Texas Superstar®

Strong and Stunning Plants for Texans.

Texas A&M AgriLife Research

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

GO TEXAN.®

TNLA

What it takes to be a Superstar®

It isn't easy to become a Texas Superstar® plant. Only the toughest, most reliable and best-looking plants make the cut. Every plant earning the Texas Superstar® designation undergoes several years of extensive field trials by Texas A&M AgriLife Research and the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, both part of the Texas A&M System. They must be shown to be super-performing plants under Texas growing conditions. During the field trials, plants receive minimal soil preparation, reasonable levels of water and no pesticides. What does that mean to the average homeowner? It means landscape success with beautiful, proven, Texas-tough plants. Find these plants at your local nursery and be sure and look for the Texas Superstar® logo on the plant tags. Visit TexasSuperstar.com for additional details about these amazing stars. The term "Texas Superstar" is a registered trademark of Texas A&M AgriLife Research, Texas A&M System.

GO TEXAN

GO TEXAN is the Texas Department of Agriculture's program promoting the products, culture and communities that call Texas home. As a mark of Lone Star pride, the GO TEXAN logo – a glowing brand in the shape of Texas – can be found on everything from floral products and grapefruit to cowboy boots and retirement destinations. For more information see GoTexan.org.

Texas Superstar®

GO TEXAN.

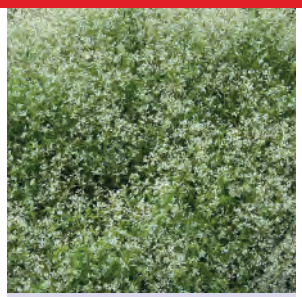
ANNUAL PLANTS

Angelonia, Summer Snapdragon

Angelonia angustifolia
Serena series

Angelonia is a spreading annual with upright flower spikes that resemble minature snapdragons. The Serena series are the only angelonias that are grown from seed. Flower colors available include white, pink, purple, lavender, and lavender pink which flower season long until frost. Angelonia can be used as a border planting, a ground cover, or as a trailing plant for mixed containers.

Exposure: full sun
Height: 12 to 18 inches
Plant type: annual
Planting time: spring
Soil type: most soil types as long as well drained
Suggested uses: mass bedding or ground cover, mixed borders, and containers
Special Notes: Very reliable performer in all areas of Texas; tolerates heat well.

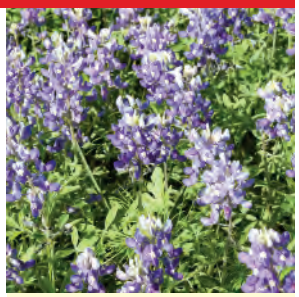


"Baby's Breath" Euphorbias

Euphorbia hypericifolia
(syn. Chamaesyce hypericifolia)

These Euphorbias are very fine textured, rambling annuals that present the appearance of a cloud of white in the landscape. Very well suited for the hot Texas summers, these unusual plants perform well as edging, ground cover, and mixed container plants. Several varieties performed well in the Texas Superstar® trials, inlcuding "White Manaus", "Breathless White", "Silver Fog" and "Hip Hop" and thus are all recommended.

Exposure: Full sun.
Height: 12 to 18 inches
Plant type: annual
Planting time: spring
Suggested uses: edging, ground cover, and mixed container plants
Special notes: Very useful for blending other flowering plants together in either mixed borders or mixed container plantings. Flower heavily through the summer and till frost.



Texas Bluebonnet

Lupinus texensis
USDAZone7

The Texas state flower is a hardy winter annual native to Texas. This species is the most commonly seen variety along roadsides and in pastures throughout the state. Flowers are densely arranged on a spike with a characteristic ice white terminal tip.

Exposure: full sun
Height: 12-24 inches
Plant type: annual
Planting time: fall
Soil type: well-drained soil
Suggested uses: flower beds, meadows and hillsides
Special notes: The Texas bluebonnet, which blooms between March and May, has a blue flowering stalk tipped with white (like a bunny's tail). These hearty plants rarely suffer from insect and disease problems, however a well- balanced fertilizer applied in the fall will help with flower production.

ANNUAL PLANTS

Texas Maroon Bluebonnet

Lupinus texensis, 'Texas Maroon', 'Alamo Fire'

USDAZone7

A selection of the Texas state flower is a hardy winter annual native to Texas. Flowers are densely arranged on a spike with a characteristic ice white terminal tip.

Exposure: full sun
Height: 12-14 inches
Plant type: annual
Planting time: fall
Soil type: well-drained soil
Suggested uses: bedding, window boxes, patio containers and hanging baskets
Special notes: Texas maroon bluebonnets have a spreading growth habit and reddish-maroon flowers with a characteristic white terminal tip. It is recommended they are spaced 12 inches apart when transplanting or seeding.

Lady Bird Johnson Royal Blue Bluebonnet

Lupinus texensis 'Lady Bird Johnson Royal Blue'

USDAZone7

A selection of the Texas state flower with a distinct royal (cobalt) blue color named in honor of former first Lady, Lady Bird Johnson; flowers are densely arranged on a spike with a characteristic ice white terminal tip.

Exposure: full sun is essential for optimum bloom
Height: 12 to 14 inches
Plant type: annual
Planting time: sow scarified seed in the fall; if one misses the planting window, transplants can be set out in late winter.
Soil type: numerous, but must be well drained.
Suggested uses: accent beds, meadows and hillsides as well as containers.
Special notes: The distinct cobalt color sets this bluebonnet apart from the Texas Bluebonnet. It is a vigorous plant and will do best if spaced 12 inches apart. It tends to produce more seed than other bluebonnets so it should easily naturalize in an area given proper care.

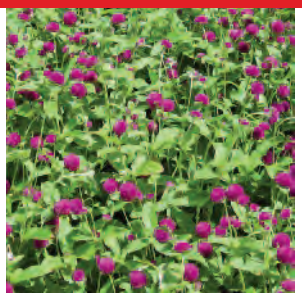
Cool Season Euphorbias

Euphorbia martinii, E. characias subsp. wulfenii, E. amygdaloides

USDAZone6

These cold and drought tolerant winter annuals provide mounds of color in the landscape from fall to spring in all parts of Texas. They are not fond of summer heat, but may behave as perennials in western Texas. For a tight mounding plant of bluish green foliage, select 'Tiny Tim'. For variegated foliage, try 'Ascot Rainbow'. For more of a red or dark maroon color, try 'Blackbird'. 'Rudolph' has dark green foliage with red accents. 'Tasmanian Tiger' or 'Glacier Blue' is notable for excellent cream and green variegated foliage. All are recommended.

Exposure: Full sun to partial shade
Height: 1 to 2 feet
Plant type: cool season annual
Planting time: late summer and fall
Soil type: best in potting soil in containers, but will perform in ground beds if soil is very well drained
Suggested uses: best use is in mixed containers, but also in well drained landscape beds or rock gardens
Special Notes: Very pest and disease resistant. They are hardy to zone 6 and hardy in containers unless the temperature drops below 15F. The most heat tolerant are 'Ascot Rainbow' and 'Tiny Tim'.



Globe Amaranth

Gomphrena globosa

Globe amaranth (known by some as bachelor's buttons) are versatile, often overlooked summer annuals that thrive in the Texas heat. Varieties range in size from 8 inches to 48 inches, and vary in color from whites, to pinks, to lavendars, to dark, rich purples. Many named variety series were tested and found to be true Texas Superstars® including the All Around, Las Vegas, QIS, and Audray series and Fireworks.

Exposure: Full sun
Height: 1 - 4 feet and about as wide depending on variety
Plant Type: heat-loving, summer annual
Planting Time: early summer after nights have become warm.
Soil Type: well-drained; tolerates wide range of soil types
Suggested use: mass plantings, combination plantings with other summer annuals such as salvia and Mexican mint marigold, and also make nice cut flowers for beautifying the indoors.

