



1133 53rd Ct N • WEST PALM BEACH • FLORIDA • 33407



**FAX COVER**

TO: Richard Kahn FROM: John Schiller  
 FAX:  PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 PAGES: 7 DATE: 1/7/15

**SUBJECT:**

This is a Report requested regarding plantings  
that could add color to the Landscape.  
Inside this report are Websites to  
view the plant material & its colors.

If there are questions or if you want  
to set up periodic inspections please  
let me know.

Thanks!

GO-IS 



**Island**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL**  
**PEST CONTROL**

1133 53RD COURT NORTH, UNIT A • WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA 33407

January 7, 2015

To: Richard Kahn c/o Jeff Epstein  
From: John Schiller

Re: Final Report

This is the third part of the report for our visit to Little Saint James Island, USVI. Mr. Epstein asked us for suggestions for flowering plant material to provide more color in the landscape. The challenge is to find plant material that can tolerate the almost constant high winds and aerosolized salt. Many of the following plants grow well in coastal areas of Palm Beach but the conditions are more difficult on Little Saint James. Most of these recommendations would be for protected areas out of direct wind.

Crown of Thorns Thai hybrids – there are dozens of new Thai hybrids in a variety of colors including reds, pinks, yellows, orange and cream colors. White flowered varieties on Thai nursery website. These are over twice as large as regular Crown of Thorns and they tolerate harsh conditions and will perform well on LSJ Island in protected and perhaps more exposed areas. They can grow to over 4 ft. tall. Many nurseries have them.



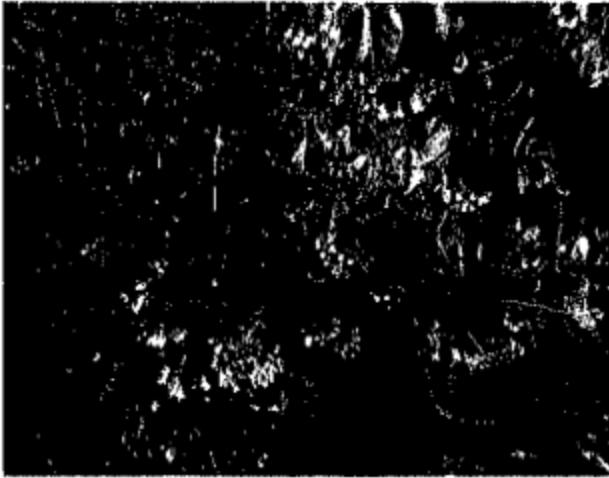
Plectranthus 'Brazil' or 'Mona Lavender' – small perennial flowering plant with spikes of purple flowers during fall, winter and spring. Dark green upper leaf surface, purple color on leaf undersides. Protected areas with partial sun or shade.



Begonia odorata and other perennial begonias – Begonia odorata has white flowers in winter time and is very common in Palm Beach landscapes. Needs protection from full sun in summer.



Good for the owner's drive areas.



Pink cane begonia and red-leaf angel wing type Begonia. For protected areas. Colorful leaves and flowers at certain times of year.

White Ixora 'Frankie Hipp' – a white flowered sport of the popular pink variety 'Nora Grant' that is not common but seems to do well in Palm Beach.

Red flowered Ixora coccinea species type that can be found in older coastal neighborhoods. Makes a great formal sheared hedge. Stay away from 'Maui', 'Sunset' and dwarf taiwanensis types.

Red flowered Ixora Super King – larger leaves, flowers and overall larger plant size.

Whitfieldia elongata 'White Candles' is a large shade loving bush with dark green leaves and year round spikes of white flowers at ends of branches. Saw some in a Palm Beach landscape that looked good after recent salt wind damage to other plants. Try in protected areas on LSJ Island.

Sanchezia speciosa – yellow stripes on dark green leaves with orange heliconia like flower spikes. Best in light shade and wind protection. 3-6 ft. tall bushes.



Radermachera kummig – Dwarf Jasmine tree. Large bush 4-8' with clusters of large tubular white/yellow throat flowers that are fragrant. I've seen these near Biscayne Bay in landscapes. Newer landscape plant in South Florida.

White flowered evergreen Plumeria pudica - 'Bridal Bouquet' - very popular new Plumeria in South Florida. Constant large white flowers, doesn't become bare of leaves in winter like other plumerias, fewer disease and insect problems. A must have on LSJ Island. I've seen it in the Keys looking good in moderate windy locations. There are native plumerias on LSJ but the Bridal Bouquets have larger leaves and flowers.

Jatropha punicea – Jamaican Poinsettia. Large bush to small tree native to Jamaica, flowers in winter to spring. Sunny position, not sure about how much wind it can take but they do well in Palm Beach. Sparse on leaves, not a dense grower.

Joy Perfume trees – Michelia champaca (yellow flowers) and Michelia alba (white flowers) are tropical trees with loads of fragrance but they are not salt wind tolerant. Similar to Ylang Ylang perfume tree which did not grow well on island but a smaller tree. Would survive in a very well protected area in trees or behind house and provide great fragrance to landscape.

