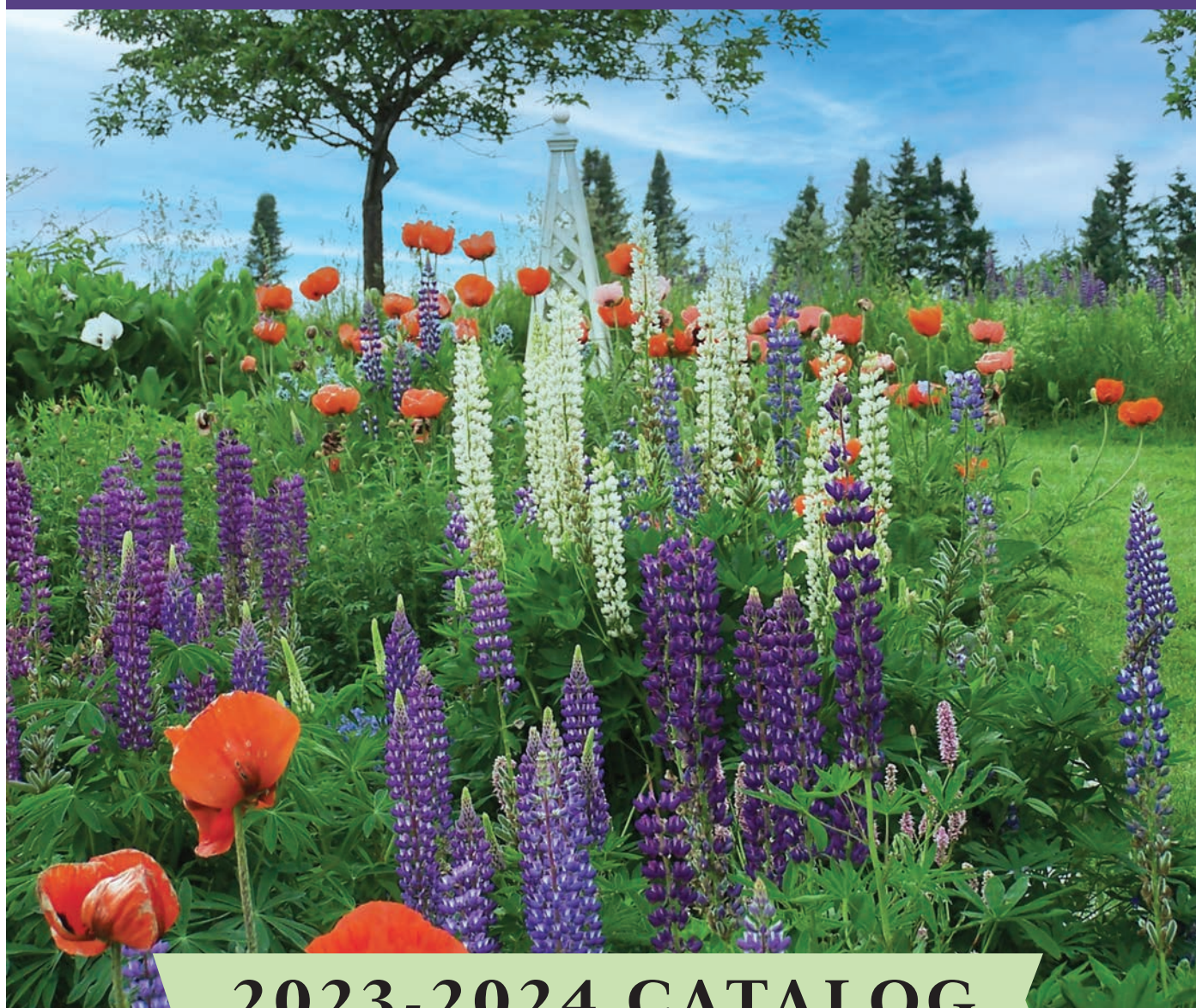




# Summersweet GARDENS

AT PERENNIAL PLEASURES

*Nursery, Gift Shop & Tea Room*



**2023-2024 CATALOG**

**HARDY AND NATIVE PERENNIALS**





## Summersweet Garden Nursery

P.O. Box 128, 63 Brick House Road  
East Hardwick, VT 05836

Tel: 802-472-5104 Web: [www.summersweetgardens.com](http://www.summersweetgardens.com)

E-mail: [sales@summersweetgardens.com](mailto:sales@summersweetgardens.com)

### HOURS and OPEN DAYS 2023 and 2024

Confirm our days and hours, and holiday schedules, by checking with our Website (and not just the google listing!). Once in a while we are closed for private events.

#### RETAIL NURSERY AND GIFT SHOP:

In general, open early May to mid-September, 10 to 5, Wednesday through Sunday. Closed on Mondays and Tuesday, save for prearranged pickup orders. No garden visitors on Closed Days please.

- 2023: Open May 1 to September 19
- 2024: Open May 7 to September 24

#### TEA ROOM:

Full tea service in the garden happens Thursdays through Sunday. Reservations are recommended, and may be made online.

- 2023: Open June 1 to Sept. 17, serving from 11 to 3:30

#### THE TAKE-OUT PORCH - OPENS MAY 20, 2023

There will be self-serve hot and cold drinks, and baked goods. You will be able to seat yourselves out in the garden, and make it a picnic. The plan is that takeout service will be available Wednesdays through Sundays 10:30 to 3:30.

#### WHERE WE ARE:

East Hardwick is located in northeastern Vermont, about 30 miles north of Montpelier, about 22 miles west of St. Johnsbury, about 30 miles east of Stowe.

#### DIRECTIONS FROM VT RTE 15:

Turn north onto Rte 16. In a little over a mile, you will see our highway sign on the right. Take the next left onto Main St. and drive straight down the hill, through the middle of the village. Cross the bridge and go straight up the hill. Our brick house (the only one in the village) is the first house on the left.

*The Lamoille Valley Rail Trail is now open, and passes just a stone's throw from our garden. We have fresh East Hardwick water available to ramblers, to fill up your water bottles, plus cold drinks and snacks are available to purchase on our takeaway porch.*



#### ACCESSIBILITY

Much of the garden can be toured with wheelchair, although most of the paths are lawn, and not always level. If coming for tea, both the flower garden and covered porch can be accessed, but not the little greenhouse. The

bathroom facilities in the old house cannot accommodate wheelchairs.



## Summersweet Garden Nursery

Summersweet Garden Nursery was started by Rachel Kane with a few packets of seeds back in 1980. For forty years it was known as Perennial Pleasures Nursery, but Rachel decided to change the name – and only the name, in 2021. It will now be known as Summersweet Gardens. But it's ok if you still use the old name!

This nursery was originally created to cultivate heirloom flowers and herbs from the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries, for period garden restoration, and simply for a love for the old plants. These days we have over 800 varieties of plants and shrubs, many with heirloom pedigrees, but also worthy modern cultivars, new introductions and an increasing number of native plants. Herbs, both culinary and medicinal, remain an abiding interest, and Rachel continues to build up the phlox collection – the count currently stands at 157, among the largest collections in the country.

This is a real old-style nursery, where we start annuals in the greenhouse, collect our own seeds and take cuttings for many of our plant offerings. We bring in many of the latest cultivars, but we might also dig old heirlooms out of the field for you if we don't have them in a pot. While most of the plants are available for purchase only at the nursery, we do send Phlox out mail-order, and our website allows for on-line sales. If you are looking to find hardy plants, and deep experience about gardening in the north country, we are happy to share our experience.

The nursery is located in a small village in northeastern Vermont, behind the family home, an 1840s brick house. There are propagation fields and assorted display gardens, including a hedged herb garden.

Rounding out the scene is an eclectic gift shop, and a summer tea room, serving traditional English cream teas. There is much to learn and enjoy, so come spend a pleasant day!

## Dear Friends & Fellow Gardeners,

**I**t used to be a dread, but nowadays deep winter is delightful to me. It is a time for reading, researching, and getting caught up. Over many years the urge to travel has been strong, and largely indulged in, but the urge is losing its grip as I grow in appreciation of the wonderful place I live in. "To the lover of birds, insects and plants, the smallest area around a well-chosen home will furnish sufficient material to satisfy all thirst of knowledge through the longest life." So wrote the botanist and entomologist Mary Treat in 1885, and she's right. To expand on that thought, at an event I attended this past fall, we were asked by a keeper of indigenous wisdom "Do you have the courage to stay in one place? To belong to, and protect your place? People have rights, yes, but do not forget that with rights come responsibilities, to the larger community." To stay in one place is not the typical American way, we really like to move around! But it's probably time to question that lifestyle and pony up to the true needs of our world. For me it's time to consider the impact of my garden in the Lamoille River valley and further. What more can I do? Lots. But maybe doing less will at times be more fruitful, so I try to keep that in mind too.

One recent resolution is to no longer to use the word 'pesticide'. The word 'pest' derives from Latin and originally referred to the bubonic plague, or any epidemic that was devastating, to human life anyway, like the covid pandemic. A human-centric term, 'pest' is now a catchall word for all the organisms that pester us, no matter that they might be critical to an ecosystem, super beneficial to other creatures, or, heaven forefend, have their own right to life. Time to refresh the definition – surely we have some more threatening 'pests' among us now, such as endocrine disruptors, microplastics and pfas afoot nearly everywhere. I'll take aphids, bag worms and flea beetles over chemical insecticides any day!

Come and enjoy the garden, and don't ever feel you have to buy something. I intend that the nursery is a learning place as well as a respite, and plan to have more activities here. If you have a workshop or talk you'd like to hold here, please reach out. And remember, a messy garden is a happy garden!

Sincerely,

*Rachel*



## New Perennials & Shrubs for 2023

### Perennials

Achillea 'Sassy Summer Sunset'  
 Allium 'Bubble Bath' & 'Lavender Bubbles'  
 Aruncus 'Chantilly Lace' & 'Fairy Hair'  
 Aster 'Blue Autumn' & 'October Skies'  
 Astilbe 'Dark Side of the Moon'  
 Astrantia 'Vanilla Gorilla' & 'Venice'  
 Baptisia 'American Goldfinch' & 'Burgundy Blast'  
 Burnet 'Blackthorn' & 'Nodding White'  
 Catmint 'Purrsian Blue'  
 Chocolate Boneset  
 Columbine 'Clementine Red' & 'William Guinness'  
 Comfrey 'Axminster Gold' and White  
 Daylily 'Always Afternoon', 'Apricot Sparkles', 'Born to Run', 'Fooled Me', 'Inkheart', 'Persian Ruby', 'Stephanie Returns' & 'When My Sweetheart Returns'.  
 Delphinium 'Summersweet Steeple Blue'  
 Echinacea 'Cheyenne Spirit', 'Rainbow Marcella' & 'Sombrero Granada Gold'  
 Geranium 'Biokovo', 'Dark Reiter' & 'Max Frei'  
 Helenium 'Sombrero'  
 Hellebore 'Honeymoon' & 'Spanish Flare'  
 Hens & Chicks 'Chocolate Kiss' & 'Jade Rose'  
 Heuchera 'Smoke and Mirrors'  
 Hibiscus 'Midnight Marvel'  
 Hosta 'Diamond Lake', 'Diamonds are Forever', 'Francee', 'Frances Williams', 'Great Expectations', 'Komodo Dragon', 'Platinum Tiara', 'Rainbow's End', 'Spartacus' & 'Tears in Heaven'

Lady of the Meadow, Variegated  
 Iris pallida 'Zebra'  
 Liatris ligustylis & scariosa  
 Moss Pink 'Purple Beauty' & 'Strawberries & Cream'  
 Persicaria 'Firetail'  
 Phlox 'Party Girl', 'Younique Old Blue' & 'Younique Trendy'  
 Poppy 'Burning Heart'  
 Rattlesnake Master  
 Salvia 'White Rain'  
 Sedum 'Atlantis'  
 Silphium mohrii  
 Thalictrum 'Anne'  
 Thrift  
 Veronica 'Ever After'  
 Veronicastrum 'Cupid'

### Shrubs & Vines

Chokeberry 'Brilliantissima' & 'Low Scape Mound'  
 Hydrangea 'Invincibelle Sublime', 'Firelight', 'Firelight Tidbit', 'Limetta' & 'Little Lime'  
 Nannyberry Viburnum  
 Ninebark 'Summer Wine'  
 Russian Cypress  
 Sambucus 'Lemony Lace'  
 Smokebush 'Winecraft Black'  
 Summersweet 'Ruby Spice'  
 Wild Yam Vine  
 Winterberry 'Berry Heavy'

## English Cream Teas in the Summersweet Tea Room

*Tea and scones in the garden, what could be better!*

While here you may want to enjoy an English Cream Tea, served in the flower garden or covered porch. Our classic cream tea consists of freshly baked scones, topped with real cream and homemade strawberry jam, cucumber-herb sandwiches and sweet bickies. There is a wide choice of familiar and exotic teas to choose from, in addition to coffee, lemonade and other cold drinks. Special dietary needs can be accommodated, with advance notice. We are currently serving only prix fixe Full Cream Teas, thank you for your understanding. Reservations are strongly recommended, and can be made on our website. If questionable weather arises, please give us a quick call, as we have limited seating under cover.

Takeaway options are also available on the porch, if you don't have time for a sit-down tea, or were not able to book a reservation. You will now be able to pick up hot or cold drinks, and simple baked goods to enjoy as a picnic in the garden, no reservation needed. The takeout porch is open Weds though Sunday, 10:30 to 3:30.

## The Brick House Gift Shop

*Hats, Teapots, Clothing and more - there's always something new!*

We've always tried to fill the Brick House Shop with items that are both beautiful and useful, from local producers as well as from continents away. Hats are a specialty in the shop, and we have more on hand than, well, almost anywhere in the state. You'll find the sturdiest of garden hats for women, men and children, comfortable cloches and beach hats, but also some pretty fancy numbers for weddings. Mother always said, buy the hat first, and then get your dress to match it. We have a good supply of men's hats too, from boaters to roadsters, and even felted fedoras. You'll also find jewelry, scarves, English teapots, gardening tools, cards and wind chimes, as well as lightweight cotton summer clothing from India.

Our buying philosophy is that even our little shop's purchasing can make a difference in the world, and so we choose our sources carefully, favoring fair trade, hand-made and USA-made goods over common imports. We also favor natural fibers and materials, and go to lengths to avoid plastic and petroleum-based materials. We try hard to find the unusual, the new and the just plain gorgeous!

Please consult our website for additional events and workshops.

[www.summersweetgardens.com](http://www.summersweetgardens.com)



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## Phlox Fest 2023

**Saturday, July 29 to Sunday August 13**

Our 21st annual, the Phlox Fest celebrates all things phlox. For fellow fanciers and flower lovers of all description, this is the time when most of our 158 plus varieties will be in bloom, and is the best time to view and compare all of those glorious colors. During the Fest, free garden tours will be led by Rachel everyday at 1:00 pm and there will be a phlox cut flower display. There are also special plant sales and doorprizes, including a chance to "win" Rachel for a garden consultation. We hope to see you!

## Free Garden Tours Sundays at 1:00 pm

Join Rachel for a 45 minute garden tour, every Sunday at 1:00 pm, from mid-June to -August (at 1:00 pm during Phlox Fest). Feel free to just drop in, and there will be time for questions afterwards.



# General Information about our Plants and More



## HOW WE GROW PLANTS

We grow many of our perennials in a sunny field behind the old brick house, and quite a few customers have attested to the hardiness of the stock. This is partly because, as much as we love them, we do not coddle our plants, nor do we over stimulate them with massive doses of fertilizer, a common practice in garden centers. While we are not certified organic, we practice organic farming methods and use natural controls as much as possible, for if the soil is healthy, and plants are sited according to their needs, they will thrive and naturally resist the attack of pests and diseases. In the greenhouse will be found bedding plants, herbs and first year perennials, from spring 'til midsummer, and our own starts are grown without chemical pesticides.

## OUR PHILOSOPHY ON INSECTICIDE USE

We do not use nasty sprays here. The wide range of plants grown in the nursery, plus a tolerance for the wildflowers and weeds growing on the fringes, support an abundance of insect life, and this diversity creates a balance when it comes to garden pests. With a live-and-let-live attitude, and a tolerance for sporadic nibbling, it is quite rare to see substantial damage, as the insects largely keep each other in balance. If you find yourself urged to spray against insects, research the insects first, and then the materials before buying and applying - whether they are called organic or not - and please think thrice. Even better, please don't spray at all. Most people find that using insecticides leads to widespread and unintentional carnage among beneficial insects, and a loss of birds, and yields to a vicious cycle of imbalance, and booming numbers of pests in years to come.

We screen against buying in plants that have been raised with the neo-nicotinoid class of insecticides which are strongly implicated in Colony Collapse Disorder of honeybees, long-term damage to amphibians, and more, and which, incidentally, have been banned in the European Union in order to protect bees. If this is a concern for you also, please ask me (Rachel) for details. Do the environment, and yourselves, a favor, and be sure to ask about the policies on 'neo-nics' at everyplace you buy plants, and I encourage you to say just no to buying plants you are not sure are clear of these poisons.

## GARDEN CONSULTATION WITH RACHEL

Do you need a little help organizing your garden? Maybe you could use help with the layout of garden beds, trees and shrubs? Dealing with an unpleasant view that you would love to screen in a creative way? Or have you inherited a garden full of plants with no identifications, and simply want to know what you are dealing with out there?

Whether you are ready to temper the results of over-enthusiasm with some semblance of order, or are starting a garden from scratch, a plan can save time and money, and Rachel may be able to help. She can come over and easily label your garden plants.

For more of a plan you can bring your notes and photos to the nursery for a quick consultation, or she can make a site visit your garden, and offer ideas and plans for landscape improvements. Please email.



## GIFT CERTIFICATES

Are available in any amount, and may be ordered online, by phone or in the shop.

## WE ARE HERE TO HELP

At all times feel free to ask for gardening advice, or bring in samples of plants you need identified, and bagged samples of diseased leaves or insects. We will try to offer advice. Call 802-472-5104 or Email [sales@summersweetgardens.com](mailto:sales@summersweetgardens.com).

## ACCOMODATIONS AT THE BRICK HOUSE

We now have an upstairs 'flat' available for overnight or weekly stays. It sleeps three, has an equipped kitchen, and overlooks the garden with its own private porch. Email for details.

## ORDER PLANTS ONLINE

## PAY A BILL ONLINE

## WWW.SUMMERSWEETGARDENS.COM

On-line ordering is available for phlox (and a few other plants), and the site is gradually being built up to have detailed plant descriptions and photos, plus additional resources and an updated calendar of events.



*Please carpool whenever you can, to reduce pollution!*



KEY: P=Perennial, B=Biennial, S=Sun, PSh=Part Shade, Sh=Shade. Dates listed refer to the date of introduction to American gardens.

*“What a delight it is  
When, of a morning,  
I get up and go out  
To find in full bloom a flower  
That yesterday was not there.”*

**Tachibana Akemi**

**1812-1868**

#### ACHILLEA = YARROW

Full sun, well-draining soil. Rugged, tolerant of poor dry soils. Great for cutting, drying. July/August. Easy culture. Some are spreaders.

**YARROW ‘SILVER SPRAY’** *Achillea cartilaginea*  
Unusual 1/2” wide white flowers bearing broad petals and a central yellow button which over time darkens to sienna. Shiny foliage, very long flowering. Spreads politely. A modern rarity. 24-30”

**GOLDEN YARROW** *A. filipendulina*  
Big plants, with pale green aromatic ferny foliage, strong stems bear 3-4” golden yellow umbels, mid-July well into Aug. The best for dried flowers. Species introduced 1850-99. 24-36”

**PINK YARROW** *A. millefolium* & cvs  
Flat-topped flower clusters are 2-3” wide. Excellent as fillers in the border and in the vase. Long blooming, in July. Used medicinally since ancient times. 1600-99. Divide every second or third year to maintain vigor.

- ‘CERISE QUEEN’ Medium pink, variable color. This and the wild white are preferred by pollinators. 24”
- ‘SASSY SUMMER SANGRIA’ Dark red flowers with tiny white eyes, and silvery foliage. This is a relatively tall new series, but is quite sturdy and strong. 30-36”
- ‘SASSY SUMMER SUNSET’ NEW Opens orange and softens to

apricot shades, beautifully blended colors. Taller 24-28”, but with sturdy stems. Foliage slightly dusty.

- ‘SASSY SUMMER TAFFY’ Blend of dark salmon and peachy pink. 26-32”
- ‘SAUCY SEDUCTION’ Opens an intense fuchsia-pink, then lightens to medium pink. Strong, branched stems, with a compact habit. (Such silly names - the plants deserve better!) 18-24”

**PEARL YARROW** *A. ptarmica* var. *flore-pleno*

Robust, with masses of the whitest button flowers in July/Aug – it blooms longest if the first flush of bloom is cut. Shiny foliage. Very vigorous, it can easily crowd out its neighbors, so give it room. Excellent for poor soil sites. In the US by 1806.

- ‘COMMON PEARL YARROW’ 20-24”
- ‘NOBLESSE’ With much more compact habit, earlier bloom, and better double flowers than the original. It spreads, just like the others. Fleuroselect winner. At 12-16” it can be used to edge a border.

#### ACONITUM = MONKSHOOD

Easy to grow in full sun or partial shade. Plant in rich soil, well watered but not too damp. Propagate by spring division. Helmet-shaped flowers on spikes. Long-lived.

**PLEASE NOTE:** All parts of monkshood are extremely poisonous, and should be planted with care, and where children or pets cannot get at them. On a positive note, this toxicity means they are not troubled by insect pests, deer or woodchucks.

**AZURE MONKSHOOD (AUTUMN)** *A. carmichaeli*

Valuable for late bloom, Sept. into Oct., with deep azure blue flowers. One of the very few blue flowers for fall, giving a good balance to all those oranges and yellows. The leaves are glossy through the season. Upperclass. Good cutflower. Intro. to U.S. 1862. 36-42”

**‘SPARK’S VARIETY’** *A. henryi*

Deepest royal purple. More rambling and loosely branched, not such a dense flower spike as the other aconitums. Blooms 4-5 weeks, July/Aug, with phlox and beebalm. Recommended. Modern. 48-60”



**YELLOW MONKSHOOD***A. lycoctonum*

Unusual slender pale yellow flowers on loose spikes. Has a lower bushier habit than most other monkshoods. Vigorous. Intro 1800-50. 28-36"

**COMMON MONKSHOOD***A. napellus*

In American gardens for centuries, and occasionally found naturalized. Purplish blue flowers in late June give the look of delphinium without the trouble! Glossy leaves. Intro 1600-99. 36-48" Also the BICOLOR version, which is white edged with a heavy purple border, and looser spikes, in July. Not quite as vigorous as the parent plant, it is a bit more particular about having proper conditions. Stands out well in partial shade. Intro 1850-99. 48-60"

**ADLUMIA = ALLEGHENY VINE**

Biennial Vine to 15'/PSh/Native

*Adlumia fungosa*

Delicate looking, strong climber, with a clear kinship to Bleeding Heart, both in leaf and the pale pink flowers. Dies after 2nd year, but reseeds willingly, if happy in cool partial shade. Hard to find. Also known as Mountain Fumitory.

**AJUGA = BUGLEWEED**

P/3-6"/Sun or Shade

*Ajuga reptans etc.*

Colorful leaves, rapidly spreading groundcovers. They can survive quite beastly conditions, where nothing else will. One can walk on, mow, and abuse them in innumerable ways, yet they survive. The roots are shallow, so you can remove them if they over-enthuse. 3" foliage with 6" spikes of blue or pink flowers in May. We always have an assortment.

**ALCEA = HOLLYHOCK**

Bi or P. All 5-7 ft. Culture: Short-lived perennials, they generally live from 3 to 5 years, but self-sow freely, so you shouldn't ever need to plant them after the first two years. Seeds need light to germinate, so cover only lightly. Because of their root system, hollyhocks do not take kindly to transplanting once they reach flowering size, which is why it is better to plant them as yearlings. Many gardeners put a few new plants in every year to keep up. Winter mulching can be cause crown rot, so don't crowd or cover the crown. Plant in full sun, rich well-draining soil.

To reduce Hollyhock Rust, which causes the leaves to curl and fall off, keep plants happy. Diseased leaves should be picked off and all plant debris should be cleaned up and thrown out or burned in fall. Young plants naturally show more resistance, so many people replace their plants on a regular basis. The Fig and Russian appear to be more resistant. You can also simply plant tall perennials in front, such as phlox, to hide the skinny shanks.

- **COMMON HOLLYHOCK.** (*A. rosea*) This is the old-fashioned single type. Colors tend to pastel and softer shades of pink, white, rose and yellow. We usually have it in 'black' too. Intro in 1600-99.
- **FIG HOLLYHOCK** (*A. ficifolia*) Like common hollyhocks, the chief difference being that these lvs are lobed, rather like fig leaves. The colors tend to the strong yellows or reds. Reported to be more rust resistant. 1800-50 or earlier. Mixed colors.
- **RUSSIAN HOLLYHOCK** (*A. rugosa*) Single flowers in a clear lemon chiffon yellow. More resistant to hollyhock rust.

**ALCHEMILLA = LADY'S MANTLE**P/12-18"/S or LSh/ 20th c *Alchemilla mollis*

Bushy sprays of tiny chartreuse flowers push through the pretty pleated foliage in May/June. A favorite of Gertrude Jekyll's, who always paired it with Persian Catnip. Hardy, vigorous, easy to divide. Average soil, not too hot and dry.

- **COMMON LADY'S MANTLE**
- **DWARF LADY'S MANTLE** (*A. erythropoda*) 3-6"
- **'THRILLER'** Larger flower sprays.

**AMSONIA = BLUE STAR**

Graceful natives, with svelte glossy leaves, and clusters of slender pale blue flowers in June. I know of no pests or diseases. They don't sprout

in spring till quite late in May, so don't worry if you see no sign of life 'til then. Rather slow growing and clump-forming, they don't reach an adult size for 3 or 4 years, but once mature, they remain quietly for decades. Sun or PSh. Rich light or moist soil. Classy and utterly hardy. Deer resistant.

**ARKANSAS AMSONIA** *Amsonia hubrichtii*

Has the deepest blue flrs of the amsonias, the tallest stems too. The narrow leaves turn such a rich yellow in the fall, and last so long, that it is often planted simply to decorate the fall garden. 2011 Perennial of the Year. 48"

**GLOSSY-LEAVED AMSONIA** *A. illustris*

I have come to regard this as my favorite amsonia, because of the lovely and substantial bronzing on the broad leaves. Makes a delicate and attractive contrast with the usual pale blue petals. 24-30"

**WILLOW AMSONIA** *A. tabernaemontana*

Glossy willow-like leaves, yellow fall color, pale blue flrs. Intro. 1700-99. Excellent for permanent plantings, it does not runner, nor die out in the center. Tolerates poor and dryish soils. 24-30"

- **COMMON BLUESTAR**
- **'STORM CLOUD'** The darkest leaves of all, beautiful all season. 24-30"

**AQUILEGIA = COLUMBINE**

Perennials with dainty flowers. Grow in sun or light shade. Well-drained soil. They will self-sow abundantly in pebbles or gravel. Hummingbirds love them.

**COLORADO COLUMBINE***Aquilegia caerulea*

Prettiest sky blue with long white spurs. 12-24"

**CANADA COLUMBINE** *A. canadense*

Pretty native wildflower. Nodding flrs with yellow sepals and soft-red spurs, with protruding bunches of yellow stamens. Not much seen in the wild woods anymore, so why not give them a hand and re-establish them on your land? 1700-99. 12-18"

**EUROPEAN COLUMBINE***A. vulgaris*

Commonest in our gardens, and sometimes escaped in the wild.

- **'ANTIQUÉ OLD PURPLE'** The old type, with short spurs, in purples, occasionally pink. Very long-lived. 1600-99. 20-30"
- **'BARLOW'** This old type is called 'clematiflora' and they look more like tiny dahlia flowers, really interesting and pretty. Assorted colors. 18-24"
- **'ASSORTED'** A bit 'o this and a bit 'o that.

**ARALIA 'SUNKING'**P/3-5'/PSh to LSh *Aralia cordata*

Makes quite a tropical statement in a northern garden! Compound leaves are bright golden-green, and will hold their color best in a partly-shaded site with a couple of hours of full sun. Spikes of white flowers in late summer atop substantial 4 ft. stems. Deer resistant. Grow in rich well-drained soil. From Japan.

**Note to the reader** - These plants list are put together with assumptions about what we'll have for 2023 and '24, but the plants come and go, so it is not a sure thing that we'll have every plant variety potted and ready to go on any one day. If you are coming from a distance, or desire a large quantity of something, contact us to check on availability. We can pot up and set aside pots for you with advance request.



**ARTEMISIA = SILVER MOUND**P/Sun/8" *Artemisia schmidtiana*

Has the softest feathery foliage making nice low silvery 'cushions'. A fantastic accent, non-spreading, very hardy. When the cushion starts to flop apart, it's time to divide and reinvigorate it. Divide every 3rd year or so. Well-drained to dry soil. (See herb pages for other artemisias.)

**ARUNCUS = GOATSBEARD**P/LSH/White/3-4' *Aruncus dioicus*

This stout old-fashioned perennial is like a giant white astilbe. It has decent foliage, somewhat bronzed, and is long-lived and super hardy. It makes a fine specimen, but also works well planted amongst shrubs. Plant a row as a permanent background to a perennial border. This native species prefers deep rich soil. Intro. 1800-50.

- 'FAIRY HAIR' Makes a chunk of super fine foliage that grabs the eye regardless of flowers. The foliage bun reaches 10-15" tall, 20" wide and the white flower spires reach to 2 ft.
- 'CHANTILLY LACE' **NEW** Mid-sized, perfect for shade gardens or around shrubs. Heavy flowering in June. 24-30" tall, can spread to 40". Takes a couple of years to establish, so leave room, it will be solid for decades. Native. Proven Winner.

**ASARUM = WILD GINGERS**

Part to deep shade, rich loose soil, slightly acidic. Shady groundcovers. The flowers are shy maroon-brown cups at ground level, in early spring. Gingery-smelling, but not used in the kitchen nowadays.

**WILD GINGER** *Asarum canadense*

Native. Deciduous, the 4" leaves are exquisitely lovely and velvety in spring. The spicy root was used like ginger. Well known to Native Americans, it has medicinal action as a stimulant, diuretic and diaphoretic. Will slowly colonize. Intro 1600-99. 8"

**EUROPEAN GINGER** *A. europæum*

Handsome evergreen groundcover with 3" shiny dark leaves. Pest-free. Easy to divide. Evidently not edible, it nevertheless smells very gingery. Known as Asarabacca to the herbalists. Tolerates deep shade. 20th c. 10"

**ASCLEPIAS = MILKWEED**

Fine North American perennials. All Milkweeds are extremely desirable to various butterflies, both as nectar and larval food source, particularly Monarchs. Full sun.

**ROSE SILKWEED** *Asclepias incarnata*

Tall and strong, 4-5 ft stems topped with deep reddish-pink or white butterfly weed flowers in August. Compared to common milkweed, this grows up as a clean sturdy clump, and does not runner, and the flowers are darker, skinnier and in smaller heads. Tolerant of quite damp soil, yet average soil is fine. Popular with Swallowtails. Intro 1700-99. 48-60"

**BUTTERFLY WEED** *A. tuberosa*

The bright orange flowers make it a popular ornamental, for butterflies and people too. It requires a sunny and totally well-drained soil. Also known as the medicinal Pleurisy Root. Detests being transplanted, so move it while young. Very late to emerge in the spring. Into U.S. gardens in 1700-99. 15-20"

**ASTERS**

Our native asters came into prominence in the garden during the early years of the 20th century, after selective breeding had produced a wider range of colors. As the vogue for wild gardens increased, largely as a result of the writings of Wm. Robinson, all sorts of Asters (also called Michaelmas Daisies) were widely planted, especially the New York, New England and the annual China aster. Modern day gardeners seem to have forgotten the delight of the fall border, so popular a century ago. Why not give yourself something cheerful to look forward to, and give over a corner of the garden to an autumn display? With the Asters, plant Helenium, Boltonia, Culver's Root, Tall Phlox, Vernonia and



Autumn Monkshood. Asters are important pollinator plants. All below are perennial, and prefer full sun. (Reclassified as Symphyotrichum, we will stay with 'Aster')

**NEW YORK ASTERS** (*Aster laevis*)

Great for the mid-border, a good show from Aug. well into Sept. Daisy flowers 1 to 1.5" wide, scattered up and down the stems. Good foliage. Rich soil. Natives. Any Asters can be pinched back hard in June to make them bushier, stronger stemmed and later-blooming. Deer resistant.