Dakota Gold Helenium

Helenium amarum Dakota Gold

Helenium is a native Texas wildflower that now has improved cultivars for garden use. Plants are Texas tough, continuing to grow and flower with little or no irrigation once established. Young plants are small flattened rosettes of foliage in the spring (or even late winter in southern locations) that develop strong tap roots. By mid- to late spring a canopy of thready dark green foliage develops and 1" diameter bright yellow composite flowers begin to appear. Flowering continues through autumn. The cultivar 'Dakota Gold' grows typically as low cushions of foliage topped with bright yellow flowers. Plants can be grown on most any well drained soil with a sunny exposure. Good for low input landscapes where irrigation water is limited.

Exposure: full sun
Height: 6 to 8 inches
Plant Type: reseeding annual
Planting Time: anytime from containers
Soil type: well drained slightly acidic soil is best, but it adapts to alkaline clay soils as long as drainage is adequate
Suggested uses: accent, border
Special notes: PVP 200600009 issued June 22, 2010.

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ANNUAL PLANTS

Larkspur

Consolida ambigua

USDAZone7

This reseeding annual has a backward-projecting spur, formed by the upper petal of the flower. The long spikes or panicles of flowers come in both single and double forms. Colors range from various shades of blue or purple- blue to pink and white. The soft, lacy foliage makes a great backdrop for the showy flower spikes.

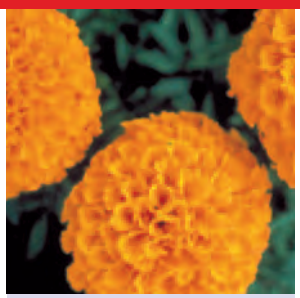
Exposure: full sun for best bloom but will tolerate partial shade
Height: 36 inches
Plant type: reseeding annual
Planting time: fall
Soil type: well-drained soil
Suggested uses: in bedding, window boxes, cut flowers and dried flowers
Special notes: The Rocket Larkspur performs best in hardiness zone 7, spaced 10-12 inches apart. Disease or pest problems are minimal if plants are grown in well-drained soils.

Rio Series Mandevilla

Mandevilla syn. Dipladenia

The Rio series mandevillas sport glossy foliage and broad, showy, trumpet-shaped flowers that come in pink, hot pink, and deep red. These mandevillas grow upright with little twining. These compact plants grow best in patio containers, and can be grown alone or mixed with other annuals wherever a splash of color is needed. They tolerate summer heat, but would benefit from some afternoon shade.

Exposure: full sun for part day; likes afternoon shade
Height: 1 - 2 feet and about as wide
Plant Type: treat as a summer annual in most of Texas; perennial in south Texas
Planting Time: spring or early summer
Soil Type: well drained container mix, or in soil bed with high organic matter and good drainage
Suggested use: accent plant in container on patio
Special notes: Excellent plant around pools or wherever a colorful, tropic effect is needed.



Mari-mum

Tagetes erecta

There are several different varieties of African-type (large-flowered) marigolds such as the Antigua, Discover, or Taishan series which can be used to produce the Mari-mum effect. The Mari-mum type marigolds bloom two to three times longer than chrysanthemums and are very low maintenance.

Exposure: full sun
Height: 8-16 inches
Plant type: annual
Planting time: transplant in late summer using plants with only tight flower buds showing – preferably no open flowers
Soil type: well-drained soil with organic matter
Suggested uses: Mari- mums have such visual impact that they're a wonderful choice for mass planting along the front edge of a flower bed, walkways or garden paths. Mari-mums also do extremely well in containers.
Special notes: Applying 1-2 pounds of a slow release lawn fertilizer per 100 square feet of bed area will enhance blooming.

Laura Bush Petunia

Petunia x 'Laura Bush'

This is an old-fashioned reseeding petunia. It is more cold tolerant, disease resistant and heat tolerant than modern hybrids.

Exposure: full sun
Height: 24 inches
Plant type: annual
Planting time: spring and summer
Soil type: well-drained soil
Suggested uses: bedding, window boxes, patio containers and hanging baskets
Special notes: The Laura Bush petunia performs best in hardiness zone 7. It has a spreading growth habit with medium-size violet flowers. It grows best when transplanted 36 inches apart. This Texas Superstar blooms from spring until frost. Between bloom cycles, prune back by 20 percent and lightly fertilize.

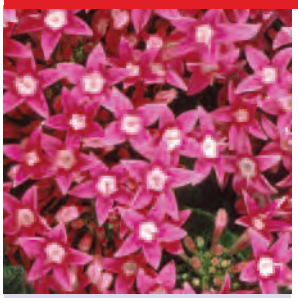
Tidal Wave Silver and Cherry Petunia

Petunia x hybrida

These petunias represent two colors from the Tidal Wave series of petunia. They are more heat, disease and cold tolerant than typical grandiflora type petunias. The vigor of these plants ensures a plentiful flower supply during the summer and into the fall.

Exposure: full sun
Height: 18-20 inches but can spread 4 feet
Plant type: annual
Planting time: spring and summer, can be planted in October/November for late-winter and early-spring flowering
Soil type: adaptable to different soil types as long as well-drained
Suggested uses: bedding, ground cover, large containers
Special notes: Flowers are more vibrant if drip irrigation is used. Drought tolerant, but benefits from regular watering and regular fertilization. If trimming is desired in mid to late summer, the plants can be lightly trimmed about 20 percent (a string trimmer works well). Water and lightly fertilize after trimming to stimulate growth and flowering.

ANNUAL PLANTS

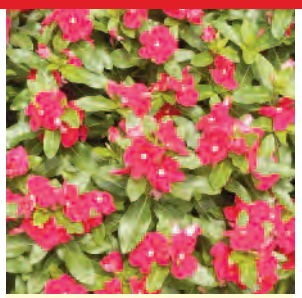


Butterfly Deep Pink Pentas

Pentas lanceolata

Highly heat, soil, and pest tolerant, this very low maintenance tropical annual provides a profusion of bright pink blooms spring through late fall. Excellent for mass plantings and containers where it attracts butterflies and hummingbirds.

Exposure: Full sun to partial shade
Height: 24 inches tall, 24 inches wide
Plant type: annual
Planting time: spring
Soil type: adaptable to most soils as long as well drained
Suggested uses: mass bedding, mixed borders, and mixed containers
Special notes: Benefits from mulching and regular summer irrigation.



Vinca Cora Series

Catharanthus roseus

Cora and Nirvana vinca (commonly referred to as periwinkle) are the first varieties of this species to be resistant to the Aerial Phytophthora fungus, a devastating disease that until now limited the use of this species in Texas landscapes. In addition, they are heat and humidity tolerant and deer resistant. They are available in a wide array of colors with either upright or trailing habits and flower throughout the summer with some of the largest flowers in the genus.

Exposure: full sun, but will tolerate semi-shade
Height: 14-18 inches
Plant type: annual
Planting time: late spring to summer
Soil type: adaptable to most soils
Suggested uses: bedding, containers, hanging baskets (trailing types), window boxes
Special notes: The best time to plant vinca is after the soil has thoroughly warmed in late spring or early summer. It does best in hot weather. It is drought tolerant, but does best with good soil drainage and regular water and fertilization at moderate levels.

Fall Zinnias

Zinnia marylandica, Zinnia hybrida, and Zinnia elegans

The Profusion and Zahara series of zinnia produce disease resistant mounds of color that last until frost when planted in late summer. The more traditional flowers of the Dreamland and Magellan series can also be enjoyed at this time of year while avoiding the disease issues that can show up in the spring. All have vibrant colors with the cool nights of fall on sturdy compact plants.

Exposure: full sun
Height: 12-18 inches
Plant type: annual
Planting time: late summer to early fall
Soil type: Adaptable to soil type if well drained and a variety of potting mixes
Suggested uses: mixed borders, mass bed displays, and containers
Special notes: Very heat tolerant. Do not overwater.

