

Your Garden

Hydrangeas Add Splash Of Color

(NAPSA)—Hydrangea fans can paint their gardens this season with a new breed of colorful blooms.

Gardeners across the country can create a riot of color with these red, pink, blue and purple hydrangeas that add beauty and variety to mass landscapes, border plantings, container plants and even partially shaded areas. Here's a closer look:

Whatever The Weather

The new hydrangeas produce flower buds on new growth in the spring. This ensures blooms even in harsh climates. Other hydrangea varieties set their flower buds in autumn, leaving them susceptible to winter injury.

A Colorful History

Forever & Ever Hydrangeas®, the original in the series, was introduced in 2005. Its mop-headed flowers grow pink or blue depending on soil pH. Each has a long season of bloom and the large flowers can be enjoyed as cut or dried flowers. Pruning of spent blooms encourages more blooms throughout the season.

Red was the second in the series. With burgundy-red stems, its mop-headed flowers begin blooming red and then transform to shades of purple as the blooms age.



A new breed of colorful hydrangeas adds bursts of color to the yard and garden.

A third, Double Pink variety was introduced in 2006. It is a showstopper with 6-inch, full clusters of double star-shaped pink flowers that create a billowy mound on a compact plant.

The Double Pink can produce pink or beautiful blue blooms depending on soil pH. Alkaline soils produce pink blooms while acidic soils result in blue blooms. Ask your garden center professional or state extension agent how to obtain a soil test to determine pH.

Become an artist in your garden this summer and create a riot of color. Learn more about the growing process at the Web site www.foreverhydrangea.com.