- **ASTER 'BLUE AUTUMN'** **NEW** Violet-blue with a yellow eye. Smooth foliage has is disease resistant. Blooms August into the fall. Will survive in wild meadows. 15-24"
- **ASTER 'BLUEBIRD'** Taller upright form. Lavender-blue daisies, 3/4" wide, in Aug/Sept. Very hardy, and it shines and thrives in hot, humid weather. Prefers dryish soil. 24-30"
- **'BLUE GOWN'** Slightly deeper than the above, and a pre-1945 variety. To 24"

**ASTER 'OCTOBER SKIES'** *A. oblongifolium* **NEW**

Late blooming, from Sept to Oct. Softer lavender-blue, 1 1/4" wide flrs. Tolerates poor soil and drought better than others. Butterflies and bees like the flrs, and the ripe seed are enjoyed by goldfinches, so leave the spent stems up in the fall. Tolerates dry, clay or poor soils, salt tolerant too. Received 4 stars from the Chicago Botanic Garden trials. 18-24"



## NEW ENGLAND ASTER

*Aster novae-angliae*

Invaluable for heavy, late bloom, when they are covered with hundreds of 1-2" wide daisies. Very important pollinator plants. Bees and Monarch butterflies flock to them for nectar, and bumblebees sleep under the blossoms on frosty nights. Lower stems often look shaggy, so under plant with shorter plants to hide the shins, or cut asters back hard in early June to reduce the ultimate height - this latter practice also alleviates the need for any staking. Dry or moist soil. First in U.S. gardens in 1700-99. 36-60"

- 'ALMA POTTSCHKE' Hot pink, orange center. Shorter than most, and earliest to bloom, Aug into Sept. 36"
- 'GRAPE CRUSH' A new mid-height aster, deep full purple, and upright grower. Proven Winner. 26-30"
- 'HARRINGTON'S PINK' Soft pink, yellow center. Absolutely the latest cultivar to bloom, in October. 48-60"
- 'HONEYSONG PINK' Much like 'Harrington's', but blooms two to three weeks earlier, and flowers are a little larger. 48"
- 'MRS. S.T. WRIGHT' Nice large lilac. From the early 1900s. 42"
- 'PURPLE DOME' A fine dwarf aster, with full size flowers of deep purple with orange centers. Late Aug into Sept. 15"
- 'RED CLOUD' Soft reddish-pink. Pre-1949 var. 48"
- 'WEDDING LACE' White with an orange center. I decree this should be mandatory in every garden, for both flowers and bees! 48"
- 'WILD PURPLE' Medium purple, smaller but more prolific blossoms. The butterflies seem to prefer this one above all others. Sept. 48-60"

## ASTILBE

*Astilbe x*

Airy plumes in mid to late summer above attractive glossy cut leaves - they look good all season. Of supremely easy culture, they grow in sun or considerable shade, although growth is best in light shade. They will tolerate dry soil, but prefer damp soils, and good moisture is a must if they are placed in full sun. Untroubled by insects or disease. Deer resistant. 20th c.

## WHITE ASTILBES:

- 'AVALANCH' (*arendsii*, by 1934) Arching plumes. 20"
- 'BRIDAL VEIL' (*arendsii*) A classic white, with gently arching panicles. Early. 28"
- 'PROFESSOR VAN DER WEILEN' (*thunbergii*, by 1934) Tall, arching white, graceful form. 24-36"

## PINK AND LAVENDER ASTILBES:

- 'BETSY CUPERUS' (*thunbergii*, by 1934). Arching medium-pink flowers. Very graceful form, as are all the *thunbergii*'s. 32"
- 'BRESSINGHAM BEAUTY' (*arendsii*) Dusty salmon-rose. From noted breeders Blooms of Bressingham. Arching stems to 36". Early to midseason.
- 'CHINENSIS PUMILA' (*A. rubra*) Dwarf creeper, glowing lilac-purple in late August. The latest astilbe to bloom. Valuable edger, and fine under shrubs. 'Pumilum' means dwarf. 10"
- 'DARK SIDE OF THE MOON' **NEW** (*chinensis*) A first, combining both deep burgundy foliage and purple flrs. Buds are raspberry opening to rosy-purple, on narrow panicles. Best growth and color in full sun with good moisture, but part shade is ok. Gorgeous in containers. Late bloom. 22" tall.
- 'DELFT LACE' (*japonica*) This is one of my favorites! The leaves have a maroon tint (which is more pronounced in higher light levels), the flower stems are a real red, with salmon-pink buds opening to tall soft pink flower plumes. Blooms mid-season. Recommended. 10-26"
- 'MIGHTY PIP' (*chinensis*) Super tall flowers make a great show. Pale pink plumes rise up to 36" or even 48", so this really stands out, and up, in the lightly shaded garden.
- 'OSTRICH PLUME' (*thunbergii*) 32". Large weeping panicles of soft-pink. Graceful form and a good bloomer. Midseason.
- 'PURPLE CANDLES' (*chinensis*) Tall and straight, with glowing lilac color in late summer. 36-42"

**RED ASTILBES** The reds usually have bronzed foliage.

- 'ETNA' (*arendsii*, by 1949) Dark red. Early to mid season bloom. 24"
- 'VISION IN RED' (*chinensis*) Deep red buds open to rich deep pink flowers, held on dark red stems. The slightly bronzed foliage stays low, and this cultivar is excellent for edging and massing, for *Astilbe chinensis* types spread steadily by stolons. Late season bloom, in August. 15"

## ASTRANTIA = MASTERWORT

P/15-24"/Sun or PSh/Pink *Astrantia major*

1" wide flowers in late June, the spiky petals are pale pink with red tips, and form sort of long-lasting tufts. Quite neat in arrangements, and nice foliage too. Very popular in European gardens, especially with the newer colors. Aside from the old-fashioned common, we have the following cultivars:

- 'LARS' Dark pink, 20-24"
- 'MASTERPIECE' Green foliage is variegated with a palmate golden center, enlivening the garden even when not in bloom. Variegation is stable. Classy! Pale pink flowers. 16-24"
- 'ROMA' Medium pink over a flat silvery 'ruff'. Blooms longer and more vigorously than most other pinks or reds, and often reblooms too. 20-24"
- 'RUBY CLOUD' Looks just like 'Lars' to me.
- 'VANILLA GORILLA' **NEW** Variegated leaves have a broad creamy margin, and the color is stable (and good-looking). Silvery-pink flrs. 16-24"
- 'VENICE' **NEW** Deep purple-red flowers. 20-24"



*'Before picking or digging up, the plant should always be 'saluted' and told for what purpose it is needed, and if possible for whom, thus pacifying it and ensuring its co-operation.'*

*From Gardener's Magic and Other Old Wives Lore.*

## BAPTISIA = FALSE INDIGO

P/3-4'/Full Sun/Blue/18th century *Baptisia australis*

Shrub-like native perennials, hardy, strong and long-lived, requiring virtually no care. Lupine-like blue June flowers on 10-12" stalks rise above elegant chalky blue-green foliage, eventually turning into ornamental inky-black pea pods. So strong it can be used as a herbaceous hedge. Grow in full sun, average to dry soil. Heat and salt tolerant too. Deer resistant. Nectar and pollen for bumblebees. Allow 4' for spread.

- **COMMON** in medium blue.
- 'AMERICAN GOLDFINCH' **NEW** Nice bright yellow, a wonderful block of tall bright color in June. 36-42"
- 'BURGUNDY BLAST' **NEW** Burgundy purple flrs have a touch of yellow. A tasty color. 36-42"
- 'PURPLE SMOKE' Soft purple flrs on charcoal stems, elegant, with fine slender form. 36-42"
- 'ROYAL PURPLE' Rich purple flowers. 36-52"

## BELLIS = ENGLISH DAISY

Bi or P/3-6"/PSh to Sh/White/1700-99 *Bellis perennis*

A traditional cottage garden plant with appealing little daisies, Apr/May. Low leafy rosettes with 1/2 to 1" wide flowers, white with faint pink tips, and a little yellow eye. Happiest in part shade, moist soil. In the right conditions it will self-sow into the lawn, which some garden grumps resent, but we think it creates a charming old-fashioned effect. Can be divided after flowering. This is the plain white, unadorned and unimproved, single flowering species, single flowering species - adorable.

**BRUNNERA = HEARTLEAF BRUNNERA**

P/12-15"/S or LSh/Blue/1850-99 *Brunnera macrophylla*  
 Sprays of deep blue forget-me-not-like flowers from May into June. Classy dark green heart-shaped leaves look good throughout the season – a good choice for big bold edging. From Siberia and the Caucasus. Prefers a deep soil that is not too dry, otherwise very easy. Makes wonderful big chunks that can be divided or safely ignored with impunity.

- COMMON HEARTLEAF BRUNNERA The plain old green-leaved trooper.
- 'EMERALD MIST' Has a necklace of silver along the leaf edges, attractive.
- 'JACK FROST' A thick tracery of silver is laid all over the green leaves. Continues to be a popular variety, for good reason! RHS Award of Merit. 12-15"

**CALTHA = WHITE MARSH MARIGOLD**

P/12-15"/PSh to LSh/White *Caltha palustris alba*  
 Native. Round glossy leaves form a strong clump, with numerous 1.5" white buttercup-like flrs, held well above the greens, blooming most of May. Caltha doesn't need a swamp to be happy – a deep rich well-watered soil in part shade is fine. Will go dormant in summer if too dry. Superb.

**CAMPANULA = BELLFLOWER**

Grow in cool, rich, light soil. Full sun to light shade. Divide in spring or fall. All listed here are perennial.

**CARPATHIAN BELLFLOWER** *Campanula carpatica*  
 Tidy mounds of foliage with 1" purple-blue or white upward facing cup-shaped flrs, July into Aug. Great for edging, in the rock garden or along pathways. The species was introduced by 1806. This one needs full sun. 8-10"

**DANE'S BLOOD** *C. glomerata superba*  
 This rugged Eurasian bellflower bears showy top clusters of royal purple or white in July. Not quite so invasive as some of its jostling relatives, nonetheless it settles into the garden unswervingly. Useful in difficult areas, nearly any soil. Good cutflower. Also called the Clustered Bellflower. 18-24"

- PURPLE DANE'S BLOOD Introduced 1800-50.
- 'CAROLINE' Lavender-mauve flowers. From England.
- 'JOAN ELLIOTT' Larger deeper violet flowers.
- WHITE DANE'S BLOOD (A weird name, no?)

**GREAT BELLFLOWER** *C. latifolia macrantha*  
 Big bells are 1" wide, 2" long, deep purple or white, ranged loosely along tall stems, in early July, making quite a show. Has large neat mounds of foliage, and it never 'runs around'. A good perennial substitute for Canterbury Bells if you can't be bothered with biennials, for it has a similar look and size. Long-lived and fine in the tall border. Easy to divide. 1850-99. 36-44"

**PEACH-LEAVED BELLFLOWER** *C. persicifolia*  
 Wide open 1" bells in soft blue or white ranging up and down leafless stalks, above a low glossy pile of leaves. Long-blooming, long-lived, self-sows. June/July. Good cutflower. These really glow in the evening garden. In US gardens by 1806. 24-30"

**SCOTTISH BLUEBELLS** *C. rotundifolia*  
 Bears a crowd of charming little soft blue bellflowers, hung on delicate wiry stems, in June and July. Good for loose edging, rock gardens and wild gardens. Also called Harebells. Native to US and Britain, noted in US gardens by 1804. 12"

**CENTAUREA = BACHELOR BUTTONS**

Grow in sun, any light soil. Rugged, long-lived perennials. Bumblebees love every species of Centaurea, and many of them attract goldfinches with their seeds too.

**PERSIAN CENTAUREA** *Centaurea dealbata*  
 Has 2" wide tufted flowers in a rosy-lilac color, nearing white in the center. Blooms in June/July. It was once called Whitewash Plant, because of the silvery-white leaf undersides of the finely divided leaves, which show up very well. 1850-99. 24-36"

**GLOBE CENTAUREA** *C. macrocephala*  
 A bold-leaved Armenian native, with 2" wide thistle-like lemon-yellow flowers in late July. The buds resemble papery brown artichokes. Good for drying. Resents transplanting, so plant where it can stay. Absolutely adored by bees. Listed in McMahon's 1806 catalog. 1800-50. 36-48"

**MOUNTAIN BLUET** *C. montana*  
 Popular in English cottage gardens since the 1500s, this perennial 'bachelor button' bears 2" wide flrs in June, medium blue with a reddish tint. Bordering on the indestructible, it increases steadily and self-sows. Cut back in July and it often re-blooms in Sept. Takes some shade. 1800-50. Also in solid white, and the pretty 'Amethyst in Snow', with white petals and a violet center. 18-24"

**CEPHALARIA = GIANT YELLOW SCABIOUS**

P/5-6'/Sun *Cephalaria gigantea*  
 2" wide pastel-yellow pincushions on towering leafless stalks in July and early Aug. Cutflower. Elegant color. Discovered in Siberia 1759. Popular with bees too.

**CHELONE = TURTLEHEAD**

Turtleheads thrive in sunny ditches, pondsides, etc. If damp, they will take full sun, but in dry soils give them some shade. Average to rich soil. They both spread well, but not brashly. Certainly, the flowers are vaguely shaped like turtleheads, and bees like them.

**WHITE TURTLEHEAD, NATIVE** *Chelone glabra*  
 This is the native species, common in wet ditches. Flowers white with pale pink blush, in July. Will seed down and spread in damp. The foliage is prone to spotting, so this is better in a wild garden, and to help reestablish local native plant communities. 30-40"

**PINK TURTLEHEAD** *C. obliqua*  
 This ought to be in your garden, for great late pink bloom. A robust grower with top clusters of 1 1/2" deep rose-pink flowers, late Aug to Oct. Super for the border or wild garden. One of our best late-bloomers, highly recommended. Intro from Europe 1800-50. 36-48"

**CHRYSANTHEMUM 'CLARA CURTIS'**

P/18-24"/Sun/Pink/20th c. *Chrysanthemum zawadskii*  
 One of the few chrysanthemums to not only survive in northern gardens, but to thrive and multiply, with heavy displays of 2" wide rose-pink daisy flowers on lax stems. Has a graceful aspect. Nice to see such a fresh pink in Aug/Sept. Divide every 3rd year.

**CIMICIFUGA (ACTAEA) = SNAKEROOT (COHOSH)**  
 Grow in sun or light shade, rich deep soil. Stately, rugged, long-lived perennials. (Now all technically in the genus Actaea, we continue to use the old name for convenience.)

**BLACK SNAKEROOT** *Cimicifuga racemosa*  
 Native wildflower and medicinal. Handsome and regal, I consider it the king of our gardens here. Above a 2-3 ft. mound of foliage, flower stalks rise up to 6-7 ft, with slender 10" white spikes in Aug. The strongly scented flrs are manna for bees. Intro 1850-99. Self-sows modestly. Allow 36" wide for spread.

**'HILLSIDE BLACK BEAUTY'** *C. ramosa*  
 Sensational deep dissect foliage, the darkest purplish black. 12" long flr spikes of white with a pale pink cast in August. Takes a few years to 'beef up'. For deepest color, give it some sun. Immensely showy, but this is a fussier grower, and may not be reliable in every garden. 4-5'



**RED-LEAVED SNAKEROOT** *C. simplex atropurpurea*

A glorious tall plant, with terrific red-tinted foliage, purpled stems and buds, and great waving wands of white flowers in Aug/Sept. A volcano of a plant, and one alone makes a big statement, especially as it comes into its prime so late in the season. All eyes will be upon it! 6-7'

**AUTUMN SNAKEROOT 'THE PEARL'**

*C. simplex var. matsumurae*

One of the latest bloomers in the garden, Sept into Oct, but bursting up with the vigor and fresh look of spring flowers. Spikes of little pinky white pearl buds open to white fuzzy flowers, on leafless stalks, rising to 28". Low 6" foliage is shiny, and the plant is slowly stoloniferous, and so makes lovely patches, in sun or light shade.

**CONVALLARIA = LILY OF THE VALLEY**

P/8"/Sh to LSh/ White *Convallaria majalis*

Fragrant white bells on little stalks in May. Tolerates tough and shady conditions where little else will thrive, and works well as a groundcover. We have it in the pale pink too. Note: all parts are TOXIC.

**COREOPSIS = COREOPSIS**

Native perennials. Grow them in full sun, and well-drained soil. Fine as cutflowers. I prefer not to perpetuate the depressing common name of 'Tickseed', though even in the original Greek, Coreopsis means 'bug-like'! Let's just call them Coreopsis.

**PLAINS COREOPSIS** *Coreopsis grandiflora*

Heavy bloomers, with 2" wide double daisies, generally golden-yellow. Fringed petals. Will bloom for 6 weeks, July/Aug, if dead-headed occasionally. Avoid damp sites, and don't crowd the crowns with mulch. They normally live just 3-4 years, but in those years they will bloom their hearts out. Attracts butterflies, but resistant to deer. We usually have a few cultivars. We usually have a few cultivars. 10-18"

**TALL COREOPSIS** *C. tripteris*

Have you poor, dry rocky or sandy soil? Heat, humidity or drought? Will nothing grow for you? Oh, but this trooper will! Slender shoots rise up in a vaguely tropical mood, like a 5 ft. tall bamboo grove. The leaves are 3 fingered and rise flush from the sturdy stems. A super tough plant with excellent texture, it is confident at summer's peak, even in the hottest weather. 2" wide butter yellow daisies, brown center, in August. No staking needed. Spreads moderately. 48-60"

**THREADLEAF COREOPSIS** *C. verticillata*

Yellow daisies with slender petals, 1" wide in mid-late summer, long-blooming, with thick stands of fine foliage. Very hardy, tolerates poor dry soils, such as along driveways and steep banks, damp soils ok too. It spreads, but not maniacally, and is easily divided. 15-20"

- 'MOONBEAM' Airy texture, blooms for nearly two months in that wonderful shade of pale silvery yellow that never clashes with any neighbors in the garden. Darker green foliage. An excellent and recommended plant. 15-20"
- 'ZAGREB' Foliage is more emerald green, flowers are deeper yellow and it forms overall a more dense flowering mass. 15"

**CROCOSMIA 'LUCIFER'**

P/36-42"/Sun/Red *Crocasmia x crocosmiflora*

Brilliant flame-red flowers on wiry arched stems, in Aug. Good for cutting. In the Iris family, it has sword-like foliage. Has proven hardy for us here, having survived 20 years with no winter mulch. Grow in good light soil.

**DELPHINIUM**

Full sun, rich, neutral pH, well-draining to sandy soil. Do not crowd the crowns with mulch, as humidity, or damp soil, can kill them. Deer resistant. Tall cultivars should be staked. Leaf yellowing or chlorosis, if not a symptom of overly damp soil, can be caused by soil pH that is not to their liking. They do not like extremes in either direction, so test your soil pH, and correct it to a neutral pH of 5-6.5. CAUTION: Delphiniums are Poisonous

**AMERICAN LARKSPUR** *Delphinium exaltatum*

A rare and delightful native. The flrs are much smaller than modern cultivars, about 1" long, slender, and of a curious gray blue. Tolerates part shade. Blooms in late summer. Long-lived, hardy. 1800-1850. 48-60"

**CHINESE DELPHINIUM** *D. grandiflorum*

Dwarf bright blue, great for the front of the border, or rock garden. 1.5" wide flowers in July /Aug, long-blooming. Very nice matched up with coreopsis and gaillardia. Reblooms if dead-headed. Species introduced. 1800-50. 10-12"

**'SUMMERSWEET STEEPLE BLUE'**

I am so proud of this plant! It is representative of the hardy old farmhouse delphiniums that actually stand tall without staking, and live for many years in average gardens. We have several 6-10 year old plants growing here. The flowers spikes are slender, true cobalt blue with black bees. It is a rare treat to find a delphinium that grows so well without fuss. The only requirements are well-draining soil, full sun. The origin is obscure. (Previously known here as Bruno, I've given it a new name.) To 6'

**CRAMBE = GREATER SEA KALE**

P/4-6'/Full Sun/White *Crambe cordifolia*

A great mound of giant cabbage-like blue-green leaves to 3-4', with large flowering stalks, up to 6', of small white flowers in June, like a huge baby's breath. The plant grows to about 4 ft wide, and is quite dramatic. Prefers well-drained rich soil, in full sun, but it will tolerate poorer soils in part shade. Avoid wet soils. Tap-rooted, so do not transplant mature plants. The tall flower stalks may need staking. Can go dormant in late summer, so plant them in the background of a border. They sure are fun! (For Blue Sea Kale, see herb section)

**DELPHINIUM 'NEW MILLENIUM HYBRIDS'** *D. x elatum*

The classic look, this is an improved strain over the old Round Table series.

- 'COBALT DREAMS' Deep glorious blue, with a white bee. 4-6'
- 'NEW MILLENIUM STARS' Mixed, many shades, 4-6'
- 'PURPLE PASSION' Rich deep violet with a white bee. 4-5'
- 'BLUE LACE' Sky blue with brushes of lavender. White bee. 5-6'

**DIANTHUS = PINKS**

As a rule, full sun and a well-drained sweet soil. Quite cold hardy, but avoid winter mulch, as humidity, like damp soil, sounds the death knell. Dianthus means 'God's Flower' (di-anthos).

**SWEET WILLIAM** *Dianthus barbatus*

Essential in any cottage garden. 3-4" wide heads, in various colors. Popular for centuries, the sweet scented blossoms were used to flavor desserts, wine and remedies. Short-lived perennials, blooming late June into July, they should be replaced every 3 years by cuttings or seed. Intro. to America 1600-99. 10-15"







**MAIDEN PINKS** *D. deltoides*

This low spreader makes a sheet of bright color in July. Plant with creeping thymes on walkways, to get more flower color. The easiest dianthus to grow, very adaptable. Commonly self-sows. Excellent for a sunny, hot rock wall or as an edger. Intro. 1800-50. In the usual red-pink, the brilliant cv 'Brilliant' or in White. 2-6"

**COTTAGE PINK** *D. plumarius*

Another old 'cottage', it was (and is) greatly esteemed for its strong clove-like fragrance. 1" wide single or double flowers in late June, anywhere from white through lilac to deepest pink, usually with a dark eye. Good for edging, rock gardens, for the grassy blue-green leaves remain good-looking all season. Will persist for many years, if in well-drained soil. Intro. 1700-99. 6-10". In addition to the old-fashioned species, we have the following named cultivars.

- 'FRAGRANT WHITE' The sweetest clove scent in my garden comes from this plant, which has been living in the tea garden for over 20 years. Pure white, single, with slightly pinked edges. (Probably *D. arenarius*) The mat of foliage is 3" tall, the flrs at 6".
- 'FROSTY FIRE' Bright red over the bluish leaves. 6"

**DICENTRA = BLEEDING HEART**

Delicate graceful foliage, with wands of dangling 'heart' flowers. They thrive in moist rich soil, but dislike wet soils. Plant in light shade. Deer resistant. Can be used in containers for the summer.

**FERNY BLEEDING HEART** *Dicentra eximia*

Short in stature. Very valuable for long-bloom, at least one month, and with reliable pretty foliage. Foliage stays green all summer. The native species. Fine pale green leaves, with purplish-pink heart flowers on little 'wands'. Blooms from mid-May to July. 10-12"

- 'KING OF HEARTS' Bright rose pink, blooms most of the summer. 8-10"

**OLD-FASHIONED BLEEDING HEART** *D. spectabilis*

A classic in the old-fashioned garden, introduced from Japan in the 1840s. Taller than the Ferny, this has tall arching foliage, and sprays of dangling pink and white flrs adorning the plant in early July. Often goes dormant in late summer, especially if the site is too sunny or dry, so plant amongst other plants to cover the gap. Fragile in looks, and one cries in horror when the roots break off during division, but they are stronger than they look.

- 'PINK' The old-fashioned original pink and white. 30-36"
- 'WHITE' White flowers, full size. Less tolerant of bright sunshine, so best to plant it in light shade. 24-30"
- 'VALENTINE' Flowers are deeper red than usual, and the foliage is slightly darker than usual, too. Gorgeous. 24"
- 'GOLD HEART' Lively golden-green foliage brightens up a dark corner. Typical pink flrs. 24"

**DIGITALIS = FOXGLOVES**

Perennial except as noted. Grow in sun or partial shade, in good soils, average to dry, though some tolerate clay. They almost always self-sow. CAUTION: All Foxgloves are poisonous.

**YELLOW PERENNIAL FOXGLOVE** *D. grandiflora*

A true perennial and a marvelous addition to any border or wild garden. 2" long soft-yellow flowers will bloom for 4 weeks, in mid-summer. Common in Elizabethan cottage gardens. Noted in the US by 1827. 30-36"

**STRAW FOXGLOVE** *D. lutea*

Miniature foxglove bells in pale greenish-yellow on slender strong stems to 2'. Strappy glossy lvs. Long blooming, July/Aug, and good for cutting. Lovely in the shaded wildflower garden, or sunny border. Strong and long-lived, it can tolerate very dry soils too. Mentioned by Gerard, 1632, and in America by 1806. Our American bees can't fit inside the slender flowers, but you'll find their bite marks over the nectaries. 24-30"

**CHOCOLATE FOXGLOVE** *D. parviflora*

Numerous petite reddish chocolate-brown flrs are borne along tight spikes in midsummer. A true perennial, with a rosette of shiny strap-like leaves. Quite rare. Long-lived. Prefers full sun, dryish soil. 20th c. 28-36"

**COMMON FOXGLOVE** *D. purpurea*

Self-sowing biennial. Tall spikes loaded with 2" long bell flowers in white or purple. A tried and true heirloom, and among the early imports due to its medicinal value as a heart stimulant. Seedlings with purplish stems will have purple flowers; those with pale stems will flower white, if you want to pick and choose. Tolerant of clay soils, but do not crowd or cover with mulch. For the most beautiful displays, I recommend that you set them in as first year plants, and allow them to mature on-site. We generally have a few colors. 36-60"

**DODECATHEON = SHOOTING STAR**

P/12"/LShade *Dodecatheon meadia*

Elegant native. Low rosette of lvs, flrs are little rosy-purple badminton 'birdies'. Prefers moist humus rich soil when in leaf, but overly wet conditions can bump it off, as it likes to be dryish while dormant (after bloom). Precious, so find a special place to plant it.

**DORONICUM = LEOPARD'S BANE**

P/18-24"/Sun or PSh/ Yellow *Doronicum orientale magnificum*

The earliest daisies of the summer, and the first good-sized perennial to jump the gate - the late tulips might even still be in bloom! The 2" wide daisies are soft yellow, and excellent for cutting. After early June bloom, summer heat may cause them to go dormant, so plant them where other plants will cover any absence. Grow in rich soil, sun or a little shade.

**DRABA = WHITLOW**P/1-3"/Sun or PSh *Draba sibirica*

Only lichen makes a shorter groundcover. The fragrant yellow flrs in May smell like honey. Flowers are tiny, but numerous. In rock gardens, very useful to plant over bulbs. Blooms the same time as Hyacinth. A gentle spreader.

**ECHINACEA = PURPLE CONEFLOWER**P/28-40"/Sun/Lilac/1700-99 *Echinacea purpurea*

This showy native species is attractive, easy and reliable, and so deservedly very popular nowadays. Burnt-orange disks are surrounded by slightly drooping rosy-lilac 2" long petals, from late July into Sept. Chemicals released by the plants reportedly have weed suppressing qualities. Warm well-drained soil, not too poor. Deer resistant, but the seed heads are great for the birds so leave them up over winter. Medicinal.

- **PURPLE CONEFLOWER** The straight species. 36-40"
- **'CHEYENNE SPIRIT' NEW** Has a range of colors, from tomato red to gold. Bushy with good branching. 22-30" tall.
- **'DELICIOUS CANDY'** Brilliant pink with a big chubby orange center. Single form. Petals are strictly horizontal. A cute number. 18-24"
- **'GREEN TWISTER'** Unusual blend of lime-green and pink petals, with an orange cone. In my garden it has stood out for hardiness and long bloom, and attracts a lot of attention! 24-36"
- **'MAGNUS SUPERIOR'** Wide 3-5" wide flowers, with non-drooping petals, in the classic purple. 36-40"
- **'POW WOW WHITE'** Single white. Especially robust, floriferous and well-branched, only 18-24" tall.
- **'POW WOW WILDBERRY' NEW** Compact, with slightly deeper petals, a proven reliable cultivar. 16-20"
- **'RAINBOW MARCELLA' NEW** Opens tangerine and then adds coral and pink tones around the eye, a soft blend of sherbet colors. Compact and floriferous. 18-20"
- **'RASPBERRY TRUFFLE'** Rich warm color, a blend of peachy-salmon to raspberry, with darkish foliage. Double pompom-type. Has persisted well in my garden. Our most popular! 28-32"
- **'SOMBRERO GRANADA GOLD' NEW** Warm golden yellow. 18-22"
- **'SOMBRERO SALSA RED'** Beautiful warm red petals, single form. Vigorous grower, sturdy, and a good bloomer. 18-24"



*"The world will be saved  
by beauty."*

*F. Dostoevsky*

**ECHINOPS = GLOBE THISTLE**P/3-6'/Sun or PSh *Echinops ritro & friends*

Handsome bushy stands of acanthus-like silver and green foliage, with 2" steely-blue or white flower balls in July. Bees just adore these flowers! It grows well in rich or poorish soil, as long as it's not wet. Long-lived. We have several types to choose from.

**EPIMEDIUM = BARRENWORT**Perennial/6-12"/Sun to Half Shade *Epimedium cvs.*

For low maintenance plantings, these plants are your dear friends. Attractive evergreen foliage, hangs on 'til the snow covers it. Dainty dangling flowers in Apr/May, while leaves are unfolding. About the best plant for dry shade, delightful in spring borders, shady walks. Steady, reliable, classy. Full sun ok if soil is rich and not terribly dry. Comes in a few species, colors, and leaf shapes – ask to see what we have this year.

**ERYNGIUM = SEA HOLLY & RATTLESNAKE MASTER**Perennials/Sun *Eryngium planum and yuccifolium*

Lots of small flowers, like little teasels. Very few leaves on the flowering stems, so the branches are super for cutting, and keep their color as dried flowers for years. July/Aug bloom. Deep rooted, they resent being disturbed once established. Sharply draining soil is mandatory, not an option. Average to poor soil, sun-baked is fine. Impressively attractive to bees and flying insects, marvelous for pollinator gardens. Deer resistant.

- **'BLUE GLITTER'** Silvery blue flowers, deep blue stems, heavily branched. 32-40"
- **RATTLESNAKE MASTER NEW** Clusters of bristly white globe flowers. A favorite of native bees, and a host plant for black swallowtails. 3-4'

**EUPHORBIA = SPURGE**

Sun or PSh. Average soil, on the dry side. Most of the 'flower' color comes from the bracts, or modified leaves, rather than petals, which means you get a long season of color, usually 4 weeks or more. A decidedly unglam common name for these neat plants.

SWAMP SPURGE *Euphorbia palustris*

Like a taller polychroma, with a great head of 'gamboge' yellow flowers in May/June. A fine plant, it can hold its own in a shrub border, or in large gardens, where it shines from a great distance. Very resilient and long-lived. 3'

CUSHION SPURGE *E. polychroma*

Makes a perfect and bright cushion in May. Chrome yellow bracts and flrs, and the light green leaves also are yellow on the ends. Remains colorful for at least one month, and pretty good looking thereafter. Leaves take on a reddish hue in the fall. Best color in full sun.

- **CUSHION SPURGE, COMMON** 12-18"
- **'BONFIRE'** A colorful variant, the lvs are a combination of purple, red and orange, with flowering stems of chartreuse green with yellow flowers. From Blooms of Bressingham. 12-18"

**FILIPENDULA = MEADOWSWEET**

Long-lived, and hardy. Sun or PSh. Widely soil tolerant, and they can take it very dry. Some older names are Dropwort and Honeysweet.

LADY-OF-THE-MEADOW *Filipendula ulmaria*

The fern-like leaves were common fragrant strewing herbs in the 16th century. Bunches of delicate white flowers atop 3' stalks, late July/Aug. Widely grown for medicinal uses and still regarded as one of the best digestive remedies. Contains salicylic acid. A herb sacred to the Druids. Intro. 1800-50. We have both the Single and Double flowering forms, plus a variegated form. Bee plant. 36-40"



**MEADOWSWEET** *F. vulgaris*

Buds are small pink pearls, opening to creamy white flowers in June. Traditional for bridal bouquets, wedding punches were flavored with the flrs too. Tuberous roots were used to tan leather, the lvs for strewing. Foliage forms a compact mound up to 18" high, flower stalks to 3' (the dbl is shorter). Finer texture than the above spp. Intro 1800-50. We have both the Single and Double-flowering forms.

**GAILLARDIA = BLANKETFLOWER**

P/Sun *Gaillardia aristata*

Colorful 2-3" wide daisies, preferring to grow in dry open soils. At all cost, avoid damp, and manure-rich soils, and be cautious of winter mulching, as humidity is their nemesis. Fine cutflowers. North American native. The flowers are very attractive to butterflies, bumblebees, sweat bees and more. We typically have a variety of cultivars.

**GERANIUM (HARDY) = CRANESBILL**

All will grow in sun or partial shade, any soil that is not terribly dry. Most are excellent as groundcovers, especially around shrubs, for their shallow roots will not interfere with the delicate root systems of rhododendron or other shrubs. A very hardy group, one of the easiest to grow and, on the whole, long bloomers. Recall that these are the true hardy geraniums, not to be confused with the tender houseplant Pelargonium.