PERENNIAL

Texas Gold Columbine

Aquilegia chrysantha var. hinckleyana 'Texas Gold'

USDAZone6

This cool season perennial has bright yellow, lightly fragrant spring flowers atop its long stems. Its gray-green foliage is ever- green in warmer climates.

Exposure: filtered shade in the summer and full sun in the winter and spring, such as ound under the canopy of a deciduous tree
Height: 18-24 inches
Plant type: cool season perennial
Planting time: spring
Soil type: well-drained soil
Suggested uses: garden accent, specimen, hummingbird garden and container garden
Special notes: The Texas Gold columbine has an open clumping habit and grows as wide as 24 inches. It works best in a full sun environment with medium water.

'Princess Caroline' Napier Grass

Pennisetum hybrid

USDAZone7

'Princess Caroline' has beautiful wide leaves that are a deep purple in color which reflex gracefully on a vase shaped plant. It does not flower and is resistant to leaf spot that can be seen on older varieties. It is very heat and drought tolerant and is perennial in most of the state.

Exposure: full sun
Height: grows from 4 to 6 feet tall depending on amount of watering and length of the growing season
Plant type: perennial in most of the state
Planting time: spring
Soil type: almost any well drained soil
Suggested uses: specimen plant, accent plant in mixed borders or quick growing screen
Special notes: Plants freeze to the ground, but make rapid growth in the spring to make a strong statement in the landscape. Hardy in north Texas if temperatures are mild and it is grown in a protected location. Very little fertilizer is needed to get this plant to perform. Nitrogen fertilizer will cause the leaves to green up and lose the striking purple foliage that is a hallmark of this great plant.

Ask a certified nursery professional at your local nursery for Texas Superstars and support local Texas producers.

PERENNIAL PLANTS

Flare Perennial Hibiscus

Hibiscus x 'Flare'
USDAZone5 💧💧

This herbaceous perennial has apple-green foliage and large iridescent fuchsia-red flowers up to 10 inches wide.

Exposure: full sun
Height: 3-4 feet
Plant type: perennial
Planting time: spring
Soil type: any soil type, including high alkaline clays
Suggested uses: perennial border, butterfly and hummingbird gardens and containers
Special notes: The Flare hibiscus performs best in hardiness zone 5. It produces large leaves and is a profuse bloomer with a mounding habit. It is also self-sterile, which encourages re-bloom. The Flare hibiscus will bloom from summer through the first frost.

Pink Flare and Peppermint Flare Hibiscus

Hibiscus x 'Pink Flare' and 'Peppermint Flare'
USDAZone5 💧💧

Part of the Flare Series, these showy perennials have large glowing fuchsia flowers. The offspring have the same superior traits as the original but their colors are pink and peppermint (white with red stripes). Their maple-like emerald-green foliage is very attractive on compact plants that are practically sterile, which encourages continuous bloom.

Exposure: full sun
Height: 3-5 feet
Plant type: herbaceous perennial
Planting time: spring
Soil type: any soil type, including high pH clays
Suggested uses: perennial border, butterfly and hummingbird gardens, containers
Special notes: Great grown as complements with Flare, Moy Grande and Lord Baltimore hibiscuses with an expanded color range. Peppermint Flare offers an unusually striking two-tone flower.

Lord Baltimore Perennial Hibiscus

Hibiscus x 'Lord Baltimore'
USDAZone5 💧💧

This perennial has glossy foliage and large red flowers up to 10 inches wide.

Exposure: full sun
Height: 5 feet
Plant type: perennial
Planting time: spring
Soil type: prefers neutral to acid soils
Suggested uses: perennial border, butterfly and hummingbird gardens
Special notes: The Lord Baltimore performs best in hardiness zone 5. It has attractive foliage, provides stunning color, loves the heat and requires very little maintenance. It also has excellent pest and disease resistance, and works best with medium amounts of water.

Moy Grande Perennial Hibiscus

Hibiscus x 'Moy Grande'
USDAZone5 💧💧

The giant-flowered rose mallow has the largest flowers of any hardy perennial. These are descendants of the native hibiscus found in Louisiana and other Gulf Coast states. Ying Doon Moy cross-bred a Hibiscus moscheutos hybrid with Hibiscus grandiflorus to create the largest, open-face hibiscus flower in the world.

Exposure: full sun
Height: 5 feet
Plant type: perennial
Planting time: spring
Soil type: well-drained soil containing plenty of organic matter and nutrients
Suggested uses: perennial border, butterfly and hummingbird gardens
Special notes: Moy Grande will grow up to 5-feet wide and bloom between May and September. Removing spent flowers and developing seed pods will promote re- bloom. Flowers are usually 12 inches wide and have a rose-pink color. Moy Grande hibiscus will perform best in hardiness zone 5.

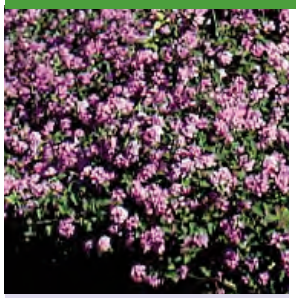
New Gold Lantana

Lantana camera 'New Gold'
USDAZone8b 🦌 💧💧

The New Gold Lantana is a low maintenance plant with golden yellow flowers. It is drought and heat tolerant, and its reduced fruit set promotes prolific blooming from spring until frost.

Exposure: full sun
Height: 12-24 inches
Plant type: small spreading woody shrub, herbaceous perennial or annual depending on the location
Planting time: spring to summer from containers
Soil type: adapts to most soils from acidic to moderately alkaline with moderate drainage
Suggested uses: accent, bedding, bank cover or patio containers
Special notes: When well established, the plants are very drought tolerant and continue to produce bright and attractive blooms in the hottest of weather. Whiteflies can sometimes be a pest. This annual also needs periodic renewal pruning to remove old dead wood.

PERENNIAL PLANTS



Trailing Lantana

Lantana montevidensis
USDAZone8b

Beautiful trailing or spreading perennial with a profusion of lavender, purple or white flowers that bloom consistently from spring through frost and attract butterflies. Outstanding heat, wind & drought tolerance.

Exposure: Full sun
Height: 1 foot tall, 4 feet wide
Plant type: perennial
Planting time: spring to summer from containers
Soil type: adapts to most soils from acidic to moderately alkaline with moderate drainage
Suggested uses: mass bedding, ground or bank cover, and as a spiller over the edge of beds above garden walls or in containers
Special Notes: Hardy to zone 8b and resistant to lantana lacebug.

Turk's Cap

Malvaviscus arboreus var. drummondii
USDAZone7b

A rapidly growing, coarse textured plant that produces a profusion of "turban-like" flowers in various colors ranging from bright red to pink to white. Flowers are produced all summer, but heavily in the fall and attract hummingbirds and butterflies. Turk's cap is native to south Texas, where it becomes an established perennial, but in north Texas is should be used as an annual. Turk's Cap is very drought tolerant once established. The cultivar "Pam Puryear" has soft pink flowers and 'Fiesta' is a variegated form with yellow and white splotched leaves.

Exposure: Sun or shade; flowers heavier in sun, but the foliage is more attractive with some shade.
Height: 3 to 6 feet with about equal spread
Plant type: perennial
Planting time: anytime from containers
Soil type: adaptable to most soils
Suggested uses: accent, perennial border, butterfly and hummingbird gardens, and as a deciduous hedge
Special notes: Root-hardy perennial in most of Texas including to zone 7b.

Dwarf Mexican Petunia

Ruellia brittoniana (various dwarf cultivars)
USDAZone8

Under proper growing conditions, dwarf Mexican petunias tend to reseed and produce tall upright clumping, dark green plants with lance-shaped leaves and bright, tubular flowers when in full bloom during the hottest part of the summer.

