

Achter de Watertoren 11 2182 DV Hillegom The Netherlands



January 2025

Green Greetings!

In a world that moves faster every day, it's easy to forget that we are part of nature—not separate from it. The forests, the meadows, the quiet rivers—they speak to something deep within us. They remind us where we come from and offer a kind of peace no screen or city ever could. Nature grounds us. It soothes our stress, gives us strength, and helps us meet life's challenges with renewed clarity.

A garden may not be a wild woodland or a vast prairie, but it can become a gateway to that feeling. With care and intention, a garden has the power to recreate the quiet awe of standing beneath tall trees or walking through sunlit fields. It can give us that humbling, powerful sense of belonging.

We believe that gardening should not only bring joy but also respect the natural world it draws from. That's why we focus on sustainable growing practices, select hardy, long-living species, and aim to support biodiversity. Every plant in this catalog has been chosen not just for its beauty, but for its ability to thrive with minimal impact—and to give back to the ecosystem it becomes part of.

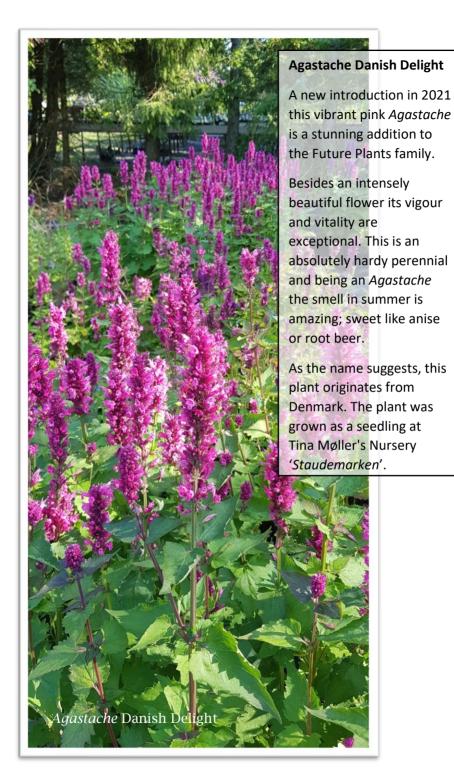
This catalog is an invitation to plant, to grow, and to reconnect. The perennial plants you'll find here are more than just beautiful additions to your landscape. They are part of a larger story. One that ties us back to the earth, season after season.

Kind regards,

Team Future Plants Laura, Hein and Gerrit







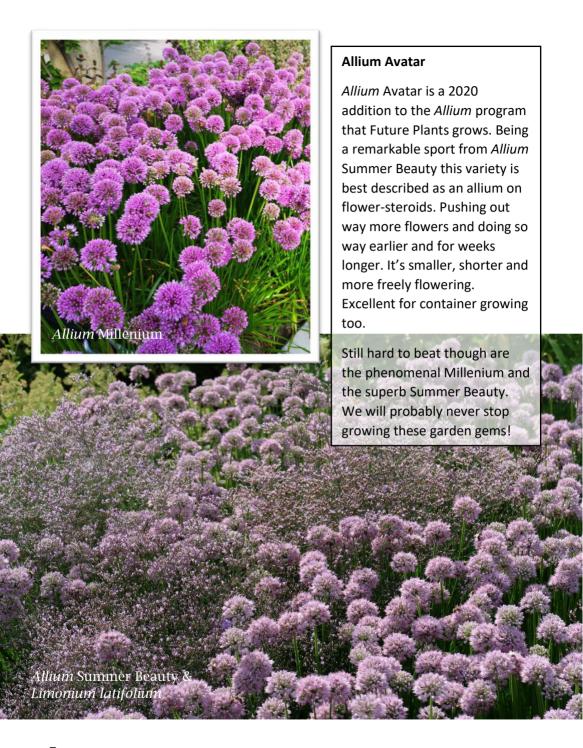


#### Anemone leveillei

A bushy type of anemone with fingered leaves carrying pure white flowers that have a striking cluster in the centre of purpleblue helmet heads. A wonderful combination! Especially when the flowers close themselves in the fading light of the evening.

Anemone leveillei starts flowering in spring, as early as April. To top it all off, the spikey seed head is exceptional. Leave them and they will last you until October.











Astilbe Vision Inferno





### **Astilbe Vision Vulcano**

Willem van Veen is the Dutch breeder of the valued *Astilbe* Vision-series. His latest introduction is the *Astilbe* Vision Vulcano. A gorgeous, richly filled flower in vibrant red carried by a dark stem flowering well above dark foliage.

Willem is one of Future Plants first third-party breeders and is still working on new selections. His focus will, as always, be on improving and enriching the assortment. Not only in color, but surely also in health and growing power. Something that make the Visions so incredibly popular with both gardeners and growers.





#### Astrantia

One of those must-haves for every gardener! Delightful, old-fashioned flowers, but never out of fashion.

