



newvarieties |

Peony's Envy

Peony's Envy (peonysenvy.com) offers one of the most extensive collections of tree and herbaceous peonies in the Northeast. The gardens include more than 30,000 peony plants with 250+ distinct cultivars. They are featuring new cultivars of the group of Rockii tree peonies called Gansu Mudan in 2011:

Paeonia rockii Gansu Mudan Group

These peonies bloom in early spring. Their leaves are dark green in spring and summer but turn bronze in fall. New cultivars in this group are 'Skillful Black Hibiscus' (above left), 'Butterfly Dance' (above right), 'Pink Scarf' and 'Rosy Red World'. These woody shrubs reach over 5 feet at maturity. Partial shade, well-draining soil. Zones 4-9.

Botanical Interests

Botanical Interests (botanicalinterests.com) is a family-owned seed company specializing in dependable flower, herb and vegetable varieties for the home gardener. Highlighting 2011 additions:

Cucurbita moschata 'Musquee de Provence'

These beautiful traditional French pumpkins ripen to their own unique color of terra-cotta with possible dark green mottling. Vines grow up to 12 feet, yielding 8- to 20-pound fruit. A warm-season crop that matures in 110 days.

Helianthus annuus 'Snacker'

This humongous sunflower was developed for its large delicious seeds that are perfect for roasting and snacking. Each flower produces about a pound of tasty, meaty seeds. Plants can reach 8 feet tall with flowers that average 12 inches across. Full sun. Annual.

