

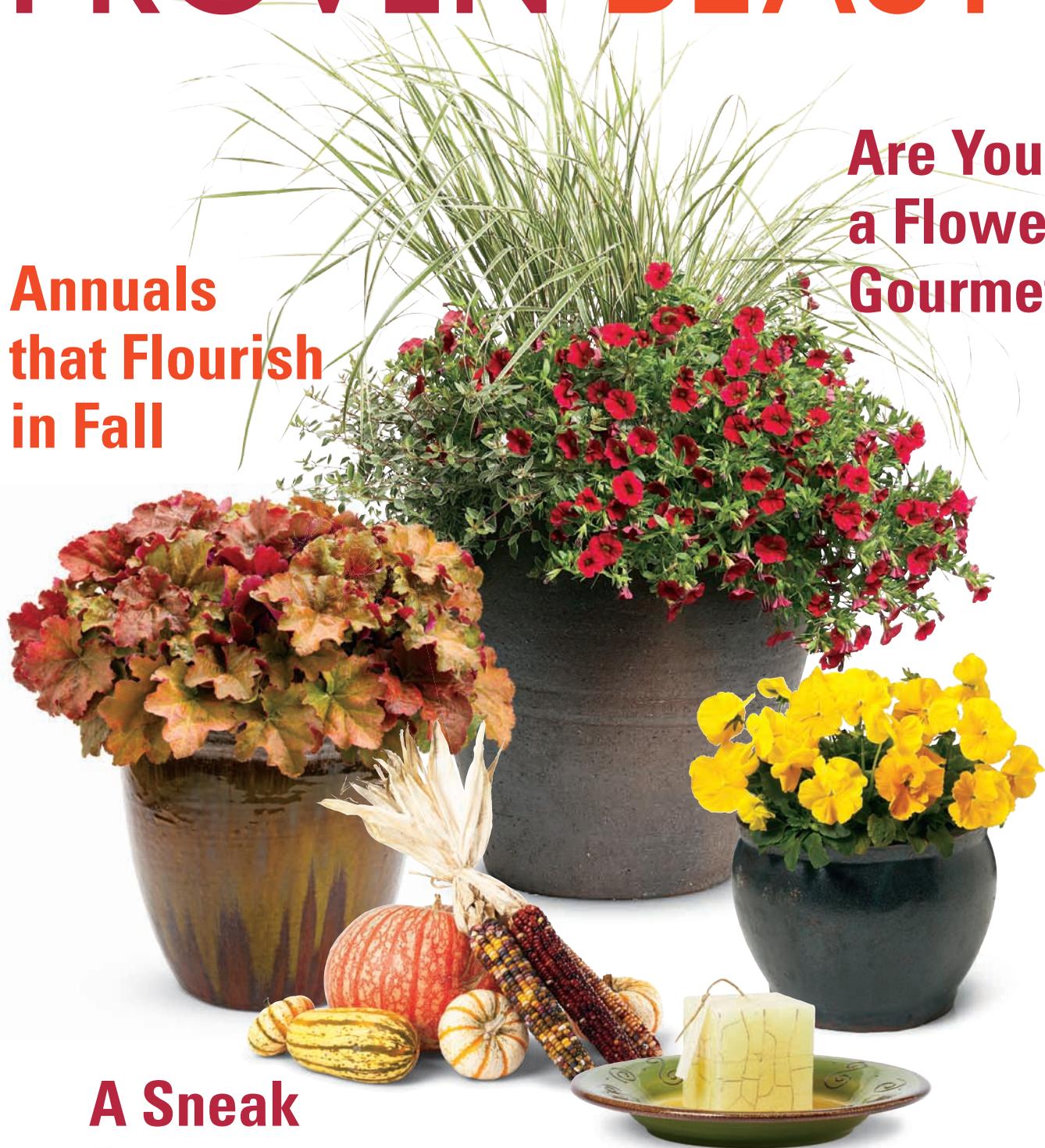
Fall 2011

the magazine for success in the garden

# PROVEN BEAUTY<sup>®</sup>

**Annuals  
that Flourish  
in Fall**

**Are You  
a Flower  
Gourmet?**



**A Sneak  
Peek at 2012  
Perennials**

**Beautiful Blooms:  
Dried & Inside**

# WELCOME FALL!

Open your windows, your doors, and your garden to welcome the cool, refreshing season of fall. With so many beautiful, hardy, cold-tolerant annuals, perennials, and shrubs available, fall is the perfect time to refresh your garden and yourself. Not only do the more comfortable temperatures mean you can actually enjoy being outside, less heat and humidity also mean less stress on many of your plants. In fact, some varieties may even reinitiate blooms as the weather cools.

