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Flowering Vines



of the Southeast

by Randy Collins

(May 18, 2015 Lunchbox Lecture Handout)



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THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF SALVIAS !

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Hardy:

Carolina Jasmine (*Gelsemium sempervirens*)

'Margarita' twining, 10-15' tall 4-6' wide; will grow in variety of conditions. Mildly fragrant. Golden yellow flowers bloom from early March to April. The state flower of South Carolina. This cultivar is more restrained and produces larger flowers than the species.

Clematis 'Bourbon' twining, 4-6' tall 5' wide; sun, large 6" reddish to purple flowers with bright purple bars in the center of each petal; makes a good fit for large patio container; minimal pruning after flowering

Clematis 'Rooguchi' twining, 5-6' tall 3' wide; happy in full sun; is one of the best bell-shaped clematis ever introduced. Bred in Japan. This is a cross between *C. integrifolia* x *durandii*. Covered with 2" blue bells from spring until fall.

Clematis (*C. texensis* x) 'Princess Diana' pink, tulip-shaped flowers that come out in full sun in mid-summer; 6-8' in height, will tolerate some shade. A beautiful plant!

Clematis (*C. ternifolia*) 'Sweet Autumn' twining, 15-30' tall and wide; unlike most species of Clematis this one will bloom in shade. Features 1" diameter pure white flowers in terminal panicles in late summer to early fall; very fragrant; extremely rampant growth habit, prune hard in late winter or early spring.

Climbing Hydrangea (*H. anomala*) A clinging and twining plant; slow growing and can reach 40' in ideal environment. Creamy-white inflorescences come out in summer. Prefers moist, well-drained soil in partial sun/shade. With a little patience this vine will present a wonderful display.

Climbing Rose (*Rosa*) 'Stairway to Heaven' Twining, can reach 10-12' tall lateral canes, blooms early with bright red blooms, sun, prune after flowering in fall. Creates a dazzling display of color in early summertime.

Coral Vine (*Antigonon leptopus*) A tuberous-rooted vine that climbs with tendrils growing up to 20'. Flowers can be pink to white in late summer.

Cross Vine (*Bignonia capreolata*) 'Tangerine Beauty' a woody vine that climbs by clingers or branched tendrils with adhesive disks. Very attractive clusters of fragrant, trumpet-shaped, orange-red flowers appear in spring. Foliage evergreen in our area, turns reddish to purple in fall. Reaches 20-30' tall 6-9' wide; sun.

Evergreen Wisteria (*Millettia reticulata*) twining, 20-25' tall 10-15' wide; part shade, fragrant, deep wine to purple, pea-shaped flowers. This plant is somewhat evergreen in Zone 8 and requires minimal pruning.

Honeysuckle (*Lonicera x heckrottii*) 'Gold Flame' twining, 10-15' tall 3-6' wide; wants full sun, very fragrant. Very intense colors of tubular, pink flowers with yellow interiors bloom throughout much of the growing season. Frequently grown on trellises, especially on or near porches or patios where the fragrant bloom can be enjoyed.

Jasmine (*Trachelospermum jasminoides*) 'Madison' twining, 10-12' tall 3-5' wide. In our hot climate this plant is happy in part shade; blooms on old wood from previous year and produces small fragrant white flowers, evergreen with glossy green foliage into the upper teens; sometimes used as ground cover.

Passion Flower (*Passiflora caerulea*) Clingers climb by tendrils that curl around supports, 25-30' tall and wide; part shade, mildly fragrant. The white and purple-blue flowers appear in summer and can be as large as 4" across. *Passiflora* flowers on new growth, prune early spring. This plant is host to the Zebra Longwing and Fritillary Butterfly caterpillars.

Silver Lace (*Fallopia baldschuanica*) a very vigorous, fast-growing, deciduous, twining vine that typically grows 20-25'. Masses of small, fragrant, creamy white flowers in narrow panicles cover the vine in late spring and again in fall; similar to autumn sweet clematis. Will tolerate part shade, prune to 3' late winter.

Skyflower (*Thunbergia grandiflora*) twining, 10-15 tall 5-10' wide; the flowers are sky blue to light violet and leaves are leathery and have a distinctive elongated heart shape. This plant grows fast in our warm climate and can easily cover a trellis or fence in one season. It will tolerate part shade; minimal pruning needed.

Sweet Pea Vine (*Lathyrus latifolius*) 'Red Pearl' clingers, 6-9' tall 3-6' wide; part shade. Showy 1" pinkish red flowers adorn this plant from mid summer until fall. Flowers eventually give way to flattened, pea-like seed pods; prune to ground in fall.