Exposure: full sun to partial shade
Height: 6-8 inches
Plant type: herbaceous perennial or annual depending on the location
Planting time: spring to summer from containers
Soil type: adapts to most soils from acidic to moderately alkaline with moderate drainage
Suggested uses: accent, small scale groundcover, perennial borders, edging or mixed plantings
Special notes: Dwarf Mexican petunias are very adaptable and will tolerate both wet and dry soils. They prefer full sun, but will grow in shade though flowering will be less. Although dwarf Mexican petunias are drought tolerant once established, they perform best with regular irrigation during droughts and with regular feeding of high phosphorus fertilizers.

John Fanick Perennial Phlox

Phlox paniculata, 'John Fanick'
USDAZone4

Masses of fragrant, light pink flowers sporting a dark pink eye in the summer highlight this heat and drought resistant perennial. It blooms several weeks later than Victoria phlox and does not lodge as easily as Victoria. It is more disease resistant as well.

Exposure: full sun for best bloom but will tolerate partial shade
Height: 24-36 inches
Plant type: perennial
Planting time: spring
Soil type: well-drained soil
Suggested uses: specimen and background in perennial gardens and as a cut flower
Special notes: The John Fanick perennial phlox has attractive evergreen foliage with a compact growth habit. This Texas Superstar tolerates heat, drought and powdery mildew, but avoid overhead irrigation with salty water. Plants should be spaced between 24 and 36 inches apart. Cut back in late summer for fall blooms.

Victoria Perennial Phlox

Phlox paniculata 'Victoria'
USDAZone4

This heat and drought resistant perennial sports masses of purplish-pink (magenta) flowers in the summer and in the fall (if cut back after summer bloom occurs).

Exposure: full sun for best bloom but will tolerate partial shade
Height: 24-36 inches
Plant type: perennial
Planting time: spring
Soil type: well-drained soil
Suggested uses: specimen and background in perennial gardens
Special notes: The Victoria perennial phlox has an attractive evergreen foliage with a compact growth habit. It is a hardy perennial with showy clusters of magenta pink blossoms. It also has lighter green foliage and a more open growth habit than the John Fanick. This Texas Superstar tolerates heat, drought and powdery mildew, but avoid overhead irrigation with salty water. Plants should be spaced between 24 and 36 inches apart. The ideal hardiness zone is 4.

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PERENNIAL PLANTS

Cape Plumbago

Plumbago auriculata
USDAZone8b

Cape Plumbago produces profuse blue flowers and thrives in the hot Texas summer. It is sometimes called “sky flower” because of the sky-blue color of its flowers. It produces from May until the first frost.

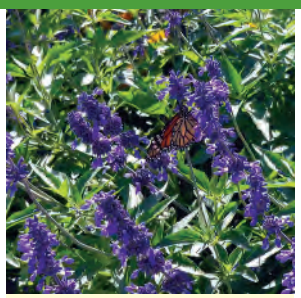
Exposure: full sun; partial sun
Height: 4 feet tall, up to 5 feet wide
Plant type: perennial
Planting time: anytime from containers
Soil type: adapts to most soils from acidic to moderately alkaline with moderate drainage
Suggested uses: container or accent plant
Special notes: Dried flowers should be pruned from the Plumbago to encourage re-blooming and to maintain desired plant shape. It is excellent for attracting butterflies. It can handle hot, humid summers and is reason- ably drought tolerant. Imperial Blue is a variety that holds its color well.

Mexican Bush Sage

Salvia leucantha
USDAZone8

A tough, drought tolerant, highly pest resistant salvia with showy spikes of purple and white, or solid purple, blossoms that appear in the fall. Also good as a cut flower.

Exposure: Full sun
Height: 3 to 4 feet tall, 3 feet wide
Plant type: perennial
Planting time: spring or summer from containers
Soil type: adaptable, but needs excellent drainage
Suggested uses: accent, bedding, perennial borders
Special notes: Perennial in southern half of state to zone 8 with good drainage. Stems brittle - protect from high winds.



Henry Duelberg Salvia

Salvia farinacea
USDAZone7

Henry Duelberg is a low-maintenance; heat-tolerant, Texas native plant that produces masses of showy blue flowers from spring until the first frost.

Exposure: full sun
Height: 3 feet; width 3 feet
Plant type: perennial
Soil type: adapts to most soils
Suggested uses: bedding, containers, xeriscape, perennial border, cut flower
Special notes: Shearing frequently between bloom cycles will promote bloom development. Henry Duelberg is not preferred by deer.

Mystic Spires Blue Salvia

Salvia longispicata x farinacea ‘Mystic Spires Blue’
USDAZone7

Mystic Spires Blue Salvia is a compact form of another popular salvia called Indigo Spires. Though shorter than Indigo Spires, it flowers even more freely during the entire growing season. It produces masses of true blue flowers that mix nicely with other annuals and perennials, is tolerant of heat and humidity (low and high) and is not bothered by pests, diseases or deer!

Exposure: full sun
Height: 18-30 inches
Plant type: perennial Planting time: spring to summer from containers
Soil type: adapts to most soils, but needs good drainage
Suggested uses: bedding, containers, perennial border, cut flower
Special notes: Mystic Spires Blue Salvia is hardy to zone 7 with good drainage. Excess water and fertilizer can result in excessive vegetative growth and lack of flowers. If needed, plants can be pruned during the growing season as reflowering occurs quickly. Shoots can be pruned to 12 inches or more in the fall after being killed by freezing, but refrain from pruning to the ground until growth is strong in the spring.

Blue Princess Verbena

Verbena x hybrida ‘Blue Princess’
USDAZone7b

This butterfly-attracting, easy care perennial has masses of beautiful, lavender blue flowers.

Exposure: full sun
Height: 12 inches
Plant type: perennial
Planting time: spring
Soil type: well-drained soil
Suggested uses: bedding plant, containers, baskets, perennial border, butterfly and hummingbird gardens
Special notes: The Blue Princess verbena blooms early spring through late fall. Shear between bloom cycles to promote new blooms. Rose Princess is also available. Both are available as virus indexed plants.

PER-ANNUAL PLANTS

Pride-of-Barbados

Caesalpinia pulcherrima
USDAZone8b

Pride of Barbados is an evergreen shrub or small tree in frost-free climates, a deciduous shrub in zone 9, a returning perennial in zone 8 and an annual in North and West Texas. Pride-of-Barbados dies to the ground following frost or freezing temperatures, but in zone 8b (South Central Texas) it comes back reliable in middle spring. Pride-of-Barbados has incredibly showy blossoms of orange and red. The striking orange-red flowers are an attention grabber!

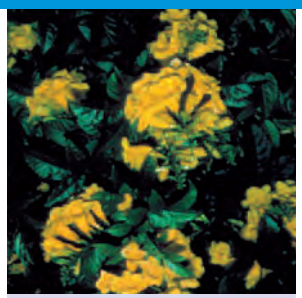
Exposure: full sun
Height: 8-12 feet
Plant type: summer annual, perennial, or woody shrub depending upon the severity of winter temperatures
Planting time: spring to early summer
Soil type: very easy to grow in alkaline to acidic, well-drained soils
Suggested uses: use as a specimen or in a mixed shrub border
Special notes: Plants tolerate very high temperatures and drought, but do not tolerate poorly drained soils. Pride-of-Barbados is best grown in raised beds in humid climates.

Duranta

Duranta erecta
USDAZone9

Brazilian Sky Flower is a rapid-growing, dense shrub with small glossy leaves and a profusion of pendulous racemes of small flowers with colors varying from light blue to purple.

