

May 2024 Tilth Alliance Edible Plant Sale

Herb and Flower Plant List



Updated 4/29/2024

Please be aware that we may not have all of the varieties listed in this document at the 2024 May Edible Plant Sale. Occasionally, the growers will experience a crop failure or the plants will be too small to sell. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

All our herb and flower starts are sustainably and organically grown and/or Certified Organic in Washington State by Cascade Cuts in Bellingham, Dirty Knees Nursery in Bellingham, Duvall Herb Farm in Monroe, Ecolibrium Farm in Redmond, Oxbow Farm in Carnation, Rent's Due Ranch in Stanwood, Sunseed Farms in Acme, and The Growing Garden in Bellingham.

Edible Flowers

Alyssum

Mixed Colors

Annual. You may know that alyssum has a light honey-like fragrance and that it blooms non-stop all summer with little care but have you ever tasted Alyssum? Well it doesn't taste like much but it sure looks pretty decorating summer cakes, fruit salad a bowl of ice cream! The young leaves, stems and flowers are all edible plus they attract all kinds of beneficial insects to the garden. How can you go wrong? Grows to 6" tall and spreads up to a foot.

White

Annual. Freely re-seeding and heavenly scented Alyssum is a wonderful pollinator plant to add to containers, bed edges, including the veggie bed, and in annual flower displays. Alyssum is a relative of the cabbage family and the sweet little flowers are a great addition to salads in the summer. Keep well watered to keep it blooming. Also very attractive to beneficial insects like syrphid flies, lacewing and parasitic wasps. This is an all white selection which brightens up the garden.

Begonia

Mixed Varieties

Annual. Mixed Begonia types - annual and tuberous. Begonias are great for semi shady porches and shrub beds where you want a spot of color, including from their leaves! Edible as well, you can trim little flowers off to decorate birthday cakes and pastries. Keep them from drying out and avoid hot sun where the tender leaves and rich leaf colors will bleach out.

Bellis

Tasso Mix

Annual. Also known as lawn or English daisy, these cheerful, low growing flowers in shades of red, pink and white are sure to delight each spring. The whole flower or the tiny petals can be added to salads, used to decorate cakes or garnish any dish. Flowers have a mild, grassy flavor. Bellis are perennial and grow in full sun to part shade.

Borage

Borago officinalis

Annual. The bright blue, star-shaped flowers (which bloom most of the summer) make borage one of the prettiest herb plants. The leaves are large and leathery and covered in soft spikes. The flavor of the leaves and flowers resembles that of cucumber. The plant will grow to a height of about 18 inches, and spread about 12 inches. Beloved by bumble bees.

Calendula

Alpha

Annual. Bright orange Gerbera like flowers on 30 inch plants are a delight in any garden. The petals of this beauty have a high resin content making them perfect for mixing into hand creams. Great as cut flowers and reseed easily for more flowering fun.

Neon

Annual. Glowing orange with burgundy tips, 'Neon' is a fabulous addition to your garden. Mix it in with your fruiting plants to attract pollinators straight to your squash and tomatoes. Cut for bouquets or trim flowers to dry and add to homemade lotions. Calendula is a multi-use and showy choice. Self sows easily.

Pacific Mix

Annual. A riot of yellows, oranges and blends in between to spice up your garden. Add to veggie beds to encourage pollinators. Fill containers and blend with other summer annuals. Self seeding annual will come back in unpredictable colors next year. Great for adding to salads for colorful toppings and to egg salad for a tasty and colorful treat.

Pink Surprise

Annual. Self seeding Calendulas are familiar in all their orange hues, but Pink Surprise sports a lovely shade of apricot tinged with pink double blooms that will stand out in your garden. Bloom over the whole summer. Great for adding petals to a salad or sandwich. Try them as garnish on deviled eggs. Calendula is drought tolerant once the plants are established in your garden. Grows to 24 inches tall and 12 inches wide and tolerates crowding with other Calendula plants. Great for attracting pollinators and beneficial insects.

Resina

Annual. One of the most resinous Calendula varieties, great for harvesting for salves and lotions. Beautiful cheery yellow and sometimes orange flowers bloom all summer long. Also great for use as a dye plant.

Strawberry Blonde

Annual. A lovely pink variety from Wild Garden Seeds in Oregon. Dark red backsides on the petals and a dark central eye provide contrast to the lovely pastel pink and yellow petals.

Crocospmia

Mixed Varieties

Perennial. Crocospmia are well loved for their dangling brightly colored flowers. They should also be loved for their pollinator friendly presence. Beloved of hummingbirds and bees. Spreading by corms you can easily propagate more to spread into other parts of the garden. Striking red flowers with yellow throats also bear Later flowering source for some late summer to fall color in the garden. Can be used as a saffron substitute.

Dahlia

Mixed Varieties

Tuberous perennial. Summer gem in the garden, dahlias come in many shapes, shades and sizes. Growing from 10 inches to five feet tall we are surprised each year by the mix we get from our grower. Tender petals are colorful additions to summer salads or to the garnish on deviled eggs or other canapes. Float them in lemonade for a sparkle in the glass. Protect from slugs when first planting out.

Dianthus

Mixed Varieties

Perennial. Evergreen. Ah, the sweet spicy smell of summer is strong in these rose, white, orchid and pink beauties. The flowers are fully double and some are bi-colored too. Add to summer lemonades, cocktails, on cupcake frosting or even in your dinner salad. Remove the base as it can be more bitter for your sweeter culinary treats. Dianthus love full sun and good garden soil.

Marigold

Bonanza Mix

Annual. The double flowers of Bonanza Mix are the largest of this type, a huge, 2 to 2.5 in. across and available in a wide range of pure, intense colours. Bonanza is faster to flower than other double French marigolds. These plants are excellent performers under a wide range of conditions.

Brocade

Annual. Marigolds are a joy in the garden and Brocade offers a blend of oranges, yellows, and reds to cheer up any spot you place it. Great for containers and fun for kids to grow. Marigolds are spicy accents to a green salad or beautiful topping a BBQ potato salad. Pollinators love them and they will help keep pests at bay by attracting beneficial insects too.

Durango Mix

Annual. Marigolds are the queens of summer and fall with their cheerful, solid and sometimes striped orange, yellow and red tones spicing up the garden. Durango is a French Marigold type that grows to a foot tall with a slightly smaller spread. Blooms early, guaranteeing color throughout the summer. Dead head to keep them blooming. Try marigolds as a saffron substitute. Add them to salads for a sunny mix with a citrusy flavor.

Giant Orange

Annual. One of our most classic summer bedding annuals, this marigold is a winner with 3 inch bright orange flower heads on top of a three foot branching plant. Great as a cut flower, wonderful pollinator plant and edible too! Add to oil and vinegar salad dressings for some spicy specks of color. Remove the petal from its base which is bitter to taste.

Lemon Gem

Annual. A cheerful single yellow marigold that is perfect for tucking into the ends of your garden beds. Adds a splash of color while also attracting beneficial pollinators and predatory insects. Grows to about a foot tall and wide. Lovely to brush against when tending the garden when it releases its citrusy scent. Set a single cheerful flower on top of a chocolate frosted cupcake for a festive event.

Queen Sophia

Annual. One of the most beloved of the French marigolds, Queen Sophia is an All America Selection winner from 1979 and has been a classic in our gardens since. Grows to a uniform height of 10-12 inches. Flowers are 2 1/2 inches across and open dark and bronzed and mature to reddish orange with yellow edges. Marigolds are tasty and colorful treats to add to salads, as garnish on a crudite plate or added to a rice dish. Leaves are edible too! Great pollinator flower.

Red Gem

Annual. A lovely complement to the lemon and tangerine gem series with cheerful red flowers on citrus scented foliage. Add to sunny containers, scatter through your edible beds to attract beneficial insects. The flowers are a lovely decoration for a potato or mac summer salad.

Nasturtium

Alaska

Annual. An attractive nasturtium variety with variegated leaves and flowers. Flowers can be yellow, orange or dark red and are edible. A must for any veggie garden. Prefers full sun and will tolerate poor soil. Tasty in salads and as wraps for appetizers.

Empress of India

Annual. Beautiful deep red blossoms set off the blue green foliage on this mounding variety of nasturtium. Flowers and leaves are edible and have a peppery watercress flavor. No summer salad or potluck dish should be served without an adornment of these cheery blooms.

Jewel Mix

Annual. These easy-to-grow plants produce colorful double blooms in light yellow, orange and deep red, and bloom until frost. A nice compact nasturtium for smaller yards and flower boxes.

Kaleidoscope

Annual. Climbing or trailing in a riot of colors, reds, yellows, oranges, creams including some bi-colored swirls. Great for attracting bees and other pollinators. Wrap the flowers around soft cheese and dates for a tasty appetizer. Blend minced flowers into butter and don't forget the leaves are edible too.

