

Grosse Pointe Garden Center presents a new type of trial garden this year.



This will be different from the other gardens here in that:






- * it is not a part of the annual competition.
- * it will remain and mature for two to three years before a new set of plants from another hybridizer is chosen to replace it;
- * it is stocked with plants from a major grower or important hybridizers in the national and international plant world.
- * it is a design hybrid between a wild type and block style garden with emphases on texture and growth habit of plants, not just bloom.






Intrinsic Perennial Gardens, Hebron, Wisconsin is literally the breeding ground for Brent Horvath's tireless pursuit of amazing, hardy garden plants. Brent is one of our Midwest top plant patent makers and hybridizers. With a growing number of patented plants on the market, at least 5 are now part of the Proven Winners collection. Brent volunteered to provide plants for this Grosse Pointe Garden Center trial garden while he was in town in August 2020 when he was delivering an order grown for the Oudolf Garden Detroit in Belle Isle State Park. The majority of selections here are new, or just coming, to market and we are excited to present these for gardeners in the community to observe and evaluate. There are some included because they provide the desired texture or color or other impact and some because they should be better known in garden circles. Intrinsic Perennial Gardens is open to the trade only, but you can find his plants online and follow him on Facebook or Instagram to track locations where the plants may be purchased. You may also request an order from your local nursery for the particular selection, cultivar or patented plant you are enjoying here.






Garden design by Richard Thomas, a Grosse Pointe Garden Center Trustee. Planted by Candy Sweeny, President and Adrienne Gregory, Hope Hoffman, Ginny Brown, and Rick Truhol.

This plot is maintained for public enrichment by volunteers associated with the GPGarden Center.

Legend	Type	Plant Name	Description
 1.	Forb	Allium x "Windy City PP#28,100	Dark Green glossy foliage reaches 15" tall and wide. Dark Rose purple flower clusters begin to color in June and open in July on 18-20" stems. Full sun is best. Avg well drained to dry soil. Drought tolerant.
 2.	Forb	Amsonia x 'Bases Loaded' Baseball™ Amsonia	Intermediate foliage (wider than needle-like ciliata, narrower than tabernaemontana). Light blue flowers open end of May on 2' stems. These plants have a reserved growth spurt to 30" after the flowers

			fade keeping the plant wider than tall. Full sun, avg soil. Yellow fall color. New Intro 2020.
 3.	Grass	Andropogon gerardii 'Red October' PP#26,283	Hard to beat for its fall color. Fine foliage, upright habit of 6'. Foliage emerges deep green with red tips and starting in August the red highlights increase and deepen to a rich burgundy red. After first frost, turns a more scarlet red; flowers red in August. Full sun for best color. Well drained soil. John Greenlee, ornamental grass expert and author of <i>The American Meadow Garden</i> , "the New Rubrum."
 4.	Grass	Boutoloua gracilis 'Honeycomb' PP#33,101	Hardy and adaptable plants with good vigor, compare to 'Blonde Ambition'. 30" upright wire-like stems, bloom with eyelash like flowers in June. Tan color lightens with age persistent into winter. Full sun, avg to well-drained soil.
5.	Forb Seed sown 06/17/21	Dalea purpurea / Purple Prairie Clover	Perennial forb of dry to dry-mesic prairies and savannas; leaves pinnately divided with 3-5 narrow, inrolled leaflets; flowers purple, in cone-like clusters borne on the ends of the stem. Perennial forb of dry to dry-mesic prairies and savannas; leaves pinnately divided with 3-5 narrow, inrolled leaflets; flowers purple, in cone-like clusters borne on the ends of the stem.
 6.	Succulent	Delosperma x 'Orange Crush' PPAF / Ice Plant	Sport from 'Fire Spinner' has a soft orange color with slight pink base. Low growing and spreading, foliage like tiny fingers nearly covered with flowers in April-May and into June. Well drained soil; full sun.
 7.	Forb	Echinacea White Showoff	After years of pulling out the best white appearing from Pink Showoff, Brent Horvath has perfected a true white strain. Bright, honey-colored cones and hanging white petals on 3', vigorous plants; long blooming. Great for naturalistic planting. Full sun, well-drained soil.
 8.	Grass	Festuca x 'Cool as Ice' PP#27,651	Emerges light green but turns blue in summer. Flower stems reach 18" with foliage reaching 24" wide. Full sun to light shade, well-drained soil.
9.	Forb	Geranium x 'Anne Thomson'	Sharing the same parentage and flowers identical to 'Ann Folkard', this 2005 AGM winner, introduced by esteemed Geranium breeder, Alan Bremmer, boasts a tidier more compact and heat tolerant habit than its golden-leafed garden rival. The low-spreading vigorous mound dazzles us with fulgent yellow foliage and a succession of 1 in. wide, black-eyed dark magenta blooms. Appreciative of bright shade, regular water during extended dry spells and a hard annual pruning, 'Anne Thomson' is a well-mannered weaver and a choice contender for flashy front-of-the

