



Adding Color to Your Life

WATER-WISE GARDENING WITH LANDON'S DROUGHT TOLERANT PERENNIALS

NOTE: All perennials will need water the first season to get established. All are for sunny areas, except those coded **SH**.

GC=Ground Cover

SH=Shade loving

Achillea: Known as yarrow. Grows 1-3' depending on variety. Foliage has fine fern-like appearance, and is either green or gray-green. Flowers are yellow, white, or pink. Native.

“Moonshine”—deep lemon-yellow flowers w/attractive gray-green foliage. Mounding.

“Terra Cotta”—18”, orange, red and yellow terra cotta colors.

“Summer Pastels”—2', flower first year, pink, rose, lavender, salmon & orange pastel mix.

“Serbian Yarrow”—18”, yellow flowers.

Alcea: Hollyhock. Reseeding biennial. Seem to grow without care and are often found in the most inhospitable places. Drought tolerant, but does like moisture and needs good air circulation.

Amsonia: Blue Star Flower. A no-brainer plant—plant and get out of the way! Grows on road sides in Kansas. Sky blue flowers. Up to 3', may need to be staked if not planted in full sun.

Anaphalus: Called Pearly Everlasting. To 2'. Masses of small white flowers, but gray-white foliage is the real plus, creating a cooling effect in a border and toning down other bright colors. Tough and can stand abuse.

Antennaria: Pussytoes. Ground cover to 4". Tolerates poor infertile soil and hot, dry locations. Tough and neat plant suited for front of garden or rock gardens. Gray-green or silver leafed native. Flowers in spring. **GC**

Artemesia: Wormwood. Suitable for dry, sunny areas with few soil demands. Useful in borders and rock gardens. Do not overwater or overfertilize. Common varieties have silvery foliage that forms mounds. Tarragon (herb) and silvermound are in this genus.

Asclepias: Butterfly Weed. 2-3' tall. Vibrant orange flowers in spring. Good cut flower. Extremely drought tolerant. Attracts butterflies.

Aurinia: Basket of Gold Alyssum. Fast growing border plant that thrives in full sun. Mounds of yellow flowers in early spring. Silvery-gray foliage.

Baptisia: False Indigo. To 3'. An early garden performer, new shoots have a black-purple tint, leaves are gray-green, and flowers are violet-blue. Pods form attractive dried ornaments.

Calamintha: Catmint or Beautiful Mint. Low growing aromatic mint. Likes cool conditions. Will use less water in part shade. Will not survive a severe drought. Good filler and bee attractant. Grows 12" with light blue flowers. **SH**

Callirhoe: Poppy Mallow. Great groundcover, easy to grow, to 1'. Leaves are hairy and palmate, stems are rough and hairy, flowers are showy, purple/magenta. Will flower from June to frost. Spreads readily. Why isn't this more popular? It's a great one!

Centaurea: Cornflower, Mountain Bluet. Likes alkaline soils. Grows well in hot, dry locations. May roam. Good cutflower. 2' tall, blue flowers.

Centranthus: Jupiter's Beard, Red Valerian. Grows 2-3'. Good border plants, thriving on infertile, limey (alkaline) soils in full sun, there are few stone/brick walls this plant doesn't like. Long blue-green leaves, and small but numerous pinkish-red flowers at the top of the flower stems.

Cerastium: Snow in Summer. Silvery leaves and bright white flowers appear early. Good for rock gardens or around dwarf conifers. Do not keep too moist. Grows 6-8". **GC**

Coreopsis: Tickseed. "Moonbeam" was 1992 Perennial Plant of the Year. Grows 18"-24" and bears soft muted yellow flowers from late June to frost. Goes well with plants with purple foliage/flowers. "Zagreb" has deeper yellow flowers, grows 8-12" tall, remains compact and bushy.

Delosperma: Hardy Ice Plant. Ground cover, forming 2-3" tall tight mats of succulent foliage and bright, daisy-like orange/yellow flowers. Likes well drained soils. **GC**

Echinacea: Coneflower. One of the finest species for today's garden, with long leaves and 3-4" diameter flowers, grows to 2-3'. "Magnus" has rose colored flowers, "White Swan" has white drooping ray flowers. "Ruby Giant" has large, burgundy blooms. Tolerates poor soils and hot, dry, windy conditions. Native.

Erigeron: Sulphur Flower. A ground cover 6-12", with dark green foliage covering white rosettes. Umbrella-like clusters of ting sulfur-yellow flowers form on thin stems June and July. Once established needs very little water

Eryngium: Sea Holly. Blue-gray plants with steely blue flowers. Will tolerate poor, dry conditions and high salt levels. Slow grower, low maintenance. 18-24".

Euphorbia: Cushion Spurge. Don't let the name be off-putting; this is NOT the noxious leafy spurge! Brilliant mound of yellow in early spring. Tolerates dry soils but likes some shade in the afternoon. 12-18"

Gallardia: Blanket Flower. Drought tolerant native, you can see these on walks up Tongue Canyon or Primrose Trail. Long blooming and easy to grow, with 3-4" flower heads which are usually yellow with various amounts of maroon at the base. Will get 2-3' tall.

Galium: Sweet Woodruff. Marginally drought tolerant. Will look better if kept moist, but will survive dry conditions, particularly in shade. **SH**

Grasses: Depending on variety, some are drought tolerant and can live in poor soils. Most like full sun. Drought tolerant varieties that we carry are: 'Festuca' (Fescue), 'Panicum' (Dallas Blues, Switch Grass), 'Hierochloa' (Sweetgrass, native to Great Plains, plant in sunken pot as it can be invasive).