Mixed Varieties

Annual. Nasturtiums are classic summer garden annuals, added to formal beds, hanging baskets and raised vegetable beds. They boast a diverse color range, mounding and trailing forms, and are attractive to bumble bees and hummingbirds. Flavorful and spicy flowers and leaves can be used for many summer meal options. Canapes, roll ups with the leaves and cream cheese, tapenade additions, floating on borscht, or gracing a summer cocktail.

Night & Day

Annual. Lovely contrasting light yellow and burgundy flowers. Grow with little input and attract many pollinators. Perfect for planting along bed edges so they can tumble down to the ground.

Trailing

Annual. Garden nasturtium is an attractive flowering plant that is commonly grown in as an ornamental. However, the entire plant is also edible. The leaves and flowers are peppery flavored like watercress and are used in salads and as a garnish. The green pods are made into pickles, which are equal to or superior to pickled capers. Nasturtiums originated in South America. Trailing nasturtiums make a great addition to hanging pots!

Nigella

Persian Jewels

Annual. Also called Love-In-a-Mist, Nigella is a beautiful addition to any flower or herb garden. Blue to purple flowers hover in the mist of feathery foliage. Seed pods add interest to dried arrangements while the black seeds (known as black cumin) enclosed have a pungent flavor and is used in cooking.

Sativa (Black Cumin)

Annual. This one foot lacy beauty bears sky blue flowers which are followed by aromatic black seeds. Use as a flavoring for pickles, breads and curries, and even sweet desserts like cakes. Has a nutmeg like taste. Self sows easily or collect the seed and share! Plant in swaths with poppies and flax for a wildflower border on your urban farm.

Pansy

Frizzle Sizzle Mix

Hardy Annual. Pansies will often transition from spring to summer well if planted in a semi shady area. When in full sun move them in June to a shadier spot and enjoy them when they flush out again in the fall. They can live over through our northwest winter weather. These lovely rainbow colored flowers have delicate ruffles on the petal edges and sometimes have tiger striped whiskers. Res, yellow, purple, blue, rose, orange and more.

Snapdragon

Rocket Mix

Hardy Annual. Beloved and fun flower for the summer garden. Sweet scented, colorful, edible and a great plant for pollinators, what's better than that? Fertilize weekly with a liquid fertilizer to keep them blooming well. Try adding the flowers to couscous or rice dishes for a burst of color. Slightly bitter they pair well with endives and are great additions to olive salads. Give them good sun and keep watered.

Mixed Varieties

Hardy Annual. Snapdragons are a fun plant to grow! They have cheerful colors, fun flower shapes and are beloved of bees and butterflies. Also fun for kids to play with little "faces". The 'Snapshot' series grows to 18 inches in height and makes a full 6 inch wide cluster of stems and blooms. Snaps make a lovely pickle garnish - use white vinegar, sugar, salt and toss in coriander seed, mustard seed and star anise.

Sunflower

Autumn Beauty

Annual. A rainbow of color ranging in vibrant shades of yellow, gold and dark burgundy. Towering at 5-8' this sunflower can have as much as 2 dozen "sunny faces" on each plant.

Chocolate

Annual. Growing from 4 -5 feet, 'Chocolate' sunflower has a multi stemmed branching habit with lots of flowers for cutting. Combine with Amarnath 'Coral Fountain' and some tall white Cosmos for a spectacular summer bouquet. Great for bee forage.

Florenza

Annual. This sunflower grows into the 5 to 6 foot range and has long stems with few leaves bearing yellow and maroon flowers with black centers. Slight chocolate fragrance adds to the charm. Great for cut flowers or for pollinator gardens.

Mammoth

Annual. Fascinating plant for children. Giant plants produce huge flowers and seed heads. Tall plants make excellent summer privacy screen or background plants. Birds love the seeds. Fairly heavy feeder-likes an alkaline soil.

Sonja

Annual. Sonja grows to 3 1/2 feet with multiple sturdy side branches. Great for bee forage, the flowers are 4 inches across with yellow orange rays and a deep brown center. Let seed develop for snacks or to sow again next season. Or let the birds have them in the fall!

Valentine

Annual. Open pollinated. Day length neutral plant bears flowers late into the season making good forage for honey bees. Produces lots of branches with 3 - 4 inch blooms on sturdy stems - great for cut flowers. FleuroSelect Quality award winner.

Zohar

Annual. Looking for a lower pollen garden flower? Zohar has spectacular blooms for cutting and putting into a vase but is free of pollen for those with allergies. Five foot plants bear 4-6 golden orange flowers with chocolate brown centers.

Viola

Mixed Varieties

Hardy Annuals. Cheerful, colorful, edible and fragrant, pansies are a great addition to the spring garden. Tuck into a rockery, use as an edging plant, or in cluster them in containers filled with spring bulbs. Grow a colorful, edible pot full for your special dinner salads.

Zinnia

California Giant

Annual. Heirloom developed in 1926 and gracing our gardens since then with 4 foot tall branched plants covered in huge 5 inch flowers! Ideal for cutting and long lasting in a vase inside. Open flower shape makes for a very full bouquet. Bright color mix includes yellow, red, maroon, orange and purple. Edible petals are best used after rinsing with cool water. Add to soft goat cheese and spread on crisp crackers or add as a colorful element to herbal sun teas!

Golden Yellow

Annual. Bright glowing golden Zinnia with double flowers on well branched stems. Grows to 3 feet in height with 3-4 inch blooms. Attracts lots of pollinators, especially butterflies. Great for cut flowers, edible too! Association of Specialty Cut Flower Growers favorite. Add them to a fresh glass of lemonade for a colorful confetti.

Mixed

Annual. Zinnias are one of the most eye-catching flowers in your garden, blooming all summer and fall in vivid hues and all kinds of striping and two tone mixes. Benary's Giant is a standout at about four feet in height! Bigger than some of our kids! Beloved of pollinators, great for cut flowers and delightful decorating the top of a picnic potato salad.

Oklahoma Mix

Annual. Open pollinated. Classic double bloom and rich bright colors make this a favorite collection to grow for cut flowers. Smaller flowers in the 2 inch range allow for a diverse bouquet in the kitchen. Keep cutting to ensure continued bloom. Cheerful addition to a cool summer borscht where the petals won't wilt from heat.

Queeny Formula Mix

Annual. Double and semi-double with some single flowers, 3 inch average, in shades of orange, peach, lemon, lime, and rose, some with multiple tones. Stems are a long 24 plus inches for dramatic arrangements. Keep cutting and they will keep blooming! Petals are great for adorning summer salads, cupcakes, dropping into fresh lemonade on ice.

Herbs

Agastache

Anise Hyssop

Herbaceous perennial grows to 4' when in flower. Flowers are pale lavender and attract bees, butterflies and hummingbirds. Blooms mid-summer and make good cut flowers. Leaves taste like a combination of mint and licorice and are great for tea or infusing in milk for a tasty anise-vanilla ice cream. Full sun.

Angelica

Angelica

Herbaceous perennial. Grow in sun to partial shade. This garden herb will grow to 3-6 feet tall with striking umbrella like flowers. Mostly known for it's candied stem and licorice flavor. Used as a tea to alleviate gas and stimulate circulation. Also has antimicrobial properties.

Artemesia

Sweet Annie

Annual. An extremely aromatic herb, Artemesia is wonderful in the garden and as filler for flower arrangements. Plant can grow to 4' and has barely noticeable yellow flowers in the summer. Artemisia annua or Quinghao, has been used for centuries in Chinese medicine. Recently it has been discovered to be an effective anti-malarial drug. Full sun.

Ashwaganda

Ashwaganda

Annual. Ashwaganda is a tomato family relative whose dried powdered root has been used in Ayurvedic medicine for thousands of years. Berries are used as a sub for rennet in cheesemaking. Grown in more tropical climates as a shrub, treat this as an annual in the northwest or plan for a greenhouse site during the winter. Needs well drained soil and sun.

Basil

African Blue

Annual. This amazing basil is a cross between camphor basil (*O. kilimandscharicum*) and 'Dark Opal' making a strong sturdy plant with tones of both purple and green in the leaves. Considered a perennial it is still a bit tender in our area to leave out in the rain all winter. Grow some to let flower - a beautiful purple speckled flower that attracts all sorts of beneficial insects. Keep pinched when growing to encourage branching. Use as you would a strong flavored basil.

Amethyst

Annual. Stunning deep purple, almost black leaf of a Genovese style plant 16-20 inches tall. The curved edge leaves have lots of flavor. Beautiful to tuck into edible ornamental containers on your patio.

Cinnamon

Annual. Vigorous growth, with a purplish veining on its leaves, and a distinctive cinnamon scent. Use in Middle Eastern or Greek cuisine and Cinnamon Basil ice cream is to die for! Also a beautiful addition to an ornamental container planting.

Dark Opal

Annual. Large deep purple leaves sometimes variegated with green on 18 inch plants. The leaves keep coming all summer long when you pinch out the flowers routinely. A wonderful variety for fresh eating - the dark purple leaves pair beautifully with a tomato and fresh mozzarella salad. Don't forget to eat the flowers too!