**SPREADING CRANESBILLS:****'ROZANNE'**

One of the best perennials available! Extremely long blooming, through the heat of summer, and into the fall. Large violet-blue flrs have a paler center. Mounded slightly marbled foliage, reddens in the fall. Top rated, vigorous grower, can spill out to 3 ft when mature, so plan accordingly. Some gardeners plant it to create a longblooming 'river' of color. From Blooms of Bressingham. 18-20"

**BIGROOT CRANESBILL** *G. macrorrhizum*

Here is your problem-solving hero for dry shade! Peculiarly pungent foliage, reminiscent of a scented geranium, is stable all season. It thrives where other plants fail, under trees and shrubs, dry shade. Spreads easily, never hatefully, in full sun to light shade. Small soft-magenta flowers in midsummer. Intro 1800-50. 12-15"

**BLOODY CRANESBILL** *G. sanguineum*

Hardy spreaders with 1" saucer shaped flrs from June to Aug. Long-flowering. Useful for scrambling in rock gardens, along driveways and on dry steep banks where little else prospers.

- **BLOODY CRANESBILL** Deep magenta-pink. 1800-50. 12-18"
- **LANCASTER PINK** (*G. lancastriense*) Pale pink petals with tiny red veins. Slightly shorter, tends to bloom longer and w/ finer texture. 12" tall. Spreads to about 2 ft.
- **'ELKE' CRANESBILL** Bright rose pink, with a tiny white edge and white center. Pretty. 8"
- **'MAX FREI' NEW** A shorter more compact version, with deep magenta flrs. 4-8" tall, spread 12-24"

**'BIOKOVO' CRANESBILL** *G. x cantabrigiense* **NEW**

A fine spreader with white flowers, tinged with pink and pink stamens, from late May into June. Sterile, so it is long-blooming. Sun to PSh. 10" tall.

**MOUNDING CRANESBILLS:****IBERIAN CRANESBILL** *G. ibericum platypetalum*

Clusters of large 2" wide glowing deep lavender-blue flowers, pencilled through with indigo, above mounded foliage in midsummer. Fragrant lvs, a little like lemon geranium, turn red in fall. A very nice plant, and a favorite of mine. 1850-99. 16-24"

**SPOTTED CRANESBILL** *G. maculatum*

Clear pink flowers in June. A native species, it will seed around a little bit. Deeply lobed leaves, and rather squat (in a nice way). Rich moist soil preferred. A parent of 'Johnson's Blue'. 12-20"

**DUSKY CRANESBILL** *G. phaeum & album*

June flowers of a curious aubergine hue. Tidy mounds of foliage, standing straight and tall, 1/2" wide nodding flowers. Once known as Mourning Widow. Also in white. 1850-99. 18-24"

**FIVE SPOT CRANESBILL** *G. x monacense*

Leaves have five distinct maroon dots, flrs are nodding maroon. Hardy, long-blooming, and doesn't fall over. Good tall ground cover. Modern. 18"

**MEADOW CRANESBILL** *G. pratense*

Long blooming, 1" wide bluish-lilac saucer-shaped flrs. In English cottage gardens since earliest times. Self-sows freely, will naturalize. Cut to ground in July to encourage reblooming. 1800-50. Will grow tall, to 3', if planted amongst other tall plants, but normally at 24" tall and wide.

- **COMMON**
- **'DARK REITER' NEW** Nice dark purple foliage makes a fine contrast to the lilac-blue flrs. Shorter and more compact than the mama plant, at 8-12" tall and wide.

**WOOD CRANESBILL** *G. sylvaticum*

Bell-shaped 1/2" wide flowers are borne on stalks which rise well above the leaves, in a most glowing rhodamine magenta color. This is the common wild geranium of Europe, and with its tight bushy habit, it has a different posture. I can't explain why, but this is another one of my favorite geraniums. 20th c. 24-30"

**GEUM = AVENS**

P/Sun *Geum x*

Slightly nodding 1" wide flowers in subtle warm colors, on tall wiry leafless flower stalks from June into July. Low mounds of hearty foliage stay a good green through the summer. In the Rose family, they attract butterflies, and resist deer.

- **'BORISII'** (*G. coccineum*) Single tangerine flowers with yellow anthers, 1" wide, are outward facing in early to mid- June. Perhaps the first orange perennial in the season. 12"
- **'MAI TAI'** Pale apricot semi-double flrs, with purple stems and stalks. Quite long-blooming, and shows up well in the garden. This cv has proven itself reliable, and better than most. 16-18"
- **'TOTALLY TANGERINE'** (*G. rivale x coccineum x chiloense*) Tall and heavy blooming, in bright apricot to tangerine orange. Foliage mound to 14", flower stalks to 30". Blooms for months because the flowers are sterile, and never set seed. Recommended.

**GRASSES = ORNAMENTAL GRASSES**

If you have a chance, plant grasses where they will be backlit by the sun, where they really shine. For winter interest, leave them up and do not shear back 'til spring, just before new growth begins. On the whole, lovers of full sun and well-drained soils. Easy care.

- **BLUE FESCUE 'COOL AS ICE'** (*Festuca glauca*) The bluest! Low tufts of stiff and wiry blue leaves. Clump-forming, salt tolerant. Easy to divide in spring. 8-10"
- **BLUE OAT GRASS 'SAPPHIRE'** (*Helictotrichon*) Dense tufts of slender and tough steely blue blades, give great form, color and mid-height to a grass garden. Airy beige wispy flrs come in late summer, take them or leave them. Best color in dry soils, full sun. 18", flrs to 30"
- **CALAMAGROSTIS 'KARL FOERSTER'** (*Calamagrostis x acutiflora*) A selection of Feather Reed Grass, by the renowned plantsman. Feathery stalks emerge reddish-brown in spring, and turn golden pale in the fall, with their pale slender plumes a-waving, for a graceful effect. Strictly clump-forming, it does not spread, nor does it produce seeds. Marvelous for a summer-long vertical element, this is the grass we have growing in a row alongside the croquet lawn. Will grow in damp or dry soils. Full sun. Hardy to Zone 4. Foliage to 2' tall, the flowers to 5'; for both cultivars.
- **CALAMAGROSTIS 'OVERDAM' NEW** with variegated leaves. The flower plumes start beige, then turn pinkish. Proven Winner.
- **LITTLE BLUE STEM 'CAROUSEL'** (*Schizachyrium scoparium*) Blue-green leaves, bearing bronze-orange tones in fall. Compact and rounded selection, feathery white seed heads for fall, winter. Ok for dry soils, rain gardens too. Clumper, not a runner. Prairie native. Zone 3. 28-32"
- **MISCANTHUS 'ZEBRINUS'** (*M. sinensis*) Tall green leaves have horizontal bands of yellow, giving it a warm glow. Makes a great strong clump, though skimpy with flowers. 4-6'
- **PANICUM 'GUNSMOKE'** (*P. virgatum*) Switch Grass. Moderate sized. Delicate airy flowers in Aug/Sept, like a puff of smoke, softly sway and rustle in the breeze. A clumper. Lvs to 3'; flrs to 4'
- **PANICUM 'SHENANDOAH'** (*P. virgatum*) Red Switch Grass. The leaf tips develop a red tint, and hold the color. Shorter than many Panicums, at 24-36" tall. Native.
- **PENNISETUM 'HAMELIN'** (*P. alopecuroides*) Fountain Grass. Thick clumps, vigorous and very cute while in flower, with multiple tan 'bottle brushes'. Truly hardy here. 18-22"
- **PURPLE MOOR GRASS 'MOORFLAMME'** (*Molinia caerulea*) An upright medium-sized tufting grass, about 1 1/2' tall, with airy purple panicles dancing above at 3'. The leaves of this cv. turn orangey-red in the fall, while the panicles become tan brown, making for an autumn glow. A slow grower (which is good in grasses!), maturing in 3-4 years. Literally from the European moor lands, grow it in moist organically enriched soil. Will tolerate wet soil too. Full sun or a little shade. Cut back in early spring. Fine for massing. Zone 4.
- **SPOROBOLUS 'TARA'** (*S. heterolepis*) Prairie Dropseed. Fine green mops, 15-24" tall, with emerald green color all summer, turning orangey in fall. The airy late summer pale brown panicles smell like cilantro. Native. 18" wide.

**GYPSOPHILA = BABY'S BREATH**

P/30-36"/Sun/White/1800-50 *Gypsophila paniculata*

Well-known European perennial with huge billows of tiny white flowers in July. We grow the hard-to-find original single type, with smaller, daintier blossoms than the usual double types. Much longer-lived than the modern doubles too. Give it lots of lime and a well-draining soil. Resents transplanting once established. Flowers dry beautifully — cut them just as the buds are opening.

**HELENIUM = AUTUMN HELENIUM**

P/48-72"/Sun/1700-99

*Helenium autumnale* & *hoopsei*

One of my very favorite perennials, this showy native bears literally 100's of yellow, orange or deep red 1" wide daisy flowers on tall stems in Aug. and Sept. A great choice for the back of the border, offering a blast of brilliant late summer color, and a great mate with New England Aster. Moist or ordinary soil. Divide in spring. Needs staking only in the windiest locations. Handles southern heat well. Good cut flowers. Wonderful bee plants too!

- **'BLUTENTISCH'** Flat head of golden yellow, slight red flush on reverse, dark brown cone. Relatively short, at 36".
- **'FUEGO'** (In the Mariachi series, all of which have slightly ruffled petals, and are compact and short.) Ruddy red petals sport a thin line of gold both at the center, and very edge. Only 18-20" tall, so this one it will fit in perfectly in the front of the border.
- **HOOPSEI** A different species of Helenium, with unusual big chunky daisies, nearly 2" wide, in an uncommon saffron shade. One of the earliest composites to bloom, in June. "Perhaps the most valuable species for general planting" says Bailey in 1899. In US gardens 1850-99. Grow in fairly good soil. Rare. 24-28"
- **'INDIAN SUMMER'** Brick red ages to copper. Mid height, 48"
- **'KLEINER FUCHS'** (= Little Fox) Petals open yellow, maturing to orange red. Brown cone. 40-48"
- **'KOKARDE'** (= Cockade) Washed orange-red, undersides solid reddish-brown. Tall height, 56"
- **'KONIGSTIGER'** (= Bengal Tiger) One of the showier ones in the landscape. Yellow ring at petal base, yellow touch at petal tip, over gold and reddish-brown. Midseason. Tall height, 54"
- **'MARDI GRAS'** Quite short, so easy to fit into any border. Early flowering, in orange with a good-sized yellow edge to the petals. 24"
- **'MARGOT'** Bicolor, red center, petals orange-red with deep outer edge of yellow. Mid height, 44"
- **'POTTER'S WHEEL'** Deep crimson brown petals with a thin edge of yellow. Deep brown cone. Flat flowers. Mid height, 42"
- **'RAUCHTOPAS'** (= Smoky Topaz) Gold petals with reddish-brown reverse. Slight twist of the petals shows off the under color. Tall height, 62"
- **SEPTEMBER GOLD'** Pure yellow, with a yellow center. Mid height, 48"
- **'SIESTA'** (Mariachi) Strong color, a deep warm red, with brown cones, and not a hint of yellow. The plant is just covered with the 1" wide flowers in August, and is a true miniature, at just 18-20" tall.
- **'SOMBRERO'** (Mariachi) **NEW** Short, with golden yellow flrs, yellow eye. 18-22"

**HELIANTHUS = PERENNIAL SUNFLOWER**

P/5-6'/Full Sun/Yellow

*Helianthus x*

More yellow composites? Oh, it is a wonderful big diverse family! The two mentioned below have much to offer. Native to North America.

- **'LEMON QUEEN'** is a tall and erect cultivar, with pure cool



yellow single flowers, 2-3" wide, in late summer. Just fine in poor conditions, both dry and 'crappy', and even clay soils. August and Sept. bloom, about two months worth. Can be pinched back in June to reduce height, but it is generally self-supporting. Popular with bees and butterflies. Makes a strong clump, allow 3-4' spread, but it does not runner. They frequently seed down in the garden, so are great for meadows. 5-6'

- 'SUNSHINE DAYDREAM' (H.x multiflorus) Double flowers look very much like Dahlias, in a nice strong yellow, in Aug/Sept. Leaves stay dark green all summer, even in hot summer weather. This one needs decent soil to thrive and flower well. It is an excellent strong cv., self-supporting even at 5'.

## HELIOPSIS = SUNFLOWER HELIOPSIS

P/36-48"/Sun/1850-99 *Heliopsis helianthoides*

Species is native. Small 3" wide sunflowers. I think this belongs in every border, because it is a heavy and reliable bloomer (6 weeks in July/Aug), long-lived, tolerant of droughty poor soils, a fine cutflower and never needs staking. They frequently seed down in the garden, so are great for meadows.

- COMMON HELIOPSIS Semi-double 2-3" wide golden-yellow daisies. Self-sows, fine for wildflower meadows. 4'
- 'BLEEDING HEARTS' Almost completely burnt orange daisies, with very dark foliage. Single flower type. 4'
- 'DOUBLOON' Mid-height, full double flowers. 3'.
- 'SUMMER NIGHTS' Has dark reddish stems and foliage and a little touch of red on the petals too. 40"

## HELLEBORE

P/18-24"/LSh *Helleborus orientalis* & hybrids

One of the very earliest bloomers, they can even poke up through snow. Flowers are really tough, last for a month or more, and are generally 2-3" wide. Leathery evergreen foliage. To prosper, they require partial to light shade, and rich moist soil. Rather slow-growing, but a happy hellebore or two in your garden is something you can be proud of. Roots are Toxic. Deer resistant. All 18-22" tall, 12-20" spread. Ask to see what we have this year.

## HEMEROCALLIS = DAYLILIES

Among the easiest of perennials to grow and propagate. Tolerant of dry or wet soils, sun or light shade. Under-plant them with spring bulbs to provide another season of bloom, or mix in with ferns (as Gertrude Jekyll recommended). No serious pests or diseases. Perfectly trouble free! Diploid daylilies (Dip.) tend to have a more graceful old-fashioned form, and can be more floriferous. Tetraploid daylilies (Tet.) have been induced to have additional chromosomes, and have larger flowers, more intense color, sturdier scapes, and heavier substance overall. (AW= Award winner)

## MODERN DAYLILY CULTIVARS:

- 'ALWAYS AFTERNOON' **NEW** Dusky rose w/ a plum purple ring around the green throat. 5" inch wide flrs have crimped edges with a tiny buff rim. Early midseason. Rebloomer. Stout AW. Tet. 22"
- 'APRICOT SPARKLES' **NEW** A reliable rebloomer with sparkly apricot flrs, early season, in June. Slightly ruffled petal edge. Dip. Prolific, and short, only 15" tall.
- 'AUGUST FROST' Late bloomer, from late July into August. Broad 6" wide flrs in pale yellow, rippled edges, with a hint of beige. Tet. 34"
- 'BELA LUGOSI' Saturated maroon-purple, lime green throat, very sunfast for such a dark color. Strong grower, well-branched, heavily budded. Tet. 6" wide flrs. AW. 33"
- 'BORN TO RUN' **NEW** Rich rosy-red, with a creamy-yellow ruffled edge, and lime-green throat. A reblooming and strong tetraploid. 24"
- 'CHALLENGER' Remarkably tall, with flower scapes reaching 6 ft. Flowers are reddish, with large gold throat. Extended bloomer, open at least 16 hours. Diploid. From Stout, 1949.
- 'CLEO' Has a different look, with widely separated pale yellow petals, each about 4" long, and three pink petal tips. 1938. Dip. 40"

- 'DEMETRIUS' Large ruffled clear yellow, a gorgeous glowing yellow. Blossoms 5.5" wide. Tetraploid. 24"
- 'FOOLED ME' Sunniest golden yellow with a big warm red eye, plus a fine matching red edge. Excellent flower production. Wonderful eye catcher, and kids love it. Tet. Stout AW. 24"
- 'FUNNY VALENTINE' Large recurved sunfast rose-red flrs, 5" wide. Selected for the dark blue-green foliage. Up to 25 buds per scape. Tet. 25-28"
- 'GOING BANANAS' An improved 'Happy Returns', with larger 4" flrs, pale lemon yellow and near continuous bloom. 10-15 blooms per scape. Slightly fragrant. Dip. Proven Winner. 19-22"
- 'HALLS'S PINK' One of the oldest pink daylilies, 1952. 28-32"
- 'HAPPY RETURNS' Canary yellow, 3" wide, dark green foliage. Very long-blooming, and definitely reblooms! Dip. AW. 18"
- 'HYPERION' A classic award winner from 1925. Elegant 5-6" lily-shaped canary-yellow blooms on rigid 40" stems, Aug. Luminous, somewhat fragrant. Dip.
- 'ICE CARNIVAL' Shimmering pale icy yellow, nearly white, with a lime green throat. My favorite, for color and form. The flowers are lily-like. 5" wide. AW. Dip. 28"
- 'INKHEART' Creamy yellow with a large maroon eye and matching picotee edge. Similar to 'Inwood' but this blooms much later, in late midseason, and is a rebloomer. Fragrant. Tet. 28"
- 'INWOOD' Creamy palest melon, with a big bold violet-plum heart, and the same dark color on the ripply petal edges. Fragrant. Early to mid-season bloomer. Blossoms to 6.5" wide. Heavily budded. To 25" tall.
- 'JOAN SENIOR' Nearly white with a green throat. A generous bloomer, in early midseason. The 6" wide flrs open broadly. AW. Diploid. 25"
- 'MARQUE MOON' Creamy white with a ruffled pale yellow picotee edge. Radiating yellow throat. 5" wide. Tet. 24"
- 'MIGHTY CHESTNUT' Russet-orange with a deep burgundy eye and gold throat. An unusual orange that stands out beautifully. 5" wide. Tet. 30"
- 'PERSIAN RUBY' Super solid deep red, with a contrasting bright yellow eye. Huge 7" wide flrs. Early midseason. Proven Winner. 30"
- 'PRIMAL SCREAM' **NEW** Massive 7-8" glimmering tangerine orange with a green throat, held up on tall stems. Petals and sepals are narrower, with some curvy edges. Early midseason. Tet. 2003 Stout AW. Proven Winner. Showy as all get out. 34"
- 'PUMPKIN FESTIVAL' Peachy orange with a wine-colored halo and picotee edge. Early season. Fragrant. Tet. 20"
- 'RASPBERRY SUEDE' Wonderful velvety supersaturated texture and color! A deep raspberry red, and quite sunfast. Delicious. Tet. 28"
- 'RUBY SPIDER' Deep red flowers are as big as they come, opening wide to 8-9" wide. The sepals are slender with some curves. Tet. AW. Proven Winner. 34"
- 'RUFFLED APRICOT' Apricot-orange with paler midribs, deep orange throat. The kind of glowing color that blends beautifully with everything. Heavy substance. Large 7" flrs, fragrant. Tet. AW. 28"
- 'SOUTH SEAS' Warm coral-tangerine, slightly ruffled. 5" wide. AW. Tet. 30"
- 'STEPHANIE RETURNS' **NEW** Very long-blooming, like a pink 'Stella D'Oro'! Light peachy pink 4" wide flrs have a narrow purple ring and reddish veining. Early season. Heavy bud count. Dip. 16"
- 'STOLEN TREASURE' Blend of light and dark rose pink. Flrs 6.5" wide. Dip. AW. 26"
- 'SUNDAY GLOVES' A customer favorite! Nearly white flrs are 5" wide, with a pale yellow eye, and fine form. Fragrant. Long-bloomer. Dip. 27"
- 'WHEN MY SWEETHEART RETURNS' Soft peachy-yellow with a large soft rose eye. Heavy bloomer, and supposed to bloom for over 3 months. Short, so good for edging or along paths, and in containers too. Midseason. Dip. 16"

...continued on next page

HEIRLOOM SPECIES DAYLILIES:

Hard to find these nowadays.

**DUMORTIER'S DAYLILY** *Hemerocallis dumortieri*

The earliest June flowering species, this charming 24" daylily has trim little fragrant blossoms of soft orange. The sepal backs are brushed with mahogany. Discovered in Japan in 1832, in America by 1857.

**DOUBLE DAYLILY 'KWANSO'** *H. fulva flore-pleno*

A double form of the common orange daylily. This fun old thing flowers reliably and heavily. When it was introduced in the 1840s, it caused huge excitement among gardeners, for in those days there were scarcely a dozen types available, and it was the absolute 'cat's whiskers'. Tuberous roots are edible, rather like water chestnuts. Great for covering banks, shady corners. Mid-July. 36"

We also have the rare variegated form 'Kwanso Variegata fl-pl', with white variegated leaves.

**LEMON LILY** *H. lilioasphodelus*

A classic, since the 18th century. Pure pale yellow trumpet flowers in late June are loved for a strong lily-of-the-valley fragrance - hence once called Custard Lily. Slender strap-like leaves remain glossy all summer. Smaller and more delicate than new daylilies. 24-36"

**THUNBERG'S DAYLILY** *H. thunbergii*

The flowering scapes are numerous, slender, well branching and erect to a height of about 45", above 30" tall foliage. The slender 3" wide lemon-yellow flowers, in Aug. have a green tinge. Floriferous. Reckoned excellent by A.B.Stout, the authority. First listed for sale in the U.S. in 1873.

**HEUCHERA & HEUCHERELLA = CORALBELLS**

Whereas we used to grow coralbells for the flowers, many of us now choose the new cultivars for the beauty of their leaves. The colors are brilliant, and they last all season long, so who needs flowers? In truth, many of these new selections do not sport showy or colorful flowers, but honestly, you are not likely to feel deprived on this account! The low mounds of foliage remain in tight clumps, and are lovely in containers for the summer. Grow in average to dryish soil, in full sun or part shade. Divide and reset every third year. Salt resistant and deer resistant, but hummingbirds love them. Heucherellas spread a little more than Heuchera.

- 'AUTUMN BRIDE' (*H. villosa*) Marvelous large leaved selection of the native Alum Root. The strong clump of lime-green leaves reach 15-18" tall and wide, with wands of little white flowers reaching nearly 36". Needs partial shade. A superb selection for the native (or otherwise) garden, I like it a great deal. Flowers late, in September.
- 'BEST PINK' (in my opinion) Tall scapes with coral-pink flrs, this seems to me to bloom more heavily and longer than any other Coralbell. Plain green lvs. Long-lived and hardy. Flowers to 22"
- 'BLACK PEARL' Sure, it's very dark! Highly glossy, deeply lobed leaves are deep purple-black, with purple undersides. For best color, plant in full sun to part shade. (*H. villosa* hybrid) 8-10" tall.
- 'CHERRY TRUFFLES' ('Dolce') Really ruffly leaves are burgundy red, maturing to mahogany red in the summer. Small light pink flowers on 18" tall scapes. Proven Winner. Hybrid. Salt tolerant. 8-10"
- 'GREEN SPICE' So strong and pretty. Silvery leaves have dk green veins, turning spice brown in summer. This has been the longest lived in my gardens, some 20 years, with only occasional division. What a winner! 10"
- 'PINK FIZZ' (*Heucherella*) This is a 'beaut', and remains a favorite! The deeply lobed leaves are a glowing luna-moth green, with purple veins. Soft rose-pink flrs are larger and showier than is usual amongst this group. Lvs 6", flrs to 10".
- 'PUMPKIN SPICE' (*Heucherella*) Bold color, the leaves emerge bronze-red in spring, and stay 'pumpkin-y' all summer. Maroon veins. 8-10"
- 'RUBY BELLS' Deep red flowers atop green leaves, the sweet plain old type. 8-10" foliage, flrs rise to 16"

- 'SMOKE & MIRRORS' **NEW** The new foliage is pewter grey with a rosy blush, maturing to solid grey with dark veining. Tall stems carry light rose flrs. 8-10"
- 'WILDBERRY' ('Dolce') Super glossy bold purple leaves are quite large, and have charcoal veins and silvery touches. Flrs to 26", small and white. A Proven Winner. Hybrid. 10-14" tall.

**HIBISCUS = HIBISCUS**

These are newer hardier hybrids, rated for Zone 4. Slow to start in the spring, but then fast growth, so don't fret until June. Typically blooms in August and September. Keep consistently watered, and lightly fed through the season for best growth. Giving it a sheltered spot for stronger and earlier growth, and a longer season of bloom. Will die to the ground in winter. Huge tropical looking blooms, 6-8" wide. Ask to see what colors we have this year. To 36", and allow for equal spread.

**HOSTA = PLANTAIN LILY**

Foliage plants for shade. As a rule they need light or full shade and dislike full sun. While they prefer deep and rich soil, in practice, as long as you avoid absolute swamps and sand dunes, Hosta will be fine. Very hardy and long-lived, they usually take several years to develop full leaf size and color. Easy to divide in spring.

**MODERN HOSTA CULTIVARS:**

(AW = Award Winner)

- 'ANGEL FALLS' Cascading green leaves have pleasing broad and irregular golden markings. 16" tall, 36" spread. Sun tolerant.
- 'COOL AS A CUCUMBER' Long tapered leaves are dark green with long clear white markings. Makes a graceful arching mound. 28" tall, 40" spread.
- 'CURLY FRIES' 2016 Hosta of the Year. Makes a short mop of skinny rippled leaves, in bright yellowy-chartreuse. Best color with morning sun. AW. 6" tall, 16" spread.
- 'DIAMONDS ARE FOREVER' Petite size, making a flattish mound just 10" tall. Brightly contrasting white edges. Lavender flrs.
- 'DIAMOND LAKE' **NEW** Has big 9" wide crinkled blue leaves, heart-shaped, heavily corrugated and with wavy margins. Flrs are pale lavender, to 28". Mid-height, at 17" tall and over 3' wide. Proven Winner.
- 'FRANCEE' Fast grower, great for mass plantings. Very hardy and slug resistant. Green heart-shaped lvs have a thin white margin, it is sun tolerant. Parent to 'Minuteman'. 20" tall.
- 'FRANCES WILLIAMS' One of the most popular ever! A sport of *H. sieboldiana*, the giant corrugated blue-green leaves have a wide border of pale green. White flrs. Slug resistant. AW. Full to PSh. 22" tall, 30" spread.
- 'GINKO CRAIG' A tidy low grower, one of the best for edging. Narrow deep green lvs with clean white irregular edges. Somewhat sun tolerant. Great in containers too. Purple flrs. 10" tall, 20" spread.
- 'GOLD STANDARD' Dark green margin, the center of the medium-sized lvs is pale green, turning to gold over summer. The color is more pronounced if given more sun. 1/4 to 3/4 sun. AW. 20" tall, 30" spread.
- 'GREAT EXPECTATIONS' Each leaf is unique! Edges are blue, with fern-green blazing, and the irregular centers change from chartreuse to gold to white as the season goes. Sport of *H. sieboldiana*. Thick puckered lvs are slug resistant. White flrs at 24", lvs to 20"
- 'HYACINTHINA' (*fortunei*) Good for mass plantings. Broad heart-shaped lvs, uniform gray-green with glaucous blue beneath. Thick lvs are highly slug resistant. From 1954. Over 50 modern hosta cultivars have arisen as sports from this most famous of mother hostas. Full shade to ¾ sun. 24"
- 'JUNE' Consistently tops in popularity polls. Forms a perfect mound. Pointed lvs are gold with wide blue margins, and blazings of mid-soft green. Best color in bright morning sun. So elegant. Thick lvs, slug resistant. 16" tall.
- 'KOMODO DRAGON' A giant, forming a cascading mound of large dk green lvs with lightly rippled edges. 30" tall, spread to 7 ft.



- 'KROSSA REGAL' Frosted blue-green leaves, slightly wavy, quite tall with a graceful vase shape. Lavender flr spikes to 5'. AW. Full shade to full sun. 40" tall, 48-72" spread.
- 'MINUTEMAN' Crisp white edges on dark green lvs. Lavender flrs. AW. Full to PSh. 18" tall, 24" spread.
- 'PLATINUM TIARA' Quite small, under 12" tall. Bright golden green with a tiny white edge, nice to plant repeatedly for little pops of color in the shade garden. Vigorous.
- 'PRAYING HANDS' Unusual elegant form. The leaves arch up gracefully and remain semi-curled, side to side. These are great in containers. 2011 Hosta of the Year. Lavender flrs to 18". Part shade to full sun. Foliage 14-18" tall, 18" spread.
- 'RAINBOW'S END' 2021 Hosta of the Year, this small cv. has proven both trouble-free and unusual in look. Lemon-lime narrow lvs have dark green edges, which color also streaks irregularly down the length. 11"
- 'ROYAL STANDARD' (*H. x plantaginea*) Shapely deep green lvs, with 2' spikes of fragrant white flowers in Aug. Sun tolerant. It was the first patented hosta, in 1965. 18" tall, 36" spread.
- 'SPARTACUS' **NEW** Good sized specimen, with deeply veined leaf-green lvs w/heavily rippled lime green to gold margins. Forms a perfect mound, and a fine focal point. 18" tall, spread to 24"
- 'SUM & SUBSTANCE' A beautiful jumbo. Huge chartreuse green leaves, positively scrumptious. Slug resistant. 2004 Hosta of the Year. Makes a superb statement in containers. Full sun to ¾ shade. 36" tall, 48" wide.
- 'TEARS IN HEAVEN' Intense blue lvs form a shapely cascade. The habit is markedly upright. Ruffled wedge-shaped lvs hold their blue late into the season. Pale lavender flrs. 15" tall and wide.
- 'WHEEEE!' Leaves have such ruffly edges they look like they've been curled! Mid-sized. Slug resistant. Edges are yellow, around mid-green centers. 15" tall.

### SPECIES HOSTA

The following all date from the late 19th century, when they were introduced from the Japan and China. Only a handful of hostas, then known as 'Funkia', were available for the 19th century garden, and even these were rarely in evidence before the 1880s. It's not easy to find these old species plants today!

- 'LANCE-LEAF' (*H. lancifolia*) By 1845. A low grower, 10-12" tall, with small glossy dark-green lvs. Flowers are bluish-lilac. Good edger. Full to half shade.
- 'SIEBOLD'S HOSTA' (*H. sieboldiana elegans*) By 1844. One of the earliest of Hostas to be used in the garden and it remains a classic foliage plant with huge 12-14" bluish-green 'seersuckered' leaves. Hostas were first championed by Gertrude Jekyll around the turn of the 20th century, and she suggested this one as a tub plant. Tolerant of smutty city air, it was common in London gardens by the 1830s. Full to PShade. Lvs to 18" tall, spread 3-5' wide.
- 'GREAT-GRANNY'S FUNKIA' (*H. undulata* vars.) By 1880. White edged or green edged, we've got both of these old-timers, once so popular in grandmother's garden. Both grow in full shade to ¾ sun, and are 12-15" tall, with a spread to 24".
- BLUE PLANTAIN LILY (*H. ventricosa*) It was called 'blue' because it had, and reportedly still has, the darkest lavender flowers of any Hosta, and it was once esteemed as a beautiful cutflower. Medium heart-shaped lvs are shiny dark green. Fast growing. One of the earliest in U.S. garden, by 1811. Shade to 1/2 sun. Flr spikes are 36" tall in Aug. Lvs to 18"

### IRIS

As a rule, plant Iris in full sun, well-drained rich soil.

#### CRESTED IRIS *Iris cristata*

A diminutive native, it creeps fairly rapidly along surface. Pale blue or white flrs in May, early June. Do not cover rhizomes with soil. If happy, they will colonize a small area quite well. It prefers some shade. We also have the larger var. 'Powder Blue Giant'. 4-6"

#### JAPANESE IRIS *Iris ensata*

Wide flattish blossoms with enormous drooping petals, 4-6" wide, in late June, early July, after the Siberian and Bearded Iris have finished. These are big showy flowers, generally in shades of purple. While wet soils are fine for these iris, they are not required. 24-30"

#### ORRIS ROOT *Iris g x florentina*

A most important antique iris, used since ancient days in perfumery and potpourri. The root, dried and powdered, gives off an odor of violets that lasts for years. A medium sized bearded Iris, these are of palest lavender, nearly white. Scented flowers too. 1600-99. 30"



#### PLUM TART IRIS

*Iris graminea*

A rare old-time heirloom. The plum scented flowers are wine-purple, with falls of violet-blue veins on a pale ground. The flowers stay nestled within a fountain of slender grass-like leaves. Prefers acidic soils, partial shade. Foliage remains fresh through the summer. It will seed itself a bit. 15"

#### ZEBRA IRIS *Iris pallida aureo-variegata* **NEW**

Many people plant this for foliage alone, with creamy yellow variegation the length of the slender lvs. Makes a fine daub of color all season long, and hardly needs the full-sized fragrant lavender-blue iris blossoms – but they are pretty nice! Well-draining soil, drought tolerant. Deer resistant. Foliage 24", flrs rise to 36" in June. Also called Sweet Iris.

#### SIBERIAN IRIS *Iris siberica*

Long thin leaves stay fresh looking all season and many flowering spikes appear in June, each bearing two slender blossoms. Soon forms a massive clump and, unlike Bearded Iris, this does not need to be divided every 3 years to stay vigorous. Trouble-free in any reasonable soil, and they can make elephantine chunks given time. The earliest notation for this species of iris in the U.S. is 1806.

