# Proven Winners® Marketing Campaign - SK

# **CONNECT+ Program**

New for 2020, Proven Winners launched a revolutionary marketing service exclusively for IGC customers that aims to make their lives easier while putting the power of the Proven Winners brand to work for their businesses and allowing them to subscribe at their preferred level, with 1,130 total subscriptions and **5 subscriptions in** 



Saskatchewan.

For more information on this new service, visit **www.provenwinners.com/connect**.



# **Certified Training Program**

The Proven Winners Certified Training Program for garden centers is an ongoing partnership that offers retailers and their employees the opportunity to learn more about our plants while building their confidence to sell Proven Winners.

Although COVID-19 greatly impacted IGCs everywhere, we were encouraged that 6,889 employees became certified from over 1,000 retailers in 2020. Of those, **5 retailers & 37 employees** were from Saskatchewan.

For more on this program, visit **www.provenwinners.com/certification**.

#### Gardener's Idea Books

Proven Winners distributed **500,000 copies** of our popular *Gardener's Idea Book* in 2020—**280 copies in Saskatchewan**—and we plan to do the same in 2021. Each year, Proven Winners provides FREE *Gardener's Idea Books* to retailers to mail to their customers if they pay for the postage.

The sign up deadline is January 1, 2021 for custom prints. Cases of standard Gardener's Idea Books will be available beginning February 15, 2021. For more information & options, visit **www.provenwinners.com/gib-co-op**.



# Website



Over **6 million** visitors have explored our websites over the past year, including our main site and two additional websites which focus on key products: <a href="mailto:nationalplantoftheyear.com">nationalplantoftheyear.com</a> and <a href="mailto:beauty.provenwinners.com">beauty.provenwinners.com</a>, which contains expanded content from the <a href="mailto:Gardener's Idea Book">Gardener's Idea Book</a>.

**Saskatchewan visitors** accounted for **48,000 visits** to provenwinners.com, **280 visits** to beauty.provenwinners.com, and **240 visits** to nationalplantoftheyear.com.



# **Magazine Advertising**

While some of our advertising budget has shifted online, we continue to reach new gardeners and maintain our brand image with passionate gardeners in popular titles like *Better Homes & Gardens, The Gardener*, and *Home & Garden Showplace* with over **2 million impressions in Canada alone** in 2020.

**1,160 Saskatchewan subscribers** will see our ads this year.

# **Native Shrubs Booklet & Gardening Simplified**

New for 2020, *A New Vision for Native Shrubs* details our vision for developing and selecting new North American native shrubs. 105 copies of this booklet have been distributed in Saskatchewan along with 104 copies of *Gardening Simplified*, which has been restyled with the shrubs organized in solution-oriented categories like Plants for Hedges, Shrubs for Containers, Wildlife Gardens, and more. For more information, call 800-633-8859.



#### **E-newsletters**



Last year over **313,000 consumers** were subscribed to our monthly gardening tips email newsletter, Winners Circle®, which is filled with wonderful information timed for each season in the garden and includes a new plant profile and plant combination recipe each month.

In addition, over **7,200 growers** were subscribed to our professional newsletter, Grower News, which provides seasonal growing tips, variety highlights & trial results.

Over **6,000 retailers** were subscribed to our monthly Garden Center Retailer Newsletter which keeps retailers up to date on trends, valuable retail programs, best practices, special sneak previews, article ideas and more.

# **IGC CONNECT Facebook Group**

In response to COVID-19 and the rapidly changing business environment, our team launched several initiatives to support IGCs. We started by creating the Proven Winners IGC CONNECT Facebook Group—a space where IGCs can share best practices, challenges, and feel good stories from our industry with their peers while we provide free assets and tools for them, including timely social media graphics.

Visit <a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/679124332846172/">https://www.facebook.com/groups/679124332846172/</a> to join the group.



#### **Social Media**

This year our social channels collectively drove over **283 million impressions**. See below for a breakdown of impressions by social channel for the 2019-20 season.

