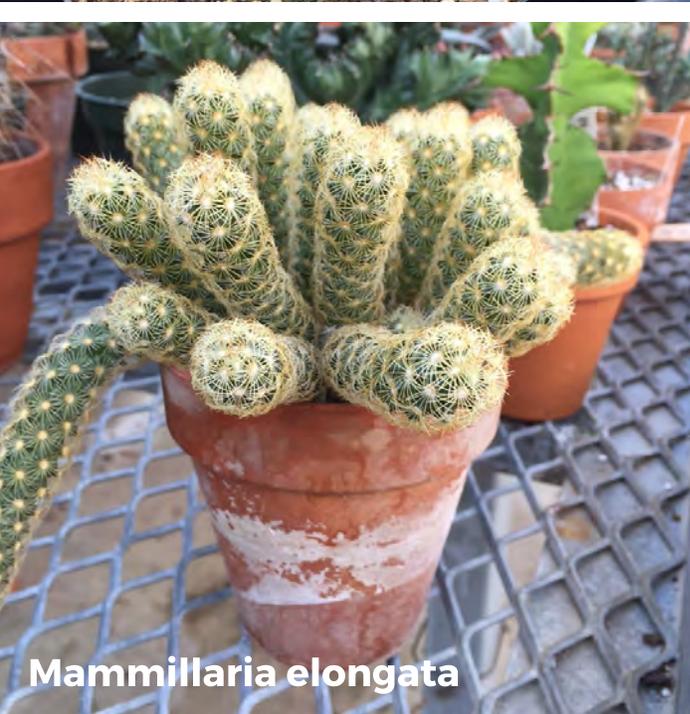




Opuntia microdasys



Seed-grown Cacti



Mammillaria elongata

INSIDER'S GUIDE TO THE HOUSEPLANT AND SUCCULENT SALE

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We are very excited to offer a huge range of unique and unusual plants this year at our Second Annual Houseplant and Succulent Sale on November 1st and 2nd! It has been a labor of love growing these plants. Some, like our seed-grown cacti, have been in the works for over a year! We can't wait for you to pick out your favorites to take home and enjoy for years to come.

We have over 125 types of cacti and succulents and over 65 varieties of houseplants available. Our selection this year is so vast that you may find it overwhelming! So I want to take a moment to highlight my top-picks in each of our three major categories: Cacti, Succulents, and Tropical Houseplants.

CACTUS: TOP PRICKS

Cacti are pretty tough plants. They are difficult to kill, as long as you don't over-water them. They are slow growing, making them more adaptable to indoor conditions than some other succulents. And they are so darn cute, you almost want to hug them...almost! Here are three of my favorites:

Opuntia microdasys: The Bunny Ears Cactus or Polka Dot Cactus is one of the most adorable cacti around. The small, flattened paddles covered in white fuzzy dots can form a small clump over time. Just remember to resist the urge to cuddle with this cactus as the tiny (continued on next page)

white spines detach easily and can embed in your skin.

Seed-grown Cacti: We have several varieties of cacti, including Ferocactus, Echinopsis, Mammillaria, and Rebutia, all grown from seed. These charming little specimens are one to two years old. They would be perfect in a tiny pot on your windowsill, but many can grow to be quite large over time.

Mammillaria elongata: The Golden Star Cactus or Lady Fingers Cactus is a clump-forming variety with long cylindrical stems that bend over and cascade as the elongate. This is a fairly tame variety in that you can handle it fairly easily without getting stuck by spines. This plant would look great in a hanging basket or in a tall planter where its cascading nature can really show off.

SUCCS FOR YOU:

Succulents require similar care as cacti (don't over-water them), but are a little more finger friendly. There is amazing diversity in this group of plants, but they all store water in fleshy stems and leaves. Here are three stand-outs from our plant sale offerings:

Crassula falcata: This succulent has to be one of our most unique varieties this year. The blueish-gray leaves fan out from the center like propellers of an airplane, lending it the common name Propeller Plant. It can grow from a 2 foot tall shrub over time and will form clusters of red-orange flowers on an elevated flower stalk.

Agave applanata 'Cream Spike': 'Cream Spike' is a compact, blue and cream variegated variety that will grow to only 4 inches tall and about 6 inches wide. Agave do surprisingly well indoors, partially because they grow fairly slowly, but they can also be moved outdoors during the summer. Agave will flower once every 12-25 years, after which the main crown will die and offsets will take its place. (continued on next page)



Crassula falcata



**Agave applanata
'Cream Spike'**



Sedum morganianum



Hypoestes phyllostachya



Pachystachys lutea



**Begonia rex
'Autumn Embers'**

Sedum morganianum: The Burro's Tail plant is an easy to grow blue-green succulent with fleshy pointed leaves. Over time, the stems will grow over the edge of its pot and cascade down the sides (up to 2 feet long), making it great in hanging baskets. We also have the 'Burrito" form of Sedum morganianum, which has rounded, jellybean-like leaves.

TROPIC LIKE IT'S HOT:

Tropical houseplants are incredibly diverse in color, form, and texture. They vary widely in water use, light requirements, and ease of care, making them slightly more challenging than cacti and succulents, but they are well worth it! Once you find that "happy place" in your home for a houseplant, it can reward you with years of enjoyment. Here are a few of our most unique tropical houseplants available at the sale:

Hypoestes phyllostachya: The Polka Dot Plant is a great shade-loving foliage plant both indoors and outdoors. While it does form small purple flowers, the real draw is its green leaves spotted with shades of white, pink, rose, or red. It may require some pruning to keep it tidy indoors, but will add a pop of color to any houseplant collection.

Pachystachys lutea: The Golden Shrimp Plant is an unusual shrub-like flowering plant native to Peru. It can be grown as an annual Michigan, then brought indoors as a houseplant in winter. Tubular white flowers emerge out of overlapping yellow bracts. Although it blooms year round in its native habitat, it may only bloom in summer as a houseplant.

Begonia rex 'Autumn Embers': I've been collecting rex and rhizomatous begonias for a few years now. Begonia 'Autumn Embers' is one of the most carefree rex begonias I've come across. It doesn't appear to ever go dormant, it just continues to produce big healthy leaves in gorgeous shades of red and orange all year round.