- 'BUTTER AND SUGAR' A rare color, combined with excellent form. Standards are creamy-white, with butter-yellow falls. Intro 1976. Fairly large flowers. Award winner. 28"
- 'DANCE BALLERINA DANCE' **NEW** Has a broader flatter flower form rather than the usual vertical. The standards are super pale pink, near to white, with falls of lavender-rose. Award-winning tetraploid. 30-34"
- 'DEAR DELIGHT' **NEW** Soft blue with a white center. 26-30"
- 'ERIC THE RED' Maroon red-purple, with a white delta. One of the darkest of the so called 'reds'. Intro 1943. 28-30"
- 'GULLS' WING' **NEW** Wide flower form, in glorious white. A vigorous grower. 34-38"
- 'MARANATHA' Solid royal purple. Intro. 1973. 40"
- 'PEACOCK BLACK JOKER' Dark reddish-brown falls have a tiny gold edge, the styles are pale blue, and the standards are a lavender and gold blend. 18-24"
- 'PEACOCK TIPPED IN BLUE' Yellow falls veined with indigo and tipped in blue, and the pale standards are painted with lavender-blue. 30"
- 'SUMMER SKY' Light blue with paler standards and cream styles. 1939. 24"
- 'WISLEY WHITE' Pure elegant white, with a yellow beard. 30"

**KIRENGESHOMA = YELLOW WAXBELLS**P/3-4'/PShade/Yellow *Kirengeshoma palmata*

One of the rare shade perennials to bloom in late summer into September, with narrow drooping yellow bell-flowers, 1 ½" long. Has the presence of a small shrub, with 8" wide coarse maple-like leaves, and the leaves themselves are an interesting feature. It has proven hardy here in northern VT. Grow in woodsy moist rich soil, in partial to light shade. Grows fine on damp hillsides too. From Japan, and not invasive. 3-4' tall, 2-3' spread.

**KITAIBELIA = CHALICE FLOWER**P/60"/S to PSh/White/20th c. *Kitaibelia vitifolia*

Big bunches of 2" wide mallow-like white flowers in August, just when the garden needs white! Grape-like leaves. Big and strong, as big as a shrub, so give it space, good soil. From Croatia.

**LAMIUM**

Perennial spreading groundcovers, they can thrive in the most dismal conditions, bad soil, low light, exposed areas by sidewalks, etc. There is a great diversity in variegation, and they blend together nicely. Consider using these to keep areas covered until ready to plant permanently, as lamiums are easy to take out later. Plant over bulbs in spring gardens. Lamiums take well to regular shearing, and are simple to propagate by division. They bloom from late May into June. Generally 6-8" tall.

- 'AUREUM' Warm golden foliage, hint of a white band. Really brightens up a shady nook. White flowers.
- 'GHOST' Deeper magenta flrs. Nearly silver leaves with a thin edge of green.
- 'PINK PEWTER' Soft-pink flrs. Lvs are silver with a dark green edge.
- 'PURPLE DRAGON' Purple flrs are larger than most, silver lvs with green edge.
- 'WHITE OLD-FASHIONED' with a little white stripe on each leaf.

**LATHYRUS = PERENNIAL PEA**

Very hardy and long-lived. Sun or partial shade. Cool soils, moderately rich. They self-sow a bit.

PERENNIAL SWEET PEA *Lathyrus latifolius*

This vine can live for decades. July flowers, in deep to pale pink or white. Very hardy but only faintly fragrant. Good for planting on trellises, fences, and to scramble over junk piles. Move plants to their permanent site while still young, as the deep mature roots take it on the chin if transplanted. Intro 1700-99. 5-9' tall.

VERNAL PEA (SPRING VETCHLING) *L. vernus*

A May bloomer, and what a colorful treat! Unlike most, this pea creates low thick bushy clumps of foliage, with no running or sprawling. Lots of vivid blue-violet flrs, one of the first good perennials after the bulbs are finished. Exquisite coloring. 15"

**LAVATERA = KASHMIR LAVATERA**P/5-7'/Sun/Pink *Lavatera cachmeriana*

Rare, interesting, from the Himalayas. Closely related to Malva, the petals are wider set and shaped like elongated hearts. Masses of soft pink 2" flowers along 5-7 ft. stems. One of the tallest perennials, yet it holds itself up quite well, and manages to be delicate. Hardy and long-lived. Blooms for 6 weeks. Dryish soil preferred, average to poor.

**LEONTOPODIUM = EDELWEISS**P/6"/Sun/White/1850-99 *Leontopodium alpinum*

An emblem of purity, with woolly white leaves and flowers. It never gets large, but remains in small clumps. Divisible in late summer. It must be grown in a sunny spot, in sharply draining soil, to mimic its native alpine habitat. We've grown it for many years with no fussing, in our big rocky field. Do not mulch in winter, for winter damp is deadly.

**LEUCANTHEMUM = SHASTA DAISY**Perennial/Sun/White *Leucanthemum x superbum*

A long-lived and reliable white daisy, and a mainstay of the July/Aug border. Excellent for cutting, and easy to divide. 'Shasta' was once the name of a particular variety (developed by the brilliant Luther Burbank), now used for this whole class of daisies. Divide every 3rd year (in spring) to maintain vigor. Rich light soil. 3" wide flrs.

- 'BECKY' A superb cultivar. Strong stemmed, heavy bloomer, and has good heat tolerance. My favorite, I no longer bother with any other tall varieties. 30"
- 'SNOWCAP' Only 12" high with full size flowers. Prolific, stays compact, and is terrific for edging.

**LIATRIS = GAYFEATHER OR BLAZING STAR**P/24-36"/Sun/Purple or White/1700-99 *Liatris sp.*

Natives of the North American plains. 'Fuzzy' flower buttons begin to open on the bottom of the spike and work their way up. Splendid in wildflower meadows, and appreciated for bloom in the doldrums of August. Well-draining soil, tolerant of dry conditions. Good cutflower. Tops at attracting butterflies and Monarchs – plant in groups of 3 or more to best support these creatures.

- SPIKE GAYFEATHER (*L. spicata*) Densely-packed 2-3' spikes with tufts of rosy-purple or white flowers above tidy clumps of foliage.
- ROCKY MOUNTAIN BLAZING STAR (*L. ligustylis*) They say that this species is the most attractive to Monarchs, and that because of its height, you will more easily see butterflies flitting about. Purple button flowers, more widely spaced along the spike. Blooms 4-6 weeks. In fall, goldfinches will eat the seeds. At 4-5 ft tall, at times it could need support.
- NORTHERN BLAZING STAR (*L. scariosa*) Distinct purple buttons range along the tall stems. Butterflies truly adore this one. Will not tolerate wet soils, but rocky shallow soils are fine. Seed grown, so height is variable, from 18" to 36".

**LIGULARIA**

Handsome big-leaved foliage plants. Grow in afternoon shade, cool and even moisture. Wonderful around ponds, and off in the distance, where they will stand out. Water deeply during dry spells.

LIGULARIA 'BRITT MARIE CRAWFORD' *Ligularia dentata* Bold 12" rounded leaves are quite tropical looking. The new leaves emerge beet-red in spring with purple undersides, the tops then changing to a bronzy green. This type is more heat tolerant than 'The Rocket'. Saffron orange daisies atop lovely strong clumps in Aug/Sept. Leaves up to 2', the flowers can go to 3-4'. Spread 2-3 ft.



**PRZEWALSKI'S GOLDEN RAY** *L.przewalski*  
Quite the mouthful! Similar to 'The Rocket', but is overall slighter, daintier, plus the leaves are very deeply dissected. 4-5'

**LIGULARIA 'THE ROCKET'** *L.stenocephala*  
Noble large heart-shaped toothed leaves are deep green on top, burgundy underneath. 18" yellow 'rockets' of flowering spikes in July, held well over foliage. A grand show, one of my favorites. Droops in hot sun, but recovers, and never seems to be damaged. 5-6'

### **LINUM = PERENNIAL BLUE FLAX**

P/15-20"/Sun/Blue/1850-99 *Linum perenne lewisii*  
A wealth of 1/2" wide flowers, in true sky blue, appear all summer on the ends of slender arching stems. A native from the west named after Meriwether Lewis. Popular, one of the longest blooming perennials. Short-lived but easy to collect, start seeds. Needs well-drained soil, and one musn't crowd the plant base with mulch.

### **LOBELIA = CARDINAL FLOWER**

Native perennials. Great late-season color. In the wild, they grow in quite damp soils, yet they do well in our dry fields, too. Average to rich soil. Sun or light shade.

#### **RED CARDINAL FLOWER** *Lobelia cardinalis*

Slender brilliant red flrs in Sept. This plain green leaved species is longer-lived than the modern bronze-leaved hybrids. Even so, it remains rather short-lived, about 4 years. Propagate by spring division. Seed is produced but is infinitesimal. Grows 2-4 ft tall, depending on degree of contentment.

#### **BLUE CARDINAL FLOWER** *L. siphilitica*

Provides a welcome dash of bright blue or white spikes to the August garden, for four weeks or more. Used medicinally by the Native Americans, I have heard that it is now used to treat Lyme disease, as it acts against spirochetes in general. Intro to U.S. gardens 1700-99. Height 30"

### **LUPINUS = LUPINE**

P/36-40"/Sun *Lupinus x polyphyllus*  
A north country icon. Great spikes of colorful 'pea' flowers in June. They sometimes rebloom in a modest fashion in late summer, particularly if the blossoms have been dead-headed before seed develops. Short-lived, 3-5 yrs, but they usually self-sow, and are easy to start from seed. (Seeds are poisonous). Full sun, and a well-drained, rich and slightly acidic soil is preferred, but poor soil is ok. Transplant seedlings when small, as mature plants develop taproots. Nitrogen fixers. We usually have Red, Pink, Blue, Yellow and White, of the famous tall Russell Hybrids. Inspired by a show of lupines at the coronation of George V in 1911, a Mr. George Russell began working with all available varieties and species of lupines. His splendid new strain was formally unveiled in 1937 for the coronation of George VI, and it received the RHS Gold Medal.

### **LYCHNIS = ROSE CAMPION**

Bi/24"/Sun/Pink/1700-99 *Lychnis coronaria*  
Biennial. Also called Mullein Pink. A striking plant, the fuzzy leaves are silver velvet, and contrast blazingly with the 1" wide brilliant hot deep-pink flowers in midsummer. Long-blooming. Often returns for a third year, and normally self-sows. Can take it quite dry. Like all fuzzy-leaved plants, which are adapted for windy or dry environments, they strongly dislike damp soils or winter mulch. Intro.1700-99. Foliage 6", flrs to 24".

### **LYSIMACHIA**

Spreading perennials, tolerant of sun or considerable shade. Most any soil, tho' damp is preferred. (These Loosetrifes are not related to the invasive Purple Loosestrife ((*Lythrum*)), which we do not sell.)

#### **GOOSENECK** *Lysimachia clethroides*

An unusual flower, made up of 100's of tiny white florets, which in combination do indeed mimic the shape of a goose head. Appealing in August bouquets. Spreads cheerfully (bordering on aggressively) with clean foliage —give it space. 1850-99. 24-32"

#### **YELLOW LOOSESTRIFE** *L. punctata*

An easy going and reliable old-timer, with yellow flowers whorling up the stems in July. Reputed to keep flies away, and so was common by cottage doorways, or hung in bunches from the ceiling. It spreads well, but not unbearably. Often found still growing around old houses. Introduced in 1600-99. 24-32"

### **MACLEAYA = PLUME POPPY**

P/6-8'/S or LSh/Pink/1850-99 *Macleaya cordata*  
Fabulous tall foliage of dusty-green with a coral glow, undercoated with white. Flowers are masses of tiny dangling bunches of coral-pink stamens. Not at all poppy-like, nonetheless a member of that family as the orange sap tells you. Since the early 19th century it has experienced cyclical popularity as gardeners weigh the attractive foliage against its habit of spreading inexorably. Always worth having in a large garden, its 'glorious masses' can be confined. Especially dramatic against a dark background. Poor dry or rich soils. Plant with forethought (and space!).

### **MONARDA = BEEBALM & BERGAMOT**

Native perennials in the Mint family, which means they generally spread rapidly by questing root. However, as the roots are confined to within 2-3 inches of the soil surface, they are never a pain to beat back. They are happiest with a good half a day sun, in rich moist soil but, being mints, will accept nearly anything you care to offer. Bees and hummingbirds do adore them.

#### **BEEBALM** *Monarda didyma*

A brilliant red-flowering native, with tufted flowers in July. The lemon-scented leaves were used as a tea by the Oswego Indians, and later as 'Liberty Tea' by the colonists, after the Boston Tea Party. Essential for the midsummer garden. Powdery mildew is rarely a big problem here in VT - keep plants happy and you won't see much of it at all. 18-48"

- 'COMMON RED' The little old species, just as showy as the cultivars. (It hardly ever gets mildew). Intro to gardens 1700-99. 3'
- 'GRAND MARSHALL' Deep reddish-purple, stays compact while preserving the essence of a beebalm! A favorite of the Mt. Cuba Monarda review, with excellent mildew resistance. 24-28"
- 'GRAND PARADE' Short and cute, with bright purple flowers. The bumblebees seem to like this one the best of all. One of the best of the short Monardas in the Mt. Cuba Monarda review, with excellent mildew resistance. 12-18"
- 'MAHOGANY' Deep maroon. Not impervious to mildew. 30"
- 'PINK LACE' Hot pink with coral tones. Not impervious to mildew. 16"
- 'RASPBERRY WINE' Glowing deep raspberry-pink. Excellent and long-blooming, even in considerable shade. Among the very best of cultivars. Good mildew resistance. 3-4'

#### **RELATED BEEBALMS**

- 'ROSE-SCENTED' The leaves really do smell like spicy rose! Medium-lavender flowers. Does not spread as much as beebalms usually do, it has different parentage. 24"
- 'WILD BERGAMOT' (*M. fistulosa*) A native, also called Sweet Leaf, with tufted pale-lilac colored flowers in late summer. Easy to grow in any reasonable soil. Powdery mildew is not infrequent, although as the leaves are more grayish than *M. didyma*, the spots don't stand out much anyway. Intriguingly, a tea made from the mildewed leaves is used to treat yeast infections. Valuable medicinal in native American traditions. Does not run like Beebalm, but stays in clumps. Intro 1600-99. 24-48"

**MUKDENIA = CRIMSON FANS 'KARASUBA'**P/4-8"/PShade/Foliage *Mukdenia rossii*

Attractive foliage makes a low spreading mound. A nice, and different, groundcover for partially shaded spots, in moist soil. The 2" wide toothy leaves emerge bronzy in the spring, greening up for summer, but increasingly developing a remarkably bright crimson edge, which eventually takes over the whole leaf. A foamflower relative from China, with little white flower sprays in early spring. Will grow in heavier shade, but at the loss of the red tones. It is a slow and steady spreader, but will not become invasive.

**NAPAEA = GLADE MALLOW**P/6-8 ft./S or PSh/White/1700-99 *Napaea dioica*

Native, also known as Virginia Marshmallow, and listed as a medicinal by Thos. Jefferson. Huge lower leaves, with pointed lobes, are 1-2' wide. The bulk of leafiness rises to 3-4', while the leafless flowering stems rise up to 8'. Clusters of 1/2" wide white mallow flrs in August/Sept. Average to damp soil. Has an engaging tropical look, but is perfectly hardy. Rarely seen.

**NEPETA = PERSIAN CATNIP**P/Sun/Blue *Nepeta x faassenii*

Also called Catmint. Used as long-blooming edgers or silvery-leaved accents. Shear back hard after flowering to induce rebloom. Full sun, average to dry soils. Good for massing and as groundcovers, there is evidence that Nepeta, and other mints, release compounds that suppress weed seedlings, as well as repelling insects. Truly, they do seem to be pest-free! For Common Catnip – See Herbs

- 'COMMON PERSIAN CATNIP' Small silvery leaves, loose racemes of little lavender-blue flowers for nearly two months, from late May on. Often massed in rose gardens as a silvery foil. Highly thought of by Gertrude Jekyll, she recommended it be used in combination with Lady's Mantle, for gorgeous harmonious edging. 1850-99. 15"
- 'LITTLE TITCH' Dwarf cultivar, no more than 12" tall or wide. The usual ash-green foliage and blue flowers in summer. With this size it is especially good in alpine gardens, and edging.
- 'PURRSIAN BLUE' NEW Flowers are spaced more closely than the usual, periwinkle-blue with dk purple calyces. 14-18" tall, 18-30" spread.
- 'SIX HILLS GIANT' Taller. Lavender-blue flrs. One of hardiest, longest flowering and quite tolerant of damp soil. Broad and vigorous, free flowering. 5 star rating. Let the stems arch over and make a good mound, or prop it up with a little support. 24-28" tall, spread to 40".
- 'WALKER'S LOW' (*N. racemosa*) 5 star rating from the Chicago Botanic Garden. Similar to Six Hills Giant, the flrs are a tad bluer. Sterile form, so exceptionally long-blooming. Allow it to flop. Not at all low: 30" tall, to 36" wide.

**OENOTHERA = SUNDROPS (EVENING PRIMROSE)**P/18-22"/Sun/Yellow/1800-50 *Oenothera fruticosa*

Native. Shining lemon yellow 1.5" wide cup flowers mass the stem tops in early July. Only blooms for about 2 weeks, but is so bright while blooming, and so easy to ignore later, that we don't mind. Spreads steadily, and will infiltrate its neighbors, but not hard to pull out, if needed. Why not let it spread cheer? Light to dry soil.

**PACHYSANDRA**P/6-12"/PSh to Shade *Pachysandra terminalis*

Not much to say, except that this spreading evergreen groundcover from Japan does indeed survive in northern Vermont, and it does a good job covering the ground in shady situations. 6-12"

**PAPAVER = POPPIES**

Plant in full sun, well-drained soil. Perennial except as noted.

**ICELAND POPPY***Papaver nudicaule*

Above a rosette of grayish foliage, 2-3" wide bright papery flowers are borne on wiry stems in early summer. In yellow, apricot, white or orange. They look delicate but are, in fact, tough plants. Short-lived perennial, it often self-sows. Intro. 1800-50. 15-24"

**ORIENTAL POPPY***P. orientale*

Produces magnificent 5" wide cup-like blooms in late June, typically in vermilion-orange with black blotches. Afterwards, it goes dormant for 4-6 weeks, and so should be sited where other plants will fill the breach in late summer. Deep-rooted, so if transplanting, do so in late summer while dormant. This Mediterranean plant can outlive a house, and is often found growing around old cellar holes. Intro 1700-99. Aside from the orange classic, we usually have an assortment of pinks and more. 30-36"

**PATRINIA = GOLDEN PATRINIA**P/36-48"/Sun/Yellow/20thc *Patrinia scabiosifolia*

Fine garden effect, with long blooming sulphurous yellow blooms. Both the tiny flrs and stems of the 5" wide cymes are the same bright color, quite unusual, and it creates visual depth in the border. Colorful for 2 months, Aug-Sept. Average soil.

**PENSTEMON = BEARDTONGUE**

P/Sun/Leaves 4-6" tall, and the flowers rise to 20". They need very well-draining soil, none too rich, and no smothering heavy mulches. Native to the Plains, they prosper in rock gardens, etc. Renowned for their brilliant coloring, they generally bloom in July.

- 'BLACKBEARD' (*P. hybrid*) Beautiful dark foliage, starts out burgundy red in spring, aging to quite dark black-purple. Just the foliage alone makes it worth having, but it does have pretty pale purple flowers in early July. Hardy to Zone 3 (as long as the soil is not wet!) 30" tall.
- 'ROCKY MOUNTAIN' (*P. strictus*) Cold tolerant and hardy to Zone 4, and easier than many Penstemons, but still, sandy or rocky soil is a must. Deep purplish blue flowers are stunning in early summer. 24"
- 'TWIZZLE' (*P. barbatus*) Appealing spikes of soft-red (or purple) tubular flowers on leafless stalks rise over the low clump of shiny foliage. This has proven most resilient, and easily survives Vermont winters in average garden conditions. A hummingbird favorite.

**PERSICARIA = BISTORT**

Super hardy perennials, on the 'spreading' side, so allow space.

**'FIRETAIL' PERSICARIA *P. amplexicaulis speciosa* NEW**

Fine 3-4" long spikes of soft red, held well above the dense leafy mound. Stays upright, and is vigorous (but not invasive), so allow 3' for space. Blooms July and August. Species is from the Himalayas. Sun or a little shade, average to damp soils. 24-30"

**PINK PERSICARIA *Persicaria bistorta***

Miniature 'cattails' of pink wave jauntily above the rippled leaves in June, and it happens to bloom in abundance in June, just when there is a low ebb of garden color. A strong grower and steady spreader, capable of acting as a groundcover if allowed free rein. Sun to PSh. 18-30"

**GIANT FLEECE FLOWER *P. polymorpha***

Makes a giant clump, with big leaves and tall creamy-white plumes in mid to late summer, quite long blooming. Too big for a little border, but fine as a specimen or around a pond. Or pop it in to jazz up a shrub border. While it gets big, it is well-behaved, and it does not runner or set seeds. Prefers moist soil, but tolerates dry soil once established. Full sun is best. 5-6' tall, allow 4' or more for spread.



**PHLOX, CREEPING & WOODLAND**

(The low Phlox are listed here, but please see page 35 for descriptions of our many Phlox paniculata cultivars.)

**WOODLAND PHLOX (WILD SWEET WILLIAM)**

P/10-18"/Sun of LSh/1700-99 *Phlox divaricata*

Masses of loose clusters of soft blue or pale lilac flrs in May/June, quite fragrant. Dryish soils are ok, as long as the soil is humus-rich. Plant in garden walks, under trees. These natives will seed and sprinkle themselves sweetly around the garden or woodland.

**CREEPING PHLOX**

P/3-12"/Sun or LSh/1800-50 *Phlox stolonifera*

A native woodland spreader, forming a friendly ground-hugging cover of shiny leaves, 1" wide flrs on wiry stalks in May/June. Blooms nearly 1 month. Mildly fragrant. Good for shady wildflower gardens, under deciduous shrubs. Rich to average soil. Shamefully overlooked! We usually have 'Blue Ridge', a strong lilac-blue; 'Bruce's White', an immaculate glowing white; 'Pink Ridge', a medium pink; 'Sherwood Purple', a soft purple.

**MOSS PINK (CREEPING PHLOX)**

P/6"/Sun *Phlox subulata*

Well-known hardy spreading mats covered with 1" flrs in May. Lots of color for edging, covering a bank, rock garden. Average to droughty soil. Native to the southern states. Good sunny groundcovers, they reportedly release plant growth inhibitors, thus suppressing weed growth. Be careful to not cover them with mulch. We usually have an assortment of colors, from white to deep reddish-pink. We usually have: 'Blue Emerald' - pale lilac blue; 'Candy Stripe' - pale pink and white; 'Emerald Pink' - medium pink; 'North Hill' - pale mauve with a violet eye; 'Purple Beauty' - soft purple; 'Scarlet Flame' - deep red-pink; 'Strawberries & Cream' - pink blend.

**PHYSOSTEGIA = OBEDIENT PLANT**

P/48-60"/S or LSh/1800-50 *Physostegia virginiana*

A tall native with glossy leaves and mauve flowers resembling small snapdragons, hence the alternate name of False Dragonhead. The July-Aug flowers last up to 6 weeks. Is 'obedient' in that the individual flowers can be moved about and stay put - modest excitement to be had there, truth be told, and it is obedient in no other way, for it spreads rather too vigorously in the opinion of many. Plant it where there's plenty of room, or let it roam in a wildflower garden, or at the woods edge. Any reasonable soil, but it adores damp soil. Good flower for bees and pollinators.

- 'SPECIES' the mauve wild form. 48-60"
- 'MISS MANNERS' White flowers, short height. A clump-forming cultivar (and therefore less willful), more suitable for smaller gardens. Sturdy stems, flowers in August. 15-18"
- 'VARIEGATED' With outstanding cream-variegated foliage that holds up beautifully all summer. I would plant it for foliage alone, but the deep pink flowers are nice, too. Contributes a lot of color to the late summer garden, and is great in flower arrangements also. Does not seem to spread much. 30-36"

**PLATYCODON = BALLOONFLOWER**

P/18-24"/Sun or PSh *Platycodon grandiflorus*

Fat balloon buds open to wide bells in deep-blue, late July into Aug., when there is a dearth of blue in the border. The form is tidy and upright, and they absolutely stay put. Long-lived and reliable bloomers, but the shoots emerge quite late in spring, so don't give up hope too early. Avoid wet soils.

**POLEMONIUM = GREEK VALERIAN (JACOB'S LADDER)**

P/10-14"/Sun to LSh

*Polemonium reptans*

May flowers are soft blue-purple, and abundant. Compared to tall Jacob's Ladder, this native is a spreader, and is shorter. Good for massing, and it delights in woodland conditions of humus-rich soils, it is lovely mixed with daffodils and primroses for a spring gala. A great groundcover under shrubs. In any soil save extremely dry. (Neither greek nor valerian, but there it is). Intro 1700-99.

- COMMON GREEK VALERIAN Described above. Blooms two weeks. 12"
- 'STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN' Variegated foliage brings verve to the typical shade garden. Creamy edges turn a little pinky in late summer. Soft blue flrs in May/June. 12-18"

**POLYGONATUM = SOLOMON'S SEAL**

P/24-36"/Sh to LSh/Native *Polygonatum biflorum*

Graceful foliage arches up and displays pairs of white flowers, dangling from the axils, in early summer. Elegant in the wild or shady garden. Tolerates deep shade. The root was used medicinally as a 'knot-bone' and more. Needs deep, rich soil. Slow spreaders.

- COMMON SOLOMON'S SEAL
- VARIEGATED with a thin white edge to the leaves.
- 'PRINCE CHARMING' Dwarf. Sweet little groundcover in wildflower gardens. Pendant white flowers in June. Just 12" tall.

**PORTERANTHUS (GILLENIA) = BOWMAN'S ROOT**

P/Sun or LSh/36-40"/White/Native *Porteranthus trifolius*

Covered with fluttery white or pale pink flowers in June. A lovely filler plant, it will grow in full sun or light shade, in average to damp soil. Develops a nice full shape, about 3 ft tall and wide, and no further. I have had one for in the same spot for 25 years with no loss of vigor and, evidently, no dreams of empire. Good detailed foliage, with some fall color. Recommended for a large border, or amongst shrubs, or absolutely anywhere.

**PRIMULA = PRIMROSES**

Appealing spring gems, these little tufts come in many colors, and bloom when not much else is happening in the garden. While some gardeners believe that primroses are not hardy, and it is true that there are some tender ones (including those you might buy at the supermarket), the majority are reliably hardy. The following are all proven here in Zone 3. Culture :Light shade and a fertile well-watered soil. In cool climates, full sun is acceptable if the soil is moist. If too hot and dry, the leaves will yellow and go dormant over summer, but will usually leaf out again in fall. Propagate by division after flowering. Any of the species plants may self-sow in damp soils.

**SPECIES PRIMROSES:****HIMALAYAN PRIMROSE (DRUMSTICK)**

*Primula denticulata*

Near perfect pompoms, about the size of a golf ball, are comprised of 40 or more individual flowers in lilac, white or ruby shades. These spheres are held above the foliage on 12-15" stalks in May. Mature plants can be 18" wide, and produce 15 to 18 "balls". From the Himalayas, where they grow like dandelions in the fields. Surprisingly strong and vigorous. 1850-99.

**OXLIP *P. elatior***

Similar to English Cowslip, but with a slightly more delicate appearance overall. Leaves are slightly downy, the flowers are a paler yellow and more upward facing. 1800-50. 8"

**KIUSIANA PRIMULA *P. kiusiana***

A surprisingly tough little primula, that spreads stoloniferously. Orchid purple ¾" wide flowers in June. Fuzzy foliage disappears when the summer heat arrives, but they spring to life even bigger than before every spring. 4" tall.

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**JAPANESE PRIMROSE** *P. japonica*

The candelabra type, with tiers of pink or white flowers arranged up stout leafless stalks, above a nearly flat rosette of foliage, to 24". It extends the primrose season by blooming from mid-June into July. Often naturalizes in heavy or clay soils, and will make a pretty show along a stream or pond. Intro 1850-99.

**SIEBOLD'S PRIMROSE** *P. sieboldiana*

Spreads to form a nice mat of crinkly bright green foliage, like fresh sprouting lettuce. Blossoms in shades of purple, reddish pink or pale lilac, usually with a white eye. The flat flowers are up to 1" wide, and 4-6" above the foliage, in mid-June. Introduced 1850-99.

**ENGLISH COWSLIP** *P. veris*

Trusses of nodding yellow blooms rise 8-12" above crinkled foliage in May. Flowers are relatively small yet numerous and show up well from afar. Cherished in England for centuries, it was used for all sorts of things - wine from the blossoms, leaves eaten in salads and, as a 'herb of Venus', it was used in cosmetics & medicines. Intro 1700-99.

**ENGLISH PRIMROSE** *P. vulgaris*

The first of the primroses to bloom in May, with pale yellow flowers nestling within the foliage. Brings a smile to the winter weary! Only 6" tall, but it makes sizeable clumps, and lives for years. Grows wild in the English countryside, and was used medicinally for centuries. The roots contain a volatile oil reminiscent of wintergreen. This type bears 1" wide single flowers on short stalks, with yellow eyes. . Intro 1700-99. We usually have a few colors beyond the wild yellow.

*Keep a green bough in your heart and a singing bird will come . - Lao Tzu*

**POLYANTHUS & HYBRID PRIMROSES:****'ANNONCIA'S RED'** (*P. x polyantha*)

Deep true-red with a yellow eye, a semi hose-in-hose type. A 'home name' given in honor of the French Canadian farm wife who grew this in her garden for so many years. Rugged, it will survive and bloom for many years with no attention. 8"

**'CALEDONIA'** (*P. x polyantha*)

Certainly the strongest tall-stemmed polyanthus I've seen. The stalks can reach 12", each with a nice head of 8-12 one-inch wide flowers on top. Perfect yellow with a marigold eye. Stems are stout enough to be used as cut flowers. Exceptional, if I do say so myself, and the result of a natural cross that arose in my garden some years ago.

**'DAVID VALENTINE'** (*P. x polyantha*)

A strong reddish lilac shade, and heavy bloomer. Small flowers in heavy bunches. A very fine cultivar. 8"

**'DOROTHY'** (*P. x polyantha*)

Large creamy white blossoms, yellow eye. Heavy bloomer. The flower stems have a classy greyish tone. A modest 6"





**'FRANCESCA' (*P. x polyantha*)**

Ruffled lime green, yes green flowers with a yellow center, and flowers are relatively long-lasting. What an interesting and attractive personality! 10"

**'HOSE IN HOSE' (*P. x polyantha*)**

In this type, developed in Britain, the calyx has become petal-like and so gives the appearance of one flower sprouting from within the other. Very cute and showy. Ours is a pale butter yellow with dainty twinned blossoms. Vigorous, hardy and long-blooming. Intro. 1800-50. 10"

**'JAY JAY' (*P. x pruhonica*)**

Vivid dark crimson, a deep rare color. Another adorable gem. 5"

**PULMONARIA = LUNGWORT**

Easy and hardy perennials, in damp to dryish soil. Consider massing these as groundcovers around shrubs such as lilacs and roses – not only will you get another season of bloom, they will act as a living flowering mulch, and the pulmonaria will not mind the eventual shade from the shrubs.

**LUNGWORTS *P. officinalis* & related**

In gardens for centuries, it has many common names incl. 'Mary & Joseph' and 'Bethlehem Sage'. A tea from the leaves was, and still is, used to heal deep-seated coughs. Small trumpet flowers open pink, fading to violet, then blue, and all colors are prettily seen at once. Blooms in May-June when the first hummingbirds arrive, who greatly appreciate the nectar. Dark green lvs with white specks remain a good feature. 1600-99. Generally 6-10" tall, spread 18".

- COMMON LUNGWORT as above.
- BLUE LUNGWORT (*P. angustifolia*) Deep azure-blue, a rare color. Leaves are solidly dark green. Beautiful combined with yellow primroses and daffodils. Intro. 1850-99.
- 'LEOPARD' (*P. saccharata*) Reddish flowers, large silvery leaf blotches. Discovered by Graham Stuart Thomas.
- 'LISA MARIE' (*P. officinalis*) Solidly strong pink flowers.
- 'SAMOURI' Hybrid. Small narrow leaves, at times almost completely silver. Voted among the top Pulmonaria in English trials. 8-12" tall and wide.
- 'SISSINGHURST WHITE' Pure white flowers.
- 'VICTORIAN BROOCH' Flowers are rich rose and purple.

**RANUNCULUS = BUTTERCUPS**

The ideal situation is damp soil in full sun, but part shade is fine.

**FAIR MAIDS OF FRANCE *Ranunculus aconitifolius* fl-pl**

Very rare, a double white "buttercup" from Europe. The buds are pinkish pearls, opening to 1/2" wide flowers of luminous white. A beautiful clean form, it forms a small clump with glossy foliage. It is believed to have arrived in England with the French Huguenots, fleeing from the Battle of St. Bartholomew in 1572. Must have dampish rich soil, and be divided only in spring. 18-22" tall, 15" wide.

