

**BULBS, FERNS, MISC.**

**Agave**

*Agave sp.*  
shown: *Agave havardiana*. from www.wikipedia.com: Each rosette grows slowly to flower only once. During flowering a tall stem or "mast" grows from the center of the leaf rosette. After development of fruit the original plant dies. Agaves are closely related to the lily and amaryllis families, and are not related to cacti.



**Airplane Plant, Variegated**

*Chlorophytum comosum 'Variegatum'*

Leaves can be all green, Pale green with white or yellow central stripe or green with white margins. Excellent for hanging baskets or can be used as groundcover under trees or in a very protected patio. Sends daughter plants off by shoot. Here's more than you need to know about this plant. [Http://goto.glocalnet.net/natal/amp/am pel.htm](http://goto.glocalnet.net/natal/amp/am pel.htm)



**Amaryllis**

*Hippeastrum spp.*  
from www.floridata.com: Outdoors use amaryllis in mixed perennial borders. Plant among shrubs or under high shade of pine trees. Makes great cut flowers. In winter, amaryllis bulbs are easily forced into spectacular blooms. In a matter of weeks a dry bulb will become a lovely centerpiece to brighten gloomy winter days.



**Bromeliad**

over 3,000 species and many genus from www.wikipdia.com:

Bromeliaceae is a family of monocot flowering plants of around 3,170 species native mainly to the tropical Americas. The family includes both epiphytes, such as Spanish moss (*Tillandsia usneoides*), and terrestrial species, such as the pineapple (*Ananas comosus*).



**Cactus, Starfish**

*Orbea variegata*  
from <http://botanicalgrowers-store.com>: Small *Orbea* with large incomparable blooms. Finger-like stems are pink in color when grown in bright light. *Orbea* flowers are five-lobed, and a firm almost plastic-like texture. Compact and very easy to grow *Orbea* make an impressive windowsill plant.



**Carrion Plant**

*Stapelia gigantea*  
from www.wikipedia.org: It is a clump-forming succulent with erect green stems 1 inch thick. In summer, large star-shaped 5-petaled flowers up to 14 in. in diameter are borne. The flowers are red and yellow, wrinkled, with a silky texture, fringed with hairs, and smell of rotting flesh, in order to attract the flies which pollinate them.



**Donkey Ears**

*Kalanchoe gastonis-bonnieri*  
from www.plant-care.com: Unlike other succulents, *Kalanchoe donkey ear* grows fast and can tolerate almost any condition. It looks best outdoors; just take it back in during winter and place it in any bright-window indoors. In landscaping, *Kalanchoe donkey ear* is used as a low-rise specimen plant. *Kalanchoe donkey ear* plants can also be grown in pots.



**Fern, Holly**

*Cyrtomium falcatum*  
from www.floridata.com: Japanese holly fern is a tough plant that is inexpensive and easy to propagate. Several selected varieties are available including dwarf versions and some with different shaped pinnae. This fern has been a popular porch plant in Florida and the Deep South since the 1800's.



**Garlic, Society**

*Tulbaghia violacea*  
from desert-tropicals.com: Leaves of the Society Garlic are narrow, looking like onion leaves, and have an onion smell when bruised. This smell is the reason why its flowers are not ideal as cut flowers. The name comes from the fact that, supposedly, although its taste is close to real garlic, it doesn't give bad breath.



**ANNUALS**

**Dahlia**

*Dahlia sp.*  
LARVAL HOST for Angle Shades, Common Swift, Ghost Moth and Large Yellow Underwing. From www.wikipedia.com: Dahlia is a genus of bushy, tuberous, perennial plants native to Mexico, Central America, and Colombia. There are at least 36 species of dahlia. Dahlia hybrids are commonly grown as garden plants.





**SMALL PERENNIALS**

**Alder, Yellow**

*Turnera ulmifolia*

May be invasive. From <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu>: Many stems originate close to the ground but branch infrequently forming an open, leggy plant. Those in full sun branch more and stay fuller. Clear yellow flowers are produced daily. New flowers open the next morning. Leaves stay dark green with little or no fertilizer.



**Aster, Fall**

*Symphytotrichum oblongifolium*

from Michael Womack: Few plants are more striking in fall than this Texas native plant that is known for blue flowers and yellow centers. Even if your goal is not butterfly attraction, you definitely want to consider this perennial favorite to liven up your fall garden. Despite its name, this plant blooms again in the spring if you remove the spent blossoms.



