

The WyoScape Xeric Demonstration Garden

**Agricultural Resource and Learning Center
2011 Fairgrounds Road
Casper, WY**



 UNIVERSITY
OF WYOMING
Cooperative Extension Service

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- Dragon's Blood Stonecrop
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- 'Orange Carpet' Hummingbird Trumpet
Zauschneria garrettii
- Prairie Zinnia
Zinnia grandiflora

About the site:

This Demonstration garden was mainly planted in 2002. The soil is a sandy, gravelly soil. The garden is located at an elevation of approximately 5,125 ft in USDA zone 4b. This area receives an average annual precipitation of 13 inches. The garden is watered a maximum of 6 times during the year as needed.

Plant Water Needs:

Low - This designation means these plants thrive on little or no supplemental moisture, and require less than 12 inches of precipitation a year total. Over watering these plants can be detrimental to their health and growth.

Moderate - This designation means these plants are adapted to intermittent moisture, and perform best with supplemental watering every few weeks during the active growing season.

High - This designation means these plants need regular watering and consistently moist soil. They will be damaged if the root system lacks a moist environment.

Plant Select[®] is a cooperative program administered by Denver Botanic Gardens and Colorado State University that works with horticulturists and nurseries throughout the Rocky Mountain region and into the High Plains. The purpose is to seek out, identify and distribute the very best plants for landscapes and gardens in these areas.

The USDA Experimental Station in Cheyenne was established in 1928 to research dry land conditions and aid horticulture development in the Rocky Mountain West. Over the next 45 years, the Station field-tested thousands of fruits and vegetables as well as ornamental trees and shrubs. In 1974 the research mission was shifted and horticulture research ended.

After 20 years, interest in horticulture development was renewed, and the facility was brought back from neglect. Nurseries began to search for new plants that were hardy in the West's difficult soils and climate. Of the some 800 species of plants that had been growing in 1974 when the facility was shut down, 250 species survived the 20 years of total neglect. Many of these trees and shrubs have how been propagated and made available in the commercial trade.

Autumn Amber Sumac

Rhus trilobata
'Autumn Amber'

Height: 6 to 18 in

Spread: 6 to 8 ft

Water: low

Zone: 3

Soil: well drained soils

Exposure: full sun

A prostrate form of sumac, the Autumn Amber forms a dense ground cover and has fall color that is amber to brick red. It also has excellent alkalinity tolerance, and is hardy in hot, dry, and windy conditions.



Grow-Low Sumac

Rhus aromatica *'Grow-Low'*



Height: 2 to 3 ft

Spread: 6 to 8 ft

Water: low

Zone: 4

Soil: well drained soils

Exposure: full sun

A low spreading form and fast growth rate make this plant excellent for mass plantings as a ground cover. The autumn color is brilliant scarlet to orange, and like other sumacs, it tolerates hot, dry, windy conditions very well.

Rocky Mountain Sumac

Rhus glabra cismontana



Height: 3 to 6 ft
Spread: 3 to 10 ft
Water: low
Zone: 2
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: full sun

A native shrub to Wyoming with brilliant red fall color, this sub-species grows to only half the height of Smooth Sumac. It does sucker, so allowing it to spread creates a natural ground cover effect.

Trilobe Sumac

Rhus trilobata

Height: 3 to 6 ft
Spread: 3 to 6 ft
Water: low
Zone: 3
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: sun

Native to Wyoming's mountains and prairies, the three-lobed dark green leaves have an oak-like appearance which turn a brilliant red to orange in fall. Dainty yellow flowers change into bright red berries in late summer. This sumac tolerates very harsh conditions. This shrub will grow larger with heavier watering.



Gwen's Buffalo Currant

Ribes aureum 'Gwen's Buffalo'



Height: 5 to 6 ft

Spread: 5 to 6 ft

Water: low

Zone: 3

Soil: well drained soils

Exposure: full sun

Currants are native to Wyoming, and this selection was developed for it's fruit production. Blossoms appear in spring followed by black, tear-dropped edible fruit. The autumn color ranges from orange to red, and it is tolerant of hot, dry, windy sites.

Wax currant

Ribes cereum

Height: 2 to 4 ft

Spread: 2 to 4 ft

Water: low

Zone: 2

Soil: well drained soils

Exposure: full sun

Native to Wyoming, this densely branched shrub has gray-green leaves, and bright red fruit which ripen in late summer, and are prized by bears. This currant is useful in naturalized areas.



