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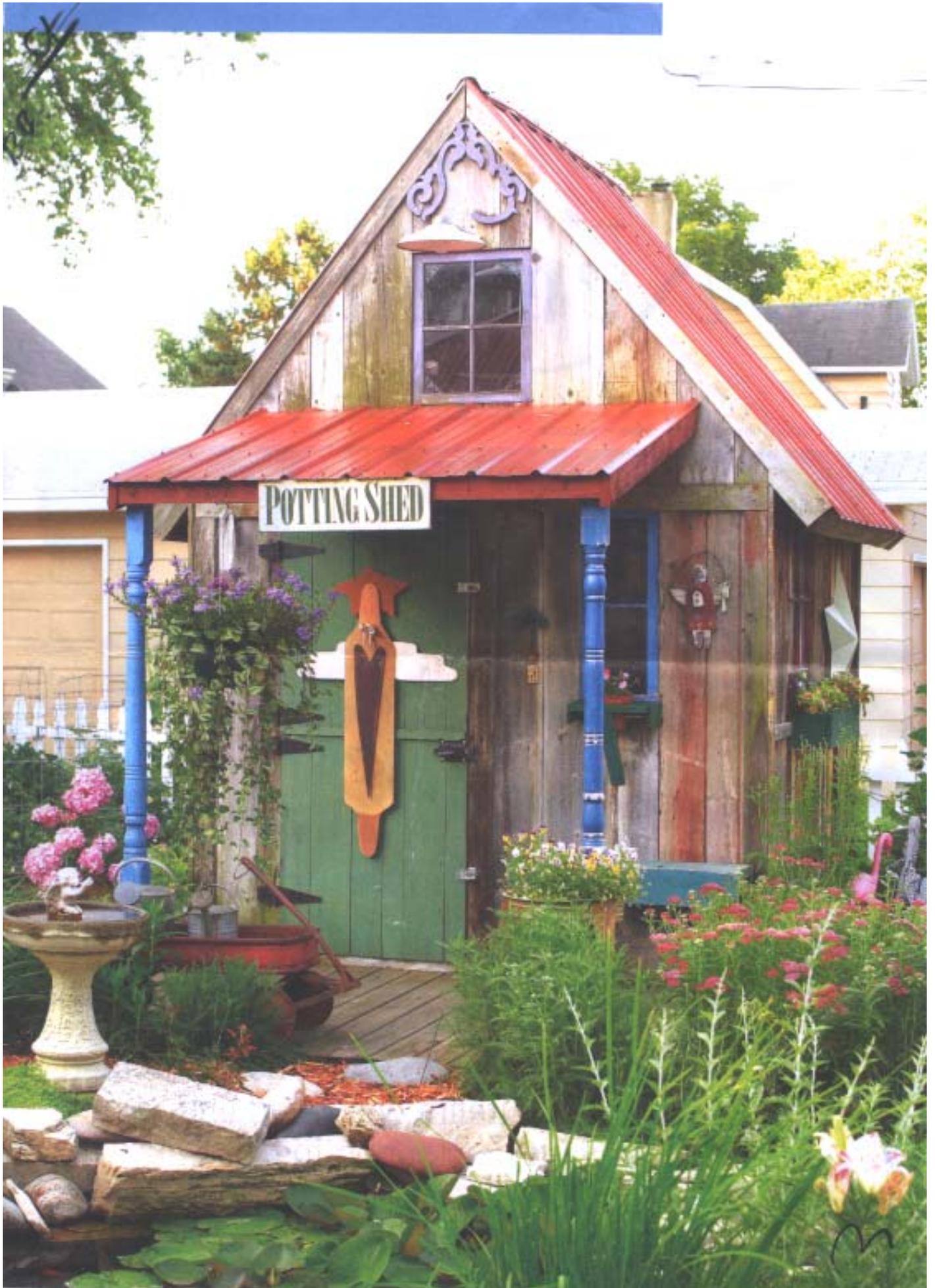
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# 15 Great New Annuals for 2010

WRITTEN AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY JUSTIN W. HANCOCK



Be the first on your block to grow these stunning new varieties. It's a surefire way of adding color to your yard from spring to fall.





