

Balcony plants knowledge

1. Flowering balcony plants





***Abutilon* hybrids (flowering maple)**

- *Malvaceae*
- rich bloom
- alone or in a mixed box
- 30-40 cm varieties
- semi-shaded place
- water demanding





Acalypha hispaniolo
(syn. *A. chamaedryfolia*)
'Cat's Tail'
(Hispaniola cat's tail)

- *Euphorbiaceae*
- Florida, Caribbean Islands
- rich bloom
- weak growth



***Angelonia angustifolia* hybrids (angelonia, summer snapdragon)**

- *Plantaginaceae*
- Central and South America
- erect shoot system - suitable for large pots
- blue, white, pink, purple flowers



Argyranthemum frutescens **(Paris daisy, marguerite daisy)**



- *Asteraceae*
- Canary Islands
- 15 → 30-40 cm, richly branched
- with smaller plants
- vivid color effect
- double flowered varieties as well
- also in flower beds
- light-demanding, water demanding
- Small tree – 2-3 years growing



***Asteriscus maritimus* (syn. *Pallenis maritima*)**

(gold coin daisy)



- *Asteraceae*
- Southern Europe, Northern Africa
- to a warm, sunny balcony
- 15 cm high
- can be associated with other small species
- 'Gnom' - falling shoots, vegetatively propagated



Bacopa monnieri **(water hyssop)**

- *Plantaginaceae*
- tropical-subtropical areas (Central and South America, Africa, Asia)
- 5-10 cm high
- It hangs to 25-35 cm
- not suitable for hot places – break in flowering
- into semi-shade conditions
- in hanging pot
- along with weak growing species



***Begonia cucullata* Doublet series (wax or clubed begonia)**



- *Begoniaceae*
- South America
- double-flowered, from cutting
- rich flowering
- semi-shaded, shady place too
- powdery mildew in dry conditions





'Tenella Pink'



'Illumination Red'

***Begonia* × *tuberhybrida* (tuberous begonia)**

- *Begoniaceae*
- *B. boliviensis* × *B. pearcei* × *B. veitchii*
- Pendula / Compacta type
- semi-shaded, shady place ('Illumination' and newer varieties also in the sun)
- best alone (or with other tuberous begonia varieties)
- hanging baskets, balcony box
- It hangs to 30-40 cm
- 25 cm high
- Propagation: sowing seeds







'Belleconia Tropical Sunset'



Summerwings series



'Fragrant Falls Peach'

***Begonia* × *elator* varieties (elator begonia)**

- *Begoniaceae*
- *B. tuberhybrida* × *B. socotrana*
- originally flowering pot plant
- some varieties bred for outdoor use
- in semi-shade, sheltered place (sun?)



'Solenia Apricot'



'Glory Bicolour'



'Dreams Garden Macarouge'

***Bidens ferulifolia* (syn. *B. aurea*) and *Bidens* hybrids (Apache or fern-leaved beggarticks)**



- *Asteraceae*
- Central America
- "gold of balcony"
- varieties: compact or long hanging
- Vegetative propagation
- 15 cm high
- it hangs to 20/45-50 cm
- light, water and nutrient demanding
- can be associated (or not) according to growth type,
- 'Marigold' strong
- 'Kompakt' weak





'Blazing Emberst'



'Pretty in Pink'

***Brachyscome multifida* (cut-leaved daisy, rocky daisy)**



- *Asteraceae*
- Eastern Australia
- dense branching, serrated leaves
- blue, pink, white
- 20 cm high
- it hangs to 25-30 cm
- from cuttings
- with weak-growing species in a box or alone in a hanging basket
- for sun or partial shade



'Brasco Violet'



***Calibrachoa* hybrids (syn. *Petunia* *Calibrachoa*, 'Million Bells')**

- *Solanaceae*
- Central and South America
- densely branched
- it blooms very richly
- alone or with not very aggressively growing species
- with frequent nutrient solution irrigation
- water and nutrient demanding (extra iron!!)
- 15-20 cm high
- it hangs to 30-40 cm