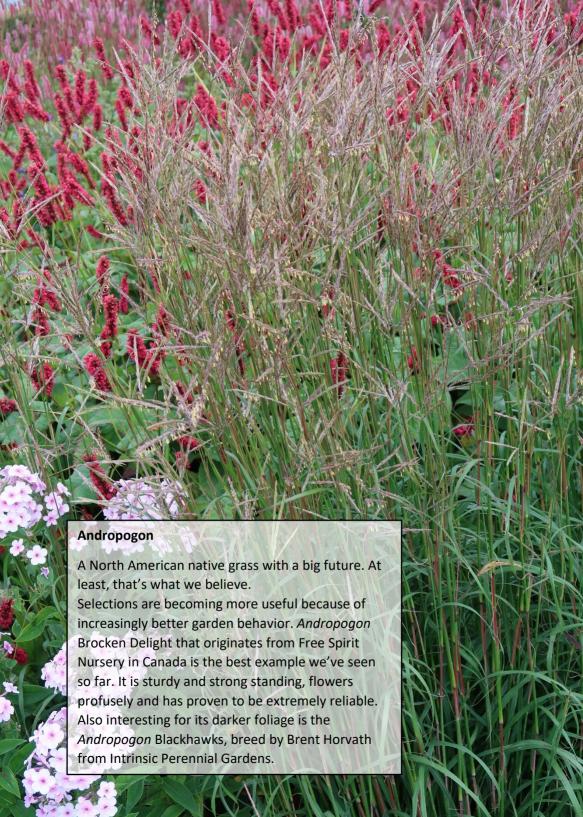
And if you haven't tried it, go for the *Astrantia* Roma. A strong variety that carries numerous antique-rose colored flowers. This plant has been the benchmark for Future Plants when it comes to selecting new cultivars for over 20 years.

A new star in the *Astrantia* family is Capri. As a direct descendant of Roma it displays the same health and flower-power. The color is a vibrant deep reddish-pink. It's an amazing garden plant, that can be cut back entirely, including leaves after flowering in spring. New foliage and flowers will appear within weeks. *Astrantia major* Roma, Capri and Florence all make for excellent cut flowers.

All species of *Astrantia* like fertile and moisture retentive soil.

Astrantia Roma







The Baptisia leucantha is characterized by a stately, high inflorescence. The dark stems ensure that this prairie plant makes a majestic impression even more than other Baptisia.

slow at first.

The color in the autumn is almost deep black and then beautiful, thick seed pods are formed. Don't cut back... Enjoy! The plant will rid itself of the foliage when the time is right.









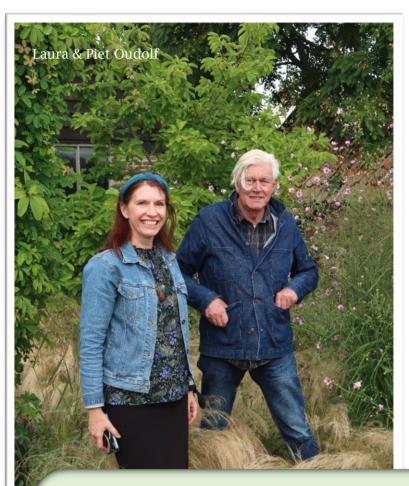
#### Echinacea

A classic from the North American prairie and known for that iconic cone in the middle. Unfortunately not so much for its durability!

The Future Plants varieties have been selected by Piet Oudolf himself, not only for their beauty, but also for their durability. They are the result of pure *Echinacea purpurea* breeding.

They might look somewhat simple, but these are well on their way to become classics in their own right. Plants like Virgin and Fatal Attraction form the basic range in the industry because of their reliability in growth and sales.





In 2021 we were lucky enough to have Laura Fernald Ekasetya, former Director and Head Horticulturist at Lurie Garden in Chicago, join the Future Plants team. Besides working together Laura and Piet have been longtime friends. 'What stands out to me is her genuine interest in the plants and in a broader perspective in the entire environment and biodiversity within the garden. She has been a driving force behind Lurie Garden transforming from a planting into a living and thriving community where plants, trees, animals of all sorts, and people come together to enjoy the tranquillity and beauty of it.' According to Piet.

Laura is Account Executive for Future Plants and can be reached at laura@futureplants.com



## **Eupatorium maculatum**

Bring on those large umbel flowers in late summer! All Eupatorium species should attract masses of butterflies and bees. Essential to bring more life to your garden. This strong, large plant feels most happy in fertile soil, but will do well in most kinds of soil and will never let you down. Maybe after a decade or so, it is wise to dig them up and divide them so fresh growth can give them a new boost.

Most interesting are the white flowered Eupatorium Snowball and the dark stemmed Eupatorium Phantom.

Or when super-size is no problem for your garden, the *Eupatorium* Riesenschirm.





