

The information offered here is to help gardeners grow ornamental plants and herbs successfully in St. Tammany Parish home gardens. Every attempt has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information, but references should always be checked, and LSU AgCenter personnel contacted if there are questions.

# Ornamentals & Herbs

## An Essential Guide



*Photo by J Blazek*

## Introduction

This information was initially collated by Paul Andres, a Louisiana Master Gardener, as a quick guide for creating a successful and beautiful garden in St Tammany Parish. Use this guide when planning new gardens or considering purchases of new plants for existing gardens. Copy pages to give to your friends when you share your pass-along plants. Requirements for each plant, such as amount of sunlight, shade, water needs, propagation and soil types are included along with much more information. Additions and updates from other master gardeners are welcomed and can be submitted to Jamie Blazek at [info@stmastergardener.org](mailto:info@stmastergardener.org).

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# Agapanthus

*(Agapanthus spp)*



*Google image*

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | An herbaceous perennial monocot                     |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Southern Africa                                     |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Love flower, Lily of the Nile, African Lily         |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | A showy flower cluster, for border areas or centers |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 3 to 6 feet tall and 3 to 4 feet wide               |
| <b>Light</b>                | Full sunlight                                       |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Dies back with freeze, some damage below 20 F       |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Most types of soil are acceptable                   |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Grows well with no fertilizer.                      |
| <b>Water</b>                | Drought resistant' does not like "wet feet"         |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Split rhizome after 3 or 4 years                    |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Considered an invasive weed in some areas           |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Mild toxicity, not a true lily                      |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Split rhizomes for propagation                      |



# Amaryllis

*(Amaryllis spp)*



Photo by P Andres

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b> | A bulbous flowering plant   |
| <b>Origin</b>        | Native to southern Africa, Central and South America  |
| <b>AKA</b>           | Belladonna lily, Jersey lily, Naked lady, Amarillo  |
| <b>Purpose</b>       | Ornamental border plant or central focus  |
| <b>Growth size</b>   | Leaves 3 inches wide by 18 to 24 inches long; Flower stem 12 to 18 inches tall with several flowers on each stem. |
| <b>Light</b>         | Full sun. If planted in a container, rotate the container so plant does not lean one way.                         |
| <b>Temperature</b>   | Blooms best with temperatures over 60 F. Freeze tolerant down to 10 F.  |
| <b>Soil</b>          | Light, rich well drained soil; plant with 1/3 of bulb exposed.  |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>    | Once leaves appear, fertilize with balanced product, then monthly through the spring.                             |
| <b>Water</b>         | Water when top 1 inch of soil is dry; do not over water.  |
| <b>Growth hints</b>  | Plant bulbs in containers about 8 to 10 weeks before blooms are desired; keep dry and cool before planting.       |
| <b>Propagation</b>   | Split bulbs about every 3 to 4 years when planted in the ground,  |

# Angelonia

*(Angelonia angustifolia)*



*Google image*

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>     | Tender perennial  |
| <b>Origin</b>            | Found from Mexico to Brazil in arid or semiarid areas and the West Indies |
| <b>AKA</b>               | Summer snapdragon   |
| <b>Purpose</b>           | Grown as a decorative plant and for pollinators                           |
| <b>Growth size</b>       | Grows 12 to 18 inches high  |
| <b>Light</b>             | Full sun  |
| <b>Temperature</b>       | Exceptional heat and humidity tolerance                                   |
| <b>Soil</b>              | Use average to well-drained soil.   |
| <b>Water</b>             | Low water needs. Provide good drainage.                                   |
| <b>Growth hints</b>      | Pinching or pruning will delay flowering and make plant unattractive.     |
| <b>Unique properties</b> | Requires little maintenance.  |
| <b>Propagation</b>       | Start from cuttings.  |

# Arrowhead

*(Syngonium podophyllum)*



Google image

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>     | A hardy vine that can grow outdoors, but most often used as a container house plant   |
| <b>Origin</b>            | Native to tropical West Africa  |
| <b>AKA</b>               | Arrowhead vine, American evergreen, Nephthytis  |
| <b>Purpose</b>           | Evergreen house plant, ground cover   |
| <b>Growth size</b>       | Grows to 12 to 18 inches tall with long vines   |
| <b>Light</b>             | Bright to shaded light; avoid strong direct sun and deep shade  |
| <b>Temperature</b>       | Average home temperatures are good; usually recovers from a light freeze  |
| <b>Soil</b>              | Rich, well-drained soils  |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>        | Light fertilizing during growing season; none during winter   |
| <b>Water</b>             | Water as soon as soil dries out. Keep moist but avoid “wet feet” and root rot. Likes humid conditions, so mist leaves if in the house |
| <b>Growth hints</b>      | Keep vines cut to promote bushiness   |
| <b>Unique properties</b> | Mild toxicity sap can cause skin irritation   |
| <b>Propagation</b>       | Propagate with stem or root cuttings  |

# Asparagus Fern

*(Asparagus aethiopicus)*



Google image

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | Annual   |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Native to South Africa   |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Sprenger's asparagus   |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Ornamental house plant adaptable to warmer outside gardens                   |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | Up to 2 feet high and 6 feet wide  |
| <b>Light</b>                | Indirect light indoors. Partial shade outdoors                               |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Prefers warm to hot areas. Protect below 40 F                                |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Use loose, well-drained soil   |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Use dilute liquid fertilizer   |
| <b>Water</b>                | Keep plant hydrated and humid. Do not allow to dry out                       |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Considered aggressive and an invasive species                                |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Although this looks like a fern, it is a type of lily                        |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Poisonous to pets and people   |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Propagate by splitting root clusters; look for "pups" breaking off main bulb |

# Asparagus Bean

*(Vigna unguiculata subsp)*



*Google image*

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | Annual vegetable  |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Africa  |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Chinese long bean, Yard long bean                             |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Edible  |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 8 to 12 feet tall vines                                       |
| <b>Light</b>                | Prefers full sun  |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Likes hot temperature. Dies back below 40 F.                  |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Dry sandy soil  |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Does not need fertilizer because they fix their own nitrogen. |
| <b>Water</b>                | Do not over water, usually once per week                      |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Long vines need trellis or bamboo teepee.                     |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Pick pods before seeds are too prominent.                     |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Aphids on new plants. Wildlife is attracted to new growth.    |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Sow seeds directly into ground after last frost.              |

# Azalea

*(Rhododendron spp.)*



*Photo by J Blazek*

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | Woody perennial shrub  |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Some deciduous azaleas are native to North America; most evergreen azaleas are native to Asia or Japan   |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Hedges and borders; deep green background plants   |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | Grows to 7-25 feet tall, 5-10 feet wide.<br>Dwarf varieties grow to about 2 feet in height   |
| <b>Light</b>                | Partial to full shade; a few varieties tolerate full sun   |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Zones 5 through 9  |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Acidic well-drained rich soil  |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Fertilize lightly <u>after</u> plants are established and following their blooms. Use half as much as the label recommends. Use compost or organic supplements.                |
| <b>Water</b>                | Mulching well all year long helps retain moisture, not drought tolerant  |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Trim bushes after they bloom and up until July when the following year's blooms set.   |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Hardy once established   |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Poisonous to children and pets, all parts but especially flowers and nectar<br>Datana major G&R caterpillar found on azaleas usually July through August. Treat with Bt spray. |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Stem cuttings or lay branch on the ground with cover to encourage root growth.   |



# Banana Plant

*(Musa spp)*



Photo by J Blazek

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>     | Herbaceous flowering plant  |
| <b>Origin</b>            | Native to Southeast Asia  |
| <b>AKA</b>               | Banana tree, plantain tree  |
| <b>Purpose</b>           | Ornamental plant, fruit producing crop  |
| <b>Growth size</b>       | Different cultivars vary from 2 to 25 feet  |
| <b>Light</b>             | Full sunlight   |
| <b>Temperature</b>       | Most varieties are warm natured, some are cold tolerant and do well in St Tammany Parish. To avoid frost damage, stalks can be cut down to about 1 foot. Then cover with a plastic pot or mulch. (It takes a couple of growing seasons for a stalk to produce a flower and fruit. If flower and fruit is what you want, do not trim the stalk down.)  |
| <b>Soil</b>              | Well-drained acidic soil  |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>        | Fertilize monthly during growing season with 3-1-6 product  |
| <b>Water</b>             | Requires lots of water 2 to 3 inches weekly   |
| <b>Growth hints</b>      | Leaves need protection from wind damage.<br>Prune leaves that are brown only up to the stalk, not all the way down to the ground. Pruning the entire leaf layer to the ground will result in a weakened stalk that may fall in high winds. A stalk will produce flower and fruit only once. A stalk that has flowered can be cut back to thin the plant grouping and to avoid unwanted spreading. |
| <b>Unique properties</b> | Not a true tree, the world's largest herb, do not use herbicides near banana plants   |
| <b>Propagation</b>       | Plants produce "pups" and will spread out. If you want to limit the area of growth, trim the pups in places where you do not want banana plants.  |

# Beautyberry

*(Callicarpa americana)*



Photo by J Blazek

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | Perennial deciduous woody shrub  |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Native to southeastern North America   |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | American beautyberry, French mulberry, sourbush, bunchberry  |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Flowers, fruit, and foliage are important food sources for wildlife.<br>Crushed berries can be used as a mosquito repellent. |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | Up to 8 tall and 6 feet wide   |
| <b>Light</b>                | Full sun to partial shade, good understory shrub   |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Cold and heat tolerant, dormant in the winter  |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Grows in most types of soil  |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Not necessary  |
| <b>Water</b>                | Will tolerate draughts, but thrives with regular watering  |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Can be pruned back extensively late winter   |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | One of the first plants to appear after land has been cleared or burned  |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Leaf spot, black mold  |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Seeds, root cuttings, softwood tip cuttings (taken in summer and fall), or transplant volunteer plants                       |



# Black-eyed Susan

*(Rudbeckia spp)*



*Google image*

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | Perennial  |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Eastern and central North America  |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Coneflower, North American sunflower   |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Nectar source for bees, butterflies, and other insects. Works well in borders or containers    |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | Plant grows 2 to 3 feet in height, flower diameter is 2 to 3 inches                            |
| <b>Light</b>                | Prefers full sun, will grow in partial sun   |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Plant seed when soil temperature reaches 70 F. Dies back with frost                            |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Can tolerate poor conditions   |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Should be lightly fertilized   |
| <b>Water</b>                | Do not allow to dry out, but avoid "wet feet"  |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Flowers June to September  |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Deadhead plants to get second flowering in late fall   |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Soil fungus, slugs, aphids, rust, and powdery mildew<br>Will force out other flowers or plants |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Re-seeds itself  |

# Basil, African Blue

*(Ocimum kilimandscharicum x basilicum 'Dark Opal')*



Google image

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | Perennial herb, a hybrid of camphor basil and dark opal basil   |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Athens, Ohio  |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Attracts pollinators, especially bees. Does well in large containers and in gardens<br>Edible. Strong camphor scent and flavor may not be appealing as a kitchen herb |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | Grows to 3 feet high and 4 ft wide  |
| <b>Light</b>                | Full sun  |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Thrives in hot & humid weather  |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Well drained soil   |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Amend soil with compost   |
| <b>Water</b>                | Handles draught well  |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Trim to encourage bushiness. Grows and blooms until frost. May return in spring if protected.   |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Sterile, will not make seeds  |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Aphids, snails, and slugs   |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Must propagate from cuttings. Start cuttings in water any time during the spring and summer.  |