Emerald Towers

Annual. A Genovese variety bred to be upright and have delayed bloom. It has the same flavor profile as your classic pesto basil but without the work of picking flowers off all summer long. Attractive columnar shape is very suitable for containers mixed with flowers or other herbs. Disease resistant too!

Fino Verde

Annual. Grows to be a small, dense bush, suitable for containers. The leaves are much smaller than those of most basil. The flavor is similar to that of sweet basil, but somewhat stronger and spicier.

Genovese

Annual. Also called Perfumed Basil. This classic basil perfumes the air on warm days – pick a little to toss into tonight's dinner or save to harvest for pesto. Keep the flowers picked for best production.

Italian Large Leaf

Annual. The leaves on this basil can grow to be an impressive 4" long! They can be used as a wrap for a variety of stuffings especially since it is sweeter and therefore milder than other basil. The plant will get 18-24" tall and wide.

Lemon

Annual. This is an exciting addition to the world of basil: a basil -- a basil with a lemon/citrus fragrance and flavor which makes it particularly good in vinegar, with fish, in salad dressings & sauces, and in oils. Great in pesto and other standard basil dishes, too. There is no herb more useful than Basil. In a warm, south window, you can grow basil indoors in winter.

Lettuce Leaf

Annual. This basil produces large, light green, luscious leaves on a compact, slower-growing plant. Because it grows slowly, it extends the season which means fresh pesto later in the year! Very decorative for containers.

Lime

Annual. This sweet and fragrant basil variety is mild tasting. Delicate lance shaped leaves are decorative in pots and pair up with lemon basil for a citrus flavored patch. Great for using in desserts where you don't want an overpowering basil taste. Basil will flower and produce seed without continual pinching. Keep the tops pinched out, use them in your dressing for dinner and encourage the plants to branch nicely in the meantime.

Osmin

Annual. This is a fast growing dark maroon purple basil developed in Switzerland. Can be used as a beautiful ornamental in containers that double as pinching basil for a spot of flavor with dinner. Makes flavorful dark pesto and is wonderful for vinaigrette. Basil is also great for teas to soothe colds or sore throats.

Pistou

Annual. This beautiful small leaved basil grows in a compact form that is perfect for containers or even a kitchen windowsill. Spicy taste is great for a garnish but also bold enough for making pesto for a special dish. Keep flowers picked to boost leaf production all summer long. Let bloom at the end of the season just before your last harvest to feed late foraging bees.

Rosie

Annual. Rosie is an improved form of 'Rubin' with strong, upright stems. Intense purple red leaves and a mild delicate basil flavor combine for a winning choice for those who are not fond of the stronger basil tastes. Keep the lavender flowers pinched out and watch this plant bush out for you.

Thai

Annual. Strong licorice-anise flavor wonderful for home made Pho or stir fry rice dishes. Fine-leaved plant grows 12 to 18 inches with purple stems, seed heads and flowers. Good container plant as well. 60 days to harvest.

Tulsi or Holy Basil

Annual. Holy Basil is a well known sacred plant in the Hindu religion where the leaves and flowers are used in restorative teas. The leaves are sweetly anise scented and fuzzy on smaller plants to 12 inches. Let flowers open fully to use in teas. Then pinch out to keep the plant producing all summer long. The flowers are also attractive to bees.

Catnip

Lemon

Herbaceous perennial. Heirloom. This catnip is a "bit" more demure than its non-lemony family member. Still, give catnip room to shine and watch it bring in loads of many different pollinators all summer long. Attractive to cats as well. Beautiful blue flowers adorn the light green leaves. Use the leaf for tea which provides relaxing benefits. Likes well drained soil.

Catnip

Herbaceous perennial. This long-lived herb is used in gardens and landscapes. The leaves are used in salads, sauces, teas, and soups. By the way, cats love it too! (So plant lots!) If you have problems with cats using your beds as litter boxes, plant some catnip on the border and your garden will become a sacred ground rather than a dumping ground!

Cedronella

Balm of Gilead

Herbaceous tender perennial plant from the mint family. Grows in sun to part shade. Used fresh or dried in tea, this plant has an aroma reminiscent of cedar an unusual addition to any herb or veggie garden. Grows to 2-3' with delicate pink flowers in summer.

Chamomile

German

Annual. Re-seed readily in the garden. Ferny green foliage with tiny, apple-scented, white daisy-like flowers bloom spring through fall. Flowers are harvested for use in teas, baths and hair rinses to bring out blonde highlights. An excellent companion plant in the vegetable garden. A tea of chamomile applied to seedlings is said to prevent damping-off disease.

Roman

Annual. Low growing herb that can double as a groundcover in your garden. This Chamomile is loved for its medicinal properties in the sunny yellow eyed, white petaled flowers. Thrives in dry and sandy soil - blooms in late spring.

Chervil

Anthriscus cerefolium

Herbaceous perennial. Chervil grows to a height of 20 inches with a spread off about 8 inches. It blooms in mid-summer, producing flat umbels of tiny white flowers. The entire plant is edible and tastes reminiscent of celery. It goes with many dishes, and you can use the hollow stems as straws! It has become one of the classic herbs used in French cookery.

Chives

Garden Chives

Herbaceous perennial. A member of the onion family, this compact perennial makes a great addition to potted combinations and to intersperse in the vegetable garden. Placed well it can be an efficient attractor for beneficial insects through its early summer bloom time. The mild flavored leaves are wonderful for clipping and adding as a garnish on your summer meals. The flowers can be used too if you can bear to cut them off!

Garlic Chives

Herbaceous perennial. A flat-leaved variety of chives with the rich flavor of garlic. Attractive white flowers and leaves are edible. Good for attracting pollinators.

Cilantro

Calypso

Annual. This super leafy, slow bolting cilantro will keep you happily fed with extended summer harvests. Grows to about a foot high and a little wider, loves the sun and is a great choice to tuck into pockets in the veggie garden. Plant starts and follow with seed in other pockets to keep the harvest rolling. Use the cut and come again approach to keep it producing but don't be afraid to let a few go to flower! The flowers are magnets for parasitoid wasps which will take care of the aphids in your garden. The seeds that develop are coriander and are delicious to collect to use for cold weather curries and holiday baking.

Confetti

Annual. This variety of cilantro imparts a more subtle flavor to your salsas and burritos than other types. Harvest quick growing greens for or let it go to seed and collect some for your own coriander. Leave some to regrow multiple crops. The flowers are attractive to pollinators.

Cruiser

Annual. A cilantro with a tidy, upright growth form with strong stems and large fragrant leaves. Bolt resistant. Mix and match with other varieties for a slightly different harvest season. Let some flower and attract beneficial insects to the garden. Harvest seeds for Coriander.

Santo

Annual. Both seed (coriander) and leaves (cilantro) are used in numerous cuisines from around the world. Often associated with Mexican dishes, this strong scented herb grows out with flat, toothed leaves for chopping into salsas and other preparations. Easy to grow and tolerant of cooler conditions.

Comfrey

Symphytum officinale

Herbaceous perennial. Comfrey is used today in lip balms and topical creams due to its healing properties. In the garden comfrey is valued as a biomass crop because it can be cut to the ground several times a year and the large leaves are an excellent mulch or compost addition. Comfrey is very difficult to remove once established and can reseed easily. Comfrey is best planted in an area of the garden that is rarely used like the back fence or near the garbage cans!

Curry Plant

Helichrysum italicum

Woody evergreen perennial. Grows to 2' with tiny, yellow flowers in summer. Curry plant is not considered a culinary herb, as it does not taste as good as it smells. When brushed, the leaves release a strong curry scent, reminiscent of your favorite curry dishes! Extremely drought tolerant.

Dill

Bouquet

Annual. This graceful annual grows to 2 feet tall and is covered in insect attracting umbels of yellow flowers. Use the heavenly scented leaves in fresh summer recipes. Large flower heads will net you abundant seeds for pickling later in the season. Plant in well drained organic soil.

Fernleaf

Annual. Great herb for fish! Use the entire plant. Attracts ladybugs and hover flies to the garden. Short-lived annual. Save the seed or allow to self sow in the garden for future plantings.

Hercules

Annual. A tall variety of dill that produces lots of fresh greens and seed for a summer's worth of potato salads, pickling and just smelling fantastic in the garden. The blooms will attract a variety of pollinators and beneficial insects. Parasitoid wasps are especially attracted to plants in this family with their umbrella shaped flowers and will make short work of any aphids you have in the garden.

Epazote

Dysphania ambrosioides

Annual. Epazote is native to Central and South America and popular used in Mexican dishes. A savory herb said to relieve some of the 'gassy' properties of beans if thrown in the pot while cooking. Can also be used as a vermifuge. Leaves dry well for winter use. Grows up to 3' tall and is considered an annual in our climate.

