



plant potential

FOR THE PROFESSIONAL GROWER



In the Landscape: Bandana® and Bandito™

By Don Snow, Technical Specialist Manager, Syngenta Flowers

Lantana has been a landscape favorite for years. I remember as a child—perhaps as you do—catching butterflies who were feeding on its nectar. The lantana lasts for years in the warm California summer, displaying numerous multi-colored bright flowers. For commercial landscapers it's been a staple for hot summer color.

Lantana's only drawback is its relatively untamed habit, which means greater maintenance is required. But this changed with the introduction of the Bandana series, with its breakthrough naturally mounding habit. Commercial landscapers praise the plant's tidy habit since it doesn't need as much trimming as other series—with the exception of landscapers in the hottest climates. But with another breeding breakthrough, landscapers in such cities as Phoenix, Houston and Miami now have a lantana series specifically for their climates: Bandito.

The Bandito series features four brilliant colors of naturally compact plants. They provide hot-season color for the commercial landscaper with controlled growth to dramatically reduce the amount of trimming required, thus reducing labor costs significantly. Further, Bandito was bred to have limited seed set so the color just keeps coming. For the commercial grower, both Bandana and Bandito require less PGR applications than other series due to their naturally controlled habit, saving the grower money. Also, Syngenta Flowers has developed unique treatment methods to ensure the receipt of a quality cutting for growers buying unrooted cuttings.

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