**DOUBLE MEADOW BUTTERCUP***R. acris* fl-pl

Shiniest little flowers of glowing chrome yellow, with a green heart. These are clump-forming plants, non-running. Blooms in May/June. Intro 1700-99. Foliage 10", flowers rise to 18".

**DOUBLE CREEPING BUTTERCUP***R. repens* fl-pl

A vigorous low spreader, with shiny foliage and 3/4" double buttons of bright yellow. And what a good job covering the ground it does! - yet it's removable if need be, as the roots are shallow. Damp soils. Intro. 1800-50. 4-8"

**RODGERSIA = RODGERSIA**

P/24-36"/Sun or LSh

*Rodgersia pinnata*

Big pinnate leaves are over 12" wide, emerging deep bronze, softening to a coppery green, and finally turning red in the fall. If you like the colorful leaves of heuchera, you will love this! It rarely flowers in the North Country, and doesn't reach the size it will further south, but it has survived here for quite a few years. Needs consistently moist soils to prosper, esp. if grown in sun, so plant this in a rich damp site, or by a pond, stream or woodland edge. It takes a few years to fatten up, so give it time. Spread to 3'.

**RUDBECKIA**

North American natives, sometimes called Coneflowers, tho' they are distinct from Echinacea. They usually like well-drained soils in full sun, and are tolerant of poor, droughty soils. All here are perennial, excepting the Brown-eyed Susan and Gloriosa Daisy, which are Annual/Biennial. Very popular with butterflies.

**PERENNIAL BLACK-EYED SUSANS *Rudbeckia fulgida* x.**

These below are all long-lived perennials, and very long-blooming too. A bounteous and full August garden can be carried almost completely with a generous planting of these fine plants.

- 'AMERICAN GOLD RUSH' Blooms just as well as 'Goldsturm' but with a more relaxed and naturalistic mien, and smaller scale and flowers. Blends better into native gardens. The leaves are smaller and hairier, with greater resistance to leaf spot problems. Compact and blooms all summer. More tolerant of damp and humid locations. 22-26"
- 'GOLDSTURM' Like a big 2-3" wide Black-eyed Susan, solid golden-yellow with a brown center, but this is a true long-lived perennial. Award winning, it blooms for 6 weeks or more. Among the top 10 perennials for show, easy care and long-bloom. Forms a great strong clump, and never needs staking. 24-30"
- 'LITTLE GOLDSTAR' A mini version of 'Goldsturm'. Blooms just as fully and as long, but at only 14-16" tall. Keeps a trim compact form, does not runner. Proven Winner.

*"Live in the present.*

*Do the things you know need to be done.*

*Do all the good you can each day.*

*The future will unfold."*

**- Peace Pilgrim**

**GLORIOSA DAISY & BLACK-EYED SUSAN *R. hirta* x**

Gloriosa Daisies give so much oomph to the August and September garden! They are garden varieties of our wild Susans, with much bigger 4" flowers, and a large variety of flower color and form. Commonly golden yellow with reddish-brown streaks, but some are pale yellow with green eyes, some are completely brown, and they come in both single and double form. Short-lived, they flower their hearts out their first year, right up to hard frost, and sometimes (but not always) come back the next - but before exiting the earthly plane they will frequently reseed naturally, as long as the site is not thickly mulched. Withstand light frost, and are fabulous for cutting. Height 15-24"

### GREEN-HEADED CONEFLOWER, GOLDEN GLOW & 'HERBSTONNE' *R. laciniata*

This tall species of Rudbeckia supports bees and pollinators with nectar, butterflies as a larval food, and birds with their seeds. Native bees will rear their young in the tall stalks – look for the tiny piles of 'sawdust' around the drill hole and, if possible, leave these stalks up until next June. Leaving the stalks up will also serve birds well over winter, for finches eat the seeds. Intro 1800-99. Sun or PSh. 6-8 ft.

- **COMMON GREEN-HEADED** The loose soft yellow daisies, about 2" wide, have slightly drooping petals and pronounced green discs, in mid-Aug into Sept. Not often allowed into the gardens, this native enjoys average to damp soil. While 6-8' tall, the flower stalks have few leaves, so it hasn't the feel of a dense thicket, and it does not demand staking like its daughter Golden Glow, listed below. Plant on the fence edge, along driveway, among shrubs or the cottage garden, it will spread somewhat, and self-sows too.
- **GOLDEN GLOW** (= 'Autumn Sun') is a superb cultivar of the species. It makes strong upright clumps, does not need to be staked, and does not run around like the species. More blossoms too. If I had to choose one, it would surely be this one! 6-8'
- **'HERBSTONNE'** (*R. laciniata hortensia*) Discovered by chance among a batch of seedlings in 1894, it quickly came to be regarded as among the very best perennials, but is now virtually unobtainable in the trade. Modern gardeners seem to resent having to "do" anything for their plants, which is undoubtedly the reason for waning popularity, for it usually needs staking, and it spreads a lot. Gardeners of an earlier age were willing to work a little to be rewarded with the late August bloom of these big greenish-yellow, shaggy flowers. You still see it growing by barns and fences, from the old days, and it was used to hide the 'necessary', hence the alternate name of 'Outhouse Plant'. Long-blooming, August well into Sept. (This double form will not produce nectar or seed for wildlife). 6-8 ft.

### RUMEX = PRAIRIE DOCK

P/2-5'/Sun *Rumex terebinthaceum*

I really like this plant. Big paddle-shaped leaves stand upright, about 18" long, and are extremely leathery and tough, designed for a dry and windy environment. Above them rise the flower stalks in Aug, thick and leafless, to a height of 5-6 ft, with yellow daisies dancing at the top. Stable, deep-rooted and long-lived.

### SALVIA = ORNAMENTAL SAGE

(See Herb Section for more Salvia)

An assortment of ornamental salvias, these below are all hardy perennials. All Salvia need full sun and well-draining soil, and all of them are absolutely adored by bees. Bloom time late June through July.

- **'CARADONNA'** (*S. nemorosa*) Tidy clump of smoky green leaves, with narrow spikes of very dark purple. Long-lived, and easy to divide. 18-24"
- **'PURPLE RAIN'** & **'WHITE RAIN'** (*S. verticillata*) A big strong grower, with heart-shaped fuzzy leaves. Graceful arching flowering stems with soft purple or white flowers. Blooms about 6 weeks. It comes back year after year, and proves it's worth every time. 15-18"
- **'VIOLET PROFUSION'** (*S. x nemerosa*) Violet-blue flowers on rosy-purple calyxes. Nice full form. Will rebloom if cut back. Proven Winner. 14-16"

### SANGUISORBA = BURNET

Perennials. All have handsome pinnate foliage, and bottlebrush-type flowers. Sun or partial shade. Long-lived and exceptionally hardy. Average moist to dry soils (not wet), and tolerant of poor soils.

#### AMERICAN BURNET *Sanguisorba canadensis*

Native. Has great rockets of luxuriant handsome foliage, with 6" 'candles' of white. Blooms from late August to Sept, even into October, and so is vital for fall gardens, when there is so little white. It will coexist with grasses, and is recommended for wildflower meadows. Tolerates wet soils too. Pair with Helenium for a fine show. 4-5'

### MENZIES' BURNET

*S. Menziesii*

Dark maroon-pink flrs in Aug. Blue glaucous foliage. 24-36"

### GREATER BURNET

*S. officinalis*

Good articulated foliage 2-3' tall, with 4' flowering stalks loaded with neat deep maroon 'catkins'. Medicinally it was used as an astringent or tonic, and Culpeper said "put into a cup of wine...is known to quicken the spirit, refresh and cheer the heart, and drive away melancholy". Can you ever go wrong when wine is involved? Good well-drained soil. Intro 1600-99. In addition, the following three cultivars:

- **'BLACKTHORN' NEW** Wonderful wands of 3" long smoky-pink candles mature to red-purple, in late summer. Taller than most, with a strong upright and vertical habit. Marvelous if backlit. Average to moist soil. Up to 5' tall.
- **'LITTLE ANGEL'** A dwarf, compact and white-variegated cultivar, a nice foliage bun for the rock or herb garden. Pinky-maroon nubby flowers in July, at 7-12" tall, above 4" tall foliage.
- **'PINK TANNA'** 2" long arching flowers in fluffy pale pink, with an overall willowy habit. Has been described as a 'tight pink cheese-puff of a flower"! 24-32"
- **'TANNA'** Midsized, with soft maroon flrs. A Piet Oudolf selection. 15-18"

### NODDING BURNET *S. tenuifolia alba* NEW

Some wonderful plants just don't have good common names, and this is one of them. A descriptive name could be White Dangling Burnet - unlikely to appeal by name alone! I shall call it Nodding then. Bunches of 3 1/2" long fluffy 'catkins' dangle from tall 4' stems. Does not normally need any staking. Adds much grace to the late summer garden. From Japan. 4'.



### SAPONARIA = SOAPWORT (BOUNCING BET)

P/24"/Sun or PSh/1600-99 *Saponaria officinalis*

White flowers in July release a luxurious, vaguely lemony, fragrance in the evenings, and it was the welcoming smell of my own grandmother's summertime garden. All parts, especially the roots, were a source of soap, and it is still used today for old and delicate fabrics. Grows in any soil. From Europe, it now commonly grows wild in the U.S. (The single will seed around, and the doubles will spread vigorously by root.) We have the Single White, rare Double White and Double Pink.

### SEDUM

Hardy succulents. Useful for rock and wall gardens, and as ground covers, tolerant of quite dry soils. Will grow in very poor soils too, but do better with fair fertility. Nice in pots for the summer patio. All do best in full sun, and sunshine brings out the strongest leaf color, but in truth they will survive, anemically, in considerable shade.



**LOW SPREADING SEDUMS:**

- 'ATLANTIS' (*S. takesimensis*) **NEW** Small serrated leaves have a broad creamy margin. It's a very neat and colorful tussock right through the whole season. Yellow flrs. Really cute in containers too. 4-6" tall, 10-12" wide.
- 'FULDA GLOW' (*S. x spurium*) Excellent low spreader with burgundy bronze-red leaves, soft rose-red flowers. Great groundcover, has proven sturdy. 6"
- GOLDEN MOSS SEDUM (*S. acre*) Tiny emerald green leaves, 2" tall yellow flrs in June. Spreads rapidly, makes a good low cover of bright green. Great for keeping the earth covered in difficult areas, i.e. steep slopes or around stepping stones. Spreads, but shallow-rooted, and easily quashed should you wish it. 2"
- 'JOHN CREECH' (*S. spurium*) Low spreading mats of medium-green foliage, with mauve-pink flrs in mid-summer. Strong bloomer. 2-5"
- KAMTCHATKA SEDUM (*S. kamtschatka*) Scalloped medium green leaves. July flowers, yellow aging to russet. In a variegated leaf form too. 8"
- 'LIME TWISTER' Variegated version, with cream-edges. The coloring stays strong all summer, turning a little red when the weather turns cooler. They do not suffer from leaf scorch like some variegated forms do. Little rose-pink flowers in midsummer. Works in containers too. 6-9" tall, spreads to 18" wide.
- 'LIME ZINGER' ('SunSparkler') Apple green leaves have a bright pink edge, which makes for a glowing little number. 4-6" tall, spreads to 18"
- MIDDENDORFF'S SEDUM (*S. middendorffianum*) Solid dark-green mat of foliage, with yellow-to-orange flowers atop red stems, a good solid grower. Remains stable, and never seems to go 'bald' in the middle. 4"
- TRICOLOR SEDUM (*S. spurium*) Small leaves are pink, white and green, with pink flrs in June. 3-4"

**TALL UPRIGHT SEDUMS**

Many gardeners do not cut back the flower stalks during fall cleanup, leaving them up for winter interest. Most of the following are *S. spectabile*, and will survive where all else fails, and without regular maintenance. They will tolerate a little shade, but prefer full sun. Attractive to butterflies.

- 'AUTUMN CHARM' Variegated leaves look interesting all season, with pale yellow serrated leaf edges. The flowers start cream, then open to pale-pink. 14-18"
- 'AUTUMN JOY' The vigorous old classic. Large 4-6" wide heads of pink flrs in late summer, turn brick-red in the fall. 18"
- 'AUTUMN JOY WHITE' Nice to see white flowers in the fall! 18"
- 'CARL' A more compact form, to 18", bright pink. Good healthy habit.
- 'FROSTY MORN' Light green leaves have a white edge, pale pink flrs. Adds brightness to any garden, and will work in part shade too. 18"
- 'LEMONJADE' Flowers are nearly yellow atop soft green lvs. Makes a fine contrast, great textural feature all season. Proven Winner. 8"
- 'MATRONA' Strong upright with darkly purpled stems. The color extends onto edges of the thick blue-green leaves, an elegant blend. Light pink 4" wide flr heads. An exceptional grower, tolerant of clay or sandy soils. 18-24"
- 'NEON' Brighter pink flowers, slightly broader heads. 24"

**SEMPERVIVUM = HENS & CHICKS**

P/1-3"/Sun or PSh *Semperivum tectorum*

Chubby succulent rosettes, in red, purplish and green tones. Sweet in rock, wall gardens, in any soil except sopping wet. About as indestructible as you can get, the name means 'Live Forever'. Occasional stalks of pink flrs to 12". We generally have an assortment.

**Tea-Leaf Readings with Madame M**

Madame M has been gracing us with her presence for a number of years, and many people have attested to her insights. She will again be reading tea leaves, by donation, during the summer months, on most Sunday afternoons. To confirm her schedule, feel free to contact us before coming over.

**SILPHIUM = COMPASS PLANT (CUP PLANT)**

P/8"/Sun or LSh/Yellow

*Silphium laciniatum*

Wonderful height, with bold leaves, topped with a goodly display of chunky lemon-yellow daisy-type flrs, Aug well into Sept. Long-lived, long-blooming, and grows well in full sun or considerable shade. Tall enough to be used for screening - strong stems don't need staking. Prairie native. Good for pollinator gardens, as the leaves hold little cups of water, much appreciated by insects.

**STACHYS = BETONY 'HUMMELO'**

P/12-15"/Sun or PShade/Purple

*Stachys officinalis cv.*

2019 Perennial of the Year. An ornamental Wood Betony, highly valued for low maintenance gardens. Forms neat and strong leafy rosettes, to 12" tall and up to twice as wide. Leafless stems to 20" hold up little chubby wands of rosy lavender flowers in mid-summer. Long-blooming, stays healthy, spreads gently. 'Hummelo' blooms so long because it is sterile, and never sets seed. Well-drained decent soil. (See other Betonys in the Herb pages.)

**STOKESIA = STOKES' ASTER 'PEACHIE'S PICK'**

P/12-18"/Sun/Purple

*Stokesia laevis*

One of the great August blues! Blue to purple fringing daisies, 2" wide. Compact and floriferous, and in a nice lavender-blue shade. Attracts butterflies, but is deer resistant. A North American native, this cv. being from Mississippi, it has great heat tolerance, and is the only *Stokesia* cultivar so far to impress me as a keeper! Average to dry soil.



*Heaven is under our feet  
as well as over our heads.*

*Henry David Thoreau*

**SUCCISIA = DEVIL'S BIT SCABIOUS**P/10-24"/Sun/Blue/1600-99 *Succisia pratensis*

Blooms for the last bouquets of the year! 2' leafless flowering sprays in Sept/Oct carry loads of 1" wide 'pincushions' of lilac-blue. Strong clumps of grayish foliage to 10". One of the very latest flowers to bloom, and a top-grade bee plant. A long-lived British wildflower, closely related to Scabiosa. Average to dry soil.

**THALICTRUM = MEADOW RUE**

Valued for foliage as much as flowers, the leaves shimmer in the summer breezes. Classy long-lived perennials for partial shade or sun. Clump-forming. Rich or average soil, well-drained to moist soils. Good deer resistance. These are in my Top Ten list of favorite perennials – you can tell by the adjectives!

**PURPLE MEADOW RUE** *Thalictrum aquilegifolium*

Graceful tall flowering stems bear hundreds of tiny fluttering pale mauve stamens in June, creating broad fluffy masses. Bluish columbine-like leaves. In England it was called Purple Tufted Columbine. Self-sows, and often naturalizes, in a pleasing way. Intro. 1700-99. 3-4'

**CHINESE MEADOW RUE & 'SPLENDIDE'** *T. delavayi* x  
Lacy foliage makes a 2-3' dense clump, purple flrs rise up to 5'. Some support is recommended. 'Splendide' is the best of the bunch. Because it is a sterile cross, it keeps on blooming for over two months. Quite tall, and some support is recommended. 6'.

**MEADOW RUE 'LAVENDER MIST'** *T. rochebrunianum*  
Gorgeous glaucous blue-green foliage to 24", purple stalks rise to 5-6' in late summer, with delicate branches creating a cloud of lavender ¼" wide flowers, each with a dangling tassel of yellow stamens. A splendid, splendid plant, it self-sows a little.

**MEADOW RUE 'ANNE'** *T. rochebrunianum* x *flavum glaucum*  
Tiny purple buds open to creamy stamens and sepals. Great column of glaucous slightly purpled foliage, magnificent. To 6-7'

**DUSTY MEADOW RUE** *T. speciosissimum*

Wonderfully tall, with dusty-green leathery columbine-type leaves. Narrow puffy panicles of tiny pale-yellow flowers in July to 6 ft., yet it rarely seems to need staking. With purple stems, it makes a glorious fountain of foliage. Intro. 1850-99. 4- 6'

**TIARELLA = FOAMFLOWER**

P/6"/ LShade/Vermont Native

*Tiarella cordifolia*

Dainty woodland plants with maple-shaped leaves. They prefer cool, lightly shaded sites, yet are tolerant of dry soils. Considerate groundcovers, they can share space with others. Numerous 6" spires of fluffy white flowers in May. Excellent for the shady wild garden, slightly acidic soils. A slowly spreading groundcover, to 24".

**TRADESCANTIA = SPIDERWORT (DAYFLOWER)**P/12-36"/S or LSh/1700-99 *Tradescantia virginiana*

Native plant. The 1" wide flowers are scattered among broad grass-like foliage, and open fresh every morning, then fade with the day. Blooms July to Aug. Ironclad, tolerant of wet and dry soils. Shear back hard after blooming to force fresh neat growth. Increases steadily, easy to divide. Popular with bees too. We have several colors, and named varieties, including blue, purple, white and pink.

**TROLLIUS = GLOBEFLOWER**

Wonderfully appealing plants, highly desirable. Grannies call them 'Double Buttercups', which is apt, as they are indeed the same family. Suited for moist rich (even heavy) soils, in sun or partial shade. Not happy in heat and drought. Slow growing, but will live for decades. Most below are T.x cultorum. Most bloom late May to mid June.

- 'ALABASTER' Creamy white flowers, slow growing. 24"
- 'CHEDDAR' Very pale yellow flowers. 20-24"
- 'ETNA' Orange-saffron petals with distinct red-orange stamens peeping out. 20-30"
- 'FIRE GLOBE' Soft glowing orange, more of a sunset-orange. Classic rounded shape. Intro 1910. 20-30"
- 'GOLDEN QUEEN' (T. x ledebourii) Saffron-orange with quirky spiky petals and stamens poking up. Blooms in July, later than others. Lustrous foliage is dark with a touch of mahogany. Intro by 1949. 36"
- 'LEMON QUEEN' Classic rounded shape, pure yellow. Hybrid. Intro 1920s. 20-30"
- 'ORANGE CREST' Large soft orange globes, open up to show a deep orange frilly 'crest' inside. Pre-1929 cv. 24"
- 'PRITCHARD'S GIANT' The widest Trollius flowers, these bright citron-yellow flowers open up flat, like huge 2" wide buttercups. (Probably mis-identified, but wonderful!) 18-24"
- 'SUPERBUS' Bigger compared to the yellow species – this fine cultivar is taller, approaching 36", and has larger globe flowers. Stands up straight in the garden too.
- YELLOW GLOBEFLOWER (T. europaeus) The little old species in lemon yellow, with the classic globe shape. Intro. 1800-50. 20-32"

**VERBASCUM = MULLEIN**

True perennials. Sun or PSh, average to dry soil.

**NETTLE-LEAVED MULLEIN** *Verbascum chaixii*

One of my favorites. A true perennial, hundreds of ¼" wide flowers are crowded along 12" tall spikes in July/Aug, in strong yellow or occasionally white, with distinctive fuzzy purple filaments. A great vertical element in the border. Self-sows freely, sometimes too freely, so cut off stems after flowering. Nice foliage. Bumblebees just adore it. 1850-99. 36"

**PHOENICIAN MULLEIN** *V. phoenicium*

Showy flowering stems to 3', with displays of ¾" wide flowers of deep purple or pink in mid-June, just when there is a lull in the border. Fresh flowers open each morning, for up to three weeks. A true perennial. Avoid heavy soils. Somewhat shade tolerant. Plant in groups of 3 or more for maximum beauty! Intro 1800-50. 28-36"

**VERNONIA = IRONWEED**

Natives. Grow in full sun, in any soil save extremely wet or dry. Tolerates clay, and brief flooding, so is suitable for rain gardens, and wildflower meadows. Butterflies, especially Monarchs, love the flowers

**THINLEAF IRONWEED** *Vernonia lettermannii*

Shorter. Slim willowy foliage, with 4" wide heads of red-violet fuzzy button flowers. Mid height, and good for late bloom, in latest August. We usually have a couple of cultivars.

**TALL IRONWEED** *V. fasciculata altissima*

Magnificent height, probably the tallest self-supporting perennial there is. The thick stems are super strong, and do not need staking. Big 8" wide heads hold masses of small slightly fuzzy daisies, in rich crimson-purple, which attract butterflies. Self-sows modestly. Larval host for American Painted Lady butterflies. To 7 ft.



**IRONWEED 'WHITE LIGHTNING'** *V. noveboracensis*  
Clean white flowers, nice form. August/Sept bloom. 6 ft.

### VERONICA = SPEEDWELL

Grow in full sun, average light soil. Divide every three years. Bears little paintbrush-shaped spike flowers up to 2' tall. Invaluable for mid and late summer blue. Bees like them.

- 'EVER AFTER' (*V. spicata*) **NEW** Extra long lavender-blue spikes, blooming over a month. Proven Winner. 14-16"
- 'PALE GENTIAN SPEEDWELL' (*V. gentianoides pallida*) Low 4" spreader, 20" loose spikes of pale silvery blue in June. Rock garden, not super dry. Use it for a ground cover under roses!
- 'HUNGARIAN SPEEDWELL' (*V. latifolia*) Low 4" spreader, 20" loose spikes of vivid blue in June. Rock garden, not super dry.
- 'PURPLE ILLUSION' (*V. spicata*) Warm pinkish-purple, a rare color in Veronica. Heavy bloomer, glossy lvs. Proven Winner. 16-18"

### VERONICASTRUM = CULVER'S ROOT

P/3-6"/Sun or PSh/1800-50 *Veronicastrum virginicum*  
Makes a fine flowering skinny candelabra, like a very tall veronica. Flowers are 10 in. long, with tiny flowers, in Aug/Sept. It never needs staking, and creates a super vertical element. Native to the U.S. east coast, it was trucked back to England as early as 1714. Wet or dry soils. Attracts butterflies and hummingbirds.

- SPECIES in white or palest pink. The color is more subtle than most named varieties, but I think this has the superior form. 3-5'
- 'CUPID' **NEW** Vigorous branching form, with multiple sturdy flowering stems. Dark buds open to lilac-blue. 36-42"
- 'FASCINATION' Dark lavender-rose spikes with burgundy stems - a 'beaut.' Strong stems. 36-40" tall, 18-30" spread.
- 'LAVENDER TOWERS' Longer spikes, pale purple. Preferred by pollinators. 4-5'

### VINCA = PERIWINKLE (MYRTLE)

P/4-8"/PSh to SH/Purple *Vinca minor*  
A most useful groundcover with deep green glossy leaves and ¾" flrs in May. Will spread and thrive in shady settings, tolerating all but the poorest soils, average to damp. If other grandiose horticultural schemes fail, one can't go wrong with a massing of vinca. Useful in planters too. In the U.S. since colonial times. We typically have: Common Myrtle - with lavender-blue flowers; 'Atropurpurea' - red-violet flrs.



### VIOLA = VIOLET

Sun or partial shade, in rich cool soil, average to damp. While they can be left alone for decades, occasional division will ensure prolific blossoming. They serve very well as underplantings under shrubs and tall upright perennials. Long-lived.

- COMMON SWEET VIOLET (*V. odorata*) The true and original. A gorgeous perfume emanates from little dark purple blooms in Apr/May. Esteemed for centuries for their scent, medicinal value and as a sweetener for food. Plant them on a ledge and out of the wind where it will be easier to see and smell without stooping, or pot one up in earliest spring to bring indoors. Frequently reblooms in October. Spreads by runners, forms thick mats. Intro 1600-99. We also have var. 'CORNISH WHITE' 4-6"
- 'CONFEDERATE VIOLET' Big white flowers have large blue centers. (The Blue and the Gray) Clump-forming, they will self-sow. Not fragrant (not *V. odorata*). 8"

### WALDSTEINIA = BARREN STRAWBERRY

P/4"/Sun or PSh/Native *Waldsteinia fragarioides*  
Yellow strawberry-type blossoms in May/June. A gentle spreader, it makes a great neat glossy-leaved groundcover for small areas, under perennials and shrubs. Average to dry soil.

## Jude's Scone Recipe

(Makes about 14 scones with 3" scone cutter.)

Heat oven to 400 degrees.

- 4 Cups all purpose flour
- 2 Tbsp sugar
- 2 Tbsp Baking Powder
- ½ to 1 tsp salt (omit if using salted butter)

Combine flour, baking powder, sugar and salt. Add in ½ stick of butter, and 1 stick of margarine. Process until mixture is crumbly - like rough cornmeal. Use a Kitchen Aid on the lowest setting for a couple of minutes, or use a pastry blender. Lightly whip 2 eggs. Add 1 Cup whole milk to eggs, and add to flour mixture and form into ball.

Gently knead dough on a floured board for a short time (half a minute is long enough). Roll and cut them at least ¾ of an inch thick, no thinner. Cut circles of dough with scone cutter. Bake on baking sheet for about 13 - 14 minutes





**H**erbs don't have to be in a separate garden, but can be planted the old-fashioned way, mixed in with the vegetables or flowers, wherever you find the room. Just try to keep them close to the house, where you can pick them easily for kitchen use.

In addition to the perennial herbs available potted or field dug from the nursery, tender and annual herbs can be found in our greenhouse 'til mid-summer, usually including: Basils in variety, Lemon Verbena, Sweet Marjoram, Dill, Cilantro, Summer Savory, Scented Geraniums, etc.

If looking for something not listed here, please ask us, as there are more little oddities tucked in the corners of the gardens than we have room for in the catalog. Be sure to wander about in the herb garden, to see mature examples of the plants, and new arrivals.

All of our herbs are grown without the use of chemical pesticides or neo-nics, and only organic fertilizers are used on the field grown plants. No plants are wild collected. We strongly advise you to refer to several herbal reference books and/or experts if you are inclined to try any herbal remedies. Pay close attention to the botanical names, and make sure you are using the correct species. Any commentary here is meant to be of historical and anecdotal interest only and we cannot accept responsibility for personal experimentation.

This plant list is arranged alphabetically by botanical name. An Index of Common Names is in the back of the catalog.

KEY: P=Perennial, B=Biennial, S=Sun, PSh=Part Shade, Sh=Shade. Dates listed refer to the date of introduction to American gardens.

*All plants are perennial unless noted otherwise.*

#### **AGASTACHE = ANISE HYSSOP**

Sun, well-drained soil. Typically lives 3-4 years. Aromatic foliage. Great pollinator plants. Common Anise Hyssop lvs make a wonderful tea, iced or hot.

#### **COMMON ANISE HYSSOP** *Agastache foeniculum*

Fragrant licorice-scented foliage, pretty soft purple flrs, like gumdrops, from July into Sept. A favorite with butterflies and bees! 24"

#### **GIANT YELLOW HYSSOP** *A. nepetoides*

Native, with 4" wands of sm greenish-yellow flrs on a tall 3-4' plant, perhaps not a showgirl centerpiece, but it's a fabulous nectar and pollen plant for bees. Keeps a totally vertical upright form and adds winter interest. It keeps growing on me. Prefers some shade.

#### **AGRIMONIA = AGRIMONY**

P/to 36"/Sun or LSh/1600-99. Agrimonia eupatoria

A tisane made from the leaves and flowers was popular in France for its delicate flavor. Long used as a spring tonic, it stimulates digestive and liver secretions. A tea for indigestion, or a gargle for sore throat and laryngitis. Yellow dye plant. Known to the Anglo-Saxons as Gardlive, who valued it for healing wounds. Average to poor soil.

#### **ALLIUMS**

Culinary/ornamental. Hardy Perennials. Sun and well-drained soil. Deer resistant, and many are attractive to butterflies. Very easy to divide.

#### CULINARY ALLIUMS:

- **WELSH ONION** *Allium fistulosum*  
Forms slender bulbs, rather like leeks. Harvest the bulbs or the tops, all season long. The green stalks stay in better shape than Walking Onions and do not have the same wanderlust. 1700-99. 18"
- **WALKING ONION (Egyptian Onion)** *A. proliferum*  
Little bundles of mild garlic-tasting bulbs perch atop the stalks. Eat the little bulbs, or plant them to make more. A funny old thing. 1800s. 15"
- **COMMON CHIVES** *A. schoenoprasum*  
The easiest herb! Snip the greens all summer, or sprinkle the lilac flowers onto salads, pasta. 1600-99. 18". We also have the bright pink 'Forescate', Dwarf and Fine-leaved cultivars.
- **GARLIC CHIVES** *A. tuberosum*  
Tender garlicky flavor. Pretty white or mauve-flrs. 1800-50. 12"

ORNAMENTAL ALLIUMS: With their tidy foliage, fast rate of increase, and appeal for bees, they make fine edging plants, and as small scale groundcovers. Distasteful to deer and woodchucks too!

- **BROAD LEAF CHIVES** *Allium sp.*  
Shiny deep green, lavender-pink flrs. Nice ornamental. Super hardy. 18"
- **CIRCLE CHIVES** *A. senescens glaucum*  
Forms a near perfect circle of curled blue-green leaves, cute. 6"



- **ALLIUM 'BUBBLE BATH' NEW**  
Taller, with large 3" wide flowers in light purple. Flowers rise to 24" spreads to 18", so a fine one for massing.
- **ALLIUM 'LAVENDER BUBBLES' NEW**  
Darker dusty purple flowers, and it blooms later than 'Millenium', plus has a little twist to the leaves. 12-14" tall
- **ALLIUM 'MILLENIUM'**  
Blooms in mid-summer, later than most alliums. Flower heads about 1" wide, rosy-lilac, with clean shiny leaves. 2018 Perennial of the Year. 15"
- **ALLIUM 'SUMMER BEAUTY'**  
Ornamental, nice leaf-green foliage, 1" wide heads of pale lavender flrs. It stays neat and tidy all summer, which recommends it for edging. It is easy to divide and thereby obtain lots of plants for a small scale groundcover. Recommended. 12-15"

**ALTHAEA = MARSHMALLOW**

P/3-5ft/Sun/Pink/1700-99/Medicinal *Althaea officinalis*  
The original medicinal marshmallow. The roots and leaves are used mainly as demulcents. 3/4" pale pink hollyhock flrs. Dry soil. 4-5'

**ANEMONE = PULSATILLA (PASQUE FLOWER)**

P/8-10"/Full Sun/by 1805/Medicinal & Ornamental *Anemone pulsatilla*  
Big lavender, purple or red flowers, 1 1/2" wide, pop out in April, shortly after the snow has gone. Long-lived, it stays in a tight clump, up to 18" wide, with silvered feathery foliage, and neat silvery seed heads. Used medicinally as a relaxing nervine. Must have sun and dry soils, and thrives in a rock garden situation.

**ARMORACIA = HORSE RADISH**

P/24-36"/S or PSh/1700-99/Culinary *Armoracia lappanifolia*  
Easy to make your own sauce in the fall, by grating the roots into vinegar (wear goggles!) Lives forever, in any deep soil, except very dry.

**ARNICA**

Perennials. The yellow daisies are used in salves, or homeopathics, to treat bruising and sprains. Do not take internally. Full sun is mandatory.

**NORTH AMERICAN ARNICA** *Arnica chamissonis*

Much easier to grow in our climate, it is reportedly just as medicinally effective as *A. montana*. This one spreads and colonizes somewhat, and asks for dryish soils. 5-10"

**EUROPEAN ARNICA** *A. montana*

Needs acidic soil, somewhat moist. Forms a distinct clump, which can be carefully divided every three years. Externally, for rheumatic pain, phlebitis. If mulching, gravel is better than organic materials. 4-8"

**ARTEMISIA = WORMWOODS**

Aromatic plants, these are all perennial. Grow in full sun, well-drained soil. Generally tolerant of poor dry soils. Most are very hardy, and resistant to pest and diseases.

