

The fun of gardening is sharing! Browse the current inventory for plants you would like to try. Also bring your thinned out bulbs and harvested seeds from your gardens to donate to the seed and plant exchange table at our monthly meetings. Wildflower seeds are especially popular. Master gardeners are available to answer members' planting questions. To find more information on available plants, click the links or copy/paste them into your browser. Enjoy!

### Current inventory at Seed Table

#### Basil – Opal African Ruffled Basil

*Ocimum basilicum* Dark Opal basil is a good source of vitamin K, vitamin C, and beta-carotene. The purple-hued basil also contains lower amounts of magnesium, potassium, calcium, iron, and anthocyanins, which are flavonoids that provide antioxidant-like properties. Plant in containers in full sun. Grows to 10-12” in summer. Can tolerate heat.



[https://specialtyproduce.com/produce/Opal\\_Basil\\_311.php](https://specialtyproduce.com/produce/Opal_Basil_311.php)

#### Black-eyed Susan, Gloriosa Daisy

*Rudbeckia hirta*



This short-lived perennial grows 1 to 3 feet tall. The flowers are yellow or orange with a large black or brown center. Plant in full sun. The seeds can be sown the preceding summer or fall. For blooming the same season, start seeds indoors 8 to 10 weeks prior to transplanting. Seeds germinate in 5 to 10 days at 70 to 75 degrees.

<https://www.gardenia.net/plant/rudbeckia-hirta-denver-daisy>

#### Brown-eyed Susan

*Rudbeckia triloba*



A biennial or short-lived perennial, grows 2-5 feet tall and becomes bushy (up to 4 feet wide) if not crowded by other plants. It does best in full sun or light shade in sandy, loamy soil. It prefers moderate moisture, but is drought tolerant once established. It is easy to grow from seed, blooming in its second year. Cutting back the flowers just as bloom finishes may help extend the plant's life. However, these plants readily self-sow.

<https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?kempercode=b937>

## Candletree/Candlestick

*Senna Alata*



Candlestick provides spiky late summer color. Candlestick plant attracts pollinators, and is also said to have anti-fungal properties. Growing candle bush can be started from seed (will re-seed). Soak seeds overnight and direct sow in the spring when chances of frost have passed in full sun. May reach 15 feet (4.5 m.) in height after several years, pruning for shape is often necessary for the best appearance.

<https://www.gardeningknowhow.com/ornamental/shrubs/candlestick-bush/growing-candlestick-bushes.htm>

## Coneflower (Purple)

*Echinacea purpurea*



Excellent perennial flowering plant for Texas gardens, drought tolerant, attractive to bees and butterflies and will flower all summer with little attention. Grows 2 – 3 feet tall by 18 inches wide with flowers 2 – 7 inches across, with coppery-orange centers and bristly cone, blooms June – October. Full sun, but tolerates light shade. Fall is the best time to plant.

<https://dcmga.com/north-texas-gardening/perennials/master-gardener-favorites/2228-2/>

## Cosmos, orange

*Cosmos sulphureus*



An annual that blooms from early summer to late autumn, providing abundant yellow-orange blooms with yellow centers. Plant in full sun. Orange cosmos reaches heights of up to 7 ft. at maturity, though some varieties stay 1-3 ft. It is drought tolerant, so water sparingly and do not fertilize. Deadhead spent blooms.

<https://homeguides.sfgate.com/care-orange-cosmos-39825.html>

## Four O’Clocks **RED AND PINK**

*Mirabilis jalapa*



Four o’clock flowers grow from seeds or division of the roots. Once planted, collect four o’clocks hard, black seeds for planting in other areas. Four o’clocks flourish in a full sun to part sun. This herbaceous perennial dies back to the ground after frost to again return in late spring when soil temperatures have warmed.

<https://www.gardeningknowhow.com/ornamental/flowers/four-oclocks/four-oclock-plants.htm>

## Gomphrena “Fireworks”

Globe Amaranth



A showy amaranth with a long bloom season and drought and heat tolerance. Height of 4', it works well when placed at the rear of a bed. This annual will provide masses of flowers to your garden from early summer to your first frost. Each flower resembling a fireworks display atop long stems. Low maintenance for your bed, borders, containers, cutting garden, and rock garden. Once mature, they are drought tolerant but water until established.

<https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/gomphrena-globosa-fireworks/>

## Gregg’s Mistflower

*Conoclinium greggii*



Full sun to part shade

- *Height: 2 to 3 ft feet*
- *Spacing: 2 to 3 feet*
- *Flowers: light purple, violet*
- *Summer, early autumn*
- Sow seeds directly after final frost
- Softwood cuttings in Summer or Fall

<https://monarchbutterflygarden.net/butterfly-plants/conoclinium-greggii/>

## Hyacinth Bean

*Lablab purpureus*



Vigorous annual vine does best seeded directly in the garden. Plant when temperatures warm in the spring and nights are above 50°F. Soak seeds for 6-8 hours before planting to speed germination. Plant hyacinth bean seeds 1 inch deep and 6 inches apart in full sun. Put trellises/supports in place before planting. Vines can climb up to 16 ft in only a few months. Blooms in summer to fall, pods form after flowers fade.

