

## The Scent-ual Garden: Creating Four Seasons of Olfactory Delight

### Winter:

*Edgeworthia chrysantha* (rice paper plant)

*Edgeworthia chrysantha* 'Akebono' –orange-red flowered form, blooms more frost tender

*Daphne odora* (winter daphne)

- many forms from pure white flowered to pink tinged
- solid green leaves, pale yellow margined
- *Daphne odora* 'Nakafu' – interesting green & pale green form

*Sarcococca orientalis* (sweet box) – best species for the SE

- *S. hookeriana* var. *humilis* (Himalayan sweet box)
  - 'SarSid1' Fragrant Valley™ - 18" x 36" size
  - 'SarSid2' Fragrant Mountain™ - 24" x 36" size

*Prunus mume* (Japanese flowering apricot)

- First of the cherries to begin flowering, sometimes in December
- Great for forcing and bringing inside
- 'Bridal Veil' – white weeping form
- 'Hokkai Bungo' – earliest to flower, deep red, cinnamon scent
- 'Peggy Clark' – most common, pink form

*Mahonia ×media* (hybrid grapeholly)

- 'Buckland', 'Charity', 'Winter Sun' – most common forms
- ×*lindsayae* 'Cantab' – lax form but one of the most fragrant
- Self-infertile

*Chimonanthus praecox* (wintersweet)

- Flower colors range from near translucent to deep yellow to deep yellow with red center
- Great for forcing and bringing inside

### Spring:

*Hyacinthus orientalis* (common or Dutch hyacinth)

- Not particularly long lived
- Remove spent flower stalks

*Phlox divaricata* (woodland phlox)

- Comes in pinks, whites and shades of blue to purple
- Seeds around lightly

*Dianthus* (pinks)

- Need good drainage
- Look for heat tolerant cultivars
  - 'Baths Pink'
  - 'Feuerhexe' (Firewitch)
  - 'Wicked Witch'
  - Star series

*Daphne* 'Blafra' Eternal Fragrance

- Amazingly resilient for a daphne
- Big flush of flowers, then re-flowers sporadically through the summer

*Rhododendron* sp. (deciduous azaleas)

*Choisya* (Mexican mock orange)

- Evergreen hailing from the US sw and Mexico
- Needs good drainage
- Fragrant citrus smell in late spring to summer
- 'Aztec Pearl' – narrow green leaves, grows to 6'
- 'Lich' (Sundance) – grows to 4', bright gold foliage
- 'Limo' (Goldfingers) – gold foliage of Sundance with narrow foliage of 'Aztec Pearl'

*Styrax japonicus* (Japanese snowbell)

Typically white flowers in profusion

- 'Pink Chimes' – pink flowers, upright habit
- 'JLWeeping' Marley's Pink Parasol – pink flowered weeper
- 'Evening Light' – white flowers, dark chocolate leaves

*Styrax americanus* var. *pulverulentus* 'Baby Blue' (American snowbell)

- Bluish to silver leaf form of our native snowbell

*Magnolia figo* (banana shrub)

- Smells like Juicy fruit gum
- 'Port Wine' – hint of purple to the flowers

*Trachelospermum jasminoides* 'Madison' (Confederate jessamine)

- Hardest form available

*Magnolia* 'Eternal Spring'

- Introduced by Camellia Forest Nursery (Carrboro, NC)
- Loaded with fragrant flowers in late winter

*Syringa* (lilac)

- Typically not fans of the heat & humidity of the South
- Need to look for selections and species with low chill requirements
  - 'Miss Kim'
  - 'Palabin'
  - 'Miss Canada'
  - Bloomerang® series
  - *Syringa x hyacinthiflora*
  - *Syringa oblata*
  - *Syringa oblata* var. *dilatata*

*Calycanthus floridus* (allspice, sweet bubby)

- Can vary in fragrance
  - 'Athens' - lime yellow flowers
  - 'Edith Wilder' – maroon flowers
  - 'Michael Lindsey' – maroon flowers

**Summer:***Magnolia virginiana* (sweet bay)

- var. *australis* – evergreen form
- 'Green Shadow' – more upright and dense evergreen form
- 'Perry Paige' (Sweet Thing®) – compact evergreen form

*Magnolia grandiflora* (bull bay, Southern Magnolia)

*Crinum* (crinum lily)

- *C. moorei* can tolerate shade
- *C. americanum* can tolerate standing water

*Gardenia jasminoides* (Cape jasmine)

- 'Michael' – large growing double with heavy fragrance
- 'Crown Jewel' - compact, cold hardy form
- 'Daruma' – cold hardy, single flowered

*Gladiolus murielae* (Abyssinian gladiolus)

- July-Sept bloom
- Marginally hardy here, can treat as annual

*Aloysia virgata* (sweet almond bush)

- Need to plant early after frost free to allow to establish
- Can die to the ground

*Lilium* sp. (lilies)

- Look for Oriental and Longiflorum types

*Lilium formosanum* (Formosan lily)

- Can flower first year from seed
- 1<sup>st</sup> year = 3', 2<sup>nd</sup> = 5', 3<sup>rd</sup>=6' in height
- Dried seed heads make great dried cutflower arrangement additions

*Hemerocallis liliastrophodelus* (night blooming daylily)

- Opens late afternoon until early morning

*Callerya reticulata* (summer wisteria)

- Flowers all summer long
- Clove like fragrance

*Mirabilis jalapa* (Four-o'clock's)

- 'Limelight' – gold foliage & fuchsia flowers
- Opens late afternoon

## Roses

- Rugosa types
- David Austins

*Brugmansia* (angel's trumpets)

- Hardiness can vary
- Heavy mulching and late cutback helps

*Hedychium* (hardy ginger)

- *H. coronarium* – white with heavy fragrance
- 'Slim's Orange' – one of the first to flower, smaller in all aspects

*Hosta plantaginea* (fragrant plantain lily)

- Flowers open ~7am
- 'Royal Standard' – first hosta to be patented
- Many fragrant selections with this in their blood

*Lycoris squamigera* (resurrection lily)

- flowers in August
- fast multiplier

**Fall:**

*Ipomaea alba* (moonvine)

- Favorite of hawk & Sphinx moths

*Osmanthus fragrans* (tea olive)

- var. *thunbergii* – most cold hardy
- var. *aurantiacus* – orange flowers
- ‘Fudingzhu’ aka Nanjing Beauty – will re-flower through winter
- ‘Apricot Echo’ – orange form said to reflower

*Osmanthus* × *fortunei* (Fortune’s osmanthus)

- Hybrid of *O. fragrans* & *O. heterophyllus*
- Can get 20’-25’ tall

*Osmanthus heterophyllus* (false holly)

- Last of the more common tea olives to bloom for us (in bloom now)
- ‘Goshiki’ – five colors, very common these days
- ‘Ogon’ – gold foliage, needs some shade, not full sun
- ‘Purpureus’ – new growth is black-purple
- ‘Akebono’ – new growth flushes white, settles to green
- ‘Shien’ (Party Lights) – new growth fluorescent pink
- ‘Kaori Hime’ – tiny leaves ~1/2” in length, boxwood alternative?

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