**Basil, Sweet**

*Ocimum basilicum*

from wikipedia.com: Basil is most commonly recommended to be used fresh; in cooked recipes, it is generally added at the last moment, as cooking quickly destroys the flavor. The fresh herb can be kept for a short time in plastic bags in the refrigerator, or for a longer period in the freezer, after being blanched quickly in boiling water.



**Begonia, Angel Wing**

*Begonia x coralline*

from www.wikipedia.org: Often, these plants are used as year-round houseplants. They are easy to grow for a gardener who understands begonias. Since they are native to the tropics, the ideal growing conditions include high humidity, good circulation of the air around the plant, a lot of water, and a lot of light.



**Bulbine**

*Bulbine frutescens*

<http://gardeningolutions.ifas.ufl.edu>: It makes a great ground cover since each plant will grow over time to form a clump that can reach up to four feet wide. The succulent, grass-like foliage grows to about a foot tall, while the flower stalks typically reach two feet, dancing above the leaves throughout the summer months.



**Butterfly Bush, Wooly**

*Buddleia marrubiiifolia*

from [www.nativesoftexas.com](http://www.nativesoftexas.com): Plant this West Texas native in full sun and watch the butterflies congregate. The round orange and yellow blooms are a great contrast to the silver gray foliage. Be sure to plant in a well drained site and give it plenty of room to grow to its 4 by 4 feet size. It likes limestone soils and blooms from March to September.



**Butterfly Weed**

*Asclepias tuberosa*

LARVAL HOST for Monarch (*Danaus plexippus*), Queen (*Danaus gilippus*) and Gray Hairstreak (*Strymon melinus*) butterflies. From [www.floridata.com](http://www.floridata.com): unique among milkweeds in that the sap is not milky and leaves are not opposite. Deep taproot makes transplanting difficult. Self-sows freely, deadhead if you don't want volunteers.



**Chile Pequin**

*Capsicum annuum*

from [texasnature.blogspot.com](http://texasnature.blogspot.com): Chilipequins, the wild progenitor of the jalapeno pepper, packs a wallop that surpasses all of the cultivated hot peppers. The little yellow to bright green berries, about an inch long and conical or egg-shaped, ripen in fall. They can be used fresh or dried and stored.



**Coral Creeper**

*Barleria repens*

from [www.plantszafrica.com](http://www.plantszafrica.com): Fast-growing and wonderfully easy-going, *Barleria repens* will adapt to a number of situations. Plant it in a large container, or on top of a low wall, where its foliage and flowers can cascade down and show to advantage.



**Coreopsis, Lanceleaf**

*Coreopsis lanceolata*

from [www.wildflower.org](http://www.wildflower.org): This native species has branching stems at base and often forms sizable colonies along roadsides and in old fields. Nearly a dozen other perennial yellow-flowered *Coreopsis* species occur in the East.





**Crown-of-Thorns**

*Euphorbia milii*

from www.floridata.com: Grown for its long lasting, colorful petal-like bracts which surround inconspicuous little flowers. Although often grown in pots on the patio, this thorny succulent is perfect for rock gardens and sunny borders. Crown of thorns is salt tolerant and often used in frostfree coastal areas, even quite near the sea.



**Daisy, Blackfoot**

*Melampodium leucanthemum*

Plains Blackfoot is a low bushy perennial growing from 8 to 12 inches in height. It can be found in rocky, gravelly, calcareous or sandy soils of the Edwards Plateau. The leaves have rough hairs and are 1 to 2 inches in length. The leaves and flowers are readily eaten by white-tailed deer.



**Daisy, Copper Canyon**

*Tagetes lemmonii*

from www.floridata.com: What is that smell? Ripe passionfruit...mint...a hint of camphor. Brush by the foliage of mountain marigold and you are hit with a distinctive, pungent fragrance. Mountain marigold, or Copper Canyon daisy, is a sprawling, shrubby perennial daisy with delicately filigreed highly aromatic foliage.



**Fan Flower**

*Scaevola aemula 'New Wonder'*

from www.floridata.com: Fanflowers can be grown in containers or hanging pots outdoors in summer and brought indoors during the winter. In subtropical climates, they are grown in perennial beds and borders. They are tolerant of sandy soils and salt spray. The sprawling cultivars make excellent groundcovers in seaside gardens.