Sweetbriar Rose

Rosa eglanteria



Height: 6 to 8 ft

Spread: 6 to 8 ft

Water: moderate

Zone: 4

Soil: well drained soils

Exposure: full sun

This native shrub has red blossoms in spring and early summer, and forms very attractive large oval shaped rosehips in the fall. It attracts wildlife which graze on the fruit through winter.

Prairie Joy Rose

Rosa x 'Prairie Joy'

Height: 6 to 8 ft

Spread: 5 to 6 ft

Water: moderate

Zone: 2

Soil: well drained soils

Exposure: full sun

This variety was developed in Canada, so it has excellent cold weather tolerance with minimal die back. It produces double pale pink blooms in early summer with sporadic bloom throughout the rest of the season. Since it has excellent disease resistance, it is a great rose for a hedge.



'Winnipeg Parks' Rose

Rosa x Winnipeg Parks



Height: 3 to 4 ft

Spread: 3 to 4 ft

Water: moderate

Zone: 3

Soil: well drained soils

Exposure: full sun

Also developed in Canada, this rose has excellent cold weather tolerance with minimal die back. It forms a low growing shrub, with double three inch blooms that are a bright, light, cherry red. It is a recurrent bloomer, and has good tolerance of alkaline soils.

Wood's Rose

Rosa woodsii

Height: 3 to 5 ft

Spread: 4 to 6 ft

Water: low

Zone: 3

Soil: well drained soils

Exposure: full sun

Native to Wyoming, this arching shrub has delicate single pink flowers in June, followed by small red rose hips that hold on into winter. The fall color ranges from orange to red. It can develop into dense thickets.



Blue Creek Willow

Salix arenaria



Height: 2 to 4 ft

Spread: 4 to 6 ft

Water: moderate to high

Zone: 4

Soil: well drained soils

Exposure: full sun to partial shade

A low growing shrub with densely hairy leaves, this plant has a silvery-velvet appearance in the spring. The leaves turn gray-green as they mature.

Silver Buffaloberry

Shepherdia argentea

Height: 10 to 15 ft

Spread: 10 to 12 ft

Water: low to moderate

Zone: 3

Soil: well drained soils

Exposure: full sun

A native to Wyoming, this tree-like shrub has silvery foliage with thorny branch tips. It produces small, edible, orange-red berries, has long history of Native American use in food preparation and dyes. This shrub tolerates hot, dry, windy conditions very well.



Creeping Juniper

Juniperus horizontalis 'Bar Harbor'



Height: 1 ft

Spread: 6 to 8 ft

Water: moderate

Zone: 3

Soil: well drained soils

Exposure: full sun

The Bar Harbor is a low growing and spreading form of our native juniper. The summer foliage is soft gray-blue which becomes a striking silvery-plum color in winter.

Creeping Juniper

Juniperus horizontalis 'Wilton Carpet'

Height: 6 in

Spread: 4 ft

Water: low to moderate

Zone: 3

Soil: well drained soils

Exposure: full sun

Another ground hugging, spreading juniper, the Wilton Carpet has silver-blue foliage which turns a purplish color in winter. It is excellent in hot, dry areas and on slopes. It will also cascade over retaining walls.



Icee Blue® Juniper

Juniperus horizontalis 'Monber'



Height: 6 in

Spread: 5 to 7 ft

Water: moderate

Zone: 4

Soil: well drained soils

Exposure: full sun

The Icee Blue is also a low-growing, spreading juniper. It is excellent for hot, dry sites.

Creeping Juniper

Juniperus horizontalis 'Blue Chip'

Height: 10 in

Spread: 6 to 8 ft

Water: moderate

Zone: 3

Soil: well drained soils

Exposure: full sun

This variety is a low-growing, spreading juniper that has soft gray-blue scales which turn to a silvery-plum color in winter. It is best used in protected sites where wind is not a major issue.



Rocky Mountain Juniper

Juniperus scopulorum 'Wichita Blue'



Height: 10 to 15 ft
Spread: 4 to 6 ft
Water: low to moderate
Zone: 3
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: full sun to partial shade

The Wichita Blue is an upright form of our native juniper trees. It is an excellent juniper for exposed locations and has attractive silvery-blue foliage.

