## **New Waxflower** hybrids imminent

A partnership with Kings Park and Botanic Garden in Perth has led to some exciting developments for Helix Australia, in particular, a breeding program for Waxflower hybrids.

Helix Australia was established in 2009 and is now a global leader in the breeding, licensing and marketing of Waxflowers (Chamelaucium sp.), one of the major 'filler flower' crops grown in the global cut flower industry and popular pot plant or landscape plant. Previous new varieties released by Helix Australia include 'My Sweet Sixteen', 'Dancing Queen', 'Chantilly Lace', 'Sarah's Delight', 'Moonlight Delight' and 'Raspberry Ripple'.

In recent years Helix Australia has consolidated its breeding relationship with Kings Park which has resulted in the addition of some innovative Boronia hybrids to the Helix stable.

Kings Park is conducting significant research with Waxflowers, including backcrossing of interspecific hybrids, inducing polyploids (duplicate sets of chromosomes) and tetraploids with increased flower and leaf size. Outcomes from the breeding program will include new hybrids with an array of flower colours, flower sizes and plant forms suitable for a range of applications.

Adrian Parsons, Managing Director of Helix Australia, confirms that the global appetite for new and improved varieties of Waxflower and Boronia is very strong, with strong production and sales programs now in place in Italy, Spain, Germany, Portugal, Israel, USA and South Africa.

Adrian adds that Australian licensed growers are also welcoming the constant flow of new Waxflower and Boronia hybrids for use in pot plants, landscapes, and as cut flowers.

As well as continuing assessment of new varieties for release from Helix Australia's trial breeding blocks, outcomes from Kings Park somatic fusion project are set to revolutionise the whole Waxflower category over the coming year. Watch this space! 🍇

For more information on Helix Australia, contact Adrian Parsons at adrian@helixaustralia.com.au.



## **PREMIUM BORONIA &** WAXFLOWER VARIETIES

www.helixaustralia.com.au For more information contact adrian@helixaustralia.com.au



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