**Fennel, Bronze**

*Foeniculum vulgare 'Rubrum'*

LARVAL HOST for Swallowtail butterflies: from www.nichegardens.com: Bronze Fennel is easily identified by tall, billowy masses of aromatic, bronzy-green, feathery foliage. Tiny, mustard-yellow flowers sway in the summertime breeze atop large flat umbels, eventually yielding multitudes of seeds.



**Four O'Clock**

*Mirabilis jalapa*

from www.floridata.com: Four o'clocks are rugged little perennials, long popular in southern gardens, and often persisting even after the garden has been abandoned. The stems are rather fragile and brittle and often get broken. A sweetly scented four o'clock growing near the front door is a pleasant southern tradition.



**Gaura, Siskiyou Pink**

*Gaura lindheimeri var. Siskiyou Pink*

from www.missouribotanicalgarden.org: Best grown in sandy, loamy, medium moisture, well-drained soil in full sun. Good drainage is essential. Flowering stems may become leggy and flop, particularly when grown in rich soils or too much shade. May self-seed if spent flowers are left in place in autumn.



**Greenthread**

*Thelesperma filifolium*

LARVAL HOST for: Dainty Sulphur (Nathalis iole) butterfly. Native to the prairies of Central & Western Texas, Arkansas, Colorado, & Mexico, striking when planted in mass. From uvalde.tamu.edu: Greenthread blooms between March and June and often into the fall.



**Iris, Blue**

*Iris sanguinea*

from www.wikipedia.com: Up to 300 species – many of them natural hybrids – have been placed in the genus Iris. Irises are used in mass in flower beds and in borders. Allow irises to spread in a lightly shaded wooded area in the back of the garden.



**Lily, Variegated Flax**

*Dianella tasmanica 'Variegata'*

Scale insects can be a problem. from www.monrovia.com: With its narrow, reed-like foliage and a bonus of variegation, this plant is dramatic in natural gardens, with Asian themes or as a stark vertical texture in the spare, modern landscape. Contrasts well against very large-leaved, shade-loving shrubs and bronzy-colored plants.





**Lion's Tail**

*Leonotis menthifolia*

from <http://toptropicals.com>: After bloom, the new growth just keeps growing up through the flower. Shrubby, semi-woody, perennial or semi-evergreen subshrub to 2m high with a 1m spread. Tolerates poor soil. Spiny whorls of soft apricot-orange fuzzy flowers are held atop tall erect stems that remind of a crow's nest on the mast of a ship.



**Oregano, Mexican**

*Poliomintha longiflora*

from [www.magnoliagardensnursery.com](http://www.magnoliagardensnursery.com): Mexican Oregano is a semi-woody shrub used for culinary purposes in Mexican and Southwestern cuisine, adding a spicy flavor not found with regular Oregano. Mexican Oregano will flourish in the humid gulf coast areas making it a good landscape plant, and likes a little more moisture than most herbs.



**Mallow, Globe**

*Sphaeralcea ambigua*

from <http://www.desert-tropicals.com>: A number of people are allergic to the Desert Mallow, for this reason it is often called "Hierba Muy Mala" (bad grass) in Spanish. There are over 10 different species of Sphaeralcea in the Southwest with varying flower color and leaf shape.



**Pepper, Black Pearl**

*Capsicum annuum 'Black Pearl'*

Aransas planting 03/01 & 08/10; <http://www.usna.usda.gov>: Developed at the National Arboretum in 2006, the plant grows taller and wider developing into a black pyramid shape without pinching, pruning, or grooming. 'Black Pearl' is exceptionally heat tolerant and requires minimal water and fertilizer.



**Mistflower, Fragrant**

*Chromolaena odorata*

from <http://www.wildflower.org>: Branched stems curve upward and are 2-6 ft. in height. Triangular-shaped leaves are virtually evergreen in extreme S TX. Lilac flowers cluster together into showy, ageratum-like flower heads.



**Porterweed, Blue**

*Stachytarpheta jamaicensis*

LARVAL HOST for: Tropical Buckeye butterfly (*Junonia genoveva*). from <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu>: Plants grow about 4 feet tall before stems droop and touch the ground. Blue or pink flowers are borne terminally on long, stringy spikes at the ends of the stems. Rich, dark green foliage is displayed on square, green stems



**Mistflower, Gregg's**

*Conoclinium greggii*

LARVAL HOST for Boardered Patch, Monarch, Queen, and Swallowtail butterflies; from Michael Womack: It is a butterfly magnet with light bloom fuzzy blossoms from late spring through fall. Its bright-green, frilly leaves provide a nice texture to the garden, but the plants will usually die back in fall and need to be cut to ground level in winter.