Trumpet Honeysuckle (*Lonicera sempervirens*) 'Major Wheeler' twining, 3-8' tall 2-8' wide and lots of sun. This plant's real asset is its Flower Power. It is covered in red trumpet flowers in late spring and keeps churning them out most of the summer, prune anytime. Hummers love this one.

Trumpet Vine (*Campsis tagliabuana*) 'Hot Lips' 8-10' tall and wide; requires sturdy support, sun. Reddish-orange flowers begin in May and continue much of the summer. The stems are beautiful straw-colored in winter. The bright colored blooms seem to attract our white-tailed friends; so protection may be necessary; prune late winter.

Trumpet creeper (*Campsis radicans*) 'Judy' clings with adhesive rootlets, 25-30' tall 12-15' wide; plant in full sun. While most vines of this genus have orange flowers, this one has yellow flowers with dark throats. Very easy to grow and keep in bounds compared to other trumpets; prune in early spring.

Woolly Pipevine (*Aristolochia tomentosa*) Twining, 20-30' tall 5-10' wide; this native plant is in my garden, not because of its ornamental value, but because it provides food as a host plant for Pipevine Swallowtail caterpillars. As its name suggests, it is covered with short hairs on the undersides of the leaves, flowers, and young stems that give the plant a fuzzy appearance; will tolerate part shade.

Semi-hardy:

Lavender Orchid Vine (*Mascagnia lilacina*) twining, 15-20' tall and wide, prefers full sun. This vine has vibrant green leaves and little lavender, purple blossoms. Prune in late summer when blooming is complete. Hardy to 15-18 degrees.

Scrambling Clock Vine (*Thunbergia battiscombei*) Scrambling, likes some shade; 4-6' high 6-8' spread. The brilliant blue-purple blossoms will catch your eye. Minimal pruning. This plant returned in spring when low temperatures had previously reached 18 degrees; however it did not survive the 2013-14 winter.

Violet Trumpet Vine (*Clytostoma callistegioides*) Climbs by clingers, 15-25' high 10-15' wide; part shade. The trumpet flowers are pale lavender and detailed with dark violet and purple

streaks. It has a habit of clambering over adjacent foliage, fences and structures using tendrils to hang on; prune in late winter.

Annuals:

Bleeding Heart Vine (*Clerodendrum thomsoniae*) twining, 12-15' tall, morning sun and afternoon shade for best flowering. Also known as the glory bower. These flowers die almost as soon as they flower, making it one of the quickest flowers to complete their entire bloom cycle. Leaves are dark green with rich clusters of red and white bloom.

Cypress (Cardinal) Vine (*Ipomoea quamoclit*) twining, 6-10' tall 3-6' wide; more sun the better. This is very thin-stemmed and somewhat fragile and needs support structure upon which to grow. Scarlet red flowers bloom early summer to fall. This plant almost always comes back from reseeding.

Hyacinth Bean (*Dolichos lablab*) twining, 10-15' high 5-10' wide; prefers sun. The flowers are bright purple and arranged in loose clusters on long stems that extend above the foliage. The pods are just as showy as the flowers. This vine is very aggressive and needs room and support to flourish.

Mexican Flame (*Senecio confusus*) twining, 8-10' tall 10-15' spread; likes full sun. The bright orange blossoms are borne in small clusters. As they age the flowers change from orange to almost red. The roots will tolerate mid-twenty temperatures. One of my favorites!

Morning Glory (*Ipomoea tricolor*) twining, 10-15' high 3-6' wide. Full sun preferred for the most prolific flowering. Showy trumpet shaped flowers ranging from light blue to dark purple adorn this plant. It generally comes back from reseeding. Mine often uses other sturdy perennials for support.

Purple Wings (*Dalechampia dioscoreifolia*) twining, 10-12' tall 3-5' wide. This is one of my favorite plants as it draws so much attention to itself. When in full bloom, several purple to lavender flowers appear along the tendril-less vine. The flowers are actually modified leaves themselves. It will tolerate some shade but does best in full sun.

Resources

Local Nurseries

Online Nurseries:

lazysfarm.com
brushwoodnursery.com
georgiavines.com

Books:

Choosing Your Clematis
Age's Vines & Climbers
by John Howell
Allan Armitage
Published by Garden Art Press
Timber Press, 2010

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Perennials:

Silver Sage (*S. argentea*) 1-2' tall 3' wide, part sun/shade, minimum moisture once established; will survive our winters, but short-lived.

