THE CUT FLOWER GARDEN

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"I MUST HAVE FLOWERS, ALWAYS, AND ALWAYS."
~CLAUDE MONET

Keys To Success

Cut Flower Types

Types of Producers

Four Seasons

Harvest Tips

Resources

KEYS TO SUCCESS
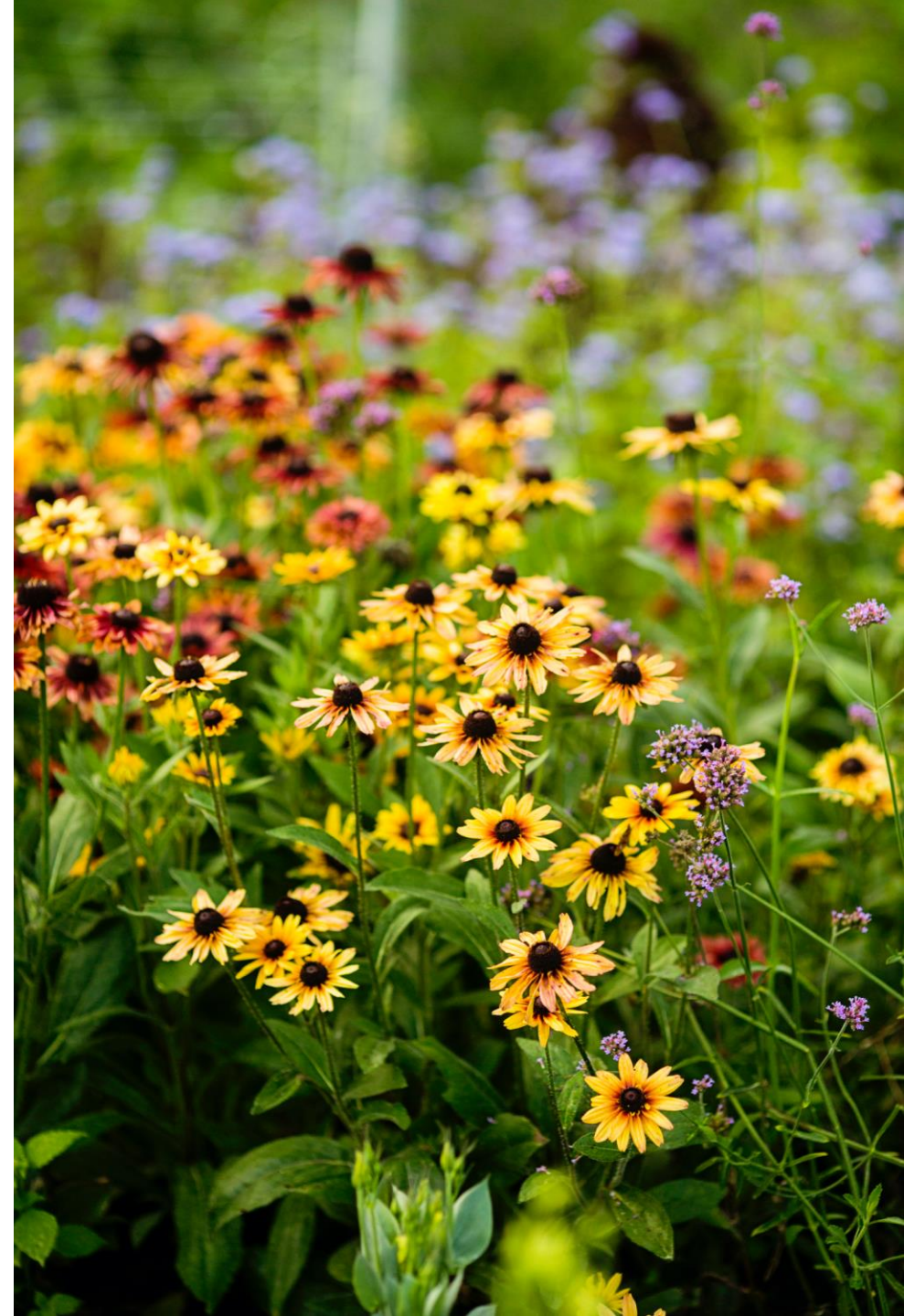
Take a soil test.

Don't overhead water.

Don't overfeed.

