

## Unusual Perennials

### Ed Wood

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Here's a list of interesting perennials from the Pacific Northwest:

*Aquilegia flabellata* var. *pumila* (syn. *A. akitensis*), *A. vulgaris* 'Nora Barlow', *Anemone blanda*, *Anemone pulsatilla*, *Arenaria balearica*, *Aster novi-belgii* dwarf, *Astilbe chinensis*, *Aubrietia gracilis*, *Bolax gummifera* (syn. *B. glebaria nana*), *Claytonia parvifolia* (syn. *Montia parvifolia*), *Cyclamen hederifolium*, *Dianthus chinensis* (syn. *D. laciniatus*), *Erysimum* dwarf, *Euphorbia polychroma*, *Genista tinctoria* 'Humifusa', *Globularia repens* (syn. *G. nana*), *Gypsophila aretioides*, *G. aretioides* 'Caucasica', *Helleborus orientalis*, *Herniaria glabra*, *Iberis sempervirens* 'Pygmea', *Iris* dwarfbearded, *I. innominata*, *I.* Pacific coast hybrids, *Leucanthemum xsuperbum* (syn. *Chrysanthemum maximum*), *Lewisia cotyledon*, *Phlox* 'Santa Fe', *Pimelia prostrata*, *Potentilla crantzii*, *P. eriocarpa*, *Primula* Gold Lace Group, *P.* Jack in the Green Group, *P. prolifera*, *P. pulverulenta*, *P. seiboldii* 'Snowflake', *P. vialii*, *Raoulia subsericea*, *Saponaria xolivana*, *Saxifraga umbrosa* var. *primuloides*, *Scleranthus uniflorus*, *Solenopsis fluviatilis* (syn. *Laurentia fluviatilis*), *Thalictrum rochebrunianum*, and *Tanacetum densum* ssp. *amani*).

### QUESTION-ANSWER PERIOD

**Kristin Yanker-Hansen:** When you talk about new crops, are you at all interested in growing something other than what is already grown in the trade? Do you ever deal with annuals that you have never heard of?

**Jamie Kitz:** Yes. It has to be an excellent F1 hybrid because that is the only type of bedding plants we work with. The breeders are constantly looking for new crops to bring to the market.

**Steve Mullaney:** Are the plants actually free of the hairs or are the hairs free of the primen?

**Jamie Kitz:** I believe the chemical is in the tissue and not in the hairs.

**Bruce Briggs:** How do you measure public demand?

**Cynthia Chandless:** Usually the hobbyist and gardening magazines are generating or responding to those demands.

**Bob Hugart:** Do you see the trend in perennials going more toward smaller containers or more toward larger 1's, 2's, and 5's?

**Cynthia Chandless:** I don't think there is just one answer here. It does depend on the person or business itself and what market shares you are serving. On the one hand, I've got one client telling me that they are putting all their energy into 4 in. because their return was greater than when they sold gallons. In colder climates it makes sense to plant bigger plants.

**Kristin Yanker-Hansen:** Where can we get these perennials?

**Ed Wood:** Contact me and I will be happy to make plants available.