And, for those plants that completely lost their luster as summer wound down, fall is a chance for you to redecorate for the season by replacing them with fresh annuals in a fall color palette. Not only will that give your containers and landscape a lift, it will lift your spirits, too.

We hope the fall ideas, growing tips, and plant previews in this issue of *Proven Beauty* will inspire you as well.

Sincerely,



Danielle Ernest  
*Editor*



**Download a pdf of this issue  
by clicking here.**

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*Proven Beauty* is an emagazine devoted to educating and inspiring gardeners. It is published four times a year. Send comments, questions, or story ideas to [danielle@provenwinners.com](mailto:danielle@provenwinners.com).

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SUPERBELLS® Saffron *Calibrachoa hybrid*

## REFRESH RENEW REVISION

The coming of fall brings not just a cool respite from the summer heat, but also a chance to reveal a fresh, new vision for your containers and landscapes. And redecorating for fall doesn't have to mean lots of work. Superbells Calibrachoa are a great option for the changing seasons because they deliver big color to a tired garden. Plus, they're vigorous, cold-tolerant growers that require little water, so they can easily fill an empty spot in your landscape left by wilted summer annuals or quickly fill a large fall container with bloom after colorful bloom.





## BE A TREND SETTER

If you're looking for something more than the traditional mums, kale, pumpkins, and gourds to bring a breath of autumn air to your porch, patio, or garden, try these trend-setting Fall-ternatives. Combinations like those featured here are not only easy to grow, they're eye-catching in color and texture, and some feature perennials, like Heuchera, Euphorbia, Grasses, and Sedum, which can be transplanted to bring summer and fall color to your landscape for years to come.

Opposite, clockwise from top left:

**Cottage Grove:** SUPERBELLS® Dreamsicle and Red *Calibrachoa* hybrids, GRACEFUL GRASSES® Toffee Twist Sedge *Carex flagellifera*

**Dixieland Band:** SUNDAZE® Flame *Bracteantha bracteata*, GRACEFUL GRASSES® Toffee Twist *Carex flagellifera*, Helena's Blush *Euphorbia amygdaloides* hybrid, and SUNSATIA® Mango *Nemesia* hybrid

**Royal Treatment:** Burgundy Glow *Ajuga reptans*, FLYING COLORS® Trailing Antique Rose *Diascia* hybrid, and DOLCE® Blackcurrant *Heuchera* hybrid

**Perfect Match:** SUPERBELLS® Peach *Calibrachoa* hybrid, Efanthia *Euphorbia amygdaloides* hybrid, DOLCE® Key Lime Pie *Heuchera* hybrid, and GRACEFUL GRASSES® Blue Mohawk *Juncus inflexus*

**Warm & Cozy:** Black Scallop *Ajuga reptans*, VANILLA BUTTERFLY® *Argyranthemum frutescens*, and Blue Bird *Nemesia fruticans* hybrid

Above, left to right:

**Down to Earth:** Creeping Wirevine *Muehlenbeckia* with Icterina *Salvia officinalis*

**Classic Vintage:** Ogon *Acorus gramineus*, FLYING COLORS® Coral *Diascia* hybrid, 'Angelina' *Sedum reptans*, and GARNET BROCADE™ *Sedum* hybrid

# Flowers that flourish



NEMESIA



DIASCIA

Clockwise from top left:  
SUNSATIA® Mango *Nemesia hybrid*  
SUNSATIA® Raspberry *Nemesia hybrid*  
FLIRTATION® Orange *Diascia hybrid*



OSTEOSPERMUM

Clockwise from left:  
SOPRANO® Light Purple *Osteospermum hybrid*  
Lemon Symphony *Osteospermum hybrid*  
Orange Symphony *Osteospermum hybrid*

Annuals aren't just for spring and summer. In fact, many annuals are sure-fire bets for an abundance of fall flowers because they actually reinitiate blooms when the nights become cooler. The colorful beauties shown here are exceptional fall flourishers. Not only will they grow well in combination with one another, but these annuals also provide a wide selection of vibrant seasonal colors as well as a variety of sizes and bloom shapes to give every gardener something for their fall decorating makeover.

