



Flower POWER

PHOTO BY TRILINK IMAGES

PRETTY PETALS ARE A KEY INGREDIENT IN THE FIGHT AGAINST WRINKLES **By DANA WOOD**

A new crop of flower-based skin care is helping customers recapture the bloom of youth. Formulated with extracts from delicate blossoms and other parts of the plant, the latest products are designed to smooth lines and wrinkles — and aren't necessarily scented.

Be it Dior's Rose de Granville from the Château de Chamerolles in France's Loire Valley (used in the Prestige skin care line), a white narcissus lily bulb indigenous to the Eastern Mediterranean (playing a starring role in Origins' Three Part Harmony), or even the folksier, North American jasmine and chamomile (courtesy of a quartet of Cover FX Custom Infusion Drops), flowers from all over the world are being used in treatment today.

Scientists discovered long ago that many blooms have restorative properties. Certain orchids, for instance, are said to hydrate the skin and protect it from free radicals (environmental aggressors), while lotus is packed with antioxidants. Now, however, research-and-development teams are isolating new molecules and finding ways to use them.

For some treatment innovators, outer petals are just a jumping-off point. For his growing field of Rose Stem Cell products (Bio-Repair cream and oil just got added to the lineup), skin guru Peter Thomas Roth has been relying on the work of a cell-extracting in-house mad scientist. "My head of research and development has a Ph.D. in molecular chemistry, and he's always sourcing new ingredients based on scientific performance," says Roth. "Each rose plant stem cell provides a different anti-aging benefit. Combined,

they're the most effective for maximum skin repair."

Makeup artist Munemi Imai, whose buzzy Mun organic skin care is a model fave, also has a rosy outlook. "Both rose water and rose essential oil have been used in beauty remedies for centuries on different continents," she notes. "The Bulgarian rose in my brightening serum is considered one of the most exquisite essential oils throughout history, and is great for rejuvenating mature skin, improving circulation and promoting a more even-toned complexion."

But not everyone is thinking pink. Origins' exotic lily helps counter the effects of senescence, which is essentially the age-related slowdown of skin cell division. (Freshly divided cells = a plump, radiant complexion.) Chamomile is also coming on strong, even popping up in a potion every party girl should keep on hand: Belli's First Aid Anti-Hang-over Soothing Mask.

Though flowery skin care is the trend du jour, touchy types should proceed with caution, says doc Debra Jaliman, author of "Skin Rules: Trade Secrets From a Top New York Dermatologist" (St. Martin's Press). Even when used lightly to add fragrance to products, rose, lavender and jasmine have proved tricky for her more reactive patients. "I'm concerned that putting these ingredients in anti-aging products will cause problems for some people who are sensitive," Jaliman notes.

The easy Rx? Try before you buy, especially for pricey products. Then go pick your own personalized, clock-stopping bouquet.



Cover FX Custom Infusion Drops A+ Jasmine Anti-Aging, \$48 at sephora.com



Fig + Yarrow Floral Milk Bath, \$32 at figandyarrow.com



Dior Prestige La Crème, \$390 at dior.com (available next month)



Peter Thomas Roth Rose Stem Cell Bio-Repair Precious Cream, \$75 at ulta.com



Origins Three Part Harmony nourishing cream, \$69 at origins.com



By Terry Cellularose Hydradiance Eye Contour, \$75 at barneys.com



Mun No. 11 Anarose Rejuvenating Rose Toner, \$68 at munskin.com



Elemis White Flowers Eye & Lip Make-Up Remover, \$30 at timetospa.com

ON THE SCENT

EAU DE DESIGNER

TOP FASHION NAMES ARE FRAGRANCING FALL WITH THEIR NEW LUXURIOUS SCENTS

1. BERGAMOT & MANDARIN: "Romantica," \$65 (7.02 oz.) at Anna Sui, 484 Broome St.
2. GINGER & ORANGE: "Jimmy Choo Illicit," \$85 (2 oz.) at saksfifthavenue.com
3. LILY & BERGAMOT: "Gucci Bamboo," \$70 (2 oz.) at macys.com
4. PLUM & IRIS: "Marc Jacobs 'Decadence,'" \$20 (3.4 oz.) at saksfifthavenue.com
5. LILY OF THE VALLEY: "Miu Miu," \$86 (1.7 oz.) at Bergdorf Goodman, 754 Fifth Ave.
6. CLEMENTINE & LAVENDER: "Bottega Veneta 'Noc,'" \$25 (1.7 oz.) at saksfifthavenue.com
7. TONKA BEAN & NICOTINE: "Atelier de Givenchy Calac Mystique," \$20 (3.4 oz.) at barneys.com



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE DESIGNER.