

Village of Innsbrook Garden Club Demonstration Perennial Garden June 5, 2010 Evaluation

Planted in Spring, 2008. All had proper soil, watering, and fertilizer. Therefore, the following "Results" reflect members' opinions of how well the plant did after two years in the Innsbrook environment.

1. Baptisia australis – False Blue Indigo
Bloom – spring – indigo blue
Comments - hardiest of all species, outstanding color. Missouri native.
Results – Big success! Beautiful blooms & an attractive plant after blooming.
2. Calamagrostis – Karl Foerster Feather Reed Grass
Bloom – early summer
Comments - Great vertical structure for any garden, use as accent or in massing
Results – Not wonderful in this garden. Maybe better as an accent grouping.
3. Caryopteris – Blue Mist Shrub
Bloom – August – September – light blue
Comments - Treat as a tender perennial, 24"-36"
Results – Did not survive the winter. Too tender for Innsbrook.
4. Iris reticulata
Bloom – spring - violet
Comments - Can be used in water gardens as a bog plant, 2' – 4'
Results – Easy to grow.
5. Oenothera macrocarpa – Evening Primrose
Bloom – May – August - yellow
Comments - Great for rock garden and mass plantings, 6" – 12". Missouri native.
Results – Too crowded in this space. Needs more room and care.
6. Euphorbia cyparissias - Yellow Spurge
Bloom - Spring – yellow
Comments - VERY INVASIVE! Latex sap from plant can cause skin irritation.
Results – Has spread everywhere and we are trying to get rid of it!!
7. Anemone sylvestris - Windflower
Bloom – spring - white
Comments - Likes partially shaded area for best performance. 18"high, 12"spread
Results – Struggling. Maybe choked by Euphorbia cyparissias. Move in Fall.
8. Anemone Honorine Jobert - Japanese Anemone
Bloom – August – September – white with yellow stamens
Comments - Good cut flower and will naturalize, likes partial shade, 3'x2'
Results – Struggling. Maybe choked by nearby plants. Move in Fall.

9. Guara lindheimeri – Wand Flower
Bloom – August – October, white/pink
Comments - Great texture, open loose form, very attractive, 3'x2'
Results – Did not survive Innsbrook environment.
10. Asclepias curassavica – Milk Weed or Silky Weed
Bloom – late May – summer, gold
Comments - Butterfly larvae plant, can be a tender perennial, 3' – 4'
Results – Gone. Apparently too tender for Innsbrook.
11. Penstemon digitalis Red Husker – Beard Tongue
Bloom – April – June, white
Comments - Showy leaves and blooms, attracts birds, 2'x2'
**Results – Big success! Strong, upright stems, maroon leaves. Very attractive.
Plan to remove spent blooms to prevent extensive reseeding.**
12. Salvia lyrata Black & Blue – Cancer Weed
Bloom – April – June, dark blue to black
Comments - Awesome flower color, great addition to any garden, 2'x1'
Results – Gone and we don't know why.
13. Stachys Macrantha Superba – Big Betony
Bloom – May – June, purple/violet
Comments - Deer tolerant
Results – Compact, upright, attractive plant. Add more for a grouping.
14. Echinacea Big Sky Sunrise – Cone Flower
Bloom – Late June – starts green and turns gold
Comments - Attracts finches, 2' – 3'
Results - Weak hybrid, withered after planting. Prefer native cone flowers.
15. Penstemon digitalis – Beard Tongue
Bloom – April – June, white
Comments - Good cut flower and attracts birds, 3'x2'. Missouri native.
Results – Attractive plant, but tall flower stems do fall over, so stake or tie.
16. Stachy byzantine Helen Von Stein – Lambs Ear
Bloom – June, yellow Fuzzy, silver leaves.
Comments - Rabbit and deer resistant, bloom takes away from the soft silvery pubescence of the leaves and stems, good combination plant.
Results – Give it lots of room to spread.
17. Napta Blue Wonder – Cat Mint
Bloom – May – September, dark blue
Comments - Will take partial shade, leaves are fragrant, attracts butterflies, 2'x2'
Results – Nice, small clump. Add more plants for a showier grouping.

18. Mazus Reptans – Mazus
Bloom – June – July, lavender/purplish to white
Comments - May get ragged during hot dry weather, 4"x1'
Results – Looks small and spindly. Not a big performer.
19. Sedum Angelina rupestre – Angelina Stone Crop
Bloom – June – summer, yellow
Comments - Tough plant, withstands hot dry conditions, deer resistant. 6"x2"
Results – Gone. Maybe the euphorbia smothered it.
20. Veronica Water Perry Blue – Speedwell
Bloom – May – June, lavender/blue
Comments - Good for naturalizing
Results – Gone and we don't know why.
21. Liatris spicata – Blazing Star
Bloom – June – July, violet/lavender
Comments - Nice erect bloom shoot, 24". Missouri native.
Results – A success. Deadhead spent bloom stalks, as they are not attractive.

A DVD is available in the VIGC library showing the entire June 5, 2010, "Coffee Talk" with Keith Thompson's complete evaluation of the Perennial Garden results.