They need a sunny, warm, well-drained position that is humus rich and slightly acidic. Dig in plenty of compost or Oderings 'Tomato & Veggie Mix' at the time of planting. Plant strawberries in mounded rows or ridges; this helps with drainage, prevents root disease and keeps the roots warmer, increasing growth and production. Plant 15cm apart with the crown above ground level. At the start of spring apply Tui Strawberry Fertiliser; this is high in potash to encourage fruiting. Strawberries are also great planted in containers

or in hanging baskets. The Oderings 'Tomato & Veggie Mix' is again a good product to use when planting. When feeding plants in containers use a liquid fertiliser or Oderings 'Total Replenish'.

Mulching

The main question is whether or not to use black polythene. The main reason black polythene is used is to keep the plants and the fruit clean. It is also good for keeping a high soil temperature for better fruit production. The disadvantage is that polythene doesn't breathe so the soil deteriorates faster. The alternative to polythene is newspaper, weed mat or mulch; these let the soil breathe and help keep moisture in during summer.



Bird Control

There are a few different methods to control birds eating the fruit but the most effective is bird netting. It is no good throwing the netting straight over the plants as these cunning feathery friends will still find a way to reach the fruit. Putting netting over a frame is the best way to protect your plants. It does make it a little harder to get the berries but at least you get to eat them.

Varieties for 2013

Strawberry Camarosa – Large to very large dark red fruit which are firm with a medium red flesh and excellent flavour. Camarosa has a high resistance to wet weather and is most suitable for northern and central districts. It has a vigorous growth habit so needs plenty of space between plants. This variety is a self-fertile, short day type, meaning the flower is initiated by short day lengths. Fruit ripen 20-35 days from flowering depending on climate, with light crops in early summer, followed by the main crop in December-January.

Strawberry Seascape – Medium-dark red fruit with firm flesh and a good flavour. This strawberry is suitable for all areas in New Zealand and has a moderately strong upright growth habit, so give these plants medium spacing. Self-fertile, it is a day neutral type, meaning it is unaffected by day length and will fruit whenever temperatures are high enough to maintain growth. Harvest is generally later in the season.



ODERINGS
2013
EXCLUSIVE



Cascading PERENNIAL PETUNIAS

As I have mentioned in other articles common petunias are among the most popular bedding plants because they are highly colourful with glorious displays of vibrant flowers. In recent years all over the world, there has been a trend toward growing and planting cascading, perennial petunias in gardens, pots and planters.

Perennial petunias are cutting grown, which is why they are more expensive to buy. On the other hand, they are well worth the extra money as they have more vigour and last a lot longer making a beautiful show of colour until autumn and have less flower colour variation than seed grown varieties.

In recent years, the imported perennial petunia varieties were grown on by New Zealand nurseries for sale to customers in your local retail outlet. As I grew up in the family business and did my apprenticeship, I always had a special interest in propagation. In fact, my grandfather Donald Odering gave me my very first book on propagation. With the help of my long time, very patient and hardworking employee Janice Jones (seen in the picture page 12), we ordered in some open pollinated Petunia seed. After two years of painstaking and endless pollinating, growing on

thousands of seedlings and selecting the very best varieties are our achievements are now ready for sale. Last year our first exclusive was Blue Pearl, this year it is our pleasure to share the following exclusive varieties with our Oderings' customers.

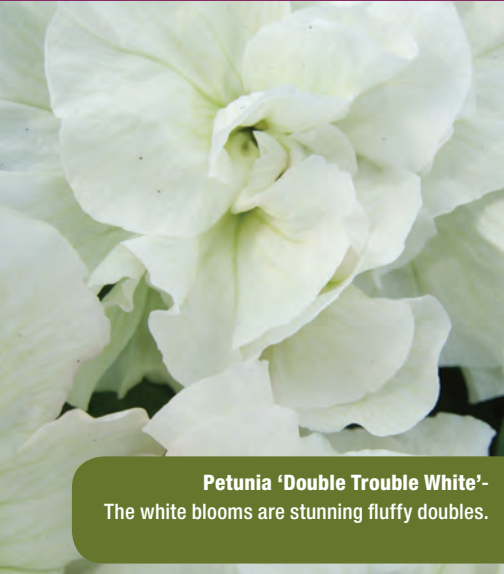
New Varieties

Some are unique and I have not seen anything like them anywhere else in the world, my top picks for spring are 'Chameleon', 'Trinity', 'Turkish Delight', 'Candy Cane' and 'Snow Angels'. We are also excited to release the first three colours in the new series 'Double Trouble'; this is exciting because there are not many double flowering perennial petunias available. Some of the new colours are 'bread and butter' lines such as the 'Red Riding Hood', 'Snow White' and 'Blues Brothers'. Please enjoy what we have created, sit back, and enjoy the beauty and charm that only petunias can give.



