



Heuchera 'Plum Pudding' grows in an old marble pot at RT Facts Garden Antiques in Kent, Connecticut, while the golden 'Amber Waves' fills in beneath it, where a piece of the pot is missing.

HOORAY FOR HEUCHERAS

Plant breeders have worked wonders with Grandmother's dainty corallbells.

By Elvin McDonald Photography by Karen Bussolini

IF ROOTING FOR THE HOME TEAM appeals to you, then get ready to cheer for heucheras. Arguably the hottest new perennials on the block, the species from which these fancy garden cultivars have been developed are North American natives. Beginning with the discovery in the 1980s of a purple-leaved form of *Heuchera micrantha* var. *versicolor*, originally from

British Columbia to central California, heucheras (HEW-ker-uhs) are being likened to hostas—but in a wider variety of colors.

This is not to deny the different greens of hostas—from blue to apple to lime, often with cream or white variegation—but to recognize that another hardy plant in similar sizes, growth habits, and garden uses is ►