# in the fall



CALIBRACHOA



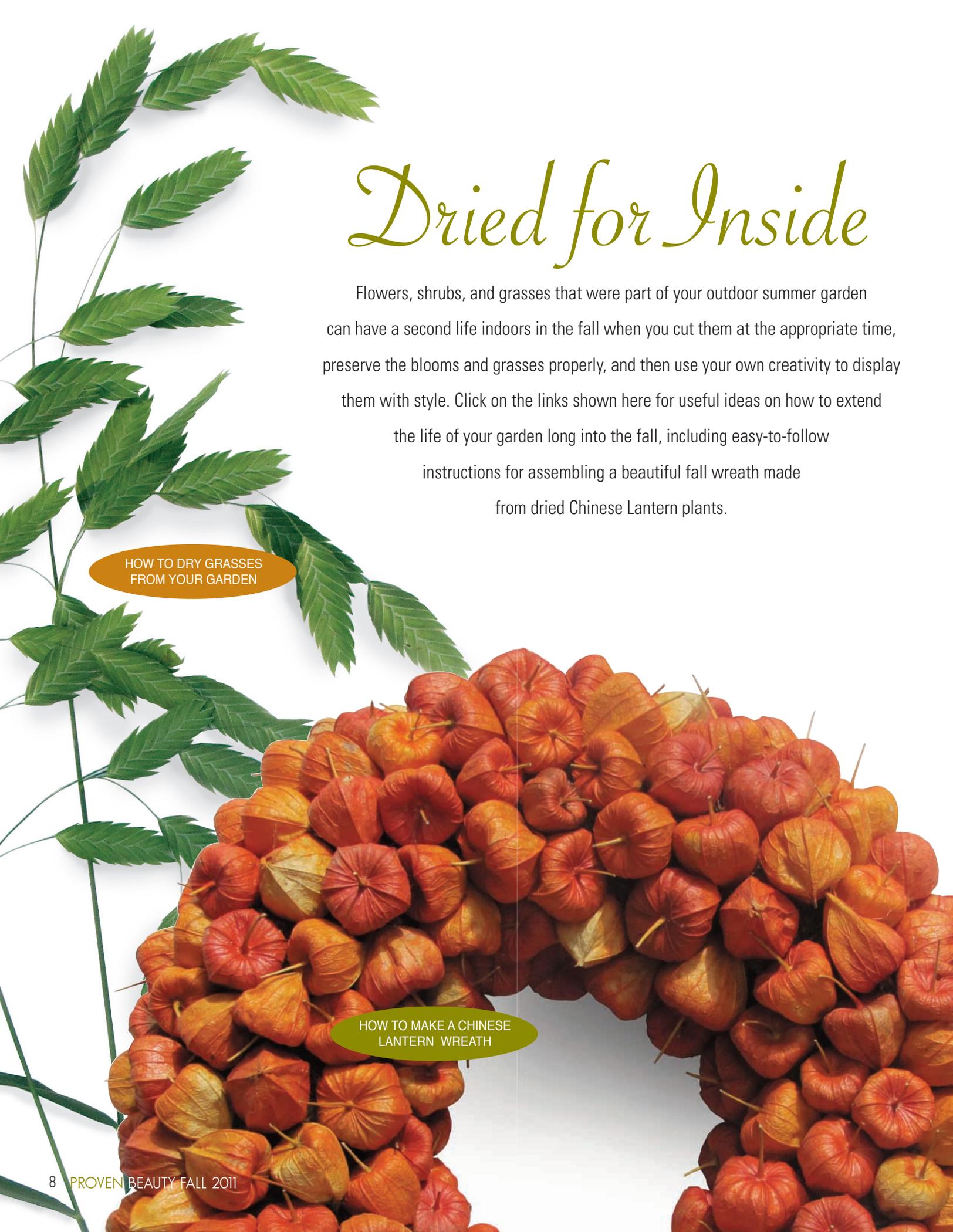
Clockwise from top left:  
SUPERBELLS® Plum *Calibrachoa hybrid*  
SUPERBELLS® Tequila Sunrise *Calibrachoa hybrid*  
SUPERBELLS® Dreamsicle *Calibrachoa hybrid*  
SUPERBELLS® Red *Calibrachoa hybrid*