Hops

Mixed Varieties

Deciduous perennial vine growing to 25' annually. Hops come in all types of varieties good for flavoring homemade beer or for making a relaxing cup of tea. Variety choices matter for the goal of your flavor profile goals - some are good for bittering and some for bright aromas. Grow on a vertical frame, up a pole, along a fence line, in pots and up the edge of your porch where you get plenty of sunshine. Harvest when fully formed and sticky.

Horehound

Marrubium vulgare

Perennial. This European, N. African and SW Asian native grows wild on the roadside to about two feet in height. Naturalized in parts of the U.S. too. Related to mint, it has gray and wooly leaves. Great for making tea with dried leaves. Also wonderful to use in making hard candies which can double as cough drops when needed. Slightly bitter and minty, horehound has been used medicinally for centuries to flavor honey or cough drops. Will tolerate poor soil and drying out though always keep an eye during the summer heat to make sure it is faring well.

Hyssop

Hyssopus officinalis

Woody evergreen perennial. This decorative and long-lasting herb has been widely used since ancient times. The plant grows 2 feet tall and spreads about a foot. The purple-blue flowers are about an inch ¼ inch long and are carried in long, narrow spikes. All parts of the plant give off a strong aroma. Leaves have a slightly bitter, minty taste. A few leaves can be used in savory dishes such as rich stews and in marinades. Flowers can be used as an attractive garnish and in salads.

Lavender - English

Hidcote Blue

Woody evergreen perennial. Hidcote Blue is an improved strain of the classic Hidcote - one of the most well known English Lavenders growing around the world. Flower spikes are dark purple and bear a very sweet scent. Compact in size to 1 foot tall by 2 feet wide - sometimes a little larger. Beloved of bees and other pollinators. Stand back and let this bloom this summer! English lavender is great for drying and using in potpourris but especially nice for cooking. Harvest in the tight bud stage to dry as flowers.

Munstead

Woody evergreen perennial. The classic English variety, this is a great lavender to use for dry flowers and herbal concoctions. Compact in nature with small leaves, Munstead flowers early and is very aromatic. Plant in loose, well-drained soil in full sun.

Lavender - French

Grosso

Woody evergreen perennial. A popular variety with fat flower spikes on long stems makes this choice great for dried flower arrangements. With its mounding and spreading form it makes a fragrant and attractive hedge around the vegetable garden. Highly attractive to pollinators and other beneficial insects. All lavenders appreciate good drainage.

Goodwin Creek

Woody evergreen perennial. Large, gray-green fuzzy foliage on a rather large plant which reaches 3' x 4' at maturity. Blooms freely; long lavender wands carry small, very dark purple flowers for a long period in the summer!

Provence

Woody evergreen perennial. One of the most popular lavenders, this long spiked, long flowered beauty is perfect for making wands. Strips easily from the stem for collecting flowers for sachets .Long bloom time through mid-summer. Highly attractive to pollinators and other beneficial insects. Interplant into your vegetable beds as a permanent planting.

Lavender - Spanish

New Madrid Purple

Woody evergreen perennial. Compact Spanish type - purple flowers with pink bracts and a delicious scent. Bees love them, butterflies love them, and so will you. Trim the flowers as they fade to keep blooms coming. Great for cut flowers.

Otto Quast

Woody evergreen perennial. This lavender is hardier than most of the other Spanish varieties. The adorable flower stalks have an unusual bract with a closed 'cob'-like look and a few open flowers bursting from the top. The fragrance is not as powerful as other types, but the charming flowers make up for it. All lavenders appreciate good drainage.

Lemon Balm

Melissa officinalis

Herbaceous perennial. Wonderful lemon-scented herb used in teas or fresh bouquets. Attracts beneficial insects and is a must for the organic garden. Spreads by underground runners and is best grown where it can be contained! Make sure to cut back the plant after flowering but before the seed matures to prevent reseeding.

Lemon Grass

Cymbopogon flexuosus

Tender perennial - bring inside for winter or start over next summer. Lemongrass is an ingredient often used in southeast Asian and Indian recipes. Grows vigorously in full sun, but is not frost tolerant. The long blades can reach 3' tall in a season and are really stunning in a container planting. Oddly enough, lemon grass is very popular with cats who like to chew on the leaves.

Licorice

Glycyrrhiza glabra

Tender perennial. Licorice grows into a tall shrub in the garden - reaching 4 feet in height. Place it where you can enjoy its beautiful compound leaves and lavender-blue flowers. To harvest the roots allow it to establish well first and then once there is a good root clump the roots are harvested in the fall. Prefers full sun and rich, well drained soils.

Lovage

Levisticum officinale

Herbaceous perennial. With a flavor much like celery, lovage makes a dramatic impact in the garden with its glossy green leaves. Umbel-shaped flowers bloom mid summer. Seeds can be dried and used like celery seed. This perennial herb grows in both full sun to part shade to 5'. Lovage is one of the most versatile and under-utilized herbs in the kitchen. Leaves can flavor stocks, hollow stems make cool straws for Bloody Marys and seeds are great for adding flavor to pickles! Plus, it grows well in the marginal, semi-shady parts of the garden and blends well with ornamentals and edibles.

Marjoram

Golden Upright Marjoram

Semi-Woody Perennial. Grows to 12", slowly spreading by creeping roots and stems. Upright growth with bright, golden leaves and white and mauve flowers which add a splash of color to the herb garden or perennial landscape. The scent and flavor are not as strong as sweet marjoram. Plant in well-drained soil in full sun.

Sweet

Semi-Woody Perennial. Grows to 12", slowly spreading by creeping roots and stems. Marjoram is sometimes overlooked as an important culinary herb. With a flavor similar to oregano but much sweeter and subtler, it can be used in similar dishes. Very good with fish and meats. Its subtle flavor can be lost with cooking, so add to dishes towards the end of cooking time.

Marshmallow

Althaea officinalis

Perennial. A member of the Malvaceae family, marshmallow is in good company with other mallows in the garden like Hibiscus, hollyhock and common mallows. Grows tall and shrublike to four feet and sports hibiscus shaped flowers from the leaf junctions. The flowers are a lovely pale pink. Tolerates wet soils but also is tolerant of drying out. Keep watered in hot and dry weather. Harvest leaves prior to flowering. Roots can be harvested to make your own marshmallows!

Mint

Apple

Herbaceous perennial. Apple mint has a pleasant, fruity taste and is sweeter than other mints. It has wrinkled, round leaves and can grow to a height of 2 feet. Grows best in rich, moist soil and partial shade. Lilac and cream flowers appear in late summer. Used mainly for culinary purposes and its milder taste makes it ideal for use in fruit salads and fruit cups and punches. Dried apple mint leaves retain their scent and make excellent potpourri.

Chocolate Peppermint

Herbaceous perennial. Bronzy foliage with a surprising, fresh chocolate scent and flavor. 24" tall, partial shade to full sun. Mint should be potted unless you want it to naturalize.

Julep

Herbaceous perennial. Spreading perennial with green leaves and spearmint scent and flavor. Excellent for making summer mint juleps and mojitos! Attracts beneficial insects. Spreads by underground runners and should be planted where it can be contained.

Kentucky Colonel

Herbaceous perennial. An improved spearmint variety that is great for summer coolers and cocktails. Try a plant of 'Mojito', 'Julep' and 'Kentucky Colonel' and fine tune which works best for which drink! Keep in a pot unless you want a large stand of mint in your garden. Grows to two feet tall and wide and makes a lovely fragrant plant for a front porch entry where you can brush against it.

Lime

Herbaceous perennial. Bright green leaves and purple flowers feature a pronounced lime scent and flavor. Can be used to enhance any recipe calling for lime - try some blended in your margarita or add some to your next Thai curry. Prefers moist soil and part shade.

Mojito

Herbaceous perennial. The quintessential mojito mint with a sweet, warm flavor. Vigorous plants with bright white flowers are great for large potted gardens. Keep moist for best growth.

Moroccan Mint

Herbaceous perennial. A variety of peppermint especially good for tea. Also great used in Mediterranean and Moroccan dishes like couscous, tagines and yogurt sauces.

Peppermint Candy

Herbaceous perennial. A spreading perennial with mint-flavored leaves. Dense clusters of white flowers in summer. Preferred variety for peppermint flavoring in cooking. Spreads by underground runners and should be planted where it can be contained.

Pineapple Variegated

Herbaceous perennial. Stiff stems grow to 20 - 30" tall, leaves are green with white markings. Leaves have the faint scent of pineapple. This variety is less vigorous than other mints and will still spread.

Spearmint

Herbaceous perennial. Sweet-smelling and prolific, spearmint has a wide range of uses and is preferred for Mojitos and Mint Juleps. Excellent landscape plant with pink flowers. Spreads aggressively. Attracts beneficial insects.

Yerba Buena

Herbaceous perennial. Vigorous growing mint that is best containerized in a large pot to give it room to fill out. Harvest the abundant leaves in the summer to use in cool drinks, cocktails and making fresh ice cream. Mint also has tummy soothing properties and when let bloom will attract butterflies and bees. Leaves can be dried to use in neck warming pillows or in sachets. Toss a fresh cup of leaves into a hot bath for a lovely aroma.

