Annual and Perennial Flower Selections For North Dakota

Annuals perennials are an excellent source of color and accent to North Dakota landscapes. Annuals are used for their continuous flower color throughout most of the growing season.

Because North Dakota summers are so unpredictable, using transplants after killing frost threats have passed usually is a good idea. Perennials are used for their permanence in the landscape setting, offering specific periods of bloom, relatively low maintenance and wide adaptability.

While annuals are started anew each growing season, perennials usually can be divided in the spring or fall. These new divisions can be replanted or given to a friend or neighbor.

This publication provides suggestions for flowers for specific locations in and around the landscape. These include low-growing and tall plants, and plants for shade and full-sun/dry locations, massing, naturalizing and fragrance.

This does not mean a plant selected for a particular location absolutely cannot grow in another type of location. This is merely a guide indicating where the selected plants grow best under those conditions. Some plants may be listed in more than one category.
**Annuals**

**Low-growing (6 to 8 inches)**
- Ageratum
- Alyssum – ‘Carpet of snow’
- Dahlberg daisy
- Dianthus – Princes series
- Dusty Miller
- Lobelia
- Marigolds (dwarf)
- Moss rose
- Nemophila
- Nierembergia
- Pansy
- Snapdragons (dwarf)
- Vinca – Carpet series
- Zinnia (dwarf)

**Intermediate (10 to 20 inches)**
- Begonia (wax)
- Gaillardia ‘Red Humel’
- Gomphrena
- Geranium
- Impatiens
- Marigold – Zenith, Discovery
- Petunia
- Salvia splendens
- Verbena
- Vinca
- Zinnia angustifolia

**Tall (24 to 48-plus inches)**
- Cannas
- Celosia
- Cleome
- Cosmos – Sensation mix
- Fountain Grass
- Marigold – Climax and Jubilee series
- Nicotiana
- Snapdragon – Rocket strains
- Statice
- Sweet Pea – vine to 6-plus feet
- Zinnia – specific cultivars

**Plants for Shade**
- Begonia – wax and tuberous
- Coleus
- Dahlberg daisy – light
- Impatiens
- Lobelia – light
- Myosotis – (Forget-me-not)
- Nemisia – light
- Nemophila – light
- Nicotiana – light
- Nigella
- Pansy
- Poppy – light, or east side
- Rudbeckia – light
- Torenia – light

**Full Sun/ Dry Locations**
- Calendula – Prince series
- California poppy
- Cleome
- Dusty Miller (Senecio)
- Eustoma (Lisanthus)
- Gaillardia
- Moss rose – ‘Magic Carpet’
- Statice (Limonium)
- Sanvitalia
- Tithonia (Mexican sunflower)
- Verbena

**Striking Flower Show – Massed Plantings**
- Alyssum – ‘Carpet of snow’
- Dianthus – Princess series
- Dahlberg Daisy
- Geranium – Orbit and Ringo series
- Marigold – Jubilee series
- Petunia – Multifloras
- Portulaca (moss rose)
- Salvia – Sizzler series
- Snapdragon – Sweetheart series
- Verbena
- Zinnia

**Plants for Naturalizing**
- Campanula (Tall Bellflower)
- Cleome
- Forget-me-not (Myosotis)
- Fountain Grass (Pennisetum spp.)
- Gaillardia (Indian Blanket)
- Hare’s Tail (Lagarus ovatus)
- Lupinus (Texas Bluebonnet)
- Nigella (Love-in-a-mist)
- Rudbeckia (Black-eyed-Susan)

**Annuals Planted for Fragrance**
- Alyssum
- Four-o’clock
- Heliotrope
- Mignonette
- Moonflower (vine)
- Nasturtium
- Nicotiana
- Pincushion flower
- Snapdragon
- Stock
- Sweet pea

**Annuals for Drying**
- Amaranthus caudatus
- Fountain Grass
- Gomphrena
- Helichrysum (strawflower)
- Quaking Grass
- Salvia farinacea
- Statice
Perennials

Perennials often are used to solve troublesome spots in the landscape. Some of these areas might be wet, dry or shady, or possess infertile soil. Perennials are effective as background plantings, for naturalizing or simply as a border to define a planting bed.

Wet areas could be planted with Iris sibirica, Monarda didyma and Viola odorata. For dry areas, consider using Achillea or Hemerocallis. Where the soil is poor, Gypsophila or Blue False Indigo (Baptisia australis) could be used.

For tall background plantings, consider Phlox paniculata or Boltonia asteroides ‘Snowbank.’ Naturalized plantings may use the Prairie Gayfeather (Liatris) or Echinacea, while rocky areas will accommodate plantings of Columbine (Aquilegia) and Basket-of-Gold (Aurinia saxatilis ‘Citrina’).

Borders can be accented effectively with Snow-In-Summer (Cerastium tomentosum) or Phlox subulata (Moss Pink).

Perennial selection can be made on the basis of flower color and the season of bloom.

The following selections will highlight these qualities.