VERBENA

Clockwise from top:  
SUPERBENA® Coral Red *Verbena hybrid*  
TUKANA® Scarlet Star *Verbena hybrid*  
SUPERBENA® Royale Chambray *Verbena hybrid*

PROVEN WINNERS ENTIRE  
FALL PLANT COLLECTION



# Dried for Inside

Flowers, shrubs, and grasses that were part of your outdoor summer garden can have a second life indoors in the fall when you cut them at the appropriate time, preserve the blooms and grasses properly, and then use your own creativity to display them with style. Click on the links shown here for useful ideas on how to extend the life of your garden long into the fall, including easy-to-follow instructions for assembling a beautiful fall wreath made from dried Chinese Lantern plants.

[HOW TO DRY GRASSES FROM YOUR GARDEN](#)

[HOW TO MAKE A CHINESE LANTERN WREATH](#)



**Step 1:** Supplies: 12" straw wreath form, scissors, and glue gun. Strip individual Chinese lanterns from stems, clean off any dirt if necessary, remove plastic wrap from wreath.



**Step 2:** Apply a drop or two of hot glue to the back side of a Chinese lantern. Hold it against the straw wreath in the desired position until solidly attached. Repeat while positioning the lanterns tightly together.



**Step 3:** Cover the entire wreath so that no straw is showing when viewing from a side angle. Display and enjoy. If properly cared for, the wreath will hold its color and form for years to come.

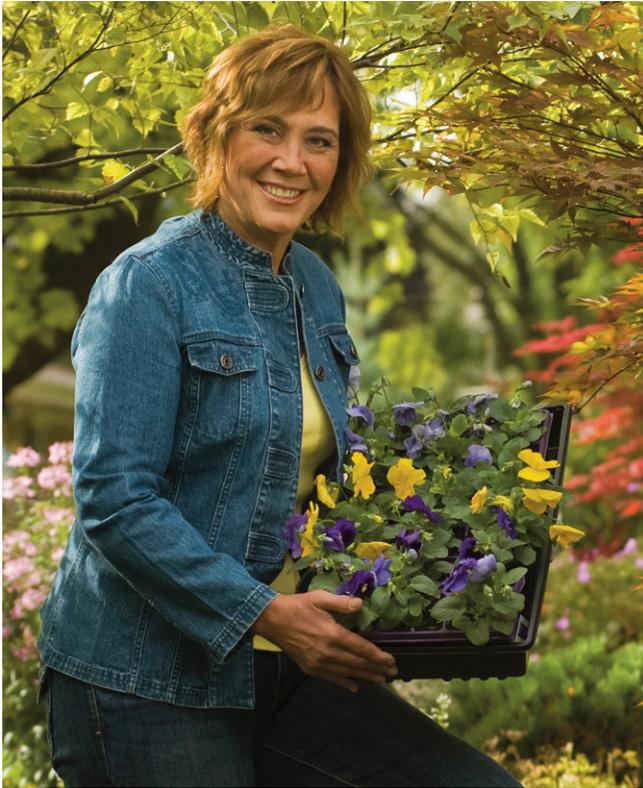


USING DRIED HYDRANGEA  
FOR HOME DECOR

HOW TO DRY FLOWERS  
FROM YOUR GARDEN

# ASK THE EXPERT

## Melinda Myers Shares Fall Gardening Tips



**PROVEN BEAUTY:** Many gardeners include trees and perennials with annuals in their containers. How do you recommend overwintering these?

