The WyoScape Xeric Demonstration Garden

Agricultural Resource and Learning Center
2011 Fairgrounds Road
Casper, WY
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<th>PLANT LIST</th>
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<tbody>
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About the site:

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

Plant Water Needs:

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

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

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

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

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

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

Height: 6 to 18 in  
Spread: 6 to 8 ft  
Water: low  
Zone: 3  
Soil: well drained soils  
Exposure: full sun  

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

Grow-Low Sumac
*Rhus aromatica* ‘Grow-Low’

Height: 2 to 3 ft  
Spread: 6 to 8 ft  
Water: low  
Zone: 4  
Soil: well drained soils  
Exposure: full sun  

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

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

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

Trilobe Sumac
*Rhus trilobata*

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

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

Height: 5 to 6 ft  
Spread: 5 to 6 ft  
Water: low  
Zone: 3  
Soil: well drained soils  
Exposure: full sun

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

Wax currant
Ribes cereum

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

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

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

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

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**Prairie Joy Rose**
*Rosa x ‘Prairie Joy’*

Height: 6 to 8 ft  
Spread: 5 to 6 ft  
Water: moderate  
Zone: 2  
Soil: well drained soils  
Exposure: full sun

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

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

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

Wood’s Rose
*Rosa woodsii*

Height: 3 to 5 ft
Spread: 4 to 6 ft
Water: low
Zone: 3
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: full sun

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

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

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

Silver Buffaloberry  
*Shepherdia argentea*

**Height:** 10 to 15 ft  
**Spread:** 10 to 12 ft  
**Water:** low to moderate  
**Zone:** 3  
**Soil:** well drained soils  
**Exposure:** full sun

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

Height: 1 ft
Spread: 6 to 8 ft
Water: moderate
Zone: 3
Soil: well drained soils
Exposure: full sun

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

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Creeping Juniper
*Juniperus horizontalis ‘Wilton Carpet’*

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

Another ground hugging, spreading juniper, the Wilton Carpet has silver-blue foliage which turns a purplish color in winter. It is excellent in hot, dry areas and on slopes. It will also cascade over retaining walls.
**Icee Blue® Juniper**
*Juniperus horizontalis ‘Monber’*

- **Height:** 6 in
- **Spread:** 5 to 7 ft
- **Water:** moderate
- **Zone:** 4
- **Soil:** well drained soils
- **Exposure:** full sun

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

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**Creeping Juniper**
*Juniperus horizontalis ‘Blue Chip’*

- **Height:** 10 in
- **Spread:** 6 to 8 ft
- **Water:** moderate
- **Zone:** 3
- **Soil:** well drained soils
- **Exposure:** full sun

This variety is a low-growing, spreading juniper that has soft gray-blue scales which turn to a silvery-plum color in winter. It is best used in protected sites where wind is not a major issue.
Rocky Mountain Juniper  
*Juniperus scopulorum ‘Wichita Blue’*

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<tr>
<td><strong>Height:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Spread:</strong></td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Soil:</strong></td>
<td>well drained</td>
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<td><strong>Exposure:</strong></td>
<td>full sun to partial shade</td>
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The Wichita Blue is an upright form of our native juniper trees. It is an excellent juniper for exposed locations and has attractive silvery-blue foliage.

‘Blue Rug’ Juniper  
*Juniperus horizontalis ‘Wiltonii’*

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<tr>
<td><strong>Exposure:</strong></td>
<td>sun</td>
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This low-growing, dense, mat-forming creeping juniper spreads or trails over walls. It has silvery blue foliage in summer, changing to a purplish/bronze in winter. It provides excellent erosion control and is well suited for rock gardens or overhanging ledges.
Shiny Leaf Yellowhorn
*Xanthoceras sorbifolia*

- **Height:** 10 to 18 ft
- **Spread:** 8 ft
- **Water:** low to moderate
- **Zone:** 4
- **Soil:** well drained soils
- **Exposure:** full sun

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

*Pinus aristata*

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

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

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**Piñon Pine**

*Pinus edulis*

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

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

*Pinus flexilus*

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

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**Mops Mugo Pine**

*Pinus mugo compacta ‘Mops’*

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<td>Exposure:</td>
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The Mops is a small and densely compact selection of Mugo pine. It is a great plant for the rock garden.
Pumilo Mugo Pine
*Pinus mugo ‘Pumilo’*

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

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

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Slowmound Mugo Pine
*Pinus mugo compacta ‘Slowmound’*

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

This dense, compact form of mugo pine is slightly larger than ‘Mops’.
Ponderosa Pine

*Pinus ponderosa*

- **Height:** 50 to 60 ft
- **Spread:** 20 to 30 ft
- **Water:** low
- **Zone:** 3
- **Soil:** well drained soils
- **Exposure:** full sun

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

Austrian Pine

*Pinus nigra*

- **Height:** 60 ft
- **Spread:** 20 to 40 ft
- **Water:** low to moderate
- **Zone:** 4
- **Soil:** well drained soils
- **Exposure:** full sun

