

# PURCHASING PLANTS

Toledo GROWs Best Practices- Tending a Garden

## What to look for when buying plants

#### Leaves:

Check leaves to ensure they are green and firm. Yellowed and wilted leaves are a strong indicator of an unhealthy plant. In addition discoloration, spots, and physical damage on the leaves can be a sign of insects and disease.

### Stem:

Inspect the stem for any signs of current or previous damage, either of which can affect the future health of the plant.

### **Roots:**

If you are able, look to see if the roots are not bound. If left in their pot too long, the root may start growing out through the drainage holes on the bottom of the container. This is may cause stress on the plant.

### Soil:

Check soil for weeds. This can be a sign that the plant was not well taken care of. You don't want to risk introducing new weeds to your garden.

