

## Ornamentals News

# Fleuroselect awards two gold medals to new varieties



Horticulture Week  
Lathyrus odoratus 'Villa Roma Scarlet'. Image: Fleuroselect  
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Fleuroselect has awarded gold medals to two new varieties that featured in its 15 European trials last year.

*Lathyrus odoratus* 'Villa Roma Scarlet' from Hem Zaden in Holland, is the first Sweet Pea to win a Fleuroselect Gold Medal since their establishment in 1970. The 20 judges were impressed by its "innovative, striking, bright colour, its overall attractiveness and its excellent garden performance". Flowering profusely from July to September this American-bred variety stands out among new sweet pea breeding. The variety is suitable for professional and consumer use in containers, hanging baskets and for full-ground direct sowing. For plug production it can be sown in January and for direct sowing in the garden from April/May.

*Zinnia marylandica* 'Double Zahara Fire' from Pan American Seed, is a new disease resistant cultivar. It is a modern hybrid, bred to be the first disease tolerant *Zinnia* with truly double flowers. It has large, fully double flowers and is disease tolerant when compared with *Zinnia elegans*. Developed for use in mass landscape plantings it works best in high, light and warm temperatures. It will be available in 10.5cm pots for consumer sales. Fleuroselect judges said it offered excellent germination, easy crop scheduling and compactness.

Both varieties are available for sampling from 1 May 2010 as 2011 Gold Medal winners.

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