**Blue to Purple**
- Ajuga
- Aquilegia
- Aster
- Campanula
- Delphinium
- Echinacea
- Hosta
- Iris
- Liatris
- Phlox
- Platycodon
- Salvia
- Scabiosa
- Veronica
- Viola

**Pink to Red**
- Achillea 'Millefolium'
- Aster
- Astilbe
- Boltonia
- Dianthus
- Dicentra
- Echinacea
- Erigeron
- Geranium
- Hemerocallis
- Heuchera
- Iris
- Lobelia cardinalis
- Lychnis calcedonica
- Paeonia
- Phlox
- Physostegia
- Salvia ‘Rose Queen’
- Sedum spectabile

**Gray to Blue, and Variegated Foliage**
- Achillea
- Heuchera
- Ajuga
- Hosta
- Artemisia
- Lamium
- Cerastium
- Sedum
- Dianthus
- Thymus
- Echinops
- Gypsophila

**Yellow to Orange**
- Achillea ‘Coronation Gold’
- Alchemilla
- Aurinia saxatilis
- Coreopsis
- Gaillardia
- Hemerocallis
- Heliopsis
- Iris
- Ligularia
- Linum flavum
- Oenothera
- Papaver orientale
- Ratibida
- Rudbeckia
- Sedum
- Solidago

**White**
- Achillea ‘Angels Breath’
- Arabis albida
- Aruncus
- Aster
- Astilbe
- Boltonia
- Cerastium
- Dendranthemum
- Dianthus
- Dicentra
- Dictamnus
- Echinacea
- Gypsophila
- Hosta
- Iris
- Paeonia
- Phlox
- Veronica
- Yucca
Season of Bloom

May to June
Ajuga
Aster
Cerastium
Dicentra
Dictamnus
Erigeron
Geranium
Iris
Paeonia
Lychnis chalcedonica
Viola

June to July
Aruncus
Campanula
Delphinium
Heuchera
Salvia ‘Rose Queen’
Yucca

July to August
Achillea ‘Angels Breath’
Ligularia
Lobelia cardinalis
Monarda
Physostegia
Ratibida

August to September
Aster
Boltonia
Sedum spectabile

Extended Season of Bloom
Achillea millefolium
Aquilegia
Coreopsis
Echinacea
Dianthus
Gaillardia
Gypsophila
Heliopsis
Hemerocallis
Hosta
Liatris
Linum flavum
Oenothera
Phlox
Rudbeckia
Sedum
Solidago
Veronica

Foliar Impacts
Gray, Blue, and Variegated – Seasonlong
Achillea
Ajuga
Artemisia
Cerastium
Dianthus
Echinops
Gypsophila

Achillea millefolium
Aquilegia
Coreopsis
Echinacea
Dianthus
Gaillardia
Gypsophila
Heliopsis
Hemerocallis
Hosta
Liatris
Linum flavum
Oenothera
Phlox
Rudbeckia
Sedum
Solidago
Veronica

Heuchera
Hosta
Lamium
Perovskia
Sedum
Thymus

Shade Tolerant Perennials
Ajuga spp.
Aquilegia canadensis
Asarum canadense
Astilbe spp
Bergenia cordifolia
Campanula spp.
Centauraea macrocephala
Cimicifuga racemosa
Coreopsis spp.

Dicentra spectabilis
Digitalis spp.
Hosta spp.
Lamium spp.
Mertensia virginica
Myosotis spp.
Phlox divaricata
Ranunculus repens
Sedum kamtschaticum

Heights

Less than 12 inches
Ajuga
Asarum
Aurinia
Cerastium
Dianthus deltoides
Coreopsis ‘Golden Shower’
Iris cristata
Iris pumila
Oenothera missouriensis
Phlox subulata
Sedum
Viola

12 to 24 inches
Achillea ‘Baby’s Breath’
Achillea ‘Moonshine’
Achillea ‘Fire King’
Arum
Asarum
Campanula rotundifolia
Coreopsis auriculata
‘Nana’
Dendranthemum
Dianthus barbatus
Dictamnus albus
Erigeron ‘Walther’
Geranium
Heuchera sanguinea
Hosta lancifolia
Iris, Bearded
Linum perenne
Lychnis X arkwrightii
Paenonia tenuifolia
Phlox divaricata
Sedum aizoon
Sedum ‘Autumn Joy’
Sedum spectabile
Veronica ‘Crater Lake Blue’
Veronica ‘Gold Dwarf’

More than 24 inches
Achillea filpendulina
Aquilegia canadensis
Aster
Astilbe
Boltonia asteroidis
‘Snowbank’
Campanula glomerata
Coreopsis ‘Golden Shower’
Delphinium elatum
Dictamnus albus
‘Purpureus’
Echinacea purpurea
Echinops vitro
Eryngium X zabelii
‘Amethyst’
Gypsophila paniculata
Hosta sieboldiana
Iris
Liatris spicata
Lychnis chalcedonica
Monarda didyma
Papaver orientale
Phlox paniculata
Physostegia virginiana
Rudbeckia
Salvia
Solidago ‘Gold Dwarf’
Veronica virginica
Yucca
All-America Selection (AAS) Winners

AAS The flower and vegetable gardening industry announces AAS winners every year. Interested gardeners should consider using these varieties in their plant selections, whether these are current winners or winners from previous years.

