

Texas Superstar Demonstration Garden

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Meet the Texas Superstars – the most-user friendly Texas plants you’ll ever grow! Whether you’re a gardening “newbie” or an experienced “green thumb,” you can count on success with a Texas Superstar. These plants have been well-researched, field tested and chosen based upon a select group of criteria. Take a look at the following, quoted from the Texassuperstar.com website:



Bluebonnet

- ★ “Only the toughest, most reliable and best-looking plants make the cut.”
- ★ “They must show superior performance under Texas’ tough growing conditions.”
- ★ “During the field trials, plants receive minimal soil preparation, reasonable levels of water and no pesticides.”

Most garden plants simple won’t be at their best during the intense heat of our Texas summers. Not so with the Superstars! These plants, while good-looking throughout the year, can be spectacular in summer, which makes them all the more desirable as landscape “must-haves.” Take a look at the picture reel accompanying this article to see some of the outstanding beauties in our Demonstration Texas Superstar Garden! You will see the lively golden yellow flowers of Lydia Esperanza, the spiked purple blooms of Brazilian Sky Flower Duranta and delightful sweeps of Butterfly Deep Pink Pentas – just to name a few.



Gold Star Esperanza

More than 70 Texas Superstars are listed and described on the Texassuperstar.com website – photos and color catalog included. You will find an abundance of helpful gardening information on the site, too. A click on the “Growing Tips” tab will reveal a listing of 40 articles, charts and guides relating to various types of plantings, mulching, irrigation, urban pests and more. A click on “Retailers,” followed by a click on “Region II” will list local merchants where Texas Superstars can be purchased.

You will be happy to know that these outstanding plants fall into a number of categories, which adds



Firebush

to their versatility as top garden selections! You can choose from Annuals, Perennials, Per-Annuals (Tropicals), Woody Shrubs, Trees and Specialty Plants (which include some vegetable plants). Most garden centers and nurseries carry Texas Superstars, and every time you purchase one with a Superstar label, a portion of the proceeds will be used to support research and development of the new additions that come to the retail market each year– all made possible through the cooperative efforts of Texas A&M Agri-Life Research, Texas A&M Agri-Life Extension, the Texas Department of Agriculture and the Texas Nursery & Landscape Association. This is Texas community partnering at its best, and you are both contributor and beneficiary!



Thryallis

This article is based on interviews with Josefina Alcala and Janize Guzman, co-chairs of our Fort Bend County Master Gardener Texas Superstar Demonstration Garden and on information found on the www.texassuperstar.com website.

Fort Bend County Master Gardeners are trained volunteers who assist Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service in educating the community using research-based horticultural information.