

Three New Garden Mums for 1988



Lemonsota



Grape Glow



Burnt Copper

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—Photos by Dave Hansen

Scientists from the University of Minnesota's Department of Horticultural Science and Landscape Architecture have developed a trio of striking chrysanthemums—Burnt Copper, Grape Glow, and Lemonsota. They are the 67th, 68th, and 69th garden chrysanthemums to be released by the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station.

Burnt Copper (81-212-33) is distinctive for its showy display of orange-bronze, fully double, pompon flowers on plants 20 inches high and 16 inches wide. The 3-inch flowers fade gradually to an orange tone. Flowering begins in early September in the St. Paul-Minneapolis area. Plants are stiffly upright with clean, dark green foliage. Burnt Copper's parents are Revere and Autumn Fire.

Burnt Copper is adaptable to greenhouse pot culture for spring-flowering plants in natural or short days, and benefits from the application of a growth regulator. Although spring flower color is less intense than the fall color of plants grown outdoors, it is still attractive. Greenhouse plants grown under natural day length conditions flower in early May.

Grape Glow (82-A30-13) radiates with 3-1/2- to 3-3/4-inch, bright rosy-purple decorative flowers whose flat petals have silvery undersides. The stocky plants are 13 to 15 inches tall with a spread of 20 inches. Foliage is a clean, medium green. Flowering in the Twin Cities begins the first week of September and requires several weeks to reach a peak. Parents of Grape Glow are Midnight Cushion and University of Minnesota selection 77-95-30.

Grape Glow produces a good-quality, spring-flowering pot plant in the greenhouse.

Flowering occurs in mid-May under natural-day lengths and a week later under a short-day treatment. The flowers of greenhouse-grown plants are as large or larger than those of outdoor plants. Grape Glow plants tend to be tall in pots and growth regulator treatment is recommended.

Lemonsota (82-147-22) is covered with 1-inch, lemon yellow, pompon flowers with darker centers and delicately fringed petals. The cushion-type plants average 12 inches high and 24 inches wide, and are clothed in dark green foliage. Flowering normally begins in the St. Paul-Minneapolis area the first half of September. Lemonsota's parents are Chiquita's Rival and Spartan.

Lemonsota is well adapted to spring greenhouse production in pots, flowering at the same time as Grape Glow. Growth regulator treatment is recommended for the prolifically blooming plants.

The suffix "sota" in the name of a cultivar designates the University of Minnesota's new series of chrysanthemums with small pompon flowers on plants with a mound-type habit of growth. A previous series with the prefix "Minn" in the name designated the popular cultivars (10 so far) with a cushion type of plant habit.

Original stock of Burnt Copper, Grape Glow, and Lemonsota were graft indexed to determine that they were free of chrysanthemum stunt disease.

Cultural information can be found in an extension fact sheet, *Garden Chrysanthemums* (item no. AG-FS-1121), which is available from any county extension office in Minnesota.