## *(Schlumbergera spp)*



*Google image*

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | A seasonal succulent which does not need an arid environment.                           |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Rain forests of Brazil  |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Thanksgiving cactus, Easter cactus differentiated by when it blooms and shape of leaves |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Ornamental house plant  |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 6 to 12 inches tall, 1 to 2 feet in width   |
| <b>Light</b>                | Bright indirect light   |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Cool temps (65F) to grow and set bulbs; warmer temps to show off flower                 |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Well-drained loamy soil   |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Every 2 weeks with dilute liquid fertilizer   |
| <b>Water</b>                | Do not overwater. Add water when topsoil is dry to the touch.                           |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Do not make sudden or drastic changes in light, temps, water.                           |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Mealy bugs and root rot   |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Spring stem cuttings are best. Cover at least one segment of the cutting with soil.     |

# Basil, Purple

*(Ocimum basilicum)*



Google image

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b> | A warm season annual herb                                   |
| <b>Origin</b>        | Africa and Southeast Asia                                   |
| <b>AKA</b>           | Cultivars Purple Ruffles, Dark Opal Purple                  |
| <b>Purpose</b>       | A culinary herb, decorative and fragrant garden focal point |
| <b>Growth size</b>   | Grows 18 to 24 inches                                       |
| <b>Light</b>         | Full sun  |
| <b>Temperature</b>   | Dies back below 40 F  |
| <b>Soil</b>          | Moist, well-drained   |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>    | Balanced, time-released                                     |
| <b>Water</b>         | Use mulch to hold moisture, water when top inch is dry      |
| <b>Growth hints</b>  | Pinch back to promote bushiness.                            |
| <b>Propagation</b>   | Seeds or slips, sometimes re-seeds itself                   |

# Basil, Thai

*(Ocimum basilicum variety)*



Google image

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | A woody herb in the mint family  |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Southeast Asia   |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Queen Siam Basil   |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Culinary herb and fragrant garden ornamental. Can be grown in containers.                              |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | Grows 12 to 18 inches high and 12 inches wide.   |
| <b>Light</b>                | Full sun   |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Warm weather plant. Do not place in ground until soil is above 65 F                                    |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Loamy soil with good compost supplement  |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Fish emulsion 2 to 3 times during growth season  |
| <b>Water</b>                | Moist and well-drained   |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Like conditions as rosemary plants. Can be grown together.   |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Similar taste as sweet basil with licorice flavor  |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Can become very "leggy." Needs trimming to encourage bush-like shape.                                  |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Seeds have a lower germination rate. Plant 4 or 5 per pot. Thin to 1 or 2 plants once true leaves set. |

# Bee Balm

*(Monarda didyma)*



|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | Herbaceous perennial   |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Native to the plains and eastern North America                   |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Wild bergamot  |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Attractive to hummingbirds, butterflies, and other pollinators   |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | Grows 3' to 5' tall X 2' to 3' wide                              |
| <b>Light</b>                | Full sun to partial shade  |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Zones 6 to 9   |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Moderate, moist soils  |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Fertilize infrequently   |
| <b>Water</b>                | Medium to wet moisture requirements                              |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Deadhead to encourage blooms; divide clusters every 3 to 5 years |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    |  |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Powdery mildew can be a problem; allow for good air flow         |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Divide roots every 3 to 5 years                                  |



# Blue Cardinal Flower

*(Lobelia siphilitica)*



|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | Herbaceous perennial                               |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Native to Eastern North America                    |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Great lobelia                                      |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Used in rain gardens and native plantings          |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 2' to 3' high X 1' to 2' wide                      |
| <b>Light</b>                | Full sun (cooler environs) to partial shade        |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Zones 4-9  |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Prefers rich humus soil                            |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Rich soils precludes frequent fertilizing          |
| <b>Water</b>                | Medium to moist water requirements                 |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Grows best along streams, bogs, bayous and creeks  |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Late summer blooms of blue flower spikes           |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Few recorded problems; Shade plants in hot weather |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Divide clusters in the spring                      |

# Bottlebrush Bush

*(Callistemon spp)*



*Google image*

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | A fast-growing shrub or small tree   |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Australia  |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Little John  |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Attracts pollinators. Ornamental.  |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | Up to 15 feet tall   |
| <b>Light</b>                | Full sunlight  |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Handles high temperatures and low humidity well.<br>Frost will kill the roots. |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Loamy, moist, well-drained   |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Light to moderate amount of low phosphorus product                             |
| <b>Water</b>                | Drought resistant. Needs moderate moisture but no standing water.              |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Prune to keep the bush shape.  |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | All moisture related problems can affect this plant, especially root rot.      |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Use green wood cuttings.   |



# Bougainvillea

*(Bougainvillea spp)*



*Google image*

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | A fast-growing tropical vine with showy flowers  |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Native to South America  |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Ornamental used in-ground and container planting.<br>Can also be trained to grow on a trellis. |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | Can grow to 20 feet tall and wide if not controlled.   |
| <b>Light</b>                | Bright full sun  |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Grows in hot, dry areas  |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Moderate well-drained soil   |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Light fertilizer with higher potassium content   |
| <b>Water</b>                | Water lightly once established. Draught resistant  |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Prune to keep shape and size. Add fertilizer or compost after pruning.                         |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Do not baby this plant. Too much water or shade is not good for blooms.                        |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Sap can cause skin rash in some people.  |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Slips and cuttings   |

# Bromeliad

*(Bromeliaceae spp)*



Google image

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>     | An attractive houseplant with multiple leaves that spiral from a central cup. Many varieties from Spanish moss to pineapples |
| <b>Origin</b>            | Native to the tropical Americas  |
| <b>AKA</b>               | Air plants   |
| <b>Purpose</b>           | Ornamental uses and some food production   |
| <b>Growth size</b>       | Wide variety of sizes  |
| <b>Light</b>             | Bright indirect light  |
| <b>Temperature</b>       | Does best in warm, humid conditions. The hardier cultivar will recover from a light freeze.                                  |
| <b>Soil</b>              | Some grow without soil (epiphyte). Soil should be light, rich, fast draining.  |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>        | Fertilize lightly with $\frac{1}{4}$ – $\frac{1}{2}$ strength liquid fertilizer.   |
| <b>Water</b>             | Water sparingly with mist or fill the cup. Rinse cup of salts and residue periodically. Do not let stand in water.           |
| <b>Growth hints</b>      | Expose to ethylene (apple slice) to encourage flowering.   |
| <b>Unique properties</b> | The “mother” plant will die after blooming, but “pups” will show shortly.  |
| <b>Propagation</b>       | Propagate from “pups” that grow from root clusters.  |

# Buddleia

*(Buddleia davidii)*



Google image

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | Woody perennial shrub  |
| <b>Origin</b>               | China and Asia   |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Buddleja, Summer lilac   |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Attracts butterflies   |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 30 to 36 inches tall by 30 inches wide. Space plants 2 to 3 feet apart.                          |
| <b>Light</b>                | Full to part sun   |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Susceptible to freeze damage in winter and to frost damage as new growth begins in early spring. |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Average well-drained soil  |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Thin layer of controlled release fertilizer or compost   |
| <b>Water</b>                | Drought tolerant. Adapts to most moisture conditions.  |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Plant on early spring for blooms from mid-spring to fall.  |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | There are both invasive and non-invasive varieties.  |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Invasive types will take over native plant habitats.   |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Seeds or cuttings  |

# Caladium

*(Caladium spp)*



Google image

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | A tropical perennial or indoor plant  |
| <b>Origin</b>               | South and Central America   |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Angel wings, Elephant Ears  |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Ornamental boarder plant or focal cluster   |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 12 to 30 inches high X 12 to 24 inches wide   |
| <b>Light</b>                | Partial shade or indirect light. The narrower the leaves, the more sun it will tolerate.                    |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Heat tolerant. Cannot handle freezing weather. Mulch heavy in winter to keep in ground caladium from dying. |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Rich, well drained and high in organic material   |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Every 2 weeks with liquid or slow-release fertilizer  |
| <b>Water</b>                | Keep soil evenly moist and do not allow to dry out.   |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Growth season is spring and summer. Dormant in fall and winter  |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Various shades of green mottled and blotched with white, pink, or red                                       |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | All parts are toxic if chewed or swallowed. Sap can cause skin rash.  |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Mature tubers with one growth section   |

# Camellia

*(Camellia spp)*



*Photo by J Blazek*

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | Hardwood shrub to small tree   |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Southeast Asia   |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Ornamental border, background or focus point   |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | Size varies with the cultivar from shrubs 2 feet tall to trees 20 feet tall.   |
| <b>Light</b>                | Likes slight shade with morning sun and dappled shade in afternoon   |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Warm climates. Protect from hard freezes   |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Slightly acidic well-drained soil with organic material  |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Fertilize with specific formula monthly as buds develop. Stop while blooms are open.   |
| <b>Water</b>                | Provide adequate water when young. Mature plants need less.  |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Check cultivar for pruning. Usually done right after blooming season.  |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Use mulch freely to retain moisture and protect from cold.   |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Mites, powdery mildew, and petal blight.   |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Takes 5 years or more for a rooted cutting or seeds to grow large enough to flower. Flowering can occur as soon as 1 to 3 years when grafted to sasanqua root stock. |

# Cast Iron Plant

*(Aspidistra elatior)*



Google image

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | Herbaceous perennial and indestructible house plant   |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Taiwan and Japan                                      |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Iron plant, Ballroom plant                            |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Low maintenance outdoor or house planting             |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 18 to 24 inches high. Spreads slowly                  |
| <b>Light</b>                | Partial to heavy shade                                |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Does well in 40F+ temperatures, but suffers in frost. |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Will grow in sandy to clay soils                      |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Annual dose of all-purpose fertilizer                 |
| <b>Water</b>                | Needs good drainage and light watering                |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Grows slow. Can be easily divided.                    |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Does well indoor or out, in ground or in containers.  |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Dust leaves on indoor plants.                         |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | New shoots or root cuttings                           |



# Cereus

*(Epiphyllum oxypetalum)*



Google image

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | Cactus  |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Central or South America  |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Night Blooming Cereus, Princess of the Night, Queen of the Night  |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Unique short-lived flower. Produces a small fruit.  |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | Up to 5 feet high and 10 feet wide with long stalks   |
| <b>Light</b>                | Partial shade   |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Tropical freeze or frost will kill the plant  |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Will flourish in poor to moderate soil.   |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Light feeding of established plants   |
| <b>Water</b>                | Well-drained. Watch for root rot  |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Produces lots of new growth in spring and summer.<br>Requires manicure to keep from getting too gangly. |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Flowers bloom at night and open in 10 minutes   |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Scale, mealy bugs   |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Leaves can be rooted at any time.   |