<https://www.reneesgarden.com/products/hyacinth-bean-vine>

## Inland Sea Oats

*Chasmanthium latifolium*



A hardy perennial grass best suited for the shade. Their height is about three feet, with a “clump” usually around two feet wide with its golden chevron-shaped seed heads. It is tolerant of heat and drought. The leaves are nearly evergreen, turning golden brown in the fall and early winter. For a tidier look, a shearing at this time is a good idea.

<https://npsot.org/wp/collincounty/2021/05/05/inland-sea-oats/>

## Luffa/Loufah

### *Luffa aegyptiaca*



A vine-grown member of the gourd family. Luffa grows slowly and matures well into autumn. It prefers full sun, hot temperatures, adequate water and well-drained soil. Will need a trellis. Yellow flowers in late summer through early fall, attract bees, ants and other pollinators. After the flowers are spent, elongated fruits form which can be dried and used as a sponge in bath and kitchen.

<https://www.gardeningknowhow.com/edible/vegetables/gourd/luffa-gourd-planting.htm>

## Mexican Bird of Paradise

### *Caesalpinia Pulcherrima*



Growing Mexican bird of paradise is easy. It can be grown in a container in colder regions. Nick seeds with a knife, soak the seeds in room temperature water for a day. Plant 1/2 to 1 in deep and several inches apart. Cover pot with plastic wrap, place in a warm location in indirect light. Keep the soil moist until the seeds germinate; about 8 weeks after planting. Transplant in a large pot and place in a spot in full sun but with protection to strong sun and heat. Bring in when it freezes.

<https://neilsperry.com/2021/09/mexican-bird-of-paradise/>

## Texas Mountain Laurel

### *Sophora secundiflora*



A native evergreen shrub that can be trained as a multi-trunked small tree, 10' to 15' tall and 10' wide. It is highly drought tolerant after getting established for a year or two and is cold tolerant to about 10°F. Slow growers with dark green, glossy, compound leaves and 3-7" clusters of purply-blue flowers with a sweet grape fragrance in February - March, poisonous if ingested. Butterflies, bees, and other pollinators love their nectar! Soak seeds in warm water to

soften, and then scarify the shells with a file or knife. Plant seeds directly in the ground or in large pots for the first year. Seedlings grow slowly for the first two years. After it's established – the first year or two – rainfall should be enough, except in times of severe drought. <https://dcmga.com/north-texas-gardening/trees/texas-mountain-laurel/>

## Texas Star Hibiscus

*Hibiscus coccineus*



The Texas Star hibiscus is a moisture loving variety that produces large star-shaped flowers in both white and bright red. It is hardy in [USDA zones](#) 8-11, though it will die back to the ground and regrow in the spring in colder areas. Trim the plant back to the ground in late winter after flowering. The following spring, the stems will begin growing rapidly. It performs best in full sun or partial shade.

<https://www.gardeningknowhow.com/ornamental/flowers/hibiscus/growing-texas-star-hibiscus.htm/?print=1&loc=bot>

## Verbena, Purple

*Verbena canadensis*



Verbenas are long blooming annual or perennial flowers possessing heat tolerance and an extremely long bloom season. Height: 12", spacing 2-3' apart, blooms early summer to late fall. Plant in full sun. Makes a mat of dark green leaves with masses of purple clusters. Remove top 1/4 of plant periodically to force new buds. Plants will have a sprawling habit, can keep a more compact shape through regular pruning.

<https://www.gardeningknowhow.com/ornamental/flowers/hibiscus/growing-texas-star-hibiscus.htm/?print=1&loc=bot>

## Vitex, Texas Lilac, Chaste Tree

*Vitex agnus-castus*



Texas Lilac Vitex grows quickly and offers easy maintenance as either a deciduous large shrub or small tree, 10-15 ft tall, up to 15 ft wide. Spikes of lavender flowers bloom in early summer, sporadically throughout the summer and fall. Vitex is heat, drought and pest tolerant. Propagate Vitex from seeds or cuttings in the fall. Vitex grows best in full sun, and once established, it requires only a little water every week or two depending on rainfall. The Vitex's juice or sap is an irritant that can cause painful blisters.

<https://dcmga.com/north-texas-gardening/perennials/master-gardener-favorites/texas-vitex/>

Currently out of inventory, special notes

Bluebonnets **ALL GONE - MORE NEXT FALL**



Seeds germinate in the fall and grow throughout the winter, and usually bloom around the end of March to the mid-May. Around mid-May, they form a seedpod, which is green at first but turns yellow and then brown. The seedpods pop open, releasing small, hard seeds. When first starting a patch, seeds should be rubbed with sandpaper before planting. Plant in poor soil in full sun and water until they germinate. Be patient!

Gayfeather **ALMOST OUT – NEED MORE**

*Liatris punctate*



Perennial, deciduous, 1-3 ft. tall, pink and purple blooms from Aug-Dec. Texas Liatris likes a dry to medium soil in full sun. Too much water will lead to root rot. Will self-seed in a sandy soil. Tolerant of alkaline soils. Attracts butterflies.

[https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id\\_plant=LI PUM2](https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=LI PUM2)

Milkweed (Tropical Mexican) -**withdrawn, planting may not be recommended – Texas milkweed seed would be appreciated.**

<https://xerces.org/blog/tropical-milkweed-a-no-grow>