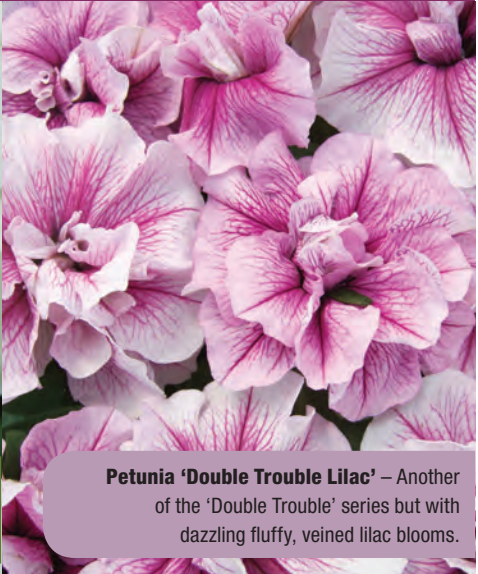
**DOUBLE
TROUBLE**

EXCLUSIVE DOUBLE FLOWERING SERIES



Petunia 'Double Trouble Salmon' – This plant has exquisite fluffy, double salmon-coloured blooms.

Petunia 'Double Trouble White' – The white blooms are stunning fluffy doubles.



Petunia 'Double Trouble Lilac' – Another of the 'Double Trouble' series but with dazzling fluffy, veined lilac blooms.



Petunia 'Pink Splash' - This has a dazzling array of pink medium-sized flowers with dark pink veins.



Petunia 'Black Out' - This mounding petunia almost completely covers itself with black flowers that have a tinge of deep merlot.



Petunia 'Red Riding Hood' - As the name suggests this petunia has vivid displays of blood red flowers.



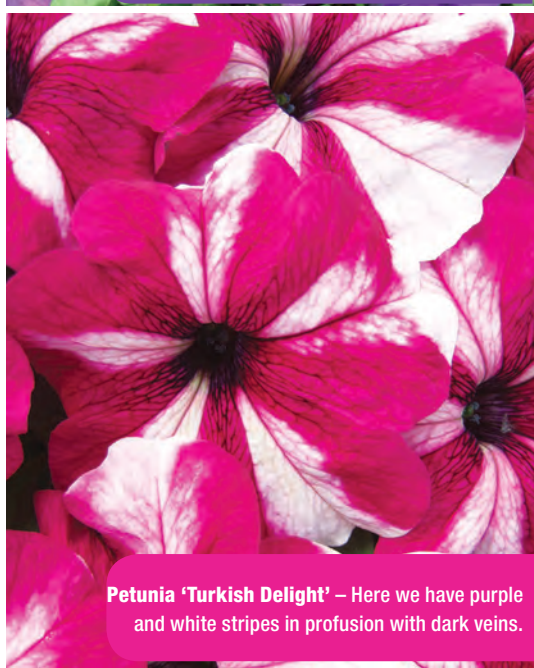
Petunia 'Blues Brothers' - This has an excellent display of deep ocean blue flowers.



Petunia 'Snow White' - Snow white flowers smother the plants.



Petunia 'Candy Cane' - This variety provides a perfect display of red and white striped flowers.



Petunia 'Turkish Delight' - Here we have purple and white stripes in profusion with dark veins.



Petunia 'Trinity' - This plant has bright lime flowers with deep burgundy stripes.



Petunia 'Chameleon' - True to its name this petunia starts with heavenly deep velvet-pink flowers which fade to metallic purple veins with a purple rim.



Cascading PERENNIAL PETUNIAS

Where to plant

Petunias love a warm, dryish, sunny spot, are very hardy and will tolerate frost. Well drained soil is essential and petunias will benefit from a well balanced fertiliser like 'Oderings Total Replenish', or incorporate 'Oderings Compost' into the garden at preparation time. However, for cascading varieties in baskets, they require more food and water than other varieties if you want continuous flowering through the heat of summer.