If you want straight stems, you want netting.

Incorporate foliage, fillers, and statements.

TYPES OF CUTS

❖Bulbs, Corms & Tubers

❖Biennials

❖Hardy Annuals

❖Tender Annuals

❖Perennials

❖Woodies

❖Vines

❖Foliages

BULBS, CORMS, AND TUBERS

Known for their bold colors, the "exclamation points" of the garden

Spring planted
- Dahlias
- Lilies
- Gladiolas
- Tuberoses

Fall planted
- Tulips
- Fritillaria
- Daffodils
- Hyacinths
- Ranunculus
- Anemones

BIENNIALS

Tricky growing cycle

Bridge the awkward gap between late spring and early summer

Plant in late summer
- Foliage grows first year
- Flowers second year and sets seed

Canterbury Bells

Foxglove

Sweet William

Lupine

Queen Ann's Lace

Hollyhocks

HARDY ANNUALS- COOL FLOWERS

Cold loving annuals

Can be direct sown into the garden in early fall
- Will form a clump of foliage to make it through winter

Can handle some frost

Flower much earlier than spring sown

Larkspur

Bells of Ireland

Snapdragons

Nigella

Bupleurum

agrostemma

Calendula

TENDER ANNUALS

Sown in late spring for summer blooms

The workhorses of the cut flower garden
- Easiest, cheapest, fastest

Zinnias

Celosia

Nicotiana

Cosmos

Sunflowers

Strawflower

Marigolds

HERBACEOUS PERENNIALS

Most reach full maturity at 3-4 years old

Can bridge the gap between seasons and have good textures
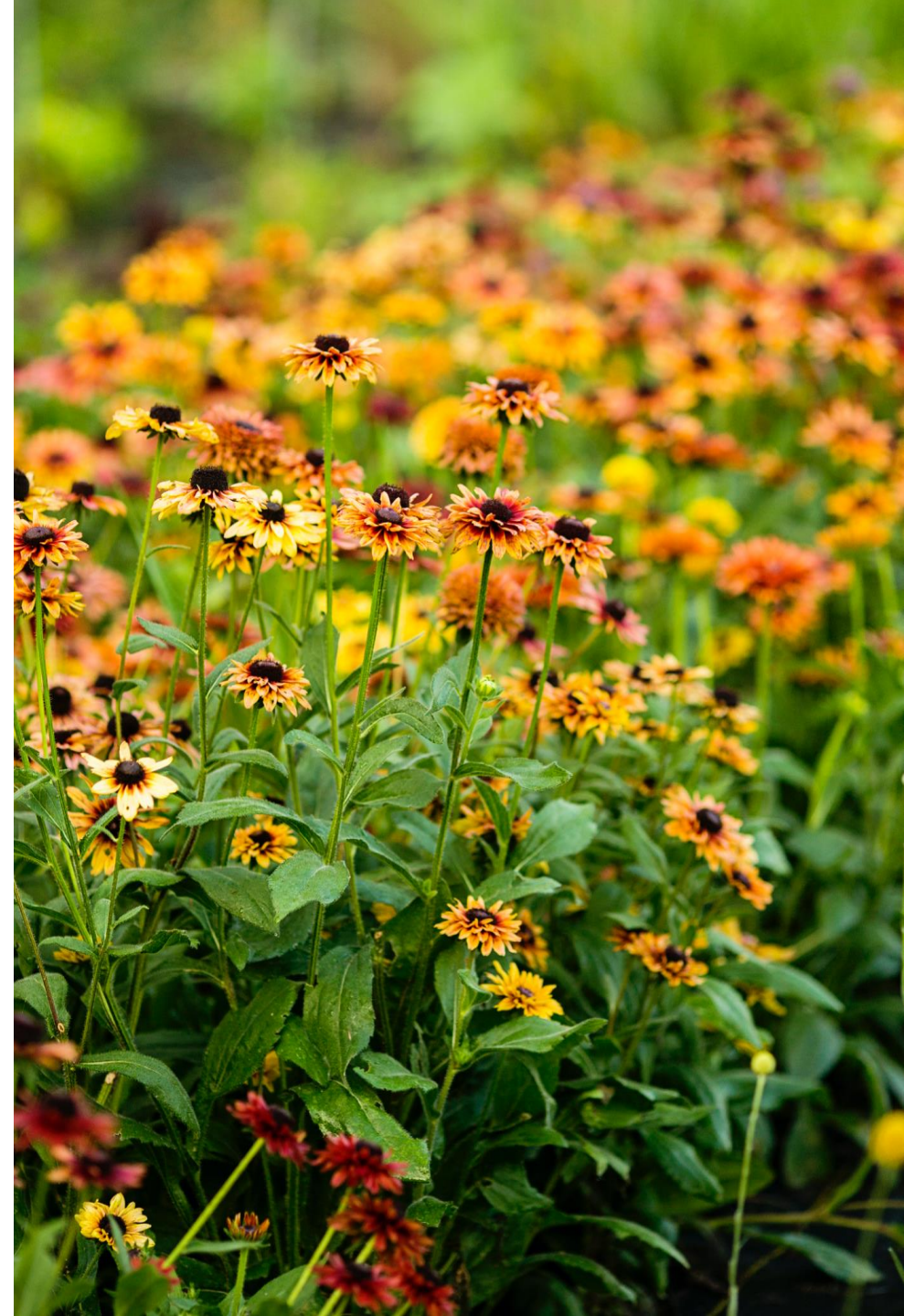
Peonies

