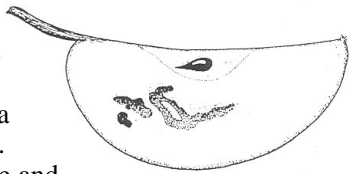


Horticulture

Think About Apple Maggot Control Now

The adult of the apple maggot is a fly similar to the housefly, but smaller. The larvae feed on the fruit and cause the fruit to rot. They then drop to the soil to pupate during the winter months. The control of the apple maggot must be directed at the adult fly. This control should occur between the time the adults emerge and the time they lay their eggs. Sanitation helps reduce the number of flies. Pick up the fallen apples and dispose of them. Weekly spraying with an insecticide is an effective control. The spray schedule should begin mid- to late-June and continue through August.

To tell when the flies begin to emerge, coat a red, plastic ball with a sticky substance, such as Tanglefoot. Hang the apple look-a-like in the tree and check it daily. (MJM)



Mulches

Mulches in the home landscape not only conserve moisture, modify soil temperatures and control weeds but also may be used to make landscapes more attractive and usable. Many types of material, organic or inorganic, may be used as mulch.

Organic mulches may break down in one season or less, or persist for several seasons. Those that persist for more than one growing season are more useful around permanent plants.

Inorganic mulches such as gravel, crushed stone or some manufactured products are not

as beneficial to plants as the organic mulches, such as wood chips, bark, compost, grass clippings, or shredded leaves.

Though not generally considered mulches, some low growing ground cover plants produce many of the same beneficial effects as mulch.

Mulches should not be considered as fertilizer. Most of them release some nutrients as they decompose, but the fertilizer value is very small compared to the physical effects. Where mulches are needed, use them for the mulch value and add fertilizer, as needed. (MJM)

Three All-America Rose Selections Winners for 2001

Each All-America Rose Selections (AARS) winner was evaluated for 15 traits including disease resistance, hardiness, color and novelty in gardens across the United States for two years. Only truly exceptional roses are awarded AARS honors. The three winners for 2001 were judged to be the best overall.

Glowing Peace

Named after its grandparent Peace, the world's most renowned rose, Glowing Peace has some big shoes to fill. Sure to become a focal point of any garden, Glowing Peace combines timeless beauty with modern novelty. Large, round buds open to reveal full, three-inch blooms featuring

golden yellow and cantaloupe orange blended petals. Deep, glossy green foliage serves as a backdrop for the blooms and gives way to a burgundy fall color. Glowing Peace, a round, bushy grandiflora, grows to four-feet by



Glowing Peace

Sun Sprinkles

Marmalade Skies

three-feet and is resistant to disease. The rose exhibits a light tea fragrance completing a package that stands out in any garden and commands attention.

Sun Sprinkles

Sun Sprinkles is only the fifth miniature ever to win AARS honors and the first since 1993. Its blazing, yellow blooms add life to any landscape. A shining example of disease resistance, Sun

Sprinkles produces bright yellow blooms set against a backdrop of petite, dark green, glossy foliage. Its high, pointed

oval buds spiral open to reveal two-inch, petite, double blooms with a moderate spicy fragrance with overtones of musk.

Upright and rounded, Sun Sprinkles will grow 18 to 24 inches tall. Miniatures are among the most versatile of rose classes, ideal for lining walkways, growing in containers, accenting formal rose beds.

Marmalade Skies

Brilliant tangerine orange blooms engulf Marmalade Skies from beginning to end of the blooming season. Healthy, olive green, satiny foliage provides the perfect backdrop for the constant show of color. The floribunda produces clusters of five to eight blooms on each strong stem. Oblong buds open to reveal three-inch double blooms. This compact, round plant grows three-feet by three-feet, making it the perfect rose for a hedge or a stellar addition to any existing rose bed. (MJM)

Perennials with Unique Flowers

Home gardeners can choose from many species and varieties of perennials. Perennials differ in growth habit, size, leaf shape, and other characteristics.

