

High Country Gardens names its Top New Plants for 2019

High Country Gardens, a top online source for plants that thrive in even the most challenging conditions, has announced its top new perennials for Spring 2019.

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EINPresswire.com/ -- High Country Gardens has announced its top new perennials for Spring 2019. The new varieties include FlowerKisser™ After Midnight English Lavendar and a preplanned garden called the Fabulous Flowers and Foliage Shade Garden. The top new introductions—and hundreds of additional perennial favorites—are available at highcountrygardens.com.

FlowerKisser™ After Midnight English Lavender

The 2019 Plant of the Year from High Country Gardens is FlowerKisser™ After Midnight English Lavender (*Lavandula angustifolia* WWG002). This exclusive introduction has stunning, dark-colored flower spikes with deep indigo-blue calyxes and large violet-purple flowers. The color of the flowers is truly unique, and the plant stands apart from any other lavender available to gardeners. A medium-sized English lavender selection with gray-green foliage, After Midnight blooms in late spring/early summer and attracts bees and butterflies to its nectar-rich flowers.



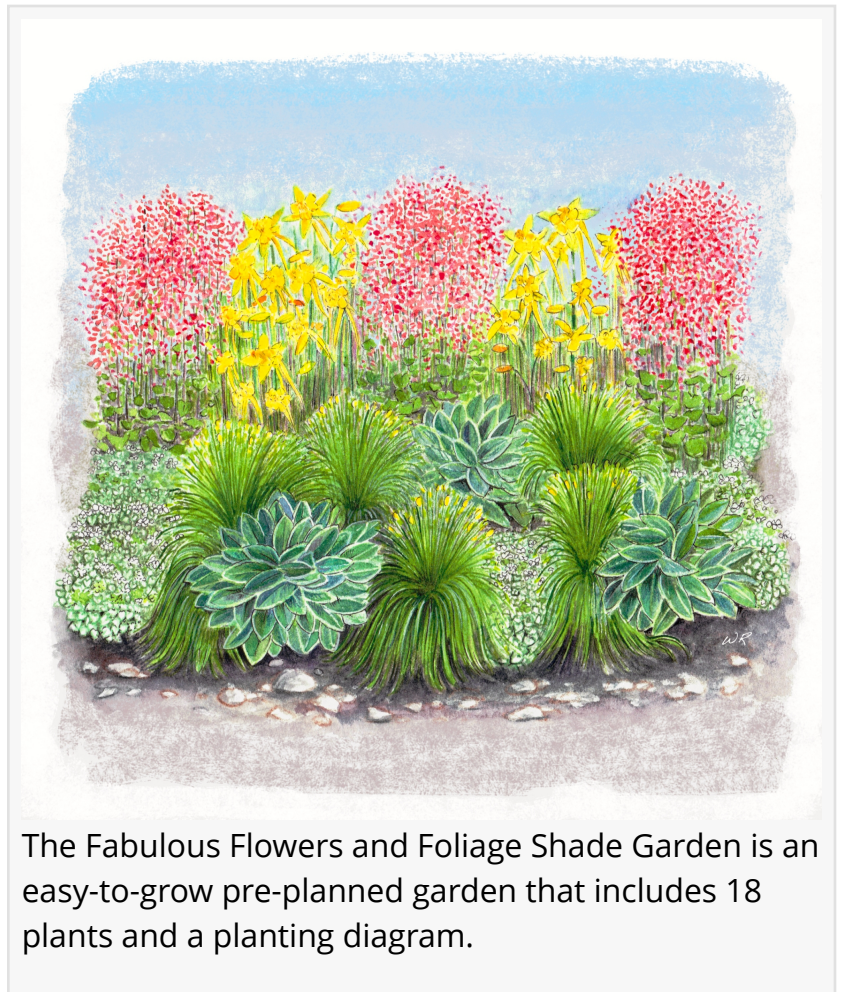
FlowerKisser After Midnight English Lavender is the 2019 Plant of the Year from High Country Gardens.



The brilliant flowers of FlowerKisser Coral-Pink Sage bloom from late spring to fall frost.

Plants in the new FlowerKisser™ brand have been selected by High Country Gardens' chief horticulturist David Salman. These new perennial introductions are particularly nectar-rich and attract many pollinators, including honey bees, native bees, butterflies and hummingbirds. It thrives throughout USDA zones 5-9.

FlowerKisser™ Coral-Pink Sage
The brilliant coral-pink flowers of FlowerKisser™ Coral-Pink Sage (*Salvia greggii* WWG003) color a waterwise garden from late spring to fall frost with a non-stop display. This plant grows as a medium sized woody shrub, and it loves a hot, sunny place where the soil dries out quickly. Hummingbirds adore its flowers, which never fail to provide them with a sweet meal. Trim this plant back in mid-spring by about 1/3 its height to stimulate new growth and another flush of gorgeous flowers. FlowerKisser™ Coral-Pink Sage thrives in zones 6-9. Available from highcountrygardens.com.