			border medleys. Blooms May–September. Size: 18" high x 3' 0" wide.
 10.	Forb	Geum x 'Alabama Slammer' PP#23,750	Hairy mounds of foliage grow to 10" and over 1' wide. In May, burgundy stems to 18" or more bloom with multi-colored deep orange flowers edged and highlighted with red. Mostly double 1 1/2" flowers. Full sun, moist, drained soil.
 11.	Forb	Geum x 'Mai Tai' PP#22,433	Heavy blooming, vigorous plants have single to semi-double blooms of vermilion red fading to a peachy pink in May. Clumping mounds reach just over 1' wide topped by burgundy 18" stems. Full sun, moist to average soil.
 12.	Forb	Geum x 'Tequila Sunrise' PP#21,514	Lemony yellow single and semi-double flowers dripped with a touch of grenadine rose red on the end of burgundy stems. 1' clumps with flower stems to 18" start blooming in May on into June. Full sun, moist soil.
 13.	Forb	Liatris ligulistylis 'Butterfly Magnet'	Seed strain selected for a 4' size compared to the 5-6' species. Extra attractive to male monarchs, these plants have a pheromone that attracts the butterflies like a magnet once they begin blooming in July.
14.	Forb	Monarda didyma 'Raspberry Wine' / Bee Balm, Oswego Tea	'Raspberry Wine' was hybridized by Darrell R. Probst of Hubbardston, Mass., and introduced by White Flower Farms in 1992. Planted here for its color. Its erect square stems have opposite, ovate to ovate-lanceolate, serrated, deep green leaves (3-6" long). The leaves have an aroma of mint and basil and can be used to flavor teas. Its tubular, two-lipped, raspberry-red, fragrant flowers are crowded into dense, globular, terminal flowerheads (to 3-4" across) somewhat resembling unkempt mop-heads. The flower buds resemble raspberries; leaves fragrant. 'Raspberry Wine' grows 3 to 4 ft. tall and 2 to 3 ft. wide. Good resistance to powdery mildew. Hummingbird attractor.
 15.	Forb	Penstemon digitalis PP#24,804	Burgundy foliage on dark, 3-4' stems hold loose clusters of purple-pink flowers in June. Loved by hummingbirds. Full Sun, well drained, rich soil.
16.	Forb	Sanguisorba hakusanensis 'Lilac Squirrel' / Korean Burnet	Sanguisorba hakusanensis, originates in mountainous regions of Korea and Japan, despite being one of the best garden use species in this rose family genus, is barely known in horticultural circles. Lilac Squirrel burnet forms a 2' wide deciduous rosette of slightly glaucous green pinnate leaves, each composed of smaller serrated leaflets which are a bold textural element in the border. The basal rosettes are topped in summer with 3' tall, wispy flower wands, each terminating in pendulous fuzzy pink catkins. It is the stamens that provide color. Sun to part sun, average to slightly above average soil moisture.

 17.	Grass	Schizachrium scoparium ‘Jazz’ / Little Bluestem ‘Jazz’	A shorter select from The Blues series at 2’ with blue foliage that will not fall over. Notes of purple in the fall. Native. Full sun, well-drained soil.
 18.	Succulent	Sedum x ‘Lime Joy’ PPAF	Gray green, vigorous foliage that produces domed, lime green buds resembling Hydrangeas. By September, the heads swell to 8” across and open to bi-color pink and magenta flowers. Stems are 15” and slightly pink to purple color. Full sun, well-drained soil.
 19.	Forb	Silphium perfoliatum ‘The Holy Grail’	An Intrinsic introduction, this golden leaved plant is a stunning specimen growing to 6’ tall and several feet wide in time. Yellow, daisy like flowers in July or August, moist to average soil. Silphium is a native highly acclaimed for the way its leaves are directly attached to the strong stem, catching rainwater, and providing for insects and birds.
20.	Forb	Thymus praecox arcticus pseudolanuginosis / Woolly Thyme Syn. <i>Thymus praecox</i>	<i>Thymus praecox</i> is a creeping, woody-based perennial which is primarily used as a small ground cover, but also has limited culinary value. Numerous somewhat woody stems form a flat mat (2-6" tall) with tiny, rounded, fuzzy, blue-green leaves. Leaves are aromatic, but strength of scent varies according to habitat and season. Clusters of tiny, tubular, whitish to rose-purple flowers appear in summer. Flowers are attractive to bees. Plants are evergreen in mild winters.
21.	Forb	Vernonia x ‘Southern Cross’ / Ironweed	‘Southern Cross’ is an ironweed hybrid (<i>V. lettermannii</i> is apparently in its parentage) that typically grows in a clump to 3’ tall and as wide. It features stiff upright stems clad with alternate, simple, narrow, linear to lanceolate leaves topped in fall by showy corymb-like cymes of bright purple flowers. Seed heads retain interesting shape after dispersal and persist well into winter. Southern Cross is not known to self-sow as many ironweeds do. Ironweeds are tolerant of Black Walnut.
 22.	Forb	Veronica incana ‘Pure Silver’ / Woolly Speedwell	Silvered foliage on 12” clumps topped by numerous 15’ vivid sky-blue spikes in June. Full sun, well-drained soil.
 23.	Forb	Veronicastrum virginicum ‘Queen of Diamonds’ / Culver’s Root	Clean dark green foliage with wine red growth tips. 4’ stems are topped with pink flower spikes. Strong vertical element in wild or cottage garden or any border. No staking in full sun.