

PLANTS FOR HANGING BASKETS – Part I
Varieties adapted to basket culture

Carl A. Salsedo

Extension Agent – Horticulture

Hanging baskets are not a new concept. Their popularity has grown by leaps and bounds in recent years (Lucht, 1974). The large selection of plant material and their adaptability to almost any situation make hanging baskets a popular as well as a profitable item. Suspended at various heights, baskets make it possible to grow plants in midair, where at eye level or above, they can be enjoyed for their graceful beauty.

Below is a listing of various plants which show that there is a wide assortment of plant material that can be used in hanging baskets (Rathmell). Many different kinds of plants can be used: annuals, blooming plants (perennials and tropicals), foliage plants, herbs and vegetables. The hanging basket market is here to stay only if growers are imaginative enough to diversify both the plant material and container.

Key to plants listed below: A--Annuals
B--Blooming plants
F--Foliage plants
H--Herbs
V--Vegetables and fruits
Y--Year round

<u>Key</u>	<u>Genus and species--common names</u>
BY	<i>Abutilon megopotanicum variegatum</i> , A. <i>hybridum</i> , A. <i>straitum aureomaculatum</i> -- Flowering Maples
B	<i>Achimenes</i> sp. Nut-orchid
BY	<i>Aeschynanthus pulchrum</i> , A. <i>lobbianum</i> , A. <i>speciosus</i> --Lipstick Plant
AB	<i>Ageratum houstonianum</i> --Ageratum

- V *Allium* sp.--Chives
- AB *Antirrhinum majus*--Snapdragon--dwarf types
as Floral Carpet
- AB Begonias--a wide assortment including Riegers
(Aphrodite series)
- B Begonias--tuberous type, *B. foliosa*; Angel
wing types, trailing types
- FY Bromeliads--many species
- AB *Browallia* sp.
- B *Campanula isophylla*--Italian Bellflower
- FY *Ceropegia* sp.--Rosary Vine
- FY *Chlorophytum* sp.--Spider Plant
- V *Cucurbita* sp.--Squash, dwarf nonvining types
- FY *Cissus rhombifolia*--Grape Ivy; *C. antarctica*--
Kangaroo vine; *C. discolor*--Rex Begonia Vine
- FY *Coleus blume*--a wide assortment
- BY *Columnnea* sp.--a wide assortment
- FY *Crassula* sp.
- V *Cucumis sativus*--cucumber, dwarf nonvining
types
- B *Cuphrea ignea*--Cigarette Plant
- BY *Cyanotis* sp.--Pussy ears
- B *Cymbalaria* sp.--Toad Flax, Basket-ivy,
Kenilworth Ivy
- AB *Dianthus hybrida*--*Dianthus*; *D. gracilis*; *D.*
procumbens--Dark Eyes, Lena, Swingtime
and South Gate
- BY *Dipladenia* sp.--Mexican Love-Vine
- BY *Episcia* sp.
- FY Ferns--many assorted varieties
- FY *Ficus* sp.--Creeping Fig
- FY *Fittonia* sp.
- V *Fragaria vesca*--Strawberries
- BF *Fuchsia* sp.
- FY *Gynura* sp.--Velvet Plant
- FY *Hedera* sp.--English Ivy, a wide assortment
- B *Heliotrope* sp.--dwarf types
- FY *Helxine* sp.--Baby Tears

- FY Hemigraphis sp.--Waffle Plant
 F Hydrocyrta sp.--Goldfish Plant
 BF Impatiens sp.
 V Ipomaea batatas--Sweet Potato, Ipomaea
 purpura--Morning Glory, new dwarf
 varieties
 F Iresine sp.--Bloodleaf
 F Lamium sp.--Silver nettle
 BY Lantana delicatissima, L. monteoidensis
 AB Lathyrus odoratus--Sweet Pea, dwarf types
 AB Layia sp.--Tidy Tips
 AB Lobelia--Cascade varieties
 AB Lobularia maritima--Sweet Alyssum
 B Lotus berthelotii--Flying Pea
 B Manettia bicolor--Firecracker Plant
 FY Maranta bicolor--Prayer Plant
 AB Mesembryanthemum sp.--Ice Plant
 H Mentha spp.--Mint
 F Muehlenbackia sp.--Wire Vine Plant
 A Nasturtium sp.--dwarf type
 AB Nierembergia sp.
 H Ocimum basilicum--Basil
 F Oplismenus compositus--Basket Grass
 BY Orchids, many varieties
 F Othonna crassifolia--Little Pickles
 BF Oxalis sp.--Bermuda Buttercup, Shamrock
 BY Passiflora sp.--Passion Flower
 BY Pelargonium peltatum--Ivy Geranium
 F Pellionia pulchra--Trailing Watermelon
 Begonia; P. daveauar
 FY Peperomia sp.
 HY Petroselinum crispum--Parsley
 AB Petunia sp.
 FY Philodendron oxycardium--common philodendron
 B Phlox sp.
 FY Pilea cadierei--Aluminum Plant
 FY Pilea microphylla--Artillery Plant
 FY Plectranthus sp.--Swedish Ivy

- B *Plumbago capensis*
 AB *Portulaca* sp.
 F Pomegranate (dwarf)
 HY *Rosmarinus officinalis*--Rosemary
 B *Sanvitalia* sp.--Creeping Zinnia
 FY *Saxifraga sarmentosa*--Strawberry Begonia
 AB *Schizanthus pinnatus*--Butterfly Flower
 B *Schzocentron elegans*--Spanish Shawl
 FY *Scindapsis aureus*--Pothos
 FY *Sedum* sp.--wide assortment including hardy varieties; *S. morganianum*--Burro's Tail
Sedum, *S. brevifolium*, *S. sieboldii*, *S. caerulecum*, *S. dasyphyllum*
 FY *Selaginella* sp.
 FY *Senecio macroglossus* var. *variegatus*--Cape Ivy
 FY *Senecio mikanioides*--German Ivy
 V *Solanum* sp.--Tomato, dwarf varieties
 i. e. Tiny Tim, Pixie
 F *Stenotophrum* sp.--St. Augustine's Grass
 B *Streptocarpus saxorum*--False African Violet
 B *Streptolsolen jamesonii*--Orange Browallia
 A *Tagetes* sp.--Marigold, semi-dwarf varieties
 A *Thunbergia alata*--Black-eyed Susan vine
 HY *Thymus* sp.--Thyme
 FY *Tolmiea menzesii*--Piggy-back plant
 F *Torenia fournieri*--Wishbone Flower
 FY *Tradescantia* sp.--a wide assortment including Tahitian Bridal Veil
 AB *Verbena* sp.
 AY *Vinca major*--Big Periwinkle
 AB *Viola* sp.--Viola and Pansy
 BY *Zygocactus truncatus*--Christmas Cactus

Literature Cited

1. Lucht, George A. 1974. Hanging Baskets. Ohio Florists Assn., Bull. No. 532.
2. Rathmell, James K., Jr. 1975. Hanging Baskets. Maryland Florist 195:46

A NOTE TO JOE MAISANO

Completion of your Master of Science Degree at Central Connecticut State College was the culmination of many years of part-time, extracurricular endeavor. Your diligence and perseverance is commendable. But, coming at the same time, your Distinguished Service Award by the National Association of County Agricultural Agents is a special honor. It is certainly warranted and we, your colleagues, offer sincere congratulations and trust that your next eleven years as an editor of this newsletter will be as productive and pleasant as the last eleven have been.