Intersectional Peonies are relatively new to horticulture. These are hybrids between garden peonies and tree peonies. The first person to successfully to make this cross, was Mr. Toichi Itoh in 1948, therefore they are commonly called Itoh Peonies.

Itoh peonies are easy to grow in full sun, they are disease resistant with an extended bloom period. One of the best attributes is that the flowers are held on sturdy stems, so these peonies do not need to be staked! Due to their ability to produce preliminary and then secondary flower buds individual clumps can produce over 50 blooms over a four week period. Our first intersectional peony cost us over two hundred dollars, yet with the ability to produce new plants using tissue culture or micro-propagation techniques the cost of new plants is much lower. Here at O’Brien Nursery we offer Itoh Peonies starting at $65 with some varieties running around $110. Just a few years ago we were lucky when we had one or two varieties to offer, in 2018 we will have ten different varieties for sale. Check our perennial list on this website.

Paeonia x itoh ‘Bartzella’ – Our most popular Itoh Peony
Paeonia x itoh ‘Cora Louise’

Paeonia x itoh ‘Julia Rose’
The above varieties we will have available this year. Below is one that we were lucky enough to purchase during a American Conifer Society silent auction a couple of years ago. It was labeled “Red” no other information. When we went to plant it a P. ‘Cora Louise’ label fell out, we were so disappointed. Thought about potting it back up and selling it. Sure am glad we waited till it bloomed!

Paeonia x itoh ‘Scarlet Heaven’