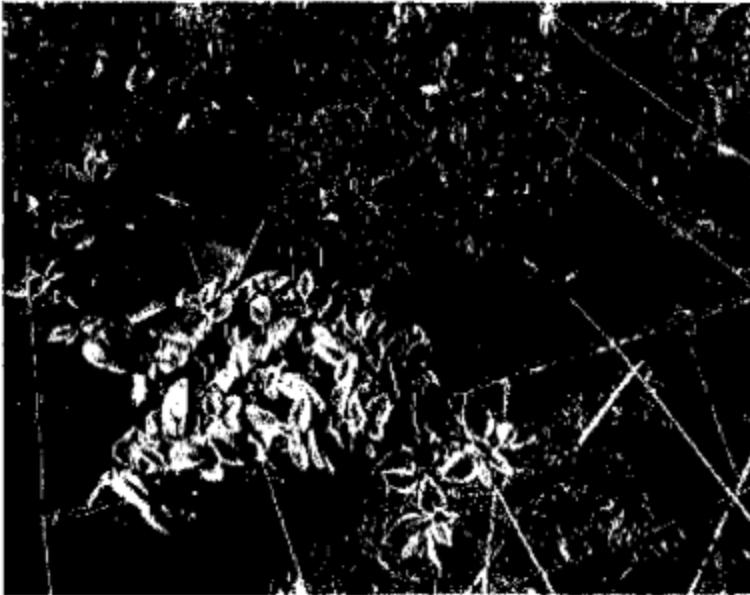
Dombeya wallichii – Tropical Hydrangea, another Palm Beach favorite that blooms with large pink balls of flowers in winter months that looks like Hydrangea. Forms large mounding bushes, seems to handle some wind on Palm Beach.

Mr. Epstein smelled something fragrant near the pool house but he could not locate source. We discovered a large native tree called Jamaican Caper that had thousands of flowers that had just dropped off but still had a few fragrant white flowers on it. Many bushes will bloom but only release fragrance at certain times for a few hours like the evening or early in the day. We suspect the Jamaican Caper was releasing fragrance right when Mr. Epstein came by but stopped releasing fragrance later when others tried to find the source. Jamaican Caper is an excellent flowering salt tolerant bush that grows wild on LSJ and throughout the Caribbean and South Florida. Makes a great trimmed hedge or small tree that produces thousands of white spider flowers when it blooms. A favorite landscape tree.

Stoppers are popular Florida native bushes that make excellent hedges or screens or small specimen trees. Simpson's Stopper and Spanish Stopper bloom with thousands of small white fragrant flowers and make red berries loved by birds. For more info and pictures check out <http://www.plantcreations.com/stoppers.htm> . We highly recommend these bushes/trees.

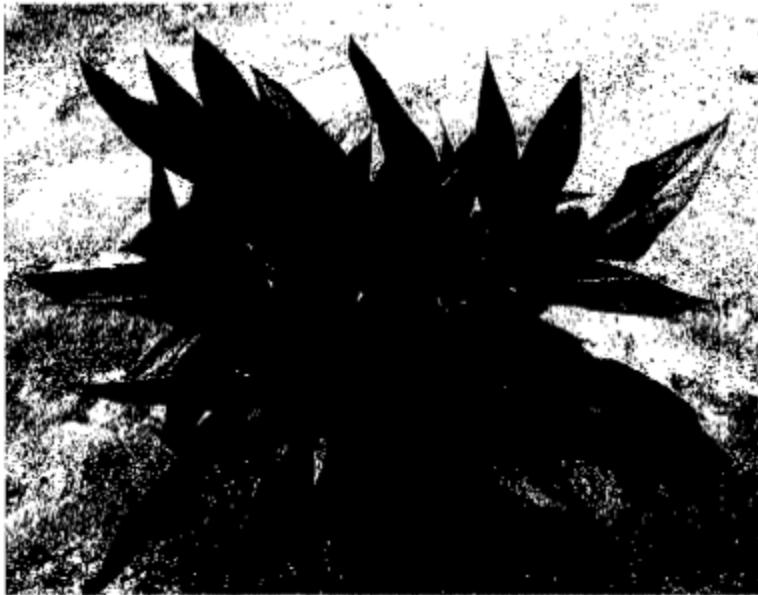
Another native evergreen bush with larger leaves is Marlberry – Ardisia escallonioides. It grows upright and has very fragrant blooms in the fall for a couple of weeks. Easy to grow like stoppers and a good screening plant. <http://www.plantcreations.com/Ardisia%20escallonioides.html>

A good ground cover for LSJ is Baby Sun Rose, Aptenia cordifolia. A succulent that produces small red or yellow flowers. Leaves can be green or green and white variegated. Slow growing, salt and drought tolerant, needs full sun. Makes a great groundcover in larger containers like the Agave pots in several locations like the gym. Loves growing around rocks. Another must have. <http://www.south-florida-plant-guide.com/baby-sun-rose.html>



Baby Sun Rose

Aglaonema hybrids like 'Silver Bay' are popular interior shade plants but they also do well in shaded locations in coastal landscapes. Several ocean side estates in Palm Beach have Aglaonema plantings that do well. Aglaonemas come in a variety of variegated leaf patterns and colors mostly greens, greys and silvers. There are numerous small red leafed hybrids that have been planted in shade area on LSJ around Owners Drive but the red hybrids are very slow growing and smaller plants. Silver Bay and other with get up to 2-3 tall and make dense clumps. Use as an upright ground cover planting in protected areas but will handle some salt wind.



Aglaonema 'Silverado'

There is a wide range of Aloes that would do well in salt wind conditions. Many aloes produce colorful flowers in harsh conditions. Pool planter with Agaves could also have some Aloes. Similar plant form but different shaped and colored leaves. Full sun plants.

I discussed several palms that I think would do well on LSJ Island in my previous report. Another palm not previously mentioned would be Satakentia liukuensis. Satakentias are reportedly salt tolerant. They look like smaller Royal Palms with grey smooth trunk and a burgundy brown crownshaft below large head of fronds. Not common in trade but there are some available in Homestead. Moderate growth rate and fond of water.

The conditions are harsh on Little Saint James Island with the salt wind. The plants we have listed are somewhat salt tolerant in most cases and do well in Palm Beach landscapes. We recommend trying small numbers of suggested plants to see how they will handle the environmental conditions on Little Saint James Island.

Thank You for the opportunity to serve.

John Schiller  
General Manager  
Island Environmental Pest Control Services