Exposure: sun or shade; flowers heavier in sun
Height: 12-15 feet in south Texas depending on pruning
Plant type: root-hardy perennial in South Texas, but annual or tender perennial in most of the state
Planting time: anytime from containers
Soil type: adapts to most soils
Suggested uses: can be used as a container plant or an accent plant in a landscape
Special notes: Some selections fruit heavily and the plant becomes covered with small, golden ball-like drupes. Must be treated as an annual-root hardy perennial in most parts of Texas, but will be perennial in South Texas. Brazilian Sky Flower blooms best from summer until the

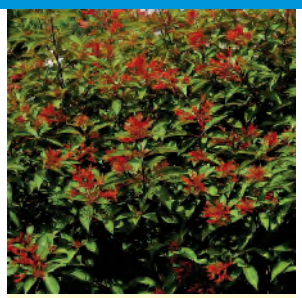


Gold Star Esperanza

Tecoma stans 'Gold Star'
USDAZone9

This heat-loving, semi-evergreen shrub has golden-yellow bell-shaped flowers late spring through fall.

Exposure: full sun
Height: 4 feet
Plant type: root hardy perennial
Planting time: spring
Soil type: well-drained soil
Suggested uses: containers, flower beds, butterfly and hummingbird gardens
Special notes: Gold Star esperanza is recommended for hardiness zone 9. It has attractive glossy foliage and grows up to 3-feet wide. Gold Star esperanza requires medium amounts of water. Water weekly in lieu of one inch of rain. Immediately remove the fruit (beans) after flowering to promote rebloom. Make sure you have Gold Star and not a tecoma grown from seed.



Firebush

Hamelia patens
USDAZone9

Firebush offers real hope to heat-hammered summer landscapes. Once established, firebush is very heat and drought tolerant. Firebush is an evergreen shrub or small tree native to many areas in tropical and subtropical America.

Exposure: full sun
Height: 18-30 inches
Plant type: annual from Central Texas northward, perennial in South Texas
Planting time: set transplants from mid-May through summer months and space one foot apart
Soil type: almost any well-drained soil, even highly alkaline, heavy clays
Suggested uses: mass plantings with white blooming annuals, containers and hummingbird gardens
Special notes: The firebush blooms between June and November with terminal clusters of scarlet red, tubular blossoms with deeper red throats. Its foliage turns to a blood red color in the fall. Firebush does not usually show signs of insect or disease damage when grown outdoors in a full sun location.

Compact Spicy Jatropha

Jatropha integerrima
USDAZone9

This subtropical evergreen shrub has glossy leaves and clusters of star-shaped bright scarlet or vermilion flowers. Jatropha is a spectacular shrub in bloom, which is most of the year in warmer portions of the state, and spring to frost in colder locations.

Exposure: best flowering is in full sun, but plants will remain attractive in partial shade
Height: in tropical climates plants may grow 8-10 feet tall, but as patio plants or summer annuals they are usually 3-5 feet tall.
Plant type: summer annual where winters are cold, woody shrub along the coast and in south Texas
Planting time: spring after danger of frost is past
Soil type: adapted to most well-drained garden soils and can be grown in a variety of potting mixes
Suggested uses: use as a summer accent where frosts are frequent or in a mixed shrub border where winters are warm. Use as a container plant to attract butterflies and hummingbirds.
Special notes: Fruit are reported to be poisonous, but appear to be seldom produced in most Texas regions.

WOODY SHRUBS

Variegated Tapioca

Manihot esculenta
USDAZone11 💧💧

Variegated Tapioca is a tropical plant grown as an annual in all but southern-most Texas. The variegated leaves form a chartreuse/yellow pattern. It is a non- blooming plant that offers a tropical flare to summer landscapes.

Exposure: full sun; partial sun, however plants are most colorful when grown in full sun
Height: 4 feet tall, up to 5 feet wide
Plant type: annual in all but southernmost Texas
Planting time: spring after last frost
Soil type: requires a well-drained soil or container potting mix and will tolerate a wide range of pH
Suggested uses: container or accent plant
Special notes: Variegated tapioca is a heat lover and does not grow vigorously until the night temperatures are consistently above 60° F. It will exhibit chilling injury when night temperatures dip below 50° F. Keep the growing medium moist, and mulch if planted in the soil. Plants will grow just as well in alkaline soil as they will in acidic soils. They are somewhat tolerant to foliar salt exposure in the Coastal Bend area.

Thyrallis or Shower-of-Gold

Galphimia glauca
Galphimia gracilis
USDAZone8b 🦌 💧💧

As the name implies, Shower-of-Gold offers season-long spikes of bright, yellow flowers; flowers are mostly held at or above the dark-green to blue-green foliage; with periodic pruning, plants develop a dense handsome canopy with enough flowers to draw the eye from a distance.

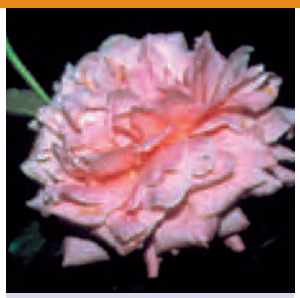
Exposure: full sun to very light shade
Height: 3-5 feet
Plant type: woody shrub (South Texas) or summer annual (North Texas)
Planting time: anytime from containers as a shrub, spring as a summer annual
Soil type: tolerant of most soils as long as they are well drained
Suggested uses: general-purpose evergreen shrub in warmer portions of Texas; tolerates summer heat as a patio container; nice background for perennial or annual borders in South Texas.
Special notes: This plant blooms whenever temperatures permit; annual pruning will maintain a denser habit and plants work well when pruned back as a sub-shrub or herbaceous perennial.

Lynn's Legacy Cenizo

Leucophyllum langmaniae
USDAZone8 🦌 💧

Lynn's Legacy (also known as Lowery's Legacy) was selected for its profuse and frequent flower displays. Its sage-green foliage is a wonderful backdrop for the lavender flowers. Compared to most selections of Texas sage, it is not as dependent on changes in relative humidity for flowering and can bloom more often during the course of the summer than other selections.

Exposure: full sun
Height: 5 feet
Plant type: woody shrub
Planting Time: anytime from containers
Soil type: tolerant of most soils as long as they are well drained and not soggy
Suggested uses: general-purpose shrub where a touch of silvery foliage is desired; other uses include as a foundation shrub, in island plantings, xeriscapes or in mixed boarders; with appropriate substrate, it can be used in containers on sunny patios
Special notes: Multiple flowering flushes frequently occur during a growing season; avoid over-watering.



Belinda's Dream Rose

Rosa x 'Belinda's Dream'
USDAZone7 💧💧

A cross between 'Tiffany' and 'Jersey Beauty,' this fast growing shrub is upright and sturdy and has bluish-green foliage. Its blossom is a clean pink, double and high-centered rose in the classic hybrid tea style and has a rich fragrance. Blooms occur in abundance all through the warm months, especially if spent blooms are removed immediately.

Exposure: full sun for best bloom
Height: 5 feet
Plant type: shrub rose
Planting time: fall and spring
Soil type: well-drained soil is best but will grow in high alkaline clay soils
Suggested uses: shrub border, cut flowers, dried flowers for potpourri
Special notes: Belinda's Dream performs best in hardiness zones 7-9. It has a bush habit and can be as wide as 4 feet. Needs day-long full sun and good air movement over the leaves. Drip irrigation or a soaker hose is recommended.
The plant is occasionally attacked by black spot during the cool season but is usually vigorous enough to overcome the disease.

Grandma's Yellow Rose

Rosa 'Nacogdoches'
USDAZone6 💧💧

Grandma's Yellow Rose is deep yellow with 17 to 25 petals and repeatedly blooms from spring until the first hard frost. Its new leaves have a shade of bronze, then turn dark green. Flowers have a light and spicy fragrance. It is a repeat bloomer from spring until frost and is quite disease resistant. It is cold hardy to zone 6.