Strawberry

Herbaceous perennial. Strawberry mint is a delightfully compact plant with small crinkled leaves that makes an attractive container plant on a semi shaded doorstep or in a hanging basket mixed with edible flowers. Mint loves regular watering and to be kept out of hot afternoon sun. The leaves have a fruity scent and flavor. Try it in iced teas or ice cream!

Motherwort

Leonurus cardiaca

Annual. Make space for a Motherwort plant in your herbal garden. This perennial, mint family relative can grow to five feet tall and two feet wide and makes a striking statement with its oak shaped, alternating leaves. Flowers appear in whorls amongst the leaves at the tops of the stems, a pale pink-purple in summer months. Fresh or dried flowers can be used to make a tea, added as a flavoring to beer or as a flavoring in split pea and lentil soups. Prefers semi-moist and partially shady garden beds.

Oregano

Cuban

Woody evergreen perennial. This oregano is not in the same genus as the more familiar oreganos we use in our kitchens but is still related and used in similar ways. Cuban oregano is a fleshy, almost succulent plant with strong oregano flavor and scent. Great for containers and hanging baskets as it has a trailing habit. Can be tender in our area so bring indoors as a houseplant for the winter or plant in a very sheltered area in your garden to overwinter. Grows to 18 inches tall. Use on pizza and in any Mediterranean dishes.

Golden

Woody evergreen perennial. Oregano is a great plant to incorporate into your landscape because it serves as a fragrant and colorful groundcover. Grows well in rockery areas where the golden leaves can contrast with other low growers like creeping thyme or phlox. Pale lavender flowers attract pollinators and are great for dried arrangements. Mild spicy flavor is

Greek

Woody evergreen perennial. True oregano with a wonderful spicy flavor. Tiny white flowers and is very hardy when established. Great plant for attracting beneficial insects!

Hot & Spicy

Woody evergreen perennial. Spiciest of the oreganos sold today. The oil of this plant has been used as a disinfectant, a food preservative, and a body scent in ancient times. 'Hot and spicy' grows to 24 inches and does best in full sun with well draining-soil. Good dried or used fresh.

Italian

Woody evergreen perennial. Italian oregano is a bit spicier than Greek Oregano, with sweet overtones of its cousin, Sweet Marjoram. Plant strategically in the veggie garden to bring in the pollinators.

Puerto Rican

Woody evergreen perennial. Sometimes tender in severe cold snaps but easy to grow as an annual each summer. Similar to Cuban Oregano in both look and flavor, both are *Plectranthus* and not the same plant as Mediterranean oreganos. Use fresh or dry, strong flavor goes well with meats, tomato based sauces, and in cheese dishes.

Parsley

Curled Forest Green

Biennial. Curly leafy low growing parsley with deep green leaves. Shiny stems. Very nutritious and tasty - great to add to smoothies, as topping over casseroles, as an additional green in salads. Will often live for multiple years, reemerging after bloom if you keep it from going to seed. Appreciates some protection from hot sun.

Italian Dark Green

Biennial. Flat and deeply cut leaves on stocky stems. Aromatic flavor makes it the best parsley for drying. It grows best in full sun and well-drained soil. Expect this plant to reach at least 20 inches tall and as a biennial look for flowers and seed in the second year. You can let it self sow for continuous crops over the years.

Mitsuba - Japanese parsley

Annual. Sun to part shade. A flavorful parsley resembling Italian flat leaf parsley. Leaves are used in flower arrangements and are said to bring good luck. Reseeds easily in the garden.

Patchouli

Pogostemon cablin

Tender woody perennial. Grows about 2 feet tall with fuzzy green leaves and purple and white blooms from tall erect stems. A member of the mint family, this spicy fragrant herb does well in containers where you can keep it regularly watered. Can bring it indoors in the fall to keep it safe from our winter rains and cold.

Rau Ram

Vietnamese Coriander

Perennial. Vietnamese coriander is a perennial herb used in Southeast Asian cooking. Other English names for the herb include Vietnamese mint, Vietnamese cilantro, Cambodian mint and hot mint. Grows best in sunny, damp conditions. The top of its leaf is dark green, with chestnut-colored spots while the leaf's bottom is burgundy red.

Rosemary

Arp

Woody evergreen perennial. Rosemary loves sun, well-drained soil and works well in areas of low water use. Arp has airy green-gray foliage with pale blue flowers that bloom mid-summer to fall. A classic culinary variety. Slight lemon flavor to leaves. Grows to 4 ft.

Barbeque

Woody evergreen perennial. Rosemary is very upright, can grow to 4-6 ft tall, but takes to pruning well. Great rosemary flavor, use the stalks as skewers for grilling. Prefers full sun and well-drained soil. Blooms blue in early spring.

Blue Spire

Woody evergreen perennial. Interesting, upright, light grey-green foliage that looks great in a container. Sun, well drained soil, low water use. Blossoms are blue, appear early in the spring and last for long periods of time.

Huntington Carpet

Woody evergreen perennial. A beautiful, low growing variety, 1' tall and up to 8' wide. Excellent in rockeries and containers due to the cascading growth habit. Striking dark blue flowers in spring set off glossy green foliage. Full sun and well drained soil.

Severn Sea

Woody evergreen perennial. Rosemary is a champion in the garden for pollinators and produces more tasty dried leaves than you will know what to do with. 'Severn Sea' cascades from an upright plant. Blooming from December through June, this is one of the earliest flowers available to Anna's hummingbirds and awakening queen bumble bees. Place it where it can grow to full size, trim back annually and share the spoils. If you choose to pot it up get a really big pot.

Tuscan Blue

Woody evergreen perennial. Rosemary loves sun, well drained soil and is good for areas of low water use. Blossoms are a delicate pale blue and start blooming in the winter. Fine leaves with a distinct pine scent. Hardy to 10 degrees F. Use cut stems to surround a roasting chicken, add dried leaves to herb blends to season a plethora of dishes.

Rue

Ruta graveolens

Perennial. Rue is an aromatic perennial plant native to southern Europe and northern Africa and commonly cultivated in Europe and the U.S., sometimes escaping to grow wild locally. The branched, blue green stem bears finely divided leaves and small yellow flowers appear from June to August. It has a long history of medicinal and magical use, however, it should be used with caution because it can be very potent. Should not be used during pregnancy.

Sage

Berggarten

Woody evergreen perennial. Known all over the world as a choice culinary strain, Berggarten is a vigorous low-growing sage. Each 12 inch plant will reward you with large blue-gray leaves and an intoxicating aroma.

Dwarf

Woody evergreen perennial. A petite little plant with prolific blooms, this sage will stay 2' by 2'. It has the same flavor as garden sage. Grow in full sun and well drained soil.

Garden

Woody evergreen perennial. With its lemony-camphor fragrance and delicate blue flowers, *Salvia officinalis* is an important part of any kitchen garden. A shrubby evergreen perennial, it has strongly textured velvety gray green leaves that last all year long. Grow in well draining soil in full sun. Stems become woody as the plant matures.

Golden

Brightly variegated gold and green leaves, hardy and compact plant to 18". Use as a culinary and an ornamental plant. Hardy to 20F, appreciates great drainage, full sun.

Pineapple

Tender perennial. Sun, well-drained soil, mulch in winter. This showy sage is laden with beautiful scarlet flowers in the fall that attract hummingbirds. The velvety green leaves give off a distinct pineapple scent when rubbed. Ht 2ft - 3ft.

Pineapple Variegated

Tender perennial. Sun, well-drained soil, mulch in winter. The velvety green and white variegated leaves give off a distinct pineapple scent when rubbed. Ht 2ft - 3ft. This showy sage is laden with beautiful scarlet flowers in the fall that attract hummingbirds.

Purple

Purple sage is a shrubby perennial that will grace your garden for many years to come. Use as you would common garden sage, this choice offers a lovely purple tint to the leaves, especially the new growth, that makes a lovely contrast among other green plants. Prefers dry soils and little fussing. Place in a sunny spot for year round harvest. Great used as a flavoring for soups, roasted turkey and other fowl and with pumpkin ravioli. Let parts of the plant flower to attract beneficial insects and cut some for lovely bedside bouquets.

Tricolor

Tricolor sage has somewhat broad leaves with green centers with white and purple edges. Same growth habit and taste as common sage. Full sun.

Salad Burnet

Sanguisorba minor

Herbaceous perennial. Lovely lacy plant with cucumber-flavored leaves, salad burnet is a must for any salad! This low-growing herb has unusual red ball-shaped flowers. Salad burnet is drought tolerant once established and grows in full sun to part shade.

Savory

Winter

Woody evergreen perennial cousin to summer savory with thicker and shinier leaves. Flavor is more pungent and biting. Essential oils are antifungal, anti-bacterial, and antioxidant. Small, white flowers mid-summer.

