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## News Release



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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **New Plants. Less Work. Gorgeous Garden.**

Sounds like a gardeners dream come true, doesn't it? Actually, your dream garden can become reality with new plants that can help you create a beautiful garden with much less work. Plan your garden around the new breeds of hydrangeas, coneflowers, roses and evergreen shrubs and reap the benefits of a gorgeous garden that requires little maintenance.

Today's plant breeders work to help you make your dream garden a reality. They concentrate on bringing new varieties to market that make gardens beautiful as well as carefree. They evaluate plants for years and then introduce only the very best to the market. These new plants are virtually disease free and are extremely low maintenance. As you plan your garden this year, consider the beauty and ease these new varieties can add to your life.

The Forever & Ever<sup>®</sup>, a collection of hydrangeas, were introduced two years ago and are almost foolproof even for the novice gardener. They provide blooms from late spring to early fall and, unlike their ancestors, will tolerate pruning at most any time. Their ability to weather wintry conditions, and still produce blooms each year, is another improvement in this new generation of hydrangeas.

Your dream garden would be beautiful with the addition of 2008's new hydrangeas -- Forever & Ever<sup>®</sup> Peppermint and Forever & Ever<sup>®</sup> Blue Heaven. Both are hardy to Zone 5 and exhibit good disease resistance. Their ability to weather severe winter conditions allows them to bloom every year. These hydrangeas respond well to a sunny location in northern gardens but need partial shade in southern areas.

[Forever & Ever Peppermint](#) is a unique variety with gorgeous mop-headed blooms with one-of-a-kind, bi-color petals. Depending on your soil, the petals will display a brushstroke of either pink or blue in the center. Growing to approximately 24 inches tall and 36 inches wide, it is well suited for smaller gardens or patio containers.

[Forever & Ever Blue Heaven](#) will also be a standout in your garden. Its large blooms are over 12 inches wide and are a magnificent blue. An adjustment in soil acidity will produce blooms in shades of pink or purple. A bit larger than its Peppermint sister, Blue Heaven will grow to approximately four feet tall by five feet wide.

To compliment your new hydrangeas, consider planting one of the new breeds of coneflowers – Pink Double Delight and Coconut Lime. These two beauties are tough as nails and, unlike most others, have double flowers. They are hardy to Zone 5, are virtually disease free and tolerate drought conditions very well.

Pink Double Delight is a new variety of Echinacea that is compact and free flowering. Flowers are double upon first bloom and remain consistently double. Their stems are sturdy and numerous creating a full appearance in containers and the garden.

To add some contrast to the Pink Double Delight, consider planting its Coconut Lime cousin. The Coconut Lime is a double white coneflower selection with pale green at the center of its cone. Like its pink cousin, Coconut Lime has sturdy stems and full blooms. Both these beauties will grow to approximately 26 inches high and spread about 27 inches.

Your dream garden is starting to take shape with beautiful, low maintenance hydrangeas and coneflowers. Now picture the addition of a new variety of a traditional favorite, the Double Knock Out<sup>®</sup> Rose.

In contrast to older varieties of roses, this is an absolutely carefree landscape rose. It has all the same wonderful characteristics as the original Knock Out selection but with twice as many petals per flower. Its double, fluorescent cherry red blossoms will attract attention all summer. And (bonus!) the “carefree” clause means that old flowers do not need to be removed from this blooming machine.

The Double Knock Out Rose is resistant to all the common rose diseases. It grows to about four feet by four feet and claims a zone range of USDA 4-10. This is a beautiful showstopper and a great addition to your dream garden.

For those gardeners in southern areas, there is a new breed of evergreen shrub that will add color to your garden year-round. Each spring Abelia Kaleidoscope lights up with bright yellow and green variegation then its foliage darkens to a deep green with a creamy, golden yellow outer edge. In summer the plant is nearly covered with abundant white flowers. In autumn, the Kaleidoscope explodes with a spectacular, vibrant display of green, yellow, orange and red. Its brilliant red stems and abundant white flowers highlight the display. Throughout the winter, the colors become muted until spring when the cycle begins again.

The Abelia Kaleidoscope will grow five to six feet tall and is hardy to Zone 6. Its colorful magic is best performed in a sunny garden location.

Your dream garden can become reality! These new varieties of plants create spectacular color displays and provide the benefit of low maintenance. With these beautiful new breeds you can sit back this summer, relax, and enjoy the gorgeous garden you have always dreamed of!

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To obtain high resolution photos of Forever & Ever<sup>®</sup> Hydrangeas for your publication, please click [here](#).

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