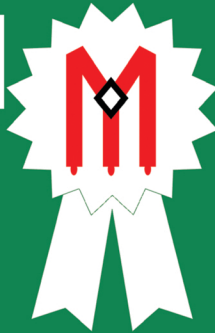


'24 THEODORE KLEIN AWARDS



Each year a panel of Kentucky green industry professionals hunkers down and battles it out to see which plant nominees are deemed the Theodore Klein Award winners. These awards started back in 1999 and now add up to the go-to collection of woody and herbaceous garden plants for the region.

For more information about current and past winners, scan the QR code.



Peking Lilac

Syringa reticulata subsp. *pekinensis* Great Wall® ('WFH2'), Beijing Gold™ ('Zhang Zhiming')

A durable, 35'-tall Asian species best known for masses of white, fragrant flowers in early summer, and mahogany-colored, peeling bark. At home in any reasonable soil and full sun. Beijing Gold™ offers creamy yellow flowers while Great Wall® was selected for upright, uniform growth and vigorous bloom.



Hybrid Magnolia

Magnolia 'Sunsation'

This late-blooming hybrid of a Kentucky native tree explodes with fragrant spring blooms of yellow with pink/green highlights after most frost danger. Growing to 40' tall, it forms a uniform, upright specimen with distinctive gray bark. Plant in full sun and water through dry spells.



Korean Spice Viburnum

Viburnum carlesii 'Select S' (Sugar 'n Spice™), 'Compactum', 'Aurora'

Dense 4'-6' shrub prized for fragrant spring flowers that start pink/red in bud and open to white. Fuzzy, green summer foliage turns to wine/red/orange in fall. Drought tolerant and easy to grow. Notable selections include 'Compactum' (3'-4'), 'Aurora' (deep red buds) and Sugar 'n Spice™ (heavy flowering.)



Korean Pine

Pinus koraiensis

Uncommon 60'-tall evergreen with a loosely upright outline. Fine textured, four to five-inch-long, blue/green needles provide a soft feel to the entire plant. Plant in full sun in all but very dry or very wet soil and it will reward with years of mostly trouble-free growth.



Little Blue Stem

Schizachyrium scoparium 'Standing Ovation'

Outstanding, 3'-4'-tall native grass forms erect clumps of blue/green foliage, turning blue/purple in fall. Clouds of wispy seed heads top the plant in late summer and fall. While many Blue Stem forms have a hard time standing up in the garden, 'Standing Ovation' stands tall.



Woodland Phlox

Phlox divaricata 'Blue Moon', 'May Breeze'

Well-behaved, Kentucky native that forms loose mats of fine-textured foliage covered with fragrant, blue/lavender to rose/pink spring flowers. Deer resistant and easy to grow. 'May Breeze' has white flowers that age to pale purple. 'Blue Moon' is the best of the blue selections.