# Christmas Cactus

## Chrysanthemum

*(Chrysanthemum spp)*



Google image

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | An herbaceous perennial in the daisy family  |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Asia and Northeast Europe  |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Garden Mum, Mum  |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Colorful bedding plants used for late summer and fall  |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 4 to 36 inches tall and 12 to 36 inches in width   |
| <b>Light</b>                | Full sunlight  |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Rich well-drained soil with plenty of humus  |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Heavy feeders feed spring through summer   |
| <b>Water</b>                | One inch per week, more during hot summer months   |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Plant in ground in spring. Mulch in-ground plants in winter.<br>Over winter potted plants indoors or in a greenhouse |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Deadhead flowers to keep plants in bloom.  |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Aphids and spider mites  |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Divide root bundle every 2 or 3 years in spring.   |



# Citronella

*(Pelargonium citrosum)*



Google image

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>     | A type of geranium with a citrus-like aroma<br>A tropical annual        |
| <b>Origin</b>            | West Africa   |
| <b>AKA</b>               | Mosquito plant, deodorizer plant, citronella plant                      |
| <b>Purpose</b>           | Produces a citronella grass (lemongrass) aroma, but not as potent       |
| <b>Growth size</b>       | 18 to 24 inches high and 12 to 18 inches in width                       |
| <b>Light</b>             | Full sun to partial shade. Afternoon partial shade is good.             |
| <b>Temperature</b>       | Dies back with a freeze   |
| <b>Soil</b>              | Moderate well drained soil. Good for containers                         |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>        | Use a balanced product every month.                                     |
| <b>Water</b>             | Water when soil dries out. Do not over-water.<br>Drought tolerant       |
| <b>Unique properties</b> | Purple blooms.  |
| <b>Propagation</b>       | seeds and stem cuttings. Allow seeds to dry on plant before collecting. |

# Coleus

*(Solenostemon scutellarioides cvs)*



Google image

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | Tender tropical   |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Areas along the Equator   |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Foliage used to decorate borders and for cuttings   |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 12 to 16 inches high and 10 to 12 inches in width   |
| <b>Light</b>                | May be damaged by full, hot sun which varies with cultivar and area   |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Warm-weather plants. Heat tolerant. Damaged by temps below 40F  |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Lightly   |
| <b>Water</b>                | Needs moderate to heavy watering.   |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Plant spring through summer   |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Late season blooms. Serrated foliage of unique chartreuse to copper shades with complimentary dark burgundy undersides. |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Sap can cause rash in some humans. Oils are toxic to dogs and cats.   |

# Coneflower, Purple

*(Echinacea purpurea)*



*Google image*

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | A hardy perennial prairie plant                                    |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Eastern North America  |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | It is a source of nectar for pollinators and a decorative planting |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 10 to 14 inches tall   |
| <b>Light</b>                | Does best in full sunlight but will tolerate some shade.           |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Dies back in winter but comes back every spring.                   |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Does well in most soils.   |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Light fertilizer in the spring                                     |
| <b>Water</b>                | Handles droughts but should receive regular watering.              |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Can be an aggressive spreader.                                     |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Self-seeding. Root ball can be divided.                            |

# Coneflower, Sweet

*(Rudbeckia subtomentosa)*



|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | Herbaceous perennial                                      |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Native to North America grasslands and prairies           |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | AKA sweet black-eyed Susan                                |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Supports pollinators, caterpillars, and small birds       |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | Grows 3' to 5' tall X 1' to 2' wide                       |
| <b>Light</b>                | Full sun to partial shade                                 |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Zones 4 through 9   |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Clay, sandy loam, high organic materials                  |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Medium moisture in well drained soils                     |
| <b>Water</b>                | Low maintenance   |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Flowers in summer to late fall                            |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Good for native gardens, rain gardens, pollinator plots   |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Resistant to deer and other wildlife, some powdery mildew |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Propagation by seeds                                      |

# Crape Myrtle

*(Lagerstroemia indica)*

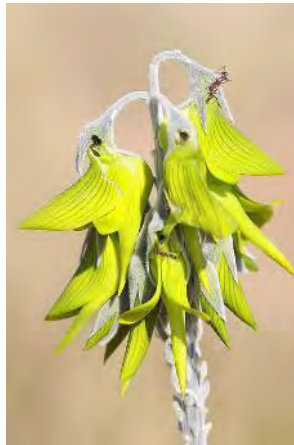


Google Image

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | Deciduous perennial. A small to medium shrub, or small to medium tree with multiple trunks |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Southeast Asia and China   |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Crepe myrtle   |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Decorative hedges and trees. Provides for wildlife and pollinators.                        |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 5 to 18 feet tall and 6 to 12 feet in canopy width   |
| <b>Light</b>                | Full sun to partial shade  |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Regrows after light to moderate freeze.  |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Moist, well-drained soil   |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Spring and summer. Use tree spikes for larger species                                      |
| <b>Water</b>                | Give adequate water when young. Once established there is some drought tolerance.          |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Fast growing once established. Prune with caution. Do not prune too much at one time.      |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Bark splits and sloughs off showing a smooth inner bark. This is not a problem.            |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | An aggressive plant that is considered invasive in some areas.                             |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Cuttings, runners (suckers) or seeds   |

# Crotalaria

*(Crotalaria cunninghamii)*



|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | A short-lived perennial herbaceous shrub  |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Native to semi-arid locales of Australia  |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Parrot Pea, Green Birdflower, Mangarr plant   |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Decorative plant attractive to large pollinators; used to stabilize sand dunes; some medicinal uses for swelling and eye infections |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | Grows 6' to 10' tall and wide   |
| <b>Light</b>                | Full sun to partial shade   |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Does not handle freezes well; may need to be reseeded   |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Moderate, well-drained soils; sandy loam is best  |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Light fertilizer, if any  |
| <b>Water</b>                |   |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Non-toxic and non-invasive, but spreads rapidly   |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Native to Australia with growth and bloom during summer season  |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | No pests or disease problems listed   |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Propagate from both cuttings and seeds  |



# Croton

*(Codiaeum variegatum)*



Google image

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | A tropical perennial with large, multicolored leaves  |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Tropical forests of Southeast Asia and Oceania  |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Garden croton   |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Ornamental house plant  |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 3 to 4 feet high and 3 feet in width  |
| <b>Light</b>                | Bright light indoors. Full sun outdoors.<br>Too little light will cause new growth to be pale in color. |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Indoor room temperature is adequate. Outside should be above 50F.                                       |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Rich, well-drained soil   |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Spring and summer   |
| <b>Water</b>                | Allow for even moisture throughout the pot. Do not keep too wet.<br>Mist leaves if humidity is low.     |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Pot should be large enough to support upward growth.  |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | All parts of the plant, including the seeds, are poisonous.   |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Cuttings can be rooted in water or soil.  |

# Cuphea

*(Cuphea llavea)*



Bob Shrader

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | A perennial tropical shrub                                  |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Native to Mexico and south Texas                            |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | AKA bat-faced cuphea, bat flower, false heather, red cuphea |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Attractive to hummingbirds, bees and other pollinators      |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | Grows 18" to 24" tall and wide                              |
| <b>Light</b>                | Prefers full sun  |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | In zones below 7 this is grown as an annual                 |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Grow in well-drained loamy soil                             |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Low-maintenance plant requiring little fertilizing          |
| <b>Water</b>                | Medium water requirements                                   |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Long blooming season from April to first frosts             |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Early blooms last until frost                               |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Few pests or problems when grown outdoors                   |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Propagate by seeds and root or green-wood cuttings          |



# Curry Tree

*(Murraya koenigii)*



Google image

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>     | A tropical to subtropical tree  |
| <b>Origin</b>            | Asia  |
| <b>AKA</b>               | Sweet neem tree (not related to the neem family)                              |
| <b>Purpose</b>           | Culinary leaves used in Indian curries  |
| <b>Growth size</b>       | Up to 20 feet tall in-ground. 3 to 4 feet in a container.                     |
| <b>Light</b>             | Full sun  |
| <b>Temperature</b>       | Likes the heat and humidity. May survive a light freeze but will drop leaves. |
| <b>Soil</b>              | Well drained soil   |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>        | Lightly use nitrogen-heavy fertilizer for more leaves.                        |
| <b>Water</b>             | Water infrequently  |
| <b>Growth hints</b>      | Trim to encourage bushing.  |
| <b>Unique properties</b> | Active growing and planting in spring. Dormant in winter.                     |
| <b>Propagation</b>       | Cuttings, suckers, or fresh, ripe seeds                                       |

# Dieffenbachia

*(Dieffenbachia sp)*



Google image

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | A tropical herbaceous   |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Tropical Central and South America  |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Dumb cane   |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Usually grown as a house plant  |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 3 to 5 feet tall and 1 to 2 feet in width   |
| <b>Light</b>                | Partial to full shade   |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Likes high temps and humidity. Will drop leaves with temperatures below 50F.  |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Well-drained potting soil with a lot of peat moss   |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | every 3 to 4 weeks with dilute liquid fertilizer  |
| <b>Water</b>                | Keep moist but not wet during growing season. Cut back on the water when dormant.   |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | A wide variety of cultivars   |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Toxicity will cause numbness and irritation of skin, lips, throat, and eyes.<br>Bothered by scale and mites. Wipe leaves with moist soft cloth. |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Root cuttings, stem cuttings, or laying a cane in potting soil  |

# Dragon Fruit

*(Hylocereus undatus)*



|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b> | Cactus Plant  |
| <b>Origin</b>        | Tropical America  |
| <b>Purpose</b>       | Produces an edible fruit.   |
| <b>Growth size</b>   | Long stalks and branches reaching dozens of feet  |
| <b>Light</b>         | Full sun  |
| <b>Temperature</b>   | Warm  |
| <b>Soil</b>          | Well-drained. In ground 1 part each soil, sand, and compost<br>In containers use cactus soil mix. |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>    | Feed with compost or fertilizer.  |
| <b>Water</b>         | Water moderately once a week.   |
| <b>Growth hints</b>  | Needs sturdy support such as stakes.  |
| <b>Propagation</b>   | Leaves will readily self-root.  |

# Elderberry

*(Sambucus spp)*



Google image

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | A large deciduous shrub or bush  |
| <b>Origin</b>               | North America and Europe   |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Food for wildlife. Culinary fruit for jellies and wine, tea from flowers     |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | Up to 20 feet high   |
| <b>Light</b>                | Full sun to partial shade  |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | From temperate climates to hot and humid areas                               |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Well-drained soils with high humus content                                   |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | 8-8-8 lightly twice during the growing season                                |
| <b>Water</b>                | Needs ample moisture, but not "wet feet."                                    |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Raw berries and all parts have low toxicity. Flowers must be boiled for tea. |

# Esperanza

*(Tecoma stans)*



*Photo from yourconroenews.com*

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | A woody perennial herbaceous shrub  |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Texas Hill Country  |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Yellow bells, hardy yellow trumpet, yellow alder  |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Medicinal plant. The root can be used as a base for beer. Attracts pollinators            |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 3 to 6 feet high and 3 to 4 feet in width   |
| <b>Light</b>                | Full sun  |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | High heat tolerance   |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Fertile well-drained soil. Add compost if needed.   |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Once a month with a balanced product  |
| <b>Water</b>                | At least once per week, otherwise will wilt.  |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Trim back during winter dormancy  |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Trim seed pods to encourage flowers.  |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | The pollen is toxic as is honey made from this plant. Beekeepers should avoid this plant. |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Seeds or cuttings   |