**SOUTHERNWOOD** *Artemisia abrotanum*

Delightfully fragrant feathery leaves on woody stems, can be used in sachets. They should be trimmed hard in the spring to maintain a tidy form. Hardy and long-lived. Intro 1600-99

- **COMMON SOUTHERNWOOD** Has a delightful scent, and it is my favorite aromatic. The finely chopped leaves are used to delicately flavor pound cakes. 20-24"
- **CAMPOR SOUTHERNWOOD, BUSHY** Has a strong camphor scent, low bushy form, fine silvery foliage. Use sprigs to keep moths away from linens, or just sniff for a wake up. 20-24"

**WORMWOOD** *A. absinthium*

Bright silvery foliage, very strongly scented. Once used to flavor absinthe and, evidently, to expel worms. Just lives for up to 5 years, but will self-sow a little. 1600-99. 36"

**FRENCH TARRAGON** *A. dracuncululus*

This is the true liquorice flavored culinary var. Use fresh or dried lvs in vinegars, sauces, beurrés. Needs good soil, sun. 1600-99. 15-24"

**WHITE MUGWORT** *A. lactiflora*

Handsome large plumes of creamy white flowers in August are superb for large arrangements. Beautiful massed in the ornamental garden too. Stays as a clump and does not seed around the garden. 4-5'

**MUGWORT, COMMON** *A. vulgaris*

Ours is a handsome mannerly cultivar, with reddish stems, and dark green leaves with a silver underside. (This is *not* the invasive mugwort). A noble plant recognized since ancient times for a variety of uses, incl. as a bitter for liver stimulation. Make a 'strong bones' vinegar, by soaking the leaves in cider vinegar for 6 weeks. Used for dream pillows, moxibustion and smudging. 1600-99. 4-5'

**CHAMAEMELUM = ROMAN CHAMOMILE**

P/2-6"/Sun/White/1600-99/Aromatic *Chamaemelum nobile*  
Sweet scented leaves and flowers smell rather like apple, and the little white daisies are harvested to make a well-known calming tea. (Use fresh or dried). Very fine low foliage. Needs well-drained soil. Divide, reset and 'pat down' regularly to keep it vigorous.

**CHRYSANTHEMUM = COSTMARY (BIBLE LEAF)**

P/36"/Sun to PSh/1600-99/Aromatic *Chrysanthemum balsamita*  
Long leaves retain their sweet odor, and are used in potpourri, and as fragrant bookmarks. Also, once, fresh in salads and in ale. An easy strong grower, will grow in any soil save very wet. An old garden friend, even known to the ancient Egyptians.

CIMICIFUGA = BLACK COHOSH - *see Perennials*

DIOSCOREA VILLOSA = WILD YAM - *see Vines*

ECHINACEA = CONEFLOWER - *see Perennials*

**EUTROCHIUM = BONESET & JOE PYE**

Perennials. Full Sun/PSh. Tolerant of poor dry soils, but prefer damp.

**BONESET** *Eutrochium perfoliatum*

Native. Has the reputation of being the best herb for the relief of influenza, and quickly relieves the aches and pains of fevers. Collect and dry top leaves and young flrs. (Take a very hot infusion, every half hour). Also cleanses congestion and constipation. Broad dull fuzzy white flr heads in August, which butterflies and bees love. 2-3'

**JOE PYE WEED** *E. purpureum*

Native. Medicinal. Used for kidney stones, gout. A strong grower with clusters of purple-pink flowers in late summer. A very popular butterfly plant, the species is 5 ft tall. We also have the fabulously tall cultivar 'Gateway', at 7-10 ft. An important plant for Monarchs.

**CHOCOLATE BONESET** *E. rugosum* **NEW**

Native. Has eye-catching bronzy foliage, with the deepest color in early season. Grow in full sun for best color. Fuzzy cream flowers in late summer. Was used medicinally by native Americans, but rarely now. Also known as White Snakeroot. 36-48"

FILIPENDULA = MEADOWSWEET - *see Perennials*

**FRAGARIA = ALPINE STRAWBERRY**

P/to 12"/Sun or PSh/1600-99/Edible *Fragaria vesca*  
Native perennial. Pretty white flowers and small sweet berries are produced nearly all summer. A clumping, non-running form, it is fine for edging. Easy to divide in spring. Give it good rich soil.

**GALIUM = WOODRUFF & BEDSTRAW****SWEET WOODRUFF** *Galium odorata*

Small clusters of white flowers in May are used in May Wine. Leaves are hay-scented and were used for stewing. Makes a great spreading groundcover in light shade. Perennial. Intro to the U.S. 1700-99. 10"

**YELLOW BEDSTRAW (Cheese Rennet)***Galium verum*

Used for yellow or red dye. A vegetable rennet, it will curdle milk to make cheese. Clouds of tiny yellow flrs. Perennial. Sun or PSh. 12-18"

**HERNIARIA = RUPTUREWORT**P/2"/Sun or LSh/Green/1600-99/Ornamental *Herniaria glabra*

The lowest carpet, of tiny green leaves and flowers. Remains bright green all season, and is a fine flat groundcover in rock gardens. In pre-lawnmower days, it was commonly planted on gravesites. Diuretic. Any soil, except wet.

**HYPERICUM = ST. JOHN'S WORT**P/24-36"/Sun/1600-99/Medicinal *Hypericum perforatum*

The flowering tops are used externally in salves to heal wounds; take tea or capsules internally as a sedative, and to treat depression. Any dry soil. The yellow flrs open on St John's Day, June 24, hence the name.

**HYSSOPUS = BLUE HYSSOP**P/15-20"/Sun/Medicinal-Culinary *Hyssopus officinalis*

An attractive compact low shrub with prolific spiky flrs in July, in blue or pink. Sometimes mistaken for Lavender, the habit is similar, albeit with much darker green leaves. (Hyssop is more reliable though.) As a tea for coughs, bronchitis. Strong flavored, add sparingly to stew, meat dishes, and even fruit desserts. Trim back halfway in spring to keep it bushy.

**INULA = ELECAMPAINE**P/4-6"/Sun or PSh/1600-99/Yellow/Medicinal *Inula helenium*

Large shield-shaped leaves, 3" wide yellow flrs on tall stems. An ancient and still current medicinal for asthma and all sorts of lung problems. Majestic and long-lived. Best in deep soil.

**LAVANDULA = LAVENDER**P/15"/Sun/Lavender/1600-99/Aromatic *Lavandula angustifolia*

More or less hardy here, if soil is sweet and well-draining. Add winter mulch if no snow is expected. Prune down to 6" in spring (not fall).

- 'MUNSTEAD' An old cultivar from 1916, it is still a fairly reliable one for the north. Lavender-blue flowers, and a compact 12-16"
- 'PHENOMONAL' A strong grower with exceptional vigor and disease resistance, and a big one too, from 24-32", with long rich lavender wands. Has proven hardy for me.
- 'FRENCH LAVENDER' (L. stoechas) Tender, but it has exceptionally strongly scented foliage. It does not always reach flowering age the first year, but is a lovely companion nonetheless. Keep a pot on your patio table for scent. Can be wintered indoors, in a cool sunny room, if you keep it on the dry side. 5-8"

**LEONURUS = MOTHERWORT**

P/24-36"/PSh or LSh/1600-99/Medicinal

*Leonurus cardiaca*

Used as a sedative for the heart, palpitations. Promotes menstruation, allays cramps, and is taken as a calming tea to ease anxiety after birth. Needs good soil, cool site, light shade. Can be taken in a conserve, or tea.

**LEVISTICUM = LOVAGE**P/36"/Sun/1600-99/Culinary *Levisticum officinale*

The strong celery taste adds good flavor to soups, stuffings and salads (chop the leaves or stalks fine). Long-lived, easy to keep happy. Rich moist soil preferred, but tolerates poor soils too.

**MELISSA = LEMON BALM**P/15"/Sun/1600-99/Medicinal/Tea *Melissa officinalis*

Fragrant lemony leaves make a tasty tea, which also helps with headache and stomachache. A nice herbal tea for children. Very easy, most any soil.

**MENTHA = MINT**

Long-lived spreading perennials. Grow in well-watered or moist soil, sun or light shade. Aromatic/Medicinal. Contain rambunctious spread with 6" deep boards surrounding the patch, or use containers. Reset every 4 years for healthiest growth and juiciest leaves.

**PEPPERMINT** *Mentha piperata*

Long a favored tea for upset stomachs. Intro 1700-99. 28-32"

**CHOCOLATE MINT** *M. x piperata*

Smells like peppermint patties, and dark foliage looks good. 24"

**EAU DE COLOGNE MINT (Orange Mint)***M. piperata x citrata*

Really smells like a nice light cologne! 24-30"

**APPLE MINT** *M. suaveolens*

A mild and sweet taste, the large softly downy leaves are excellent for kitchen use, in salads, sauces, drinks, etc. This is the mint we use on the cucumber sandwiches in the tea room!

**SPEARMINT** *M. spicata*

The preferred culinary mint, with softer flavor and delicate texture, and makes a sweet tea. Intro 1600-99. 36"

**AND MORE** We have an assemblage of other curious mints, including: Margarita, Mojito, and Moroccan.

**MYRRHIS = SWEET CICELY**P/36"/Part to LSh/1600-99/Flavoring *Myrrhis odorata*

A beautiful anise-scented plant adorns the garden in May/June with ferny leaves and large umbels of white flrs. The young green seed pods make a sweet snack, like Good & Plentys. Prefers cool rich soil. Self-sows a lot, so cut off heads after flowering – or eat them up!

**NEPETA = CATNIP**P/36-44"/Sun/1600-99/Tea/Medicinal *Nepeta cataria*

Not just for cats, it is also a useful stomachic for people. Was commonly taken as a 'freedom' tea during colonial times, especially when drinking black tea was politically incorrect! Cage the crown to keep cats from loving it to death. Well-drained to dry soil. See Perennials for ornamental catnips.

**ORIGANUM = OREGANO**

Perennials. Grow in sun and well-drained soil.

**GREEK OREGANO***Origanum heracleoticum*

Has the strongest flavor, and best for dried use. Hardy. White flrs. 12"

**ORNAMENTAL OREGANO** *O. laevigatum*

Beautiful dark foliage and glowing red-violet flrs. Attracts butterflies. Excellent dried flrs. Cultivars: 'Herrenhausen'. 24"

**FLOWERING** *O. vulgare*

Bland flavor, but good color. Would, I think, survive the Arctic. 18"

**PARTHENIUM = WILD QUININE**P/30-36"/Sun/Medicinal *Parthenium integrifolium*

A prairie native. Stiff waxy umbels 3-4" wide, ornamental white flrs come in late summer and last for weeks. Medicinally, it assists with wound healing, respiratory infection, fevers, plus stimulates the immune system. A beautiful hardy plant for meadows, it will coexist with grasses.

**PEUCEDANUM = MASTERWORT**P/to 24"/Sun/Medicinal *P. osthuthium*

From the Alps. The 'Master Herb' was used historically as a flavoring for cheese, malt beer, liquors and bitters, and many medicinal uses too, both internal and external. Hildegard von Bingen recommended masterwort wine for infections. A source of flavonoids, and used in skin products. Closely related to Astrantia, with 4" wide creamy white umbels, and a thick healthy foliage. Very hardy and rugged, expands steadily, but never invasive. Average soil.



PULMONARIA = LUNGWORT - see *Perennials*

### PYCNANTHEMUM = MOUNTAIN MINT

Native perennials. The most popular flowers among the pollinator set, you will always see bees, butterflies and other flying creatures tumbling about on the whitish flowers. Though they smell very minty, they are not true mints and do not runner, though they steadily increase to make good clumps. They are not used in the kitchen, but there are some medicinal, tea uses. Easy to grow in average to dry soils. Sun or PShade.

- SHOWY MOUNTAIN MINT (*P. muticum*) Big silvery bracts, broader leaves, rounded heads of little pale pink flowers in August. A silvery look overall makes it stand out. This one is happiest at the wood's edge, in moist soil. 24-36"
- HAIRY MOUNTAIN MINT (*P. verticillata v. pilosum*) The strongest grower of all, ideal for bee meadows and low maintenance plantings, though less showy to most human eyes. Long-blooming, about one month, in July/Aug. Fuzzy foliage. 24-36"
- THIN-LEAF MOUNTAIN MINT (*P. tenuifolium*) Needle-like emerald green foliage, small clusters of bright white flrs. The prettiest blooms, is beautiful for cutting too. This one spreads more. 20-30"

### ROSMARINUS = ROSEMARY

Hardy to Zone 6/12-30"/Sun/1600-99 *Rosmarinus officinalis*  
If planted in the ground for the summer (which it loves), pot it up around Labor Day, but then leave outside 'til Thanksgiving. To winter it inside, keep it cool and sunny; water deeply when dry; and mist occasionally.

### RUMEX = SORREL

P/24-40"/Sun/1600-99/Culinary *Rumex acetosa*  
Lemony tart greens are great in salads and soup. Plant in fair soil and fair sun. Cut the flower stalks off as they appear, and harvest the leaves frequently to stimulate production. Rich in Vit. C. Long-lived. We also have the non-bolting variety 'PROFUSION'.

### RUTA = RUE

P/12-20"/Sun/1600-99/Medicinal *Ruta graveolens*  
Aromatic. Fine bluish foliage, yellow button flrs. For gout, rheumatiz, parasites. A favorite larval food plant for swallowtail butterflies. Was believed to protect one from the plague. Well-drained soil.

### SALVIA = SAGE

Most are Perennial. Full Sun, well-drained soil. Bees love all Salvias.

#### COMMON SAGE *Salvia officinalis*

Easy to grow culinary. Aside from kitchen use, you can brew tea from the leaves to use as a gargle for mouth ulcers, bleeding gums. Replant every 4 yrs. Intro to US 1600-99. 15-18"

#### CLARY SAGE *S. sclarea*

A showy biennial, with large lilac & white flrs, and large crinkled lvs. It is big and beautiful for 6 weeks. Self-sows lightly. Hummingbird plant. Magnificent, and well-worth the space. 36-42"

#### JUPITER'S DISTAFF *S. glutinosa*

Big upright plant w/ large pale green somewhat sticky lvs (it's not named glutinosa for nothing). It takes a special person to fall in love with this one, but the bees continue to appreciate it. Long-lived. 3-4'

#### PERENNIAL BLUE SAGE *S. x nemerosa*

Tidy plants with smoky-green leaves, and the spike flowers, generally in purple or blue, make a fine display in July, lasting at least a month. See Perennial Section for varieties.

### SATUREJA = WINTER SAVORY

P/8-15"/Sun/1600-99/Culinary *Satureja montana*  
Tasty seasoning for spaghetti sauce, beans, lentils, meats, soups, and more. 'Tis said that rubbing a fresh sprig on bee stings will bring quick relief. Winter hardy. Well-drained soil.

### SCROPHULARIA = WOODS FIGWORT

P/36-44"/Sun or PSh/Medicinal *Scrophularia nodosa*  
Taken as a tea to treat eczema and itching, by assisting inner cleansing, and as a skin wash for skin cancer. Has a fleeting tarpaper scent to the leaves. The tiny brown snapdragon flowers are very popular with bees and assorted pollinators. Any soil.

### SCUTTELLARIA = SCULLCAP

Sun or PSh, rich cool soil. Medicinals. Scutellaria means 'little dish'.

BAICAL SCULLCAP (Huang Qin) *Scutellaria baicalensis*  
Dk purple flrs. Pretty & bushy. For hypertension, shingles. 8-10"

#### COMMON SCULLCAP *S. laterifolia*

One of best tonics for the nervous system, and it doesn't taste too bad either. This species is a wanderer, so allow it to roam. 22"

### SEDUM = ROSEROOT (RHODIOLA)

P/6-12"/Sun/Medicinal *Sedum roseum*  
A medicinal sedum that has been used in many countries over 100s of years. An adaptogen, it helps the body deal with stress, fatigue and depression. Root is part used. Hardy, it needs a well-drained soil.

### SENNA = WILD SENNA (CASSIA)

P/3-6'/Sun/Medicinal/Ornamental *Senna marilandica*  
Native. A handsome strong plant with locust-type leaves, and loose racemes of yellow flrs in Aug. It can coexist with grasses and thrive in meadows for many years. Some people plant cassia in a field to feed wild turkeys, which are fond of the seed. Medicinally used as a cathartic, laxative. Utterly hardy.

### STACHYS = BETONY

All perennial. Ornamental/Medicinal. Sun or PSh, average to dry soil.

WOOLLY BETONY (Lamb's Ears) *Stachys byzantina*  
Soft velvety silver leaves. Small pink flrs on 12" stalks. We also have 'Helene von Stein', with larger lvs and no flrs, and the miniature 'Silky Fleece'. Great edgers and ornamentals in open and dry sites. 6"

#### SHOWY BETONY *S. grandiflora superba*

Ornamental, w/ largish whorls of purplish flrs and nice lvs. 12-18"

#### WOOD BETONY *S. officinalis*

Valuable medicinal, for chronic headache, nerves and anxiety. 24"

#### HEDGE WOUNDWORT *S. sylvatica*

Hairy heart-shaped lvs, small reddish flrs. Will someone love me? 18"

### SYMPHYTUM = COMFREY

All are perennial (to understate their vigor). Sun/PSh, in nearly any soil.

#### YELLOW COMFREY *S. grandiflorum*

Excellent groundcover, esp. in dry light shade. June flrs, dark lvs. 14"

#### COMMON COMFREY *S. officinale*

Grows prolifically. A fabled medicinal, valued for centuries to heal skin wounds and knit broken bones. Use it as a skin wash, salve or tea. Feed nutritious leaves to poultry, pigs and goats. Bees adore the flowers too. Will regenerate from the smallest root, so plant it where it can stay. . The flowers start pink then turn to blue. We also have cultivars with white flowers, pink flowers and the variegated 'Axminster Gold'. 36"

#### RUSSIAN COMFREY *S. uplandicum*

Reputed to be the strongest medicinal comfrey. Pale pink flrs. 36-48"

### TANACETUM = FEVERFEW

P/18-24"/Sun/1600-99/Medicinal *Tanacetum parthenium*  
Flowering branches of small single white daisies bloom most of the summer atop fragrant leaves. Medicinally is used for migraines. This is the true old-fashioned cottage garden type, and is what I started this nursery with. Short-lived, but self-sows.

**TANSY**P/3-4'/Sun or PSh/Aromatic *Tanacetum vulgare*

Scented leaves were used to repel flies and ants. Take a tincture as a bitter to aid digestion. Yellow button flowers dry beautifully for arrangements and wreaths. It tolerates dry soil but will grow most anywhere. We have both common and the pretty fern-leaf variety, which was also known as Corsage Leaf.

**THYMUS = THYME**

Culinary/Ornamental. Sun and well-drained soil are essential. Avoid situations where ice build ups over winter, and do not ever cover them with mulch, as any cover will kill the foliage. All are edible, both leaf and flower, but the cooking thymes are most commonly used in the kitchen. *Thymus* is Greek for smoke, as it was anciently burned as an incense, to clear the air of diseases, and to bring clarity to the mind.

**COOKING THYMES***T. vulgaris & others*

- **ENGLISH THYME** The strongest perennial thyme for flavoring and dried use. Upright, non-creeping habit. The stems of these, and any thymes, can be bundled together and dropped into the cooking pot for flavoring stews, rice, beans, etc. 8"
- **'LEMON THYME'** (*T. serpyllum*) Distinct lemon flavor, a bushy 6-10" tall.

**CREEPING THYMES***Thymus praecox & serpyllum*

Low creepers, from 2-6" tall. Most bloom in late June. These are the thymes to use for groundcover, between paving stones, etc, where they will tolerate some foot traffic, and release a spicy scent. Overwatering can spoil the leaves or even kill them, so grow them on the dry side.

- **RED CREEPING THYME** Red-pink flrs. Super flat 2"
- **WHITE CREEPING THYME** Tiny white flrs. Ditto. 2"
- **'ANNIE HALL'** Soft reddish pink flrs, with a tumbling habit. 3"
- **'ELFIN'** Tiny leaves, slightly fuzzy, with a scattering of lilac flrs. Only 1-2" tall, it will mound up to the cutest cushion with time. Do not tread on this one.
- **'HIGHLAND CREAM'** Green with a tiny cream edge, pretty. 1"
- **'LEMON CARPET'** A lemony spicy aroma, with wiry stems, it is extra good for pathways. 2"

- **'REITER'S RED'** (*T. praecox*) Olive green foliage with dark pink flowers. This is reputed to be among the toughest thymes, and most tolerant of foot traffic. A good spreader, and recommended for ground cover, lawn replacement. 2-3"
- **'WOOLLY THYME'** (*T. pulegioides*) Fuzzy grey leaves, pale lilac flrs. The woolly leaved thymes are especially damaged by overly wet soils, so grow them dry, and plant away from winter ice and damp. 2-3"

**URTICA = STINGING NETTLE**P/28-36"/PSh/Medicinal/Tea *Urtica dioica*

One of the best blood purifiers, a rich source of iron, and a delicious and nutritious pot-herb. Harvest young leaves for tea or dinner in early summer (cut plants back hard to generate fresh growth for later harvest.) No stinging once the leaves are wilted or dried! Cool deep soil, part shade, it will spread to create a good-sized patch. A valuable larval plant for Question Mark butterflies.

**VALERIANA = VALERIAN (GARDEN HELIOTROPE)**P/36-60"/S or PSh/1600-99/Medicinal *Valeriana officinalis*

With fragrant white flowers, it is often planted for the strong sweet scent alone. The root is used in tincture to make a worthy sedative, safe even for children. It will self-sow a little. Easy to grow in average conditions. Plant it just outside your house windows so that the breeze will carry the fragrance in, just like they did in the old days. We've also got the rare Golden-Leaved Valerian (*V. phu*).

**VERBENA = BLUE VERVAIN**

P/4-6'/Sun/Medicinal/Pollinator/Native

*Verbena hastata*

Native. Bunches of slender pencil-like spikes in high summer, with small purple flowers beloved by butterflies. Makes a strong hardy clump, long-lived and long blooming. Found in average to damp soils, it will tolerate wet soils, and rain gardens. Medicinally used against nervous tension, hot flashes, insomnia. As a tea it is very bitter, so many people prefer taking it in tincture. Average soil.

## Perennial Edible Plants for Permaculture

**APIOS = AMERICAN GROUNDNUT***Apios americana*

A rarely seen native vine with edible tubers. Blooms in mid-summer, with very fragrant, 2" pinkish-brown clusters. Vigorous, it will relentlessly send out seeking roots, so give it space, and plant it away from the flower garden. Foliage is like a fine Wisteria. Deciduous. Permaculture plant. Sun/PSh. To 8' tall.

**BUNIAS = TURKISH ROCKET**P to PSh/2-4'/Sun/Edible/Bunias *orientalis*

The young flowers are plucked off and steamed like broccoli raab, and leaves both young (raw) and old (cooked) leaves can be harvested all season - in fact, keep cutting and they will keep coming. In the Cabbage family. Quite long-lived, no pests or problems. Deep roots are drought resistant. Clouds of little yellow mustard-type flowers in June. Most any soil.

**CHENOPODIUM = GOOD KING HENRY**P/2-3'/Sun or PSh/Edible *Chenopodium bonus-henricus*

Rather like a perennial spinach, it has been used as a 'pot herb' since the Bronze Age. Now popular in permaculture and forest gardens, the mild leaves can be simply steamed or added to soups. Can be harvested all summer. Grow in cool rich soil. Long-lived.

**CRAMBE = SEA KALE**

P/24-30"/Sun/Edible

*Crambe maritima*

An old perennial vegetable, using the young leaves, or blanched under a pot. More commonly grown now as a beautiful foliage plant, with ripply blue-green leaves. It will survive in Vermont, but in order to thrive it needs very well-drained soil, in full sun, in rich neutral to alkaline soils.

**HELIANTHUS = JERUSALEM ARTICHOKE**

P/6-8ft/Sun/Yellow/1600-99/Edible

*Helianthus tuberosus*

A native perennial sunflower with tasty edible tubers. Our fine nameless cultivar, a garden gift decades ago from the town drunk (thanks Earl!), has 6-8" long reddish 'chokes'. They are thin-skinned, easy to clean, knobless, and do not need peeling. Bright 4" wide sunflowers in Sept. A vigorously spreading plant, it makes a good summer hedge. Deep soil, anything but extremely wet or dry.

**SIUM = SKIRRET**

P/28"/Sun or PSh/White/Edible

*Sium sisarum*

An ancient perennial root vegetable, with skinny curly edible roots, and pretty white July flrs. Popular nowadays in permaculture or forest gardens, it once appeared regularly on the tables of ancient Rome. Grow in good deep soil, not dry. Easy to divide, in spring. Intro 1600-99.





**TALL GARDEN PHLOX = PHLOX PANICULATA**  
(and a few *P. carolina* and *P. maculata* too)

New Phlox for 2023: 'Baby Doll Pink', 'Baby Doll White', 'Backlight', 'Magenta Pearl', 'Party Girl', 'Younique Old Blue' and 'Younique Trendy'

The Phlox listed below are those that we generally have for sale in gallon pots at the nursery, but the selection changes on a daily basis, and we never have every variety ready at any one time. If you have your heart set on certain ones, please email/call ahead to confirm availability, or to order in advance.

See page 40 for *Phlox Culture and Lists of the Best Phlox*.

MR: = Mildew Resistance (Excellent, Good, Fair or Poor)

**'AMETHYST'** Deep amethyst purple at dusk and on cloudy days, while it turns red-violet in strong sunlight. White buds. Late season bloomer. Light scent. Florets 3cm. wide. Introduced by 1949. MR: good. 36-44" tall.

**'AMETHYST PEARL'** (*P. maculata x glaberrima*) A vase-full of silvery-lavender flowers from every plant! Looking sweet and old-fashioned, it is a brand new hybrid, similar in parentage to the superb 'Minnie Pearl'. Blooms in early June, when there is otherwise a lull in the garden. Good fragrance. Spreads slowly. Never gets mildew. Just 18" tall.

• **'BABY DOLL PINK' NEW** Very short, and very early blooming, these are the Baby Dolls. They are hybrids, and bloom in early June. Similar to 'Fashionably Early' phlox, yet substantially shorter. Sturdy plants, perfect for tucking into corners to bring needed color to the June garden. Orchid pink with a slightly paler eye. MR: on trial. 12-16"

• **'BABY DOLL WHITE' NEW** As above, in solid white with a tiny red eye. 12-16"

• **'BACKLIGHT' NEW** A stout mid-height white, perfect for the middle of the border. It is reputed to be both full-flowering and mildew resistant (they always say that). Yet so far, it looks good to me. Proven Winner. 28-30"

**'BLUE PARADISE'** About as blue as they come, and a real beauty, introduced by Piet Oudolf in 1990. Medium purple by day, it is quite

a bright violet-blue at dusk and dawn, or during cloudy days. Paler center and a tiny red eye. Planting any of the blue phloxes in part shade helps the deep color linger longer in the day. Strong scent. Late midseason. MR: good. 38-44"

**'BLUE SPOT'** Blue-lavender with broad irregular sweeps of white, and a large white eye. A local Vermont cultivar. Showy. Light fragrance. Early midseason. Pips 3.5 cm. MR: good. 38-42"

**'BLUSHING BRIDE'** The color of this beautiful old classic is just a pink notch away from white. The concise eyes and corolla tubes are a soft plum color, and cast a faint pinky cast over the chalky white florets, adding to the delicate 'blush' of the bride. Strong fragrance. Intro by 1958. Midseason. Florets 3cm. MR: on trial. 42-46"

**'BLUSHING SHORTWOOD'** A stocky grower, with excellent mildew resistance. Late season flrs are largely pale lilac, with broad strokes of white, so the overall effect is pale and cool. 32-36"

**'BRIGADIER'** The earliest orange – a salmon-orange with a magenta eye. The color bleaches out somewhat in sun, so it is better to plant it in afternoon shade. English var., by 1950s, winner of an RHS Award. Florets 3cm. Midseason. MR: fair. 34-38"

**'BRIGHT EYES'** Shell-pink with purple-magenta eye, with reddish stems, and excellent habit. Weather resistant and long blooming. One of the very best garden performers. Florets 3cm. Light scent. MR: excellent. Intro 1950s. 48"

**'CABOT PINK'** (home name and yes, from a Cabot, VT garden.) A strong bloomer in a distinctive shade of strong reddish-pink, with a large cream eye. Commands attention in the field! Pips 3cm. Light scent. Midseason. MR: good. 48"

**'CASPIAN'** (home name) Brilliant dark salmon with a magenta eye. Very tall, and a reliably heavy bloomer, with tons of late, strong color. Late midseason. Florets 2.5cm. MR: excellent. 56-60"

**'CHINTZ'** A champ, with some of the very largest phlox pips ever, at over 1.5" (4 cm) wide. Gentle pink, with a large softly defined rose-pink eye. Despite these large and distinct petals, the flowers hold up quite well in windy and rainy weather. A fine cultivar selected by B. Symons-Jeune himself, the distinguished mid-20th century English phlox breeder. Light scent. Intro. 1956. Midseason. MR: good. 30-34"

...continued on next page



## *Rachel's 20 Favorite Phlox:*

Amethyst Pearl

Bright Eyes

Cabot Pink

Caspian

David, Dorffreude

Glamour Girl

Hot September Pink

Jeana, Lizzy

Midsummer White

Minnie Pearl

Miss Mary

Monica Lynden-Bell

Old Cellarhole

Popeye

Prime Minister

Robert Poore

Salmon Beauty

Widar

**'CINDERELLA'** Cheerful bundles of flowers from late July to late August. Florets are shell pink with a purple magenta eye, enhanced by very darkly pigmented buds and foliage. One of the nicest of this coloring. Strong scent. By 1949. Florets 3.5cm. MR: excellent. 32-38"

**'COVER GIRL'** Fairly dark purple with a slightly whitish eye zone. One of the 'Garden Girls', known for vigor, healthy foliage and excellent mildew resistance. Supposed to rebloom too. Midseason. 38-42"

**'CORAL QUEEN'** Rounded heads of coral pink, with a slight mauve eye. Heavy bloomer, light fragrance. Midseason. MR: good. 36-40"

**'CRÈME DE MENTHE'** Very like Darwin's Choice. Late season. 42"

**'DARWIN'S CHOICE'** Showy variegated foliage. Flowers are pearly pinkish-white, with tiny pale-plum eyes and tubes, in late season. Florets 2.5cm. Modern. MR: good. 42-48"

**'DAVID'** Extremely popular, and a proven success all over the country. This tall pure white has large blossoms, and is mildew free and vigorous. Fragrant. Late season. Intro 1991. Florets 3cm. 48-50"

**'DELTA SNOW'** Near total mildew resistance, I've only once seen a spot on it. Creamy-white with a small lavender eye, and a faint lavender wash overall; a nice cooling tone. Dark buds and bracts. Light scent. Late midseason. Florets 2 cm. 44-48"

**'D.H.FORBES'** Tall heads of peachy salmon, with small faint rose-pink eyes. Slight fragrance. One of my favorite pinks. Intro by 1970. Midseason. MR: good. Florets 3.5cm. 46-54"

**'DORFFREUDE'** Dense color of saturated rose-pink magenta, with a big rose-red eye. Florets 3cm. Heavy bloomer. A Karl Foerster selection from 1939. MR: fair. 36-40"

**'ENDING BLUE'** Another color changeling; it is lilac-pink on sunny days, but in evenings or on cloudy days the color deepens to soft purple-violet. Slightly paler eye zone, with some rosy splashes. Fragrant. Midseason. Florets 3cm. MR: good. 42-46"

**'EUROPA'** A pure and pale baby-pink with a small rose-magenta star-shaped eye. Dark bracts. An old 1910 cultivar. Strong scent. Midseason. MR: fair. Pips 3.5cm. 44"

**'EVA CULLUM'** Solid medium rose-pink with a well-formed red eye, on small heads. Dark stems. Compact, stocky grower. Pips 3cm. Intro 1978. Late midseason. MR: excellent. 40-44"

**'EVENTIDE'** A fine Symons-Jeune cultivar from 1942, with daytime flowers of a lilac shade, becoming lavender blue in twilight. It is a nearly solid color, with very little shading around the eye zone, just a hint of pale blazing. Buds and bracts are dark. Petals are slightly ruffled. Pips 3.5cm. Late midseason. MR: fair. 38-40"

**'FAIRY'S PETTICOAT'** A Symons-Jeune cultivar of 1954, with petals of gentle creamy mauve, shaded with pink tones, and centered with a slightly darker mauve eye. Late midseason. Strongly fragrant. Florets 3.5cm. 48-52"

**'FASHIONABLY EARLY FLAMINGO'** **NEW** The 'E.E.'s are an excellent new series of hybrid phlox, with generous bloom, and 'bursting with health' form. Virtually every stem bears flowers, and the clean shiny foliage resists mildew completely. They are fine candidates for massing in the border, and have a slowly spreading habit. Long bloomers, in June,

and slightly fragrant. All are less than 3 ft tall, and have a daintier, slightly old-fashioned look about them. Recommended.