Summer

Annual. Grows up to 18 inches tall. It has small bronze-green leaves and very small white or lavender flowers. Summer savory is sweeter and has a more delicate aroma than winter savory. Summer savory is a characteristic ingredient in herbes de Provence, it is also widely used as a seasoning for grilled meats and barbecues, as well as in stews and sauces.

Scented Geranium

Mixed Varieties

Annual. Scented geraniums are one of our favorite plants to offer at our annual sale. The plethora of leaf shapes, flower sizes and colors and the absolute beauty of the fragrances make this one of our most loved. From rose to lemon, to mint and chocolate, the smells are intoxicating. Place them in pots where you come and go from your house so you can smell them as you brush against them. Use them for tea, to flavor jelly, or candy, or to decorate your sweet baked goods.

Shiso

Green

Annual. Green shiso grows to 3 feet high, is bushy and belongs in the mint family. It prefers well-drained, moist soil and at least half day sun. The leaf taste is a mix of mint and basil, with a lemon flavor too. Shiso leaves can be sliced very thin and added fresh to salads or used as a flavoring in fresh pickles. Try them in fried rice too!

Red

Annual. Used traditionally to color umeboshi, pickled plum, this bright red leaf can also be used to make a summer juice. Full of anthocyanins, calcium and iron, add them to a soup or wrap them around home made sushi for some home made health. You can also use the flower buds and seeds.

Britton

Annual. Sporting beautiful green leaves with red undersides, this shiso is a must for sushi wraps and garnishes. The plants and leaves themselves are larger than the red and green varieties. Shiso has a lovely combo scent and taste of mint mixed with basil. Try using the leaves as additions to fresh pickles vegetables too. The flowers are also edible and spicy.

Sorrel

Blood Veined

Annual. Open pollinated. Red veined, smaller leaved, and annual version of the beloved tart and bright tasting French and Garden sorrels. Add fresh to a summer salad, choosing fresh young leaves for best texture. Can be grown easily indoors too.

French

Herbaceous perennial. French Sorrel grows in a leafy clump that gets larger over time. Also reseeds freely. It has a faint taste of lemon and is full of vitamin C, A, and iron. A perennial, it grows to 18 inches and has medium-green, thick, large spinach-like leaves. French Sorrel likes moist, but well draining soils and will grow in part shade as well as full sun.

Garden

Herbaceous perennial. Large-leafed greens have a very sour, lemon flavor. Delicious in soups and salads, high in vitamin C. Grows well in sun or part shade. Very drought tolerant. An all-time kid favorite!

Stevia

Stevia rebaudiana

Annual. Also called Sweet Herb of Paraguay, Stevia is probably the sweetest plant in the world. It contains steviaside, which is 300 times sweeter than sugar without the calories! Perfect for iced tea, or leaves can be dried, ground, and added to recipes. Full sun, tender perennial, mulch in winter.

Tarragon

French

Herbaceous Perennial. Tarragon, a member of the Asteraceae family, is closely allied to Wormwood. Cultivated for the use of its aromatic leaves in seasoning, salads, etc., and in the preparation of Tarragon vinegar. It grows to a height of about 2 feet and has long, narrow leaves.

Thyme

English

Woody evergreen perennial. Essential to every herb garden, this small, upright shrub is the classic culinary variety. Strongly aromatic in the garden, its flowers attract many honeybees. Full sun, sharp drainage.

English Companion

Woody evergreen perennial. English thyme is a classic in the culinary garden growing to a foot tall. Great for aroma in the garden as well and a powerful pollinator plant. Use thyme with a blend of other summer herbs or single it out as a savory addition to creamed butter for fresh roasted corn. Trim flowers after fully bloomed in order to keep your pollinators happy.

English Tabor

Woody evergreen perennial. A lovely mounding thyme with wide fresh green leaves. Grows to a foot high and wide. Sweet and savory flavor, milder than other thyme varieties. Beautiful pink flowers in the summer attract tons of beneficial insects - place it near your tomatoes for bringing in the bumblebees! Thyme is great for all savory dishes, as an herbal element to add to ice cream, makes a great tea that has antimicrobial properties.

Faustinoi

Woody evergreen perennial. One of the sweetest and spiciest flavored thymes, preferred in French cuisine. Compact form with upright stems covered in tiny deep green leaves and pink flowers. Bees and butterflies love thyme so let it flower fully for pollinators. Plant a few just for harvest too, which is best done before the flowers fully form. Thyme is used in soups and stews, and to flavor meats and veggies and potatoes. Bon appetit!

Foxley

Woody evergreen perennial. This is a delightful variegated variety which boasts rounded green leaves edged in creamy white. Cool temperatures bring pink out in the variegation. Lovely delicate flowers attract pollinators. Use in savory dishes or add to desserts for a pungent kick.

French

Woody evergreen perennial. French thyme is a classic for the garden, with small leaves and a loose draping growth habit, it grows to 12 inches tall and wide. Dainty pinkish flowers cover the plant in summer and attract beneficial insects, and fairies! In medieval France thyme plants were intentionally planted as homes for fairies in the garden. One of the most versatile herbs to cook with, thyme goes well with cultural dishes from around the world.

French Narrow Leaf

Woody evergreen perennial. French Narrow Leaf Thyme grows to 16 inches tall in a sunny garden setting and is clothed in medium sized sweetly fragrant green leaves. A perennial in the garden bed, it blooms in late spring, showing off delicate lavender flowers which bees and other beneficials love.

German

Woody evergreen perennial. Great culinary variety with small leaves and solid green color. Flowers are tiny and pink and can also be eaten. Use the flowers as you would the leaves for that pungent and savory taste. Let some bloom out to attract pollinators too.

Golden Thyme

Woody evergreen perennial. Golden thyme is a lovely landscape addition as well as a culinary must for the herb garden. Mounding form adds interest to a sun filled shrub bed and the golden leaves glow in the garden. Add to the front edges of a walkway, or intersperse in your raised beds for a powerful pollinator attractor. Pink flowers cover the plant in the summer. Grows to 6 inches tall and spreads wider.

Lavender

Woody evergreen perennial. This delicate little thyme plant has very small leaves and grows to about three inches tall. Great for bordering walkways in the garden or edging your raised beds. Also nice in a rockery. Deep green with masses of pink blooms in the summer. Clean and fresh thyme and lavender scent. Use tiny sprigs to flavor lemonade or iced tea.

Lemon Variegated

Woody evergreen perennial. This sweet thyme boasts variegated leaves on a spreading low growing plant. Lemony fragrance add to the flavor and go well with fish and fowl. Snip a few sprigs for a fresh thyme tea, add to salads or mix into homemade ice cream. Evergreen leaves shine in the winter garden.

Lime

Woody evergreen perennial. Growing to a low mounding height of six inches, Lime Thyme can double as a groundcover in your perennial edible garden. It has a delicate citrus overtone and is an ace at attracting beneficials and bees to its light pink flowers in the late spring.

Orange

Woody evergreen perennial. Orange Thyme is a small leaved, woody perennial herb that is indispensable in any garden, edible or not! Great for a sunny rockery, interspersed in your raised beds among the veggies or tucked into a pot on a sunny porch step. This little beauty will deliver abundant harvest for your savory and sweet meals as well as attract beneficial insects in droves to your garden. The taste is a little sweeter than garden or German thyme.

Silver

Woody evergreen perennial. This is a lovely variegated thyme that provides a bright a crisp accent in your garden. Add to shrub borders, veggie raised beds or tuck into a pot on a sunny patio. Trim the ends to add to roasting veggies or a fall soup from this evergreen plant.

Valerian

Valeriana officinalis

Herbaceous perennial with ferny leaves and white flower heads with a pink tinge. The flowers have a nice smell, but the rest of the plant smells fetid. The roots are used to make a tea effective for insomnia. Valerian doesn't taste good by itself, so mix it with a lemony tea.

Pollinator Plants

All Heal / Self Heal

Self Heal / All Heal

Herbaceous perennial. I bet you thought this was a weed! Well for many of us this is a useful, self sowing groundcover that loves moist garden beds and lawns and tolerates drought and heat. Versatile! Sporting spiked bright purple-blue flowers, like other mint relatives, Prunella is an attractive groundcover for places where you want the garden to be a little wild. Used in traditional medicines around the world. A favorite of local bees from native short tongued bees to honeybees.

Amaranth

Coral Fountain

Annual. Open pollinated. Growing anywhere from 3 to 5 feet tall, 'Coral Fountain' has large tassels of coral pink flowers that cascade from the stem. Great for cut flowers, also edible seeds if left to bear in the fall. The leaves are also edible and good to add to salads but this great flower will be a powerful pollinator asset in your garden. Combine with 'Love Lies Bleeding' for a fantastic display.

Arnica

Arnica

Herbaceous perennial. Hardy in the northwest but clumps will die back over the winter and replot the next spring. Beautiful golden flowers on long stems are potent pollinator attractors. Prefers some moisture and does well in acidic northwest soils. Native to alpine areas - in the lowlands be sure to keep it out of super sunny areas.