Exposure: full sun for at least six hours per day
Height: 4-5 feet
Plant type: shrub rose with a floribunda type habit
Planting time: anytime from containers
Soil type: well-drained slightly acidic soil is best, but it adapts to alkaline clay soils as long as drainage is adequate
Suggested uses: accent, shrub border with perennials, low hedges, cut flowers
Special notes: Can be attacked by black spot during wet periods, mainly in the spring and fall. A few fungicide applications in the spring or during long wet periods will control the disease. Plants tolerate the disease well by readily producing new growth after defoliation

TREES

Knockout™ Rose

Rosa 'Radrazz'
USDAZone4 💧💧

The Knockout™ Rose produces fluorescent, cherry-red blooms that begin in spring and continue to provide color until the first frost.

Exposure: full sun
Height: 3-4 feet, but can grow up to 5-feet high and 5-feet wide when mature
Plant type: shrub rose
Planting time: anytime from containers
Soil type: adapts to most soils from acidic to moderately alkaline with reasonable drainage
Suggested uses: accent, shrub border, rose garden or low hedges
Special notes: The Knockout Rose grows well in planting zones 4 through 9 and is highly tolerant of black spot, powdery mildew and aphids. It is also cold- hardy throughout the state, will grow in a wide range of soils (even highly alkaline clays) and is very heat and drought tolerant once established. The double form is more compact and has more color impact.

Marie Daly Rose

Rosa x polyantha 'Marie Daly'
USDAZone5 💧💧

This easy care shrub rose has few thorns and lots of very fragrant, double pink blooms. It offers successive flushes of bloom from spring to frost. Developed for Texas, this rose offers a new color of renowned antique rose 'Marie Pavie' and good disease and alkaline soil tolerance.

Exposure: full sun
Height: 3 feet
Plant type: shrub rose
Planting time: fall and spring
Soil type: well-drained soil is best but will grow in high alkaline clay soils
Suggested uses: cut flowers, dried flowers for potpourri and landscapes
Special notes: Marie Daly Rose performs best in hardiness zone 5. It has a bush habit and can be as wide as 3 feet. Needs daylong full sun and good air movement over the leaves. Drip irrigation or a soaker hose is recommended.

Texas Lilac Vitex

Vitex agnus-castus
USDAZone7 💧

The Texas Lilac Vitex is a small-flowering tree and grows best when planted in full sun and in a location that drains well.

Exposure: full sun
Height: 10-15 feet
Plant type: large deciduous woody shrub or small tree
Planting time: anytime from containers
Soil type: adapts to most soils from acidic to moderately alkaline with moderate drainage
Suggested uses: accent, shrub border, seasonal screen or limbed up as a small ornamental tree
Special notes: Texas Lilac Vitex needs periodic renewal pruning to remove old dead wood. It prospers in hot and dry environments. It is also a spectacular butterfly-attracting plant. The three cultivars of Texas Lilac available are Le Compte, Shoal Creek and Montrose Purple which all have exceptionally long flower spikes. Also available in pink and white. Avoid use in areas where it becomes weedy.

Possum Haw Deciduous Holly

Ilex decidua
USDAZone5 💧

This outstanding small native tree requires very low maintenance. It will drop its leaves in fall to reveal showy red or orange berries (on female plants) that remain throughout the winter. Possum Haw attracts songbirds and is heat and drought tolerant.

Exposure: full sun to partial shade
Height: 10-15 feet
Plant type: large deciduous woody shrub or small tree
Planting time: anytime from containers
Soil type: adapts to most soils from acidic to slightly alkaline
Suggested uses: accent, shrub border, fall to winter specimen, limbed up as a small ornamental tree or patio tree
Special notes: Plant female clones for fruit effects, however a male pollinator must be in the area. Possum haw tolerates seasonal poorly drained soils.

Shantung Maple

Acer truncatum
USDAZone6 💧💧

This beautiful maple has a spreading canopy with attractive foliage that turns spectacular red or red-orange in late fall. It is reminiscent of Japanese maple but much tougher.

Exposure: full sun to partial shade
Height: 25 feet
Plant type: ornamental deciduous tree
Planting time: fall and spring
Soil type: various soil types and tolerates alkaline soils
Suggested uses: shade tree for small yards
Special notes: Shantung maples tolerate heat, however they are not adapt- ed to West Texas, and the trunk must be wrapped the first three years to prevent sunscald. Performs best in hardiness zone 6.

Ask a certified nursery professional at your local nursery for Texas Superstars and support local Texas producers.

TREES

Lacey Oak

Quercus glaucoides
USDAZone7 💧

This beautiful small oak, native to the Texas Hill Country, has a spreading canopy with attractive bluish-green foliage. Lacey oaks are highly tolerant of heat, drought, alkaline soil and pests. They make wonderful shade trees for smaller yards.

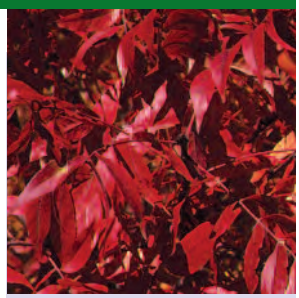
Exposure: full sun
Height: 25 feet
Plant type: deciduous tree
Planting time: fall and spring
Soil type: will survive in well-drained clay soils, but grows best in well-drained limestone soils
Suggested uses: Xeriscapes or low water-use landscapes are perfect conditions for growing Lacey oak. Works best as a shade tree in a small to medium landscape.
Special notes: Best adapted to the western two-thirds of the state. Don't water too frequently.

Chinkapin Oak

Quercus muehlenbergii
USDAZone5 💧

Chinkapin Oak is an attractive medium to large shade tree suitable for use in much of Texas. Its distinctive saw-tooth leaves, which resemble those of the chinquapin tree found in the eastern United States, are a rich green, turning yellow to bronze in fall.

Exposure: full sun
Height: 50-60 feet
Plant type: large deciduous tree
Planting time: anytime from containers
Soil type: adapts to most soils from slightly acidic to moderately alkaline with moderate drainage
Suggested uses: shade tree, street tree or park tree
Special notes: It grows in the wild on well-drained bottomland soils and lime- stone hills near water, but it is adaptable to a range of soils and exposures. It is moderate- to fast-growing and develops an open rounded crown as it ages. Chinkapin oak is heat and drought tolerant, which makes the species widely adaptable throughout Texas.



Chinese Pistache

Pistacia chinensis
USDAZone5 💧💧

This is a long-lived shade tree with spectacular red, red-orange fall color. It has outstanding heat and drought tolerance and is extremely pest resistant.

Exposure: full sun
Height: 40-50 feet
Plant type: deciduous shade tree
Planting time: fall (September through November) is best
Soil type: grows in any type of soil; try to avoid heavy clays that hold water
Suggested uses: ideal size for shade for single- story homes
Special notes: Develops an umbrella-like canopy and has a width of 30 feet. Fruit set will only occur on female trees which can result in undesireable seedlings. Choose male selections when possible. Light but frequent fertilizations are recommended. Once established, it has superior drought, heat and wind tolerance but will not tolerate excess or standing water. The ideal hardiness zone is 5.

Natchez Blackberry

Rubus fruticosus 'Natchez'
USDAZone5 💧💧

Natchez blackberry is a thornless cultivar out of the University of Arkansas. It is a trailing plant that produces an abundance of large, elongated fruit. The fruit is the largest produced by a thornless cultivar. Fruit quality is firm and outstanding and could be a commercial variety.

Exposure: full sun for maximum production.
Height: Canes are trailing and can attain heights of six to eight feet. Some sort of trellis will be in order to keep the canes off the ground.
Plant type: biennial; grow a top the first year, those canes fruit the next year and then they die. The plant sends up new canes each growing season for the next year's crop.
Planting time: Plant dormant root cuttings in early winter or plants in early spring three feet apart.
Soil type: numerous as long as well drained. Iron chlorosis may be an issue when soil pH is over 7.8.
Suggested uses: Container patio plant or a fruit producing accent bed in the landscape.
Special notes: To maintain plant health and vigor, some of the fruit should be removed each growing season. Too much fruit can cause subsequent prima canes to be weak with a poor crop the next year.

