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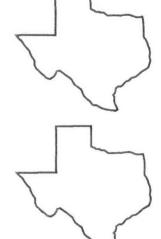




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## Overton Field Day Report - 1994



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## PANSY PACK AND GARDEN TRIALS FOR EAST TEXAS: FALL 1993

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**Background.** As part of an ongoing project initiated in the spring of 1993 to evaluate bedding plant adaptation to East Texas production systems and climatic conditions, a greenhouse performance and garden trial was started in September 1993 using pansy (*Viola x wittrockiana*), a popular winter blooming annual. Greenhouse data gathered from these pack and garden trials provide producers in the 50 million dollar East Texas bedding plant industry with information on varieties best adapted to area production practices. Consumers of bedding plants will gain garden performance information on varieties grown under local climate.

Current Information. Four seed companies entered 42 varieties to be trialed (see Table 1). Seed were sown on September 1, 1993 in "406" plug flats and finished in "Jumbo" six-pack cells to simulate commercial practices. Greenhouse evaluation included number of days to first flower, average flower diameter, and average pack height. Garden evaluation began on 5 November 1993. Monthly data on flower number, uniformity vigor, and survival were gathered.

**Recommendation.** The pack trial garden evaluation area will be available for view on field day. Evaluations of both pack and garden trials will be available.

**Acknowledgement.** Companies that participated in the fall 1993 pansy pack trials were: American Takii, Inc., Bodger Seed Company, Pan American Seed Company, and Sakata, Inc. The authors also would like to thank Powell Plant Farm and Dr. Harvey Lang for their support of the pack trials.

Table 1. Varieties in the Fall 1993 Pansy Pack and Garden Evaluation Trial for East Texas.

Rally Series Crystal Bowl Series: Viola Jewell Series: Deep Blue with Blotch Primrose Blue Light Blue with Blotch Mix Purple Lilac Cap White Orange Yellow Orange with Blotch Pure White Ultima Series: Imperial Series: Pink Shades True Blue Frosty Rose White with Blotch Silver Blue Yellow Purple and White Mix Gold Princess Beacon Antique Shades Majestic Giant Series: Beacon Series: Happy Face Series: Mix Blue Bicolor Red Purple Rose White Yellow Mix Regal Series Crown Series: Bingo Series: Mix Mix Light Rose with Blotch Red and Yellow Yellow with Blotch Yellow Mix Silhouette Series: Maxim Series:

Mix

Bronze Marina