**MELINDA MYERS:** I am a huge fan of mixing it up when it comes to gardening, especially in containers. Perennials and shrubs that are one, or preferably two, zones hardier, growing in large weatherproof containers can remain outside. Just water them whenever the soil is thawed and dry. You can also move all planters together into a protected location, insulate the roots with bales of straw or bags of potting mix, and then provide water by covering with snow as you shovel surrounding areas. Or simply move your planters into an unheated garage. Just remember to empty and invert any terra cotta, glazed, or other containers that will crack as the soil expands and contracts over winter. Those in warmer climates only need to substitute a few cool weather annuals for the fading hot summer flowers and enjoy your mixed containers all winter long.

**PB:** Can I divide and transplant perennials now?

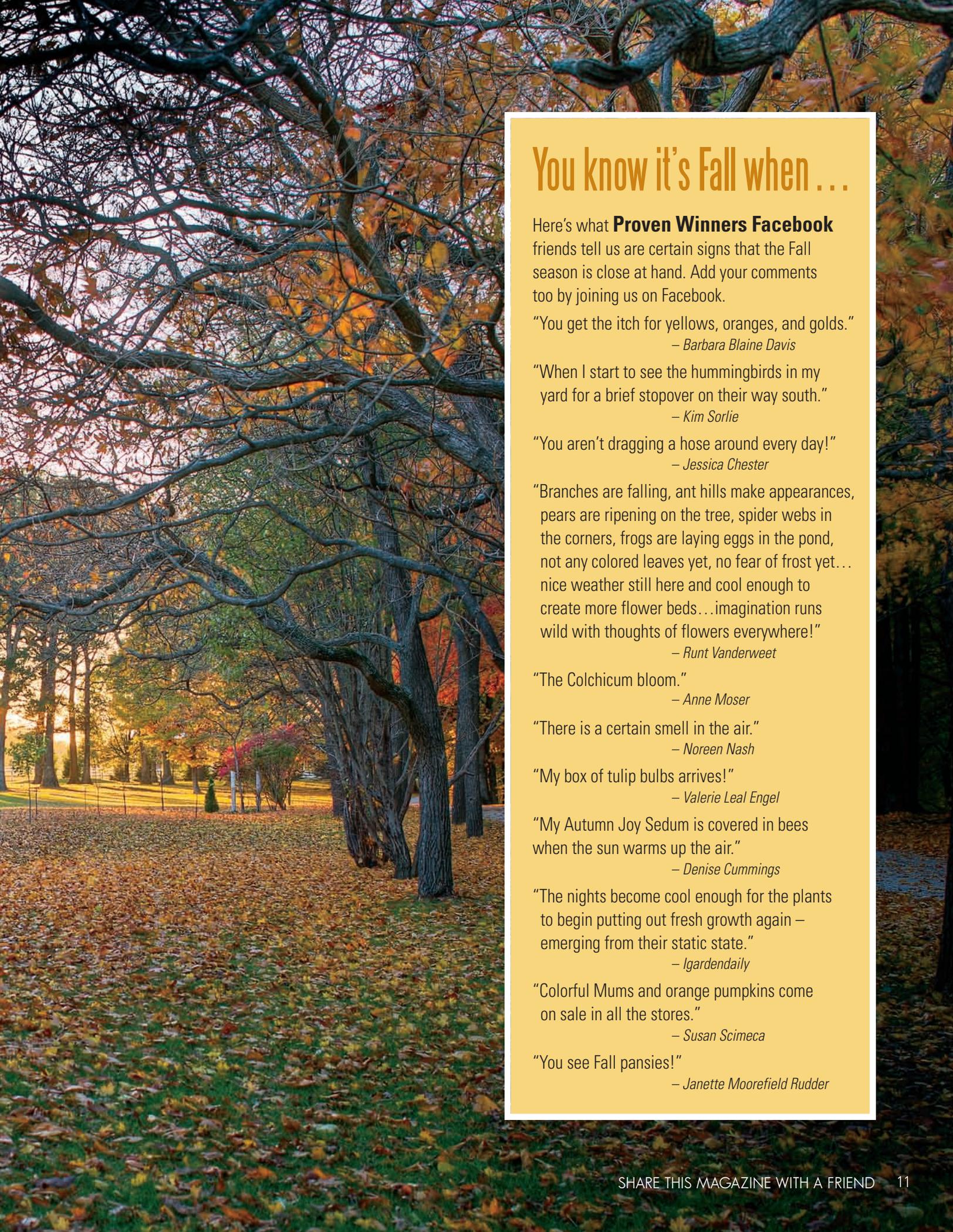
**MM:** Fall is a great time to plant and transplant perennials. The soil is warm and the air is cooler so it is less stressful on you and the plants. A good guideline for dividing plants is the old adage: "Divide spring-flowering perennials in fall, fall-blooming perennials in spring, and summer-blooming perennials in spring or fall." Just make sure to remove any flowers and buds from blooming plants and provide good post-transplant care by mulching and watering.