There are two main killers of petunias

Slugs and snails - slug bait deters these pests.

Over-watering - this will lead to your plants dampening off. It is very important to keep them on the drier side but not so dry that they are wilting.



Janice Jones



Petunia 'Blue Pearl' - A petunia with unique lavender blue flowers that fade to pink and then white.



Petunia 'Cherry Star' - This plant has beautiful cherry red flowers with a faded yellow star pattern and yellow eye.



Petunia 'Limalicious' - A petunia with medium sized, deep pure lime flowers.



Petunia 'Snow Angel' - The flowers are a gorgeous deep pink with a white star pattern and pink veins.



Petunia 'Tequila Sunrise' - The plant produces flowers of stunning deep pink shades which fade to apricot pink with a yellow eye.



Petunia 'Vanilla Sorbet' - As the name suggests the plant has creamy white flowers that have a hint of yellow and soft pink.

Potatoes

The first time I grew potatoes was for a work competition. We were all given a sack; three seed spuds each, and were told to use any product Oderings sold to see who could grow the most. After 90 days we all lined up tipped out our sack and I thought, really, it can't be this easy, but it was.

Potatoes are an easy to grow vegetable which can be grown in the garden or pots and containers, and with just a few months until Christmas, now is the time to plant if you want a Christmas dinner harvest.

Growing potatoes in the garden can take up a bit of space and many gardeners forgo growing them for this reason. There are ways around this in the form of planter bags, pots, sacks and containers. Whether you want to plant in the garden or in pots follow these simple steps for success.

In the garden

Potatoes are a warm season plant and are very susceptible to frost. Most gardeners prefer to grow potatoes between July-September and a second crop again in January - February; however, in colder areas planting time is generally restricted from August-January.

Oderings sell certified seed potatoes, which means they are free of virus and disease. There are plenty to choose from, so look at your local Oderings 'Potato Board' and choose one based on your taste buds and harvesting time.

Potatoes are adaptable to both light and heavy soils; however, good drainage is essential.

Step 1

Spread the potatoes out in a warm, shady, frost and water free area for two weeks to allow their 'eyes' to sprout.



Step 2

While waiting for the potatoes to sprout, start preparing your soil. They need to be planted in rows 15cm deep and 60cm apart. Add potato fertiliser - one quarter of a cup per metre - covered over with 5cm of soil so it does not burn the potatoes. Add Neem granules to the soil also, and reapply at 4-6 weekly intervals. If you want to make sure your spuds are pest free, this is the best natural product which will help to achieve it.

Step 3

Place potatoes 30cm apart, cover over with soil and rake the surface level. Sprouts will start to emerge in two to three weeks.

Step 4

When sprouts are 15cm tall, pile up the soil (make a mound) adding 10cm mounds each time. This will support the plants, protect new potatoes from

sun exposure and prevent pests attacking them. Each time that the sprouts get to 15cm repeat this step until maturity date or when the shoots above the ground begin to flower or wither and die. However, last year a colleague recommended that I pile up the soil (make a mound) 30-40cm, at step 3. I did this and although the crop took a little bit longer to mature, it was so much easier and in my opinion a time saver. So if you do not have the time or inclination for step 4, then follow this tip.

Potato Space Savers *(more on page 18)*

Even if you don't have a lot of space you can still enjoy the taste and ease of growing your own potatoes.

First pick something to grow them in. I've seen them grown with rubbish bins, tyres, big buckets, wine barrels, large pots and of course sacks. Whatever you use make sure you clean the container well and that there are plenty of drainage holes.

Follow step 1 for garden planting.

Add 10cm of soil, then a layer of potato fertilisers, add another 5cm of soil then place one layer of seed potatoes (for tyres around 6-7 potatoes) and then cover with another 15cm of soil. Follow step 4 for garden planting. Keep repeating step 4 until the selected space saver is full of soil and or the maturity date has lapsed, or based on my tip above, fill the space saver to the top once you have placed the seed spuds and wait until the maturity date or when the shoots above the ground begin to flower or wither and die. Then turn the space saver over and sort through your potatoes, store and enjoy.