**'FASHIONABLY EARLY FLAMINGO'** Has flowers in mid-pink, with tiny purple eyes. The darkest pink of the series. 28-32"

**'FLAME LIGHT PINK'** Sparkling light pink with a deeper eye – it stands out because of its heavy-blooming chubbiness. An excellent cultivar, with strong scent. Florets 3.5cm. Midseason. MR: good. 34-38"

**'FLAME PURPLE'** Medium purple with violet tones, and a small dark eye. Large fragrant florets. Compact, bushy and healthy habit. MR: good. 18-24"



**'FLAME WHITE'** The shortest white I've seen, 20-24" tall, yet with full-sized white pips, and a very respectable mop of flowers. Midseason. MR: is only fair, but you can hardly see the leaves anyway when it's blooming, there are so many flowers!

**'FLAME WHITE EYE'** A vivacious dwarf phlox, with good vigor and generous bloom. It is perfectly covered with flowers, starting a week or two earlier than the majority. White pips have a concise fuchsia star eye. MR: good. A cute 15-20"

**'FLAMINGO'** A fine flamingo pink with a well-defined crimson eye. Light scent. Pips 3.5cm. From 1971. Late midseason. MR: good. 40-44"

**'FLOWER POWER'** (*x maculata*) Long slender wands of white flowers, each pip w/ a small blush of pale pink. It starts three weeks before the paniculatas, and carries on for a good month. Decidedly vigorous. Slender willowy leaves. MR: Excellent. 34-40"

**'FRANZ SCHUBERT'** Delightful blowsy heads with large florets of pale purple-violet, washed and edged with cream, and centered with a vague pale eye. Buds are deep lavender. Prone to mildew in dry soils, but such an exquisite color, we tend to forgive it. Midseason. 1980. Florets 4cm. Strongly fragrant. MR: poor. 30-36"

**'GLAMOUR GIRL'** A glowing hot coral, with slender upright panicles, and healthy disease resistant foliage. Erect habit. One of the better new introductions. MR: Excellent. Fragrant. 32"

**'GOLIATH'** (*P. amplifolia*) A giant of a flower, both the individual pips and the whole panicles are substantially larger than paniculata phloxes. Soft purple with a large white eye. For the best show, keep the plant well fed. See also 'Hercules'. MR: on trial. 38-40"

**'HERCULES'** (*P. amplifolia*) This type of phlox has extra large florets (pips), on extra large panicles, so the flower heads are huge! It may take a year or two before the plants reach maximum size, so hasten things along by feeding your plants well. Soft pink flowers, with large white eyes. 'Goliath' is another 'biggie', in soft purple. MR: on trial. 38-40" tall.

**'HESPERIS'** Looks like it came straight out of a Shakespearean-era garden, for it closely resembles old-fashioned Sweet Rocket (Hesperis). The rose-magenta heads are small and tight, and the pips are small (1.5cm) but produced in great abundance on many side shoots. Light scent. Late midseason. One of the best phlox to incorporate in meadows. MR: good. 58-64" ADD

**'HOT SEPTEMBER PINK'** (home name) A vivid hot pink, very floriferous, one of the last to bloom, from September well into October. I suspect this is 'September Glow' and, if so, it dates from 1925. Mildly fragrant. Florets 3cm. Excellent mildew resistance. 48-52"

**'ICE CREAM'** Has a faint sheen, like a high-fat ice cream! Warm white flowers have pink buds and tubes, and small pink eye-zones. Has proven to be a healthy grower and generous bloomer for its size, which is just 30-32" tall. Dense conical heads. MR: good.

**'JEANA'** Absolutely top grade for mildew resistance, never seen a spot on her. Tight clusters of tiny 1.5cm florets of medium pink-lavender, bordering on magenta. Stout and strong. Noticeably attractive to butterflies. Late midseason. From Tennessee. 38-42"



**'JOHN FANICK'** From Texas, with excellent heat and mildew resistance. Grows like an old-fashioned paniculata phlox, with relaxed trusses, and pips of lavender or orchid pink, with a blowsy violet eye. Strong scent, but a bit skimpy on blooms. Midseason. 36-42"

**'JR. DANCE'** Medium salmon-pink with a white eye, with a stiff upright form, and excellent foliage. A good quality dwarf cultivar, 22-26", and iron-clad bloomer. Pips 2.5cm wide. Midseason. MR: good.

**'JR. SURPRISE'** Cool white with tidy lilac eye and blue buds. MR: good. 22-26"

**'KATHERINE'** Bluish-lavender shading into a large cream eye, and a tiny cream edge. Like most of the blue-toned phlox, it has a noticeable sweet fragrance. One of the best in this color scheme, and it adds a welcome cooling effect to any flower border. MR: fair. Pips 3cm. 44-48"

**'KIRMESLANDLER'** Superb tall late bloomer, flowers are white with an out-flowing carmine eye. Florets 3.5 cm. Strong scent. MR: good. 55-58"

**'LAURA'** A bright combination of violet-magenta with a white star-shaped eye. A good strong grower and reliable bloomer, with 7-8" wide heads. Fragrant. Pips 3.5cm. MR: good. Modern. 40-44"

**'LILAC GLORY'** Solid pale blue-lilac. Huge 5cm florets, are so big they positively flap in the breeze. Plant in some shade to prevent color bleaching. Light fragrance. Late midseason. MR: good. 42-50"

**'LIZZY'** Deep bright salmon, with a large white eye zone. The eye zone purples with age. A reliable bloomer and a real sparkler! Midseason. MR: good. Florets 3.5cm. 38-42"

**'MAGENTA PEARL' NEW** (*P. maculata x glaberrima*) Appealing strong and early color comes with this excellent hybrid phlox. Blooms in early June, very full, and makes a fine contribution for three weeks. Foliage is glossy and willowy, never subject to mildew. You might be surprised at how good masses of magenta-pink look in your June garden! Easy to divide. Recommended. MR: excellent. 20-24"

**'MARY FOX'** Large peachy pink flowers, a rare pure color. Midseason. Light scent. By 1975. MR: good. 24-30"

**'MIDSUMMER WHITE'** (home name) The best early white phlox I know of (though I don't know the original name). Blooms heavily from mid-July to mid-August, about one month before 'David', often repeating in September if dead-headed. Quite fragrant, fast growing, no mildew. Smaller florets (2cm.) than our other whites, but more of them. In my Top Ten. 46-52"

**'MILE HIGH PINK'** (home name) The tallest phlox I've seen so far, towering to nearly 6 ft. Flowers are a pale baby-pink clouded with cream, and with a cream eye, opening from pretty rose-pink buds. Very fragrant. Late season. Florets 3cm. MR: good. 62-68"

...continued on next page

### Want to see Photos, and read More About Them?

You will find images and much more detail about these Phlox on our website, by following the Phlox Reference link on the menu bar at:

**[www.summersweetgardens.com](http://www.summersweetgardens.com)**

'MINNIE PEARL' (*P. maculata* x *glaberrima*) A different species, and it distinguishes itself at the first glance, for the low spreading mass of healthy shiny foliage, which appears to be impervious to powdery mildew and bacterial spots, all season. White flowers at 15-20" in early summer. Recommended for edging and massing, it will spread to 24" wide. (See also the pink 'Amethyst Pearl')

'MISS ELLIE' Shell-pink painted with deep rose-pink, and a rose eye. Dark buds. Distinct in that the petals are narrow and tilted, giving a pinwheel effect. Midseason. Pips 3cm. MR: fair. 36-42"

'MISS HOLLAND' A tall late-bloomer, with 6" wide heads. Pale delicate pink with a concise rose eye. Heavy bloomer. Strong fragrance. MR: good. Florets 2.5cm. Late midseason. 52-56"

'MISS MARY' (*x arendsii*) Compact and bushy, in hot carmine red. A generous bloomer, one of our best reds. MR: good. 24"

'MISS PEPPER' Pale baby-pink with neat deep-rose eye. Remarkably floriferous. Has a different look because florets are small (2.5cm) and distinct, yet heads are very full. Fragrant. Late midseason. MR: fair. good. 44-48"

'MISS UNIVERSE' Pure white, fragrant. A tall, good grower, with bright green foliage. Blooms a little later than 'White Admiral'. Florets 3cm. MR: good. Late season. 48"

'MONICA LYNDEN-BELL' Young flowers are pale baby-pink, maturing to cream white with a pink blush, with plum colored tubes. Exquisite coloring, light scent. Early midseason. 34-38"

'MYSTIQUE GREEN' One of the oddity phlox. Clusters of blackish buds are interspersed with a scattering of small pale pink flowers, each petal having a pale yellowish-green tip. Dark foliage. Interesting. Late midseason bloom. MR: on trial. Height 28-32"

'NATASCHA' (*P. maculata*) Pinwheel coloring, rose-pink with white stripes. Daintier than *Phlox paniculata*, the foliage is narrow and shiny, and the panicles are narrower. A pretty flower, it attracts a lot of attention. Pips 1.5cm. MR: excellent. Midseason. 30-36"

'NATURAL FEELINGS' Rather than normal petals, this has stubby pink and green petals and bracts and petaloid stamens, closely clustered together. Quite unusual, and the plant remains colorful for a long, long time. Midseason. MR: excellent. 34-38"

'NEWBIRD' Schiaparelli pink, a distinctive bright carmine-pink. A true stalwart, and one of earliest paniculatas to bloom. Long blooming too. Pips 4cm. By 1931. MR: fair to good. 44-48"

'NICKY' One of the very darkest of the purples, a solid rich deep plum. Interestingly, the deepest color appears to show only on well-established plants, and may not be evident the first year or two. Florets 3cm. Midseason. MR: good. 36"

'NORAH LEIGH' Variegated foliage which has no trouble with sunburn, even in full sun. Small florets of pale pink with a deeper eye. Late season bloomer. MR: excellent. 40-44"

'OLD CELLARHOLE' Another home name, this fragrant beauty, literally found by following our noses while driving on the back roads, is an old-fashioned classic. The flowers are a nice pink-lavender with a small rose-pink eye. Florets are smaller (2.5cm) than newer varieties yet are produced in far greater numbers. A mass of blossom through August. The strong fragrance is like baby powder spiced up with curry. No mildew. A favorite! 52-58"

'OPALESCENCE' Full rounded heads, light pink with a darker eye. Another new variety that claims healthy dark green foliage and imperviousness to powdery mildew. Time will tell. Proven Winner. 30-32"

'ORANGE PERFECTION' Nearly true orange, with salmon overtones and a small fuchsia eye. The color will bleach somewhat in strong sun, and so a little afternoon shade is recommended for the best color. Late midseason. MR: fair. Florets 3cm. By 1970. 32-40"

'PARTY GIRL' *NEW* A first cousin to the topnotch 'Glamour Girl', we hope to find that she keeps up the standard of excellent form, mildew resistance and hearty glossy foliage. Flowers are white with 5 dainty touches of fuchsia at the throat, plus purplish tubes. Nice mid-range height at 28-32"

'PEPPERMINT TWIST' A new bicolor, each petal has a broad sweep of rose pink and white, like a pinwheel. Much larger pips than 'Natascha'. Really fun although, be forewarned, the color is unstable, and may revert to solid pink. MR: good. 30-36"

'PINK BUD' (home-name) A beautiful combination of white with the palest hint of pink at the eye. The buds are a soft rose color, as are the floret tubes. Vigorous and floriferous, with light scent. Early midseason. Pips 2.5cm. MR: good. 52-56"

'POPEYE' The white florets have soft-red tubes and tiny red eyes, a very rare color combination that just glows. Admirable, and one of my favorites. Pips 3.5cm. Midseason. MR: on trial. 32-36"

'PRIME MINISTER' An old chum in the garden, dating to 1912. Beautiful pyramidal habit, and a heavy bloomer. Pale mauvey-pink with softly diffused rose-red eye. A sparkler. MR: good. 36-40"

'PRINCE OF ORANGE' Salmon-orange, verging on vermilion, with a small magenta eye. Closest to true orange I've seen. Resists sun bleaching. Intro 1950. Pips 3cm. Late season. MR: fair. 32-36"

'RED MAGIC' Solid deep red-magenta with faint blazing. More of a blue-based red compared to the next cultivar, which is more orange-y red. Pips 3cm. Midseason. MR: fair. 42-46"

'RED RIDING HOOD' A dwarf cultivar, with very bright rose-red flowers, enlivened with a hint of carmine. Because it has no contrasting eye or blazing, it is a very intense and warm red. A generous bloomer, and not a fussy grower. Bronzed foliage. Light scent. Midseason. MR: good. 24-30"

'RED SUPER' The darkest red flowering phlox I know of, being an intense deep red-violet, so intense that on a sunny day it almost hurts your eyes. Compared to 'Red Riding Hood', this is about 8" taller, and the red is deeper crimson. As with most of the strongly colored phlox, there is a lot of dark pigmentation of the leaves and flower buds. Light scent. Midseason. MR: good. 36-40"

'REINE DU JOUR' (*P. maculata*) White with a small lilac eye. Has received very high marks for mildew resistance, and overall habit, in phlox trials. The maculata phloxes are daintier, with narrow and shiny foliage. Early season. Pips 2cm. 30"

'RIJNSTROOM' A rare phlox from the early 20th century, it also happens to be one that was much favored by garden designers. Why? In my mind, it is set apart by the purity of its clear salmon-pink, in a remarkable density of color, uninterrupted by any overlaid shade or contrasting eye zone. It takes a couple of years to settle in before flourishing, and does not prosper in challenging soils, but in good conditions it is a fine grower. Florets 3.5cm. Midseason. MR: fair. 36-40"

'ROBERT POORE' From Mississippi, land of humid summers, comes a phlox with superb mildew resistance. It is a strong grower, in a (dare we say it?) magenta shade. Very attractive strong shiny foliage. Pips 3cm. Late season. Light scent. 52-60"

'ROSE BOUQUET' A new compact hybrid phlox, blooming heavily in early summer, in a cool clear pale-pink, for about one month. It spreads slowly, and the foliage remains in great shape all season (no mildew), and so is a fine contender for mass planting. Heavy bloomer, with light fragrance. MR: Excellent. 12-16" ADD

'RUSSIAN VIOLET' An unremarkable red-violet by day, but it deepens to a rich purple-violet at dusk and dawn, and during cloudy days. An example of what I call the 'changeling' phloxes. Planting it in part shade will cause the purple color to linger longer through the day. The difference in color is so remarkable that it looks like a different plant, and indeed it had me fooled for a few years! Broad rounded florets, solid color. A tall and willowy grower. Fragrant. Midseason. New in 1970. Florets 4cm. MR: excellent. 50-60" Such a beautiful name too!



**'SALMON BEAUTY'** (Syn. 'Eva Foerster', intro. by 1945) With very large florets of soft rosy-salmon pink, and a large white eye, this is one of our most admired phlox. The flower heads or 'trusses' are flattish and broad, at 7" wide, and the upper stems and bud bracts are dark with pigment. Midseason. MR: fair. Pips 4cm. 48"

**'SANDRA'** The base color is close to true orange, and it is overlaid with soft and marvelous mottlings of magenta, with a bright magenta eye. As the florets age, they develop a bit of lilac blazing around the eye. Buds and top bracts are dark with pigment, and the flower heads are 5-6" wide. Pips 3cm. Late midseason. MR: good. 36-44"

**'SARAH CUMMINGS'** Deep rich purple-magenta, solid with no contrasting eye zone. A brilliant stunner! Light scent. Late midseason. MR: good so far. 40-44"

**'SHERBET COCKTAIL'** Bicolor. Pale greenish-yellow edges on pale pink petals, with nearly yellow buds. A late season bloomer with a strong upright habit. Pips 2.5cm. MR: excellent. 42-46"

**'SHORTWOOD'** A vigorous cultivar, from a cross between 'David' and 'Eva Cullum' so it has excellent mildew resistance. Medium-pink, with pale blazing and a slight rose eye. The overall form is relaxed. Light scent. Late midseason. 42"

**'SHORTY WHITE'** The earliest paniculata to bloom in my garden, starting in early July. As the name makes clear, a dwarf white. It is respectably floriferous. MR: fair. Pips 2.5cm. 18-30"

**'SIR MALCOLM CAMPBELL'** A bright strong pink, from the mid 20th century. By 1954. Midseason. MR: on trial. Pips 3.5cm. 40-44"

**'SPEED LIMIT 45' NEW** Yes, found under a road sign, in NC! Remarkably indifferent to challenging conditions that will force many phlox 'off the trail'. The foliage stays clean even in poor hot and dry conditions, so it is a good candidate for wildflower meadows and low-maintenance gardens. The habit is neat overall, and with a slightly freer habit. Flowers are a soft chalky pink, with a soft rosier eye zone. Top-most stems and buds have a red tint, and the leaves have a light bronzing overall. Late midseason. MR: excellent. 36-40"

**'SPITFIRE'** Vivid cherry-red. One of the latest, and tallest reds. The old name was Frau Alford van Mauthuer, but it was renamed in the WWII years. Compared to 'Starfire', this is taller, with less bronzing on the leaves, and the flowers are a little darker red, with slightly smaller florets. Intro by 1940. Late midseason. MR: poor. Florets 3cm. 44-50"

**'STARFIRE'** One of the most vivid phlox, soft cherry red, with nuances of orange. Like most of the red flowering phlox, the foliage shows considerable dark pigmentation, and this creates a nice background against which the bright flowers shine. Midseason bloomer. Florets 3.5cm. MR: sadly, only fair. New in 1970. 36-44"

**'STARRY SKIES'** (Syn. 'Sternhimmel') The petals are lilac streaked with cream, and with cream blazing around the lilac eye zone. The young florets have the deepest color, and they gradually pale with age. Large heads. Late midseason. New in 1970. Florets 3cm. MR: fair. 44-48"

**'THAI PINK JADE'** Has sturdy heads of baby-pink, long-blooming, with good fragrance. Super strong and upright, and a late-season bloomer. Recommended. MR: good. 30-36" tall.

**'THE KING'** Solid royal purple, a beautiful shade, about as deep a purple as they come. A 'bluer' purple than Nicky. Late midseason. Pips 3.5cm. MR: good. 44-48"

**'ULTRAVIOLET'** Dark magenta, with dark stems and buds, and bronzed leaves, and described as an improvement of the classic 'Nicky'. Another new variety that claims healthy dark green foliage and imperviousness to powdery mildew. We shall see! Proven Winner. 32-36"

**'UPTOWN GIRL'** Medium pink, with a mauve haze, and a slight rosy eye. One of the excellent Garden Girls series, especially bred to have substantial resistance to powdery mildew. Supposed to rebloom too. 32-36"

**'WENDY HOUSE'** A good short purple, with non-fading color, and a compact grower. Light scent. Pips 3cm. MR: on trial. 22-26"

**'WHITE ADMIRAL'** A reliably pure white, blooming in late midseason, and spanning the flowering gap between the earlier 'Midsummer White' and the later 'David'. A heavy bloomer, with light fragrance. Florets 3cm. By 1958. MR: fair. 40-48"

**'WIDAR'** A strong color combination of violet-magenta with a large white eye. An old variety found in a Vermont garden and, like most of the old varieties, it shows great resistance to mildew, and exhibits overall good garden vigor. Fragrant. Midseason. Pips 3 cm. Intro 1931. 42-50"

**'YOUNIQUE OLD BLUE' NEW** Dusty lavender-blue, with broad soft mottles of white radiating out from the eye zone. Flower buds are violet. Reputed to be fragrant, which the blue phlox usually are. Intro 2013. MR: on trial. 30"

**'YOUNIQUE TRENDY' NEW** Cute and bright, the white pips have a neat cerise eye, plus the buds are rosy pink. Another nice cultivar from the prolific Dutch hybridizer Jan Verschoor. MR: on trial. 24"

**'ZURSTOCK ROSE'** Robust grower, strongly upright form, with pale pinky lilac florets, late midseason. Light scent. MR: good. 48-52"



## *Additional Phlox growing in our gardens:*

Alexandra	Bouquet, Jr.
Anne	Dream
Autumn Joy	Juliglut
Balmoral	Lady Clare
Blue Boy	Little Boy
Blue Lagoon,	Little Princess
Bridesmaid	Maiden America
B.S. Jeune	Manoir d'Hezeques
Candy Floss	Mardis Gras
Caroline van den Berg	Miss Kelly
Cecil Hanbury	Miss Lingard
Charles Curtis	Mother of Pearl
Cleopatra	Mrs. A.E. Jeans
Cool of the Evening	Mt Fujiyama
Danielle	Omega
David's Lavender	Party Punch
Delilah	Picasso
Dunbar Creek	Pixie Miracle Grace
Early Purple	Progress
Elisabeth	Rainbow
Eva Forster	Rosalinde
Fairest One	Shockwave
Fashionably Early	Sir John Falstaff
Crystal	Snow White
Lavender Ice & Princess	Tracy's Treasure
Flame Lilac	Twister
Flame White Eye	Volcano Red
Fuchsia	Wilhelm Kesselring
Jules Sandeau, Jr.	Windsor

(The above may be available for purchase with advance notice) Full descriptions plus photos of many of these phlox may be found on the Phlox Reference section on our website.)

# All About Phlox

(see Phlox Availability List on page 35)

*"This plant is a native, and with true American perspicacity and enterprise has forged his way from magenta obscurity to the most prominent place in the floral world." - 'My Garden' by Louise Beebe Wilder, 1916*

## PHLOX IS A FAVORITE

Phlox are not only Rachel's favorite perennial, they have been favorites in American gardens for well over 100 years. It's not hard to see why, for they are colorful and long blooming, hardy and long-lived, easy of culture, often fragrant and never need staking. Being native, they grow happily in most parts of the country and, properly planted and sited, they are largely trouble free, and provide decades of effortless bloom.

## COME VISIT US FOR PHLOX FEST!

We love Phlox so much that we hold a Phlox Fest here at the nursery every summer, the first two weeks of August, during their high season. We invite everyone to visit us during this event, for the nuances of color and form of these marvelous flowers can only be truly appreciated when seen by the eye itself. Rachel has been acquiring Phlox for years, and is still at it - the number of cultivars in the garden is now 157 and counting, which could well count as the largest collection in the country.

We also hope you come away from the Fest realizing that the late summer garden, far from being a brown and seedy bore, can be the crowning glory of the season in your garden too, by liberal use of the late blooming perennials. To combine with Phlox for full late season color, look to these perennials: Helenium, Aster, Echinacea, Rudbeckia, Burnet, Cimicifuga, Ironweed, Helianthus and Turtlehead.

## COME VISIT US AT PHLOX FEST:

- Stroll a Garden full of Flowers
- Take a Garden Tour with Rachel, daily at 1 pm.
- Admire and compare blooms at the Phlox cut flower display.
- Sign up for Door Prizes, including a chance to win a garden consultation with Rachel.

*All events are Free. We hope to see you here this summer!*

**2023 Phlox Fest, 21st Annual, July 29 through August 15, 2023**

**2024 Phlox Fest, 22nd Annual, July 27 through August 11, 2024**

## PHLOX CULTURE AND PROPAGATION

Phlox detest hot dry soils. They thrive in a cool, sunny or partially shaded situation, well-watered, in rich sweet soil. In colder parts of the country, they are fine in full sun, although partial shade is also perfectly ok, and indeed is recommended in southern or hot climates. Did you know that their native situation is woodland? They love to have other plants growing around the base, shading their roots and keeping the ground cool.

The plants should be grown in good soil, enriched with compost or aged manure. Keep them well-watered. They like it slightly sweet (alkaline), so if your soil tends towards the acidic side, regular applications of lime are recommended, say every two or three years. A rich friable soil will also hold water well, an important fact, for Phlox paniculata get stressed in hot dry situations - and environmental stress appears to be key in the development of powdery mildew (see more about this below).

Mulching helps in conserving water, and in keeping the soil cool. Because they are heavy feeders, even beautifully prepared soil will decline after several years, and it is best to reset your plants on a regular basis, every five years or so. The plants should be lifted out (in fall or early spring), divided into several chunks, and replanted 2 ft apart in newly enriched soil.

While phlox start easily from seed, and often self-sow, it is unusual for the seedlings to look the same as the parent plant. In fact it is good policy to deadhead your phlox before they go to seed, as those little seedlings tend to grow up into vigorous plants of a decided magenta hue and can, in a few years, crowd out the mother plant.

## PHLOX PROBLEMS AND PESTS

### POWDERY MILDEW

Powdery mildew, a greyish-white fungus that speckles the foliage, is the major complaint with these otherwise trouble-free plants. Mildew tends to be a greater problem in regions with high humidity, but will also affect phlox that are planted in dry soils. I consider it to be pretty much endemic, and if the phlox are prone to it, it will turn up in every garden sooner or later. Keep in mind though, that the degree of mildew naturally varies from year to year, and it doesn't really endanger the plant. It is mainly a cosmetic problem, will not affect the flowers, and does not spread to other species of plants. Ok, but what to do about it? Read on.

### • Reduce Powdery Mildew by giving your Phlox Proper Culture

This appears to be the most important factor in preventing mildew. I have been observing phlox for 38 years now, and have developed some opinions that are contrary to the standard gardening advice. For one thing, I don't thin the stalks or bother to avoid nighttime watering - after all, nature 'waters' the plants every night with dew.

### • Choose Mildew Resistant Cultivars

Now, some phlox cultivars are nearly impervious to mildew, and others get it at the drop of a spore, even in the best conditions. Many of the heirloom varieties have proven extremely resistant, and many of the modern cultivars are excellent too. You can select those with good mildew resistance by choosing from the list on p.41, based on our own trials.

I have found that, on the whole, happy plants simply resist mildew, and stressed plants will usually be the ones to develop some degree of mildew. Siting phlox in an exposed hot dry soil, with no surrounding vegetation or mulch, virtually guarantees mildew (and spider mites too), but if you move a plant from hateful to lovable conditions, it should bounce back beautifully the next year, and show little or no spots at all.

### • If You Must - Treatment for Powdery Mildew

There may be times when you need active control. We have found that a biweekly spray of fine horticultural oil works well as a preventative. Other people have had good results with a weekly 10% milk solution in water (use low or no-fat milk), or with a weekly baking soda solution (mix 1 Tbsp plus ½ tsp of liquid soap in 1 gallon of water). Commonly available fungicides such as Serenade will do the trick too - ask at any garden center. As a



rule, these treatments should be used as preventatives, or at the first sign of spotting. One can also remove and trash mildewed leaves from the garden periodically and at year's end, as it doesn't hurt to reduce the quantity of innoculum in the garden. I would be grateful to hear from fellow gardeners of other successful treatments.

## INSECT PESTS AND DEER

The only insect pest commonly seen are spider mites, which congregates on the underside of leaves, causing lower leaves to curl, dry up and fall off. Look closely to see if there is fine webbing. You'll normally only see mites during hot, dry summers, or if the plants are sited in full sun, in dry soils. They won't kill a plant, but can weaken it and lessen flowering. For an immediate response, increase the watering, and give a good blast of water to the undersides of the leaves. While miticides exist, in reality you will never completely knock the tiny things out with pesticides, so I feel it is a needless use of chemicals in the environment. If spider mites appear every summer, it indicates that you should improve the water-holding capacity of the soil with organic materials, top dress with mulches, or just move the plants to a cooler, shadier spot.

Deer and many herbivores love to eat phlox, so steps should be taken to protect the plants if your garden entertains these villains. Inexpensive double nylon strand fencing works well, and there are many applied materials in the market. I have heard good things about Bobbex, Liquid Fence, Whiff Soap and Milorganite – I suggest you ask your state Extension Agent. The tried and true solution, of course, is having a Fido or two on patrol.

## PHLOX ATTRIBUTES

Photos and more phlox information online at [www.summersweetgardens.com](http://www.summersweetgardens.com)

### BY COLOR

#### Soft Pinks:

Baby Doll Pink, Balmoral, Bright Eyes, Blushing Bride, Chintz, Cinderella, D.H.Forbes, Europa, Fairest One, Fairy's Petticoat, Fashionably Early Flamingo and Princess, Flame Light Pink, Flamingo, Hercules, Lady Clare, Mile High Pink, Miss Ellie, Miss Holland, Miss Pepper, Old Cellarhole, Opalescence, Prime Minister, Rose Bouquet, Salmon Beauty, Speed Limit 45, Thai Pink Jade, Tracy's Treasure, Uptown Girl, Zurstock Rose

#### Strong Pinks:

Cabot Pink, Cleopatra, Coral Queen, Dorffreude, Elisabeth, Eva Cullum, Fuchsia, Glamour Girl, Hot September Pink, John Fanick, July Glow, Lizzy, Maiden America, Mary Fox, Mrs. A.E.Jeans, Newbird, Party Punch, Rijnstroom, Rosy Veil, Sir John Falstaff, Sir Malcolm Campbell

#### Lavender/Blue Shades (softer tones):

Amethyst Pearl, Blue Spot, Blushing Shortwood, Caroline van den Berg, Cool of the Evening, David's Lavender, Eventide, Fashionably Early Lavender Ice, Flame Blue, Flame Lilac, Franz Schubert, Katherine, Lilac Glory, Miss Kelly, Progress, Starry Skies, Younique Old Blue

#### Purple/Blue Shades (stronger tones):

Amethyst, Autumn Joy, Blue Paradise, Cover Girl, Early Purple, Ending Blue, Flame Purple, Goliath, Laura, Little Boy, Nicky, Pixie Miracle Grace, Russian Violet, Sarah Cummings, The King, Ultraviolet, Wendy House, Widar

#### Magenta/Purple Shades:

Hesperis, Jeana, Magenta Pearl, Robert Poore, Rosalinde, Shortwood

#### Whites (or Largely So):

Anne, Baby Doll White, Backlight, Blushing Bride, David, Delta Snow, Dunbar Creek, F.E. Crystal, Flame White, Flame White Eye, Flower Power, Ice Cream, Jr. Surprise, Kirmeslandler, Midsummer White, Minnie Pearl, Miss Lingard, Miss Universe, Monica Lynden-Bell, Mother of Pearl, Mt. Fujiyama, Omega, Party Girl, Pink Bud, Popeye, Reine du Jour, Shorty White, White Admiral

#### Salmon/Orange Shades:

Brigadier, Caspian, Jr.Dance, Orange Perfection, Prince of Orange, Sandra

#### Reds:

Charles Curtis, Flame Coral, Miss Mary, Red Magic, Red Riding Hood, Red Super, Spitfire, Starfire

#### Bicolors:

Mystic Green, Natascha, Natural Feelings, Peppermint Twist, Picasso, Sherbet Cocktail, Twister

#### Variegated Foliage:

Crème de Menthe, Darwin's Choice, Elisabeth, Norah Leigh, Shockwave

## ESPECIALLY FRAGRANT PHLOX

Blue Paradise, Blushing Bride, Cinderella, David, David's Lavender, D.H.Forbes, Ending Blue, Europa, Eventide, Fairy's Petticoat, Flame Light Pink, Franz Schubert, John Fanick, Katherine, Kirmeslandler, Laura, Midsummer White, Mile High Pink, Miss Holland, Miss Pepper, Miss Universe, Old Cellarhole, Pixie Miracle Grace, Russian Violet, Salmon Beauty, Sir John Falstaff, Thai Pink Jade, Widar, Younique Old Blue

## BEST MILDEW RESISTANCE

Amethyst Pearl, Blushing Shortwood, Bright Eyes, Caspian, Cinderella, David, Eva Cullum, Delta Snow (best), Fashionably Early series, Flower Power, Glamour Girl, Hot September Pink, Jeana (best), John Fanick, Magenta Pearl, Midsummer White, Minnie Pearl, Miss Lingard, Miss Universe, Natascha, Natural Feelings, Old Cellarhole, Omega, Reine du Jour, Robert Poore, Rosalinde, Russian Violet, Sherbet Cocktail, Shortwood, Speed Limit 45, Widar

## BY HEIGHT, THE SHORTEST AND THE TALLEST

### Short Phlox, 3 ft or under:

Amethyst Pearl, Autumn Joy, Baby Dolls, Backlight, Blushing Shortwood, Chintz, Early Purple, Fairest One, Fashionably Early series, Flame series, Glamour Girl, Ice Cream, Junior series, Little Boy, Magenta Pear, Maiden America, Minnie Pearl, Miss Lingard, Miss Mary, Natascha, Omega, Opalescence, Party Girl, Party Punch, Red Riding Hood, Rose Bouquet, Shockwave, Shorty White, Ultraviolet, Uptown Girl, Wendy House, Younique Series

### Tall Phlox, 4-5 ft:

Bright Eyes, Cabot Pink, Caroline Van Den Berg, Caspian, David, David's Lavender, D.H.Forbes, Fairy's Petticoat, Hesperis, Hot September Pink, Kirmeslandler, Midsummer White, Mile High Pink (to 6'), Miss Holland, Miss Universe, Old Cellarhole, Pink Bud, Robert Poore, Russian Violet, Salmon Beauty, Sherbet Cocktail, Sir John Falstaff, Spitfire, White Admiral, Zurstock Rose

## BY BLOOM SEASON

### Early Season Bloomers (early to mid-July):

Amethyst Pearl, Baby Dolls, Early Purple, the Fashionably Early series, Magenta Pearl, Minnie Pearl, Miss Lingard, Newbird, Omega, Reine du Jour, Rosalinde, Rose Bouquet, Shorty White

### Midseason Bloomers: *please consult website or handouts for this list*

### Late Midseason Bloomers (mid August to early September):

Amethyst, Blue Paradise, Blushing Bride, Bright Eyes, Cabot Pink, Caspian, David's Lavender, Delta Snow, Eva Cullum, Eventide, Fairy's Petticoat, Hesperis, Lilac Glory, Miss Holland, Miss Pepper, Old Cellarhole, Orange Perfection, Prince of Orange, Progress, Sandra, Shortwood, Sir John Falstaff, Speed Limit 45, Spitfire, Starry Skies, White Admiral, Zurstock Rose

### Late Season Bloomers (late August to mid-September):

Crème de Menthe, Darwin's Choice, David, Hot September Pink, Kirmeslandler, Mile High Pink, Miss Universe, Mother of Pearl, Mt. Fuji, Norah Leigh, Sherbet Cocktail, Tracy's Treasure



## Shrubs

### AMELANCHIER = SHADBLOW

Native understory multi-stemmed shrub or small tree. Fleeting white flowers in May, followed by tasty berries, usually purloined by the birds a day or two before humans think they are ripe. Overall, a delicate persona, casting just a light filtered shade, and so is sweet in wildflower gardens, around ponds, or to add some height around a flower border. Orange fall color. Supports native bees, and is a larval host for Striped Hairstreaks. Full sun or part shade, easy in average soil. Zone 4.