'Blue Rug' Juniper

Juniperus horizontalis 'Wiltonii'

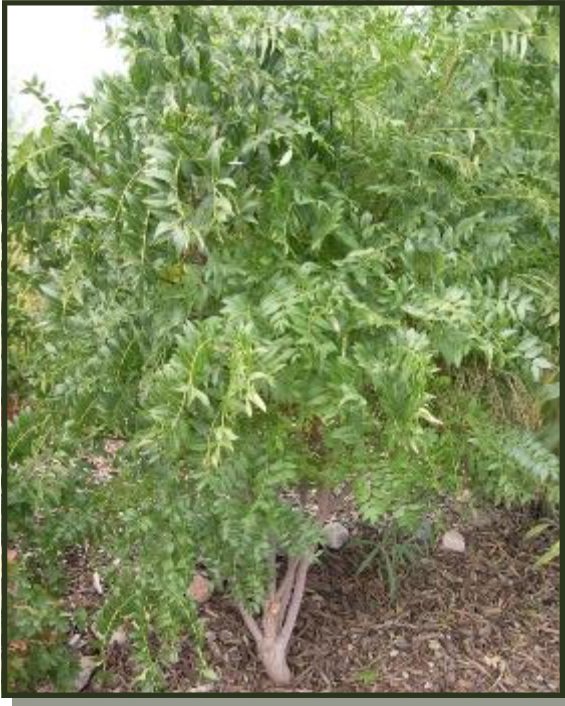
Height: 4 in
Spread: 4 to 6 ft
Water: moderate
Zone: 4
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: sun

This low-growing, dense, mat-forming creeping juniper spreads or trails over walls. It has silvery blue foliage in summer, changing to a purplish/bronze in winter. It provides excellent erosion control and is well suited for rock gardens or overhanging ledges.



Shiny Leaf Yellowhorn

Xanthoceras sorbifolia



Height: 10 to 18 ft

Spread: 8 ft

Water: low to moderate

Zone: 4

Soil: well drained soils

Exposure: full sun

This is a small, shrubby, ornamental tree with showy flower clusters in May. The white flowers develop bright red and yellow throats as they age, and resemble popcorn. It is tolerant of alkaline soils and moderate drought conditions.

Bristlecone Pine

Pinus aristata



Height: 40 to 60 ft
Spread: 20 to 30 ft
Water: low
Zone: 3
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: full sun

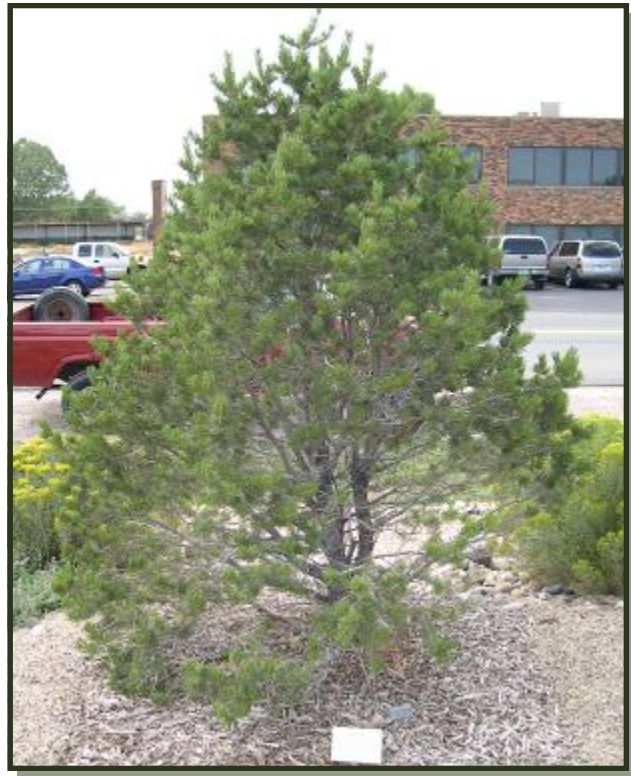
The Bristlecone Pine is the oldest living plant in the world. Some individuals exceed 7000 years of age in the high Sierras. It is a bushy, irregular shaped tree with dark green needles dotted with white pitch. This pine is very slow growing, and not for irrigated lawns.

Piñon Pine

Pinus edulis

Height: 15 to 25 ft
Spread: 12 to 15 ft
Water: low
Zone: 3
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: sun

Native to far southwestern Wyoming, the Pinon Pine is a slow growing, bushy pine. It is a picturesque plant for exposed, hot, and dry areas. This hardy plant is not for irrigated lawns. It also develops edible seeds in it's open cones each year.



Limber Pine

Pinus flexilis



Height: 35 to 60 ft

Spread: 15 to 35 ft

Water: low

Zone: 2

Soil: well drained soils

Exposure: sun to partial shade

A Rocky Mountain native, the Limber Pine grows on very exposed slopes in higher elevations. It has twisting blue-green needles and a smooth, silvery-gray bark, with plume-like branches. This pine is very drought tolerant.

