

## New Plant Forum 2022 – Eastern Region IPPS

Kim Shearer Moderator

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### Summary

New plants for 2022 are highlighted and described. This year six IPPS-ER breeders

presented herbaceous and woody perennial plants.

### PRESENTER

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#### ***Hydrangea arborescens* Invincibelle Sublime™ hydrangea PP#34,418; CBRAF.**

Invincibelle Sublime hydrangea ushers in a new day for full-sized smooth hydrangeas with cloud-like tourmaline-green mophead flowers floating above the plant on super-sturdy stems. Very dark green foliage sets

off the lively green of the blooms. Invincibelle Sublime smooth hydrangea is a versatile native cultivar that can be planted in full to part sun and is hardy down to USDA zone 3. It will mature to 3.5–5 ft tall and wide.



**Figure 1.** Flowering plant (left) closeup of flowers (right).

***Weigela florida* 'SMNWFGC', WINE & SPIRITS™ weigela PP#34,358; CBRAF.** This is an update on our classic Wine & Roses weigela that combines even more dramatic dark foliage with crisp white-

green flowers. A real showstopper in the garden center and landscape. Sun loving and cold tolerant down to USDA zone 4. It will mature to 3–5 ft tall and wide.



**Figure 2.** Flowering plant (left) closeup of flowers (right).

***Hydrangea macrophylla* 'SMNHSME', Let's Dance Sky View™ hydrangea PP#34,327; CBRAF.** Let's Dance Sky View™ hydrangea was selected from the Proven Winners® ColorChoice® extensive Let's Dance® hydrangea breeding program for its ability to conserve its old wood buds in the face of weather challenges and its ability to continue creating new flowers.

It's also very easy to turn the flowers blue. The flowers emerge a beautiful light blue with a honeydew-green eye before maturing to a full sky blue. Its nice compact growing habit makes it both a good container and garden plant. Hardy in USDA zones 4–9, will reach heights of 2–3 ft and widths of 2–4 ft.



**Figure 3.** Flowering plant (left) and easy to change to blue (right).

## PRESENTER

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***Pinus uncinata* ‘GuardDak’, Hyland Guard™ mountain pine.** Hyland Guard mountain pine is a unique upright narrow pyramidal evergreen conifer that will reach a mature height that is taller than the currently available upright Mugo pine (*P. mugo*) cultivars. A mature size of 26 to 28 ft and spread of 6 to 8 ft is expected. Needles are evergreen, forest green colored and persisting for five or more years. Needles are 1 to 2 in. long and in pairs. Soil preference is a well-drained soil, pH adaptable and tolerant of higher pH soils. Tolerates clay and high calcareous soils. It originated from a population of *P. uncinata* collected from the Hrubý Jeseník mountain range of Eastern Sudetes in the northern Moravia region near the village of Rejvíz of the Czech Republic. It is in USDA zone 3 to 7.

Propagation is by side grafting onto upright *P. mugo* seedlings or other compatible pine species.



**Figure 4.** ‘GuardDak’ Hyland Guard™ mountain pine.

## PRESENTER

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### *Phlox carolina* ssp. *carolina* ‘Kim’.

‘Kim’ is a fantastic selection that was discovered by Jan Midgley in Alabama. It performs much better than any other cultivar of Carolina phlox in our trial. What sets ‘Kim’ apart from other members of the species is its lush and vigorous habit (24 in. tall and 48 in. wide) that remains sturdy and disease-free all season long (excellent powdery mildew resistance).



The leaves are also a lighter shade of green, almost lime-colored, which can prolong its horticultural interest in the garden. However, the most impressive feature of ‘Kim’ is its show-stopping light pink flowers which blanket the plant from late May through early June. Flowers carry a mild fragrance. Hardiness zones: 5–9.



**Figure 5.** *Phlox carolina* ssp. *carolina* ‘Kim’ flowering plant (left) and closeup of flowers (right).

### *Scutellaria* ‘Appalachian Blues’ PPAF.

‘Appalachian Blues’ is a cross of *S. ovata* and *S. serrata*, both plants indigenous to the mountains of West Virginia where breeder Peter Heus resides. Bred by Peter Heus, and brought to market by Plants Nouveau. What’s the scuttlebutt about this new skull cap? Bumblebees will love it because it is covered in deep purple flowers. You will love it because it is compact and full, and drought tolerant. The dark green leaves

have eggplant-colored edges and are supported by deep maroon stems, making a show-stopping combination. Skullcaps are a great native replacement for salvias and lavenders and this new selection combines perfectly with bright yellow coreopsis, little bluestem, and other drought-tolerant natives. Grow in full sun to partial shade in average garden soil. It has no known pest or diseases. Cold hard in zones 4–9. Grows 12–15 in. tall by 12–20 in. wide.