# False Anise

*(Illicium parviflorum)*



Photo by P Andres

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | A shade loving shrub  |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Georgia and Florida   |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Florida sunshine, Florida anise, Hardy anise, Ocala anise, small anise tree, Yellow anise tree  |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Fragrant evergreen with insignificant flower in spring. Non-edible                              |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 6 feet high and 3 feet wide   |
| <b>Light</b>                | Partial to full shade   |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | A hardy perennial that usually tolerates temperatures down to 0F                                |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Clay/loamy soil with high organic material and good drainage                                    |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Annually in spring  |
| <b>Water</b>                | Moderate water requirements. Will show wilting.   |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Trim in the spring to desired shape and height.   |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Produces bright yellow foliage in fall  |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Few pests or problems. Poisonous if ingested. Not a substitute for star anise spice in cooking. |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Cuttings  |

# False Indigo

*(Baptisia australis)*



Google image

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | A perennial wildflower  |
| <b>Origin</b>               | North America   |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Blue wild indigo  |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Good color for bedding plant. Inferior to true indigo, but used as a substitute for dying cloth                                       |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 3 to 4 feet tall and 2 to 3 feet wide   |
| <b>Light</b>                | Full sun. Gets floppy if not enough sun   |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Cool weather plant. Dies back with freeze but returns in spring   |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Dry, well-drained.  |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Thrives in poorer soil.   |
| <b>Water</b>                | Minimal water. Drought tolerant   |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Slow growing. Takes 2 to 3 years to flower.<br>A member of the pea family. If flowers are not deadheaded, pods and seeds will result. |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Long tap roots make them difficult to divide.   |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Needs good air circulation. Powdery mildew and leaf fungus occurs if too crowded.   |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Self-seeding. Stem cuttings also work.  |



# False Sea Onion

*(Albuca bracteata)*



Uploaded by: Giuseppe Distefano

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>     | A bulbous plant which looks like an onion                          |
| <b>Origin</b>            | Coastal South Africa   |
| <b>AKA</b>               | German Onion, Pregnant Onion, Sea Onion                            |
| <b>Purpose</b>           | Ornamental house plant   |
| <b>Growth size</b>       | 18 to 36 inches tall and 10 to 20 inches wide                      |
| <b>Light</b>             | Full sun to partial shade  |
| <b>Temperature</b>       | Prefers warm to hot temperatures. Frost will kill the plant.       |
| <b>Soil</b>              | Sandy, well-drained  |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>        | Annually   |
| <b>Water</b>             | When the soil dries out but must drain off quickly.                |
| <b>Growth hints</b>      | Drought tolerant   |
| <b>Unique properties</b> | Grows on top of the soil. Goes into a dormant stage with drought.  |
| <b>Propagation</b>       | "Pups" grow under the bulb's skin then drop from the mother plant. |

# Ficus

*(Ficus benjamina)*



Google image

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | A broadleaf evergreen tropical tree  |
| <b>Origin</b>               | India to North Australia   |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Weeping Fig, benjamina fig, ficus tree   |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | House plant in a container. In-ground provides for wildlife                              |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 50 feet in the ground. Trim to desired height.   |
| <b>Light</b>                | Bright indirect light. Direct light can burn the leaves.                                 |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Prefers temperatures above 75F. Below 60F will stunt plant. Avoid drafts and cold spots. |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Moderate well drained soil   |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Monthly in spring and summer. Every other month in fall and winter                       |
| <b>Water</b>                | Once soil is dry, water thoroughly. Does not like “wet feet”. Mist leaves if air is dry. |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Keep pot bound. Does not like to be handled.   |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Filters pollutants from air.   |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Mealy bugs & spider mites. Treat with neem oil.  |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Cuttings from greenwood branches   |

# Fiddle-leaf

*(Ficus lyrata)*



Google image

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | A tall growing tropical tree  |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Tropical Africa   |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Fiddle-leaf fig   |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Ornamental large-leafed tree  |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | In the wild this can get to 20 feet tall. Can be managed to a lower height in containers. |
| <b>Light</b>                | Indirect bright light   |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Warm humid temperatures are necessary. Avoid big temperature swings such as AC drafts.    |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Moderate fast draining soil preferred.  |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Lightly throughout the growing season.  |
| <b>Water</b>                | Keep soil moist but do not allow “wet feet”. Root rot will cause leaves to drop.          |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Slow to start but grows rapidly once established.   |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Damage to leaves will result in dead spots.   |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Mildly toxic sap. Handle with care.   |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Difficult with stem cuttings. Leaf cuttings grow slowly.                                  |

# Firespike, Red

*(Odontonema strictum)*



*Photo by P Andres*

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>     | A clumping herbaceous tropical perennial                                      |
| <b>Origin</b>            | Mexico and Central America  |
| <b>Purpose</b>           | Attracts pollinators butterflies, hummingbirds, bees                          |
| <b>Growth size</b>       | 4 to 6 feet tall  |
| <b>Light</b>             | Partial shade to full sun; more sun = longer blooms                           |
| <b>Temperature</b>       | Hot climate. Will die back with a frost. Light freeze will not kill the roots |
| <b>Soil</b>              | Moderate well-drained   |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>        | Fertilizing does not seem to affect the plant much.                           |
| <b>Water</b>             | Do not allow to dry out. The plant will wilt.                                 |
| <b>Unique properties</b> | Great flowers from late summer through first frost                            |

# Four O'Clock

*(Mirabilis jalapa)*



*Google image*

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | A flowering perennial bush   |
| <b>Origin</b>               | South America (Peru)   |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Adds color to the garden from mid-summer until frost   |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 2 to 3 tall feet and wide  |
| <b>Light</b>                | Full sun and partial shade   |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Handles heat well  |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Moderate, well-drained   |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Light  |
| <b>Water</b>                | Needs ample watering with heat   |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Low maintenance  |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Attracts butterflies and hummingbirds.<br>Mildly toxic to humans and pets if ingested. Sap can cause rash. |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | There may be a problem controlling these plants.   |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Self-seeding   |

# Foxtail Fern

*(Asparagus densiflorus 'Meyers')*



Google image

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | Annual   |
| <b>Origin</b>               | South Africa   |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Ornamental house plant adaptable to warmer outside gardens                   |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | Up to 2 feet high and 6 feet wide  |
| <b>Light</b>                | Indirect light indoors. Partial shade outdoors                               |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Prefers warm to hot areas. Protect below 40 F                                |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Loose, well-drained soil   |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Dilute liquid  |
| <b>Water</b>                | Keep plant hydrated and humid. Do not allow to dry out.                      |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Considered aggressive and an invasive species                                |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Although this looks like a fern, it is a type of lily                        |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Poisonous to pets and people   |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Propagate by splitting root clusters; look for "pups" breaking off main bulb |

# Geranium

*(Perlagonium spp)*



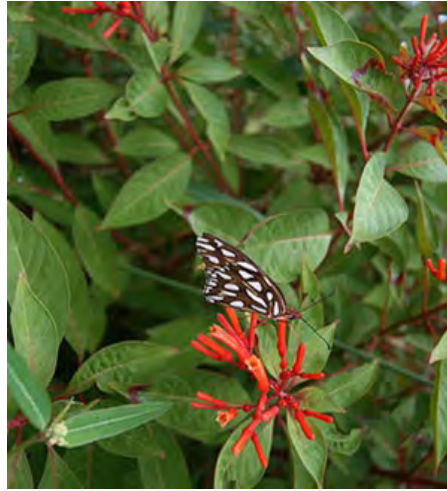
Google image

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | Annual tropical plant; hundreds of species   |
| <b>Origin</b>               | South Africa   |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Not a true "Geranium" but carries the common name.   |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Grown for flowers and scented leaves in containers and beds.                                     |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | Usually grow to 18" to 36" high X 20" wide   |
| <b>Light</b>                | In general, these need 6+ hours of direct sunlight but will do well in partial shade.            |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Warm weather plants but suffers with extreme heat.   |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Moderate well-drained  |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Fertilize with half-strength liquid fertilizer during growing season; do not feed during winter. |
| <b>Water</b>                | Let dry between watering; too much water will cause root rot.                                    |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Deadhead to promote more flowers; pinch back to force bushing.                                   |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Do not keep too many leaves in shadier conditions.   |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Stem cuttings  |



# Hamelia

*(Hamelia patens)*



*Google image*

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>     | A large woody perennial shrub   |
| <b>Origin</b>            | Southeast United States   |
| <b>AKA</b>               | Firebush, hummingbird bush  |
| <b>Purpose</b>           | Copper-red blooms attracts pollinators.   |
| <b>Growth size</b>       | Can grow to 15', but smaller in containers.   |
| <b>Light</b>             | Full sunlight to partial shade  |
| <b>Temperature</b>       | Warm to hot temperatures  |
| <b>Soil</b>              | Rich well-drained   |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>        | Light in spring and summer  |
| <b>Water</b>             | Once established it is drought tolerant. Does not like "wet feet". Will develop root rot. |
| <b>Growth hints</b>      | Prune to maintain height, but too much pruning will lessen flowers.                       |
| <b>Unique properties</b> | Long lasting flowers  |
| <b>Propagation</b>       | Seeds or cuttings   |

# Hibiscus, Cranberry

*(Hibiscus acetocella)*



Google image

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>     | A hardy annual or tender perennial shrub   |
| <b>Origin</b>            | Hybridized from plants in Africa, established in South America and Southeast Asia.                           |
| <b>AKA</b>               | Red-leaf hibiscus, False Roselle, African Rose Mallow. One of the many hibiscus plants known as rose mallow. |
| <b>Purpose</b>           | Strong, sour taste. Used in salads, vegetables, and tea; attracts pollinators.                               |
| <b>Growth size</b>       | 4' to 6' tall X 3' wide  |
| <b>Light</b>             | Partial shade to full sun  |
| <b>Temperature</b>       | Will handle hot temps, but frost will kill the plant.  |
| <b>Soil</b>              | Moderate well-drained  |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>        | Monthly with 8-8-8 during the season   |
| <b>Water</b>             | Needs regular watering but should not have "wet feet."   |
| <b>Unique properties</b> | Flowers match the foliage and arrive late in the season.<br>Flowers lasts only one day.                      |
| <b>Propagation</b>       | Propagate with seeds (rapid germination and growth) and from cuttings.                                       |

# Hibiscus, Luna

*(Hibiscus moscheutos)*



Google image

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>     | A perennial deciduous marsh shrub  |
| <b>Origin</b>            | Eastern United States  |
| <b>AKA</b>               | Swamp rose mallow, crimson-eyed rose mallow, eastern rose mallow.<br>One of the many hibiscus plants known as rose mallow. |
| <b>Purpose</b>           | A good landscape or container plant  |
| <b>Growth size</b>       | Reaches 24" to 36" high and 24" wide.  |
| <b>Light</b>             | Best grown in full sun   |
| <b>Temperature</b>       | Once established this is a hardy plant that will withstand heat and frost, returning after all but the worst freeze.       |
| <b>Soil</b>              | Does best in moderate soil.  |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>        | Use light fertilization.   |
| <b>Water</b>             | Keep plants evenly watered, not allowing to wilt.  |
| <b>Growth hints</b>      | Space 2-3' apart   |
| <b>Unique properties</b> | Plant mid to late spring   |
| <b>Propagation</b>       | Seeds or cuttings  |