These are the most extensively tested herbaceous plants in North America. NDSU has two AAS demonstration gardens: one on the campus in Fargo and the other at the Williston Research Extension Center in Williston. There, you can observe just how well these selections are doing under “normal” care.

For more information on All-American Selection winners, go to www.all-americaselections.org.

The Perennial Plant of the Year

The Perennial Plant of the Year (POY) program began in 1990 to showcase a perennial that is a standout among its competitors. Perennials chosen are suitable for a wide range of growing climates, require low maintenance, have multiple-season interest, and are relatively pest/disease-free. If you are looking for an excellent perennial for your next landscape project or something reliable for your gardens, make sure to check out the Perennial Plant of the Year archive list at www.perennialplant.org/education/plant-of-the-year. More information about other perennials can be found in the Plant Database.
## Annuals

- Ageratum — Floss Flower
- Amaranthus — Love-lies-bleeding
- Antirrhinum — Snapdragon
- Begonia — Begonia
- Briza — Quaking grass, Rattlesnake grass
- Calendula — Calendula
- Campanula — Bellflower
- Celosia — Cockscomb, plumed and crested
- Centaurea — Basket flower
- Chrysanthemum — Chrysanthemum
- Cleome — Spider flower
- Coleus — Coleus, Flame nettle
- Consolida — Larkspur
- Coreopsis — Caliopsis
- Cosmos — Cosmos
- Cynoglossum — Chinese forget-me-not
- Dianthus — Pink, Sweet William
- Dyssodia — Dahlberg daisy
- Eschscholzia — California poppy
- Eustoma — Lisianthus, Prairie gentian
- Gaillardia — Blanket flower
- Gerbera — Transvaal daisy
- Gomphrena — Globe amaranth
- Gypsophila — Baby’s breath
- Helichrysum — Strawflower
- Iberis — Rocket candytuff
- Impatiens — Garden balsam
- Ipomoea — Moonflower, Morning glory
- Lathyrus — Sweet pea
- Limonium — Static, Sea lavender
- Lobelia — Lobelia
- Lobularia — Sweet alyssum
- Moluccella — Bells-of-Ireland
- Myosotis — Forget-me-not
- Nemesia — Pouch nemesia
- Nicotiana — Flowering tobacco
- Nigella — Nigella, Fennel flower
- Papaver — Poppy, Iceland poppy
- Pelargonium — Geranium
- Petunia — Petunia
- Phlox — Annual phlox
- Portulaca — Portulaca, Moss rose
- Rudbeckia — Coneflower
- Salvia — Salvia, sage
- Senecio — Dusty miller
- Tagetes — Marigold
- Tithonia — Mexican sunflower
- Tropaeolum — Nasturtium
- Viola — Violet, Viola, Pansy
- Zinnia — Zinnia

## Perennials

- Achillea — Yarrow
- Ajuga — Bugleweed
- Alchemilla — Lady’s mantle
- Anaphalis — Pearly everlasting
- Aquilegia — Columbine
- Arabis — Rock cress
- Artemisia — Wormwood
- Aruncus — Goatsbeard
- Astilbe — Astilbe, False spirea
- Aurinia — Basket-of-gold
- Boltonia — Boltonia
- Campanula — Bellflower
- Ceratostema — Snow-in-summer
- Coreopsis — Tickseed
- Delphinium — Delphinium, Larkspur
- Dianthus — Pink
- Dicentra — Bleeding heart
- Dictamnus — Gas plant
- Echinacea — Purple coneflower
- Erigeron — Fleabane
- Gaillardia — Blanket flower
- Geranium — Cranesbill
- Gypsophila — Baby’s breath
- Helianthus — False sunflower, Oxeye
- Hemerocallis — Daylily
- Heuchera — Alumroot
- Hosta — Plantain lily
- Iris — Iris
- Lamium — Dead nettle
- Liatris — Blazing star, gay-feather
- Ligularia — Bigleaf goldenray
- Linum — Flax
- Lobelia — Cardinal flower
- Lychnis — Arkwright campion, rose campion
- Monarda — Bee balm
- Myosotis — Forget-me-not
- Oenothera — Sundrops, Primrose
- Paeonia — Peony
- Papaver — Poppy
- Perovskia — Azure sage, Russian sage
- Phlox — Prairie phlox
- Physostegia — Obedience, False dragonhead
- Ratibida — Prairie coneflower
- Rudbeckia — Coneflower, black-eyed Susan
- Salvia — Sage
- Scabiosa — Pincushion flower
- Sedum — Stonecrop
- Solidago — Goldenrod
- Thymus — Thyme
- Veronica — Speedwell
- Viola — Violet
- Yucca — Adam’s needle
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