Streptanthus albidus - New Crop Summary & Recommendations

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New Crop Report

Background Essentials.

Taxonomy.

Streptanthus albidus spp.peramoenus is a member of the Brassicacea family. It is a dicot that has as yet been labeled as annual or perennial. Its common name is the uncommon jewelflower.

Geographic Distribution.

This plant is native to the U.S. and is only found in the southern protions of California. It is typically found between 500 to 2500 feet altitude. Streptanthus likes dry soils, warm temps and little rain.
It has not shown invasive tendencies or willingness to spread beyond its known habitats. It prefers serpentine soils with a low Ca:Mg ratio

Taxonomic Description.

- Overall Plant Habit/Description: In the wild, this [lant is very upright and strong with a woody stem on mature portions of the plant. Grown in the green house however, it will not gain that upright nature and tends to sprawl uncontrollably and has to be staked. It is a dicot that produces a very healthy root system with no evidence of any underground storage organs. Streptanthus produces long linear leaves that appear to be almost succulent. It will typically bloom in april to

Name and Description of Cultivars on the Market.

Uncommon jewel flower

Propagation Method(s).

The few plants available on the market are all grown from seed. Ten days of incubation at 4 degrees C will grant approximately 95 % germination. Then transplant to 4 inch pots after 2 weeks. Most plants will begin flowering after 2 months. Fruiting of streptanthus has yet to be achieved in a greenhouse. Accurate counts of seeds per flower are unavailable

Market Niche—Identification & Justification.

Cut flowers and indoor potted plants are about the only current possibilities for this plant due to its lack of winter hardiness. It is not widely known at this time but could be a significant challenger to almost all flowers showing this form of inflourescence if the winter hardiness could be overcome and the lack of success in growing it in the upright form in captivity. All germination testing done as of this point has failed miserably to even achieve fruit production. Trials will need to be done that more closely match the native habitat of streptanthus =albidus than those that have currently been done. This product will not be ready for market until these problems are addressed.

Works Cited

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