# Hibiscus, Native

*(Hibiscus lasiocarpas)*



Google image

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>     | A wetland or marsh woody perennial herb   |
| <b>Origin</b>            | Southeast United States   |
| <b>AKA</b>               | Hairy-fruited hibiscus. One of the many hibiscus plants known as rose mallow.               |
| <b>Purpose</b>           | Flowers and seeds attract pollinators, especially songbirds, butterflies, and hummingbirds/ |
| <b>Growth size</b>       | Grows on single stalk up to 4' - 7' tall.   |
| <b>Light</b>             | Full sun to partial shade   |
| <b>Temperature</b>       | Dies back after freeze but will return in the spring.                                       |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>        | Light   |
| <b>Water</b>             | Enjoys wet areas in marsh or along stream banks.  |
| <b>Unique properties</b> | Low maintenance   |
| <b>Propagation</b>       | Self-seeding  |

# Hibiscus, October Rose

*(Hibiscus radiatus)*



Google image

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | An aggressive woody herb  |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Native to Southern and southeast Asia but naturalized in all tropical climes.             |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Monarch rose mallow. One of the many hibiscus plants known as rose mallow.                |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Attracts pollinators and songbirds.   |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 6' to 8' high and spreads rapidly.  |
| <b>Light</b>                | Full sun to light shade   |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Enjoys the heat. Listed as evergreen but has been known to shed its leaves during winter. |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Well-drained  |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Little or none  |
| <b>Water</b>                | Water regularly but do not keep wet.  |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Plant mid to late spring  |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | tickers are prevalent on stems and leaves, especially when plant dries out.               |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Considered invasive in some areas.  |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Seeds and cuttings  |

# Hibiscus, Texas Star

*(Hibiscus coccineus)*



Photo by P Andres

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b> | A hardy perennial shrub   |
| <b>Origin</b>        | Southeast North America   |
| <b>AKA</b>           | Swamp hibiscus, scarlet rose mallow, wild rose mallow.<br>One of the many hibiscus plants known as rose mallow. |
| <b>Purpose</b>       | Wetland plant that attracts and supports pollinators.   |
| <b>Growth size</b>   | 6' to 8' tall and 12" to 18" wide   |
| <b>Light</b>         | Full sun. Will grow in shade but will not produce flowers.  |
| <b>Temperature</b>   | Likes hot weather if there is ample water. Dies back in a freeze but returns in the spring.                     |
| <b>Soil</b>          | Likes dense, wet soil but will also do well in lighter soil.  |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>    | Not necessary   |
| <b>Water</b>         | Likes water. Will tolerate a drought but will not flourish.   |
| <b>Propagation</b>   | Self-seeding and cuttings   |

# Hyacinth Bean

*(Lablab purpureus)*



Google image

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | Annual vine  |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Africa   |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Grown as a ground cover, for decoration, and may be eaten when properly prepared (some toxicity) |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 12 to 15 ft vine that needs support  |
| <b>Light</b>                | Full sun or partial shade  |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Grows well in heat.  |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Will do well in poor soil.   |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Light  |
| <b>Water</b>                | Water moderately   |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Dark green foliage, with white or blue-purple flowers  |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Mature beans are poisonous before cooking.   |



# Hydrangea, Oakleaf

*(Hydrangea quercifolia)*



Google image

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | A deciduous shrub  |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Southeast United States  |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Ornamental plants and hedges   |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 8'   |
| <b>Light</b>                | Full sunlight and partial shade  |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Good for hot climates. Will recover from light freeze.   |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Rich, well-drained   |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | In spring and summer   |
| <b>Water</b>                | Even soil moisture but not standing water.   |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Needs full sun to produce blooms.<br>Prune after flowering to maintain desired shape and height. |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Leaf spot and powdery mildew   |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Stem cuttings  |

# Ivy, Common

*(Hedera helix)*



Google image

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | A perennial evergreen vine   |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Northern Europe and Western Asia   |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | English ivy, European ivy  |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | A dense ground cover or ornamental climbing cover                        |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 6" to 12" high on 12' long vine  |
| <b>Light</b>                | Bright indirect sunlight. Will tolerate little direct sun.               |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Moderate temperature range. Protect from extreme heat and cold.          |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Fertile, well-drained. In hotter climates adequate mulch should be used. |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Sparingly once in the spring should be enough.                           |
| <b>Water</b>                | Keep evenly moist. Do not allow to dry out but do not soak.              |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Pinch back new growth to promote bushing.                                |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Aphids and spider mites use insecticidal soaps.                          |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Cuttings. Will root where it contacts the ground.                        |

# Ivy, Swedish

*(Plectranthus verticillatus)*



Google image

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | A tender perennial  |
| <b>Origin</b>               | South Africa  |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Swedish begonia   |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Ornamental, house plant and air purifying   |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | Trails 1' to 2' and grows to its container.   |
| <b>Light</b>                | Bright, indirect light indoors. Keep in the shade outside as direct sunlight will burn the plant. |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Does best over 40F. Prefers 70F to 75F. Protect from a freeze.                                    |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Adapts to a wide range of well-drained soil.  |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | 2 to 3 times per year with slow-release food  |
| <b>Water</b>                | Water when the soil dries out. Do not let stand in water.   |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Trim often to promote bushing.  |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Not related to the ivy family   |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | White flies. Use insecticidal soap.   |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Stem cuttings   |

# Jacobina

*(Justicia carnea)*



Photo by P Andres

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>     | An evergreen shrub  |
| <b>Origin</b>            | Tropical forests of Brazil  |
| <b>AKA</b>               | Brazilian plume, Flamingo flower  |
| <b>Purpose</b>           | Ornamental. Used as a medicinal herb in native Brazilian culture.                             |
| <b>Growth size</b>       | Different cultivars vary from 2 to 6 feet tall and 1 to 4 feet wide                           |
| <b>Light</b>             | Shade   |
| <b>Temperature</b>       | Does not tolerate freezing temperatures. Some hardier cultivars will come back in the spring. |
| <b>Soil</b>              | Rich with compost or organic matter. Well-drained   |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>        | Away from the stem with new growth in spring. Then once per month with slow release           |
| <b>Water</b>             | Water the soil around the plant when the top inch is dry.                                     |
| <b>Growth hints</b>      | Deadhead flowers to promote more blooms. Pinch back to force bushing.                         |
| <b>Unique properties</b> | 50+ varieties available   |
| <b>Propagation</b>       | Cuttings  |

# Joe Pye Weed

*(Eutrochium purpureum)*



|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | Herbaceous perennial  |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Native to North America   |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | AKA gravel root, trumpet weed, kidney root  |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Very attractive to butterflies and other pollinators                                      |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | Grows 5' to 7' tall X 2' to 3' wide   |
| <b>Light</b>                | Full sun to partial shade   |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Zones 4 to 9  |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Well drained soils adaptable within moderate pH   |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | In moderate soil little fertilizer is needed; use slow release fertilizer in poor soil    |
| <b>Water</b>                | Keep evenly moist but not soggy   |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Too much shade will cause plant to droop or fall over                                     |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Plant blooms on new seasonal growth, so DO NOT prune in the spring. May need to be staked |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Too much shade can invite diseases  |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Propagate with root cuttings, plant at same depth and keep moist                          |

# Joseph's Coat

*(Alternanthera spp)*



*Google image*

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | Depends on cultivar annual or perennial                  |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Tropical Americas, Asia, and Africa                      |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Joyweed  |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Warm season bedding plant used for foliage               |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 12 inches tall and 14-16 inches wide                     |
| <b>Light</b>                | Full to part sun   |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Prefers heat. Will die-back with temperatures below 40F. |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Wide variety   |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Light through the summer                                 |
| <b>Water</b>                | Moderate requirements                                    |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Grows well once established.                             |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Some species are considered weeds and invasive.          |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Cuttings   |

# Kalanchoe

*(Kalanchoe spp)*



*Google image*

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | A succulent plant with bright flowers  |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Southern Africa and Madagascar   |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Names vary by cultivar.  |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Ornamental plant which attracts pollinators  |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 6" and 4' depending on cultivar  |
| <b>Light</b>                | Full sun to bright, indirect light   |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Hot and dry conditions are preferred.  |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | A wide range of potting soils are acceptable.  |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Slow-release product during the summer   |
| <b>Water</b>                | Moderate water during summer. Less during winter. Watch fleshy leaves for signs of stress.                     |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Can get very leggy. Trim stem to maintain desired shape and to force bushing.                                  |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Can be aggressive and considered invasive.   |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Mealy bugs, powdery mildew, and aphids. Root rot can be common.  |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Leaf or stem cuttings. Many species will put "pups" along the edge of leaves and will drop them to the ground. |



# Lantana

*(Lantana camara)*



Google image

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | Broadleaf evergreen shrub  |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Tropical regions of Africa and the Americas  |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | 150+ species. Names vary.  |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | A fragrant bedding plant that attracts pollinators   |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 6' high X 8' wide  |
| <b>Light</b>                | Full sun   |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Warm-season plant that is affected by frost and killed by a freeze.  |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Prefers well drained soils   |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Little required.   |
| <b>Water</b>                | Moderate watering  |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Considered invasive in many areas.   |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | All parts are highly toxic to humans, especially children, grazing livestock, dogs, and cats. Not toxic to birds. Smoke is toxic. Do not burn. |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Cuttings. Spreads rapidly by runners.  |

# Ligularia

*(Ligularia spp)*



Photo by P Andres

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | Herbaceous large-leafed perennial  |
| <b>Origin</b>               | China and Japan  |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | 120-140 species. Common names vary.  |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Ornamental   |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 18" to 24" height X 24" to 36" width   |
| <b>Light</b>                | Shade. Keep out of sun and wind.   |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | A cool weather plant that wilts in extreme heat. Dies back in a freeze.        |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Rich   |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | A layer of mulch or compost annually   |
| <b>Water</b>                | Keep ground damp to wet. The hotter the temperature, the more water needed.    |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Cover crown with 3" of mulch.  |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Bright yellow flowers appear in clusters or corymbs. Adds color in the autumn. |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Snails are attracted to the large leaves.                                      |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Root cuttings after 3 or 4 years   |

# Lily, Peace

*(Spathiphyllum spp)*



Google image

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | A flowering tropical house plant. Not a true lily   |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Central and South America                           |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Spath lily  |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Grown indoor or outdoor, in ground or in container  |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | Different cultivars grow from 6 inches up to 3 ft.  |
| <b>Light</b>                | Bright <u>indirect</u> light                        |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Does poorly in temperatures below 40F.              |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Moderate  |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Light. 2 or 3 times a year                          |
| <b>Water</b>                | Keep soil moist but do not over water. Mist leaves. |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | A decorative plant which helps clean the air        |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Pollen is mildly toxic to small humans and pets.    |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Divide when it out grows its container.             |