- COMMON SHAD (*A. canadensis*) Favored by Cedar Waxwings. 8-20' tall, spread 6-8'; prune to suit.
- 'STANDING OVATION' (*A. alnifolia*) An excellent selection with a rigid upright form that makes it perfect for small gardens, or as a hedge. Multistemmed to 15' tall, but only 4' wide. The usual flowers, berries and orange fall color. First Editions.

### ARONIA = BLACK CHOKEBERRY

*Aronia melanocarpa*

Hardy native with white spirea-type flowers in June, followed by persistent glossy black berries. Foliage is glossy, and turns colorful in the fall. Airier, and not densely leaved. Full sun to part shade, average soils. Zone 3.

- 'GROUND HUG' A dwarf chokeberry, only 8-14" tall, spreading to 36". Just superb for low maintenance plantings, for slopes and hard-to-reach areas. Fast spreading, heat tolerant, and ok in a wide range of soil types. Proven Winner.
- 'LOW SCAPE MOUND' Perfect for mass planting, knee high. Proven Winner. 18-24" tall, spreads 2 ft.
- 'BRILLIANTISSIMA' Upright form, medium height. Fine for naturalizing, it has a wide tolerance for soils, both wet and dry (even boggy), and fine for the edge of a pond or stream. Will sucker and form colonies. Red berries persist into the winter, from which you can make jam, if you add plenty of sugar! 6-8' tall.

### BUDDLEIA = BUTTERFLY BUSH

*Buddleia davidii*

As the name implies, this is a popular flower with butterflies, especially Monarchs. 4-6" long flower spikes appear in late summer and continue until frost, very long-blooming. Borderline hardy here, winter survival is enhanced with deep snow cover, or by covering with an armful of winter mulch. Trim all branches back to the crown in spring (not in fall). Grow in full sun, in light rich soil. 3-5' tall.

### BUXUS = BOXWOOD

Shiny broadleaf evergreen, most often used for low edging or accent, it can be closely sheared for a formal look. In VT, you will often see a

little winter 'browning', but just trim it off in early spring. Best to locate in areas with some winter protection from sun and wind. Full sun to a little shade. 1-3' tall.

- 'CHICAGOLAND GREEN' Has received high marks in Chicago Botanic Garden trials. It is rated for Zone 4, surviving -32 F with no dieback. Is doing well here so far, for over 5 years. Has the classic scent of boxwood too. 3-4' tall, spreads to 5' wide.

### CALLUNA = HEATHER

Colorful little evergreens, with a variety of forms, flowers and foliage. Grow in acidic soil, well-draining but not dry, in full sun. Add peat moss to increase water holding, but no compost or manure, as they prefer it lean. Trim off 2-4" every spring to keep them bushy. Winter snow cover is desirable, but do not ever cover with mulch. 4-12" tall. Spread to 24". We usually have Heath (*Erica*) as well, which grows in similar conditions, but which is an April bloomer (beloved of bees), and a spreader.

### CEPHALANTHUS = BUTTONBUSH 'SUGAR SHACK'

*Cephalanthus occidentalis*

This compact cultivar, half the height of the native species, supports wildlife in many ways. The 1 ½" wide scented off-white ball flowers provide valuable nectar for many pollinators, while the leaves are a larval food source for Sphinx moths, and water birds like the reddish fruit and seeds. Blooms in June. Naturally common along streams and ponds, it does best in moist or even wet soils. Well-suited to rain gardens. Glossy leaves have red-tints in spring and fall. Full Sun to PSh. Zone 4. Proven Winner. 3-4' tall.

### CLETHRA = SUMMERSWEET

*Clethra alnifolia*

There are not many August blooming shrubs, so these sweetly fragrant native shrubs are most welcome. They are neat and mid-sized, and can be tied into large perennial borders, or set in front of taller shrubs. Glossy foliage. It will spread modestly by root, so allow some space. Average to moist soil, even clay, tho' they will really thrive in damp, in sun or partial shade. Prune in spring to shape. Attracts pollinators. All three below Proven Winners.

- 'CRYSTALINA' Dwarf and compact, white flrs, 2- 3 ft.
- 'VANILLA SPICE' A favorite! Larger white flrs. 3-5' tall and wide.
- 'RUBY SPICE' NEW Deep reddish-pink flrs. 3-6'

### CORYLUS = AMERICAN HAZELNUT NEW

*Corylus americana*

Native. A multi-stemmed shrub that enjoys life at the edge of



woodlands, or in a mixed hedge or screen. Easily grown in average well-drained soil in sun or part shade. Allow room for spread, it will range out to create a 12' stand, but you can trim it to maintain boundaries. Long catkins in spring, nuts in late summer, for people, or wildlife. Fall color. 7-12' tall.

### COTINUS = SMOKEBUSH

*Cotinus coggyria*

Flamboyant shrubs planted for their beautiful leaves, bright fall color and great smoky 'puffs' of flowers in late summer. It is normal to see winter dieback in our area, so wait to prune until late spring. It is not uncommon for them to grow 6' or more of new growth in the summer, so they will make up for it! Flowers are produced on second year stems, so limit pruning to removing dead wood only. It is important that all newly planted Cotinus should be carefully tended and thoroughly watered in the first year to help them establish. Once established, they are good for decades.

- 'THE VELVET FOG' A heavy bloomer, and smaller than usual, at 5' tall and wide. Grey-green leaves. Zone 5. Proven Winner.
- 'WINECRAFT BLACK' *NEW* Compact form, deep purple foliage. Zone 4. Proven Winner. 4-6' tall and wide.

### DIERVILLA = DWARF BUSH HONEYSUCKLE

*Diervilla lonicera*

Native. If you need a super hardy, low-growing shrub that will thrive and spread on steep slopes and dry soil, look no further! Recommended for erosion control, and bank stabilization, it spreads steadily by rhizome. It is not a true honeysuckle, and is not an invasive. Small yellow flowers in midsummer appeal to butterflies and bees, and the plant is a larval host for the Fawn Sphinx Moth. A common understory plant in the wild, it will grow in sun or partial shade, but best leaf color needs sun. Deer resistant. 2-4 ft tall, spread to 6' or more.

- COMMON DIERVILLA Shiny green leaves have a bronze tint, and turn maroon in the fall, the plain old species. 3-4'
- 'KODIAK BLACK' Has intense blackish-purple leaves in the early season, toning down a bit for summer, finally sporting red color for the fall. Proven Winner.
- 'KODIAK FRESH' *NEW* Lime-yellow lvs with contrasting red stems and orange new growth. Best foliage contrast will be seen in part shade. Proven Winner. Shorter at 2-3'
- 'KODIAK ORANGE' Early growth is strongly tinted with red, while the fall color is brilliant orange. Red stems give it lift all season. Considered a replacement to the invasive Burning Bush. Proven Winner. 3-4'

### HAMAMELIS = WITCH HAZEL

*Hamamelis virginiana*

Native fall-bloomer. Leaves turn bright yellow in fall, and afterward bunches of dainty yellow ribbon-like flowers emerge along the stems. Grow in sheltered woodland, in part shade or as a specimen in full sun. Moist soil. Can reach 15' if happy, but 6-8' is more usual in these parts. Bark is used medicinally as an astringent and anti-inflammatory.

### HYDRANGEA

There are two types of hydrangea that are reliably hardy here, AG & PG, either of which can, if you desire, be pruned down hard each spring and still blossom; however, most plants perform perfectly well without pruning. Most flowers on Hydrangea are sterile, which accounts for their long season of bloom. All below rated for Zone 3.

### HYDRANGEA ARBORESCENS (= A.G.) TYPES

This type blooms in July, and prefers some shade and cool soil, but full sun is ok in VT. Flowers generally open greenish, maturing to snowy

...continued on next page

## The Merits of Native Plants

In a nutshell, native plants feed and support our birds, insects, amphibians and animals, the entire web of life around us, and in which we not only delight, but depend on ourselves. Non-native plants will often be showier to the eye, or thrive in challenging conditions, and they do surely have their attributes, but they simply will not contribute to the life force of our beloved environment like natives plants do.

Virtually every bird in North America relies on nutritious insects to feed their young, and it is the native plants that propagate the native caterpillars and insects they must have to survive and thrive. If you want to see more birds in your own yard and in this world, then be happy when you see insect holes in the leaves of your shrubs! (I am excluding introduced insect pests, which rarely if ever make a positive contribution, but you get the idea). There is no longer, sadly, enough undisturbed habitat in the wild to continue to support strong populations of all of our diverse fellow creatures, with whom we have an obligation to share this earth, so it really does make a difference how we operate in our own yards. Try to steadily increase the percentage of native plants in your yard.

With this understanding too, I hope you will no longer automatically feel driven to control every insect seen on

your plants. First, research and understand what you are seeing. If it is a native insect, be hands-off, have a coffee and let nature steer. If it is an introduced pest, and making lots of damage, try creative and non-toxic controls first. In particular I urge you to never use the neonicotinoid class of poisons, which have cascading bad effects on our whole ecosystem. As the folks who work in garden centers hardly ever know these details, please take the time to research for yourself, and don't inadvertently poison your own land, and kill the bees that call your garden home! Thank you so much!

### Native Shrubs

American Hazelnut, Black Chokeberry, Buttonbush, Diervilla, American Elderberry, Fragrant Sumac, Hydrangea, Ninebark, Shadblow, Summersweet, Viburnum, Winterberry, Witchhazel.

### Native Vines

Climbing Hydrangea, Groundnut, Dutchman's Pipe, Honeysuckle Vines, Wild Yam

## Shrubs for Bees, Beneficial Insects & Hummingbirds:

Buddleia, Buttonbush, Diervilla, Fragrant Sumac, Heath & Heather, Hydrangea 'Green Dome', Lilac 'Miss Canada', Honeysuckle Vines, Mock Orange, Rugosa Rose, Shadblow, Summersweet

white, but new cultivars have more color (see below). Good shrub choice for under house eaves, as they can survive and bloom even after punishing encounters with snowy avalanches. Most 3-5' tall and wide.

- 'GREEN DOME' (AG) A lacy scattering of white florets on the 6-8" wide flattish green flower heads. These flowers are exceptional at attracting all sorts of flying insects, and I recommend this plant for every garden, to attract and support pollinators and beneficial insects. 5-6'
- 'INCREDIBALL' (AG) An improved 'Annabelle', with the same enormous 10" wide white mopheads, but with stronger stems. Proven Winner. 4-5'
- 'INVINCIBELLE RUBY' (AG) The darkest pink among the snowball-type, and named 2020 hydrangea of the year. The flowers are quite red at bud stage, opening to medium and silvery-pink. For greatest contrast, plant near pure white flowers. Hardy to Zone 3, just prune in early spring for shaping. Proven Winner. 3-4' tall and wide.
- 'INVINCIBELLE SUBLIME' (AG) **NEW** The 5" corymbs of flowers stay soft jade green, with a smattering of the tiniest pink true flowers amidst the mass of green sepals. The contrast of soft green on dark green is immeasurably soothing, and quite glorious in bouquets. Proven Winner. 3-5'
- 'LIMETTA' (AG) **NEW** Mid-sized version, white flrs. Proven Winner. 3-4'
- 'SNOW HILL' (AG) The old-fashioned white, with modest 4-6" wide flowers that hold themselves up well in all weather. 4-5'

### HYDRANGEA PANICULATA (= PEEGEE) TYPES

This type blooms August into Sept. Large pointed flower panicles open white, then mature to cream and pink shades. Can be kept short or allowed to grow into tall shrubs or small trees. Tolerant of dry soils and poor soils. Full sun or a little shade. All Zone 3.

- 'BOBO' (PG) What a sweet little tuffet! Only 30-36" tall, and well covered with flowers. Perfect for urns, small gardens, and can be planted right in perennial borders. Winner of the Gold Floral award. Blooms early, starting in late July.
- 'FIRELIGHT' (PG) **NEW** Upright. Proven Winner. 6-8'
- 'FIRELIGHT TIDBIT' (PG) **NEW** Dwarf, low mounded habit. Proven Winner. 2-3'
- 'LIMELIGHT' (PG) Tall pointed blossoms hold their calm pale green color into the fall, when they eventually blend with pink tones. Classy and strong. Proven Winner. 6-8'
- 'LITTLE LIME' (PG) **NEW** One third the size of 'Limelight'. Proven Winner. 3-5'
- 'QUICK FIRE' (PG) Quick to bloom, a month earlier than the others, starting in early July. The form is more relaxed and naturalistic, in both the flowers and the overall form. My current favorite! Proven Winner. 6-8' tall and wide.
- 'LITTLE QUICK FIRE' (PG) Just one 1/3 the size of 'Quickfire', otherwise just as excellent. Can be used in planters too. 3-5'
- 'PINKY WINKY' (PG) 14" long blooms are the norm, and each floret has 7 rather than the usual 4 florets, giving the heads a much fuller look. Strong stems can support all the weight. Large and very full flowers. 6-8' tall and wide.

### ILEX = WINTERBERRY *Ilex verticillata* **NEW**

Native deciduous hollies. These are planted for winter interest, for the brilliant red berries that bring a glow to the landscape from Sept to wintertime, after which birds generally harvest them. Dioecious, both female and male plants are needed in order for berries to be initiated. Soils average to wet (even clay), they delight along ponds, streams, swamps, and can be used in hedges and rain gardens. Will spread to make a colony in favored conditions. Full sun to PSh. All three cv's below are Proven Winners.

- 'BERRY HEAVY' Leaves drop early, the sooner to show off the abundant crop of bright red berries. 6-8' tall and wide.
- 'BERRRY POPPINS' Shorter version, heavy fruiting. 3-4' tall and wide.
- 'MR. POPPINS' The needed he. Plant one for every 6-8 females. 3-4' tall and wide.

### MICROBIOTA = RUSSIAN CYPRESS 'CELTIC PRIDE'

*Microbiota decussata* **NEW**

Dwarf densely branched evergreen with a low spreading form. Bright green summer foliage turns bronzy in winter. From Vladivostok, you know it's hardy, to zone 2! This Proven Winner selection resists tip dieback. Deer resistant. Super groundcover, for full sun or LSh. 1-2.5 tall, 4-6' spread.

### PHILADELPHUS = MOCKORANGE

*Philadelphus coronarius*

The true old-fashioned species, quite hard to find nowadays. Free-flowering with sprays of strongly fragrant white blossoms in June. Prefers moist rich soils, but will tolerate most anything. Sun/PSH. Big, it can reach 8-10 ft tall and wide. Prune in summer, just after bloom, every other year to remove deadwood, and maintain good form.

### PHYSOCARPUS = NINEBARK

*Physocarpus opulifolius*

Native. Rugged, very hardy and bushy. Excellent for screening, or to plant as a protective wind belt for the flower garden. Sun or PSh, but leaf color is strongest in full sun. Tolerant of poor soils, wide range of conditions. Ninebarks can be pruned anytime, but for best foliage color, trim in spring. All have white spirea-type flowers in June. Zone 3.

- 'GINGER WINE' Coppery orange-red in early season, maturing to a deeper red for the summer. Beautiful warm color all season. Bright red seed heads. Proven Winner. More compact than many ninebarks, at 5-6' tall and wide.
- 'SUMMER WINE' Deep purple-red foliage on long arching stems. Proven Winner. 5-8' tall.
- 'TINY WINE' One of the most compact of the dark-leaved ninebarks, at only 3-4'. Proven Winner. Purplish-burgundy foliage. 3-4' tall and wide.

### RHUS = FRAGRANT SUMAC 'GRO-LOW'

*Rhus aromatica*

Brilliant scarlet fall color with this super hardy native sumac. All summer the small leaves are glossy and aromatic (sort-of citrusy). A good spreader once established, it is a excellent choice for steep dry banks, mass plantings, and xeriscaping. Average to dry soils, and tolerates poor soils. Deer resistant. Grows in sun or a little shade. Classy! 2-3'

### ROSA = ROSES

Always plant roses in full sun, and a light well-enriched soil. Feed them well and regularly for best flowering. Rose pruning – is only needed to remove malformed or dead branches, or to reduce height, and should only be done in early spring.

- EGLANTINE (Sweet Briar) An old rose, whose leaves carry the uplifting fragrance of fresh green apples. The scent is evident all season, and will carry on the breeze. Brief bloom of single wild pink flowers. Tall whip-like growth to 7 ft, with briars galore. In our gardens, a 25 year old plant can be seen growing just beyond the gazebo. A very hard to find old heirloom rose.
- RUGOSA ROSES Strong, hardy and fragrant, they also will tolerate tough, dry soils, and are tolerant of road salt too. Glossy foliage. Large bright hips follow the July flowers. We usually have both white and pink cultivars. 4-6'
- OTHER ROSES We're usually trying out an assortment of modern roses, ask to see what we have this year.

### SAMBUCUS = ELDERBERRY

Large fruiting and ornamental shrubs, they prosper in damp to wet sites. Clusters of white flowers in late June lead to berries – good for us, and good for birds too. Quick-growing. Sun or partial shade.

- AMERICAN ELDERBERRY (*S. canadensis*) A native that produces clusters of blue-black edible fruit, for pies, jam and wine. (Do not eat fresh berries, they must be cooked first.) A little dieback in winter is normal, just prune stems down in spring, and



they grow back swiftly. Zone 3. 6-10'

- 'BLACK LACE' (*S. nigra*) With exotic dark plummy-purple cut leaves, it looks a little bit like a Japanese Maple. Best color will be in full sun, with ample water. Quite often dies back over winter, but makes it up with fast fresh growth in the spring, if you feed it regularly and amply. Pink flr clusters. Zone 5. Proven Winner. 4-7' tall and wide.
- 'LEMONY LACE' (*S. nigra*) **NEW** Extra finely cut leaves bring a lacy texture, in a golden chartreuse color, plus reddish new growth. Makes a colorful shaggy mound, from 4-6 ft tall and wide. Proven Winner. Zone 4.

## SPIREA, BRIDALWREATH

*Spiraea x vanhouttei*

The classic old-fashioned bridalwreath, pride of the farmhouse garden! Large and graceful, with arching stems with white flowers in early July. Grow in sun or a little shade, in average soil. The species was valued in U.S. gardens by 1866. Prune after blooming. Hardy to Zone 3. 5-7' tall. 6-8' spread.



## SYRINGA = LILAC

Plant lilacs in full sun, in any halfway decent soil. If pruning is called for, do so directly after flowering, to avoid cutting off next year's blossoms. The term French Lilac refers to garden varieties of the common lilac, *S. vulgaris*, which were developed in France during the 19th and 20th centuries. Unless marked, these are all *S. vulgaris*. All hardy to Zone 3.

- COMMON PURPLE Fragrant. 12-15'
- COMMON WHITE Fragrant. 12-15'
- 'BEAUTY OF MOSCOW' What a beauty! Soft pink buds open to double flowers of white. Huge heads. Very fragrant. Intro 1947. 10-12'
- 'AGINCOURT BEAUTY' Strong purple, single florets, very fragrant. 10-12'
- 'CHARLES JOLY' Deep reddish purple, double flrs. Narrow heads are held well above the lvs. From 1896. 8-12'
- 'MISS CANADA' Late-blooming Preston lilac, with reddish-pink buds that open to soft pink. This type of late lilac is outstanding in attracting swallowtail butterflies. 1967. 6-9'
- 'PRESIDENT GREVY' Big heads, rosy buds open lavender blue, double. Fragrant. 1889. 9-12'
- 'YANKEE DOODLE' Among the darkest of the purples. Profuse bloomer, large clusters of single flrs. A 1985 Father Fiala introduction. Fragrant. 8'

## VIBURNUM

Large fruiting and ornamental shrubs, they prosper in damp to wet sites. Clusters of white flowers in late June lead to berries (technically drupes) – good for us, and good for birds too. Quick-growing. Sun or partial shade.

- ARROWWOOD (*V. dentatum*) Strong native shrub, favored by catbirds and others for nesting, plus the pretty blue-black fruit get gobbled up by many species. Dense grower, excellent for hedging or as a windbreak, and fine as a background foil to a perennial border. Glossy dk green leaves. Zone 2. 6-10'
- NANNY BERRY (*V. lentago*) **NEW** Marvelous low-maintenance native, for screening, naturalizing, feeding birds and for hosting many of our insect friends. Upright, multi-stemmed form, it can be allowed to sucker and spread, or trim to fewer, taller stems. Average moisture, tolerant of many soils, fast growing. Tolerates light shade, but will be larger in full sun. 4" white cymes in May, blue-black fruits in the fall, for people or birds. For superior berry production, plant more than one. Zone 2 hardiness. 10-14' tall, spreads 6-12'.

## Vines

### APIOS = AMERICAN GROUNDNUT (HOPNISS)

*Apios americana*

A rarely seen native vine with edible tubers. Blooms in mid-summer, with very fragrant, 2" pinkish-brown clusters. The herbaceous foliage is like a fine Wisteria, and stays pristine all summer. Vigorous, it will relentlessly send out seeking roots, so give it space, and plant it away from the flower garden. Or, dig up the tubers and cook them, for this is a well-known permaculture plant! Sun/PSH. To 8' tall.

### ARISTOLOCHIA = DUTCHMAN'S PIPE

*Aristolochia durior*

A native climber with big heart-shaped leaves, it is one of our few hardy vines that prefer shade. Traditional as a porch screen, it gives very dense shade, and will live for decades. Give it strong support, and space, as the roots will spread. Grow in cool rich soil in partial to full shade. North wall is ok. Intro 1700-99. Twining woody vine to 25'

### CLEMATIS

We can't grow bougainvillea in the north country, but 'by gum' can we grow Clematis! Grow in full sun or with a little afternoon shade. Sweet rich soil, cool shaded ground. We sell only the hardy types that bloom on first year wood - so if they are pruned back in spring, or killed to the ground by winter cold, they will still bloom, in July. If the vines happen to survive above ground over-winter, however, they will bear larger flowers earlier, and will also grow taller. Grow up trellis, pea-fence, or let them scramble over ground or up through a neighboring shrub. Assorted colors and cultivars available. 6-8'

### DIOSCOREA = WILD YAM **NEW**

Native. An elegant slender vine, with beautiful shiny foliage, like skinny pleated hearts. It grows in part shade, and is long-lived. Summertime delicate strands of small flowers, either male or female. Grow in humus-rich soils. Long-lived, but does not runner at all. Propagation is by division. Used medicinally. Climbs 7-10 ft or more.

### HUMULUS = HOPS VINE

*Humulus lupulus*

This vigorous herbaceous vine can reach 20 ft. in a single season, dying to the ground after frost. Pretty chartreuse colored fruits, called strobiles, dangle in bunches against the dark green lvs. Used in beer first to prevent spoilage, only later for flavor. New shoots were eaten like asparagus. Deep rich soil, mostly sunny. Intro 1600-99. We usually have a selection of named beer-making varieties.

### HYDRANGEA = CLIMBING HYDRANGEA

*Hydrangea anomala petiolaris*

6" wide white flower clusters are fragrant, in late June or early July. Will cling and climb on rough walls and tree bark. Borderline hardy here, plant in a protected location, away from winter winds, in sun or light shade. If happy, it can climb to 20'

### LONICERA = HONEYSUCKLE VINES

Long-blooming little trumpets, very attractive to hummingbirds and bumblebees. Fast growing. Train them into position while vines are still young and pliable. Pruning is not needed, except for shaping. Blooms in June/July. Average soil. Sun or PSh. Neither of these two below are fragrant, to humans anyway. These are not introduced invasive honeysuckles, but are derived from native species.

- 'DROPMORE SCARLET' (*x brownii*) Flowers are soft orange with a touch of red. Repeat bloomer. Super hardy, to Zone 3. 10'
- 'KINTZLEY'S GHOST' (*L. reticulata*) Planted for the attractive disc-shaped silvery-foliage, which many people think resembles eucalyptus. Peachy-yellow flower clusters in June. Amazingly hardy, it can grow 10-14", and live for 40 years or more. Native.

# Reference Lists Of Plant Types

## BUTTERFLY AND HUMMINGBIRD PLANTS:

Agastache, Aster, Astragalus, Beebalm, Boneset, Butterfly Weed, Buttonbush, Catmint, Centaurea, Cardinal Flower, Columbine, Comfrey, Coreopsis, Cranesbill, Dame's Rocket, Delphinium, Echinacea, Eupatorium, Gayfeather, Goldsturm Daisy, Green-headed Coneflower, Helenium, Heliopsis, Ironweed, Joe Pye Weed, Lavender, Lupine, Mint, Mountain Mint, Ox-eye Daisy, Oregano, Penstemon, Perennial Sweet Pea, Phlox 'Jeana', Purple Coneflower, Rose Silkweed, Rudbeckia, Rue, Salvia, Shasta Daisy, Stoke's Aster, Sweet William, Thyme, Veronica, Yarrow.

## BEE FAVORITES:

Burnet Saxifrage, Buttonbush, Centaurea, Cephalaria, Chokeberry, Comfrey, Culver's Root, Diervilla, Echinacea, Gayfeather, Globe Thistle, Sea Holly, Hydrangea 'Green Dome', Mountain Mint, New England Aster, Summersweet, Thyme, Yarrow (Pink and White), Agastache and Salvia.

## BY LIGHT EXPOSURE:

### Deep Shade:

Astilbe, Bleeding Heart, Black Snakeroot, Bloodroot, Brunnera, Epimedium, Foamflower, American and European Ginger, Heuchera, Hosta, Lamiastrum & Lamium, Lily of the Valley, Lungwort, Pachysandra, Phlox stolonifera, Solomon's Seal, Sweet Violet, Sweet Woodruff, Turtlehead, Vinca, Violet, Waldsteinia.

### PARTIAL SHADE:

Astilbe, Balloonflower, Beebalm, Bellflower, Bowman's Root, Burnet, Coventry Bells, Dane's Blood and Great Bellflower; Bloodroot, Columbine, Cranesbill, Crested Iris, Culver's Root, Daylily, Delphinium (exaltatum), English Daisy, Forget-me-not, Foxgloves, Gingers, Goatsbeard, Green-headed Coneflower, Greek Valerian, Heartleaf Brunnera, Hellebore, Heuchera, Jacob's Ladder, Lady's Mantle, Ligularia, Lungwort, Lysimachia, Marsh Marigold, Meadow Rue, Meadowsweet, Monkshood, Mountain Mint, Obedient Plant, Patrinia, Phlox (divaricata & stolonifera), Plume Poppy, Primrose, Rhubarb, Rodgersia, Rupturewort, Shadblow, Shooting Star, Solomon's Seal, Spiderwort, Stoke's Aster, Sweet Cicely, Trollius, Waxbells, Wild Bergamot, Willow Amsonia, White Mugwort, Yellow Loosestrife.

## BY SOIL CONDITIONS:

### For Hot And Sunny:

Agastache, Artemisia, Balloonflower, Baby's Breath, Bearberry, Bigroot Cranesbill, Blue Flax, Butterfly Weed, Catmint, Clustered Bellflower, Centaurea, Coreopsis, Day Lilies, Dianthus and Pinks, Diervilla, Echinacea, Euphorbia, False Indigo, Flowering Oregano, Foxglove (Yellow), Gayfeather, Globe Thistle, Heliopsis, Hyssop, Iris, Iron Weed, Lavender, Lupine, Mallow, Milkweed, Moss Pink Phlox, Mullein, Nepeta, Penstemon, Perennial Pea, Potentilla, Rudbeckia, Rupturewort, Russian Sage, Salvia, St. Johnswort, Scabiosa, Sea Holly, Sedum, Soapwort, Sundrops, Sweet Fern, Tansy, Thymes, Tunicflower, Yarrow.

### For Heavy Soil:

Amsonia, Anemone, Aster (New England), Beebalm, Bugleweed, Buttercup, Compass Plant, Daylily, Echinacea, Foxglove, Goatsbeard, Helenium, Heliopsis, Jacob's Ladder, Joe Pye Weed, Lady's Mantle, Lamium, Liatris, Ligularia, Lysimachia, Meadow Rues, Mint, Perennial Pea, Plume Poppy, Primroses, Rodgersia, Rose Silkweed, Rudbeckia, Siberian Iris, Tansy, Trollius.

## LONG BLOOMING PERENNIALS (4 WEEKS OR MORE):

Agastache, Astrantia, Beebalm, Blue Flax, Buttercup, Clary Sage, Coreopsis 'Moonbeam', Cranesbills, English Daisy, Ferny Bleeding Heart, Feverfew, Foxglove, Blue Flax, Geum, Goldsturm Daisy, Golden Glow, Green-headed Coneflower, Harebells, Heliopsis, Hollyhock, Ironweed, Lance Coreopsis, Lavatera, Musk Mallow, Peach-leaf Bellflower, Patrinia, Purple Coneflower, Phlox, Shasta Daisy, Double Soapwort, Spiderwort, Perennial Sweet Pea, Sweet William, Wild Bergamot, Yarrow.

## FRAGRANT FLOWERS & AROMATICS:

Artemisia, Beebalm, Chamomile, Costmary, Dame's Rocket, Dianthus, Eglantine Rose, Fragrant Sumac, Garden Heliotrope, Gas Plant, Jacob's Ladder, Lavender, Lemon Balm, Lemon Lily, Lily-of-the-Valley, Phlox, Roses, Soapwort, Summersweet, Sweetshrub, Sweet Cicely, Sweet Fern, Sweet Woodruff, Sweet Violet, Southernwood

## NORTH AMERICAN NATIVE PLANTS:

Allegheny Vine, American Burnet, Amsonia, Asters, Bearberry, Beebalm, Black Snakeroot, Bloodroot, Blue Flax, Boneset, Bowman's Root, Bugleweed, Butterfly Weed, Buttonbush, Canada Anemone, Canada Columbine, Chokeberry, Compass Plant, Coreopsis, Cranesbill (G. maculatum), Crested Iris, Culver's Root, Delphinium exaltatum, Diervilla, Elecampane, False and Wild Indigos, Ferny Bleeding Heart, Foamflower, Gayfeather, Glade Mallow, Goatsbeard, Greek Valerian, Green-headed Coneflower, Groundnut, Helenium, Heliopsis, Ironweed, Jerusalem Artichoke, Joe Pye Weed, Marsh Marigold, Mountain Mint, Ninebark, Phlox, Purple Coneflower, Obedient Plant, Penstemon, Rose Silkweed, Scottish Bluebells, Shadblow, Solomon's Seal, Spiderwort, Stoke's Aster, Sumac, Summersweet, Sundrops, Turtlehead, Wild Bergamot, Wild Ginger, Wild Quinine, Wild Senna, Yarrow, Nannyberry, Wild Yam.

## VIGOROUS SPREADERS:

Beebalm, Buttercup, Canada Anemone, Crested Iris, Dane's Blood, Comfrey, Golden Glow, Gooseneck, Jerusalem Artichoke, Mint, Obedient Plant, Pearl Yarrow, Plume Poppy, Roman Wormwood, Soapwort, Sundrops, Tansy, Tawny Daylily, Thyme, Yellow Loosestrife, Bugleweed, Cranesbills

## GROUND COVER PLANTS:

**Low** (under 2 ft) – Bearberry, Coreopsis 'Moonbeam' & 'Zagreb', Cranesbills, Creeping Phlox, Epimedium, Foamflower, Hosta, Lady's Mantle, Lily of the Valley, Lungwort, Nepeta, Pachysandra, Sedum, Sweet Woodruff, Sweet Violet, Thyme, Vinca, Waldsteinia, Russian Cypress

**Mid-Height** (over 2 ft.) – Beebalm, Canada Anemone, Daylilies, Diervilla, Fragrant Sumac (shrub), Jerusalem Artichoke, Mint, Pink Bistort, Obedient Plant, Plume Poppy, Rugosa Rose (shrub), Solomon's Seal, Spiderwort, Yellow Loosestrife



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