## Geranium phaeum Joseph Green

A relatively new introduction of a particularly unusual but attractive hardy *Geranium phaeum*.

This chance seedling was first found in 2013 by Lynne Edwards in her own garden, in the UK. She named this beauty after her father Joseph Green who was a keen horticulturalist, specialized in botany.

Fully double purple-blue sterile flowers with what appears to be malformed stigmas in chartreuse green, interspersed, and most prominent as the flowers open.

So far it has been very rare in trade. We feel it's way too beautiful to be that exclusive! This desirable plant deserves to be enjoyed in every garden.









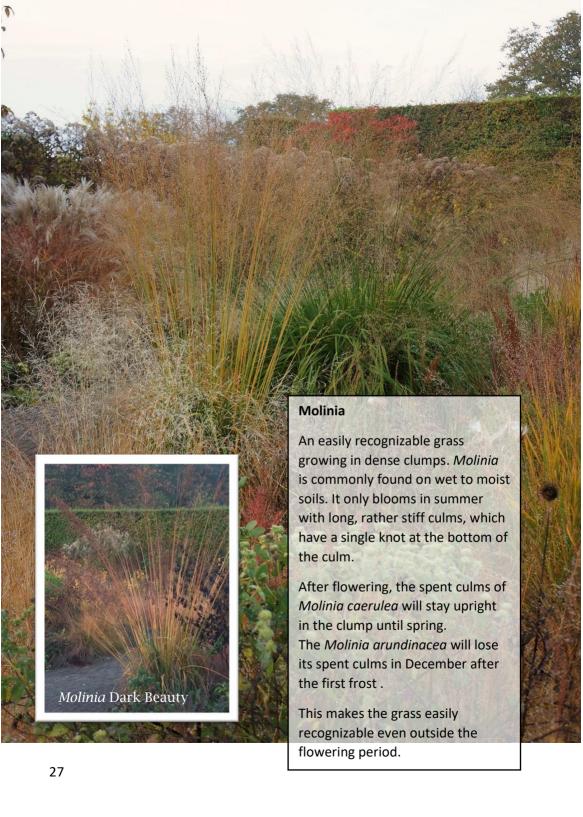
# **NEW FOR 2025**

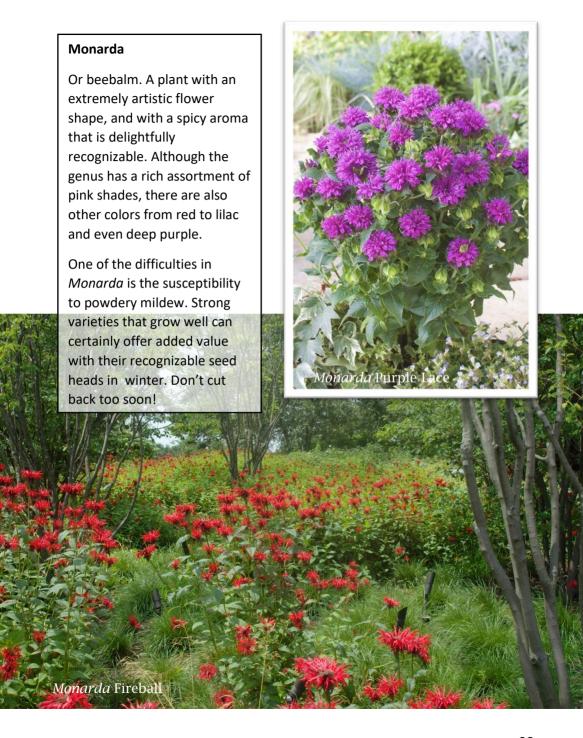






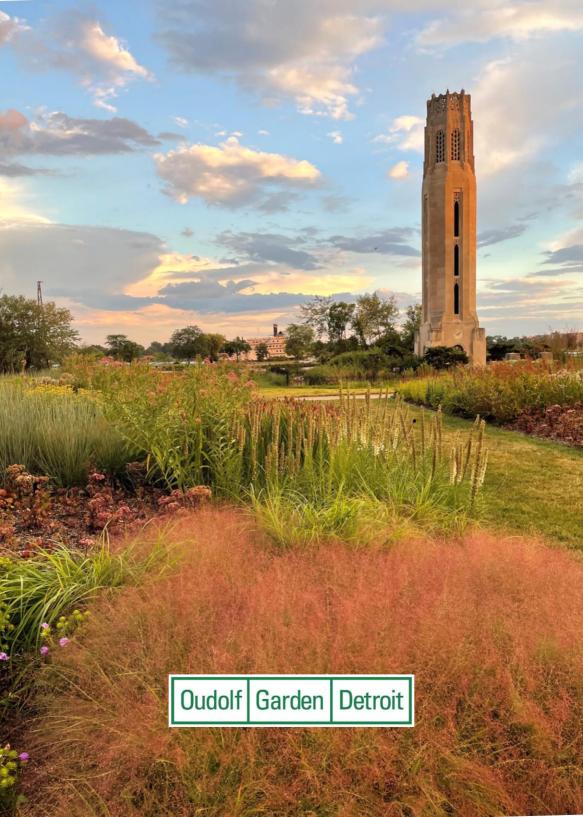








Panicum virgatum Purple Tears bears flowering spikes with soft grey color at the top, followed by splendid, purple seed heads. With a manageable height of 130 cm, its narrow, upright habit makes it perfect for a range of landscape applications. It has the same toughness and adaptability you'll find in other switchgrass cultivars.