ODERINGS TOP TIPS

- Watering regularly will promote smooth well-developed potatoes.
- Most potatoes are ready for digging after 90-100 days.
- Grow potatoes to help break up the soil in a new garden and the crop will be a bonus.
- Pest and diseases can affect potatoes for e.g. aphids, blight and potato moth. Please consult your local store for correct diagnosis and control agents, but use Neem Granules as a general pest control for any veggies in the garden or pots.
- If storing potatoes, allow the tops to completely die off before digging, discard any damaged ones and store in a cool, dark, dry place.
- Potatoes sometimes get a scab looking skin, normally caused by a lack of calcium in the soil. Prevent it by incorporating gypsum when preparing the soil.



Lonicera Graham Thomas

Honeysuckle (Lonicera)

Are you after a climber that ticks all the boxes: is evergreen, is semi-deciduous or deciduous; is highly fragrant; flowers most of the year; is easy to manage and is beautiful? If yes, then honeysuckle is the plant for you.

It is a beautiful climber that will cover walls, arches, pergolas, fences and even grow through large trees; it will grow between two and eight metres. This fragrant plant grows best near the house or in an area where you can sit and enjoy its heavenly scent. The flowers are prolific and repeat throughout the year. Honeysuckles' colours are striking with strong clusters of flowers on every stem. They are best planted in a free-draining soil in either full sun or part shade. They will require the occasional deep watering through the drier hot days of summer, but are generally low maintenance. This is a plant that every garden should have whether you have a small or large area. I have even seen them grown successfully in a large pot and on a spiral obelisk.

Here are our four favourite varieties this spring.

Lonicera Americana 'American Honeysuckle'

This is probably the most prolific flowering honeysuckle and definitely is also the tallest of the four growing to eight metres but you can trim it to the desired size.

Lonicera 'Gold Flame'

Named because of its clusters of bright pink flowers with golden throats, which are stunning. It has no fragrance and the flowering period is not quite as long as some other varieties. The stunning flowers more than make up for this throughout the warmer months and into autumn. This is a deciduous form of Lonicera ideal for

growing over pergolas where you want to allow more light in through winter but give cool shade through summer. It grows to five metres.

Lonicera periclymenum 'Graham Thomas'

This is an award winning plant by the Royal Horticultural Society. Judged to have excellent garden qualities, you can't miss the trumpet-like flowers that start cream but turn to a clear yellow from mid-summer to autumn. It is a vigorous climber but maintains a smaller habit growing to only three metres.

Lonicera caprifolium

Of the four honeysuckles, this is the smallest. It has the fragrant flowers of creamy yellow with a tinge of pink but has the addition of orange berries through winter giving an eye-popping interest though all the seasons of the year making a great little climber.

By Vanessa Walmsley



Lonicera Caprifolium



Lonicera Americana



Lonicera Winchester



Lonicera Graham Thomas

Tuberous begonias are amongst the most splendid of all bedding plants.