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## 1 Pick a Winner ...

Zahara Starlight Rose zinnia is easy to grow, resists disease (even powdery mildew), flowers all summer, and looks great even in drought. No wonder it was named an All-America Selections winner for 2010. The white blooms bear brushstrokes of hot pink; the amount and intensity of pink varies with the weather, so you'll enjoy a different display each time you look. Zahara Starlight Rose zinnia grows 18 inches tall and 12 inches wide. Source: Bali Horticultural.

## 2 ... and Another

Enduro Sky Blue Martien is another AAS winner for 2010, thanks to its unique spreading/mounding habit and loads of silvery-blue flowers. In mild-winter areas, it blooms all winter long; in cold-winter areas, you can count on it to offer its dazzling display in fall and again the following spring. Enduro Sky Blue Martien grows 6 inches tall and 12 inches wide. Source: Syngenta Flowers



### 3 Try True Blue

Blue is one of the most popular colors in the garden these days. And when you see plants such as Lucia Dark Blue lobelia, it's easy to see why. This plant's stunning color looks good with just about everything. An upgrade on many older lobelia varieties, Lucia Dark Blue tolerates heat, so it flowers all summer long. Plant it at eye level, where you can enjoy the flowers up close. It trails to 8 inches down and wide. Source: Proven Winners

### 4 Be Bold!

Easy Wave Burgundy Star petunia is sure to be the star of your summer garden. Its rich burgundy flowers feature a white staring effect, making it visible from across the yard. And like other petunias in the Wave series, you can count on it to offer superb garden performance in all types of weather. Try it in hanging baskets or window boxes—or as an accent in your garden beds and borders. It grows 12 inches tall and 15 inches wide. Source: Ball Horticultural





## 5 Make Magic

Petunia Cappuccino petunia looks great on its own but will really cast its spell when you see it mixed with other plants in containers or right in the ground. The blooms' intriguing mix of cream, chocolate, and pink blend well with just about everything. The big blooms cover the plant all summer, so it doesn't end up with a "bald spot" like many older varieties do. Grow it with a plant that has purple leaves (such as 'Black Pearl' pepper) for a stunning show. Petunia Cappuccino grows 18 inches tall and wide. Source: Red Fox

## 6 Scent Your Yard

There's a lot about Snow Princess sweet alyssum that will catch your attention. The first is the plant's soft, sweet fragrance, which you'll encounter feet away. You'll also be enchanted by the plant's large flowers that come in wave after wave. Once it's in your yard, you'll be delighted at how heat-resistant it is. Snow Princess grows 4 inches tall and 10 inches wide. Source: Proven Winners





## 7 Love Lemon Yellow

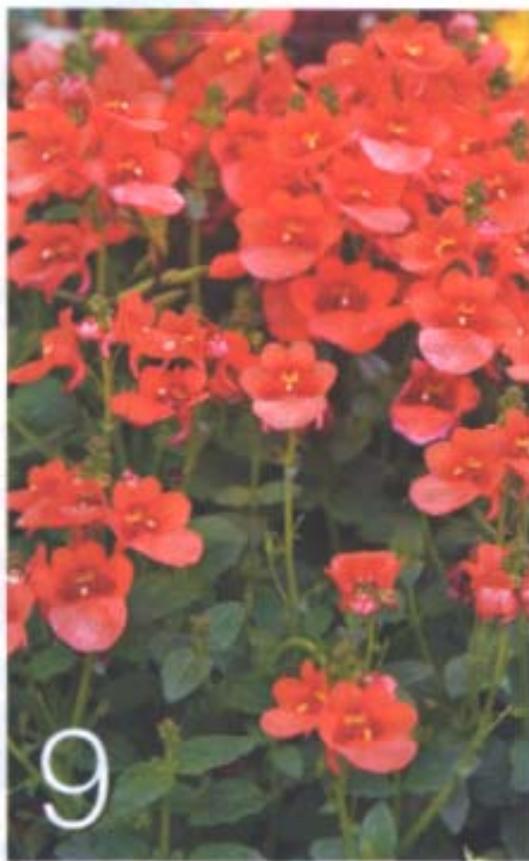
Count on calibrachoa (sometimes called Million Bells) to fill your container gardens with color. This new selection, 'MiniFamous Double Lemon' is a dressed-up version, featuring loads of fully double flowers in a cheery shade of yellow that seems to match everything. Try it once and you'll wonder how you ever gardened without it! This semitrailing plant grows 10 inches tall and wide. Source: Selecta First Class Plants

