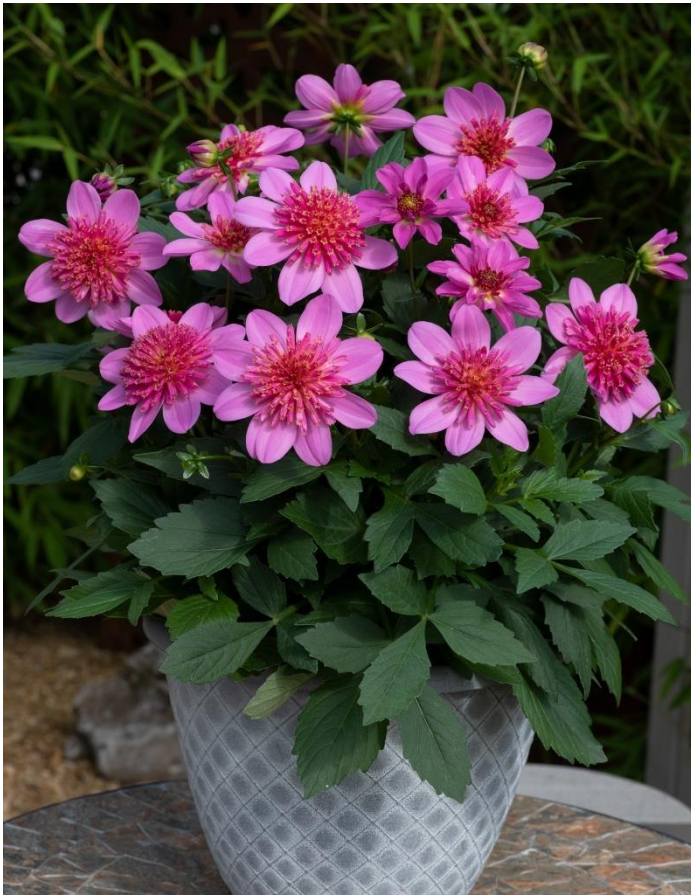


Customers Top 25 Favourite Varieties for 2024

Position		Annuals
1	NEW	Dahlia Dalina® Maxi Starburst Pink
2	NEW	Coleus Coral Candy
3	NEW	Allium Bubble Bath
4	NEW	Calibrachoa Can-Can® Oriental
5	NEW	Cuphea Sweet Talk Lavender Splash
6	NEW for 2025	Verbena Lavander Lace
7		Begonia On Top SunGlow
8	NEW	Calibrachoa Cabaret® Early Bumble Bee Hot Pink
9		Petunia Bee's Knees
10	NEW	Petunia Blueberry Sky
=11	NEW	Calibrachoa Can-Can® Fancy Francy
=11	NEW	Impatiens Beacon® Lipstick
=13		Celosia First Flame Purple, Red and Yellow (3 colours in a 3-litre pot)
=13	NEW	Ornamental Millet Copper Prince
15		Zinnia Zesty Orange
=16	NEW	Coleus Ruby Heart
=16	NEW	Begonia Hula™ Red
=16	NEW	Cucumber MiniSweet (Kitchen Buddies collection)
19	NEW	Impatiens Beacon® Summer Fruits Mixed
20	NEW	Petunia Beautical® Red Maple
21	NEW	Petunia Lavender Blush
= 22	NEW	Achillea Milly Rock MixMasters® Dance With Me
= 22	NEW	Verbena Bonnie Blue
23	NEW	Begonia Majestic® Sunburst
= 24		Begonia Majestic® Apricot
= 24		Alstroemeria Summer Paradise Indian Summer®

NEW Dahlia Dalina® Maxi Starburst Pink

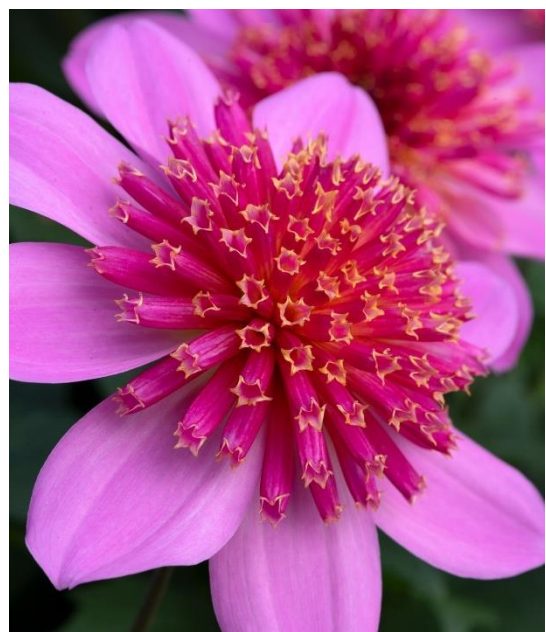


It's not surprising this truly spectacular Dahlia was the favourite annual variety at this year's Summer Showcase, with its vivid pink anemone flower which creates the illusion of a yellow star bursting from its centre. In June Starburst Pink was also awarded **Best New Annual at the 2023 HTA National Plant Show**, which clearly demonstrating what a winner this variety is looking to be for next season!

Not only is Starburst Pink a great garden performer in containers, border and as a cut flower but is attractive to pollinators and has high tolerance to powdery mildew.