Aster

Hall's

Perennial. Northwest native plant. Spreads by rhizomes so place where you want to create a natural garden or out on a parking strip where it is confined. This perennial is a late season bloomer and great for butterflies and late season bees. White daisy flowers cover a green leaved plant that grows 2 feet or more tall. Drought tolerant once established.

Bee Balm

Wild Bergamot

Herbaceous perennial. This mint family member is a wonderful pollinator plant, especially good for butterflies and hummingbirds. Growing to three feet tall and wide, try adding it to your perennial borders where it will mix comfortably with its multiple stems amongst your other summer blooms. Said to be deer and rabbit resistant. Makes a wonderful tea.

Catmint

Nepeta sibirica

Woody evergreen perennial. Ornamental, hardy, aromatic perennial sub-shrub. Upright, branching long-blooming catmint with gray-green foliage and six-inch blue flower spikes from May to August, 36 in tall. Extremely drought tolerant once established. Cats don't like catmint as much as catnip, but they do like it.

Checkermallow

Sidalcea hendersonii

Herbaceous perennial. Native dark pink flower - commonly found in wetland areas. Include in boggy parts of the garden or in pots where you can control the moisture levels. Loves sun. Can grow to 5 feet high when in flower. Flowers all summer long. Beautiful blended with other moist soil loving perennials. Attractive to bees, butterflies and other beneficial insects.

Sidalcea oregana

Herbaceous perennial. Another northwest perennial sure to fire up the ante on your pollinator and beneficial insect garden. Tuck these into edible beds, your landscape or pot up on the patio. Grows in moist meadows or hillsides. Can even tolerate seasonal flooding. Tall flowering scape with delicate pink mallow flowers. Favorite of bumblebees.

Common Monkeyflower

Monkeyflower

Half-Hardy Annual. This little wildflower has been a longtime native of SE Seattle at the Rainier Beach Urban Farm and Wetlands. It loves moist soils, spreads by seeds and blooms with cheery yellow faces all summer long. Prefers a little shade. Over a warm winter Mimulus will live over and establish more quickly the following spring. Bees and hummingbirds frequent this little charmer.

Common Woolly Sunflower

Eriophyllum lanatum

Woody evergreen perennial. Small shrubby perennial native, growing to 3 feet tall but often staying lower in the landscape. It has wooly stems with linear leaves topped with yellow daisy type flowers. Tolerates rocky soils and is drought tolerant once established. Great for rock gardens and sunny slopes. Attractive to many beneficial insects, especially butterflies.

Coreopsis

Li'l Bang Starlight

Perennial. This dwarf beauty grows to 12 inches tall and is covered in starry shaped daisy flowers in white with yellow cone centers surrounded by deep rosy pink. Stunning. Loose form makes a great look for wildflower gardens but also works well in shrub borders or perennial gardens. Add to a raised bed to bring the pollinators right to your fruiting plants. Also perfect for container arrangements. Blooms all summer. Loved by butterflies and other pollinators.

Mixed

Perennial. A member of the large family of Daisy plants, Coreopsis is a stunner with striping and two tone flower petals in red, gold, brown, white, and yellow. As its family members do also, Coreopsis attracts butterflies, but also our native solitary bees. Try a swath in your perennial bed, add to the veggie garden troughs, or place in pots in sunny areas. Also good for cut flowers.

Cosmos

Mixed

Annual. Cosmos come in many colors, from white to pink to rose to yellow. Tall and graceful or short and lacy, they are graceful pollinator plants and double as good cutting flowers. They are edible too! Put them where they have room to spread their stems and intermingle with other summer flowers.

Double Click

Annual. A great mix of double and single flowers in shades of pink to carmine and white. Keep dead flowers trimmed out to get continuous bloom. Grows to 4 feet in height with a 1 1/2 foot spread. Great for adding to perennial gardens or for tucking into spaces around your fruiting vegetable plants for pollinator attraction. Lovely cut flower too.

Drumstick Flower

Craspedia globosa

Tender Perennial. Sporting very rounded and cheery yellow flower heads, Craspedia is a joy to add to your pollinator bed. Growing to about 2 1/2 feet in height they blend well with other branching summer flowers like cosmos and strawflower. Can be cut as a dried flower too. Hailing from "down under" and known there as 'Billy Buttons' this is also a good drought tolerant add to your garden.

Echinacea

Purple Cone

Herbaceous perennial. Grows to 3' high and 2' wide. A must for any garden, this herbaceous perennial puts on a showy display of purple daisy-like flowers July - October. Attracts bees, butterflies, and other beneficial insects. Drought tolerant and disease resistant.

Elecampane

Inula helenium

Herbaceous Perennial. Another beloved daisy family members, elecampane is a 4-5 foot tall, branching, golden beauty. Large leaves and smaller flowers but somewhat sunflower like. Tolerant of many soil types, likes a little bit of shade during the hottest part of the day. Trim down dead foliage in the late fall. Attracts a variety of pollinators; leaf cutter bees love the large leaves.

Elegant Tarweed

Common

Annual. Long blooming - from mid summer to fall! A member of the daisy family the blooms are 2 inches across with multiple bright yellow ray flowers with mahogany edges at the center of the flower. These four foot tall beauties can be combine with tall Cosmos and other bright summer annuals for a spectacular pollinator flower bed.

Farewell to Spring

Clarkia amoena

Annual. Native to western North America. Also known as Godetia. Swaths of this pink or purple and white beauty bathe mountainsides in late spring and early summer in mountain meadows. In your own garden include this gem in your flower beds or tuck into pots along with late flowering spring bulbs. Allow the seed heads to mature and spread into your landscape for a naturalized effect.

Fescue - Roemer's

Festuca roemeri

Perennial native grass, suitable for sunny spots in the garden, rockeries, and on slopes. Grows well in poor soils and is drought tolerant once established. Non-invasive. Can be used as an orchard floor sub for lawn grass - roots penetrate deeply and have symbiotic mycorrhizae. Blue green leaves with open seed head. Provides cover for native bees and other beneficial insects and small birds and mammals.

Feverfew

Golden

Annual. Single white daisy-like flowers are produced all season .Light green leaves make it an attractive edging plant. Rumored to ease the pain of migraine headaches. Prefers full sun. Height 16-24". Attracts ladybugs.

Fringe Cup

Fringe Cup

Herbaceous Perennial. Another saxifrage family beauty, Fringecup is a delightfully fairy like plant in the woodland garden. Don't assume this plant is non-assuming. It is a cheerful presence in spring with its Heuchera like growth and greenish - white to pink FRAGRANT flowers. Self-seeds, especially in open ground but not invasive. Visited by native bees, hummingbirds and other bird species.

Gilia - Bluehead

Gilia capitata

Annual. The sun loving lavender blue flower is a favorite of butterflies. Blooming over a few months it also attracts native bees. The flowers are scented and held over lacy rich green foliage - attractive in your perennial border or in pots on your sunny porch. Grows to 15 inches tall and 12 inches wide. Leave seed heads to self sow and naturalize into your garden. Combine with Clarkia and other self sowing annuals in a wilder section of your garden.

Inside Out Flower

Inside Out Flower

Perennial northwest native - partially deciduous to evergreen. Can grow in full shade or part sun, tolerates dry soil under conifers but cannot go without some summer water to keep in best condition. Increases through underground stems in a slow spread in a native landscape. Tiny white flowers with delicate reflexed petals are fairy like. Related to Oregon Grape and Epimedium. Blends well with other northwest groundcovers to make a verdant forest floor in your garden. Butterfly and moth host plant and deer resistant.

Iris - Oregon

Iris tenax

Perennial. Here is a northwest native plant that can handle a little shade and still provide some lovely blooms for you. Thin leaves in a clump have a pink base with light green blades. Spreading slowly underground to become larger clumps that can be divided over time. Flowers can range from pale purple to a creamy white or yellow and sit just above the leaves. Blooms in late spring through early summer. Very attractive to native pollinators.

Lupine

Broadleaf

Herbaceous perennial. One of our native Lupine that will cheer up your garden in late spring. The lavender blue and white flowers will fade to magenta as they mature. Grows from 2 - 4 feet high and loves the sun. Put it where the light colored flowers will stand out and where the pollinators and hummingbirds can find it!

Mixed Varieties

Perennial. Some lupine are native to Washington State and others are fancier hybrids made to burst out color in the garden. All of them are wonderful pollinator plants. They come in solid colors, brilliant two tones and have a fascinating geometric pattern to the flower. Avoid ingesting lupine unless you are well versed in proper preparation techniques which removes the toxic alkaloids. Also can be problematic if you have a peanut allergy.

Mignonette

Mignonette

Annual. Wafts of spicy-sweet perfume grace the air around the Mignonette each summer. Tall dense creamy white flower spikes bloom all summer long. Good soil, drainage and regular watering will keep them healthy. Grow two to three feet tall. Full of both pollen and nectar, they are a crowd pleaser for pollinators.

