

Plantpeddler hosted Variety Day 2021 on Friday August 6; a day focused on delivering on the goal of “Testing the Best in the Midwest”. The event showcased nearly 1,500 varieties of vegetative annuals in large containers, hanging baskets and beds from a global array of breeders. The event saw record attendance of growers, retailers, breeders, and brokers.

Variety Day featured a very special roundtable discussion titled “Titans of Horticulture – Sound Off”. Taking the stage at Plantpeddler were four noted leaders of our industry: Mark Schermer – Global Head of Syngenta Flowers, Keith Cable – President Dummies Orange NA, David Daily – CEO/President of BFG, and Chris Beytes – Editor of GrowerTalks and Green Profit. Focus of the discussion revolved around the future of the horticulture industry in the post-COVID era, with far ranging questions from the attendees and in-depth insight from the panel. Also presenting was Jim Devereux – CEO of Green Fuse Botanicals, along with demonstrations of technology at Plantpeddler including the ISO sticking robots.

Participants had the opportunity to vote on their top three varieties. The winner this year, SuperCal Premium Sunset Orange, is new a new release for 2022 and program addition to Plantpeddler. It was another great year for Begonias, with eight in the top 25.

Variety Day 2021 Top 25:

Ranking	Genus	Series	Variety	Breeder
1	Petchoa	SuperCal Premium	Sunset Orange	Sakata
2	Begonia	Hiemalis	Vermillion Red	Beekenkamp
3	Begonia	I'Conia	Del Sol	Dümmen Orange
4	Begonia	I'Conia Scenitment	Peachy Keen	Dümmen Orange
5	Begonia	I'Conia	Lemon Berry	Dümmen Orange
6	Petunia	Blanket	Silver Surprise	Green Fuse
7	Petunia	Itsy	White	Syngenta Flowers
8	Calibrachoa	Chameleon	Frozen ice	Westhoff
9	Coleus	Stained Glassworks	Royalty	Dümmen Orange
10	Coleus	Main Street	Bourbon Street	Dümmen Orange
Tie 11	Rudbeckia	MiniBeckia	Flame	Garden Genetics
Tie 11	Petunia	Crazytunia	Mayan Sunset	Westhoff
13	Coleus	Main Street	Orchard Road	Dümmen Orange
14	Petunia	Cascadias	Pitaya	Danziger
15	Bracteantha	Granvia	Gold	Suntory
16	Petunia	Tea	Indigo Vein	Beekenkamp
17	Begonia	I'Conia Bacio	Orange	Dümmen Orange
Tie18	Verbena	Lanai	Twister Hot Lips	Syngenta Flowers
Tie 18	Thunbergia	TowerPower	Red	Westhoff

Tie 20	Begonia	Hiemalis	Vermillion Hot Pink	Beekenkamp
Tie 20	Begonia	Solenia	Yellow	Benary
22	Celosia	Kelos Candela	Pink	Beekenkamp
23	Calibrachoa	Callie	Purple	Syngenta Flowers
24	Begonia	I'Conia Upright	Salmon	Dümmen Orange
25	Impatiens	SunPatiens Vigorous	Lavender Splash	Sakata

The event was made even more enjoyable by the perfect weather, outstanding color in the gardens, with food and networking under the big tent. We greatly appreciate all of the breeders for submitting genetics, all supporting vendor partner sponsors, the team at Plantpeddler for all the efforts and hosting, and especially everyone who attended.

Mark your calendars: Plantpeddler Poinsettia Variety Day on December 2, 2021. Plantpeddler Variety Day 2022 is on August 5. Please make plans to attend both events. For more information and images from this or other Plantpeddler events, please contact us at stacyb@plantpeddler.com. Thank-you.

