

Hot Plants for Hot Summers

As we trend hotter and drier in summer we need to find annuals that can take the heat. These flowers are recommended by garden designer Jimmy Turner for public gardens in challenging climates of Dallas, TX, Salt Lake City UT, and Sydney, Australia.

Supertunia:

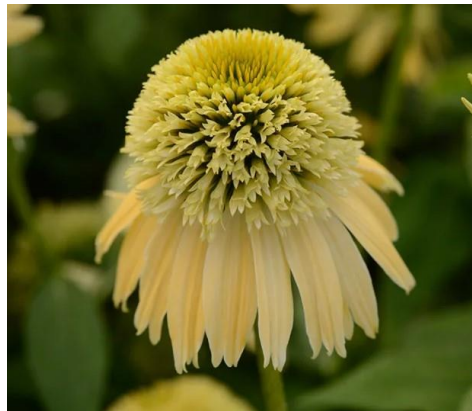
Unlike other petunias these stand up well to heat & humidity. These petunias are very vigorous, with mounding habits that can reach up to 2 feet in the landscape and will trail over the edges of baskets and containers up to 3 feet by the end of the season. They are fantastic landscape plants and are great in large containers, where they function as both fillers and spillers. In garden beds, they will work either in the front or middle of the bed. They have medium-sized flowers. They are the largest Supertunias both in height and width.



Lobularia Snow Princess cover the garden in fragrant, soft white flowers. No dead-heading necessary for continuous bloom. Snow Princess is cold tolerant and heat tolerant, bloomed through the summer at the Dallas Arboretum and the University of Georgia trial garden. It is very vigorous so pair with other vigorous. Snow Princess is a "heavy drinker" and will prefer evenly moist soil. It will be quick to show drought stress, but should bounce back quickly once re-hydrated. In a hanging basket you should be prepared to water often, maybe more than once a day during warm weather. Plants are easier to keep moist when planted in large planters.



Petchoa SuperCal series A super hybrid with large vibrant flowers. Continuous bloom from spring into fall until the first hard frost and exceptional garden performance in spite of late spring frosts, rain or summer heat. Superb for containers and hanging baskets. Loved by hummingbirds.



Echinacea Double Scoop series "Bright colors, big flowers and tough as nails," Jimmy said. "What isn't to love?" Plants in the series: Cranberry, Bubble Gum ,Orangeberry, Mandarin, Lemon Cream Grows up to 22-24 in. tall (55-60 cm) and 18-20 in. wide (45-50 cm). Thrives in full sun in average, dry to medium moisture, well drained soils. Tolerant of drought, heat and humidity. Perfect choice for beds and borders, prairies and meadows, wildflower gardens or cottage gardens. Excellent as cut flowers.



Celosia argentea Intenz He described this having "glow-in-the-dark bright cerise flowers appear right up until frost, on plants that hold up to extreme heat and humidity." No more waiting for late summer for Celosias to kick in. Bred in the Netherlands, these purplish magenta chenille-like plumes begin coloring up early in summer and keep on performing. Use Celosia argentea Intenz Classic™ to add a bright pop of color to a container or the edge of a border.

Salvia Mystic Spires Blue "One of the best blue flowers on the market that anyone can grow," said Jimmy. "Like a magnet to pollinators, too." Grows up to 24-30 in. high and wide (60-75 cm). Thrives in full sun or light shade in moist, well-drained soils. Water and fertilize regularly to keep it flowering. Some drought tolerance, but looks best with regular watering.