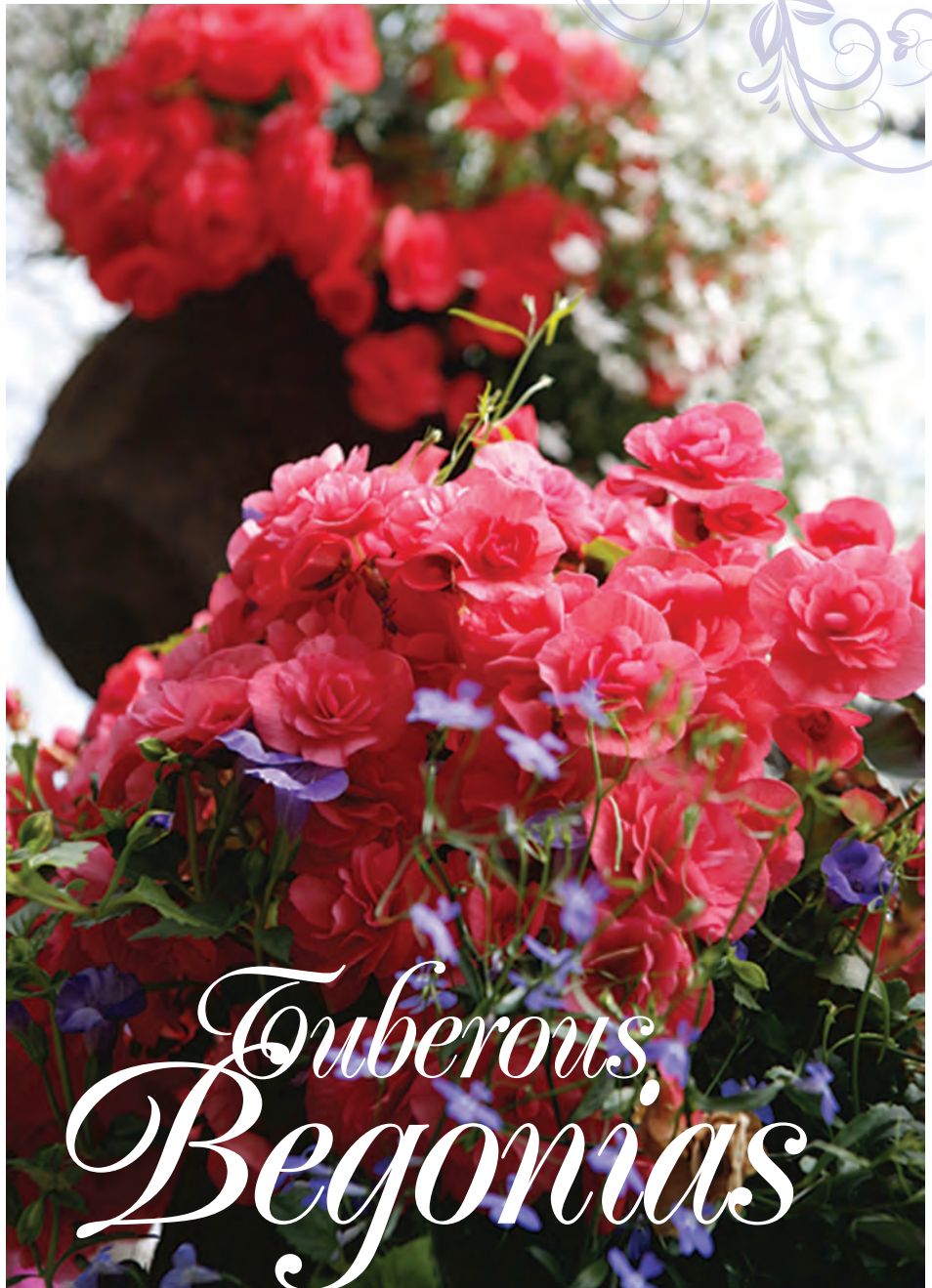
They come in an array of bright colours with single and double flowers and an upright or cascading form. Once in flower I believe they offer the most stunning display of colour you will ever see.

Tuberous begonias grow best in a warm, semi-shaded position with protection from strong winds, but air movement is essential. It is very important to have good drainage because they will not grow very well if they have wet feet when grown in clay soils, so water carefully.

LIFTING CORMS

The ideal time to lift corms is in April/May, but this will depend on the season. If your plants still have not died down by this time, you should stop watering; this will encourage them to become dormant. Dig out your plants and leave a ball of soil surrounding them. Let this ball of soil dry out in the shed or on the garage floor. When the stems break free from the tubers remove excess soil and allow the tuber to dry out in the sun for about 5-6 days, then store in a cool dry place for the winter. Plant the corms again in September.

As you can see, tuberous begonias are versatile, excellent basket and pot specimens that are ideal on the deck or planted as borders in your garden. Wherever they are they will give a huge amount of flower power, and just like the mail man will always deliver. Once planted you will then have time to relax and admire the show.



ORDERINGS VARIETIES



NONSTOP

This variety has large double camellia-like flowers from spring until autumn with a beautiful bright colour range. These plants are compact and do not need staking. A standout nonstop variety is 'Mocca' with its deep bronze foliage.



PANORAMA MIXED

Feature large beautifully coloured blooms, with a semi-cascading habit. These look great in the garden or in baskets and pots.



TUMBLING MIXED

These gorgeous pendant begonias are ideal for hanging baskets and window boxes with flexible elegant stems and large cascading flowers.

Bogged Down

How often do you read a plant label or article on plants and it says the plant needs well-drained soil?

It seems that a huge percentage of plants are in this category of requiring 'well drained soil' so what about those problem spots in the garden that are bogged down with either water or clay soil that does not drain? Here are some simple suggestions to plant in your garden.

Please note this selection is not for ponds.