**PB:** How can gardeners get the most out of their fall gardens?

**MM:** Fall is a great time to garden and enjoy our landscapes. Add some cool weather annuals like ornamental cabbage and kale, Alyssum, Lobelia, Nemesia, and Snapdragons to your landscape and containers. Include some Swiss chard, colorful lettuce, and beets for interesting and edible foliage. Then make a few notes on the existing color in your fall garden, so that you can plan to add a few perennials such as ornamental grasses and shrubs like Sweetspires, Dogwoods, and Hydrangeas that will provide more fall flower and foliage color to your landscape in the years to come.

**PB:** Do you have a good system for marking your plants so you do not accidentally cultivate them out of the garden in spring?

**MM:** I let healthy perennials stand for winter to increase their hardiness, provide food and habitat for birds and butterflies, and add winter interest in my garden. This also serves as a great placeholder. Consider planting spring-flowering bulbs near late-emerging perennials like Butterfly Weed and Hardy Hibiscus. These make a colorful reminder to keep the cultivator away from late-sprouting plants. Soft metal tags that allow you to engrave the plant name with a pencil or label makers that punch the letters onto a tag can be mounted on a support for long-lasting labels. Make a sketch of the garden with plants labeled or a photo record of the plant with the label and its location in the landscape. This won't be subject to weather, helpful children, or wildlife that can damage or move your markers.



## You know it's Fall when . . .

Here's what **Proven Winners Facebook** friends tell us are certain signs that the Fall season is close at hand. Add your comments too by joining us on Facebook.

"You get the itch for yellows, oranges, and golds."  
— *Barbara Blaine Davis*

"When I start to see the hummingbirds in my yard for a brief stopover on their way south."  
— *Kim Sorlie*

"You aren't dragging a hose around every day!"  
— *Jessica Chester*

"Branches are falling, ant hills make appearances, pears are ripening on the tree, spider webs in the corners, frogs are laying eggs in the pond, not any colored leaves yet, no fear of frost yet. . . nice weather still here and cool enough to create more flower beds. . . imagination runs wild with thoughts of flowers everywhere!"  
— *Runt Vanderweert*

"The Colchicum bloom."  
— *Anne Moser*

"There is a certain smell in the air."  
— *Noreen Nash*

"My box of tulip bulbs arrives!"  
— *Valerie Leal Engel*

"My Autumn Joy Sedum is covered in bees when the sun warms up the air."  
— *Denise Cummings*

"The nights become cool enough for the plants to begin putting out fresh growth again — emerging from their static state."  
— *Igardendaily*

"Colorful Mums and orange pumpkins come on sale in all the stores."  
— *Susan Scimeca*

"You see Fall pansies!"  
— *Janette Moorefield Rudder*

# FLOWER GOURMET



*Begonia*



*Chives*



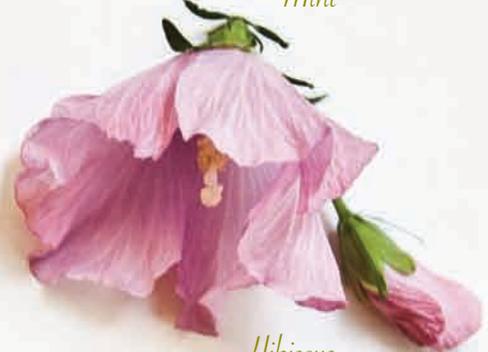
*Mint*



*Marigold*



*Nasturtium*



*Hibiscus*



*Squash Blossom*



*Pansy*



*Pansy*



*Day Lily*



*Cone Flower*



*Rose*



*Dill*



*Calendula*



*Day Lily*



*Moss Rose*



*Thyme*

When do simple salads and everyday appetizers become something special? When you enhance the presentation and flavor of your fresh food dishes with edible flowers. Maybe you already grow tomatoes, basil, or other produce and herbs but haven't thought about the possibilities that your flower garden can create in the