# Lily, Pineapple

*(Eucomis spp)*



Google image

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>     | Perennial herbaceous bulb   |
| <b>Origin</b>            | South Africa  |
| <b>Purpose</b>           | Ornamental. Attracts pollinators.   |
| <b>Growth size</b>       | Up to 3' tall X 2' wide   |
| <b>Light</b>             | Full sun to partial shade   |
| <b>Temperature</b>       | 65F+ to begin growing. Does not like cool temperatures.                         |
| <b>Soil</b>              | Loamy, coarse well-drained  |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>        | Every few weeks with high potassium mix.  |
| <b>Water</b>             | Water after top 1" of soil dries out.   |
| <b>Growth hints</b>      | Dig bulbs when dormant and dry out before planting.                             |
| <b>Unique properties</b> | A unique ornamental plant with distinctive flower                               |
| <b>Propagation</b>       | Watch bulbs in spring for "pups" forming; break off and plant away from parent. |

# Liriope

*(Liriope spp)*



Google image

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | Grass-like herbaceous flowering perennial                                       |
| <b>Origin</b>               | East and Southeast Asia   |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Monkey Grass, Lily grass, Turf lily   |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Border foreground, edging, ground cover   |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 9" to 24" tall X 12" to 18" wide  |
| <b>Light</b>                | Full sunlight to partial shade  |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Warm summer temperatures. Dies back during freeze. Comes back in the spring.    |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Moderate, well-drained  |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Spring and monthly during summer  |
| <b>Water</b>                | Drought resistant. Water weekly when soil dries out.                            |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Trim back when dormant to avoid thatch.   |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Some species produces flower spikes.  |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Fungal disease caused by too much overhead watering. Root rot. Snails and slugs |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Root division   |

# Mexican Buckeye

*(Ungnadia speciosa)*



|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | Deciduous tree   |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Native to northern Mexico to southwest United States                               |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Monilla  |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Landscape tree; toxic foliage but bees produce a distinctive honey                 |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | Grows 12' to 30' tall  |
| <b>Light</b>                | Full sun to partial shade  |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Frost tolerant   |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Coarse, rocky, or sandy well-drained soils   |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Low to moderate water usage  |
| <b>Water</b>                | Low maintenance with little need for fertilizer                                    |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Produces multiple trunks; trim excessive trunks all the way to a single if desired |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Attractive flowers for many pollinators; Larval hosts for Henry's Elfin Butterfly  |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Spiders often infest the seed pods, gluing the seeds in place                      |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Propagate from fresh, untreated seeds  |

# Milkweed\*

(*Asclepias spp*)



Photo by J Blazek

\* There are over 140 species of milkweed. The origin of a specific variety of milkweed is important. When purchasing milkweed be sure it is native to Southeast Louisiana. Many varieties sold commercially are not native to this area. Non-native milkweed may harm native pollinators and can become invasive replacing native plants that are important food and habitat sources for native insect and animal species. Certain non-native milkweeds (Mexican milkweed, *Asclepias curassavica*, is one) bloom at the wrong time and can disrupt Monarch butterfly migration by encouraging them to stay too long and delay instinctual Fall flights back to Mexico. LSU AgCenter and Crosby Arboretum websites are excellent resources on native plants for butterflies and other pollinators.

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | A perennial woody herb. 140 species.  |
| <b>Origin/AKA</b>           | Swamp milkweed ( <i>Asclepias incarnata</i> ) and Aquatic milkweed ( <i>Asclepias perinnis</i> ) are native to southeast Louisiana. See* above. |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Attracts pollinators. Certain species are the only food source of Monarch caterpillars.   |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | Reaches 2' to 4' tall   |
| <b>Light</b>                | Prefers full sun but will survive in partial shade.   |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Once established it will handle heat and all but the worst freezes.   |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Poor to moderate  |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Light to none.  |
| <b>Water</b>                | Depends on variety.   |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Sometimes considered a weed. Non-native species can become invasive.<br>Sap contains latex and can cause rash in some humans.                   |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Re-seeds  |



# Mint

*(Mentha spp)*



*Google image*

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | A hardy perennial culinary herb   |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Worldwide   |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Depends on cultivar.  |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Culinary and medical herb   |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 12" to 18" tall X 18" to 24" wide   |
| <b>Light</b>                | Partial shade   |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Depends on variety Peppermint best for cool temperatures. Spearmint best for warm temperatures.                       |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Rich moist soil   |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Every 4 to 6 weeks during growing season. If in a container and frequently watered, use liquid fertilizer more often. |
| <b>Water</b>                | Do not let it dry out, but do not allow standing water.   |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Grow in containers to prevent spreading.  |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Many cultivars available  |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Use liquid fungicide for rust on leaves.<br>Will attract white flies and mites.<br>Toxic to pets and horses           |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Easily propagated with root or stem.  |

# Opuntia

*(Opuntia spp)*



*Google image*

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | A family of cacti which includes the prickly pear or Indian fig                    |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Southern United States and Central American  |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Hardy decorative plant suited for dry, hot areas.                                  |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 10" to 20" high with flat leaves and stems   |
| <b>Light</b>                | Full sun   |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Hot climates   |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Well-drained, sandy  |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Outdoor plants need none. Indoor need very little.                                 |
| <b>Water</b>                | Minimal. Once every 2 to 3 weeks at start. Established plants need only rainwater. |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Beware of glochids (hair-like spines).   |

# Oregano

*(Origanum vulgare)*



Google image

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | A perennial herb shrub of the mint family                      |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Western and southern Mediterranean area                        |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Distinctive culinary herb                                      |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 2' tall with 18" spread  |
| <b>Light</b>                | Full sun to partial shade                                      |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Prefers warm, humid climates. May need protection from freeze. |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Dry to medium, well-drained                                    |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | None. Adding compost or fertilizer MAY change the flavor.      |
| <b>Water</b>                | Too much water lessens flavor.                                 |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Trim to avoid leggy-ness.                                      |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Good companion plant for vegetables                            |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Root rot, aphids & spider mites. Use insecticidal soap.        |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Start from seeds (slower) or cuttings.                         |

# Palmetto, Saw

*(Serenoa repens)*



Google image

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>     | A perennial low-growing palm found as pine tree undergrowth.  |
| <b>Origin</b>            | Southeast United States, especially the Gulf coast  |
| <b>Purpose</b>           | A source of food for wildlife. Used by man for food, medicine, clothing, and housing. A source of nectar for honeybees. |
| <b>Growth size</b>       | 5' to 10'   |
| <b>Light</b>             | Full sun to partial shade   |
| <b>Temperature</b>       | Likes warm temps. Will recover from a light freeze.   |
| <b>Soil</b>              | Mostly sandy soils or native clays  |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>        | Biannually with palm fertilizer (10-5-10)   |
| <b>Water</b>             | Prefers a moderate amount of water but can tolerate a drought.  |
| <b>Growth hints</b>      | Slow-growing and long-lived   |
| <b>Unique properties</b> | Easy to grow in the south. If grown indoors be sure to provide plenty of light.<br>Deer resistant and salt tolerant     |
| <b>Propagation</b>       | Best by rhizome cuttings, although slow and uncertain.  |

# Parsley

*(Petroselinum Crispum)*



*Google image*

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | A biannual herb   |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Eastern and central Mediterranean area  |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Culinary and decorative. Attracts the swallowtail butterfly.<br>Plant with vegetables or herbs, or as a border plant. |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 12" to 18" tall X 8" to 12" wide  |
| <b>Light</b>                | Adaptable to full sun and partial shade   |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Cooler weather. Does not like the heat.   |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Moist rich  |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Little to none  |
| <b>Water</b>                | Light to moderate   |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Pinch emerging flower heads to keep a sweet taste.  |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | White flies. Use insecticidal soap.<br>Black swallowtail caterpillars. Plant enough for all.                          |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Seeds are slow starting.  |

# Passionflower

*(Passiflora incarnata)*



Photo by J Blazek

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | Hundreds of passionflower cultivars including annuals, perennials, vines, shrubs, and trees.                       |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Southeastern North America to South America<br>Louisiana native is a perennial vine, <i>Passiflora incarnata</i> . |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Purple passionflower, apricot vine, granadilla, maypop   |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Attracts pollinators, especially the Gulf fritillary (main food source for its caterpillar)                        |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | Vines grow as large as the support fences and trellis. Some species can grow to 30'.                               |
| <b>Light</b>                | Full sun to partial shade  |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Warmer climates  |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Medium, rich, well-drained   |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Biweekly. These are heavy feeders.   |
| <b>Water</b>                | 1" to 1-1/2" per week if no rain   |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Grow in container to control spread.   |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Complex flowers are a trademark.   |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Aggressive. Considered invasive in some areas.   |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Seeds. Root and stem cuttings  |



# Patchouli

*(Pogostemon cablin)*



Photo by P Andres

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>     | A perennial woody herb shrub in the mint family                 |
| <b>Origin</b>            | Malay Archipelago and West Indies                               |
| <b>Purpose</b>           | Medicinal and cosmetic herb                                     |
| <b>Growth size</b>       | 12" to 18" tall and about 12" wide                              |
| <b>Light</b>             | Full sun to partial shade                                       |
| <b>Temperature</b>       | Likes heat. Will die back with temps below 40F.                 |
| <b>Soil</b>              | Moderate well-drained   |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>        | Monthly with 8-8-8  |
| <b>Water</b>             | Wilts quickly when it needs water. Twice weekly                 |
| <b>Growth hints</b>      | Grow in containers if it needs to be brought inside for winter. |
| <b>Unique properties</b> | Produces small fall flowers.                                    |
| <b>Propagation</b>       | Slip cuttings   |



# Pentas

*(Pentas lanceolata, Pentas carnea)*



Google image

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b> | A semitropical shrub  |
| <b>Origin</b>        | Africa  |
| <b>Purpose</b>       | Decorative landscaping plant. Attracts pollinators.           |
| <b>Growth size</b>   | 10" to 24". Some may grow larger.                             |
| <b>Light</b>         | Full sun to partial shade                                     |
| <b>Temperature</b>   | Will thrive in warm temps. Can survive a <u>light</u> freeze. |
| <b>Soil</b>          | Well-drained soil   |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>    | A balanced mix such as 8-8-8                                  |
| <b>Water</b>         | Water regularly, about twice per week                         |
| <b>Growth hints</b>  | Pinch back to get a fuller shrub.                             |
| <b>Propagation</b>   | Slips   |

# Pineapple Plant

*(Ananas comosus)*



Photo by P Andres

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | An herbaceous perennial in the bromeliad family.  |
| <b>Origin</b>               | South America   |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Culinary and ornamental   |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 2' to 4' high X 3' wide   |
| <b>Light</b>                | Full sunlight   |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Warm to hot weather. Freezes can kill the plant.  |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Rich, well-drained  |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Dilute liquid product during growing season   |
| <b>Water</b>                | Ample but not standing water  |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Once rooted, it may take 24 months or longer to produce fruit which may take several months to mature.  |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | <p>The pineapple flower grows from the center on a long stem.</p> <p>The pineapple itself is a composite of berries forming a single fruit.</p> <p>After it produces the fruit, the mother sends up "pups" and then dies back as the "pups" grow larger. It will only bloom once, If the "pups" are left attached to the mother, they will still bloom.</p> |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Mealy bugs can be treated with neem oil. Root rot may occur in standing water.  |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | <p>Remove new "pups" and plant in separate container.</p> <p>Twist of the top of the fruit. Remove a few leaves until you see small roots. Add soil up to the base of the leaves. Water the top until established.</p>  |