## 8 Mass Your Daisies

Brachyscome 'Surdaisy Strawberry Pink' is a stunner for container gardens—this plant offers rich purple foliage and loads of beautiful pink daisy-shaped flowers. Grow it by itself or pair it with a bold trailing plant such as purple sweet potato vine. It's a big mounding plant that grows 14 inches tall and wide. Source: Suntopy

## 9 Go Bold with Orange

You won't believe how many flowers *Diascia* 'Flirtation Orange' produces over the gardening season. It's great no matter where you plant it: This easy-growing annual performs well in containers as well as in the landscape. Use it as a filler plant with rich purples in containers or as a bold edging for your favorite garden beds. *Diascia* 'Flirtation Orange' grows 8–12 inches tall and wide and flowers from spring to autumn. Source: Proven Winners





## 10 Add a Ray of Sunshine

Enjoy beautiful sunflowers with 'Choco Sun' sunflower. Featuring sunny-yellow petals around a rich chocolate-brown center, it's sure to add a little cheer in your garden on sunny and cloudy days alike. 'Choco Sun' grows only 10 inches tall and 6 inches wide. Source: Kieft-Pro-Seeds

## 11 Grow Carefree Beauty

PHlox 'Intensia Lavender Glow' offers a wonderful display of blooms from spring to fall thanks to increased cold and heat tolerance. You'll also love how easy it is to care for; 'Intensia Lavender Glow' laughs off drought and never needs deadheading. Need another reason to grow it? It's a top pick for attracting butterflies. This annual phlox grows 1 foot tall and wide, making it perfect for containers or the front of the border. Source: Proven Winners





## 12 Something Different

It's easy to fall in love with beautiful regal-type (also called Martha Washington) geraniums when you see them on the garden center shelves in spring. These cool-season plants usually fade by midsummer. 'Grandiosa' geraniums, however, have better heat tolerance, so they'll flower all summer. And they offer attractive lemon-scented foliage, to boot. 'Grandiosa' geraniums grow 1 foot tall and wide. Source: Red Fox Plants

## 13 Pack in the Color

Dahinova California dahlia is a great for filling even tiny corners of your garden with big color from spring to fall. This compact variety bears loads of golden-yellow flowers liberally streaked with red. The bicolor combination looks fantastic by itself or when grown with other red or gold flowers. Dahinova California grows 12 inches tall and wide. Source: Fides

## 14 A Certain Glow

Zion Copper Amethyst osteospermum is sure to make your garden guests stop and take a second look. This beauty offers lavender-purple flowers that blend to copper-orange at the tips and undersides of the petals. The large flowers are great for cutting and appear in the biggest numbers in spring and fall. But this easy-growing variety also offers good summer heat tolerance, so the show won't end when temperatures rise. Zion Copper Amethyst grows 8 inches tall and wide. Source: Selecta