**Figure 6.** *Scutellaria* ‘Appalachian Blues’ flowering plant (left) and flowers (right).

**Golden Sunset™ yellow prairie grass** was first selected in 2005, and since 2010 propagated and trialed in several locations in Minnesota and the Midwest, was selected for its upright stature, clean olive-green foliage, and numerous early yellow and golden-bronze flowers.

Golden Sunset flowers first emerge in mid-August and remain attractive through the winter. Unlike most yellow prairie grass, Golden Sunset remains upright and does not lodge or fall over. This new patented grass from the University of Minnesota will be a good addition to landscapes throughout the U.S.A. but especially in northern climates.

Plants grow to 4-6 ft tall at maturity but are closer to 4 or 5 ft the first year or

two. Large mature plants can be 36 in. wide, with hundreds of flowering stems. Most yellow prairie grass available today has blue-green foliage, Golden Sunset differs in having olive-green foliage that is just over ½ in. wide. Flowers average 9 in. in length and are a showy yellow and golden bronze in color. Golden Sunset has no known pests or diseases.

Selected for upright stature, clean foliage, and plentiful early to bloom golden-bronze flower plumes this gem grows on a wide variety of sites and soils with winter hardiness to zone 3. When in need of a native warm season grass with the verticality of *Calamagrostis* ‘Karl Foerster’, your search ends with *Sorghastrum* Golden Sunset.



**Figure 7.** *Sorghastrum* Golden Sunset yellow prairie grass summer stature (left) flower plumes (right).

## PRESENTER

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### *Hydrangea paniculata* 'Bokralims' Magical® Lime Sparkle PP 30,098.

Lime Sparkle is different. It's not too short to be seen or too tall to hide stuff. The flowers begin in early June as lacy lime green panicles and open up and age throughout the summer to apple green and then celery green with a candy apple red blush once the nights get cooler. This panicle hydrangea, in our opinion, is a perfect size.

Whether you are looking for backbones for a sunny border, or the ultimate, people-height hedge to gently divide a space or keep the neighbors out, Lime Sparkle delivers what many new introductions cannot. Height and spread: 5–6 ft tall by 5 ft. wide. Hardiness: USDA Hardiness Zones: 3-9.

Availability: JRT Nurseries - liners and finished.



**Figure 8.** Lime Sparkle hydrangea showing flowering plants with lacy green flowers in June (left) and candy apple red blush as the nights cool (right).

***Hydrangea quercifolia* 'Snowcicle' PP 33072.**

Selected by Richard Davis from a batch of *H. quercifolia* 'Snowflake' in southeastern Virginia. This new, double-flowered form of oakleaf hydrangea was selected for its superior vigor, larger flower panicles, and improved stem strength. It has a spread



and height of 4–6 ft. Hardy in USDA Hardiness Zones 5–9.

It is propagated by tissue culture and available from: Knight Hollow Nursery – TC, Richey Nursery – liners, JRT Nursery – liners and finished, Manor View Farms – liners, Heritage Seedlings – liners.



**Figure 9.** *Hydrangea quercifolia* 'Snowcicle' in flower (left) and fall color (right).

***Picea glauca* 'Kolchomagi' Spruce It Up™ white spruce PPAF.**

Spruce It Up is a faster-growing mite and scorch-resistant sport of *P. glauca* 'Conica' growing 5–7 ft tall by 2–3 ft wide after 10 years. Spruce It Up white spruce was selected because it finishes in a 5-gal pot 1 year faster than the cultivar 'Conica'. This makes the plant much more profitable for growers and especially more profitable for growers who grow many of these for the Christmas holiday. It is drought tolerant and takes full sun like its parent. Hard in USDA Hardiness Zones 3–7b. Available from JRT Nurseries as liners and finished plants.



**Figure 10.** Spruce It Up white spruce in a 5-gal container.

## PRESENTER

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***Aster 'Billowing Pink'*, *Aster 'Billowing Violet'*, and *Aster oblongifolius 'Cotton Candy'***. The Chicago Botanic Garden is proud to present three new aster cultivars, each with an abundance of flowers sure to provide late season appeal to any garden. 'Billowing Pink' and 'Billowing Violet' are sister hybrid cultivars of *Symphytotrichum novae-angliae* and *S. oblongifolium* that each form a dense mound (30 in. tall and 48 in. wide) and provide a bright display of pink or violet flowers, as suggested by their names. 'Cotton Candy' is an *S. oblongifolium* cultivar and a parent of 'Billowing

Pink' and 'Billowing Violet'. It forms a slightly larger mound (36 in. tall and 60 in. wide) than its progeny cultivars and has light pink-violet flowers. All three cultivars are resistant to rust, powdery mildew, and lace bug predation, and the aromatics released from their crushed leaves deter deer/rabbit browsing. These cultivars all bloom in early fall, providing interest when other perennials have retired for the year. As such, these asters should have a place in any sunny, well-drained garden to provide one last display of color before winter arrives. USDA hardiness zones 4-8.