# Poinsettia

*(Euphorbia pulcherrima)*



*Google image*

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | Perennial herbal shrub   |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Mexico's tropical forests  |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Holiday decoration plant   |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 2'   |
| <b>Light</b>                | Full sun   |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | 60 to 70F. Protect from frost and freeze.  |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Loamy (clay & sand with compost)   |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Do not fertilize after flowers emerge.   |
| <b>Water</b>                | When soil feels dry, water until it comes out the bottom hole. Do not allow it stand in water. |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | It is easier to buy new plants each year. These can re-bloom with the proper care.             |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | The flowers are small and yellow. The red leaves are bracts.                                   |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Use insecticidal soaps for white flies.<br>Sap may cause skin rash.                            |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Cuttings in soil   |

# Polka Dot Plant

*(Hypoestes phyllostachya)*



Google image

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>     | An evergreen shrub, small and slow growing. An annual in cooler climes. A perennial in tropical and subtropical |
| <b>Origin</b>            | Madagascar, but highly hybridized today   |
| <b>Purpose</b>           | A decorative house plant or contrasting garden balance point.   |
| <b>Growth size</b>       | Usually less than 15". Some cultivars grow to 30".  |
| <b>Light</b>             | Bright filtered sun. Some direct sunlight is tolerated.   |
| <b>Soil</b>              | Light fast draining soil is best.   |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>        | Monthly with balanced liquid  |
| <b>Water</b>             | Keep moist but do not over water.<br>Somewhat drought tolerant but looks best with regular watering.            |
| <b>Growth hints</b>      | Pinch back to encourage bushing.  |
| <b>Unique properties</b> | Likes humid conditions.   |
| <b>Propagation</b>       | Cuttings  |

# Pokeberry

*Phytolaccaceae americana)*



Google image

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | An aggressive perennial herb, shrub, tree, or vine   |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Southeastern North America   |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Poke sallet (helmet), American pokeweed, Pigeon berry, Dragonberries   |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | A food source for birds. All parts are toxic to humans and pets.   |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 3' to 6' tall  |
| <b>Light</b>                | Full sun to partial shade  |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Handles heat well. Dies back after freeze.   |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Moderate well-drained  |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | None   |
| <b>Water</b>                | Will handle drought but regular watering is best.  |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Has been eaten by humans for many years but must be boiled for hours with frequent exchange of water. Death can occur if eaten when it is improperly prepared. |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | All parts are toxic to humans and pets.<br>Long taproots. Highly invasive  |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Seeds  |

# Pothos

*(Epipremnum aureum)*



Google image

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | Tropical forest plant that thrives in many climates and conditions.                         |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Southeast Asia  |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Money plant, Devil's ivy (not in the ivy family)  |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Ornamental house plant  |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | Long growing vine with 2" to 4" leaves  |
| <b>Light</b>                | Bright indirect sun or dappled shade  |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | A light freeze will cause die-back but roots will survive. Most house temps are acceptable. |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Most types of soil will meet its needs.   |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Minimal   |
| <b>Water</b>                | Drought resistant and will thrive with "wet feet."  |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Adapts to a wide range of growing conditions.   |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Can be grown in water <u>or</u> soil. A perfect beginner plant. Easy to maintain.           |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Resembles and sometimes confused with common philodendron. Not a philodendron               |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Cuttings can start in water.  |

# Redbird Plant

*(Pedilanthus tithymaloides)*



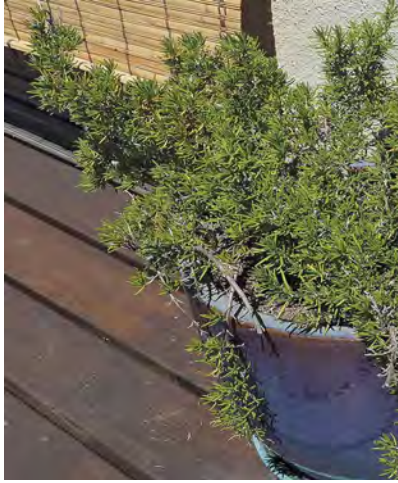
Google image

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | A tropical succulent perennial plant  |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Tropical North and Central America  |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Devil's backbone, Christmas candle, Jacob's ladder, Japanese poinsettia, Redbird cactus, Slipper's spurge, Zigzag plant |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Ornamental house plant. Best in containers outside as it does not tolerate extreme temperatures.                        |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 2' to 4' high   |
| <b>Light</b>                | Full sun to partial shade. If outdoors, needs protection from the hot sun.  |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Warm temps preferred. Protect in winter. Dies below 50F   |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Sandy, rich well-drained  |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Little if any   |
| <b>Water</b>                | Drought resistant. Do not over water.   |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Rarely blooms indoors. Flowers resemble tiny red birds.   |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Latex sap can cause skin rash.  |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Stem cuttings   |



# Rosemary

*(Rosemarinus officinales)*



Google image

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>     | A perennial herbal shrub  |
| <b>Origin</b>            | Mediterranean region  |
| <b>Purpose</b>           | A culinary herb and an ornamental plant. Will grow in pots but prefers in ground. |
| <b>Growth size</b>       | 3' to 5' tall X 2' to 3' wide   |
| <b>Light</b>             | Full sun  |
| <b>Temperature</b>       | Handles heat well. A perennial in zones 9 to 11, an annual elsewhere.             |
| <b>Soil</b>              | Sandy, well-drained   |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>        | Light balanced  |
| <b>Water</b>             | Do not over water. Once weekly is good unless extremely dry and hot.              |
| <b>Growth hints</b>      | Trim to encourage bushing and desired shape.                                      |
| <b>Unique properties</b> | Flowers in late winter or early spring  |
| <b>Propagation</b>       | Cuttings in soil  |

# Rose, Peggy Martin

*(Rosa 'Peggy Martin')*



*Google image*

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | A New Orleans climbing rose bush  |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Antique rose  |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Hurricane Katrina Rose  |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Ornamental thornless rose   |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 15' high X 6' wide with support fence or trellis  |
| <b>Light</b>                | Full sun  |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | This will survive most freezes.   |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Loamy well-drained  |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Twice a year  |
| <b>Water</b>                | Drought tolerant but appreciates regular watering.  |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Vigorous lush climber   |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Blooms in both the spring and fall.<br>One of few plants to survive 2 weeks of saltwater intrusion after Hurricane Katrina. |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Disease resistant. Thornless but has prickles on the backs of leaves.   |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Slip cuttings   |

# Rubber Tree

*(Ficus elastica)*



Google image

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | A large-leafed member of the ficus family                          |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Southeast Asia from India to Malaysia                              |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Rubber bush  |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | A commercial source of latex in past times; ornamental house plant |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | Up to 10'  |
| <b>Light</b>                | Bright indirect light. Can burn with direct sunlight.              |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Ideal temp is 60F to 75F. Avoid drafts and temps <40F              |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Light, well-drained and well aerated                               |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Spring & summer with diluted liquid product                        |
| <b>Water</b>                | Water when soil is dry. Keep well drained. Avoid "wet feet".       |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Prune plant to desired height and shape.                           |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Clean leaves with moist soft cloth or sponge.                      |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Sap contains latex which is a rash causing irritant.               |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Leaf or branch cuttings  |

# Schefflera

*(Schefflera actinophylla)*



Google image

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>     | A tropical evergreen tree   |
| <b>Origin</b>            | Taiwan, China, and Australia  |
| <b>AKA</b>               | Australian umbrella tree  |
| <b>Purpose</b>           | Ornamental house plant  |
| <b>Growth size</b>       | Some species can grow to 13' tall but most are kept at 3' to 6' tall. |
| <b>Light</b>             | From minimal light to bright indirect light. Outdoors in shade        |
| <b>Temperature</b>       | Likes the heat and will die back with a freeze.                       |
| <b>Soil</b>              | Moderate well-drained   |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>        | Twice a year with slow release  |
| <b>Water</b>             | Water weekly. Avoid "wet feet".                                       |
| <b>Growth hints</b>      | Grows rapidly prune to desired shape                                  |
| <b>Unique properties</b> | Good house plant that purifies the air.                               |
| <b>Propagation</b>       | Slip cuttings   |

# Shrimp Plant

*(Justicia betonica – White)*

*(Pachystachys lutea - Golden)*

*(Beloperone guttata – Red)*

*(Justicia scheidweileri - Purple)*

*(Cerinthe major purpureascens - Blue)*



Photo by P Andres

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b> | A tropical evergreen shrub                                |
| <b>Origin</b>        | Mexico and Central America                                |
| <b>Purpose</b>       | Ornamental. Attracts pollinators.                         |
| <b>Growth size</b>   | 2' to 4' tall X 2' wide                                   |
| <b>Light</b>         | Full sun to partial shade                                 |
| <b>Temperature</b>   | Warm, humid conditions but will wilt with excessive heat. |
| <b>Soil</b>          | Moderate, well-drained                                    |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>    | Balanced (8-8-8) 2 or 3 times annually                    |
| <b>Water</b>         | Drought tolerant but does best with regular watering.     |
| <b>Growth hints</b>  | Pinch back to force bushing and additional blooms.        |
| <b>Propagation</b>   | Slip cuttings   |

# Shrimp Plant, Golden

*(Pachystachys lutea)*



|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | Evergreen shrub  |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Native to Central and South America  |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Lollipop Plant   |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | A tropical plant good for containers; winter over indoors  |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | Grows 3' to 6' tall X 3' wide  |
| <b>Light</b>                | Full sun – keep moist  |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Tropical – hardy only in zone 10   |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Keep in well drained acidic soil   |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Fertilize in spring with a slow release product, or weekly with a liquid fertilizer                        |
| <b>Water</b>                | Keep moist but not soggy – avoid wet feet  |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Tends to get leggy   |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Yellow flower heads hold small white flowers; Flowers last a few days, but the flower head will last weeks |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Spider mites or scales can infect plants; treat with insecticidal soap                                     |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Roots easily from cuttings   |

# Spider Plant

*(Chlorophytum comosum)*



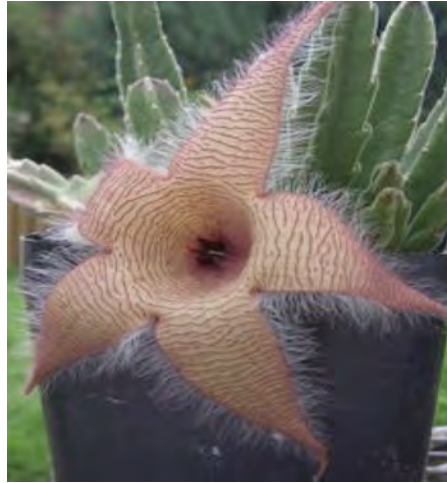
Google image

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>     | A perennial plant   |
| <b>Origin</b>            | Tropical and Southern Africa  |
| <b>AKA</b>               | Airplane plant, St Bernard's lily, spider ivy, ribbon plant, hen, and chickens                      |
| <b>Purpose</b>           | Ornamental trailing plant   |
| <b>Growth size</b>       | Usually 12" high X 18" wide with runners reaching out 2' or more                                    |
| <b>Light</b>             | Full sun but will tolerate partial shade.   |
| <b>Temperature</b>       | Enjoys the heat and will go dormant with a light freeze returning in the spring.                    |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>        | 3 or 4 times per year   |
| <b>Water</b>             | Drought tolerant but flourishes with ample water. If plant looks wilted, it usually needs watering. |
| <b>Growth hints</b>      | Minimal care  |
| <b>Unique properties</b> | Purifies the air around it, releasing O2, removing and breaking down pollutants.                    |
| <b>Propagation</b>       | Propagate by planting "pups".   |