Starburst Pink joins the Dahlia Dalina® Maxi series, synonymous for its garden and pot performance in production, creating a uniform branched plant which keeps relatively compact for the growers in 2-3 litre pots and continues to grow for the consumer. Ideal to fit onto trolleys and produce at good density.

Available as a Ball 84 Leg Tray, weeks 6-24. A high impact colour Ball label is supplied with the plugs.



NEW Coleus Coral Candy

Solenostemon scutellarioides



Showstopping colours...bold patterns...rich textures!

Gardeners will love this centre stage Coleus for its great looks and reliable performance in sunny gardens and patio planters.

The mounded, compact plants display characteristic thin serrated foliage with a coral-pink centre that blends to green, which can change its colouring depending environmental conditions.

An excellent selection for both sun or shade land an interesting form for use in mixed combinations as well as a stand-alone specimen. Height 25-41cm, spread 30-36cm.

An All-America Selections (AAS) Award winner - this Coleus variety has been rigorously tested under a wide range of garden conditions in North America by a judging panel of experts and proven to have superior garden performance. So, it's not the UK, but the growing conditions this plant has had to contend with have been extremely varied!

Available as a Ball 104 Tray, weeks 12-18. A high impact colour Ball label is supplied with the plugs.



NEW Allium Bubble Bath



With the largest flowers of any semi-evergreen Allium, Bubble Bath is a real 'head turner' for any garden setting or patio container and an incredibly tactile plant, judging by the attention it received by visitors at the recent Summer Showcase!

The long-lasting soft lavender flower clusters are held on strong stems above a mound of shiny blue green foliage. Bees and butterflies adore the flowers for its sweet nectar too!

Like the smaller variety Millenium, Bubble Bath does not go dormant after flowering, leaving a lovely display of foliage for the rest of the season. Garden Height 65-70cm.

Bubble Bath flowers July to September, so fills a really nice gap in the flowering pot perennial market after other large-flowered varieties have finished.

Available as a Pot 18 liner (9cm pot) in week 9. This is ideal for growing in a 3 – 5 litre pot. Best grown in a well-ventilated polytunnel. A flowering plant can be achieved by July/August.



NEW Calibrachoa Can-Can® Oriental



The unique and intense colouring of this new Calibrachoa make for a striking addition to the popular Can-Can® series, extending it now to 7 amazing colours.

The large, terracotta speckled and veined flowers are set to 'pack-a-punch' at retail and makes a great component for some very exciting patio planter combinations.

Oriental forms a neat and well-branched, mounded, trailing plant with vibrant coloured flowers covering its entire canopy all season long. The Can-Can® series of Calibrachoa is highly adaptable in even the harshest of conditions be it hot dry through to cool wet summers. Height and spread 25-38cm.

Ideal for 10.5- 13cm pots or hanging pot sales.

Available as a Ball 84 Tray, delivery weeks 7-20 and 142 tray, delivery weeks 8-18. A high impact colour Ball label is supplied with the plugs.



NEW Cuphea Sweet Talk Lavender Splash



A Real Pollinator Magnet!

Lavender Splash is one of the three striking colours in this special new series; Cuphea Sweet Talk. This new seed-raised form offers a much more refined plant habit compared to existing varieties, with tighter branching, less gaps and just keeps flowering all summer long.

This is a bloom-covered plant that consumers will simply love as it 'ticks all the boxes' in supporting the environment and coping with climate change. Here is why... Sweet Talk stays in full flower under both hot and dry conditions, so a great plant for hot sunny patios and a star performer, even when there is a hosepipe ban!

Pollinators love Sweet Talk too as this plant is rich in nectar and a real attraction for bees and butterflies, turning your customer's garden into a real healthy environment for beneficial insects!

Height and spread 20 - 36cm.

In production and retail, this is such a great plant to grow. Finish a 1-litre pot in just 6-8 weeks or plant 3 plugs in a 3-litre pot for a premium summer pot promotion, plant deep and give one pinch after 6-7 leaves. Available in 3 colours; this stunning Lavender Splash, along with Dark Pink and Red. Supplied in a range of plug sizes from weeks 12-20.



Ball Trial Grounds in the UK

Ball in the UK has been conducting plant variety trials and customer open days from their Trial Grounds in West Adderbury for 61 years.

Today's Trial Grounds not only presents the companies assortment of catalogue varieties in a rich display of settings and retail ideas, but also comprehensively evaluates hundreds of new future lines before introduction. This ensures that when a product is introduced in the Ball Colegrave catalogues, our staff and visitors have seen it and know it performs under UK growing conditions!

Trials are conducted all year round with an open house for customers during autumn, spring and summer. Over 25,000 Annual and Perennial plants are bedded out in the summer trial and display beds with an excess of 5,000 pot plants and 2,000 patio baskets/containers are planted up for the event.

Traditionally the Trial Grounds were attended by Parks and Nurserymen. Today they are joined by an ever-increasing number of Retail Plant Buyers looking for new plant and retail solutions.

END

Note to News Editors:

For more information or high-quality images please contact Stuart Lowen on 01295 814705 or email slowen@ballhort.com

Ball Colegrave is a renowned distributor of seed and plant product to the ornamental bedding industry. Visit our website www.ballcolegrave.co.uk for more information on our range of products and services.

If you no longer wish to receive this type of communication, you can opt out by emailing me at slowen@ballcolegrave.com