

# Bill Moore & Co., Inc.

## California Pack Trials-March 29 through April 5, 2008 with Tim Mitchell and Bill Moore

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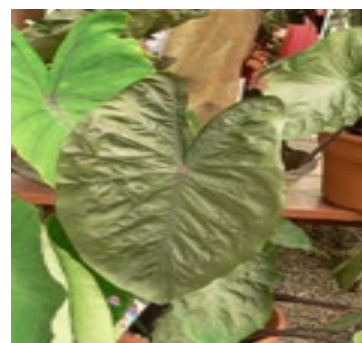
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**Royal Hawaiian Colocasia**

Some interesting new plant material was displayed at Pacific Plug & Liner in Watsonville, Ca. Among them were some Colocasias which were developed by Hawaiian breeder Dr. John Cho and being marketed under the "Royal Hawaiian Colocasia" label. Five new varieties were offered this year;

while they weren't quite as different as we might like, there are several really different varieties now being developed by Dr. Cho. But, with the five varieties on display, a couple of them did stand out. 'Blue Hawaii', for example, had combined large green leaves with prominent bluish-purple veins and a bluish-purple



**Hilo Bay Colocasia**

and a bluish-purple leaf margin. 'Hilo Bay' had large glossy, olive-green leaves that are ruffled in texture. We spoke with Dr. Cho at the Plant Haven display and were told of some very exciting new Colocasias for future release; totally unique from the current offerings.



**Wave Double Red**

Karen Franck at Greenheart Farms in Arroyo Grande showed us a couple of new varieties of Knock Out roses, the Pink Double and their new yellow, Sunny. These will be available beginning in January 2009. Karen was also recommending Drift Roses, a cross between full-size ground cover roses and miniatures. Drifts are sold primarily in 6" pots, quarts and 1-2 gallon containers. They continuously bloom, are creepers and are perfect for the small space gardens, containers and hanging baskets.

At Fides we saw one of the more exciting new petunias. The Wave Double Red was extraordinary.

## Feature Plants



### Furcraea 'mediopicta'

These plants are very durable under tropical conditions and are spectacular in any landscape. Furcraea offer an Agave-like look without the thorns, besides the spike at the tip. This is a fast growing plant.

Available 400/cs

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## PAC Trials (continued)

**T**here were some very interesting new offerings from Syngenta Flowers; one of which we noticed last year; the Rio Dipladenias. This was bred for pot production only, with minimal tendency to vine. There is limited amount available this year for trial.



**Dipladenia Rio**

Also, the Bandana Lantanas put on a tremendous display of color. There was also Calliope Dark Red Geranium which is an interspecific variety, a new break-through in geranium breeding. It is said to have excellent heat performance.



**Bandana Lantana**

For Florida growers there will be trials at the University of Florida in which Harmony New Guinea Impatiens will be compared with Syngenta's Super Sonics.



**Calliope Dark Red Geranium**

*Questions/Comments:*

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