Iris

Hydrangea

Veronica

Yarrow

Coneflower

Rudbeckia

Phlox

WOODIES

Many have beautiful foliage or flowers

Often have nice berries or seed pods

Better to buy a 3-5 gallon BARE ROOT and plant in fall

Viburnum

Ninebark

Beech

Mock Orange

Weigela

Lilac

Pussy Willow

Forsythia

VINES

Add movement to arrangements

Require little care and very vigorous

Hops

Clematis

Love in a puff

Bittersweet*

Sweet Pea

Native Honeysuckle

FOLIAGE

Both perennial and annual versions.

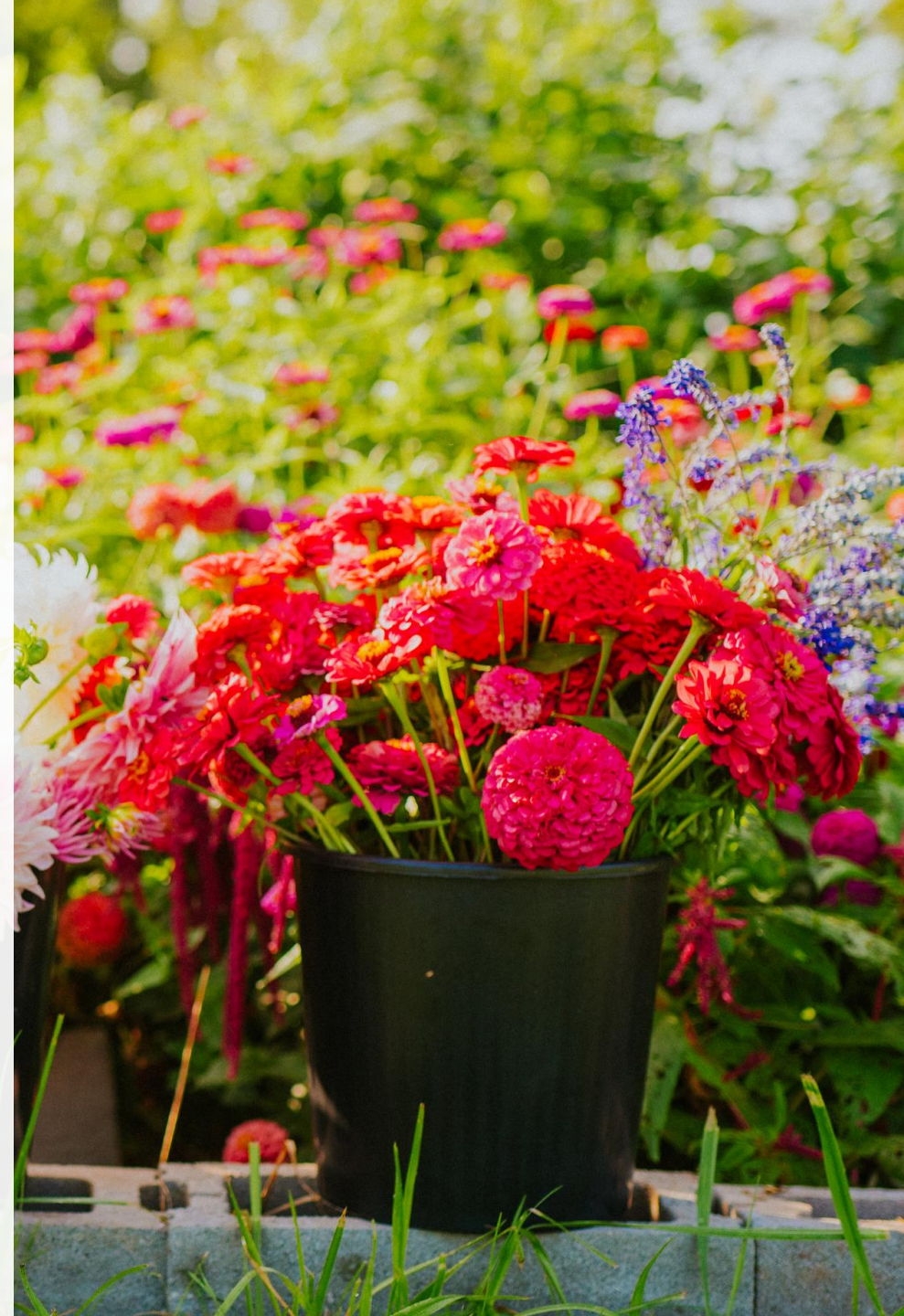Witch Hazel

Raspberry

Mint*

Basil

Lemon

Purple

Cinnamon

- Shiso

- Eucalyptus

- Poke

- Scented Geranium

- Fennel

TYPES OF PRODUCERS

❖ One Hit Wonders

❖ Medium Producers

❖ Cut and Come Again

ONE HIT WONDERS

Usually blooms all at once for one big harvest.

Plant/sow every 2 weeks

Sunflowers- single stem

Bupleurum

Snow on the Mountain- Euphorbia

Gypsophila- Covet Garden

Bombay Celosia

Nigella

MEDIUM PRODUCERS

Often weather dependent- hot vs cold

Plant/sow every 3 weeks

Bachelor's Buttons

Chinese Forget-Me-Nots

Ammi

Snapdragons

Branching Sunflowers

Honeywort

Scented Geranium

CUT AND COME AGAIN

The more you cut, the more they bloom

Usually only slowed down by disease or weather

Plant/sow 4 weeks apart (twice)

Zinnias

Cosmos

