

## McGregor Plant Sales - Some Like it HOT

*McGregor Plant Sales offers new Sizzling Summer Perennials for 2008*

**CARLSBAD, CA** – The dog days of summer will soon be upon us and consumers are going to be looking for that fresh splash of color to beat the heat. New to the McGregor program this year are three perennials from Darwin Plants, including **Chelsey** Helenium, **Goldmine** Phlox and **High Five** Veronica; all fantastic selections for summer flowering.

“The plant has to be successful for the consumer,” says Evelyn Weidner, Owner for Weidners’ Gardens in Encinitas, California. “And if it doesn’t work for them, then all of your work is for nothing.” **Chelsey**, **Goldmine** and **High Five** not only offer the colorful beauty that consumer desire, but they do so at the most challenging times of the year in the garden – the dead of summer. Plants that show well this time of year inspire gardeners to keep going without discouragement; a confident gardener is a purchasing gardener.

Few plants will stand up to the heat like the genus Helenium. Built for the summer, **Chelsey** Helenium boasts large, robust blooms with a fun bi-colored pattern of crimson splashed with sunshine. This summer lover performs well outdoors in the perennial border or in large mixed containers. **Chelsey** prefers full sun, but will tolerate moderate amounts of shade, bringing more yellow to the flower color. **Chelsey** also makes an excellent home-garden cutflower with 32-inch (81-cm) long, thick stems and extended vase life. Planted almost anywhere in the United States, **Chelsey** will make her return next season with a hardiness to zone 4. She is best suited to quart (11-cm) and 1-gallon (20-cm standard) production, offering strong appeal and value to the garden center shopper.

An exciting addition to any Phlox program is **Goldmine**. This striking paniculata hybrid is adorned with gleaming gold-edged foliage, sharply contrasted with large clusters of deep-magenta flowers in summer. **Goldmine** is remarkable robust for the large amount of gold in the foliage, which makes this variety decorative even out of flower. Best planted in full sun or partial shade and fertile, moist soil. **Goldmine** is less susceptible to mildew than other paniculata hybrids. Plants will bloom through late summer and early autumn and return in zones 4-8. Plants are best suited to quart (11-cm) and 1-gallon (20-cm standard) production.

**High Five** Veronica adds a cooling blue that is ideal for mixed containers and perennial borders. The heat-tolerant compact plants are loaded with very long, thick spikes of mid-blue flowers when the plants are only 8-inches (20-cm) tall. Rich green foliage provides a good background to the flower color. **High Five** has a mature garden height of 28-inches (70-cm) and is hardy in zones 4-8. **High Five** is a perfect choice for red, white and blue combinations for early July sales. Plants are best suited to quart (11-cm) and 1-gallon (20-cm standard) production.

Contact your McGregor Plant Sales representative, call MPS at 760.431.1006 or email Shaunna Junge at [shaunna@mcgregorps.com](mailto:shaunna@mcgregorps.com) for more information about USDA Certified Herb Cuttings.

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