All-America Selections Winners for 2013: Outstanding Performers for the Home Garden $^{\odot}$

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Eight cultivars became All-America Selections (AAS) Award Winners in 2013. All-America Selections includes a network of over 50 trial grounds all over North America where new, never-before-sold introductions are "Tested Nationally and Proven Locally[®]" by skilled, impartial AAS judges. Only the best performers are declared AAS Winners. All-America Selections continues as the oldest, most established international testing organization in North America.

The All-America Selections winners for 2013 are as follows:

CANNA 'SOUTH PACIFIC SCARLET' (F1 CANNA)

This cultivar is grown from seed, not tubers. Plants are compact in habit and well-suited for both landscape and container use. 'South Pacific Scarlet' canna prefers warm and humid conditions over 77°F. This cultivar is more vigorous, more uniform, and has more basal branching than *C*. 'Tropical Red'. Bred by Takii & Co., Ltd.

CITRULLUS LANATUS 'HARVEST MOON' (F1 WATERMELON)

This is the first-ever hybrid, triploid, seedless watermelon to win an AAS Award. Similar to the popular heirloom cultivar 'Moon and Stars', 'Harvest Moon' is an improvement in that it features healthy, shorter vines that produce better tasting, medium-sized fruits with sweet, crisp, pinkish-red flesh. Bred by Seeds By Design/K&B Development.

CUCUMIS MELO 'MELEMON' (F1 MELON)

This melon features earliness, high yield, and superior taste on healthy, strong plants. Uniform, personal-sized fruits have a taste similar to honeydew, but with a surprising and delicious tanginess. This cultivar is suitable for home gardeners and market growers. Bred by Known-You Seed Co., Ltd.

ECHINACEA 'CHEYENNE SPIRIT' (CONEFLOWER)

This stunning first-year flowering coneflower captures the spirit of the North American plains by producing a delightful mix of flower colors from rich purple, pink, red, and orange tones to lighter yellows, creams, and white. This wide range of flower colors on well-branched, durable plants are sure to please the color preferences of any gardener. As an added bonus, 'Cheyenne Spirit' coneflower does not require a lot of water and offers a wide range of uses from the perennial border, in a mass landscape planting, in a butterfly garden or as a cut flower. Bred by Kieft Seed.

PELARGONIUM 'PINTO PREMIUM WHITE TO ROSE' (F1 GERANIUM)

Flowers feature a unique coloration with petals starting out white, then deepening to rosepink as the flowers mature, giving an attractive bicolor effect. Dense, well-branched plants sport deep green leaves with darker zones that contrast beautifully with the light colored flowers. Bred by Syngenta Flowers, Inc.

SOLANUM LYCOPERSICUM 'JASPER' (F1 TOMATO)

This tomato produces high yields of uniform fruit with excellent taste and a long harvest window on vigorous, fusarium-resistant plants. Fruits stay on the vine and then hold well after ripening both on the vine and post-harvest. Bred by Johnny's Selected Seeds.

ZINNIA HYBRIDA 'PROFUSION DOUBLE DEEP SALMON' (ZINNIA)

This cultivar features intensely vibrant, deep pink-orange flowers with double petals. Plants are self-cleaning, disease resistant, and grow well in a range of climates, including areas with high night temperatures. The flowers can grow $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 in. in diameter. Bred by Sakata Seed Corp.

ZINNIA HYBRIDA 'PROFUSION DOUBLE HOT CHERRY' (ZINNIA)

This zinnia produces rich rose, double-petalled blooms that cover the plants with flowers from spring through frost. The bright color of the 2½ to 3 in. flowers does not fade, even under high temperatures. Like all Profusion zinnias, 'Profusion Double Hot Cherry' is easy to grow as it is self-cleaning, disease resistant, and grows well in a wide range of climates. Bred by Sakata Seed Corp.

In Summer 2013, the following two 2014 AAS Winners were also announced:

GAURA LINDHEIMERI 'SPARKLE WHITE' (GAURA)

This gaura produces long, slender stems sporting a large number of dainty white flowers tinged with a pink blush. Plants perform well when mass planted in sunny landscape beds, in groupings with other perennials, or in larger containers. This season-long bloomer also has excellent heat tolerance and a more uniform flowering habit than other seed-grown gauras. Bred by Kieft Seed.

PHASEOLUS VULGARIS 'MASCOTTE' (BUSH BEAN)

The first AAS-winning bean since 1991, this compact cultivar is perfect for today's small-space gardens. 'Mascotte' is a bush-type bean that produces long, slender pods that stay above the foliage for easy harvest. This bean also has white showy flowers for ornamental value during bloom time. Bred by Clause Vegetable Seed.

More information on AAS and AAS winners is available at: <www.all-americaselections.org> or <www.aaswinners.com>.