Mops Mugo Pine

Pinus mugo compacta 'Mops'

Height: 2.5 to 3 ft

Spread: 2.5 to 3 ft

Water: moderate

Zone: 2

Soil: well drained soils

Exposure: full sun

The Mops is a small and densely compact selection of Mugo pine. It is a great plant for the rock garden.



Pumilo Mugo Pine

Pinus mugo 'Pumilo'



Height: 6 ft
Spread: 10 ft
Water: moderate
Zone: 2
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: sun to partial sun

The Pumilo is a small, rounded, multi-stemmed evergreen with variable height and spread. It maintains its attractive green color throughout the season.

Slowmound Mugo Pine

Pinus mugo compacta 'Slowmound'

Height: 2 - 4 ft
Spread: 2 - 4 ft
Water: low to moderate
Zone: 2
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: sun to partial sun

This dense, compact form of mugo pine is slightly larger than 'Mops'.



Ponderosa Pine

Pinus ponderosa



Height: 50 to 60 ft

Spread: 20 to 30 ft

Water: low

Zone: 3

Soil: well drained soils

Exposure: full sun

This Wyoming native has a large, open growing form. As it matures, the bark becomes a beautiful cinnamon to orange-red, with very thick and large flakey plates. The Ponderosa is good for windbreaks in hot, dry locations. It is taller and more dense than the Austrian Pine.

Austrian Pine

Pinus nigra

Height: 60 ft

Spread: 20 to 40 ft

Water: low to moderate

Zone: 4

Soil: well drained soils

Exposure: full sun

The Austrian is a dense stoutly pyramidal pine that becomes more open with age. It is a good windbreak plant, and has more open branching and round shape when compared to the Ponderosa.



Mesa Verde Blue Spruce

Picea pungens glauca 'Mesa Verde Blue'



Height: 2 ft
Spread: 5 ft
Water: moderate
Zone: 3
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: sun to partial shade

This natural selection of spruce has a ground cover habit that rarely exceeds two feet tall, but spreads over 5 feet. It is much more heat and wind tolerant than the tree form, and is a great alternative to spreading junipers.

Gold Plate Yarrow

Achillea filipendulina 'Gold Plate'

Height: 2 to 4 ft
Spread: 3 ft
Water: low to moderate
Zone: 3
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: full sun

This Achillea hybrid is irresistible to butterflies and will bloom from summer to early fall. The spent flowers can be removed to promote continuous bloom, and it should be divided every 4 to 5 years. This hardy plant is tolerant of drought, wind, and heat.



Paprika Yarrow

Achillea millefolium 'Paprika'



Height: 2 ft
Spread: 12 to 18 in
Water: low
Zone: 3
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: full sun

This drought tolerant plant is perfect for adding color to hot, dry locations. It will maintain blossoms from summer to autumn, and is irresistible to butterflies. Trim back this plant hard after the first flush of bloom to maintain a compact habit.

Sunset Hyssop or Licorice Mint

Agastache rupestris

Height: 36 to 42 in
Spread: 18 in
Water: low to moderate
Zone: 4
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: full sun

Plant Select 1997. The Licorice Mint is native to the high mountains of the Southwest. This variety of Hyssop boasts brushes of sunset-orange blossoms from August to frost, and it also exudes a rich, root-beer aroma.



Powis Castle

Artemisia



Height: 36 in
Spread: 30 in
Water: low
Zone: 4
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: full sun

This relative of sagebrush has fine, silvery-gray foliage. It forms an upright mound with a mild camphor fragrance. It is drought tolerant once established, and excellent for hot sunny sites. Cut this plant back no harder than 6 inches in spring.

Artemesia 'Valerie Finnis'

Artemesia ludoviciana

Height: 1 ft
Spread: 3 ft
Water: low to moderate
Zone: 4
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: full sun to partial shade

This variety forms a bushy, upright mound with clusters of creamy flowers in July. Trimming back hard after blooming will rejuvenate the foliage. Once established it is drought tolerant.



Silver King

Artemisia ludoviciana



Height: 2 to 3 ft
Spread: 3 to 4 ft
Water: low
Zone: 3
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: full sun

This variety forms a bushy, upright patch of fragrant silvery leaves, and has loose sprays of gray flowers in midsummer. Pruning back after the bloom will rejuvenate the foliage. It also is drought tolerant once established.

Tiny Green

Artemisia viridis

Height: 3 in
Spread: 3 to 18 in
Water: moderate
Zone: 4
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: full sun

This variety has green, finely textured foliage and a nice aroma. It forms a loose mat and will take much neglect, making it perfect for tough-to-grow spots. Pale, tiny cream buds open in late spring, but are relatively inconspicuous.



