

**2015 Herbaceous Ornamental Field Trial Results**  
**Pamela J. Bennett, Extension Educator, Horticulture,**  
**Carolyn Allen, Program Assistant, Horticulture**  
**Clark County**

## Introduction

Annual field trials have been conducted by Clark County Extension staff and Master Gardener volunteers (MGV) in Springfield, Ohio since 1995. MGVs Wendy May and Linda McCann were the 2015 project chairs and are responsible for growing the plants in the greenhouse. The field trial plots were moved to a new location due to the County Extension offices moving. The trials are now in the Snyder Park Gardens and Arboretum (1900 Snyder Park Rd.) in Springfield, Ohio. Approximately 40 MGVs work on this project, starting plugs and seeds in the greenhouse, planting the trials, and weeding the plots.

The plots have loamy, well-drained soil with a pH of 7. The current plots were established in the spring of 2015. The beds were tilled to a depth of 8". There is approximately 5000 square feet of bed space in full sun and approximately 1000 square feet in shade, under a shade tree (moderate shade).

The selection of plants to be trialed in the garden varies from year to year. The selection is based on entries from seed companies, performance in prior years, on current trends, and on industry recommendations. The results of performance for the plants are based on the data collected at the plots. The data reflects the growing conditions of 2015. The purpose of the evaluation is to provide growers, landscapers, and homeowners a guide for plant selection for Ohio as well as to provide performance data to the breeders and seed companies.

## Method

The plants were started from seeds or plugs, depending on the species, according to the recommended starting dates. They were planted in the plots on May 28, 2015. There were 6 plants of each variety in the rows; rows were spaced 2' apart. Trailing or vining plants were planted in rows that were 4' apart with the plants in the row spaced 2' apart.

Osmocote™ (14-14-14) fertilizer was incorporated into the soil prior to planting at the labeled rate. No additional application of fertilizer was made. Irrigation was applied during dry periods in order to prevent wilting. See the weather information below for details. No mulch was used. Hand weeding was completed as needed. Treflan (e.g. trifluralin) was incorporated in between the rows and in between plants where applicable 6 weeks after planting. All *Calibrachoa* cultivars were planted in 18" diameter containers, six plants per pot. Plants were grown in full sun, unless otherwise indicated with a shaded row in the chart below. No insecticides or fungicides were applied. ***The plants were not deadheaded or pruned during the growing season.***

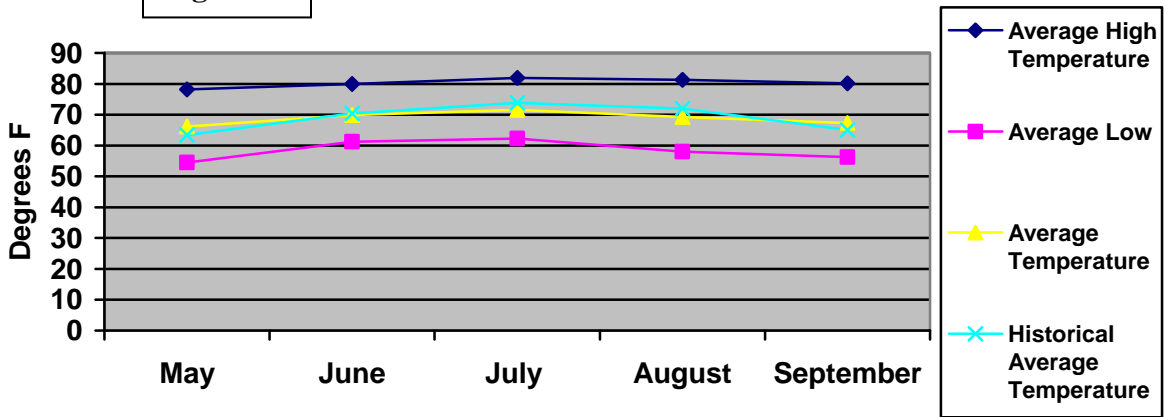
Five people conducted visual evaluations in June, July, August, and September. The entire row was given a visual rating from 1 to 5. A rating of 5 was considered to be excellent and a rating of 1 was poor. The 5 individual evaluation ratings were averaged for the monthly rating figure. The monthly evaluations of all evaluators (June-September) were averaged for the final rating for each variety.

