

Chicago Area Meeting Presentation: Perennials in Focus



Todd Jacobson, Head of Horticulture for The Morton Arboretum, spoke to the group concerning a perennial plant evaluation program he chairs, called "Perennials in Focus". The evaluation program is run by a group of green industry professionals dedicated to the evaluation of new or underused perennial plants in the Chicagoland area. He indicated that their goal was to communicate evaluation results to industry

professionals & consumers, while at the same time, encouraging the commercial production of top performing perennials from their evaluations.

The group launched their first web site in March, which has enabled them to unveil some of their evaluation results in the form of "Snapshots", which can be downloaded from the site. On these one page PDF's, information can be found about the plant, including how well it blooms, info on its growth rate, cultural requirements, etc... Also included are plant ratings, photos of the plants, notes for growers/retailers, and suggestions as far as what plant combinations work best with the evaluated plant.

For further information about the evaluation program's history, members, or plants and to view or print a "Snapshot", visit: www.perennialsinfocus.com