Sea Spray Sage, Seafoam

Artemisia versicolor



Height: 12 in
Spread: 30 in
Water: low to moderate
Zone: 4
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: full sun

Plant Select 2004. This attractive clump-forming groundcover has silvery blue foliage and gives a frothy appearance. It is non-invasive, has good winter presence, and is rabbit and deer resistant.

Chocolate Flower

Berlandiera lyrata

Height: 20 in
Spread: 20 in
Water: very low to low
Zone: 4
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: full sun

Plant Select 2004. This native wildflower from the Southwest continuously produces dark-eyed, yellow daisies over the summer months. The flowers exude a rich chocolate aroma in the morning hours. It thrives on minimal water once established.



Serbian Bellflower

Campanula poscharskyana



Height: 10 in
Spread: indefinite
Water: moderate
Zone: 3
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: partial shade

Native to the northern Balkans, this plant has attractive purple flowers that last from July to September. It spreads swiftly and is ideal for a ground cover. It can be cut back to propagate further bloom and is easily divided in the spring.

Threadleaf Coreopsis

Coreopsis verticillata 'Zagreb'

Height: 12 in
Spread: 18 in
Water: low to moderate
Zone: 4
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: sun

This species is native to the Eastern USA, and forms a spreading clump of ferny, delicate foliage, with golden-yellow daisies from early summer to fall. Pruning back faded flowers will encourage buds to form all season. It is tolerant of hot, dry sites once established.



Baby Sun

Coreopsis grandiflora



Height: 12 to 20 in
Spread: 18 in
Water: low to moderate
Zone: 4 to 9
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: full sun

This variety blooms from June to September, if spent flowers are trimmed back. Once established, it is exceptionally heat and drought tolerant.

Table Mountain® Ice Plant

Delosperma cooperi 'John Proffitt'

Height: 2 in
Spread: 18 in
Water: low to moderate
Zone: 4
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: sun to partial shade

Plant Select 2002. This hardy Ice Plant is native to South Africa but is amazingly hardy in North America, provided it is grown in very well-drained soil. It forms a low mat of succulent, evergreen leaves, and has small starry fuchsia-pink flowers from late spring through summer. It is A great choice for hot, dry areas.



Mesa Verde® Ice Plant

Delosperma cooperi 'Kelaidis'



Height: 2 in

Spread: 12 in

Water: low to moderate

Zone: 4

Soil: well drained soils

Exposure: sun to partial shade

Plant Select 2002. This variety forms loads of small starry salmon-pink flowers from late spring through summer. It is also a great choice for hot, dry areas.

Starburst® Ice Plant

Delosperma floribundum

Height: 4 in

Spread: 10 in

Water: low to moderate

Zone: 4 to 9

Soil: well drained soils

Exposure: full sun

Plant Select 1998. This species of Ice Plant forms a dome of succulent, evergreen leaves, and hosts small, starry pink flowers with a white center all summer long. It provides an excellent groundcover for hot, dry slopes, and will tolerate poor sandy soil.



Thrift-leaf Perky Sue

Hymenoxys scaposa



Height: 5 in
Spread: 8 in
Water: low
Zone: 4
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: full sun

This species has an ever-blooming yellow daisy, with evergreen foliage, and is both heat loving and drought tolerant. It is a vigorous re-seeder, and quickly colonizes harsh areas of the garden. Perky Sue loves gravel mulch.

Catmint

Nepeta x 'Six Hills Giant'

Height: 30 in
Spread: 3 to 4 ft
Water: low
Zone: 4
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: sun or partial shade

This a large, impressive plant has aromatic flower spikes of violet blue which attract bees and butterflies. If it is sheared back, it will grow back and re-bloom. It is a big, tough, long-lived, reliable bloomer which takes two seasons to reach full size.



Silver Blade® Silverleaf Evening Primrose

Oenothera macrocarpa subsp. incana



Height: 6 in
Spread: 24 in
Water: low to moderate
Zone: 4
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: full sun

Plant Select 1999. This drought tolerant perennial has silver leaves that compliment the clear yellow flowers which bloom from May to frost. It grows best in well drained soils.

Missouri Evening Primrose

Oenothera macrocarpa

Height: 6 to 12 in
Spread: 18 in
Water: low
Zone: 4
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: sun

This native wildflower is known for the huge 4 inch yellow flowers that open each afternoon and close up the following morning. It blooms throughout the summer months. Evening Primrose cascades nicely over rocks and retaining walls.