kitchen. Whether you use an edible bloom to create an interesting garnish on the plate or to provide a peppery spice for the dish, your backyard garden can be the source of your kitchen creativity. Remember, however, that not all flowers should be eaten, so check our Do's and Don'ts for cautions and tips.

**EDIBLE FLOWERS:  
DO'S AND DON'TS**

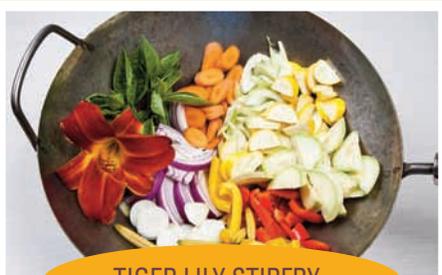


*Chives blossoms* – light onion flavor

*Nasturtium blooms* – adds peppery taste

*Calendula* – not much taste but great for adding color

Sprinkle top of salad with flower petals; garnish salad with whole flowers



**TIGER LILY STIRFRY**



**FLOWERED CHEESES**



**REFRESHING GRANITA**



**HERBED BUTTER**



**Step 1:** Collect a handful or two of day lily buds. The ideal buds for stirfry are the largest buds that have not yet opened. Open flowers and small buds are also edible and may be used.



**Step 2:** Add lily buds to other chopped vegetables of your choice. When cooking, begin with onions and add other vegetables in the order of needed cooking time. The lilies need very little cooking time and should be added last.



**Step 3:** Serve finished stirfry with rice or noodles.  
Garnish with day lily blooms.



**Step 1:** Select flowers with thin, flat petals from your garden such as roses, hibiscus, calendula, day lily or pansy. Remove individual petals from flower, wash and pat dry.



**Step 2:** Select chunks of hard cheeses. Dissolve packet of unflavored gelatin with boiling water. Let it cool to room temperature. Use a thin layer of gelatin as adhesive, apply petals to cheese with clean paint brush.



**Step 3:** Experiment with different flowers creating various patterns and color schemes. Serve cheeses at room temperature.



**Step 1:** Select a couple open roses. After removing and washing petals, gently slice them into thin strips.



**Step 2:** Combine 1 cup water and  $\frac{2}{3}$  cup sugar in a sauce pan and heat until sugar melts completely. Cool mixture and add 1 cup lemon juice, 2 Tbs rose water, sliced petals and 1 Tbs lemon zest. Pour mixture into a shallow dish and place in the freezer. Using a fork, break up the crystals in the mixture about every half hour until evenly frozen.



**Step 3:** Carefully cut off the top third of a lemon. Using a spoon (a grapefruit spoon is best) scoop everything out until you only have the peel left. Fill with finished granita and serve.



**Step 1:** Collect a handful or two of fresh thyme and chives, including the blooms of both plants. Chop herbs finely.



**Step 2:** Soften a stick or two of butter. When butter is soft, place it in a bowl, add chopped herbs and mix until herbs are evenly distributed.



**Step 3:** Garnish herbed butter with chive or thyme blossoms and serve with crackers or toast.



DOLCE® Crème Brûlée  
*Heuchera hybrid*

GARNET BROCADE™  
*Sedum hybrid*

DOLCE® Blackcurrant *Heuchera hybrid*

Efanthia  
*Euphorbia  
amygdaloides  
hybrid*

Helena's Blush  
*Euphorbia  
amygdaloides  
hybrid*

## PERENNIALLY POPULAR

Fall color never looks as good or lasts as long as it does when your containers are filled with Proven Winners popular perennial favorites. Not only are these beautiful Heucheras, Euphorbias, and Sedums great alone, they also provide a dramatic contrast to autumn-colored annuals when used in combinations. Their rich, deep colors and unique shapes and textures add visual interest, and their cold tolerance means they'll last until a hard freeze.