Convolvulus sabatius **(blue rock bindweed)**

- *Convolvulaceae*
- NW Italy, Sicily, NW Africa
- strongly drooping, grayish leaves
- blue
- the flower only opens in sunlight
- alone or with weak-growing species
- 10 cm high
- It hangs to 40-50 cm
- light and nutrient demanding



Cuphea hyssopifolia (false heather)



- *Lythraceae*
- Mexico, Guatemala
- woody stem, slow growing
- from seeds or cuttings
- individually in a pot, or with small species in a balcony box
- for sun or partial shade
- water demanding
- 20-25 cm high





Cuphea ignea **(cigar plant, cigar flower)**

- *Lythraceae*
- Mexico
- strong growth, stiff stem 30-50 cm
- rich flowering, unusual appearance
- large balcony box, pot, flower bed
- for sun or partial shade
- from seeds or cuttings





***Cuphea llavea* (bat-face flower)**

- *Lythraceae*
- Mexico
- bigger, more decorative flowers
- spreading stem





Dahlia pinnata **(syn. *D. variabilis*)** **(garden dahlia)**

- *Asteraceae*
- Mexico
- small, bushy types (e.g. Micronetta)
- Vegetative propagation
- full color range (except blue)
- can be associated with small or slow-growing plants
- 25 cm high
- water and nutrient demanding
- powdery mildew



Delosperma cooperi **(trailing Iceplant, pink carpet)**

- *Aizoaceae*
- South Africa
- drooping (top-rooting) shoots
- it hangs to 25-30 cm
- star-shaped, bright, pink flowers
- moderate watering
- scorching sun!
- good water permeable medium



***Diascia barberae* (twinspur)**

- *Scrophulariaceae*
- South Africa
- richly branched, 15-20 cm high
- it hangs to 30 cm
- flowers open in garlands
- vegetatively propagated
- slowly spreading
- for sun or partial shade
- nutrient demanding





Euphorbia 'Diamond Frost'

- *Euphorbiaceae*
- milky plant
- small white bracts
- loose but big bush
- its size depends on the size of the pot
- from small cuttings
- In shade not so rich flowering



***Euryops chrysanthemoides* (African bush daisy)**



- *Asteraceae*
- South Africa
- grows slowly, branches richly
- long inflorescence stem
- constantly blooming
- water and nutrient demanding
- it grows to a height of 25-45 cm

Felicia amelloides **(blue daisy bush)**

- *Asteraceae*
- South Africa
- plant with upright, rough-touch shoots
- criss-cross leaf position
- from cuttings/seeds
- in a sunny location, with good nutrient supply, abundant flowering
- it grows to a height of 20-25 cm





'Cherry'



Fuchsia fulgens

***Fuchsia* hybrids (fuchsia)**

- *Onagraceae*
- Central and South America
- for semi-shaded balconies (the type with tubular flowers also for the sun)
- water demanding
- upright (15 → 25-30 cm) or hanging (30-40 cm)
- in hanging basket or balcony box alone (or with weaker growing species)
- sensitive to wind





***Helichrysum bracteatum* (syn. *Bracteantha*, *Xerochrysum*)** **(golden everlasting or strawflower)**

- *Asteraceae*
- South East Australia
- bushy, small varieties
- continuous flowering
- sunny place
- nutrient solution, cleaning



Lantana montevidensis (trailing lantana)



- *Verbenaceae*
- South America
- woody but drooping stems
- rich flowering
- fragrant shoot system
- hanging baskets, balcony boxes



Lobelia erinus **(edging or trailing lobelia)**



- *Campanulaceae*
- Central and South Africa
- Richardii: collective name for hanging types
- blue, purple, white
- continuously flowering
- Propagation from cuttings
- weak growth!
- not suitable for associating with aggressively growing species





'Raspberry Stream'

Lobularia maritima **(sweet alyssum)**

- *Brassicaceae*
- Mediterranean
- plant with compact or drooping shoots
- white, purple, pink, cream
- fragrant
- flea beetles!

