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## Farwest 2022 Retailers' Choice Awards™

**What's New at Farwest 2022!** We had a super group of Garden Retailers as judges for Farwest 2022 this year, all helping to find great products to present the Retailers' Choice Awards. We awarded 10 companies awards for 12 "amazing plants and products." Even if you were not at Farwest or you were not able to be a part of this process, you can still benefit from the details here. THANK YOU Judges for all your efforts!

Here's a quick review and links for more details on products awarded:  
(Listed by company in alpha order)

***Little Hottie® Panicle Hydrangea (Hydrangea paniculata 'Bailpanone' PP32549***

**Bailey Nurseries**

Ryan McEnaney  
1325 Bailey Road, St. Paul MN 55119  
Tel: 651-768-3412  
www.baileynursery.com  
[ryan.mcenaney@baileynursery.com](mailto:ryan.mcenaney@baileynursery.com)

*Our judges said this will be one of the best-selling Hydrangeas in coming seasons. A compact hydrangea with great branching, deep green leaves, and late summer flowers that are initially green and open to a creamy white, which are held up on sturdy stems.*

Info: <https://firsteditionsplants.com/product/little-hottiepanicle-hydrangea/>





***Shadow Magic Crapemyrtle (Lagerstroemia 'Bailagtwo' PPAF)***

**Bailey Nurseries**

**Ryan McEnaney**

**1325 Bailey Road, St. Paul MN 55119**

**Tel: 651-768-3412**

**www.baileynursery.com**

**ryan.mcenaney@baileynursery.com**

A crapemyrtle with dark rosy blooms and dark purple leaves, offering disease resistance and compact size (7–9 feet tall and 5–7 feet wide).

Info: <https://shop.baileynurseries.com/Product/Detail/13811>

***Goldblitz Rudibeckia (Rudbeckia fulgida var. sullivantii 'Goldblitz') —***

**Ball Seed**

Sarah Makiejus, Global Marketing Manager - Pan American Seed

622 Town Road

West Chicago IL 60185

Tel: 630-352-4607

www.ballseed.com

smakiejus@panamseed.com



*A strong, low-maintenance variety for borders and landscapes, featuring tight foliage with shiny, dark green leaves that hold back weeds and flower abundantly from summer well into fall. Golden yellow horizontal petals contrast nicely with the black center disc.*

Info: <https://www.ballseed.com/PlantInfo/?phid=053800604046271>.



Danny Summers, Managing Director  
PO Box 801494, Acworth, GA 30101  
Tel: 678-909-7770 • Fax: 678-909-7771  
danny@thegardencentergroup.com

***Nightfall™ Snowbell (Styrax japonicus ‘JFS 6SJ’ PPAF )***

**J. Frank Schmidt & Son Co.**

Nancy Buley  
PO Box 189, Boring, OR 97009  
Tel: 503-663-4128  
www.jfschmidt.com  
nancyb@jfschmidt.com

*Nightfall Snowbell was chosen by the Retailers’ Choice Awards Judges but also as the Best in Show winner during the 2022 Farwest Show’s New Varieties Showcase. The plant, bred by Keith Warren and introduced by J. Frank Schmidt & Son Co. Nightfall Snowbell combines the deep purple foliage of Evening Light Snowbell with the gratefully weeping form of green-leafed cultivars such as Fragrant Fountain. It features purple emerging leaves with green undertones, which contrast with pearly white flower buds in spring. They open to reveal creamy white, bell-shaped blooms. The leaves darken as the season continues.*



***Wood Tag™ and Bamboo Plant Stakes  
Hip Labels***

Bob Lovejoy  
P. O. Box 10826, Greensboro NC 27404  
Tel: 336-472-0674  
www.hiplabels.com  
bob.lovejoy@hiplabels.com

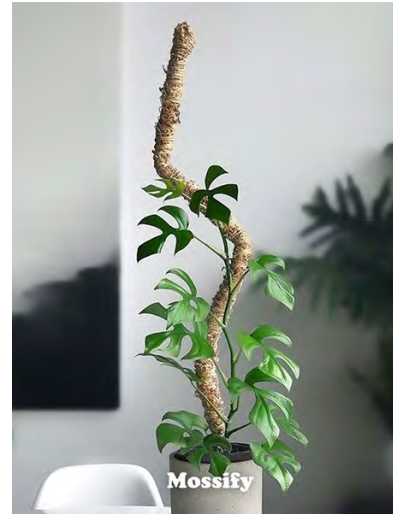
*Our judges were thinking... Move-Over Plastic! This eco-friendly tag breakthrough offers a smaller carbon footprint than plastic tags, and it is fully recyclable! It has a water-based, solvent-free coating for water resistance. To compliment this new Wood Tag, Hip Labels offers a bamboo tag holder in three sizes. Info: <http://hiplabels.com/wood-tag/>*

### ***Bendable Plant Poles, Trellis and Mistr***

#### **Mossify**

Lucas Picciolo  
351 Ferrier St Unit 2, Markham, ON L3R 5Z2, Canada  
Tel: 647-991-7897  
www.mossify.ca  
luca@mossify.ca

