



Commercial Plant Vendor Code of Ethics Agreement

(APS Bylaw Article IV Section 5)

The following criteria encompasses the American Peony Society's Code of Ethics for Commercial Members who partake in the sale of peony plant material. The code, in part or entirety, may not apply to all peony related businesses. Commercial Plant Vendor Members agree to practice this Code as part of their membership type with the Society.

Commercial Growers will in good faith:

1. **Guarantee true to name cultivars** and provide a replacement or refund upon verified complaint.
2. **Introduce and list cultivars to commerce under precedent name**, established by registration and publication with the APS as the International Cultivar Registration Authority (ICRA) for peonies as provided for under the International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants (ICNCP) of the International Society for Horticultural Science (ISHS).
3. **Offer list/catalog descriptions and associated cultural support documents** to be written using standard APS terminology. This is primarily directed toward flower forms, but may also include other terminology.
4. Provide descriptive **information for end users to determine possible problems a cultivar or group may exhibit**. This may include requirements for special care.
5. Provide photo illustrations in offering lists/catalogs which are representative of a cultivar's mature performance. Photos are optional; however, when in use, accuracy is helpful to the consumer.
6. **Cite APS awards**, these may include the Gold Medal, Award of Landscape Merit and Flower Show Awards; as appropriate for the cultivar being described. Citing awards is optional, but is helpful for the consumer.
7. **Avoid commercial synonyms**, but if used, then follow the commercial synonym in print with the established name and origin in parentheses as specified in the ICNCP.