Hopflower Oregano

Origanum libanoticum



Height: 10 to 12 in

Spread: 24 in

Water: low

Zone: 4

Soil: well drained soils

Exposure: full sun

Plant Select 2004. A lovely trailing herb with oregano-scented bracts of lavender and chartreuse blooms through the summer months. It looks great when cascading over a raised bed or rock garden. Dried flowers whisper in the winter wind.

Mesa Penstemon

Penstemon digitalis

Height: 2 to 4 ft

Spread: 1 to 2 ft

Water: low to moderate

Zone: 3

Soil: well drained soils

Exposure: sun

This Penstemon grows erect with tubular bell flowers that begin in June. It has glossy green foliage which compliments the violet blue blossoms well, and it is drought resistant. Watering while plant is in bloom will extend its flowering time.



Pikes Peak Purple®

Penstemon mexicali



Height: 12 to 15 in

Spread: 8 in

Water: low

Zone: 3

Soil: well drained soils

Exposure: full sun

Plant Select 1999. This penstemon was developed in Colorado and forms a bushy clump of narrow green leaves, with short spikes of bright violet-purple trumpet flowers that begin in early summer blooming through late summer. This is an adaptable, low-maintenance plant that attracts both butterflies and

'Mersea Yellow' Pineleaf Penstemon

Penstemon pinifolius

Height: 12 in

Spread: 12 to 18 in

Water: low to moderate

Zone: 3 – 10

Soil: well drained soils

Exposure: full sun to partial shade

This long lived perennial has hundreds of soft yellow tubular flowers that cover the plant for many weeks in midsummer, along with evergreen foliage. This variety needs afternoon shade in hot desert climates and is one of the few yellow penstemons.



Scarlet Pineleaf Penstemon

Penstemon pinifolius



Height: 15 in
Spread: 12 to 18 in
Water: low to moderate
Zone: 3
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: full sun

This Penstemon is native to the mountains on the border between Mexico and New Mexico and Arizona. The dark-green foliage resembles small evergreens, and contrasts nicely with the red narrow tubular flowers that appear from May onward.

Red Rocks® Hybrid Beardtongue

Penstemon x 'Red Rocks'

Height: 18 in
Spread: 15 in
Water: moderate
Zone: 4b
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: full sun

Plant Select 1999. This penstemon was developed in Colorado, with bright rose-pink trumpet flowers that begin in early summer. The flowers can continue on and off for most of the summer. It is attractive to both butterflies and hummingbirds.



Elfin Pink Penstemon

Penstemon barbatus 'Elfin Pink'



Height: 24 in
Spread: 15 in
Water: moderate
Zone: 4
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: sun to partial shade

This hybrid selection was developed in Nebraska for its hardiness and ease of growth. The plants produce upright spikes of clear pink trumpets that appear in early summer and attract both butterflies and hummingbirds.

Mexican Hat Prairie Coneflower

Ratibida columnifera

Height: 18 to 24 in
Spread: 12 to 18 in
Water: low
Zone: 4 to 10
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: sun

This Wyoming native, blooms in profusion throughout the summer. The center cones are ringed by downward curving petals of either mahogany red or yellow, giving the appearance of little sombreros. It has the tendency to be a vigorous re-seeder.



Goldsturm Coneflower

Rudbeckia fulgida 'Goldsturm'



Height: 23 to 29 in
Spread: 18 to 23 in
Water: moderate to high
Zone: 3
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: sun to partial shade

This is a native wildflower that grows into a bushy, upright clump with brown-eyed, golden-orange daisies that bloom from midsummer through the fall. Pruning faded flowers increase the blooming time. This plant may be easily divided in early spring.

Silver Sage

Salvia argentea

Height: 12 to 18 in
Spread: 18 to 27 in
Water: low to moderate
Zone: 5
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: full sun

Plant Select 1997. This plant has silver, fuzzy leaves that are arranged in a wide rosette. It hosts spikes of white flowers that appear in the second year. It is an excellent choice for a focal point where the foliage can be seen and appreciated.



May Night Perennial Sage

Salvia × sylvestris ('Mainacht')



Height: 1 to 6 ft
Spread: 1 to 3 ft
Water: low
Zone: 4
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: sun

This plant boasts flowers of deep indigo violet-blue. It is drought, heat, and humidity tolerant. It may be easily divided in early spring or fall, and it can be clipped back hard after blooming to rejuvenate the foliage. Attracts both butterflies and

Russian Stonecrop

Sedum kamtschaticum 'Variegatum'

Height: 6 to 8 in
Spread: 12 to 23 in
Water: moderate
Zone: 2
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: full sun

This is an excellent groundcover plant, particularly for hot, dry sites with poor soil. It forms attractive green and cream-splashed leaves, along with clusters of orange-yellow star flowers that appear in summer. This plant can be divided in spring or fall, and the stems and dead flower heads should be trimmed back in early spring.