# Stapelia

*(Stapelia gigantea)*



Google image

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>     | A low-growing spineless succulent cactus                     |
| <b>Origin</b>            | Africa   |
| <b>AKA</b>               | Carion flower  |
| <b>Purpose</b>           | Decorative curiosity container plant. Attract pollinators.   |
| <b>Growth size</b>       | 12" X 12"  |
| <b>Light</b>             | Full sun or slight shade                                     |
| <b>Temperature</b>       | Handles extreme temps well. Hard freeze will kill the plant. |
| <b>Soil</b>              | Sandy well-drained   |
| <b>Water</b>             | Drought resistant  |
| <b>Unique properties</b> | Furry flower and putrid odor (at close range)                |
| <b>Propagation</b>       | Seeds or leaf cuttings                                       |

# Stevia

*(Stevia rebaudiana)*



*Google image*

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | A woody herbal perennial                               |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Mountainous region of Peru and Brazil                  |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Sweet herb, sweet leaf                                 |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Culinary sweetener                                     |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 1' to 3' tall X 18" wide                               |
| <b>Light</b>                | Full sunlight  |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Will die with a hard freeze. Prefers warm temps.       |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Rich, well-drained soil                                |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Every 2 weeks with a dilute liquid product             |
| <b>Water</b>                | Water when the top 1" of soil gets dry.                |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Remove the flowers to improve the taste of the leaves. |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Few pest problems                                      |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Stem cuttings  |

# Sunpatiens

*(Impatiens hawkeri hybrid)*



Photo by P Andres

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | Perennial indoor, annual outdoors  |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Original species from Indonesia. Hybrid developed in Japan.                          |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Ornamental   |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 14" to 20" high X 24" to 36" wide  |
| <b>Light</b>                | Sun to shade   |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Warm weather plant that dies back below 35F.<br>Winter in protected location         |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Well-drained rich loam with ample organic additives                                  |
| <b>Water</b>                | Water well and allow to drain. More water is needed with higher temps and full sun.  |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Deadhead flowers to stimulate new blooms   |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Flowers May to October   |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Bred to be resistant to downy mildew which all but decimated the impatiens cultivar. |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | seeds or cuttings  |

# Swiss Cheese Plant

*(Monstera adansonii)*



Google image

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | A tropical perennial climbing vine                            |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Central and South America                                     |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Swiss Cheese vine, Five holes plant                           |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | A decorative house plant                                      |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | Up to 50' with proper support or trellis                      |
| <b>Light</b>                | Bright indirect light   |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | High temperatures and humidity                                |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Light, well-drained. Use peat based potting soil.             |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Lightly every 3 or 4 months except during the dormant season. |
| <b>Water</b>                | Do not let soil dry out entirely. Do not keep soil damp.      |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Trim the vine to maintain desired size.                       |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Mildly toxic to pets  |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Stem cuttings   |

# Thyme

*(Thymus vulgaris)*



*Google image*

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>     | A low growing herb   |
| <b>Origin</b>            | Mediterranean origins  |
| <b>Purpose</b>           | Culinary use. Attracts pollinators.  |
| <b>Growth size</b>       | Grows low, less than 8" tall and spreads out like a carpet.                |
| <b>Light</b>             | Full sun   |
| <b>Temperature</b>       | A warm weather plant which can die off in extreme heat and after a freeze. |
| <b>Soil</b>              | Sandy or loamy moist but well-drained soil                                 |
| <b>Water</b>             | Do not over water.   |
| <b>Growth hints</b>      | Older plants (3 years+) get woody. Split root balls and make new plants.   |
| <b>Unique properties</b> | Hundreds of varieties taste to find your favorite.                         |
| <b>Propagation</b>       | Will root where plants touch the ground.                                   |

# Turks Cap

*(Malvaviscus arboreus var. drummondii)*



|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | Shrubs; Tropicals and Tender Perennials                                 |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Native to Texas and southeast North America                             |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Ladies Teardrop, Turkscap, Turk's Turban, Scotchman's Purse, Wax Mallow |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Attractive to bees, butterflies and birds                               |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | Grows 6' to 8' tall X 3' to 4'wide                                      |
| <b>Light</b>                | Full sun to partial shade   |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Zones 7 to 11; may survive a light freeze                               |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Normal to slightly acidic soils   |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Light fertilizing if any  |
| <b>Water</b>                | Medium moisture, but do not keep soggy                                  |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Useful for shady situations   |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Blooms mid-summer to early fall   |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | No listed pests or problems   |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Propagate by root cuttings or slips                                     |

# Vinca, Annual

*(Catharanthus roseus)*



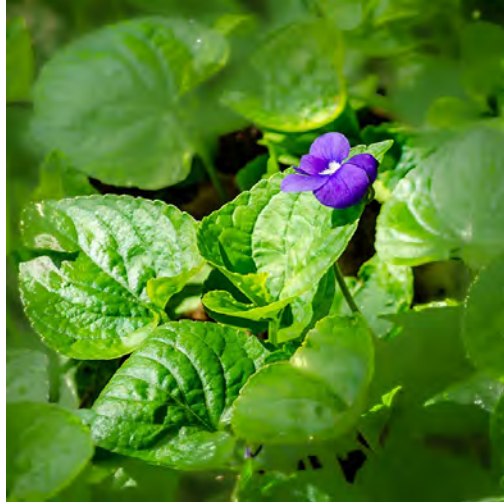
Google image

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | A tropical perennial grown in most areas as an annual  |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Madagascar   |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Madagascar periwinkle (not related to the perennial ground cover called periwinkle)          |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Ornamental border plant  |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 6" to 18" high with a similar spread   |
| <b>Light</b>                | Full sun   |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Prefers warm to hot temperatures.  |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Well-drained sandy loamy soil  |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Over feeding will reduce blooms.   |
| <b>Water</b>                | Light weekly watering  |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Blooms do not need to be deadheaded.   |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | To avoid root diseases and plant damage, plant late spring.<br>Deer and rabbit will not eat. |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Toxic to dogs and cats. Mildly toxic to humans.  |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Root cuttings in water, then transplant  |



# Violet, Wood

*(Viola missouriensis)*



Google image

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | A native ground cover                               |
| <b>Origin</b>               | North America                                       |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Missouri violet. Native woods violet                |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Ornamental ground cover. Attracts pollinators.      |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 6" tall X 12" wide                                  |
| <b>Light</b>                | Partial shade to full shade                         |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Well-drained. Rich high-organic soil                |
| <b>Water</b>                | Medium  |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Aggressive and considered invasive in some areas.   |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Flowers and leaves are edible and high in vitamins. |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Spider mites in dry weather                         |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Seeds or root cuttings                              |

# Violet, Philippine

*(Barleria cristata)*



Photo by P Andres

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>     | A perennial herbal shrub   |
| <b>Origin</b>            | India and Southeast Asia   |
| <b>Purpose</b>           | A hardy perennial used for tall background or hedging. Attracts pollinators.       |
| <b>Growth size</b>       | 4' to 5' tall  |
| <b>Light</b>             | Best in partial or dappled shade   |
| <b>Temperature</b>       | Loves the heat. Will die back with a frost and resume growth in the spring.        |
| <b>Soil</b>              | Well-drained   |
| <b>Water</b>             | Draught resistant, but water weekly during heat.                                   |
| <b>Growth hints</b>      | Tends to get leggy. Keep pruned to desired shape.                                  |
| <b>Unique properties</b> | Dark green foliage with blue, lavender, or white flowers in the spring and autumn. |
| <b>Propagation</b>       | Will self-seed but not spread rapidly. Not aggressive.                             |

# Vitex

*(Vitex agnus-castus)*



Google image

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | A deciduous shrub or small tree  |
| <b>Origin</b>               | China. Grown in North America since 1670's                                     |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Chaste plant, chaste tree, chasteberry, monk's pepper, Texas lilac             |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Ornamental plant grown for flowers and fragrance.                              |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | Different cultivars vary from 4' to 20'+                                       |
| <b>Light</b>                | Full sun to slight shade   |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Enjoys hot temperatures. Dies after a freeze but will come back in the spring. |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Prefers poor soil. Do not add a lot of compost.                                |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Fertilize sparingly every other year at most.                                  |
| <b>Water</b>                | Keep well-drained.   |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Prune back when shrub is dormant to shape. Deadhead flowers after they wilt.   |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Has been used in alternative medicine.   |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | This can be invasive.  |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Seeds or greenwood cuttings  |

# Wisteria

*(Wisteria sinensis)*



*Google image*

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | A hardwood vine   |
| <b>Origin</b>               | China   |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | An ornamental over-growing vine   |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 10' to 25' long and 8' to 10' wide  |
| <b>Light</b>                | Full sun to partial shade   |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Can handle both extreme heat and freezing cold. Blooms will suffer from freezing temps. |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Slightly acidic with a lot of organics  |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Little fertilizer is needed.  |
| <b>Water</b>                | Prefers humid conditions but can handle drier conditions if soil remains moist.         |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Needs pruning to control growth.  |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Poor survival if transplanted.  |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | All parts are toxic.  |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Cuttings which are slow growing.  |

# Yarrow

*(Achillea millifolium)*



*Google image*

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | An herbaceous perennial plant                                   |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Europe and Asia. Introduced to North America in colonial times. |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Medicinal herb, soap making. Attracts pollinators.              |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 2' to 3' tall X 2' wide   |
| <b>Light</b>                | Full sun  |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Loamy, sand, clay well-drained soil                             |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Little or no fertilizer   |
| <b>Water</b>                | Does not like "wet feet" or swampy areas. Drought tolerant      |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Deadhead to prolong flowering. Low maintenance                  |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Deer and rabbits will not eat this plant.                       |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | Aphids, powdery mildew, rust                                    |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Divide as needed in spring or fall.                             |

# Yesterday Today Tomorrow Plant

*(Brunfelsia pauciflora)*



Photo by P Andres

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of plant</b>        | A tropical perennial shrub plant   |
| <b>Origin</b>               | Brazil   |
| <b>AKA</b>                  | Morning noon and night, Kiss me quick, Brazil raintree   |
| <b>Purpose</b>              | Ornamental display   |
| <b>Growth size</b>          | 4' X 6' tall and wide  |
| <b>Light</b>                | Full sun   |
| <b>Temperature</b>          | Warm temperatures. Place in container in cooler climes. Bring indoor with freezing temperatures. |
| <b>Soil</b>                 | Moderate well-drained  |
| <b>Fertilizer</b>           | Light with higher potassium  |
| <b>Water</b>                | Water regularly. Avoid "wet feet".   |
| <b>Growth hints</b>         | Slow growing.  |
| <b>Unique properties</b>    | Flower opens violet and lightens to white after 3 days.  |
| <b>Pests &amp; problems</b> | All parts of the plant are toxic.  |
| <b>Propagation</b>          | Cuttings and seeds   |