A rarely offered peony, which has its origin in the mountains of Kashmir. The beautiful, pure white flowers that are small and single, bear distinctive golden stamens. The habit of this plant is different from what people are used to. The plant, with a height of about 70 centimeters, forms a dense, almost shrub-like green foliage. It gets covered with white flowers. Often multiple per branch, which also bloom consecutively, so that the total flowering period tends to be very long.





## Persicaria amplexicaulis

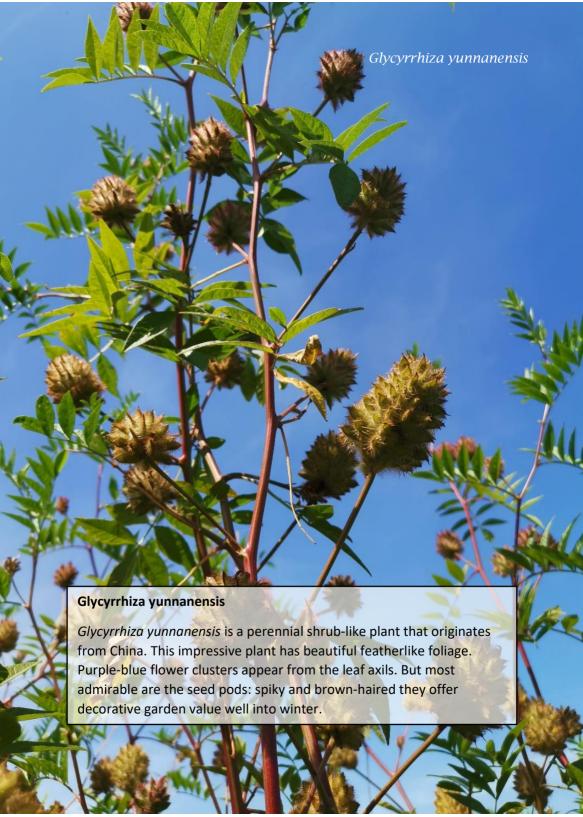
If it were up to us, we would try every single *Persicaria amplexicaulis*. It is without a doubt the most beloved *Persicaria*. They are certainly among the most valuable late summer bloomers and they seem to bloom more profoundly with increasingly intense colors in the course of the autumn.

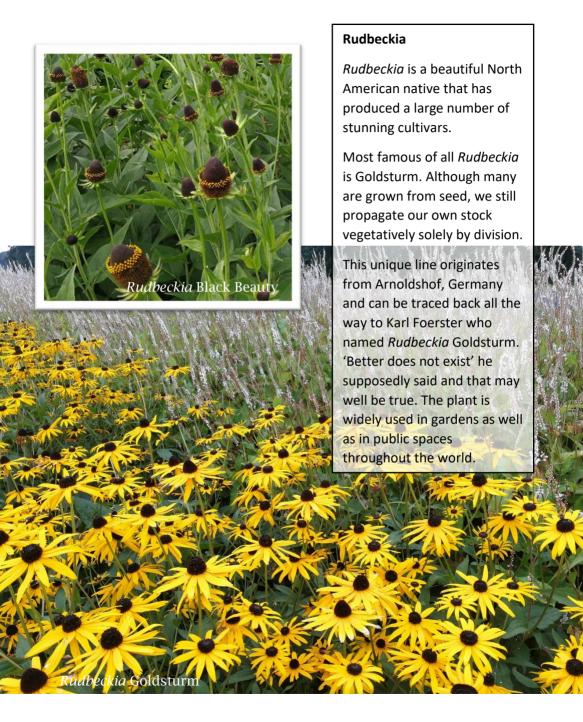
Chris Chyselen is the breeder of *Persicaria* cultivars such as Blackfield, Orangefield and Fat Domino. But more so, he has been an inspiration when it comes to the use of these phenomenal plants. His participation in the Great Dixter and Sussex Prairie Gardens Plant Fair paved the way for many. Not to mention his own Oostveld Gardens in Belgium.





