

Shopping for Seeds? 2010 All America Selections are Out.

Saturday January 9, 2010

With all the seed choices out there, I'm always surprised when the All America Selections (AAS) are announced and they're not that earth shattering. I mean, how many Violas do we really need? AAS was created back in the 1930s, as a means for seed companies to work cooperatively to test and market new flower and vegetable varieties. The idea was to get the word out about their new products and to be able to tell home gardeners which new introductions were actually worth trying. There are AAS test and display gardens throughout the U.S. and you've probably seen a few, without even being aware of it. Usually the winning seeds are only available the first year to certified display gardens, but AAS is trying something new this year, offering the seeds for sale to the general public immediately.



There are 9 winners for 2010, but only one is a vegetable. Actually, it's a fruit; a watermelon. Before you say you don't have space to grow watermelons, they tested this variety on a trellis. Watermelons dangling in the air, now that's a sight to see.

Of the 8 winning flower seeds, I'm most excited about the Zahara Zinnia series. I've heard very good things about their disease resistance. Dr. Allan Armitage said they were impressive, in his Greenhouse Grower webinar series. If you found the Profusion series a bit small and pale for your taste, you're going to want to give Zahara a whirl. Take a look at all the 2010 AAS winners, before you finish your seed shopping for the season.

- [2010 All America Selections](#)

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