**Figure 11.** *Aster 'Billowing Pink'* plant (left) and close up of flowers (right).



**Figure 12.** *Aster* 'Billowing Violet' plant (left) and close up of flowers (right).



**Figure 13.** *Aster oblongifolius* 'Cotton Candy' plant (left) and close up of flowers (right).

## PRESENTER

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### ***Tilia* ‘Zamoyskiana’ Centennial™ linden.**

This new linden from The Morton Arboretum is a chance seedling selection from our Groundcover Garden (1024-40\*1). While this tree was accessioned into our collections in 1940, it was originally selected and named by the Kornik Gardens and Arboretum (Poland), and subsequently shared with Morton propagator John van Gemert during a tour of the European continent in the late 1930s. Mr. van Gemert was visiting the Polish arboretum in search of new plants to propagate and include in Morton Arboretum collections. This particular specimen must have caught his eye or been recommended due to qualities it was selected for—gracefully arching branches, vigor, and retention of foliage well into the fall. The original tree was the product of seed collected from a *T. americana* specimen located at Kornik Gardens and Arboretum and thought to be pollinated by a *T. tomentosa* ‘Petiolaris’ growing nearby. The name ‘Zamoyskiana’ was given to this selection by former Kornik Director Andrew Wróblewski in honor of Count Wladyslaw Zamoyski, a Polish philanthropist who had donated property to the Polish nation that would be the Kornik Gardens and Arboretum. We have selected the trademark Centennial™ in honor of the centennial anniversary of Morton Arboretum.

But what else? Vigor and graceful architecture are certainly bonuses, however there are other traits that we have considered. The footprint of this selection is relatively narrow compared to other linden selections due to its somewhat weeping branches. More importantly, this selection has demonstrated resistance to Japanese beetle predation. Something in the leaves does not appeal to them. During years of heavy infestation in the Chicagoland region, all other lindens appear to be brown in the landscape due to predation by Japanese beetles while the foliage of this selection remains intact.

While this tree was selected in the early 1900s, it remains virtually unknown. It has not been described in any major literature relative to cultivated trees. Yet, it demonstrates adaptability to the climate of the upper Midwest and great landscape potential due to its resistance to Japanese beetle and architecture. Additional traits include incredibly fragrant flowers which are a source of mid-late June nectar for bees and yellow fall color. Recommended for use as a shade tree or street tree.

In production with Kankakee Nursery (Illinois) and J. Frank Schmidt & Son Co. (Oregon) and seeking additional propagation licensees in eastern North America. Approximate height 70 ft and width 30 ft after 83 years. USDA hardiness zones 4–7? Additional cold hardiness evaluation needed in zone 4.



**Figure 14.** *Tilia* ‘Zamoyskiana’ Centennial™ linden mature form (left) and leaves (right).

### ***Quercus bicolor* ‘KB Crystal’**

This oak selection from The Morton Arboretum is a chance seedling selection made by Vice President of Collections and Facilities Kris Bachtell. Originally selected from a group of oaks planted at Orland Park golf course, this tree has noticeably glossy foliage that transitions to yellow-orange fall color and exhibits vigorous growth relative to typical *Q. bicolor*.

In Illinois this selection exhibits resistance to powdery mildew; however, it is heavily infested with powdery mildew

when in Pacific Northwest production. For this reason, we are seeking additional propagation licensees in eastern North America for ongoing evaluation. Currently, this is in production at Kankakee Nursery, Illinois.

We recommend this selection for use as a shade tree, street tree, and rain garden specimen. It has a uniform, oval habit reaching 30–40 ft tall and 10–20 ft wide in 20 years. USDA cold hardiness zones 3–8.



**Figure 15.** *Quercus bicolor* ‘KB Crystal’ form and fall color (left) and closeup of glossy leaf (right).

***Platanus ×acerifolia* ‘Morton Naper’ Monumental™ London planetree.** This is a sibling to the popular and familiar *P. ×acerifolia* ‘Morton Circle’ (Exclamation!™), this new selection of London planetree from The Morton Arboretum was developed by Dr. George Ware through controlled crosses. The original tree was planted as a sapling in a local cemetery along with others from the same breeding program.

Selected for sycamore anthracnose tolerance, this introduction is estimated to be about 70 ft tall and 50 ft wide at maturity. Mottled bark is stunning in the winter landscape with gray exfoliating plates

revealing cream, amber and gray bark and stark white stems in the winter. And the broadly pyramidal, uniform canopy has dense branching making this selection an excellent park and shade tree.

This is a tree for nursery production with consistent caliper, straight stem growth, and vigor. Currently seeking additional propagation licensees (softwood, semi-hardwood, hardwood cuttings; budding; micropropagation), especially in eastern North America. In production with J. Frank Schmidt & Son Co., Oregon. USDA cold hardiness zones 5–9. Cold hardiness evaluation needed for zone 4.



**Figure 16.** *Platanus*  $\times$  *acerifolia* 'Morton Naper' Monumental™ London planetree showing straight stem growth (left) and bark (right).