



# Growing Matters

## Greetings

This is the first of what I hope will be many issues of Growing Matters, the quarterly newsletter of Pippi's Perennials. Pippi's is a plant nursery providing quality perennial plants and garden services. Part of my reason for creating Pippi's is to share my love of gardening with others and to promote the many benefits of gardening.

This newsletter is one way I hope to accomplish that goal. In addition to keeping you up to date on what Pippi's is offering, I intend to include little tidbits of information to help make your gardening experience more rewarding.

I look forward to serving you and welcome your feedback.

--Vicky Hilleges

## Garden Planning

Gardening has much to offer, providing plenty of opportunity for physical exercise and expressing creativity. Perhaps best of all, gardening presents an opportunity to bring more joy and beauty into our lives on a daily basis.

You may be thinking *ughhh* all that work for such a brief period of the year. Yes, the growing season *is* pretty short here in Central New York, but gardening doesn't have to be time consuming and the beauty doesn't have to end when the leaves fall off the trees. Proper planning and selection of plants matched to the amount of time you would like to devote to care and maintenance can greatly increase your chances of creating a successful garden. Perennial varieties have been developed to be disease and insect resistant and there are plants available for sunny, shady, dry and wet locations.

Selecting trees and shrubs with interesting branching habits, bark color, and texture can extend the visual appeal of the

garden throughout the winter. Even the lines created by the garden edge, whether linear or flowing, can generate interest.

Look around your yard this winter. Is your landscape living up to its potential? Do the trees, shrubs, and plants provide interest, frame desirable views, hide unsightly ones, or provide habitat for wildlife. Does it bring you joy? Now is the time, while the framework of your yard is exposed, to ask yourself these questions. Is there a view from a frequently visited window that you would like to enhance? Does the spot receive full sun (more than six hours), is it dry or wet, does the soil drain well? How do you use this area during the warmer months? A lot of questions yes, but usually not hard to answer and asking these questions now will ensure that the garden you invest in meets your desires. What better way to while away the long winter months than planning the garden of your dreams.

## Garden Gate Chat:

**What are perennials?** They are herbaceous plants with soft, nonwoody stems that live for more than one season. The top growth dies back each winter but the roots survive to send up new shoots in spring. Although some perennials will last only a few years, others can survive for decades.

For answers to your gardening questions email Pippi's at [Hilleges@twcny.rr.com](mailto:Hilleges@twcny.rr.com).

## Pippi's Plant Spotlight



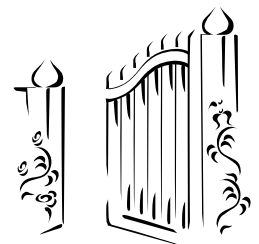
Polemonium caeruleum

### 'Brise d'Anjou'

po-leh-MOW-nee-um  
aka: Jacob's Ladder

**Elegant** vibrant creamy variegated foliage gives way to dainty violet blue bell-shaped flowers in May. A knockout in the garden or in a patio container with other plants.

- ❖ Neat mounds 18-24" high
- ❖ Does best with 4 hours of morning sun
- ❖ Prefers a well-drained soil.





## Pippi's Perennials

12 Sherry Lane  
Kirkville, NY 13082-9212  
Phone 315-656-0842

Member Perennial Plant Association

Look for Pippi's  
Special Offer  
in the spring newsletter!

*I perhaps owe having become a painter to flowers. –Claude Monet*

## Extend Bloom Time with Pippi's Perennials

Pippi's has over eighty different perennials to choose from - one for every site, style and level of gardening skill. When selecting plants, be sure to pick a variety of plants with staggered flowering

times to extend the period of bloom in your garden.

The box to the right shows just some of the perennial plants offered by Pippi's arranged by general bloom time.

### Pippi's Locations

**CNY Regional Market Authority**  
2100 Park Street  
Syracuse, NY  
7:00 AM - 2:00 PM Saturdays  
Between May and October  
or visit us at our home site at

**12 Sherry Lane**  
**Kirkville, NY 13082**  
Between April and October  
(Sherry Lane is located off Fyler Road just past the intersection of Fyler Road and Bridgeport-Kirkville Road)

*Did you know... gardening can burn up to 400 calories per hour depending on the task.*

### Propagation

- ❖ Do you enjoy receiving *Growing Matters* and know of someone else who might like to be added to our mailing list; or would you prefer to receive our newsletter by email?
- ❖ Do you have questions or comments?

Contact us at [Hilleges@twcny.rr.com](mailto:Hilleges@twcny.rr.com) or call 315-656-0842.

### Acknowledgements

**I wish to recognize** my three-year-old daughter Nicole (*Pippi*). She is not only my little helper (among her favorite jobs is squishing naughty insects) she is also my inspiration. She is the one who has given me the courage to dream. I hope I can instill the same in her.

**Special thanks** go to Charles Centner of *Centner's Trees & Shrubs*, Fyler Road, Kirkville, for providing me with the guidance needed to bring Pippi's to fruition. I am not exaggerating when I say I couldn't have gotten this far without him.

#### Spring-Blooming

- ❖ Bleeding heart
- ❖ Coralbells
- ❖ Dianthus
- ❖ Jacob's ladder
- ❖ Lady's mantle
- ❖ Lungwort
- ❖ Phlox

#### Summer-Blooming

- ❖ Bee balm
- ❖ Black-eyed Susan
- ❖ Blanket flower
- ❖ Coneflower
- ❖ Coreopsis
- ❖ Daylily
- ❖ Geranium
- ❖ Goat's beard
- ❖ Hosta
- ❖ Iris
- ❖ Lavender
- ❖ Salvia

#### Fall-Blooming

- ❖ Blanket flower
- ❖ Coneflower
- ❖ Coreopsis
- ❖ Daylily
- ❖ Ornamental grass
- ❖ Sedum