Coneflowers are perennials with daisy-like flowers. They have sturdy orange-bronze cones and petals in shades of pink, red, purple and white. They do best in full sun but will take some shade, and are tolerant of hot, dry, windy sites. Coneflowers are deer resistant; attract butterflies and birds, especially gold finches; and make great cut and dried flowers. Dead flower stems will remain erect well into the winter and are visited by goldfinches that perch on or just below the blackened cones to feed on the seeds. Coneflowers are good for naturalizing; are long-lived, low-maintenance and easy to grow.

The Big Sky™ series includes some new and unusual coneflower colors:

- **Echinacea Big Sky™ Sundown** – warm russet-orange flowers with a prominent brownish central cone. Wide petals are slightly reflexed and overlap resulting in a full substantial presence. Flowers have a delightful rose-like fragrance. Height is 32-40 inches.
- **Echinacea Big Sky™ Sunrise** – citron yellow flowers with a central cone that starts green and turns gold. Same full presence and rose-like fragrance as Sundown. Height is 30-36 inches and it is a vigorous grower.
- **Echinacea Big Sky™ Summer Sky** – huge flowers up to 5” inches across have a bi-color appearance. Flowers are light orange with a rose-colored halo and an orange cone on tall very stout stems.
- **Echinacea Big Sky™ Twilight** – vibrant rose-red flowers with an unusual deep red cone are a new color for Echinacea’s. Still has the full presence and rose-like fragrance. Height is 24-30 inches.
- **Echinacea Big Sky™ Harvest Moon** – soft orange petals surround brilliant deep orange cones held upright on sturdy stems
- **Echinacea Big Sky™ After Midnight** – a dwarf member of this series with fragrant dark, magenta purple flowers and a black-red cone on black stems above blue-green foliage.

If you love roses but hate to spray, Knock Out® roses are for you. This plant forms a compact tidy shrub (3 feet by 3 feet) that blooms all season long. Knock Out® roses are resistant to black-spot, rust and mildew. They are hardy, drought tolerant once established, and self cleaning (no deadheading required). The Knock Out® rose family consists of the following:

- The original Knock Out® Rose – cherry red flowers and foliage that is a dark purplish green in summer and turns to burgundy in the fall.
- The Double Knock Out® Rose – fluorescent double red cherry blossoms.
- The Pink Knock Out® Rose – power pink blossoms and deep mossy green foliage.
- The Pink Double Knock Out® Rose – hot pink double flower with deep purple fall foliage.
- The Blushing Knock Out® Rose – light pink flower that turns shell pink as the bloom ages.
- The Rainbow Knock Out® Rose – coral pink flowers that have a yellow center. This cultivar has dark green foliage, a more compact habit and hips that provide fall color.
- Sunny Knock Out® Rose – slightly more upright growth habit and flowers that are bright yellow at opening and turn creamy white when fully open.

Photos by The Conard-Pyle Company

**Rosa Knock Out® series**

**Echinacea Big Sky™ series**

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Photos by North Creek Nurseries