

FABULOUS FOLIAGE

HARDY PERENNIALS WITH EXCEPTIONAL OR UNUSUAL FOLIAGE

If you decide to purchase one of these, take care to ensure you find the correct cultivar as many of these perennials have quite a number of cultivars and not all have the foliage described.

SEDUM (Stoncrop, Ice Plant)

- Very drought tolerant.
- Many cultivars with a wide range of heights and foliage colours from light green ('Autumn Joy') to deep bronze ('Touchdown Teak').
- The height of the cultivar will determine where to plant the perennial – as a border plant or mid-bed.
- Few pest problems.
- Zones 4-9.



Autumn Charm



Touchdown Teak



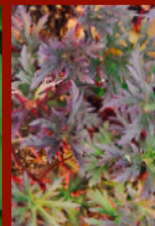
Autumn Joy

CRANESBILL (Perennial Geranium)

- Many cultivars of various heights and spread.
- Hardy and drought tolerant.
- Performs well in sunny locations.
- Disease resistant.
- Zones 4-8.
- Cultivars: 'Cranesbill Pratense', 'Midnight Reiter' – finely divided, dark plum purple foliage; topped with light blue flowers; 8-10 inches tall.
- 'Cranesbill Philippe Vapelle' – grey green velvety leaves with a pebbly texture; topped with deep blue flowers; 10-12 inches tall. Good for the perennial border.



Cranesbill Philippe Vapelle



Midnight Reiter

PHLOX PANICULATA

- A hardy plant.
- Full sun to light shade
- Most cultivars are 2 to 2.5 feet in height.
- Zones 4-8.
- Cultivars: 'Goldmine', 'Becky Towe', 'Nora Leigh' – each cultivar has variegated leaves but will have different coloured blossoms. Medium height; narrow deep green leaves with a golden yellow border to the leaves. Mildew resistant.



Variegated Phlox

TIARELLA CORDIFOLIA (Foam Flower)

- Easily grown in average well-drained soil. Soil should not be allowed to dry out.
- Part to full shade.
- Width: 1-2 feet (dense clumps of foliage); Height: 8-12 inches.
- Semi-glossy, heart-shaped, 3-5 lobed leaves (4 inches across) rise directly from the stolons. Leaves may have reddish variegation along the veins.
- Border plant.
- Related to heuchera.
- Zones 4-8.
- Cultivars: 'Pink Skyrocket', 'Spring Symphony', 'Crowfeather', 'Wherry'



Spring Symphony

ARUNCUS (False Goatsbeard)

- Several cultivars of various heights.
- Feathery dark green foliage that forms a foliage mound. A lovely contrast to perennials nearby.
- Hardy, pest free.
- Full sun to light shade but needs soil to be moist.
- Astilbe-like plumes of tiny, creamy white flowers rise above the foliage in late spring.
- Zone 4-7.
- Cultivars: 'Aruncus aethusifolius' – border plant; grows to 12 inches in height.
- 'Aruncus Misty Lace' – a compact cultivar but grows to about 20 inches tall; very feathery foliage. Plant will self seed, but the seedlings will not be true to the original plant.
- 'Aruncus Kneiffii' – much taller cultivar; lovely tall cream-coloured feathery plumes on very delicate foliage. Grows 3-4 feet tall.



Dwarf Goatsbeard

SOURCES

Gardenia.net – www.gardenia.net/search
Missouri Botanical Garden – www.missouribotanicalgarden.org

IMAGES

Judy Gray