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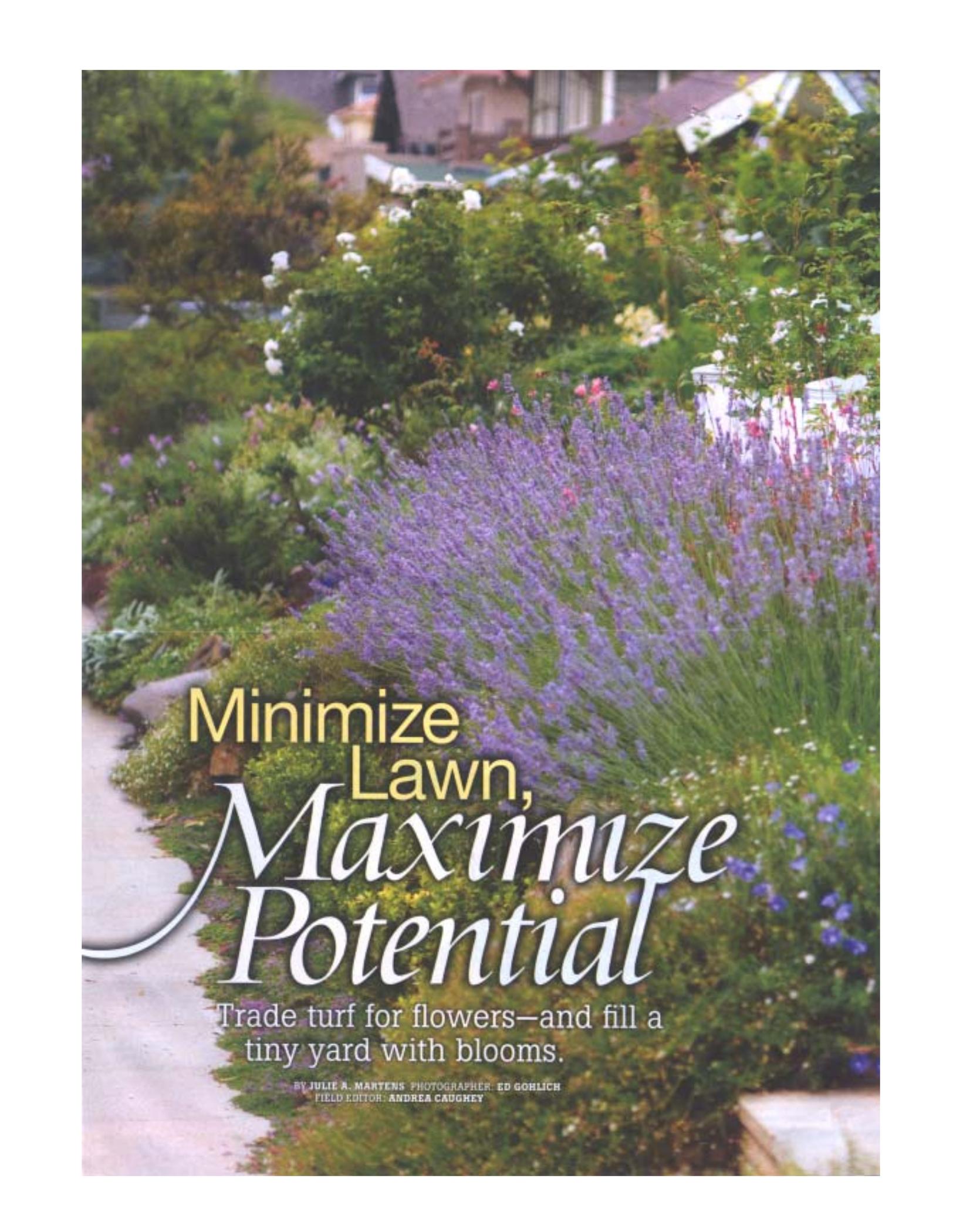
### 15 Create Romance

Few flowers look as soft and romantic as Superbena Pink Parfait verbena. This gorgeous variety thrives in hot weather, so you can count on it to look good all summer. The softly fuzzy foliage resists damage from rabbits and makes the perfect foil for the flowers. Superbena Pink Parfait grows 12 inches tall and 14 inches wide, making it perfect for hanging baskets. Source: Proven Winners



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Minimize  
Lawn,  
*Maximize  
Potential*

Trade turf for flowers—and fill a tiny yard with blooms.

BY JULIE A. MARTENS PHOTOGRAPHER: ED GOBLICH  
FIELD EDITOR: ANDREA CAUGHEY