Variegated Dragon's Blood Stonecrop

Sedum spurium 'Tricolor'



Height: 4 to 6 in
Spread: 12 to 18 in
Water: low to moderate
Zone: 2
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: sun to partial shade

This variety grows in a low carpet of small green leaves that have pink and creamy white spots. In summer, clusters of soft-pink star flowers appear turning a dark rust in fall. Trim back stems and dead flower heads in spring.

Dragon's Blood Stonecrop

Sedum spurium red form

Height: 3 to 6 in
Spread: 12 to 24 in
Water: low to moderate
Zone: 3
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: sun

This Sedum spreads into a low carpet with small leaves that range from bronzy green to beet-red. The fuchsia-red star flowers appear in summer.



Rosy Glow

Sedum spp.



Height: 6 to 8 in
Spread: 12 to 16 in
Water: low to moderate
Zone: 3
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: sun to partial shade

This sedum forms a low mound of rounded leaves, with deep pink to reddish flowers from late summer into autumn. It is a clumping sedum that is easily divided in spring. Attractive to both bees and butterflies, and should be pruned back in spring.

Matrona Sedum

Sedum telephium 'Matrona'

Height: 16 to 20 in
Spread: 18 to 23 in
Water: low to moderate
Zone: 3
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: full sun

This German variety is taller than the other Sedums, and has deep gray-green foliage with pink edges. In the fall it produces large clusters of soft pink flowers that provide a colorful display. The dried seed heads have a stunning winter effect. This plant is also attractive to butterflies.



Autumn Stonecrop

Sedum 'Frosty Morn'



Height: 23 to 27 in
Spread: 18 to 23 in
Water: low to moderate
Zone: 4
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: full sun

This Japanese selection has showy apple-green leaves, edged in creamy white. This Sedum is a fall bloomer, and produces large, pale-pink flower heads that attract butterflies.

Showy Stonecrop

Sedum spectabilis 'Brilliant'

Height: 18 to 23 in
Spread: 18 to 23 in
Water: low to moderate
Zone: 2
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: sun to partial shade

This selection provides extended interest, with green broccoli-like buds in mid-summer, which gradually open into enormous hot-pink flower heads, finally deepening to rich rusty-red for a beautiful winter color. It should be pruned back in spring.



Six Sided Stonecrop

Sedum sexangulare



Height: 3 to 4 in
Spread: 12 to 23 in
Water: low to moderate
Zone: 2
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: sun to partial shade

An excellent groundcover plant, especially for hot, dry sites with poor soil. It forms a low carpet of tiny spiraling green leaves, and spreads into a thick patch. Tiny yellow flowers appear in early summer, then it develops a bronzy color which is a nice winter effect.

Old Fashioned Hens and Chicks

Sempervivum tectorum

Height: 4 to 8 in
Spread: 3 ft
Water: low
Zone: 4
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: full sun

This plant forms a low clump of fleshy leaves, with tiny new plants appearing in a circle around the mother in the middle. It produces large, frosty green rosettes that become tipped with red in colder months. In the summer, it produces spikes of cherry-pink flowers. Adaptable.



Orange Globe Mallow

Sphaeralcea munroana



Height: 36 to 48 in
Spread: 24 in
Water: very low
Zone: 4
Soil: thrives in heavy clay
Exposure: full sun

This species is native to the western United States, and is deep-rooted with long wands of orange flowers which resemble miniature hollyhocks. It is not the least bit picky about its soil and thrives in heavy clay. Prune back to the ground each spring.

Big Leaf Lamb's Ear

Stachys byzantina 'Helen Von Stein'

Height: 12 in
Spread: 12 to 36 in
Water: low
Zone: 4
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: sun to partial shade

This species has dense clumps of soft, felty silver-gray leaves. It forms spikes of lavender-pink flowers in early summer that should be clipped off to maintain a tight, compact habit. Easily divided in spring or early fall.



Partridge Feather

Tanacetum densum amani



Height: 6 to 8 in
Spread: 8 to 12 in
Water: very low to low
Zone: 4
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: sun to partial sun

This plant forms a dense carpet of attractive, soft, silver-white foliage. In early summer, clusters of yellow button flowers appear. It does best in the sunniest, hottest spot you can find, but needs a well-drained soil. It is a vigorous spreading plant.