Caricature Plant

Graptophyllum pictum
USDAZone11 💧💧

Caricature Plant is an excellent summer annual for a wide range of light condi- tions from full sun to dense shade. Several new cultivars on the market offer foliage that varies from dark green or chocolate bronze with creamy white centers to tricolor foliage with various combinations of green, white, cream and pink.

Exposure: full sun to dense shade
Height: 2-4 feet as an annual, to 6-8 feet as a tropical shrub
Plant type: summer annual (cold climates) or woody shrub (tropics)
Planting time: anytime from containers as a shrub, late spring for use as a summer annual
Soil type: tolerant of most soils as long as they remain moist during the growing season
Suggested uses: ideal for those transition beds from sunny courtyards to the dense shade of entryways; can also be used in interiorscapes and containers.
Special notes: Caricature Plant is very heat tolerant, but wilts under drought conditions; it is cold sensitive and can be damaged by temperatures much below 55° F.

SPECIALTY PLANTS

Moth Orchid

Phalaenopsis
USDAZone11

The moth orchid is one of the best orchids for growing in the home. Clumped orchid plants in small pots are usually the most spectacular bloom producers.

Exposure: place near bright windows with no direct sun
Height: 2 feet
Plant type: sub-tropical indoor plants
Planting time: pot in late spring or early summer, after blooming has completed
Soil type: well-draining mix, such as fir bark, tree fern fiber, various types of stone, peat moss or combinations; standard potting mixes will kill them
Suggested uses: interior plants to add color to a home or office
Special notes: Keep the temperature above 60° F at night and between 70° F and 82° F during the day. Temperatures below 78° F for three to five weeks with good light are needed for initiating flower spikes. Thoroughly water and then let stand and do not water again until nearly dry. Apply a complete fertilizer on a regular schedule during the active growing season to one teaspoon per one gallon at each watering. Potting should be done in late spring or early summer after blooming is complete.

Satsuma Mandarin

Citrus reticulata
USDAZone9

Satsuma mandarin is one of the most cold tolerant citrus for Texas. The tree has attractive, evergreen foliage and produces white flowers with an awesome fragrance. The fruit is very sweet, juicy, easy to peel and is usually seedless.

Exposure: minimum of 8 to 10 hours of sun per day
Height: 8 to 10 feet high and wide on a rootstock in the ground; three to four feet in a container
Plant type: evergreen citrus tree
Planting time: early spring after danger of frost has passed
Soil type: adaptable if well drained or a well-drained potting soil
Suggested uses: accent plant for the patio and containers
Special notes: Performs best in hardiness zone 9. It will flower in early spring with fruit ripening in early to late fall. Containers should be at least 20 gallon with good drainage. Incorporate a slow release fertilizer into the mix and water with a water soluble fertilizer monthly. Containers can be moved in when a severe freeze warning is predicted. In ground plants may need some protection as well.

Miho Satsuma Mandarin

Citrus reticulata
USDAZone9

Miho Satsuma on its own roots produces a smaller tree that will come back true to type if frozen to the ground. Of all the Satsuma varieties Miho has performed the best. It produces an attractive evergreen tree with very fragrant flowers in early spring. The fruit ripens in early fall and is very sweet, easy to peel and usually seedless.

Exposure: minimum of 8 to 10 hours per day
Height: five feet high and wide; a bit smaller in containers
Plant type: evergreen citrus tree
Planting time: early spring after the danger of frost has passed
Soil type: adaptable if well drained or a well-drained potting soil
Suggested uses: accent plant for the patio and containers.
Special notes: Performs best in hardiness zone 9. It will flower in early spring with fruit ripening in early to late fall. If using a container, at least a 20 gallon size with good drainage is suggested. Incorporate a slow release fertilizer into the mix and water with a water soluble fertilizer monthly. Containers can be moved in when a severe freeze warning is predicted. In ground plants may need some protection as well.

Orange Frost Mandarin Hybrid

Citrus reticulata
USDAZone8

Orange Frost Mandarin hybrid is a cross between a very cold hardy Changsha tangerine and a very high quality Satsuma. The fruit is very sweet, easy to peel and only has one or two seeds per fruit. More importantly the tree has more cold hardiness than Satsuma and can be grown a bit further north.

Exposure: minimum of 8 to 10 hours of sun per day
Height: Eight to ten feet high and wide in the ground; four to six feet in containers
Plant type: evergreen citrus tree
Planting time: early spring after the danger of frost has passed
Soil type: adaptable if well drained or a well-drained potting soil
Suggested uses: accent plant for backyard and potential patio containers
Special notes: This Texas Superstar® should expand the planting zone for citrus in the ground to as far north as zone 8. Some protection will be required in the establishment phase. Trees will be on their own roots and will come back true if frozen back. The tree will also work well in containers. Amend the mix with slow release fertilizer and water once a month with a water soluble fertilizer.

'NuMex Twilight' Ornamental Pepper

Capsicum frutescens
'NuMex Twilight'

A showy ornamental pepper that matures is about 85 days. Plants produce good yields of ¾" long by ½" wide hot, edible peppers. Peppers grow upright in clusters, are very hot, and turn from purple, to yellow, to orange, to red when mature. The effect is very showy against the green stems and leaves and white flowers. New growth, flowers and peppers are continually produced which keeps the plant showy all season long.

Exposure: Full sun
Height: 2 feet by 2 feet wide
Plant type: annual
Planting time: from spring through late summer from containers
Soil type: adaptable to good soil type with good drainage
Suggested uses: bedding in vegetable or flower gardens and in containers
Special notes: Can be started from seed in early spring and set out after all danger of frost is past. Excellent for mixing vegetables into ornamental flower gardens. This ornamental pepper is suitable for growing in pots or containers.

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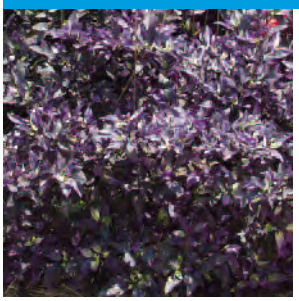
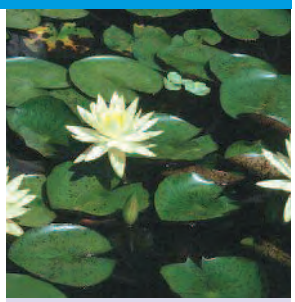


‘Purple Flash’ Ornamental Pepper

Capsicum annuum
‘Purple Flash’
💧💧

An exotic looking ornamental pepper with leaves that are almost black and overlayed with splashes of dark purple and white. Fruit are small and secondary to the foliage for display.

Exposure: full sun to partial shade
Height: 12-15 inches
Plant type: annual
Planting time: spring
Soil type: will grow in most well drained soils and in a variety of potting mixes
Suggested uses: a great vegetable to mix in flower borders, use in mass plantings, or in containers
Special notes: Plants are heat and drought tolerant. Fruit are extremely hot to the taste.



Texas Dawn

Nymphaea spp.
USDAZone Variable 💧💧💧

Texas Dawn received the International Water Lily Society’s 1990 American Award. It can be expected to produce seven to eight blooms at a time by mid- summer. Texas Dawn produces rich yellow flowers with outer petals blushed pink, greenish yellow with pink border sepal and deep yellow anthers. Flower size is 3- 8 inches with a lemony fragrance.

Exposure: full sun
Height: flowers grow 3 - 8 inches above the surface of the water
Plant type: perennial
Planting time: spring- summer when water tem- perature is 70- 85° F
Soil type: heavy clay
Suggested uses: ponds, cut flowers, dry flowers
Special notes: Green top leaves speckled purple with purple undersides. Leaves are 8 inches with a 3 - 5 foot spread. Even though Texas Dawn requires full sun, it is one of a few varieties that can bloom with three hours of sun daily, increasing your landscaping options. Other well-adapted water lily varieties include Clyde Ikins, Colorado, Laydekeri Fulgens, Panama Pacific, Perry’s Double White, Red Flare and Star of Siam.

