



COMMERCIAL GROWERS OF WISCONSIN

W3626 Decora Road Horicon, WI 53032 cgwi.org

FALL CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

October 12, 2022

Natural Beauty Growers, Denmark, Wisconsin

- 8:00 AM Registration opens. Tradeshow and vendor contact time. Please visit our vendors as they help reduce your registration fee.
- 9:00 Welcome and announcements by CGW President, Brian Karthaus
- 9:10 Summer trial sites and top performing annual introductions for 2023. Vaughn Fletcher, Fletcher Consulting, Liberty, MO
- 10:10 Tradeshow vendor contact time and coffee break.
- 11:00 New plants and breeding from Intrinsic Perennial Gardens. Brent Horvath, Intrinsic Perennial Gardens, Hebron, IL
- 12:00 noon Lunch made by our hosts, Natural Beauty Growers
- 12:30 PM Guided greenhouse tours and Tradeshow vendor contact time.
- 1:30 Identification and management of greenhouse pests. Dr JC Chong, Clemson University
- 2:30 Closing remarks by CGW Vice President, Chris Williams

Please be sure to thank our vendors for their time and contribution to make our Fall Conference possible.

Many thanks to Natural Beauty Growers for hosting our event. The contributions of their staff for setup, food preparation, and registration are invaluable.

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Speaker bios:

Vaughn Fletcher has an Associate of Applied Science degree - Landscape Horticulture 1972- Kirkwood Community College, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and a Bachelor of Science degree- Plant and Soil Science 1976- Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois

Vaughn has worked in the horticultural industry since 1971 in diverse positions, including landscape design and installation, garden center management, greenhouse production, brokerage sales, and sales management.

Vaughn joined McHutchison Horticultural Distributors in 1986 as a horticultural salesman in Missouri, Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, and Illinois. He later served as Midwest regional sales manager. Through various mergers and acquisitions Vaughn worked for Sandoz, Novartis, S&G Seeds, Vaughan's Seed Company, and Syngenta. He rejoined McHutchison in 2003 and retired in 2016. He joined Suntory Flowers in 2017 and worked as a product specialist for two years.

Vaughn currently writes a monthly article for Greenhouse Product News called Vaughn's View, which focuses on his visits and evaluations of new annual and perennial introductions in private and public trials throughout the United States.

Vaughn served on the Medal of Excellence committee for Greenhouse Grower magazine for eight years. He currently is an All-American Selections board member.

His passion is container gardening, and he trials many of the new annual introductions for the coming year at his residence in Missouri. He has been doing this for well over 25 years.

Brent Horvath is president and grower of Intrinsic Perennial Gardens, Inc., is a third-generation gardener, second-generation nurseryman, and first-generation American. He literally grew up in the business, working for his mom and dad at their companies, Intrinsic Landscaping, Intrinsic Perennial Gardens, and Flowers by Intrinsic.

Over the years, he was inspired by the work of great plantsmen such as his father Lajos Horvath, George Radtke, Roy Diblik, Roy Klehm and Alan Bloom. He was encouraged to find plants of his own to introduce, and found his first introduction, Penstemon d. 'Pink Dawn' in a field of Penstemon digitalis. This discovery led to continued plant selection and hybridizing work in a wide variety of genera. Brent pursued a BS from Oregon State University, and in 1991, started growing finished perennials for the wholesale trade.

Today, Brent has developed over 100 new perennials, including Andropogon gerardii 'Blackhawks' Pennisetum 'Red Head,' Rudbeckia x 'American Gold Rush', over 10 Geum varieties such as 'Mai Tai, and 20 Sedums including 'Thundercloud' and 'Pure Joy.' He holds over 50 plant patents.

Intrinsic Perennial Gardens, Inc. lists over 500 varieties and sells many more. Main crops include ornamental grasses, sedums, geums, natives and plants for the green roof trade.

Brent's book, "The Plant Lovers Guide to Sedums" from Timber press, was released in April 2014 which received a Gold award from GWA in 2015. In 2016 he was awarded the PPA Grower of the Year award. He also contributes plant articles to select magazines like Fine Gardening on select subjects.

When Brent is not working, he can be found gardening and traveling.

Juang Horng "JC" Chong is a Professor and Extension Specialist of turf and ornamentals entomology at Clemson University. JC joined Clemson University in 2007 after completing MS and PhD training at the University of Georgia and post-doctoral training at the University of Florida. His current research and extension program focuses on developing practical and effective pest management tools and approaches for turfgrass and ornamental plants.