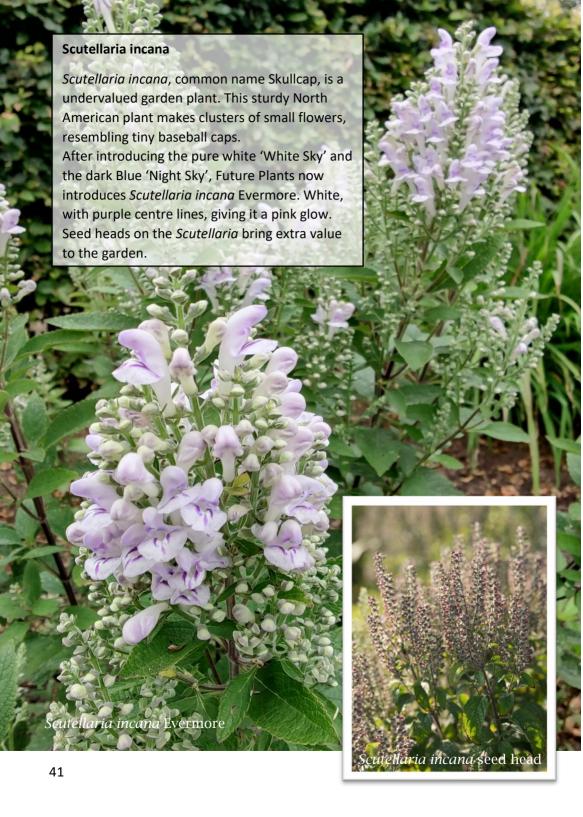


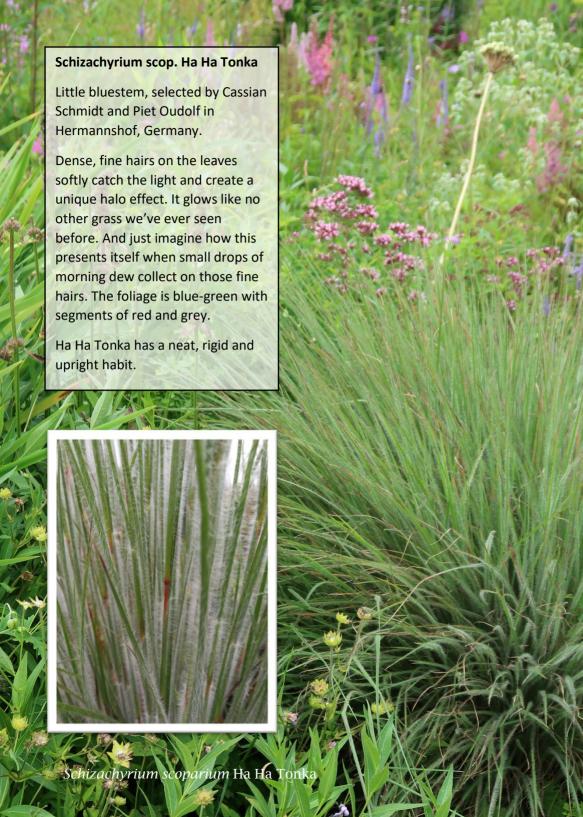


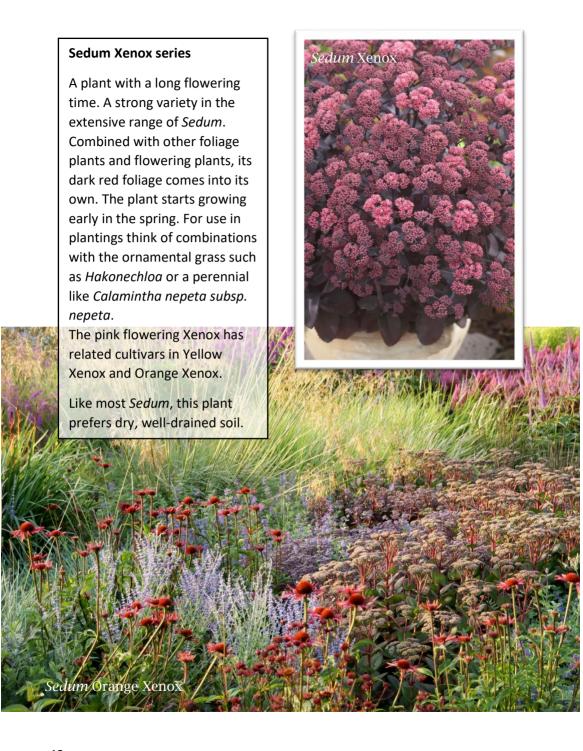












## Sesleria heufleriana Norðîc Overdam Blue

This new bluegrass was discovered by Poul Petersen at his nursery Overdam Planteskole. The upper side of the foliage is blue-green and the underside is steel blue. The spiral growth pattern of the leaves gives the plant an overall grayish appearance. Since the leaves are wider, Sesleria 'Overdam Blue' appears to be both more lush and vigorous than the species. It blooms in early spring with upright spikes that are first black and later change to a cream-color. It is a very good ground cover grass. Its beautiful appearance also makes it suitable as a pot plant.