## Weather Information

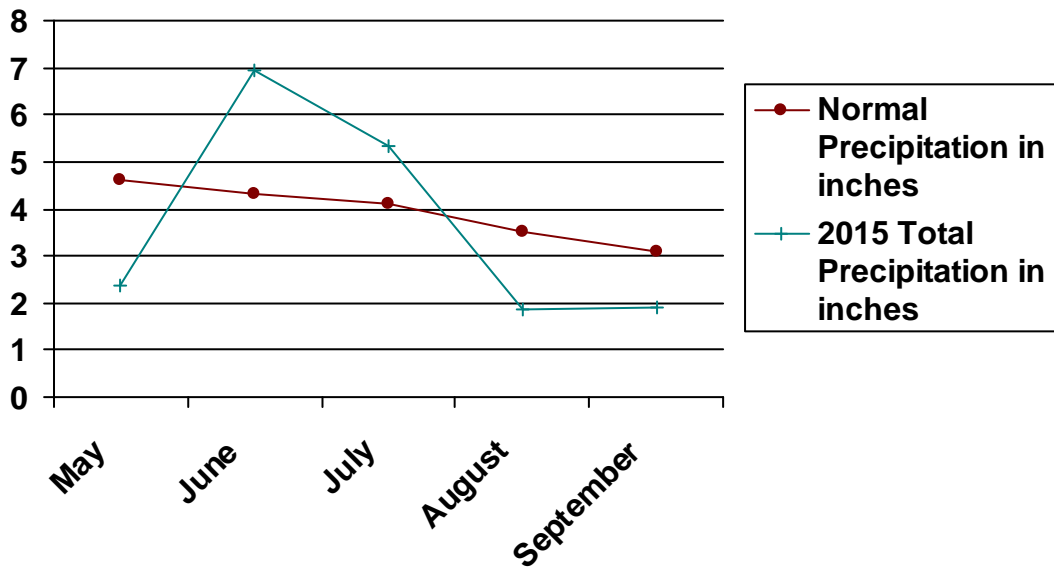
Precipitation at planting time in May was below normal and temperatures were average for this time period. The annuals were planted under good soil conditions; plants were irrigated in the first weeks in order to establish the root system. Additional irrigation was supplied in August and September because of low average rainfall amounts. Average temperatures in June, July, August and September were consistent with the usual average temperatures. *Figure 1 indicates* temperature conditions and *Figure 2 indicates* rainfall amounts for this growing season.

**Figure 1**

**2015 Temperatures**



**Figure 2**



**Results**

Following (Table 1) are the varieties in the 2015 field trials and their monthly ratings and final rating. The plants listed that are shaded gray are those varieties that were grown under the shade. The plants with an \* after the Common Name were grown in containers, 6 plants per container.

The supplier for each variety is listed in the table; the supplier key is at the end. The plants are listed in order of Final Rating from highest to lowest. A rating of 5 is the highest; a rating of 1 is the lowest.