**Rosemary, False**

*Conradina canescens*

from [www.wikipedia.com](http://www.wikipedia.com): This species is found along the gulf coast of Mississippi, Alabama and Florida, as well as in the sand hills of central Florida. It is the most common and widespread species in the genus. Suggested as a landscaping plant for xeriscaping. Has flowers and scent similar to those of *Rosmarinus officinalis*.



**Mistflower, Padre Island**

*Conoclinium betonicifolium*

from <http://www.wildflowers.org>: This is a somewhat woody, weak, decumbent plant rooting at the nodes in sand or sandy clay and found throughout the Texas coast. The flowering stems turn up at the ends and the blades are fleshy with toothed margins. All the flowers are disk-type with bluish petals.



**Ruellia, Chi-Chi Pink**

*Ruellia brittoniana 'Chi Chi'*

May be invasive. color variation of the "Mexican Petunia"; from [www.plantdelights.com](http://www.plantdelights.com): 'Chi Chi' is a dynamite ruellia from Texas...a seedling selection of *R. brittoniana* from plant guru Scott Ogden. The narrow, very dark green foliage clothes the 2' tall stem, topped with 1" pink petunia-like flowers, from early summer through fall.





**Sage, Lipstick**

*Salvia greggii* var *Lipstick*  
from [www.plantdelights.com](http://www.plantdelights.com): One of the longest-flowering Texas sage cultivars we have trialed. Each compact 3' tall x 3' wide clump is simply smothered in terminal flower spikes of lipstick-red (RHS 50A) flowers, each highlighted by a white throat and brown calyx. Texas sage makes a great foreground addition to a grouping of ornamental grasses.



**Sage, Lyreleaf**

*Salvia lyrata*  
from [www.wildflowers.org](http://www.wildflowers.org): Lyreleaf sage is a strictly upright, hairy perennial, 1-2 ft. tall with a rosette of leaves at the base. Lyreleaf sage makes a great evergreen groundcover, with somewhat ajuga-like foliage and showy blue flowers in spring. It will reseed easily in loose, sandy soils and can form a solid cover with regular watering.



**Sage, Scarlet**

*Salvia coccinea*  
LARVAL HOST for Painted Lady butterfly (*Vanessa cardui*). From article in Rockport Pilot by Ernie Edmondson: Covered with bright red flowers, is a perennial salvia. It makes a great ground cover in both shade or sun by just trimming back periodically with a line trimmer.



**Salvia, Henry Duelberg**

*Salvia farinacea* 'Henry Duelberg'  
Texas leafcutting ant (*Atta texana*) can strip it overnight. from <http://texassuperstar.com>: Spikes of showy blue flowers from spring until frost. More floriferous than other cultivars. Texas native plant; found by Greg Grant in a small central Texas cemetery. Taller with bluer and more floriferous flowers and larger and greener leaves than modern cultivars.



**Salvia, Indigo Spires**

*Salvia* x '*Indigo Spires*'  
From an article by Ernie Edmondson in the Rockport Pilot 09/16/2009: Indigo Spires Salvia is an evergreen perennial hybrid of two native salvias with long purple flower spikes. It is a spreading plant to three feet tall by six feet wide requiring low to medium water and full to partial sun.



**Skeleton-Leaf Goldeneye**

*Viguiera stenoloba*  
from <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu>: With its skeletal dark green leaves, golden daisies and rounded growth habit, it is an extremely ornamental shrub or subshrub. It adapts to most well-drained sites in full sun, and will benefit from being cut back to maintain a dense shrubby appearance.



**Tomato**

*Solanum lycopersicum*  
Aransas planting 02/10, 08/01; from [www.wikipedia.com](http://www.wikipedia.com): Determinate, or bush, types bear a full crop all at once and top off at a specific height; they are often good choices for container growing. Indeterminate varieties develop into vines that never top off and continue producing until killed by frost. Most heirlooms are indeterminate.



**Violet, Philippine**

*Barleria cristata*  
from <http://toptropicals.com>  
Grows into a shapely shrub with minimal pruning. The trumpet-shaped 2" flowers open in terminal clusters in November and continue into mid-December. This is an easy-to-grow shrub, about 3ft height, which can be used for a garden hedge or tightly clipped into geometrical shapes. Barleria is easily propagated from cuttings planted in fall directly in the ground. It requires some sun to flower profusely and occasional pruning to promote bushy growth.