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

_Picea pungens glauca ‘Mesa Verde Blue’_

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

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

Gold Plate Yarrow

_Achillea filipendulina ‘Gold Plate’_

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

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

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

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

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**Paprika Yarrow**  
*Achillea millefolium ‘Paprika’*

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

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

*Artemisia*

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

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

**Artemesia ‘Valerie Finnis’**

*Artemesia ludoviciana*

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

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

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

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

Tiny Green
*Artemisia viridis*

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

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

*Artemisia versicolor*

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

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

Chocolate Flower

*Berlandiera lyrata*

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

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

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

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

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Threadleaf Coreopsis  
*Coreopsis verticillata ‘Zagreb’*

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

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

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

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

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Table Mountain® Ice Plant
*Delosperma cooperi ‘John Proffitt’*

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

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

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

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

Starburst® Ice Plant
Delosperma floribundum

Height: 4 in  
Spread: 10 in  
Water: low to moderate 
Zone: 4 to 9  
Soil: well drained soils  
Exposure: full sun

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

*Hymenoxys scaposa*

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

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

Catmint

*Nepeta x ‘Six Hills Giant’*

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

This a large, impressive plant has aromatic flower spikes of violet blue which attract bees and butterflies. If it is sheared back, it will grow back and re-bloom. It is a big, tough, long-lived, reliable bloomer which takes two seasons to reach full size.
Silver Blade® Silverleaf Evening Primrose
*Oenothera macrocarpa subsp. incana*

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

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

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Missouri Evening Primrose
*Oenothera macrocarpa*

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

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

*Origanum libanoticum*

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

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

Mesa Penstemon

*Penstemon digitalis*

**Height:** 2 to 4 ft  
**Spread:** 1 to 2 ft  
**Water:** low to moderate  
**Zone:** 3  
**Soil:** well drained soils  
**Exposure:** sun

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

*Penstemon mexicali*

Height: 12 to 15 in  
Spread: 8 in  
Water: low  
Zone: 3  
Soil: well drained soils  
Exposure: full sun

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

‘Mersea Yellow’ Pineleaf Penstemon

*Penstemon pinifolius*

Height: 12 in  
Spread: 12 to 18 in  
Water: low to moderate  
Zone: 3 – 10  
Soil: well drained soils  
Exposure: full sun to partial shade

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

*Penstemon pinifolius*

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

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

Red Rocks® Hybrid Beardtongue

*Penstemon x ‘Red Rocks’*

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

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

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

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

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**Mexican Hat Prairie Coneflower**  
*Ratibida columnifera*

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

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

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

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

Silver Sage
*Salvia argentea*

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

Plant Select 1997. This plant has silver, fuzzy leaves that are arranged in a wide rosette. It hosts spikes of white flowers that appear in the second year. It is an excellent choice for a focal point where the foliage can be seen and appreciated.
May Night Perennial Sage
*Salvia × sylvestris* (‘Mainacht’)

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

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

Russian Stonecrop
*Sedum kamtschaticum* ‘Variegatum’

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

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

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

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

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**Dragon’s Blood Stonecrop**  
*Sedum spurium red form*

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

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

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

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

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Matrona Sedum
*Sedum telephium ‘Matrona’*

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

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

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

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

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**Showy Stonecrop**
*Sedum spectabilis ‘Brilliant’*

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

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

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

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

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**Old Fashioned Hens and Chicks**  
*Sempervivum tectorum*

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

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

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

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

Big Leaf Lamb’s Ear  
_Stachys byzantina ‘Helen Von Stein’_

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

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

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

‘Orange Carpet’ Hummingbird Trumpet  
*Zauschneria garrettii*

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

Height: 6 in  
Spread: 10 in+  
Water: very low to low  
Zone: 4  
Soil: well drained soils  
Exposure: sun to partial shade

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

Silver Beard Grass
_Andropogon saccharoides_

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

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

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

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

Blue Oat Grass  
*Helictotrichon sempervirens*

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

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

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

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

Red Fountainbush Switch Grass
*Panicum virgatum ‘Ratstrahlbusch’*

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

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

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

This tall prairie grass has an outstanding arching clump of steel-blue leaves, and has airy heads of tiny green flowers in late summer. The butter-gold color in fall fades to tan for winter, and is attractive all season long. Trim this grass back to the ground in early spring, when it can also be divided. It is drought tolerant once established.

Little Bluestem
*Shizachyrium scoporium*

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

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

**Websites**

http://barnyardsandbackyards.com—Select ‘Resources - Landscaping’
http://ces.uwyo.edu/
http://plantselect.org

**Books**

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

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

*The Xeriscape Flower Gardener* by Jim Knopf

**Other Demonstration Gardens**

Cheyenne Botanic Garden
Denver Botanic Garden
Laramie’s Water-Wise Demo Garden in LaBonte Park
Plant Select Demonstration Gardens www.plantselect.org/map.php
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