

Vanilla Strawberry Hydrangea



The flowers continue well into fall in most areas, and are, as you can imagine, spectacular in fresh and dried arrangements.

Hydrangea paniculata 'Tardiva'

- **Use:** One of the purest pleasures for the sunny to partly shaded garden is this French introduction, a member of the PeeGee Hydrangea family. With blooms that arise continuously for many weeks, changing colors as they mature, plus a habit that turns from upright to cascading, 'Vanilla Strawberry' is a showpiece of a shrub that looks a bit different every time you glance at it, all summer long! **Try it in the border, the foundation, the woodland garden, or even as a specimen. You will be amazed at its beauty and ever-changing interest.**
- **Exposure/Soil:** Afternoon or dappled shade preferred. Easy to grow in continuously moist, well-drained soil. Butterflies will visit it, and it is very low maintenance, asking only for adequate water. **DO NOT PLANT IN FULL SUN**, unless you want to see leaf burn and water constantly!
- **Growth:** Large, well-branched, and vigorous, reaches 6 to 7 feet high and 4 to 5 feet wide within just a few seasons.
- **Hardiness:** 4-9; Shrub
- **Foliage:** Deciduous. Handsome bright, green foliage on boldly branched, mounded form.
- **Flower:** The enormous pointed flowerheads get underway in midsummer in most climates, beginning green, then quickly turning a creamy shade of white. Within a week or two they are blushing pink, and eventually become a rich shade of rose! Meanwhile, new flowerheads are arising all the time, so a blooming shrub is likely to have the full range of colors from pale green to carmine all displayed at once!