In addition to the impressions generated from our Facebook page, we are also reaching 45,000 home gardeners in our **Proven Winners Gorgeous Gardens Facebook group** where they share stories and photos of their home gardens. This is a great opportunity to easily tap into the mind of the consumer and see what plants they are using and which they are trying to find in garden centers.



Figures calculated from 7/01/19 - 6/30/20.

Visit <a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/475994473157693/">https://www.facebook.com/groups/475994473157693/</a> to join the Proven Winners Gorgeous Gardens group.

# **Garden Answer - #1 Gardening Influencer**

Over the last few years, Laura and Aaron from Garden Answer have become key influencers for Proven Winners as they teach a whole new generation how to garden. Over 3.1 million fans follow them on

Facebook, and their gardening videos have been viewed over 85 million times on YouTube and Facebook. Proven Winners is partnering with Garden Answer to produce over 100 videos each year which focus exclusively on Proven Winners plants.

# In Canada alone, she's had over 9 MILLION views on YouTube!

#### Facebook Fans:

- Joanna Gaines 5,625,572
- Garden Answer 3,116,433
- Martha Stewart 2,598,016



Proven Winners maintains a robust online presence, but we couldn't do what we do without the vital work of influencers. Consider following some of the other amazing influencers we partner with including Norman Winter — "The Garden Guy" @normanwinterthegardenguy, Staff Sergeant Ambrose and Angie Salazar — Garden Obsessions @gardenobsessions and @obsesionesdejardin, Beekman 1802 @beekman1802 and @joshandbrent, and Jenny Simpson — Creekside Nursery @creeksidenursery.

#### **Billboards**

In 2020, Proven Winners had 119 billboards in 30 metropolitan markets generating **211 million impressions**. These billboards were in 15 states and 4 provinces. We will continue this campaign in 2021 although locations have not been secured.



# **AquaPots Marketing Program**

For each pallet of AquaPots purchased by an IGC (when buying at least two), Proven Winners will create a customized Facebook ad with their logo and handle the logistics of running a campaign targeting potential AquaPot customers in their area.



But free customized Facebook campaigns are just the beginning! See below for a full listing of the many marketing benefits included in a purchase of AquaPots.



- 1. Featured in our Gardener's Idea Book (500,000 copies produced annually)
- 2. Promoted via Laura at Garden Answer
- 3. Inclusion in Proven Winners, Garden Design, and Jack Barnwell's social media efforts
- 4. Customized Facebook campaign
- 5. Free POP/marketing materials (minimum of 4 pallets)
- 6. Retail listing on AquaPots, Garden Design, and Proven Winners' websites (20+ million unique visitors)
- 7. Inclusion in Proven Winners' email campaigns
- 8. Promotion of our AquaPot of the Year Lily Leaf Antique White

Check inventory & pricing at <a href="https://www.provenwinners.com/catalog/aquapots-proven-winners-pallets">www.provenwinners.com/catalog/aquapots-proven-winners-pallets</a>.

# **2021 National Plant of the Year Program**

Strong promotional campaigns build strong sales. Key in on these eight exceptional varieties that Proven Winners will be dedicating significant marketing dollars to in order to build excitement and demand for these plants beginning Spring 2021.

For more information on this program, visit <u>www.provenwinners.com/2021\_National\_Plants</u> and <u>www.nationalplantoftheyear.com</u>.



Supertunia® Mini Vista™ Pink Star Petunia



Heart to Heart™ 'White Wonder' Caladium



'Cat's Pajamas' Nepeta



**Shadowland**® **'Wheee!**' *Hosta* 



Pugster Blue® Buddleia



Oso Easy® Italian Ice® Rosa



**Tuff Stuff Ah-Ha**® *Hydrangea* 



Kodiak® Orange Diervilla

# **2021 National Recipes**

Packed with our top-selling, most distinctive varieties, our National Recipes have been proven in trials to work, which means you can be confident they will deliver the signature Proven Winners all-season performance. We'll take care of driving consumer demand while you watch them fly out of inventory.

For more information on this program, visit <u>www.provenwinners.com/2021 National Plants</u> and <u>www.nationalplantoftheyear.com</u>.



