

# Perennials: Some New Introductions and Underutilized Favorites

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(PPY=Perennial Plant of the Year of the Perennial Plant Association)

**Shade** (most also grow well in part shade; under 4 hours per day sun or filtered; \* also tolerate sun)

1. *Athyrium niponicum* var. *pictum* 'Burgundy Lace'—Japanese painted fern (moist)
2. *Athyrium filix-femina* 'Lady in Red'—Red-stemmed Northern Lady fern
3. *Brunnera macrophylla* 'Jack Frost'--Siberian bugloss (2012 PPY, 'King's Ransom', 'Looking Glass')
4. *Carex* 'Ice Dance'—variegated sedge\*
5. *Dicentra* 'Stuart Boothman'—fringed bleeding heart (also 'Adrian Bloom', 'King of Hearts')
6. *Hakonechloa macra* 'Aureola'—Hakone grass (zone 5/6, PPY2009)
7. *Lamium maculatum* 'Golden Anniversary'\*
8. *Polygonatum odoratum* 'Variegatum'--variegated Solomon's Seal (2013 PPY)
9. *Pulmonaria* 'Benediction' (Tulip 'Daydream')—lungwort (moist)
10. *Pulmonaria* 'British Sterling'
11. *Pulmonaria* 'David Ward'
12. *Tiarella cordifolia* 'Oakleaf'--foamflower (stoloniferous species)
13. *Tiarella* 'Lace Carpet'
14. *Tiarella* 'Pink Bouquet'
15. *Tiarella* River series (spreading): Lehigh, Susquehanna, etc.
16. *Vinca minor* 'Illumination'--periwinkle (not annual *Catharanthus*)\*
17. *Vinca minor* 'Miss Jekyll' (Gertrude Jekyll, Jekyll's White)
18. *Vinca minor* 'Ralph Shugert'
19. *Viola labradorica*—Labrador violet
20. *Waldsteinia geoides*-- barren strawberry

**Part Shade** (most also grow well in sun, \*some prefer sun but tolerate part shade; 4-8 hours per day sun)

1. *Alchemilla mollis*--lady's mantle
2. *Amsonia tabernaemontana*--blue stars\* (also Ozark bluestars, *A. hubrichti* PPY 2011)
3. *Anemone vitifolia* 'Robustissima'—fall anemone\*
4. *Cimicifuga ramosa* (*Actaea simplex*) 'Hillside Black Beauty'—black-leaved bugbane\*
5. *Dicentra spectabilis* 'Gold Heart'—old-fashioned bleeding-heart
6. *Epimedium perralderianum* 'Frohnleiten'--barrenwort, bishop's hat/mitre
7. *Epimedium x versicolor*
8. *Epimedium x youngianum* 'Roseum'
9. *Filipendula rubra* 'Venusta'—Meadowsweet\*
10. *Fragaria* 'Red Ruby'--ornamental strawberry\* (also 'Pink Panda')
11. geranium leaf shapes--perennial geranium
12. geranium leaf sizes
13. geranium flowers (from late May)
14. *Geranium phaeum* and p. 'Album'\*
15. *Geranium phaeum* 'Samobar'
16. *Geranium phaeum* 'Taft's Jester'

17. *Geranium phaeum* var. *lividum* 'Stillingfleet Ghost'
18. *Geranium phaeum* 'Little Boy'
19. *Geranium* 'Anne Thompson' (zone 5)
20. *Geranium pratense* 'Midnight Reiter' (cf. 'Elizabeth Anne', 'Espresso')
21. *Helleborus x hybridus* 'Ivory Prince'—hellebore, Lenten rose
22. *Heuchera* 'Petite Pearl Fairy'—coralbell
23. *Heuchera* 'Silver Lode'
24. *Heuchera* 'Dark Secret' (cf. 'Purple Petticoats')
25. *Heuchera* 'Obsidian'
26. *Heuchera* 'Ginger Ale'
27. *Heuchera* 'Lime Rickey'
28. *Heuchera* 'Amber Waves'
29. *Heuchera villosa* 'Caramel'
30. *x Heucherella* 'Stoplight'
31. *Lysimachia ciliata* 'Firecracker', *Lysimachia punctata* 'Alexander'—loosestrife\*
32. *Macleaya cordata*—plume poppy
33. *Polemonium* 'Stairway to Heaven'--Jacob's ladder\*
34. *Polemonium* 'Bressingham Purple'
35. *Symphytum x uplandicum* 'Axminster Gold'—Golden Variegated Russian Comfrey\*
36. *Veronicastrum virginicum* Lavender Towers ('Lavendelturm')\*--Culver's root

**Sun** (over 8 hours per day)

1. *Achillea millefolium* Tutti Frutti series (e.g 'Strawberry Seduction', 'Pomegranate')--yarrow
2. *Baptisia australis* ('Purple Smoke', 'Screaming Yellow', 'Twilight Prairie Blues', etc) (PPY2010)
3. *Echinacea purpurea* ('Green Envy', 'Coconut Lime', 'Tiki Torch')--coneflower
4. *Geranium x* 'Rozanne'—perennial geranium (PPY 2008)
5. *Geum* Totally Tangerine ("Tim's Tangerine")—Avens
6. *Leucanthemum x superbum* 'Broadway Lights' –Shasta daisy
7. *Phlox paniculata* 'Peppermint Twist'—tall garden phlox
8. *Panicum virgatum* ('Ruby Ribbons'—Uconn/Mark Brand, 'Blue Tower')—switch grass

Other genera to watch: *Coreopsis* (Big Bang series from Darrell Probst, such as 'Redshift'), *Dianthus*, *Gaillardia*, *Sedum* (especially red-leaved)

**More information and plants:**

**Perry's Perennial Pages** (type into search engine), or [perrysperennials.info](http://perrysperennials.info)

Chicago Botanic Garden trials: [www.chicagobotanic.org/research/plant\\_evaluation/](http://www.chicagobotanic.org/research/plant_evaluation/)

(This 2012 listing accompanies a presentation by Dr. Perry on this topic.)

