

## MORE TROPICALS

We've said it before and we'll say it again: take advantage of the brilliant color, exotic forms, and enticing fragrance tropical plants can bring to the summer garden.

Brugmansias - Previously in Garden News, we talked up brugmansias (Angel Trumpets), but the fast-growing plants are so impressive, and the spectacular blooms so grand and fragrant, we think they need another mention. Right now we have ten or fifteen varieties that would love to be taken home and settled into a sunny garden so they can grow and bloom all summer.



'Valley Misty Pink' is a medium-sized cultivar that works well in a large container. Its pendant trumpet blooms start pure white, then flush with the palest of pinks after several days.

Huge, very fragrant 12 inch blooms in lemon-yellow are held slightly outward on 'Sunray,' which will reach 4-6 feet in a container.

The sweet-smelling peachy-golden trumpets of 'Sunset Variegated' stand out against large, lush green leaves edged thickly with creamy white. Plants grow up to 5 feet tall in containers.



Our other varieties bloom in satiny white, deep orange, bright gold, or warm pink. All will release a mild scent during the day, but the sweet tropical fragrance grows stronger by early evening, perfuming the garden well into night.

See our [Garden News Issue 11](#) for our planting tips.

Tagetes nelsarii - Another plant we recommend for its striking scent is Tagetes nelsarii, or variegated marigold, whose finely textured aromatic foliage has a delightful habit of weaving through other plants as it grows. Let it grow throughout mixed beds or containers, and watch the variegation become more prominent as plants mature.

Passion Flower Vines - With their showy, intricate, exotic flowers it's hard to believe they bloom way up here, but passion flowers actually grow quite well if planted in a protected location and heavily mulched in cold weather. They'll die back to the ground in winter, but reemerge in spring, growing up to 10 feet in a season and producing fantastic 3 inch blooms from July to frost.



'Inspiration Purple' blooms in an intense deep violet-blue; 'Lavender Lady' in bright amethyst; and 'Lady Margaret' in rich ruby-red. All have a delightful spicy fragrance and the intricately structured petals, rays, and sepals that give passion flowers their outlandish appeal.