## Sesleria Greenlee Hybrid

What we prefer in the Greenlee Hybrid is its neat behaviour. Sesleria autumnalis tends to overgrow itself on rich soil. Not so with the Greenlee Hybrid. It makes beautiful evergreen mounds with cream-colored flower spikes well placed just above the blue-green foliage. It seems to be more tolerable to heat and extreme weather conditions in general.





### Sidalcea Little Princess

The pleasant, pale-pink color and the large flowers that are arranged neatly around the stems along with the sturdy growth habit make this an absolute winner.

For some height is important. Well, the *Sidalcea* Little Princess is the shortest *Sidalcea* around! Perfect for container growing on your patio. Or to scatter around in a grass matrix planting with *Sesleria* or *Bouteloua gracillis*.

Stronger colors are available too. *Sidalcea* Candy Girl being one of them.

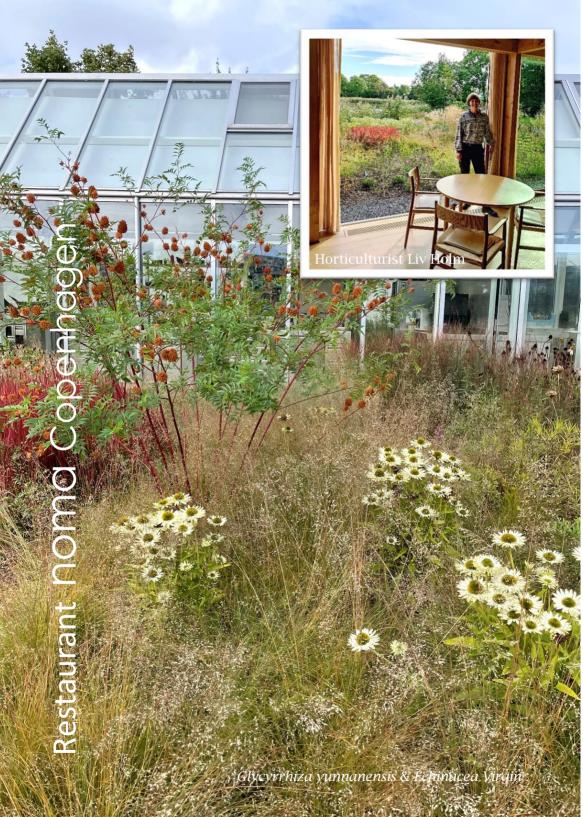






Betonica officinalis Summer
Sweets are the purple Summer
Grapes and the white Summer
Snow. All excellent for container
growing or for a lower part in a
planting. Its dark green leaves
already appear in early spring and
will remain till first frost hits. The
spike-shaped flowers grow on
short, sturdy stems and protrude
gracefully above the foliage.

A bit taller but very useful in landscaping, the new Stachys *Lilac Lady* offers a softer lavender haze that is easier to combine than the traditional Stachys *Hummelo*.





*ronica* CanCan

as soon as possible, this increases the chance of a

Veronica longifolia makes for an excellent cut flower.

second bloom.