*Mossify was quite busy for their first appearance at Farwest 2022 as they introduced their new bendable coir and moss plant poles that are completely bendable. Available in two thickness (diameter) with one with smaller coir covering and the other larger with moss, each available in 3 sizes. During the presentation, Lucas said, "with Mossify poles it puts creativity in the hands of the plant owner." During the presentation Lucas also shared details on their new wooden trellis as well as their cordless plant mister (Mossify Mistr).*



#### ***Weigela Midnight Sun (Weigela florida 'Verweig9' PPAF, Can PBRAF)***

##### **Proven Winners**

Jessica DeGraaf  
111 E. Elm Street, Suite D, Sycamore IL 60178  
Tel: 616-706-7970  
www.provenwinners.com  
jessica@provenwinners.com

*A neat and tidy bun-shaped weigela with glossy, blazing orange and red summer-autumn foliage, it works well at the front of borders. It bears pink flowers in spring, however, this plant's form and colorful summer through autumn foliage are its standout element.*

Info: <https://www.provenwinners.com/plants/weigela/midnight-sun-reblooming-weigela-weigela-florida>.



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***Bushel and Berry® Scarlet Belle™ Strawberry  
(Fragaria × ananassa 'Ruby Ann')***

**Sester Farms**

**Kirsten Jacobson-Croak**

33205 SE Oxbow Dr, Gresham, OR 97080

Tel: 800-832-4487

www.sesterfarms.com

sales@sesterfarms.com

*This addition by Bushel & Berry® is an ornamental and edible strawberry plant is beautiful and delicious. Remember typical strawberry blooms are white with yellow center? Scarlet Belle has unique scarlet red blooms with yellow centers produce berries all season long, and is ideal for patio pots, hanging baskets or garden beds. Info: <https://www.bushelandberry.com/scarlet-belle>.*



***Glowing Hearts™ Pieris (Pieris japonica 'Piesid2')***

**Sidhu & Sons Nursery**

**Jas Ghuman**

9623 Sylvester Rd, Mission, BC V2V 7K6 Canada

Tel: 604-826-3537

www.sidhunursery.com

info@sidhunursery.com

*WOW, what color is what caught the eyes of our judges here. This glossy Pieris shrub has glossy evergreen foliage that emerges in strikingly brilliant, glowing scarlet hues.*

*Info: <https://www.sidhunursery.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/GLOWING-HEARTS-FLYER.pdf>.*



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**Velveteeny™ Smokebush (*Cotinus coggygria* 'Cotsidh5' PPAF)**  
**Sidhu & Sons Co.**

**Jas Ghuman**

9623 Sylvester Rd, Mission, BC V2V 7K6 Canada

Tel: 604-826-3537

www.sidhunursery.com

info@sidhunursery.com

*This smokebush has silky smooth, deep burgundy foliage with large, feathery plumes of dove gray to pink blooms, and a compact form, maturing at 4 feet.*

*Info: <https://www.briggsnursery.com/plant/cotinus-coggygria-usppaf-cpbraf-velveteeny/>.*



**Fanfare Showtime Gaillardia (*Gaillardia* × *grandiflora* 'Fanfare Showtime' PP33438)**

**Walla Walla Nursery Co.**

**Jo Anne Simons**

4176 Stateline Rd, Walla Walla, WA 99362

Tel: 509-522-9855

www.wallawallanursery.com

joanne@wwnc.net

*If you have trusted Fanfare then you will love this new offspring with more color! This gaillardia has the same pinwheel flowers you know and love but now in bold fire tones, with a compact mounding habit of 21 inches tall by 16 inches wide. It goes well in containers, beds and borders.*

*Info: <https://planthaven.com/plant/gaillardia-fanfare-showtime/>.*

***Leprechaun Arborvitae (Thuja standishii × plicata ‘Leprechaun’ PP33840)***

**Woodburn Nursery and Azaleas Inc.**

**Ken McVicker**

13009 McKee School Rd NE, Woodburn, OR 97071

Tel: 503-634-2232

www.woodburnnursery.com

kenm@woodburnnursery.com

*A compact selection of T. ‘Green Giant’, hardy to Zone 4, holds excellent green color through the winter. It was discovered by Frank Kogut, Kogut Nursery, in Connecticut, and matures at 10–12 feet.*



Info: <https://www.oan.org/resource/resmgr/gr22/ThujaLeprechaunTecSheet.pdf>.

So, that’s the Retailers’ Choice Awards™ for Farwest 2022. It was 12 awarded products by 10 companies and there were many more deserving products on the show floor, all waiting to be discovered. If you are a retail, be sure to watch for the opportunity to be part of this fun and rewarding search next year at Farwest 2023!

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**Summary:**

A special thank you to all retailers participating in the Retailers’ Choice Awards™ selection process. The awards at Farwest 2022 was a joint presentation by Farwest Show and The Garden Center Group.

The Garden Center Group focuses on business solutions designed to help garden centers increase sales, improve operations and retain more profit. With a support team of leading industry professionals offering business management, financial, marketing, HR services and more. The Group offers retailers innovative resources to maximize their potential to succeed.

For information about The Garden Center Group and the services it provides visit <http://www.thegardencentergroup.com> or call Danny Summers at 678-909-7770.

For more information about the Farwest Show visit: <http://www.farwestshow.com/> or call Farwest at 503-682-5089.