Buchanan's Sage (*S. buchananii*) also called Buchanan fuchsia sage; herbaceous grows 1-2' in height and 1' across. Glossy, rich green foliage with hairy, magenta flowers. Top dress with compost in Spring and deep watering weekly. May be an annual in our area.

Blue Vine Sage (*S. californica*) 18-24" tall and wide; this perennial prefers some shade and protection from the wind; has delightful gentian-blue flowers until fall. Hardy to about 20 degrees protect the crown with mulch

Canary Island Sage (*S. canariensis*) 5-6' tall x 4' wide - Flowers are a dusky mauve in color,

soft fuzzy foliage; cut main stem down to 1' in late Feb; full sun, water every two-three weeks. Will tolerate down to about 15 degrees.

Blue Oak Sage (Germander) (*S. chamaedryoides*) reaches 2' in height in bloom; spreads freely from underground root stock; Small true-blue flowers in summer. Water weekly; Hardy in Zone 8. Easily propagate by cuttings and div.

Meadow Sage (*S. chiapensis*) Offers magenta-pink tubular flowers above glossy foliage; 2-3' tall x 3-4' wide. This plant thrives in shade; possibly some morning sun is satisfactory; weekly watering; Zone 8-10.

Galeana Sage (*S. decaryi*) Reaches 2' high, herbaceous, pastel green leaves cover the plant in summer time. 1-2" coral-red flowers in whorls occur until cool nights. Thought to tolerate 15 degrees.

'Silke's Dream' (*S. decaryi x microphylla*) Dark orange-red flowers bloom by July. 2' x 3' Hardy to Zone 7.

Pineapple Sage (*S. elegans*) Dr. Armitage calls this carrot-cake sage. One of the last to bloom during the late summer. When mature the plant reaches 4-5' tall. Creates a large clump of scarlet-red flowers. Not happy when temps go below 30 degrees.

'Indigo Spires' (*S. farinacea x longispicata*) One of the longest flowering sages. A very reliable perennial, great for butterflies. 4' high x 3' wide, blue flowers; Easy propagation by dividing or cuttings. Support is helpful.

'Texas Violet' (*S. farinacea x 'indigo spires'*) Herbaceous perennial hardy down to 0 degrees. Blue and White flowers are fragrant. 3-4' x 1-2'; drought tolerant once established. Likes full sun. Will reseed if not deadheaded.

'Henry Duelberg' (*S. farinacea x 'indigo spires'*) Also called Mealy Cup Sage. A compact 30" tall x 3' wide specimen. Blooms from May until frost with hundreds of spikes of silvery-blue/white flowers. Hardy here.

Indigo Woodland Sage (*S. forskohiei*) Beautiful hardy thriving in part shade. Makes whorls of showy, violet-blue flowers on long stems with white streaks on lower lip. Dark, green, thick foliage makes large basal clump. About 40" tall.

Autumn Sage (*S. greggii*) Most commonly available of the woody Salvias. Small deciduous shrub growing 2-3' tall. Flower colors can be red, pink, purple, white Hardy in Zone 7-10. Species offers several cultivars.

Desert Blaze 'Variegata' (*S. greggii*) One of my favorites! White edged leaves with bright, red flowers. 2' tall x 3' wide. Swallowtails and hummingbirds love this plant. Hardy in 7-10 same as the species).

'Furman's Red' (*S. greggii*) Has very upright growth habit and very aromatic. Semi-ever-green shrub at maturity will reach 3' tall x 3' wide clump. Blooms most of the summer with beautiful red flowers; will tolerate some shade.

'Stampede Lavender' (*S. greggii*) One of my older plants. Grows about 3' tall by 3' wide; produces beautiful pink-lavender flowers in early summer. Very drought tolerant once established. Prune mine to 12" every 2-3 years in winter.

Brazilian Anise Sage (*S. Guarantica*) Deciduous herbaceous species that prefers full sun and rich moist soil. Will tolerate some shade in afternoons. Grows by spreading underground rhizomes. Topped with cobalt-blue flowers. 30" tall - a hummer favorite!

'Betsey's Choice' (*S. guarantica x cardinalis*) deep, purple flowers bloom all summer. Likes partial shade, very drought tolerant after establishing. Deep watering on occasion is helpful. 4' tall with a 5' spread at maturity. Only found available at Vincent Gardens. Cut back by 1/3 after blooming for additional flowering.

'Purple Majesty' (*S. guarantica x gesneriflora*) Deep, violet and purple flowers. Grow in full sun to partial shade in afternoons. 3-4' x 3'. Hardy in Zones 7-10.