Gypsophila: Baby's Breath. Prefers alkaline soils. Seen growing wild in open, dry, hot areas but likes some moisture. Indispensable to florists, these graceful plants are covered with wispy-like blooms in shades of white, pink and dark pink. Over 1000 flowers can be produced in a single flower cluster! Grows 18" to 3' tall. Only moderately drought tolerant.

Hemerocallis: Daylily. Colors of cream, red, orange, yellow and pink, these flowering workhorses are often the backbone of many perennial plantings. Characterized by toughness and long-lasting color, there are over 20,000 different hybrids! Grow 18-30" tall. Divide every 5 years of so. Spread. Edible flowers. Moderately drought tolerant. Extra water prevents leaf scorch.

Iris: A familiar, beloved plant, also called "Flags". Many clump-forming varieties. Need to be divided every 3-4 years. Will not bloom if planted too deeply. Will endure drought conditions.

Lavandula: Munstead Lavender. A tough lavender that can take several seasons here in Wyoming. Dwarf and compact plant has large, sweet scented, deep lavender-blue flowers that bloom early and in abundance over green leaves. Grows 12"-18".

Leontopodium: Edelweiss. Gray-leaved alpine plant for dry rocky areas. Does well in alkaline soils that are gritty and porous. Forms a mat. Does not like excess moisture.

Liatris: Gayfeather. Narrow, long leaves get progressively smaller up the stem. Mauve flowers attach to 6-15" stems and are excellent in the garden or as a cut flower. Gets tall 3-4'.

Linum: Flax. Azure blue flowers on top of slender, open stems. Grows to 12" tall in the most unlikely areas and for the longest time. Absolutely does not like wet feet. Self-sowing.

Malva: Mallow. Similar to hollyhock, prefers dry, alkaline soils and full sun. Grow to 36" and self sows.

Monarda: Bergemot. 'Fistulosa', or Wild Bergemot, has rose colored flowers in late summer. Grows to 4'. Likes dry conditions. Used to treat headaches and fevers.

Myosotis: Forget-me-Not. Miniature, sky blue blossoms with distinctive yellow eye. The alpine form grows wild in the Bighorns. Will tolerate dry conditions if grown in shade in the garden. Can be grown in sun, but will need moisture. **SH**

Nepeta: Catmint. Gray, hairy, heart-shaped leaves about 1" long are highly scented. Numerous pale blue flowers are spaced loosely along the stems over the short, prostrate foliage. Grows 8-16" tall. Does well in dry, somewhat shaded areas. Plant grows more erect with less water.

Oenothera: Evening Primrose, Missouri Primrose. Useful groundcovers for poor soils and full sun. Spreading, often shrubby plant. Yellow or white flowers.

Penstemon: Beardtongue. The tougher the better for these guys! Some are native. They are drought tolerant and grow in rocky soils. Deer resistant. Does best in light shade. Flowers can be red, pink, lavender or white and can be tubular or in clusters. Most varieties grow 18-36”.

Perovskia: Russian Sage. Silver foliage deeply cut, with a sagey fragrance when bruised and can be used in cooking. Tubular light blue flowers in whorls on 12-15” stems. Fast growing to 2-3’. One of our all-time favorites, this plant really puts on a show in late summer and fall—up to 15 weeks. Flowers great for drying. Too much water causes plant to become floppy. Very drought tolerant.

Rudbeckia: Coneflower. Yellow to gold ray flowers with brown to black centers. “Goldsturm” gets about 2’ tall, makes a good cut flowers, and is moderately drought tolerant.

Saponaria: Soapwort. Spreading green foliage suitable for rock gardens or borders, with mass of pink blooms in early spring. Works well for walls or raised stonework as the plant will climb and clamber over obstructions. Grows 6-10”. **GC**

Scabiosa: Pincushion Flower. The warm blue shades of scabiosa can complement yellow daisies. Most grow to 2’ and are good cut flowers. Flowers late summer.

Sedum: Primarily low growing and extremely drought tolerant, with succulent foliage of varied colors and structures. Great ground covers, growing 2-6”. ‘Autumn Joy’ gets taller, to 12”, and has pink flowers. Generally do not like a lot of water. **GC**

Sempervivum: Hens and Chicks. Easy to grow and adaptable to any and all conditions, its name comes from Latin *semper*, always, and *vivo*, to live, and it certainly does live forever. Thick, fleshy, alternate leaves and flowers rise from rosettes, called ‘hens’. It can flower in colors of red, rose, white, green, yellow or purple. **GC**

Stachys: Lamb’s Ear. This plant can take some shade. Gray-green and very hairy leaves form mats that are velvety white and wool-like. Useful in edging and borders, the foliage is the main attractant to the perennial gardener, as the lavender-blue flowers are unremarkable. Grows 8-12”. Water in the morning so the foliage can dry out. Refrain from overhead watering. **SH**

Tanacetum: Snowy Tansy. Lacy, silver, fragrant foliage is covered with a mass of snowy white flowers creating a beautiful mound in late spring and early summer. Performs well in clay soils, will grow 18-24”

Thymus: Woolly Thyme. Well-known ground cover, with small leaved fuzzy gray foliage that forms a creeping mat. Needs exceptional drainage. Mother of Thyme is prostrate, with pink to purple flowers. Both do well in rock gardens or as fillers in flagstone. ‘Pink Chintz’ can substitute for a lawn and will take moderate foot traffic. **GC**

Veronica: Turkish Speedwell. Woolly, silver-green leaves on prostrate plant with stunning, very showy, iridescent purple blooms in early spring. One of our most popular varieties. Lawn substitute and can take light foot traffic. **GC**

Vinca: Periwinkle. Vigorously vining groundcover with blue blossoms in early spring. Will survive dry conditions if planted in shade, but performs better with moisture. Marginally drought tolerant. **GC, SH**