**Zexmenia, Hairy**

*Wedelia texana*  
larval plant for the Bordered Patch butterfly; from <http://uvalde.tamu.edu>: Can be found in dry gravelly, calcareous, and rocky soils of the South Texas Plains and the Edwards Plateau. The yellowish-orange flower head consists of several disk flowers and seven to fifteen ray flowers.





**GRASSES**

**Bluestem, Little**

*Schizachyrium scoparium*  
LARVAL HOST for skipper butterflies. From [www.wildflower.org](http://www.wildflower.org): wonderful planted en masse. The visual dynamics it provides range from blue-green in late summer to golden with cotton-tufted seedheads in winter. It readily reseeds so little bluestem is not recommended for



**Grass, Mexican Feather**

*Nassella tenuissima*  
Does well in the wind. from [www.taunton.org](http://www.taunton.org): No other grass exhibits quite the refinement of texture as this species. Its bright green foliage resembles delicate filaments that arise in elegant, vase-like clumps and spill outward like a soft fountain. All summer it bears a profusion of feathery panicles.



**Grass, Vetiver**

*Chrysopogon zizanioides* 'Sunshine'  
from [www.wikipedia.org](http://www.wikipedia.org): The plant helps to stabilise soil and protects it against erosion, but it can also protect fields against pests and weeds. Vetiver has favourable qualities for animal feed. From the roots, oil is extracted and used for cosmetics, aromatherapy, herbal skincare and ayurvedic soap. The plant can also be used for handicrafts, ropes and more.



**Muhly, Bamboo**

*Muhlenbergia dumosa*  
from [www.magnoliagardensnursery.com](http://www.magnoliagardensnursery.com): This grass has fern-like leaves and a lacy texture giving it a Bamboo look. The growth habit is upward to slightly arching, this one is non-invasive because it is a clumper and does not seed well. Bamboo Muhly will tolerate some drought but it will look its best on a moist well-drained soil.



**Muhly, Big**

*Muhlenbergia lindheimeri*  
from [www.wildflower.org](http://www.wildflower.org): Native only to the Edwards Plateau of central Texas, Big muhly or Lindheimers muhly has become increasingly popular since the 1980s as an elegant, large-scale specimen grass, large enough for screening. It can be a soft-textured substitute for introduced Pampas grass, which it approaches in stature.



**Muhly, Gulf Coast**

*Muhlenbergia capillaris* 'Filipes'  
from [www.magnoliagardensnursery.com](http://www.magnoliagardensnursery.com): Absolutely one of the most beautiful ornamental grasses around. A North American native and more importantly a Texas Native Plant! Puts on a real show with flowers that look like a purple cloud from far away, giving a spectacular fall color show.



**Muhly, Weeping**

*Muhlenbergia palmeri*  
from [www.nativesoftexas.com](http://www.nativesoftexas.com): This graceful muhley grass is native to Arizona but does well in the Texas Hill Country. It has a graceful weeping appearance and enjoys full sun. It is very drought tolerant when established. Like the other grasses in this genera it blooms in the fall with slender seed heads. It grows to 1½ or 2 feet tall.



**VINES & GROUNDCOVERS**

**Baby Sun Rose (Ice Plant)**

*Aptenia cordifolia*  
from [www.desert-tropicals.com](http://www.desert-tropicals.com): They are very tough, look clean most of the time, and bloom from spring to fall. They grow in light shade, but bloom a lot less. They grow well on retaining walls and hanging baskets. Aptenia 'Red Apple' is an hybrid commonly encountered in nurseries.



**Basket Plant**

*Callisia fragrans*  
from [www.smgrowers.com](http://www.smgrowers.com): Callisia fragrans (Basket Plant) - A low growing perennial native of Mexico with 6 to 10 inch long waxy green leaves arranged alternately with the bases overlapping so tightly that they appear to be in rosettes. The leaves have a slight purplish color underneath and on the upper margins when in bright light



**Bleeding Heart**

*Clerodendrum thompsoniae*  
from [www.floridata.com](http://www.floridata.com): This is the common garden flower known as Bleeding Heart. It likes high humidity and moist soil. Outside the tropics, bleeding heart is usually grown in containers so it can be protected when temperatures fall below 45 F. It can be kept pruned into a shrub, or given support and allowed to scramble like a vine.