'Amistad' (*S. guarantica x S. gesneriflora?*) means Friendship Sage. This is a semi-shrubby perennial with fast growth to 4' tall by at least as wide. Large rich, royal purple flowers emerge from near black dark bracts. Best grown in full sun. Literature says it is root hardy to about 18 degrees.

'Golden Girl' (*S. jamensis, which is cross between S. greggi x S. microphylla*). There are a

number of good hybrids between these two woody species with a wide range of hardiness in this group. One of a few yellow Salvias. Will reach 3' or less in height. Deep, weekly watering is helpful.

Japanese Yellow Sage (*S. koyamae*) Can become a loose groundcover if allowed to scramble. About 1' in height with whorls of pale yellow flowers which are not spectacular. The heart-shaped leaves are luscious-looking.

False Salvia (*Lepechinia hastata*) also called Pitcher Sage; like Salvia this genera is from the mint family. Features large, silvery, aromatic leaves with flowers that are rich, burgundy and maroon in color. My plant grew to 4' tall in one season. Literature says hardy to 0 degrees.

Mexican Bush Sage (*S. leucantha*) About 40" tall with purple and white flowers. So prized that it was grown as an annual in Indiana. Hardy down to Zone 7. Promote flowering by removing inflorescences as flowers fade.

'Waverly' (*S. leucantha x*) name is disputed among taxonomists. Presents a white bloom with pink-purple markings. 4' tall x 3-4' spread in full sun. Hardy to Zone 7 with winter mulching. One of only a few white Salvias available.

'Phyllis Fancy' (*S. leucantha x possibly chiapensis*) More hardy than 'Waverly'. Blooms in late summer until frost. 1" long wand-like flower spikes with soft, fuzzy lavender white flowers. The calyx and stem are lavender-like. Grows to about 4' x 3-4'.

'Anthony Parker' (*S. leucantha 'Midnight' x elegans*) 3' tall by 2' wide. Late summer bloom of whorls of dark purple flowers held in purplish calyces. Hardy to about 10 degrees. Doesn't have the fragrance of it's parent, Pineapple Sage.

Purple Sage (*S. leucophylla*) Native to California but grows well here. A very drought tolerant plant once established. It can reach 5-6' in height at maturity. Leaves are light green and fade to a lighter shade as the weather gets hotter. The flowers are light purple and the foliage is fragrant. Mine wintered here.

Silver Leaf Sage (*Leucophyllum frutescens*) A beautiful flowering evergreen shrub with arching branches and woolly, grey leaves. While this is not a Salvia, it does have similarities to other sages. Flowers are purple/lavender. This plant is hardy in Zone 7 and above. Full sun.

'Red Neck Girl' (*S. madrensis*) also called Forsythia Sage. My clump reached 7' in height at maturity. Bright redish, purple square stems with yellow flowers that bloom in late summer. Spreads by underground rhizomes. Needs support and hardy to 10-15 degrees.

'Grape Scented Sage' (*S. melissodora*) wonderful grape-scented light blue flowers and has an abundance of nectar for the swallowtails. A woody shrub that will grow to 5' in height and 3-4' wide. Full sun and watering every two weeks is best. Hardy down to about 20 degrees. Literature says it will reseed.

'La Placita' (*S. mexicana*) Spectacular with large 2" leaves and large, dark purple flowers on a long 18" spike with dark green foliage in a nice erect habit. 5-6' tall with a spread of 5'. This plant requires support and space as it matures. Full to partial sun and hardy in Zone 8 with winter mulching.

'Maraschino' Cherry Sage (*S. microphylla* and *S. greggii* 'Furman's Red') forms a 30" tall clump, topped with bright velvet red flowers. *S. microphylla* is another woody species larger in size than *S. greggii*. Hardiness Zone 6-10.

'San Carlos Festival' (*S. microphylla* x) About 2' tall by 3' wide; similar but a little shorter than 'Maraschino'. Very nice magenta-pink flowers in mid-summer. Hardy in Zones 7-9; weekly watering is necessary. Propagation by cuttings is easily done.

'Hot Lips' (*S. microphylla* x) a fast-growing 2-3' tall x 5' wide clump is adorned with bi-color flowers with red tips and white lips. It first blooms in all red, than bi-color. When nights become warm, new flowers are mostly white with a few solid red ones. Likes full sun and hardy down to Zone 7.

'Wild Watermelon' (*S. microphylla*) can get up to 4' tall and as wide. The bloom is normally a light to dark pink. It likes much sun and is hardy in Zones 8-11. Every two to three years this plant can be divided very easily.