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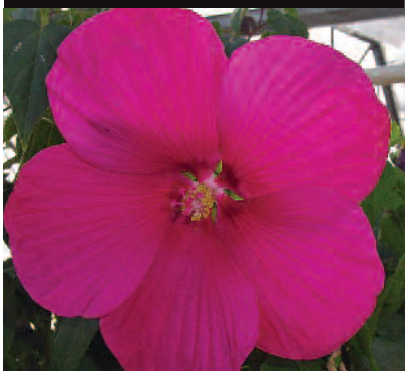


Texas Superstar® Videos

See the “Texas Superstars® Overview Video” at
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sUwk7zDONoE

See Tom Spencer, host of Central Texas Gardener on KLRU, interview Brent Pemberton, Chair of the Executive Board, about the Texas Superstar® Program at
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9QAcX5IstCI

See Texas Superstar® commercials produced by the Texas Department of Agriculture at:
Texas Superstars® at Local Nurseries
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=byjEvb9DF-c
Texas Superstars® TV Spot 1
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YLYcpXN9x5Q
Texas Superstars® TV Spot 2
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nR5Ps9Z_4iU
Texas Superstars® TV Spot 3
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=drzipQBS9aw

Explanation of Symbols

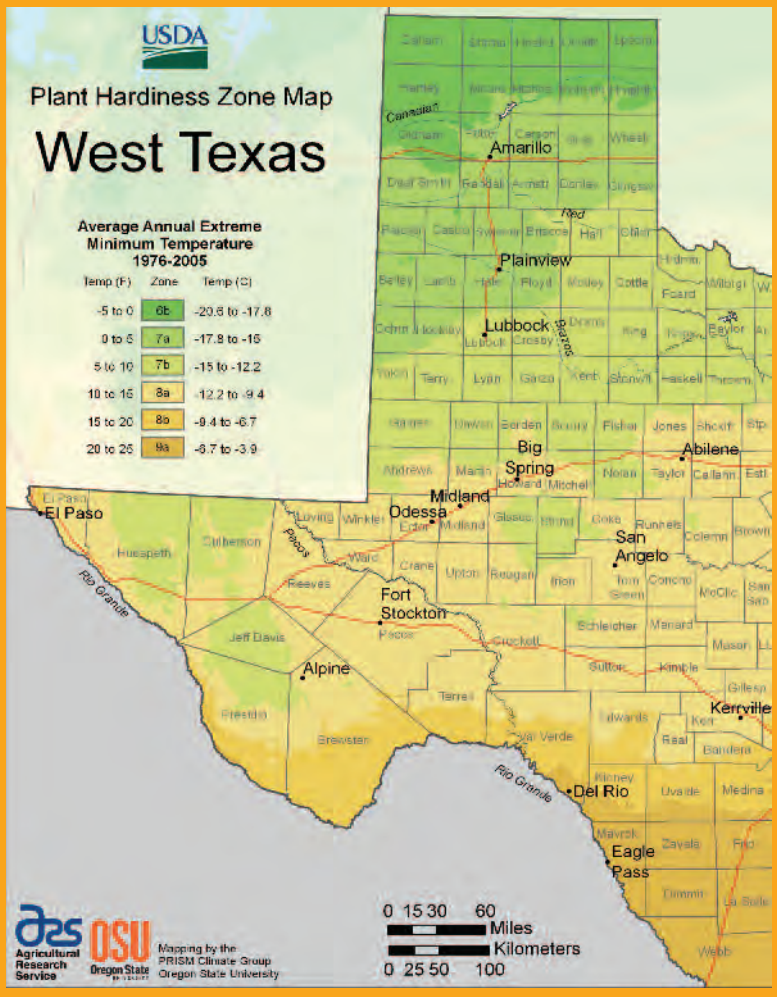
USDA Hardiness Zones
This designates the zone where a plant is typically considered cold hardy. Summer annuals do not have a hardiness designation, but winter annuals do. Please see the maps on the back cover for a key to the hardiness zones. The maps were prepared by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and can be found on the web site.

Water Use 💧
The number of raindrop symbols denotes the level of water use that can be expected for a particular plant. Even the most drought tolerant plants need adequate moisture for initial establishment.

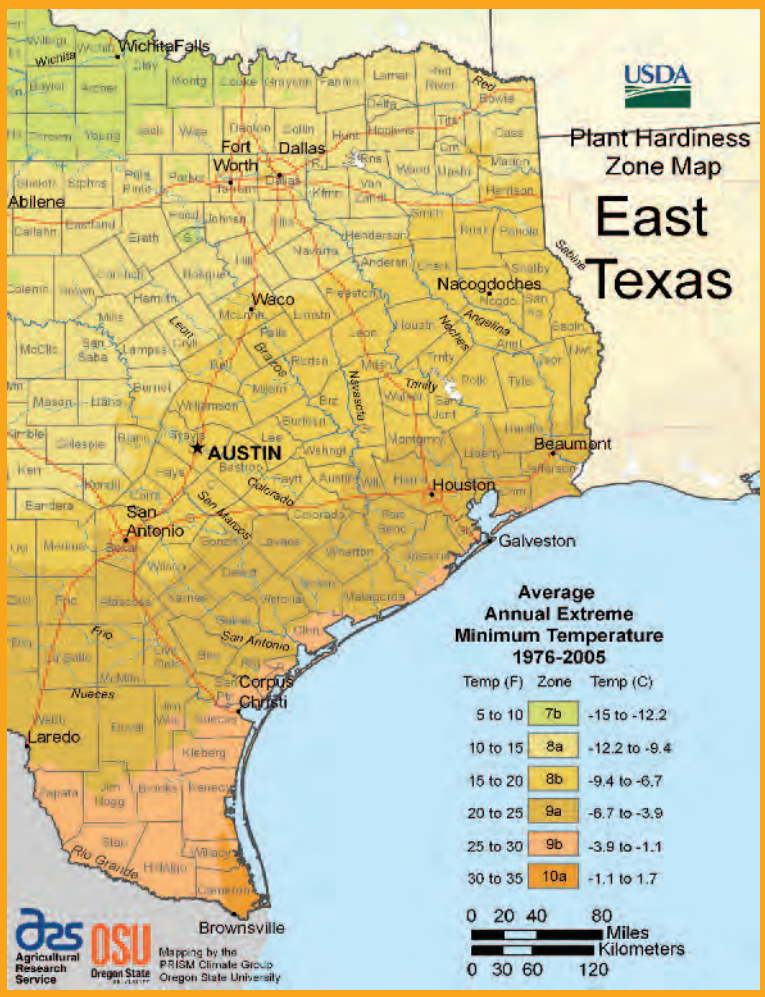
💧 = Low expected water use
💧💧 = Moderate expected water use
💧💧💧 = High expected water use

Texas Superstar® Deer-resistant plants
The designated deer symbol indicates “deer resistant”. Deer tend to avoid some plants and relish others. While no plant can be guaranteed to be “deer-proof,” some types of plants are less appealing to deer. Highly recommended by many gardeners is a good deer repellent to prevent deer damage for a 6 month time frame after planting for plant establishment.

USDA HARDINESS ZONES



Texas Superstars perform best at the hardiness zones indicated; however, Texas Superstars are widely adapted across the state.



Due to the wide diversity in climatic conditions across the State of Texas, some perennial plants may be treated as annuals. Contact your local Extension Agent for advice.

For more information:

Texas A&M AgriLife Research
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service
Proving that Texas Superstars® are outstanding landscape plants specifically adapted to Texas

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