**Table 1**

<b>Genus/ Common Name</b>	<b>Series</b>	<b>Variety</b>	<b>Company</b>	<b>June</b>	<b>July</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sep</b>	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>
<i>Petunia</i>	Tidal Wave ®	Exp. Red Velour	PAS	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
<i>Sedum mexicanum</i>		Lemon Coral	PW	5.00	5.00	4.80	5.00	4.95
<i>Cleome/ Spider Plant</i>		Senorita Mi Amor™	PW	5.00	5.00	5.00	4.80	4.95
<i>Solenostemon/ Coleus</i>	Color Blaze®	Apple Brandy	PW	4.80	5.00	5.00	5.00	4.95
<i>Cleome/ Spider Plant</i>		Senorita Blanca™ Improved	PW	5.00	5.00	5.00	4.60	4.90
<i>Euphorbia graminea</i>		Glamour	PAS	4.40	5.00	5.00	5.00	4.85
<i>Solenostemon/ Coleus</i>		Campfire	BFP	4.60	4.80	5.00	5.00	4.85
<i>Petunia</i>	Supertunia®	Vista Bubblegum	PW	4.40	4.80	5.00	5.00	4.80
<i>Solenostemon/ Coleus</i>	Color Blaze®	Velveteen	PW	4.60	4.80	5.00	4.60	4.75
<i>Solenostemon/ Coleus</i>	Flame Thrower™	Chili Pepper	BFP	4.20	5.00	4.80	5.00	4.75
<i>Hibiscus acetosella</i>		Little Zin	BFP	3.80	4.80	4.80	5.00	4.60
<i>Petunia</i>	Easy Wave ®	Silver	PAS	4.00	4.60	4.80	5.00	4.60
<i>Petunia</i>	Supertunia®	Honey	PW	4.00	4.60	4.60	5.00	4.55
<i>Begonia</i>	Baby Wing ®	Pink Bicolor	PAS	4.00	4.40	4.80	4.80	4.50
<i>Ipomoea</i>	Solar Power™	Black	BFP	4.20	4.00	4.80	4.80	4.45
<i>Solenostemon/ Coleus</i>	Flame Thrower™	Spiced Curry	BFP	4.20	4.60	4.40	4.60	4.45
<i>Petunia</i>	Supertunia®	Violet Star Charm	PW	3.80	4.40	5.00	4.60	4.45
<i>Petunia</i>	Supertunia®	Vista Fuchsia	PW	3.80	4.40	4.60	5.00	4.45
<i>Petunia</i>	Supertunia®	Picasso in Burgundy	PW	3.40	4.20	5.00	5.00	4.40
<i>Begonia</i>	Baby Wing®	Red	PAS	3.60	4.40	4.80	4.80	4.40
<i>Petunia</i>	Supertunia®	Rose Blast Charm	PW	3.60	4.60	4.60	4.40	4.30
<i>Ipomoea</i>	Solar Power™	Red	BFP	4.20	4.00	4.40	4.60	4.30
<i>Petunia</i>	Supertunia®	Vista Silverberry	PW	3.40	4.60	4.60	4.60	4.30
<i>Petunia</i>	Supertunia®	Pink Star Charm	PW	4.20	3.60	4.80	4.40	4.25
<i>Salvia guarantica</i>		Black & Bloom	BFP	3.20	4.40	4.40	4.60	4.15
<i>Petunia</i>	Easy Wave ®	Yellow	PAS	3.60	3.60	4.60	4.80	4.15
<i>Solenostemon/ Coleus</i>	Flame Thrower ™	Chipotle	BFP	4.20	4.40	4.20	3.60	4.10
<i>Petunia</i>	Easy Wave ®	Pink Passion	PAS	3.40	4.20	4.40	4.20	4.05
<i>Petunia</i>	Shock Wave ®	Yellow	PAS	3.80	4.00	4.60	3.80	4.05
<i>Petunia</i>	Supertunia®	Morning Glory Charm	PW	4.40	4.60	4.60	2.40	4.00

