

## Plants | Everyday Gardeners

Try them together or add more interest by mixing in other types of leaf textures. For example, a purple coral bells like **Dolce Blackcurrant** would look amazing with **Japanese painted fern**, **brunnera**, and **Burgundy Glow ajuga**. And best of all, they'll look as great in early spring together as they do in early fall.



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## new varieties + old favorites

Written on April 21, 2010 at 7:27 am, by [Justin W. Hancock](#)

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I'm fresh back from a business trip to California where I had the pleasure in participating in the California Spring Trials. Plant breeders from around the world show off their hot new plants along the California coast.

It's an amazing experience to get a sneak peek at what's new (they're showing off their 2011 plants so garden centers can decide what plants to carry next year). More on these new plants in future blog posts.

Another thing that was nice about the trials is that many companies also showed off their best sellers, such as Serena White **angelonia**, shown here. It's a wonderfully versatile plant, holding up to heat and drought like a champ. It combines beautifully with just about everything, including the **Wave series of petunias**. (I grew it last year with the new-for-2010 **Easy Wave Burgundy Star** and **Snow Princess sweet alyssum**. It was magical in my window boxes!)

What are some of your favorite "old standby" plants for the garden??



Serena White Angelonia

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