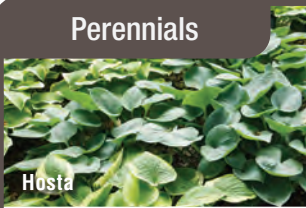


Phormium



Ophiopogon

Perennials



Hosta



Acorus



Ligularia



Pratia



Iris



Canna



Astilbe

Shrubs



Sophora



Fern

Trees



Salix



Pear



Chaemoneles



Bee Wise

We are increasingly hearing about issues with plant, fruit tree and vegetable pollination. This is because the bees seem to be decreasing, so what better way to combat this issue than to plant to attract bees.

This season we all need to make an effort to plant plants specifically to attract bees. Your garden, vegetable and fruit trees will reward you with a more bountiful crop by doing so. Plant some of these favourites now, and shop with Oderings in November and see the 'Bee Wise' promotion we are running in conjunction with Trent's Nurseries.



Salvia



Penstemon



Rosemary



Osteospermum



Felicia



Nemesia



Hardenbergia



Nepeta



Ceanothus



Federation Daisy



Scabiosa



Heliotrope

Crops in Pots



You can grow so much in a pot or container. Veggies, herbs, berries, citrus, stone fruit, pip fruit, figs, nuts, guava, cranberries, pepino - you name it you can grow it. Raised boxes are great for your vegetables and small fruit but for some of us it is just not the right option. If you are renting, have too small a section, or are looking to move soon then pot cropping is a perfect solution for growing all the edibles you want. In addition, because you can move the pots around you can grow plants out of their usual season and plants that are not necessarily suited to our climate.

You can use anything to create a container to grow crops in as long as it has holes for drainage and can hold enough potting mix to grow your chosen crop. Old washing machine barrels make a neat container, old tyres, blocks and troughs are all things that you can create a feature with and grow things to enjoy and, they become something very effective and efficient for growing plants. In an old cracked trough with pavers, we used an old stool as a frame for snow peas. The individual components were all 'rubbish' but it looked fantastic. For my next project I am thinking of using an old set of drawers, opening each drawer to create 'steps' planted with herbs that I can cut regularly.

Most vegetables will grow happily in a pot, bowl or container. We have successfully grown lettuce, tomato and a pepper together in one of our own Oderings 'Tomato & Veggie Mix' bags. It was so easy, we laid the bag on its



side, cut holes in the bag where we wanted the plants to grow, inserted the plants and watered regularly. It was so quick, easy and rewarding.

For the first time, last year I grew potatoes in a big pot and they did really well. I simply started with a large pot and put into it a 5cm layer of Oderings 'Tomato & Veggie Mix', added a sprinkle of potato fertiliser, then another sprinkle of soil, then placed four sprouted potato tubers on the mix and covered them with 5cm of soil, sprinkled potato fertiliser on top again, and then watered. Once the shoots were 5cm long I covered them with more 'Tomato & Veggie mix' and left just the tips showing. I repeated this until I reached the top of the pot and added more potato fertiliser each time I covered the shoots (keeping it away from the tips so they did not burn). When they flower, the potatoes are ready for harvest and it is as easy as tipping the pot over and grabbing the spuds.



Strawberries are an easy crop to grow in a container. Not only can they be grown in herb planters but they can also grow around the base of plants like dwarf citrus or dwarf stone fruit.

This not only gives you two crops in one pot but also makes the container appear balanced and attractive.



Herbs are fantastic grown in pots and containers and they are great grown with other crop plants. Like strawberries, you can grow them around the base of a taller growing crop or use them as companion planting with your vegetables.

Berries make stunning crop plants. We grew some in our Napier garden centre focusing on doing it for

the lowest price possible. We used a 75 litre grow bag with handles, shrub and tub mix and planted a blackberry with bamboo hoops as supports. It looked beautiful while it was in full flower, had a prolific crop of berries and cost only \$45. This was so easy to do, made an attractive feature and is great for those on a budget. There are so many berries or climbing fruits that you can grow the



same way. Raspberries, loganberries, boysenberries even passionfruit are good.

Many dwarf fruit trees available make a fantastic choice for container growing - dwarf apricot, nectarine, peach, almond, apple, citrus; the list goes on. For the size of the tree, they produce a good crop.

If you are looking to grow something in a pot come in and see any of our knowledgeable staff and they will help you find the best plant for you. Always use a good slow release fertiliser designed specifically for pots.

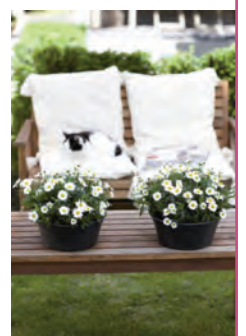


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