Mountain Monardella

Mountain Monardella

Perennial. Native mint family relative with distinctive minty fragrance. Great for rockeries, pollinator gardens, shrub borders. Foliage has toothy gray-green leaves, sometimes tinged purplish. The flowers have showy colorful pink, greenish, or purple bracts with white flowers often also tinged in pink or purple. Also known as Mountain Beebalm or Coyote Mint. Propagates easily but does not run like Mentha species. Beloved of butterflies.

Penstemon

Penstemon ovatus

Woody evergreen perennial. Pacific Northwest mountain native in both the Olympics and Cascades this beauty also grows well in our lowland gardens. When flowering the stalks can reach 30 inches in height and are covered in a dazzling light blue, blue and lavender blended flower. Irresistible to hummingbirds. Blooms from April to June. Keep soil moisture on the dry side - they don't like boggy soils. Deer resistant.

Penstemon serrulatus

Woody evergreen perennial. This lowland PNW native perennial has purple trumpet shaped flowers on 3 foot plants. Tolerates both moist and dry sites, loves sun and will bring many bees and humminbirds into the garden.

Piggyback Plant

Piggyback Plant

Herbaceous Perennial. Another saxifrage family member, with larger leaves than Tellima and larger and taller spires of flowers. Called the 'Piggyback Plant' because it grows plantlets from the base of each leaf, thus looking like they are piggybacking on the larger leaves. The plantlets fall and grow. Used commonly as a houseplant too! Visited by a large assortment of pollinators.

Pincushion Flower

Pincushion Flower

Herbaceous Perennial. This demure two by two foot perennial is a great choice for a mixed border or placing in pots to showcase their beauty all summer. Covered in lavender blue flower; keep deadheaded to keep those blooms coming. Loves the sun, needs regular watering. Very attractive to butterflies.

Safflower

Safflower

Annual. Self seeds in place; to ensure a repeat harvest each year collect a few seeds each fall and sow back directly into the garden after danger of frost has passed. Safflower has bright orange blooms on three foot stalks - place for show. Flower petals and tender young leaves are also edible, good in salad or dry the flower petals as an alternative to saffron for their color. Safflower oil is higher in linoleic acid than olive oil with a high level of monounsaturated oils.

Sage

Tangerine

Tender perennial. Delicious tangerine-scented fuzzy green leaves grow on this upright plant. Similar in growth habit to pineapple sage. Flowers develop later into the season so place it where it will stay nice and warm in the fall. Good for late flying bees.

Texas Hummingbird

Annual. A magnet for hummingbirds, bees and your eyes in the garden! This sage is a fantastic choice for sunny gardens. Brilliant red tubular flowers with darker calyxes combine well with just about any color. Not an edible sage - leave it for the bees and birds.

White Sage

Woody evergreen perennial. Slow growing - might take time to get established. Needs good drainage and a warm microclimate in your garden. Will grow to three feet tall with a spread of five feet or more. Hollow stems can make good homes for native bees which also love its tiny white and lavender flowers in the summer. Place where the plant will not be disturbed so stems are not broken. Southwest native that appreciates a container where you can manage soil conditions. Waxy gray leaves are intensely aromatic and gathered to use for ceremony.

Sea Blush

Plectritis congesta

Annual. Native to the forests and coasts of the Pacific Northwest, Sea Blush is a tough annual that can tolerate both shade and partial sun. Pink blooms cover the plant in late spring and if left to form seed capsules will self seed readily in your garden. In a garden setting where it is pampered a bit it can reach 2 feet in height. In coastal areas where it is more rugged expect a lower growing plant.

Sea Thrift

Armeria maritima

Evergreen perennial. This sweet little perennial spreads slowly in a grassy leaved clump and would make a delightful and well behaved border in your edible garden. The flowers appear in spring and cover the plant in little round pink clusters similar to chive flowers, 6-10 inches tall. Tolerates salty mist. Sea Thrift attracts bees and with its heavy bloom can support lots of pollinator activity.

Stinging Nettle

Stinging Nettle

Herbaceous perennial. Stinging nettle is a familiar northwest forest plant, beloved for nutritious spring greens when it first emerges, and familiar for its potent stinging hairs which inject passersby with a cocktail of itch and rash inducing chemicals. Stinging nettles love sun or part shade conditions, moist ground, and will spread and make large patches in a woodland landscape. Important for several species of northwest butterflies, like the Red Admiral, which use nettle exclusively for rearing their larvae.

Stonecrop - Sedum

Norhwest Native Sedum

Perennial. Groundcover Sedum native to the northwest. All are close growing to the ground, bear stary yellow flowers by mid-summer. Some have red tinged leaves while others are mostly green. Adapted to coastal areas or high mountain rocky landscapes. Low maintenance plants often used on green roof plantings. Great for attracting bumble bees and many butterflies, especially the native elfin species. Also beetles and flies are attracted to the flowers.

Strawberry

Virginia

Perennial. Traiing and ground hugging native strawberry with small and deliciously flavored red fruit. Cheerful little white and yellow centered flowers dot the plants in the late spring. Likes sunny spaces where it can ramble. Let is naturalize and enjoy some sweet treats when you are out working in the garden. Tolerant of drier soil. Attracts butterflies. One of the parents of modern strawberry cultivars.

Woodland

Perennial. Relative of *F. virginiana*, fruits have imbedded seeds unlike the Virginia relative. Native to widespread parts of North America. Can tolerate dry sites and hot sun. Blooms with the dandelions! Alpine strawberry cultivars are derived from this species. Supports moths, butterflies and other pollinating insects. Birds love the fruit.

Beach

Perennial spreading groundcover for sunny areas. Grows up to ten inches in height and spreads by runners. Lovely dark green leaves with silvery undersides. Half inch juicy and flavorful fruits develop after flowering April through June. Don't pamper these little plants - they like sun and sandy soil. Sara Orangetip butterflies are attracted to the flowers and many ground feeding birds eat the fruit.

Strawflowers

Mixed Varieties

Annual. These delightful papery flowers are great for picking and drying for everlasting bouquets. They handle the heat, don't need tons of water, and supply you with color and bloom late into the fall. The colorful part of the flower are bracts, modified leaves, surrounding the real flower where the pollen sits, waiting for pollinators to find. Many pollinators also come for the nectar held at the base of the bracts. Such a wondrous little plant.

Sweet Pea

Mixed Colors

Annual flower. 5 foot vines. Long-blooming fragrant blossoms that are red, salmon, pink, white, lavender, and purple in color. They bloom all summer long and prefer locations in full sun. Long flowering season if grown in full sun and kept dead-headed.

Violet

Pioneer Viola

Perennial. This diminutive yellow flowered violet is native to western North America and found in woodland settings, often along stream banks. Like many other violets this one can reseed and spread. Place where you want the garden to be somewhat wild. The flowers are fragrant, bloom for months and attract Frittilary butterflies.

Early Blue Viola

Perennial. Native to meadows and forests in the west. Grows low and compact, spreading by rhizome and seed to carpet native woodland areas. Mix into shrub borders or rain garden edges - likes damp soil. Very visible to bees, flowering in mid-spring. Edible as well as has medicinal value.

Western Wild Ginger

Ginger - Western Wild

Evergreen Perennial. This Northwest native plant has rounded heart shaped leaves and grows in shady areas as a groundcover. Once it is established it makes a solid carpet of undergrowth which has a spicy ginger fragrance when brushed against. Long tailed purplish flowers are held close to the plant - try it in a pot on your shaded porch where you can see them up close. Likes moist soil. This is a fly pollinated plant!

Western Wild Mint

Mint - Western Wild

Semi Herbaceous Perennial. This is our wild native mint, found growing on stream banks and lake edges. Flowers emerge from tall stems on the plant in various colors of lavender, white, and pink. Intoxicating essential oils perfume the air as you brush by the plant. The fresh or dried leaves are lovely for teas and the flowers are beloved of pollinators and especially native bees. Lady Beetles have been known to find their mates in the emerging mint in the spring.

Wood Betony

Wood Betony

Perennial. This tough but beautiful choice does well in your partially shaded woodland garden where other plants don't tend to have as bright a flower. Grows to a foot tall and tolerates clay soil. Can be used as a tea or let the pink spires of flowers bloom to bring in bees and butterflies.

Yarrow - Pink

Achillea millefolium

Perennial. This is a lovely pink variety that grows like our Western Yarrow native but is blushed with varying shades of pink. Yarrow is a great butterfly attractor and you will often find soldier beetles gathered on the flat flower tops as well. Great for cut flowers too!

Yarrow - Western

Achillea millefolium

Perennial. Creeping perennial herb with feathery leaves and white flowers held in an umbel over the foliage. Pungent fragrance can aid as an insect repellent. The flowers are especially attractive to parasitoid wasps, lady beetles and hoverflies which will make short work of the bad bugs in your garden. Also attractive to foraging bees, aiding in pollination of your fruiting plants. Place in a sunny spot with good drainage and do not over-fertilize.