Use Cool Wave pansies for lasting winter color

By Dr. Gary R. Bachman later in the season. **MSU Extension Service**

citrus containers.

ond, these annuals act as a spring. colorful ground cover car- Cool Wave pansies are higher temperatures. help with weed control.

ing characteristic that is an artist's brush. great spiller plants a little In Mississippi, our win-

couple of reasons. First, I gardener uses these plants,

pet that helps keep weeds available if a variety of at bay. I really do hate colors, but this year, I deweeding, and even plants cided to go with Lemon grown in containers need Surprise and Blue Skies. I really like the combination dry. I really like using Cool of bright yellow and subtle Wave pansies in these con-blues. As always, I love tainers. Unlike the upright the whisker lines radiating moist is one of the best growth of Matrix pansies, from the center that resem-Cool Waves have a spread- ble the delicate strokes of for helping plants toler-

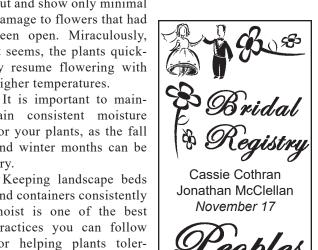
perfect for the ground Pansies are a great choice watered planting soil or cover effect in these big for winter color because of mix acts as a buffer to the

ter temperatures fluctuate keep the root system above These plants are well between frosts and freezes freezing. This past weekend, I branched and really fill in followed by moderating started planting cool-sea- under my citrus trees. Cool weather. Even during the son color in my 25-gallon Waves are also a great coldest periods, pansies choice for hanging bas- may seem like they've fro-I like underplanting kets and landscape beds. zen solid, but they thaw in these containers for a Whichever way the home out and show only minimal damage to flowers that had can maintain a color pop Cool Waves provide great been open. Miraculously, through the year. And sec- color all the way to the it seems, the plants quickly resume flowering with

> It is important to maintain consistent moisture for your plants, as the fall and winter months can be

and containers consistently practices you can follow ate cold weather. A wellcontainers. They will make their tolerance of the cold. cold. As the water cools, it releases heat that helps

Many gardeners don't realize that all pansies are heavy feeders and will stop flowering when the nutrition gets too low. I always



Drug Store Court Square 834-2721 Lexington at planting and apply a wa- growth.

grown in the full sun -- at petunias to many of our least six hours each day -- gardens.

ter-soluble fertilizer every And if "Wave" in the couple of weeks to main- name sounds a little fatain good plant growth. miliar, Cool Wave pan-Cool Wave trailing pan- sies were developed by sies, like their traditional the same folks that have upright cousins, need to be brought the popular Wave

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The spreading characteristic of Cool Wave pansies such as these Blue Skies makes them a perfect ground cover in big containers. They spill over edges and are also a great choice for hanging baskets and landscape beds.

(Photo by MSU Extension/Gary Bachman)



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