

Garden Corner: Summer Scents

By Noma Edwards

Plan your garden so that you can have fragrant blooms all through the summer. Nothing compares to stepping into your backyard and catching a whiff of the wonderful summer scents floating up from your flowerbeds. If you are just beginning to realize you have the color but not the fragrance that you desire, then it's not too late to remedy this situation. Now is the time to visit your favorite nursery because they are currently supplied with the best choices for your garden additions.



Think about where you will put these new plants to get the most enjoyment from them. All along the paths you frequent and near any bench where you sit to enjoy your garden is where these fragrant plants should go. Lavender and dianthus work well along a path and you could use heliotrope or scented geraniums near a bench. *Nicotiana sylvestris* blooms in the evening, so this might be a good choice for the place you like to sit and watch the moon rise. There are many herbs that give off wonderful aromas that can be mixed in with your annual and perennial flowers. Consider basil, sage, lemon thyme, or maybe you have a place for prostrate rosemary to ramble. Summer phlox is very fragrant, and later in the summer you can enjoy the sweet perfume of oriental lilies such as Casa Blanca or Stargazer.

Mock orange (*Philadelphus coronarius*) and Mexican mock orange are in flower together through the summer and offer a lilting orange blossom fragrance. These both

do well in Fall City gardens. Sweet peas offer a rainbow of color along with their heady sweet scent. Suggestions for roses that offer the best fragrance include 'Fragrant Cloud', a salmon-red blossom, and the apricot colored 'Just Joey'. These will both stop any garden visitor in his or her tracks for a second sniff.

Vines cannot be forgotten for summer perfumery. The long-lasting fragrance of Hall's honeysuckle (*L. japonica 'Halliana'*) emits from clusters of gold flowers on a vine that can completely cover an arbor with its vigorous growth. Spanish jasmine (*Jasminum grandiflorum*) will bloom with an intense perfume throughout the summer and into the fall, or consider the primrose-scented *Clematis rebrderiana* with its soft yellow flowers. Any of these draped on a fence near a path or scrambling up an arbor over a bench will offer a romantic touch with their heavenly scents.

Notes: Thank you to all of the Fall City gardeners who lovingly care for the beautiful pink flowering dogwoods that abound in our town. Fall City was a blush of pink in April and May this year and every tree took my breath away!

For those of you who struggle with the Latin pronunciation of so many plants (and I raise my hand high here) check out the following:

www.finegardening.com/pguide/pronunciation-guide-to-botanical-latin.aspx I know this is a long address but it's worth it, trust me. Click on your sound and choose the plant name you wish to learn how to pronounce. A kind voice then says the name in Latin for you. Voila! It's great fun and often confirms what you thought all along; you were saying it correctly.

Happy Gardening!

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New Donkey at The Baxter Barn born May 18. Six year old Momi is the proud mom. BAXTERBARN.ORG

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