April 2015

Growing Wedding Flowers
by Beth Benjamin, Horticultural Advisor

I get many letters from excited gardeners asking about what flowers to grow for get-weddings and how to plan the seed sowing and growing process. Having done this myself and had the pleasure of walking my daughter down a garden path flanked by glorious tall, branching sunflowers, I know the appeal of growing your own wedding flowers, filled with your own personal love and joy for that special day. Read More...

More useful links:

Flowers for Bouquets
Buy Special Wedding Seeds

April in the Trial Garden
by Lindsay Del Carlo, Trial Garden Manager

April here on the central coast of California has greeted us with some rain at last, and the spring plants are loving it. The pea variety trial seemed to burst to life with the cool dampness. We are growing several interesting varieties this spring: Snap Pea ‘Sugar Magnolia’ has Vigorous vines with purple flowers and purple, 3-4 inch snap pods with fine flavor. ‘Golden Sweet’ Snow Pea is one of only a handful of yellow podded pea varieties. The plants will reach 6’ tall and are loaded with beautiful bi-colored purple flowers and then bright yellow pods. The pods are great tasting pods raw, quickly steamed or used for stirfry.

This week in the trial garden, we are going to be hosting a location photo shoot for Garden Gate Magazine. They contacted us a few months ago and we have grown some spring crops especially for them, including this handsome bed of 
Green Fortune Pak Choi and Farmer’s Market Lettuce, Sweet Greens and Reds. Both are now fully mature and should be really photogenic. Plus, after taking the pictures we will make them into lunch for the visiting crew from the magazine!

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