Lysimachia congestiflora

(golden globes loosestrife, creeping Jenny)



- *Primulaceae*
- China
- small (10-15 cm)
- recumbent/hanging
- stem pinkish
- opens in waves
- with weaker growing species
- partial shade (north side)
- water demanding
- it hangs to 15-20 cm

***Mimulus × burnetii* (syn. *Erythranthe × burnetii*)** **(monkey-flowers and musk-flowers)**



- *Phrymaceae*
- *M. cupreus* (*E. cuprea*), Chile
× *M. luteus* (*E. guttata*), North America
- bushy growth
- sessile flowers
- mottled/clear color
- in a protected garden area
- short-living
- can be associated with weak growing species



Nemesia fruticans **(nemesia)**

- *Scrophulariaceae*
- South Africa
- bushy, with a dense branch system
- four-edged stem, transversely opposite leaves
- Panicle
- Fragrant flowers
- water demanding, full sun
- requires balanced water supply







Osteospermum ecklonis
(syn. *Dimorphotheca e.*)
(Cape marguerite, African daisy)

- *Asteraceae*
- South Africa
- erect, stiff shoots, 30-40 cm high
- slightly succulent leaves
- flowers on long stalks (pink, purple, white, yellow, orange)
- Vegetative propagation
- blooms intermittently
- nutrient demanding









Pelargonium peltatum **(ivy-leaved or cascading geranium)**

- *Geraniaceae*
- South Africa
- balcony plant sold in the largest quantity
- 15-20 cm high, hanging to 25-40 cm (variety!)
- nutrient demanding
- geranium substraat



Pelargonium zonale (geranium, zonal geranium)

- *Geraniaceae*
- South Africa



- Full sun
- Moderate irrigation





'Xtreme Night'

Pelargonium interspecific hybrids

- *P. zonale* × *P. peltatum*
- between two parent species
- Robust, big - in a large pot!



Galaxy series



'Aristo Darling'

Pelargonium grandiflorum **(regal geranium)**

- *Geraniaceae*
- South Africa
- does not bloom in high temperature – depending on the variety group



'Candy Flowers Violet'



***Petunia* hybrids (hanging, balcony types)**

- *Solanaceae*
- e.g. Surfinia, Kahuna (half-hanging)
- water and nutrient demanding
- 15-20 cm high
- it hangs to 40-50 cm
- can be double flowered
- fragrant
- iron!
- better alone





'Surfinia Hot Pink'

'Saguna White'





'Amore Queen of Hearts'

Portulaca umbraticola **(wingpod purslane)**



- *Portulacaceae*
- Central and South America
- richly branched, decumbent/pendulous
- terminal flowers
- Vegetative propagation
- orange, red, yellow
- drought tolerant
- 10 cm high
- it hangs to 30-40 cm
- tolerates extreme heat



'Campino Twist Red'

'Campino Twist Pink'

'Pazzaz Apricot'



'Aztekengold'



Sanvitalia procumbens **(Mexican creeping zinnia)**

- *Asteraceae*
- Mexico, Guatemala
- drooping shoot system, rich branching
- high tolerance
- 15-20 cm height
- it hangs to 30 cm
- ground cover plant in a flower bed
- do not associate with aggressively growing species



Scaevola aemula **(fairy fan-flower)**

- *Goodeniaceae*
- Australia
- hanging shoot system
- strong stem
- Vegetative propagation
- purple, blue, pink, white
- drought tolerant
- tolerates hot places
- 10 cm high
- it hangs to 30-40 cm





'Pink Blessing'

Torenia fournieri **(bluwings or wishbone flower)**

- *Linderniaceae*
- South China, India
- slow growing
- requires cleaning
- blue, pink, purple, yellow
- sensitive to powdery mildew





'Tukana Red'



'Ipanema Blue'

***Verbena* hybrids**

- *Verbenaceae*
- hybrids of American species
- pendulous, fast growing
- Vegetative propagation
- flowers can be fragrant
- powdery mildew
- spider mites
- 10-20 cm height
- hangs 25-50 cm (variety!)