### Blue Daze

#### *Evolvulus glomeratus 'Blue Daze'*

from [www.floridata.com](http://www.floridata.com): The feltlike gray-green foliage and pale blue flowers make blue daze a standout in beds and borders or as a ground cover. Blue daze is spectacular in hanging containers. It is highly tolerant of salt and makes a fine ornamental for the coastal garden. Let it cascade over a window box or a porch planter.



### Cuban Blue Pea Vine

#### *Clitoria ternatea*

from Micheal Womack: This fast growing annual produces lots of bright blue flowers and a thin vine. It will freeze, but the plant produces seeds in pea pods that can be dried and kept to replant in future years. Look for it as a one-gallon plant. The plants tend to get leggy very quickly, so pinching helps to keep it bushy.



### Cup of Gold

#### *Solandra maxima*

from [www.floridata.com](http://www.floridata.com): It is often grown on large pergolas or trellises, or trained to grow up the side of a house where the spectacular flowers can spill down the walls over windows and doorways. Tolerant of salt spray and salty soils, all the chalice vines are large rampant growers and are excellent for seaside gardens.



### Daisy, Straggler

#### *Calyptocarpus vialis*

from [www.wildflower.org](http://www.wildflower.org): Straggler Daisy or Horseherb is a pest or a welcome, shade-tolerant groundcover that tolerates moderate foot traffic. If you have a shady lawn anywhere within its range, you probably already have it. Thriving in sun or shade, its tiny, yellow daisy flowers add a minute touch of color to shady areas.



### Frogfruit

#### *Phyla nodiflora*

from [www.baynatives.com](http://www.baynatives.com): Tiny ground hugging plant, thought of as weedy but very useful between stepping stones in harsh conditions. All sorts of insects are drawn to the flowers of this verbena relative.



### Honeysuckle, Cape

#### *Tecomaria capensis*

Powdery mildew is a problem. From [www.floridata.com](http://www.floridata.com): Cape honeysuckle can be used as a climbing vine (it needs tying) or barrier hedge/screen, trained as a specimen shrub, or used as a ground cover on steep slopes or rocky banks. It is sometimes trained as an espalier. It is especially attractive cascading over walls. It can be trained to a garden arch.



### Honeysuckle, Coral

#### *Lonicera sempervirens*

from [www.wildflowers.org](http://www.wildflowers.org): This vine has showy, trumpet-shaped flowers, red outside, yellow inside, in several whorled clusters at the ends of the stems. Papery, exfoliating bark is orange-brown in color. This beautiful, slender, climbing vine is frequently visited by hummingbirds. Not too aggressive. Good climber or ground cover.



### Hosta, African

#### *Ledebouria petiolata*

from <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu>: Great potential as a shade-loving groundcover and as a pocket accent in mixed shade borders, rock gardens, and woodland paths; it also performs admirably in containers and offers numerous opportunities for shaded porches, patios, entryways, or higher light interiors.



### Lantana, Purple Trailing

#### *Lantana montevidensis 'Purple'*

from Dr. Michael Womack: This tough plant not only blossoms most of the year, but it is also drought and sun hardy. The most effective use of these plants is often mass plantings in sunny areas with well-drained soils. [The smaller the leaf, the smaller the plant will be]. The shortest varieties of lantana commonly are called trailing lantana.



### Mandevilla, Red Riding Hood

#### *Mandevilla splendens 'Red Riding Hood'*

from [www.plantmegreen.com](http://www.plantmegreen.com): Red Riding Hood Dipladenia is a variety of mandevilla, a tropical flowering, vine-like plant, that can be planted in beds, containers, and on trellises. The flowers bloom red and then mature to pink. The plant blooms repeatedly from mid spring to mid fall, with summer typically experiencing the heaviest blooms.





### Mexican Flame Vine

*Pseudogynoxys chenopodioides*  
from [www.floridata.com](http://www.floridata.com): Use Mexican flame vine to drape over porch rails and mailboxes. It's expert at improving the visual charm of chain link fences. Use in mixed hedges to create splashes of summertime color. It also looks great clambering up palm or pine tree trunks. Tends to be rather compact.



### Mondo Grass

*Ophiopogon japonicus*  
from [www.floridata.com](http://www.floridata.com): Mondo grass's rich dark green, finely textured evergreen foliage provides a handsome backdrop for more colorful plants. It is virtually pest and care free making it a great choice for low maintenance plantings.