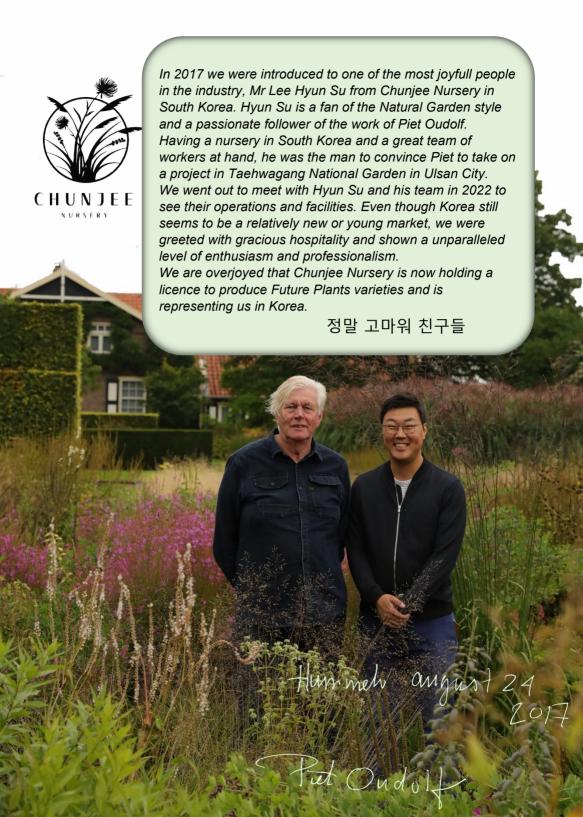


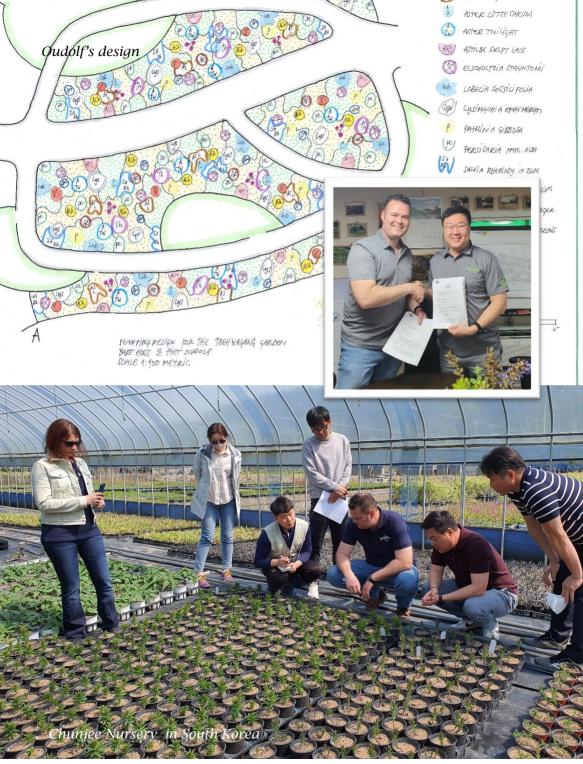
#### Veronicastrum

Same family as *Veronica*, but bigger in every way. Crosses between the two can no longer be ruled out. Its strong upright habit truly emphasizes those vertical lines in your planting. *Veronicastrum sibiricum* such as Cupid are typically a bit earlier in flower, but combine them with the *Veronicastrum viginicum* and these long-lived plants will amaze you time and time again and for years to come!

The overall quality of the cultivar has been improved immensely compared to the old *Veronicastrum* Alba and Rosea. Not only in color, but surely also in habit. *Veronicastrum* Challenger is proof of that. Its compact growth makes for a stand as solid as a tree! Keeping up its form throughout winter, the silhouette brings new stature to the garden.









### The Future Plants Trial Garden - A Living Laboratory of Innovation

In June 2024, Future Plants unveiled its new trial garden in Lisse – a unique space where horticultural innovation and natural beauty meet. Situated on Loosterweg Noord, in the heart of the Dutch flower bulb region, this 2,300 m² garden is more than a showcase; it's a living laboratory designed to inspire, educate, and connect.

Created in collaboration with world-renowned designers Piet Oudolf and Stefano Marinaz, the trial garden blends artistry and function. The layout reflects a plant-driven philosophy, encouraging visitors to slow down and explore the rich diversity of species on display. Slightly mounded planting beds create subtle microclimates and lift specimens into view, while strategically placed seating areas invite moments of reflection and close observation.



As you walk through the garden, you'll encounter over 200 varieties of perennials and ornamental grasses – from innovative new introductions to time-tested species that have proven their worth in naturalistic plantings. Here, visitors can study growth habits, flowering times, and seasonal silhouettes, gaining insight into how these plants perform throughout the year. The garden has been designed to evolve over time, transforming as new varieties are introduced and established. This dynamic character ensures each visit offers fresh inspiration.

The trial garden is also a practical resource for growers, retailers, designers, and horticultural professionals. It highlights plant combinations and compositions that demonstrate aesthetic potential, ecological value, and adaptability to changing climates – key considerations for contemporary landscapes. As Stefano Marinaz notes, the design "bridges the gap between growers and designers", creating a forward-thinking platform for botanical exploration.

Parts of the garden are already flourishing, while others remain in progress as planting continues. This sense of ongoing development reflects Future Plants' commitment to innovation and experimentation – a garden that is alive in every sense.





# **Top Ten – New & Exciting Perennials and Grasses**

Every season brings a wave of new varieties, but some stand out for their beauty, versatility, or sheer wow-factor. In this special selection, I'm sharing my personal Top Ten – a handpicked collection of perennials and ornamental grasses that I find particularly inspiring for today's gardens and landscapes.

These are plants that combine strong garden performance with striking aesthetics. From fresh introductions with unique colors or forms to reliable workhorses reimagined for modern plantings, each has earned its place on this list.

For each, you'll find a detailed description and a photo to help you explore their potential. Whether you're looking for bold statements, subtle textures, or ecological value, I hope these favorites spark ideas and encourage you to try something new in your plantings.



### Phlox paniculata UNNAMED

A true garden gem with stable variegation. In spring, its foliage emerges in a striking mix of fresh green, creamy white, and warm red hues, followed by airy clusters of cool blue blooms in summer. Perfect for borders and pollinator-friendly gardens.