2. Structural plants (foliage balcony plants)

Dichondra repens **(syn. D. micrantha) 'Silver Falls'** **(kidney weed, dichondra)**



- *Convolvulaceae*
- Texas, Mexico, Caribbean Islands
- hanging up to 1.2 meter
- waterfall-like
- silver color
- fashionable
- high tolerance

***Glechoma hederacea* 'Variegata'**

(ground-ivy, gill-over-the-ground, creeping charlie, alehoof, tunhoof, catsfoot, field balm, run-away-robin...)



- *Lamiaceae*
- Eurasia
- deep hanging (40-60 cm)
- insignificant flowers
- Propagation: single node stem cutting
- balcony box, hanging basket



Helichrysum petiolare **‘Silver’** **(licorice-plant or liquorice plant)**

- *Asteraceae*
- South Africa
- robust
- 20 cm high
- wire-like, drooping stem
- it hangs to 40-50 cm
- Vegetative propagation
- can be associated with strong growing species



***Helichrysum petiolare* 'Variegata'**
(licorice-plant or liquorice plant)



- 15-20 cm high
- less drooping (25 cm)
- can also be placed in partial shade



Ipomoea batatas (sweet potato)

- *Convolvulaceae*
- Central America
- more and more fashionable, strong-growing, tolerant varieties
- e.g. Sweet Caroline variety series (Purple, Bronze, Light Green)





Lamium maculatum (spotted dead-nettle or henbit, purple dragon)

- *Lamiaceae*
- Europe, North China
- white spotted leaves
- small, white/pink flowers: 'White Nancy', 'Red Nancy'
- in partial shade, also in the shade
- it hangs to 20-30 cm
- 10 cm high



Pilea microphylla **(artillery or joypowder plant, angeloweed)**

- *Urticaeae*
- Central America, northern part of South America
- compact, small plant
- insignificant flowers
- from cuttings or seeds
- it grows to a height of 10-15 cm
- can be associated with weak growing species





Plectranthus forsteri
(syn. *Coleus f.* 'Marginatus')
(Swedish ivy)

- *Lamiaceae*
- Southeast India
- from cuttings
- heavily hairy, robust, fragrant
- can only be associated with species with strong growth
- 15-20 cm high
- it hangs to 30-50 cm



***Plectranthus* 'Nico'**

- sprawling, spreading, drooping stem
- in the sun, partial shade, and shade
- 25 cm high
- it hangs to 25 cm
- blooms in autumn
- Vegetative propagation



Plectranthus scutellarioides **(syn. *Coleus* s., *C. blumei*)** **(coleus)**

- *Lamiaceae*
- From SE Asia to northern Australia
- from cuttings or seeds
- extremely diverse
- for larger containers
- water demanding
- Suitable for full sun – semi shade – shade conditions

but: in shadow the leaf colour changes



Salvia officinalis
‘Purpurascens’, ‘Variegata’,
‘Tricolor’
(common sage)

- *Lamiaceae*
- Europe
- can be placed in the sun or semi-shade
- fragrant
- 30 cm high
- also spice



Other types and plants of balconies

- evergreens on the balcony
- they can decorate in the autumn-winter period
 - dwarf, creeping *Juniperus* varieties
 - dwarf mountain pine (*Pinus mugo*)
 - boxwood (*Buxus sempervirens*) (?)
 - skimmia (*Skimmia japonica*)
 - requires a larger container and some protection
 - they can also be decorated with ornamental bulbs (in spring)



- balconies with perennial plants



- balconies with vegetables



- balconies with fruits



- balconies with herbs





- spring balcony boxes:
 - with primroses
 - with ornamental bulbs
 - with biennials



Thank you for your attention!