### Potato Vine, Sweet

*Ipomoea batatas*  
from [www.davesgarden.com](http://www.davesgarden.com): Larabee from Houston, TX wrote: In hot Texas, this plant grows extremely quickly--up to a couple feet in one week. It will also grow here in full sun, part sun, part shade, or full shade--it's pretty happy to grow anywhere you can plant it. The leaves look like large morning glory leaves.



### Pothos

*Epipremnum pinnatum*  
from [www.wikipedia.com](http://www.wikipedia.com): Sometimes mistakenly labeled as a Philodendron in plant stores. Liana growing to 60 ft. tall, with stems up to 2 in. in diameter, climbing by means of aerial roots which hook over tree branches. It is a popular houseplant. It is also efficient at removing indoor pollutants such as formaldehyde, xylene, and benzene.



### Snake Herb

*Dyschoriste linearis*  
from <http://www.wildflower.org>: Several erect stems, 6–12 inches tall, grow from the root of this plant, the branches and stems are covered with stiff, coarse hairs. They grow in the leaf axils on very short stems and are somewhat tucked in between the leaves, scattered here and there on the main stem.



### Wisteria, Texas

*Wisteria frutescens*  
from [www.wildflowers.org](http://www.wildflowers.org): Flowers are in large, drooping clusters 6–9 inches long that appear after the plant has leafed out, a difference from the popular Asian species. The blooms only appear on new wood. Individual flowers are nearly 1 inch long and are lilac or bluish purple and quite fragrant.



### Woolly Stemodia

*Stemodia lanata*  
from [magnoliagardensnursery.com](http://magnoliagardensnursery.com): Woolly Stemodia is a Texas Native plant found in the South Texas Plains, Gulf Prairies & Marshes and the Trans Pecos regions of Texas, growing mostly in deep coastal sands in nature. *Stemodia tomentosa* is a mat forming groundcover that has soft, silver grey foliage, similar to Lambs Ears.



## SHRUBS

### American Beautyberry

*Callicarpa americana*  
from article in Rockport Pilot by Ernie Edmundson: Early spring is the time to cut them down before they put on their new spring growth. They can be trimmed back almost to the ground, however unpruned plants will develop a weeping effect . . . with purple, or in some cases, white berries in the fall.



### Angel's Trumpet

*Brugmansia candida*  
from [www.floridata.com](http://www.floridata.com): It can be pruned to a small tree with a single trunk, or allowed to grow in a clump with several erect and spreading stems. Use it where you want to make a bold statement. Its large, coarse leaves and huge drooping flowers will be the center of attention.



### Artemisia, Powis Castle

*Artemisia x 'Powis Castle'*  
from [www.floridata.com](http://www.floridata.com): Artemisia X 'Powis Castle' is believed to be the result of a cross between Artemisia arborescens and A. absinthium. This is a beautiful silver-gray plant that grows in a dense, billowing mound. Essentially evergreen in warm winter climates. Cut back in early spring to encourage new growth to come up from the bottom.





### Barbados Cherry, Dwarf

*Malpighia glabra*

fruit is edible and sometimes used for preserves. from article in Rockport Pilot by Ernie Edmundson: The fruit are edible in preserves. Dwarf Barbados cherry makes a colorful compact small shrub for part sun to full sun locations in the landscape. Tucked up under some of the taller shrubs, you may find several perennial plants.



### Candlestick, Giant

*Senna alata*

from Michael Womack: . . . another must-have if you want the little yellow or sulphur butterflies in your yard since it provides both nectar and leaves necessary for these small, pale yellow butterflies. This plant grows extremely fast. It can grow from seed to maturity of six to eight feet tall in the same growing season.



### Bellyache Bush

*Jatropha gossypifolia*

from www.wikipedia.com: *Jatropha gossypifolia*, also called bellyache bush: its fruits and foliage are toxic to humans and animals. It is a major weed in Australia.



### Cast Iron Plant

*Aspidistra elatior*

from www.floridata.com: *Aspidistra* is often grown in a container as a porch or patio plant, or as a house plant. In landscapes, it can be used as a border or be planted in a drift around trees in total shade, or to fill a planter under an overhang. Florists use the leaves in arrangements.



### Bougainvillea

*Bougainvillea glabra*

Leaf rollers are a common pest. From www.floridata.com: *Bougainvillea* is famous for its brilliantly colored floral displays and quick growth rate. *Bougainvilleas* are thorny plants that are sometimes used as security plants. Because of the sharp thorns do not grow too closely to swimming pools and playgrounds.