'Orange Carpet' Hummingbird Trumpet

Zauschneria garrettii

Height: 12 to 24 in
Spread: 24 to 48 in
Water: low to moderate
Zone: 3 to 8
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: sun to partial shade

Plant Select 2001. Native to the dry parts of several Western states, this is an excellent choice for the sunny rock garden. It forms a low-growing mat of cascading vivid green foliage that bear hundreds of scarlet-orange trumpet blossoms from midsummer until frost. Hummingbirds love this plant.



Prairie Zinnia

Zinnia grandiflora



Height: 6 in

Spread: 10 in+

Water: very low to low

Zone: 4

Soil: well drained soils

Exposure: sun to partial shade

Native to Arizona, New Mexico and into south-central Colorado, this wildflower thrives in very rugged terrain. It prefers hot sunny spots with well-drained soil. It also boasts bright, deep yellow flowers from late summer until the first frost. This plant forms large clumps and spreads vigorously.

Silver Beard Grass

Andropogon saccharoides

Height: 3 ft

Spread: 18 in

Water: low

Zone: 4

Soil: well drained soils

Exposure: full to partial sun

This native bunch grass is quickly becoming a favorite ornamental grass. The seed heads mature in late summer and hold through winter. This grass also has a nice reddish fall color.



Elijah Blue

Festuca glauca sp.



Height: 4 to 8 in
Spread: 1 to 1.5 ft
Water: low to moderate
Zone: 4
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: sun to partial shade

This variety is a silvery-blue clump-forming grass. Light green flowers with a purple tinge appear late spring to early summer. It is tolerant of drought and poor soils. Clumps tend to die in the center and need to be divided or replaced every 2-3 years. Cut back in spring.

Blue Oat Grass

Helictotrichon sempervirens

Height: 2 to 4 ft
Spread: 3 ft
Water: low to high
Zone: 4
Soil: well drained and clay soils
Exposure: sun

This ornamental grass forms an evergreen, blue-gray spraying mound of foliage and does well in clay soils. The floral heads reach up to three feet tall and will remain in the winter. Remove the old growth in early spring.



Maiden Hair Grass

Miscanthus sinensis 'Silberfeder'



Height: 6 to 8 ft
Spread: 2 to 4 ft
Water: low to moderate
Zone: 4
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: full sun

This German species has graceful green leaf blades that give rise to feathery flower plumes in the summer. These white plumes will turn a coppery color for in the fall, and produce a nice winter effect.

Red Fountainbush Switch Grass

Panicum virgatum 'Ratstrahlbusch'

Height: 3 to 6 ft
Spread: 2 to 4 ft
Water: moderate to high
Zone: 3
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: full sun

This Great Plains native has a tall, arching clump of green leaves, and tiny green flowers in late summer. In fall, the color changes to a vibrant burgundy-red and will stay attractive in the garden all winter long. This plant is drought tolerant once established.



Blue Switch Grass

Panicum virgatum 'Prairie Sky'



Height: 3 to 6 ft
Spread: 2 to 3 ft
Water: moderate to high
Zone: 4
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: full sun

This tall prairie grass has an outstanding arching clump of steel-blue leaves, and has airy heads of tiny green flowers in late summer. The butter-gold color in

fall fades to tan for winter, and is attractive all season long. Trim this grass back to the ground in early spring, when it can also be divided. It is drought tolerant once established.

Little Bluestem

Shizachyrium scoparium

Height: 3 ft
Spread: 2 ft
Water: low
Zone: 4
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: full sun

Wyoming and Great Plain native grass, notable for its blue-green upright foliage. In the fall the leaves and seed heads change to a rich purple and burgundy color, which sustains throughout the winter.



Other Resources

Websites



<http://barnyardsandbackyards.com>—Select 'Resources - Landscaping'

<http://ces.uwyo.edu/>

<http://plantselect.org>



Books



Passionate Gardening: Good Advice for Challenging Climates
by Lauren Springer and Rob Proctor



The Undaunted Garden: Planting for Weather-Resilient Beauty
by Lauren Springer



The Xeriscape Flower Gardener by Jim Knopf



Other Demonstration Gardens

Cheyenne Botanic Garden

Denver Botanic Garden

Laramie's Water-Wise Demo Garden in LaBonte Park

Plant Select Demonstration Gardens www.plantselect.org/map.php



The information for this brochure was originally compiled by Tina Opp, University of Wyoming, Cooperative Extension Service, Natrona County. Reformatted and edited by Donna Cuin and Jennifer Thompson, September 2010.

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