

It's September... what's blooming in your garden?

by Melodye Campbell, Fairport, New York

In the northeast, the summer of 2016 certainly was a summer for the record books. Unlike me, my daylilies took the extreme weather in stride, with a little help from the sprinklers a few times a week. The heat and drought pushed bloom about 10 days earlier than the year before. My earliest bloomer, *Hemerocallis* 'Busting Out All Over' hybridized by Bob Sobek, bloomed 10 days earlier than in 2015. And my very latest bloomer, Betty Harwood's *H.* 'Autumn Oddity' started blooming on August 20th, about two weeks earlier than usual.

One of my goals is to extend my season into the late summer and September. So, what was blooming in your garden the beginning of September? Here in Rochester, I had 27 daylilies still going strong on September 5th.

Bob Sobek's late blooming daylilies are the backbone of my late garden. His 'Back to School' (below, photo by A.

is registered as a late and has bright red flowers. Bob's 'Pumpkin Time' (right, photo by Marlene Harmon) is a super bud builder that blooms for well over a month. 'Sept Ember' (below, right) is out of Henry Lefkovits' 'Pinhill Claret Symphony' but starts to bloom about 10 days later.

Bob's 'Fulvous Brush Man' (below) has narrow and spidery blooms that are orange with a bright red eye. New in my garden this year is 'Plum Tardy' from Bob Sobek. FFO on September 5th.

Curt Hanson has introduced many cultivars in the Mid-Late blooming range. Quite a few keep on blooming into the late season. For example, his 'Red Light District' started blooming the first week of August and still has plenty of buds left on September 5th. His 'Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo' is a brilliant hot orange apricot blend. Curt's 'What, Me Worry?' is a great



Keohan) is a very late bloomer that typically begins around Labor Day but this year started blooming on August 16th. The flowers are a rosy red. His 'Seventh Inning Stretch' (below)



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bud builder. The flowers are a bright yellow green and have great substance. I really, really love Curt's 'Chew Mail Pouch Tobacco' (below). Grows to about 50 inches tall and is a bud builder. As I write this article on October 1, it is still blooming!



Speaking of bud builders, 'One More Bud' (below) from Jim Murphy is simply amazing. Jim's 'Cayenne' and 'Eli



Monster' are new in my garden this summer, but they hit the ground running and are still blooming. Jim's 'Last Chance for Romance' is also a great late bloomer.

Not to be outdone, 'Compass Rose' (below, left) from Jim's wife, Margo Reed, is one of my favorite late bloomers. It has 5 way branching in my garden. Margo's 'After A while Crocodile' is also great. It won the Eugene S. Foster award for best late bloomer in 2005.



'Lord of Autumn' from Region 4's Don Marvin is a marvelous late bloomer. Well branched scapes and gorgeous full formed

fall colored blooms. His elegant 'Bermuda Coral' is also a super late bloomer.

Betty Harwood's 'Autumn Oddity' (right) is a lovely yellow polychrome and is almost always the latest to bloom in my garden. 'Barbara' is an heirloom daylily (1965) from Ann Sheets. It starts blooming a bit before 'Autumn Oddity.'

'Late Summer Fling' from the late Augie Krupien is a dependable very late bloomer.



Don Herr's 'Her Late Bloomers' (below) is a gorgeous



cascade unusual form. The form and lavender color reminds me of Stanley Saxton's 'Orchid Corsage'. 'Her Late Bloomers' is quite tall at 42" and blooms much later. The last bloom was September 5th.

'Suzy Cream Cheese' (below)

is a classic late bloomer from Dan Bachman. It won the Eugene S. Foster Award for best late bloomer in 2008.

Dale Thomas is known for his late blooming daylilies. His 'Flamboyant Promise,' 'Fall Remembrances' and 'Walter Pae, Jr.' all



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have a few blooms left for September.

Judy Davisson's 'Yada Yada Yella' (below) is a phenomenal very late bloomer and it is not just another yellow! With blooms that are a good 10" across on a 40" tall plant,



it makes quite a statement. It was new in my garden last year and hit the ground running. I really like that, as there is nothing worse than a daylily that "sits and knits" (an expression borrowed from Melanie Mason) for a few summers before deciding to get down to business. I've learned to be

patient, but I do have my limits . . .

I'm already looking forward to the 2017 season and looking to add more late bloomers to my garden. Thanks to the recommendation from former Region 4 member, Marifran Hiltz, Bob Sobek's 'The Kind of September' (below, photo by Marlene Harmon) will be part of my late garden in 2017! Here's to dreaming about next year's daylily season!

[All photos by Melodye Campbell unless otherwise specified.]



Clockwise, from top center:
Dale Thomas' H. 'Flamboyant Promise,' 'Fall Remembrances' and 'Walter Pae, Jr.'; Curt Hanson's 'What, Me Worry?,' 'Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo' and 'Red Light District'; Bob Sobek's 'Plum Tardy' (photo by Marlene Harmon)