The Fabulous Flowers and Foliage Shade Garden is an easy-to-grow pre-planned garden that includes 18 plants and a planting diagram.

Red Feathers (*Echium amoenum*)

Red Feathers (*Echium amoenum*) is a beautiful, xeric, small growing wildflower from the Caucasus Mountains of western Asia. Its russet-red flower spikes resemble *Liatris*. Blooming in late spring, this lovely plant will continue to produce new flower spikes throughout the summer when deadheaded. But leave some spikes on the plant later in the season to ripen seed.

A short-lived perennial, Red Feathers should be mulched with gravel mulch to encourage it to re-seed itself. Adaptable to average, sandy and clay soils. Plant it in spots with a half day to a full day of sun. Pair this plant with Creeping Goldenaster (*Heterotheca jonesii*), Blue Flax (*Linum*) and Dark Violet Skullcap (*Scutellaria*). Grows in zones 3-9.

Granita Orange® Cold Hardy Ice Plant

Granita® Orange Cold Hardy Ice Plant (*Delosperma Granita® Orange*) blooms in mid- to late spring with a stunning display of large, pure-orange flowers. Granita Orange grows to form a tidy mat of ground-hugging evergreen foliage. It has proven to be a very cold hardy groundcover that fits well in a drought-tolerant garden. Granita Orange® Ice Plant grows in zones 5-9.

FlowerKisser™ Arizona Beauty Coyote Mint

FlowerKisser™ Arizona Beauty Coyote Mint (*Monardella odoratissima* FlowerKisser™ Arizona Beauty) has flowers and foliage with a very minty scent when brushed or handled. This sweetly scented native groundcover has lavender-pink puffball-shaped flowers that attract bees and butterflies.

Normally this species is sub-alpine, but this lower elevation form (8,500 ft.) grows well at middle elevations throughout the western US. Plant it in a spot that gets some afternoon shade where day temperatures are hot. It grows well in zones 4-8.

Fabulous Flowers and Foliage Shade Garden

The Fabulous Flowers and Foliage Shade Garden is an easy-to-grow garden designed for planting in shade, dappled shade or morning sun. These perennials provide season-long interest with a pleasing combination of foliage types that provide contrasting textures and colors and a profusion of pink, yellow and white flowers. The garden grows well in most soil types (but avoid wet clay or water-logged soils). The Fabulous Flowers and Foliage Shade Garden is an excellent choice for planting on the shady north or northeast side of a house.

The Fabulous Flowers and Foliage Shade Garden comes with a planting diagram, care instructions and 18 plants including: (5) plants each of Appalachian Sedge (*Carex appalachica*) and White Nancy Deadnettle (*Lamium* 'White Nancy'), (3) plants each of Large Leafed Lambs Ear (*Stachys byzantina* 'Helen von Stein') and Weston Pink Coral Bells (*Heuchera* 'Weston Pink') and (2) plants of Golden Spur Columbine (*Aquilegia chrysantha*). The garden covers approximately 40 sq. ft. (8 ft. wide x 5 ft. deep). The garden grows well in zones 4-8.

FlowerKisser™ Dark Shadows Sage

Flower Kisser™ Dark Shadows Sage (*Salvia* hybrid WWG001) is a color breakthrough in cold-hardy bush sages. It blooms with a profusion of hummingbird-attracting dark-purple flowers. A hybrid of Raspberry Delight® introduced by David Salman, it's a large, tall-growing woody sage that comes into color in late summer and flowers until frost.

Flower Kisser® Dark Shadows is a good choice near walkways and paths. (When you brush against the foliage, it releases a delightfully sweet, herbal fragrance.) This sage makes an excellent companion plant for Blonde Ambition Blue Grama Grass (*Bouteloua* 'Blonde Ambition') and Dark Violet Skullcap (*Scutellaria* 'Dark Violet'). It grows well in USDA zones 5-9 and is available from www.highcountrygardens.com.

Chumby Silky Rock Jasmine

Chumby Silky Rock Jasmine (*Androsace sarmentosa* 'Chumbyi') blooms in early summer with fragrant clusters of pink flowers held over fuzzy rosettes of gray-green foliage. Growing and spreading much like a strawberry plant, this compact little grower puts out red-stemmed runners that root to form a tidy mound. A cheerful member of the Primrose family, Chumby Silky Rock Jasmine is a wonderful small perennial for shady perennial borders. It also works great as

an edging plant for shaded pathways.

This easy-to-grow Himalayan native is a resilient performer that makes a good companion plant for other shade lovers such as Deep Blue Arizona Sage (*Salvia arizonica*) and Kashmir Sage (*Phlomis cashmeriana*). Chumby Silky Rock Jasmine stays small—just 2-4" tall and 8-12" wide in zones 3-8.

For a complete look at all of the new plants for Spring 2019 available from High Country Gardens, visit www.highcountrygardens.com/plant-finder/new.

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