#### **Beachside Drive**

Superbells® Tropical Sunrise Calibrachoa
Supertunia® Honey™ Petunia
Whirlwind® Pink Scaevola
Suggested Thriller:
Graceful Grasses®
'Fireworks' Pennisetum



#### Rockin' Out

Goldilocks Rocks® *Bidens*Superbells® Holy Smokes!® *Calibrachoa*Superbena® Whiteout™ *Verbena*Suggested Thriller:
Stratosphere™ White *Gaura* 



#### **Eclipse of the Sun**

Rockapulco® Orange Impatiens
Sweet Caroline Sweetheart Lime Ipomoea
ColorBlaze® Chocolate Drop Solenostemon
Suggested Thriller:
ColorBlaze® Wicked Hot<sup>TM</sup>
Solenostemon

# **Top 10 Proven Winners Annuals Sold in Saskatchewan**

- 1. Supertunia Vista® Bubblegum® Petunia
- 2. Supertunia® Really Red Petunia
- 3. Supertunia® Bordeaux™ Petunia
- 4. Supertunia® Black Cherry® Petunia
- 5. Supertunia Vista® Snowdrift™ Petunia
- 6. Supertunia® Royal Velvet® Petunia
- 7. Supertunia Vista® Silverberry Petunia
- 8. Supertunia Vista® Fuchsia Petunia
- 9. Snowstorm® Giant Snowflake® Sutera
- 10. Supertunia® Latte™ Petunia





















# **Top 6 Proven Winners Perennials Sold in Saskatchewan**

- 1. Rock 'n Round™ 'Bundle of Joy' Sedum
- 2. Summerific® 'Berry Awesome' Hibiscus
- 3. Rainbow Rhythm® Ruby Spider Hemerocallis
- 4. 'Cat's Pajamas' Nepeta
- 5. Color Spires® 'Pink Dawn' Salvia
- 6. Color Spires® 'Violet Riot' Salvia













# 12 Best Selling Proven Winners ColorChoice® Shrubs

- 1. Low Scape Mound® Aronia
- 2. Pugster Blue® Buddleia
- 3. Blue Chiffon® *Hibiscus*
- 4. Incrediball® Hydrangea
- 5. Fire Light® *Hydrangea*
- 6. Tuff Stuff™ *Hydrangea*

- 7. Ginger Wine® Physocarpus
- 8. Oso Easy Double Red® Rosa
- 9. Double Play Doozie® Spiraea
- 10. Bloomerang® Dark Purple Syringa
- 11. North Pole® *Thuja*
- 12. Czechmark Trilogy® Weigela

























#### 2019 Trial Award Winners

108 Varieties, 868 Awards. Don't just take our word for it. University and public garden trial sites across North America have reported these Proven Winners were top performers in 2019. Learn more about trial results in your region at www.provenwinners.com/learn/plant-trials.



COLORBLAZE® WICKED WITCH™ Solenostemon



SUNCREDIBLE™ Yellow Helianthus



UNPLUGGED® SO BLUE™ Salvia



COLORBLAZE® WICKED HOT™ Solenostemon



HEAT IT UP™ Yellow Gaillardia



SUPERTUNIA® MINI VISTA™ Indigo Improved Petunia



Sweet Caroline RED HAWK™ Ipomoea



WHIRLWIND® Blue Improved DIAMOND SNOW™ Scaevola



Euphorbia



LUSCIOUS® GOLDENGATE® Lantana



SUPERTUNIA VISTA® SNOWDRIFT™ Petunia



ROCKIN'® BLUE SUEDE SH0ES™ Salvia



HEAT IT UP™ Scarlet Gaillardia



SUNSTAR® Red Pentas



SUNSTAR® Rose Pentas



SUPERBELLS® HONEYBERRY™ Calibrachoa



SUNSTAR® Lavender Pentas



SUPERBELLS® BLACKCURRANT PUNCH™ Calibrachoa



SUPERBENA SPARKLING® Amethyst Improved Verbena



SUPERBELLS® WATERMELON PUNCH™ Calibrachoa