Basil

Dahlia

Ageratum

Gomphrena

Marigolds

Celosia- plume

Have garden interest all year round.

FOUR SEASONS OF COLOR

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Spring ns

- Bulbs
- Lilac
- Foxglove
- Columbine
- Mock Orange
- Spirea
- Peonies
- Campanula
- Snapdrago

FOUR SEASONS OF COLOR

Summer
- Hydrangea
- Zinnia
- Basil
- Mahogany Splendor Hibiscus
- Dahlia
- Sunflower- procut
- Rudbeckia
- Yarrow

FOUR SEASONS OF COLOR

Fall
- Viburnum
- Goldenrod
- Aster
- Japanese Anemones
- Amaranth
- Sedum
- Mexican Sage

FOUR SEASONS OF COLOR

Winter
- Red Twig Dogwood
- Witch Hazel
- Nandina
- Golden Cypress
- Beautyberry
- Winterberry

HARVEST TIPS

❖Always use clean buckets and vases.

❖Use clean, sharp clippers.

❖Harvest in the coolest part of the day.

❖Take a bucket of water with you into the garden.

❖Harvest at the proper stage.

❖Maximize stem length.

❖Remove bottom leaves from stems.

❖Allow flowers time to "rest" prior to arranging them.

❖Re-cut the stems.

❖Keep flowers in a cool spot, away from fruit.

RESOURCES

- ❖ Floret Blog
- ❖ Flower Farmer Facebook Page
- ❖ Follow local farms on social media
- ❖ Cool Flowers
  - ❖ Lisa Ziegler
- ❖ Cut Flower Garden
  - ❖ Floret
- ❖ The Flower Farmer
  - ❖ Lynn ByczynskiJ
- ❖ Johnny's – grower's library