

## Plantpeddler Poinsettia Variety Day 2017 Results

Plantpeddler, located in Cresco, Iowa, conducted a trial of over 120 commercial and pre-release Poinsettia varieties. Variety Day was hosted the week of Dec. 4 with representatives of all major breeders from Europe to Asia, broker representatives, and growers in attendance. The trial was produced under natural season commercial production protocol. Mike Gooder, president of Plantpeddler said “It’s important to do a Poinsettia production trial as a way for the industry and our growers to see how varieties perform in real world greenhouse conditions.”

Genetics represented were submitted by Beekenkamp, Dummen Orange - Ecke and Red Fox, Rinehart Poinsettias, Selecta, Suntory, Syngenta, and Vivero. Plantpeddler is licensed by all the represented breeders and prides itself on being a one-stop shop for premier Poinsettia liners. “We have a real commitment to trialing as part of our leadership position in Poinsettias, and this represents the leading northern USA trial,” said Mike as to why Plantpeddler conducts their Poinsettia trial.

The trial was in peak condition for the evaluation, but did face weather challenges during production including extremely warm temperatures from mid-September through initiation, followed by 22 of 25 days with no sun during bract development in late October to mid-November. As a true production trial, the tested varieties were grown within a block of benchmark commercial varieties with the same treatments and environmental conditions.

Trial attendees voted using a three flag system for “Best Red Variety” and “Best Non Red Variety” with a 3, 2, 1 point scoring. The results are as follows:

### Red Variety Top 10

Rank	Variety	Breeder	Color
1	Astro	Beekenkamp	Red
2	Ferrara	DO – Red Fox	Red
3	Robyn	Beekenkamp	Red
4	SK 153 NEW Christmas Magic Red	Selecta	Red
5	Aries	Beekenkamp	Red
6	Mirage Red	Syngenta	Red
7	Christmas Aurora	Selecta	Red
8	Noel Red	Selecta	Red
9	Bravo Bright Red	DO – Red Fox	Red
10	Lyra Red	Syngenta	Red

### Non-Red Variety Top 10

Rank	Variety	Breeder	Color
1	Envy	DO – Ecke	Green
2	Princettia Queen Pink	Suntory	Hot Pink
3	Christmas Beauty Marble	Selecta	Marble
4	Princettia Pure White	Suntory	White
5	Viking Cinnamon	DO – Red Fox	Novelty
6	Premium Ice Crystals	DO – Red Fox	Novelty

7	Christmas Party	Selecta	Pink
8	Sparkling Punch	DO – Ecke	Novelty
9	619 White	Rinehart Poinsettias	White
10	White Wonder	DO – Red Fox	White

Plantpeddler's Top Red Picks:

Size	Variety	Breeder	Color
4.5"-8"	Astro	Beekenkamp	Red
4.5"-6.5"	Christmas Magic Red	Selecta	Red
4.5"-8"	Mirage Red	Syngenta	Red
4.5"-8"	Aries	Beekenkamp	Red
4.5"- 8"	Christmas Beauty Aurora	Selecta	Red
8"-10"	Grande Italia	DO Red Fox	Red
8"-10"	Leona	Beekenkamp	Red

Plantpeddler's Top Non-Red Picks:

Size	Variety	Breeder	Color
4.5"-6.5"	Solar Pink	Beekenkamp	Pink
4.5"-8"	Princettia Queen Pink	Suntory	Pink
4.5"-10"	Enduring Pink	DO Ecke	Pink
4.5"-6.5"	Christmas Beauty Queen	Selecta	Novelty
4.5"-6.5"	Christmas Beauty Marble	Selecta	Marble
4.5"-10"	Whitestar	Syngenta	White
6.5"-10"	Polar Bear	DO Ecke	White

Plantpeddler extends a sincere thank-you to all the breeders for help making this trial possible. Mark your calendars now for next year's Plantpeddler Poinsettia Variety Day trial event on Thursday, December 6, 2018. Please make plans to attend.