



Guide to definitions used on Weekly Availability (updated 2-27-12)

Note: Perennials are not annuals and color does sell, but discriminating perennial buyers are seeking good looking, healthy plants from March till November. Perennials do not need to be sold only when they are in bloom. They can, and should be sold throughout the year.

- **Retail Ready** - Plant is rooted with seasonally appropriate foliage. They are uniformly attractive and fill the pot. Plant is suitable for immediate retail sales benches. They are generally beautiful plants but may not be budded or blooming. Either it is not the time of year that the particular plant blooms or the plant is known more for its foliage than its flowers. (i.e. Heuchera are known for their foliage but not for their flowers. Or we may have beautiful Echinacea perennials that are retail ready in May but they do not bloom until July/August).
- **Buds/Blooms** - Plants are full in the pot, of seasonally appropriate height, have a good root system, and have nice foliage with buds and blooms.
- **Budded:** - Plants fit above description without blooms. Buds are not expected to open for at least another week.
- **Ready Nice** - Plants are rooted, have nice foliage, or may be buds/blooms but do not fill the pot yet.
- **Ready** - Plants are rooted and ready to plant with seasonally appropriate foliage. Plants are at least $\frac{3}{4}$ full in the pot.
- **Ready Small** - Plants are rooted with a top that is seasonally short or only fills 1/3 to 1/2 of the pot.
- **Ready Emerging** - Plants are coming out of dormancy, rooted and ready to plant with foliage just beginning to emerge above the soil surface.
- **Just Breaking** - Plants are coming out of dormancy, rooted and ready to plant with old woody growth above soil surface that will leaf out from the old wood.
- **Leafing Out** - Following "Just Breaking", leaves are flushing out from old wood.
- **Dormant** - Plants are rooted and ready to plant but showing no signs of life either above the soil surface or on old woody growth.
- **Ready Soon** - Plants will probably be ready in about a week to 10 days. Top growth may only fill $\frac{1}{2}$ the pot and the root system is still developing.
- **2-3 wks, 3-4wks, etc** - An estimate of how many weeks until plants are rooted and ready to plant.
- **Newly Potted** - Plants are recently potted and/or have not started developing a root system yet.
- **Cut Back** - Plants are rooted and ready to plant. The foliage has been cut back, either for over-wintering or to improve the overall shape and attractiveness.