Height: 80 – 100 cm

Position: Full sun to part shade

Moist, well-drained soil

#### **Astilbe UNNAMED**

A breakthrough in Astilbe breeding. With its rich, dark foliage and exceptionally well-developed, vibrant pink plumes, this variety stands apart from others like Astilbe Chocolate Shogun. Thanks to its Visions lineage, it combines stability, vigor, and stunning garden performance. Not yet ready to hit the marked, this promises to be a true statement plant for shade borders and mixed plantings.



#### **Callirhoe**

Rarely seen in the perennial plant world, **Callirhoe** deserves a place in modern landscapes. With its **exceptional drought tolerance** and graceful habit, it's ideal for sustainable, low-maintenance plantings. Our breeding efforts focus on refining its garden behaviour and introducing **softer**, **more versatile shades** beyond the bold pink, making this North American native beauty even more valuable for contemporary designs.





## Phlox paniculata 'Sweet Laura'

A fragrant star with a story. This pink-flowering beauty fills the garden with a **delicious**, **sweet scent** and masses of vibrant blooms through summer. Originating from the famed Lurie Garden in Chicago and named for its former director, Laura Ekasetya, it's a variety that blends **romance**, **resilience**, and **irresistible fragrance**.

Height: 100 - 110 cm

Position: Full sun to part shade

Moist, well-drained soil



#### Sesleria 'Nordic Overdam Blue'

We expect more improved Sesleria varieties will be introduced soon. This one, selected by Poul Petersen, stands out to impresses with its refined size and striking steel-blue foliage, bringing cool elegance to modern plantings. As Sesleria continues to evolve with new and improved forms, 'Nordic Overdam Blue' sets the tone as a versatile, resilient, and stylish addition to the garden palette.

## Stachys 'Lilac Lady'

A fresh take on a well-known garden favorite, Stachys Hummelo. With its soft **lilac blooms**, this healthy, easy-care perennial offers a gentler alternative to the bold purples of Hummelo. The more refined color makes it **perfect for elegant combinations** in borders, mass plantings, and modern landscapes. Resilient, versatile, and beautiful.

Height: 60 - 80 cm

Position: Full sun to part shade

Moist, well-drained soil



## Andropogon 'Blackhawks'

This striking North American native brings a fresh dynamic to planting schemes with its dark, dramatic foliage that deepens to rich reds and purples in autumn. Topped with elegant flower spikes, it adds both color and movement to the landscape. Still relatively unknown in Europe, 'Blackhawks' deserves to be discovered as a resilient, lowmaintenance grass perfect for modern designs and naturalistic plantings.





### Veronicastrum virginicum

Our breeding program is setting new benchmarks for strength, vigor, and color in Veronicastrum virginicum. Building on the success of 'Challenger' with its stronger, upright stems, we're selecting for varieties with robust growth, deeper, more vibrant colors, and improved garden performance. The result: striking architectural perennials that combine beauty with resilience—perfect for modern landscapes and pollinator-friendly plantings. Coming soon!



### Astilbe 'Vision in White Delight'

At last, the Vision series has its white counterpart that growers have been waiting for. 'Vision in White Delight' matches the vigor and production power of Vision in Pink and Vision in Red, solving a long-standing challenge in production.

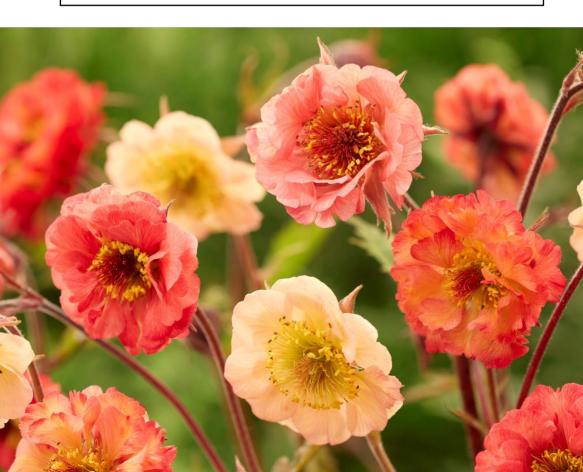
With its profuse, striking white plumes and robust growth habit, it stays true to its Vision heritage while raising the bar in performance and garden impact.

### **Geum - A Delicious New Series**

Introducing a new generation of Geum, carefully bred for exceptional durability, strong vigor, and garden-worthy performance. This charming series delights with large, refined blooms in a delectable palette—deep reds, soft pale pinks, creamy whites, and fiery orange tones kissed with gold.

Named after classic English pastries, 'Jam Roly-Poly', 'Battenberg Cake', 'Cherry Bakewell', and 'Victoria Sponge'. Each variety adds a touch of whimsy and sophistication to perennial plantings. With their robust nature and long flowering season, Geum is perfect for borders, cottage gardens, and contemporary landscapes alike. Indulge in this irresistible collection and bring a taste of elegance and color to your garden.

Have a taste of these new garden jams and sweeten up your borders!





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