'Caradonna' (*S. nemorosa*) Caradonna Sage is one of the most tolerant of our hot humid climate. This 12" tall x 18" wide clump displays deep violet-blue flowers held on 2' tall spikes of

unusually dark stems. Easily divided in the fall. Hardy in Zones 4-8. My plants are happy in morning shade and afternoon sun.

'Fuzzy Bolivian Sage' (*S. oxyphora*) This 3' x 3' perennial offers glossy, black-green, heavily corrugated leaves with 3' tall stalks that are topped with clusters of hairy, pink to cherry-red flowers. A slow starter in Spring but gets going with warm weather. Hardy down to Zone 7 with mulching.

'Rose Leaf Sage' (*S. involucrata*) is often referred to as "tarantula sage." it is covered with soft hairs on the leaves stems and even parts of the bloom. The flower is bright magenta and gets to 3-5' tall by 3' wide. It is hardy to about 20 degrees. Mine did make it through this past winter surprisingly.

'El Butano' Mexican Sage (*S. puberula* x) Nice green leaves adorn this 4' tall upright plant topped with a large flower head of deep magenta pink. Mine is planted in front of satellite dish and makes a nice shield to hide the dish. Hardy down to about 25 degrees.

'Lavender Lace Sage' (*S. purpurea*) This herbaceous perennial is rarely seen in nurseries and on websites. A striking plant because of the flowers - they are tubular, and lavender-violet in color. Leaves have serrated edges. My one-year old plant reached 3 1/2' last summer and began blooming in August. As with many of my salvias I wait until late winter and early Spring to cut back hard the stems.

'Jame' Mountain Sage (*S. regla* x) This 5' tall deciduous, woody-stemmed shrub bears bright scarlet orange blooms in late summer. A must for the fall garden. Plant tends to bend to the ground with weight of its flowers and foliage. Support is helpful. Hardy to about 15 degrees.

'Blue Cloud' (*S. transylvanica*) 18" x 18" at maturity; if happy may get to 3' in height. Basal rosettes of coarsely-textured green leaves with branching stalks bearing lavender-blue flowers held well above the leaves. Blooms in early summer and with deadheading will encourage flushes of more bloom.

'Bog Sage' (*S. uliginosa*) This plant will grow to nearly 5' and spreads by under-ground stolons; it has an open and airy habit with light blue flowers that sway in the wind. Likes moist soil but will grow in dryer conditions. Zones 6-10.

Nettle-Leaf Sage (*S. urticifolia*) Not grown in many gardens, does not have large flowers. Matures at about 12" high x 24" wide and grows in dry conditions. It produces several flowering spikes with dark blue flowers. Doesn't seem to reseed. Hardy in Zones 5-9.

Annuals:

'Lady in Red' (*S. splendens*) An annual that dies at 30 degrees. Often seen in mass plantings in public gardens and shopping malls. All have red flowers. 12-18" tall and likes full sun and some moisture.

'Vanhouttei' Burgundy Form (*S. splendens* x) The deep burgundy color contrasts nicely with the light green foliage. An annual in Zone 8 that doesn't winter here generally. Very similar to *S. splendens* but taller ' 4' x 4'. Does well in partly shaded areas of the garden. Likes humus rich soil to thrive.

'Dancing Flame' (*S. splendens* x '*Vanhouttei*') Golden variegated leaves in late summer and early fall with the stunning bright red flowers make a wonderful display. This plant looks great in mixed containers also. 3' tall x 2' wide; full sun in morning and afternoon shade is best.

'Wendy's Wish' (*S. buchananii* x *splendens*) Magenta-pink flowers, 3-4' fall by 3' wide; full sun, water weekly, drought tolerant, fast grower, an annual in our area that is spectacular!



Resources

Online Nurseries:

Plant Delights Nursery
9241 Sauls Road
Raleigh, NC 27603
plantdelights.com

Lazy S'S Farm Nursery
2360 Spotswood Trail
Barboursville, VA 22923
lazysfarm.com

World of Salvias (for serious collectors)
Richard Dufresne
2119 US 220 Alternate South
Candor, NC 27229
salvia@embarqmail.com

Books:

The New Book of Salvias - Sages for Every Garden
Betsy Clebsch, Timber Press, 2003

Herbaceous Perennial Plants, 2nd Edition
Dr. Allan Armitage, Stipes Publishing, 1989

The Plant Lover's Guide to Salvias
John Whittlesey, Timber Press, 1999