FIND A PROVEN WINNERS  
RETAILER NEAR YOU

# INTRODUCING NEXT YEAR'S NEWEST PROVEN WINNERS PERENNIALS

As a *Proven Beauty* reader, you get a sneak peek of some of the most beautiful, unique, and exciting new perennials for 2012. Plus, all of these superior plants are great growers that add longevity and value to your landscape. Visit your favorite Proven Winners garden center early next spring and ask for these new perennials by name. Your garden will be the envy of the neighborhood in 2012.



**NEW**

**'Going Bananas'** *Hemerocallis*  
Here's a Daylily that turns heads with its large, fragrant, canary yellow flowers that bloom all summer and until frost. This beauty grows 19-22" tall and looks magnificent in mass plantings.



**NEW**

**'Wheee!'** *Hosta*  
You can tell this Hosta is different even from a distance, and when you get up close, you'll see why. The distinctive ruffling from the tip to the crown of each leaf is a delight.



**NEW**

**'Banana Cream'** *Leucanthemum superbum*  
Want a Shasta Daisy that has beautiful color and loads of large blooms but doesn't need lots of room? The 4-5" flowers and 18" height of Banana Cream is just what you're looking for.



**NEW**

**'Maestro'** *Sedum*  
This Sedum is a masterpiece with its sturdy blue-green foliage that turns an autumnal purple as the season progresses. The light pink flower heads on bright purple stems make it a garden stunner.



# Energize

## Your Garden for Fall

The arrival of fall doesn't mean it's time to put away your garden tools and call it a season. In fact, it's just the right time to enjoy the pleasant days in your garden. If you've planted Proven Winners ColorChoice shrubs like those shown here, that enjoyment will last until Halloween and beyond and again year after year.



'Limelight' *Hydrangea paniculata* in fall color

The new Little Lime™ *Hydrangea* boasts the same colors and benefits of 'Limelight,' though only reaching 3 to 5 feet fully grown. At one-third the size of other hardy *Hydrangeas*, it fits well into any landscape. Its late summer flowers open soft green and turn pink and burgundy in fall.

## Why Not Enjoy Fall Flowers?



## Eye-catching Foliage Plus Flowers

The sunny yellow leaves of Lil Miss Sunshine™ Bluebeard contrast with the deep amethyst blue flowers in late summer. This cross between Petit Bleu and Sunshine Blue delivers shiny yellow foliage into early fall. Abundant blue flowers appear in late summer. With a neat, compact habit, it can fit into any size garden.

Lil Miss Sunshine™ *Caryopteris x clandonensis*

## Amazing Foliage

Inject some flaming hot red into your landscape with Little Henry® *Itea*, a dwarf Sweetspire that is less than 3 feet tall at maturity. Its mounded, compact stature makes it a big improvement over older selections.

Little Henry® *Itea virginica*  
in all its fall glory



## Keep Gardening

Not only is fall a great time to enjoy your garden, it's also a great time to plant your shrubs. Just make sure to keep your new plants well watered. And remember, your shrubs will need to establish some root growth before winter.



PW  
PROVEN  
WINNERS<sup>SM</sup>  
*Signature Garden*  
INNOVATIVE DESIGN  
QUALITY PLANTS



## Your Garden is in Good Company

Proven Winners plants appear in some of the most high-profile gardens across North America as part of the Signature Garden program because professional landscapers and staff horticulturists know they're vigorous, vibrant plants they can rely on. When you travel, be sure to visit the grounds of landmark resorts, museums, and municipal buildings, like The Hotel Iroquois on Mackinac Island, The Hotel Del Coronado in San Diego, Churchill Downs, and the Governor's Mansions in Illinois, West Virginia, and Michigan. You just might see the same Proven Winners annuals, perennials, and shrubs on those properties that you plant on yours.

PROVEN WINNERS  
SIGNATURE GARDENS

