

BEDDING PELARGONIUMS, WITH ORNAMENTAL LEAVES.

(Selected from the Royal Horticultural Society's Trial at Chiswick)



THE trial of bedding geraniums in the garden of the Royal Horticultural Society last summer was, as we have already stated, very extensive, and it included the principal varieties in the several sections. We now offer a few remarks on the varieties grown for their ornamental leaves, comprising the variegated-leaved and the bronze, silver, and golden zonals.

[SILVERY-VARIEGATED.]—*Albion's Cliffs*.—White-variegated; strong grower; first-rate for large beds.

Brilliant Superb.—An improved *Brilliant*, with better defined variegation.

Flower of Spring.—Cream-coloured variegation; free-flowering and compact; a first-rate bedder.

Miss Kingsbury.—Perhaps the best white-variegated variety grown.

Mrs. Lennox.—One of the best white-variegated varieties grown.

Princess Alexandra.—White-edged foliage; dwarf and compact.

Queen of Queens.—Large cream-edged foliage; very free and first-class.

Silver Chain.—Cream-margined foliage; free and compact habit; first-rate.

Snowdrop.—Compact cream-coloured variegation; good and distinct.

Variegated Stella.—A sport from the *Nosegay Stella*, with flowers of the same colour, and with similar-shaped foliage, but variegated; slow-growing, but pretty.

Waltham Bride.—White flowers, with cream-edged foliage; a very slow grower, dwarf, and a moderately free flowerer.

White Lady.—White flowers and white-edged foliage; a moderate grower; distinct and good of its class.

[GOLDEN-VARIEGATED.]—*Crystal Palace Gem*.—Foliage yellow, with green blotch near the base; a free compact grower; one of the best bedders.

Golden Chain.—An old favourite; foliage clear green, with broad margin of golden yellow; very bright; a slow grower, but still unsurpassed in its way.

Golden Fleece.—Foliage large, very bright yellow, with small blotch of green on the lower part; a very dwarf and compact grower.

[YELLOW SELF-COLOURED.]—*Creed's Seedling*.—Foliage bright greenish yellow; free and compact.

Jason.—Foliage bright soft yellow; dwarf, compact, and first-rate.

Robert Fish.—Exceedingly dwarf habit, foliage small and of a bright yellow colour; first-rate for edgings.

[SILVER ZONALS.]—*Glen-Eyre Beauty*.—Moderate grower, free and good; one of the very best; zone very bright.

Italia Unità.—A moderate grower in its class, and still ranking amongst the first-class varieties.

Miss Burdett-Coutts.—Very closely resembling *Italia Unità*.

Princess Beatrice.—Large flat foliage, with narrow bright zone and large centre; very distinct, free, and good.

[GOLDEN ZONALS.]—*Achievement*.—Large foliage with bright zone, and large centre; free and first-rate.

Amy Richards.—Flat foliage with fine bright red zone; free and first-rate; one of the very best.

Defiance.—A first-rate bright red-zoned variety; free and good.

Florence.—Dwarf and compact-growing; bright broad-zoned foliage; a first-rate bedder, and adapted for edgings.

Jetty Lacy.—Pretty and distinct zone, narrow, and of the brightest scarlet-lake.

Lady Cullum.—Scarlet flowers; a variety good and effective; zone broad, dark, on a flat leaf; a good grower; first-class.

Louisa Smith.—Free-growing, of good habit, and distinct.

Macbeth.—Decidedly the gem of the season in tricolors; a strong robust grower; large flat foliage, with a very dark broad zone; altogether a grand thing.

Miss Batters.—Large centre, with bright red zone; free-growing.

Mrs. Pollock.—Still an old favourite amongst the free-growing bright-coloured tricolors; always effective.

Mrs. Turner.—Foliage flat, the centre small, the zone broad and brightly coloured; free-growing, compact, and good.

Plutarch.—Flowers scarlet; good foliage and good habit, the zone very bright and clear; first-rate.

Queen Victoria.—Broad leaf, with broad dark zone; a good grower and distinct. Previously certificated.

Sir Robert Napier.—Very dark broad zone, shaded with red; first-rate and distinct.

Sophia Dumaresque.—Zone bright red, with clear yellow edge; free and good.

[BRONZE ZONALS.]—*Beauty*.—Very pretty; bright and effective; of moderate growth.

Beauty of Calderdale.—Good robust habit; broad dark zone.

Beauty of Wolverstone.—Large foliage, of the brightest yellow, narrow dark zone; very effective and distinct; strong, but compact.

Black Douglas.—A good grower, robust and dwarf; fine dark broad zone, with very narrow yellow edge; first-class.

Black Prince.—Large foliage, with broad bold zone; very free; first-rate.

Cedo Nulli.—Good broad bright zone; robust, yet compact in habit; good.

Cleopatra.—Bright red broad zone; free and good.

Criterion.—Bright yellow leaves, with broad, regular red zone; a good grower; first-class.

Earl of Rosslyn.—Good-sized perfect leaves, yellow ground, with broad zone; dwarf and compact.

Golden Superb Nosegay.—Dwarf spreading habit; a free grower; bright yellow foliage, with very pale zone; first-class.

High Admiral.—Dark broad zone; a good grower, and first-rate.

James Richards.—In the way of *Beauty of Calderdale*, but neater and more evenly marked; first-class.

King of Bronzes.—Very bright zone; good compact habit; a telling variety.

Kentish Hero.—Bright yellow dark-shaded zoned foliage; a good grower; one of the best.

Maréchal M Mahon.—The very best bronze zonal amongst the new varieties; very dark, broad, and very even zone, flat leaf; good, robust, compact habit; first-class.

Model.—Foliage greenish yellow, with narrow zone; compact; distinct.

Mrs. Elliott.—Bright reddish maroon zone; good habit and free; first-rate.

Mrs. Reid.—Bright red zone, very effective; dwarf and compact.

Northern Star.—Bright broad zone; a good grower and free.

Plutus.—Foliage lively yellow, with bright red zone; moderate grower, effective.

Reine Victoria.—Very large foliage, yellow ground, with bright broad zone; free; first-class.

Rev. C. P. Peach.—Large bright foliage, with dark zone; robust and compact.

Rev. W. F. Radclyffe.—Dwarf flat habit; greenish yellow leaves, with narrow dark zone.

Sybil.—Dwarf and compact; very bright and broad zone; excellent; one of the best dwarf bedders.

The Moor.—Dwarf and compact habit; good foliage, with broad shaded red zone.

SUCCULENT PLANTS FOR BEDDING.

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DURING the last few years some of the succulent plants which at one time were grown as curiosities in the greenhouse and on the rockery, have become deservedly popular for bedding purposes, and their cultivation is rapidly extending on all sides. Their chief value consists in their adaptability for the formation of divisional lines in panel beds, and for edging purposes generally. They are so neat, and require such a small amount of attention during the season, that certainly they are in their way quite unsurpassed, and too much cannot be said in their favour. They are, moreover, marvellously cheap, good plants of some of the most popular and useful kinds being procurable at prices ranging from half-a-crown to six shillings per dozen. I mention this to show that they are as cheap as the commonest bedders, and within the reach of the humblest amateur.

June.