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<i>Impatiens</i>	Rockapulco®	Wisteria	PW	4.20	5.00	4.60	2.20	4.00
<i>Browallia</i>	Endless™	Flirtation	PW	4.40	4.60	3.60	3.40	4.00
<i>Calibrachoa</i>	Superbells®	Garden Rose	PW	4.40	3.40	4.60	3.60	4.00
<i>Ipomoea</i>	Sweet Caroline	Sweetheart Lime	PW	4.40	3.80	4.20	3.40	3.95
<i>Petunia</i>	Supertunia®	Indigo Charm	PW	4.40	3.80	3.80	3.60	3.90
<i>Lantana</i>	Luscious®	Pinkberry Blend	PW	2.00	4.80	3.60	5.00	3.85
<i>Portulaca</i>	Mojave®	Yellow	PW	3.40	4.60	3.60	3.40	3.75
<i>Petunia</i>	Supertunia®	Orchid Charm	PW	2.80	3.60	4.00	4.60	3.75
<i>Petunia</i>	Supertunia®	Latte	PW	2.80	3.80	4.20	4.00	3.70
<i>Portulaca</i>	Mojave®	Red	PW	3.20	4.00	4.00	3.60	3.70
<i>Portulaca</i>	Mojave®	Pink	PW	3.20	4.40	4.00	3.00	3.65
<i>Zinnia</i>	Double Zahara™	Salmon Rose	PAS	3.60	4.00	4.20	2.80	3.65
<i>Dahlia</i>	Mystic™	Illusion	PW	3.20	4.20	4.60	2.60	3.65
<i>Portulaca</i>	Mojave®	Fuchsia	PW	3.80	4.40	3.20	3.20	3.65
<i>Zinnia</i>	Double Zahara™	Yellow	PAS	2.80	4.20	4.40	3.00	3.60
<i>Calibrachoa</i>	Superbells®	Evening Star	PW	2.60	3.60	4.60	3.60	3.60
<i>Dahlia</i>	Dahlightful™	Georgia Peach	PW	3.60	4.60	4.20	2.00	3.60
<i>Zinnia</i>	Double Zahara™	Cherry Improved	PAS	3.20	4.20	4.40	2.40	3.55
<i>Calibrachoa</i>	Superbells®	Holy Moly	PW	3.20	2.60	4.40	3.80	3.50
<i>Portulaca</i>	Mojave®	Tangerine	PW	3.40	4.00	3.00	3.20	3.40
<i>Browallia</i>	Endless™	Illumination	PW	3.60	3.40	2.80	3.60	3.35
<i>Petunia</i>	Supertunia®	Watermelon Charm	PW	3.40	2.20	4.00	3.20	3.20
<i>Dahlia</i>	Dahlightful™	Lively Lavender	PW	3.40	3.60	3.60	2.00	3.15
<i>Angelonia/ Summer Snapdragon</i>	Serenita®	Sky Blue	PAS	4.20	4.20	2.00	2.00	3.10
<i>Dahlia</i>	Dahlightful™	Sultry Scarlet	PW	2.80	4.20	3.40	1.80	3.05
<i>Solenostemon/ Coleus</i>	Premium Sun	Flip Side	PAS	4.60	4.00	2.00	1.40	3.00
<i>Pansiola</i>	Anytime®	Iris	PW	3.20	2.40	3.40	2.80	2.95
<i>Petunia</i>	Supertunia®	Sangria Charm	PW	2.20	2.00	4.60	3.00	2.95
<i>Angelonia/ Summer Snapdragon</i>	Archangel™	Light Pink	BFP	3.80	3.60	1.60	1.40	2.60
<i>Angelonia/ Summer Snapdragon</i>	Archangel™	Orchid Pink	BFP	3.40	4.00	1.60	1.40	2.60
<i>Diascia</i>	Flirtation®	Glacier White	PW	3.00	2.20	1.80	3.00	2.50
<i>Verbena</i>		Meteor Shower™	PW	4.00	1.80	2.40	1.60	2.45
<i>Pansiola</i>	Anytime®	Plum Good	PW	3.40	2.20	2.40	1.60	2.40
<i>Verbena</i>	Superbena®	Sparkling Amethyst	PW	3.00	2.40	1.80	2.20	2.35

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<i>Petunia</i>	Supertunia®	Picasso in Blue	PW	2.20	2.40	2.20	2.60	2.35
<i>Isotoma</i>		Beth's Blue®	PW	1.80	2.80	2.40	2.20	2.30
<i>Nemesia</i>	Sunsatia®	Blood Orange	PW	3.20	2.00	1.20	2.80	2.30
<i>Lobelia</i>	Lucia®	Ultraviolet	PW	2.80	2.40	1.40	1.60	2.05
<i>Phlox</i>	Intensia®	White Improved	PW	3.60	1.80	1.40	0.40	1.80
<i>Verbena</i>	Superbena®	Sparkling Ruby	PW	2.00	1.60	1.40	1.80	1.70

### **Seed Companies**

Ball Flora Plant = BFP

Ball Ingenuity = BI

Kieft = K

PanAmerican Seed Company = PAS

Proven Winners = PW

Selecta = S



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