Sometimes what sets one perennial apart is its interesting flower. Below is a list of perennials with unusual flowers. For interesting late spring bloom, try Columbine (*Aquilegia* hybrids). The foliage is blue-green and softly hairy. The flower is composed of five petals and five sepals. The petals have backward projecting spurs. The sepals are shorter than the petals and may be the same color or a contrasting color. Colors for the sepals and petals include red, pink, yellow, blue, white, and purple. This plant grows one- to three-feet tall by one foot wide. It prefers full sun to partial shade and well-drained soil.

Old-fashioned Bleeding Heart (*Dicentra spectabilis*) has blue-green foliage. Flowers hang down from arching stems in late spring to early summer. The outer petals are rose-red with reflexed tips. The inner petals are white. Bleeding heart gets its name from the flowers that resemble pink broken hearts. This plant grows two to three feet with a graceful arching effect and a rounded growth habit. Bleeding heart performs best in well-drained, moist soils in partial shade.

Sea Holly (*Eryngium amethystinum*) has rigid, deeply cut, spiny, silvery foliage. The blue flowers appear in heads that are 1/2-inch to 3/4-inch in diameter. Long, spear-like bracts surround the heads. Blooms appear in midsummer. Sea Holly prefers full sun and sandy, dry areas. This perennial is tolerant of dry, sunny conditions and infertile soils. It can be used as a single specimen or in groups of

three. Sea Holly can also be used as a dried flower.

To add bright colors to the perennial garden, incorporate specimen plantings of Red-Hot Poker (*Kniphofia* hybrids). The foliage is linear or sword-shaped, and gray-green with rough edges. Tubular flowers appear massed in the top six to ten inches of the flower scape in the summer. Flower colors include red, yellow, coral/orange, and combinations. The plant has a mature height of two to four feet and a width of three feet. Red-hot poker prefers a site with full sun and well-drained soil. Avoid planting this perennial in heavy, wet soils. The flowers can be used as cut flowers. Mulch heavily in winter.

Beebalm (*Monarda didyma*) has foliage that is aromatic and stems that are square. Two- to three-inch, tubular flowers occur in dense heads from late spring to summer. Deadheading promotes new blooms. This plant grows to a height of two to four feet with a spread of three feet. Beebalm prefers full sun and good soil moisture. If beebalm is to be used in the perennial bed, divide plants every two to three years as it spreads rapidly. Beebalm can be used in naturalized areas and to attract bees and butterflies.

For late summer bloom, try Obedient Plant (*Physostegia virginiana*). The spear-like, serrated leaves are green in the growing season. The stems are square. The flowers appear in spikes spaced in four vertical rows. Flower colors include rose, purple, and white. The plant grows to a height of two to four feet and a width of three feet. The ideal site includes sun to partial shade and moist soils. Because of its height, staking may be required. The Obedient

Plant spreads vigorously. The Obedient Plant requires little or no fertilizer. Heavy fertilization promotes rampant growth and increases the plant's invasive tendencies. Obedient Plant is heat tolerant. The bloom may be used as a cut flower. Obedient Plant gets its name from the ability of individual flowers to be twisted on the stem and then remain as arranged.

Balloon Flower (*Platycodon grandiflorus*) has serrated, dark green leaves that are one to three inches long with short petioles. The saucer-shaped flowers appear in summer in lavender, blue, pink, and white. Several double-flowering varieties are available. The plant has two- to three-foot upright growth. Balloon Flower prefers sun to part shade and well-drained soil. The plant does well as a cut flower, in rock gardens and in perennial beds.

For the perennial border, try Pincushion Flower (*Scabiosa caucasica*). For three to four weeks in the summer, light blue or pink, flattened flower heads appear on long stems. Cultivars such as 'Butterfly Blue' and 'Pink Mist' can bloom for two months. The flower head consists of an outer ring of flattened petals and a tufted, cushion-like center. The shape of the flower gives pincushion flower its name. Plants are 1 1/2- to 2-feet tall and 1 1/2-feet wide with a rounded growth habit. Full sun and well-drained, fertile soil are necessary for optimum growth. To promote flowering, spent blooms should be removed. For the best effect, plant this perennial in the perennial bed in groups of three or more. In addition, the blooms can be used as cut flowers. (MJM)

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