### Cenizo, Compact Desperado/Ren

*Leucophyllum frutescens 'Desperado'*

Variants of the Compact Texas Sage. Very drought tolerant. Useful as a hedge, in a mass or in the perennial border.



### Buddha Belly Plant

*Jatropha podagrica*

from www.toptropicals.com: An attention grabber and a must in every tropical garden. It has a large bottle-like caudex and huge leaves up to 10-12 inches in diameter. The more shade, the bigger the leaves. Makes a good potted plant but can also be used as a conversation piece specimen in a small garden.



### Cereus, Night-Blooming

*Peniocereus greggii*

One of the strangest plants of the desert, the Night-blooming *Cereus* is a member of the Cactus Family that resembles nothing more than a dead bush most of the year. It is rarely seen in the wild because of its inconspicuousness. But for one midsummer's night each year, its exquisitely scented flower opens as night falls, then closes forever with the first rays of the morning sun.



### Buttonbush

*Cephalanthus occidentalis*

from http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu: The flowers, one-inch white fragrant globes that look like pincushions, appear from June to August. They attract butterflies and hummingbirds, and at least 25 species of birds eat the seeds, which resemble those of the sycamore tree and stay on the plant throughout winter.



### Cigar Plant

*Cuphea ignea 'David Verity'*

from http://www.floridata.com: A fast grower and requires little attention. But it will command your attention as party place for all manner of butterflies and hummingbirds. Plant a mass of cigar plants near a window or the patio where you can enjoy watching hordes of happy hummingbirds come to feast on the beautiful banquet.





### Coral Bean

*Erythrina herbacea*

from article in Rockport Pilot by Ernie Edmundson: Sprouts large clusters of bright red tubular flowers in March or April. It loses its leaves in the winter and can be cut to the ground in very early spring. It develops seed pods when ripe split open to reveal bright coral seeds that are toxic.



### Firespike

*Odontonema tubiforme*

from www.floridata.com: The strikingly beautiful crimson flowers and glossy/shiny leaves of firespike brighten the fall landscape. Plant firespike in mixed shrub borders. It will spread by underground sprouting, enlarging to form a thicket, but it is easy to control and keep contained.



### Esperanza

*Tecoma stans*

LARVAL HOST for: Plebeian sphinx moth (*Paratrea plebeja*). from www.floridata.com: Var. *stans* is a Central American tree that grows to 25 ft. Arizona yellow bells (var. *angustata*) is a 10 ft deciduous shrub. Gold Star Esperanza grows to 3-4 ft. Perfect for the South Texas Gulf Coast.



### Flame Acanthus

*Anisacanthus quadrifidus 'Wrightii'*

LARVAL HOST for Janais Patch, Texan Crescent (*Anthanassa texana*) comes back readily after a freeze. From wildflower.org: This spreading, drought- and cold-tolerant shrub will adapt to a variety of soils and does well in patio pots. Cutting the plant back severely in winter will provide more blooms and encourage a bushier form.



### Esperanza, Orange Star

*Tecoma stans 'Orange Star'*  
from

www.magnoliagardensnursery.com: This plant is an orange flowering *Tecoma* that is very similar in looks to *Tecoma stans* Yellow Bells. *Tecoma 'Orange Star'* is an evergreen and can reach 12' tall with a 6' spread at maturity.



### Hawthorn, Indian

*Raphiolepis indica*

shown: var. Clara, 4', white flowers, reddish new growth  
from www.desert-tropicals.com: The Indian Hawthorn is great landscape shrub, low divider or informal hedge. The Indian Hawthorn likes a slightly acidic soil, use fertilizer for acid loving plants. Withstands some salt spray.



### Firebush

*Hamelia patens*

From Michael Womack: . . . butterflies also use the large leaves as roosting sites at night. from www.floridata.com: It can be kept small by pruning. Firebush is a valuable addition to butterfly and hummingbird gardens. Also does well in containers.



### Heather, Mexican

*Cuphea hyssopifolia*

White & purple varieties. variety 'Compacta' grows to 2-4' while 'Allyson' (pictured) goes to 1'



### Firecracker

*Russelia equisetiformis*

LARVAL HOST for: Common Buckeye butterfly (*Junonia coenia*). Has a white variant. From www.magnoliagardensnursery.com: Produces thin wiry-like foliage and scarlet to coral tubular flowers. Great for containers or for spilling over walls, much like a fountain.



### Hibiscus

*Hibiscus sp.*

MULTIPLE COLORS. From www.floridata.com: Use as a foundation plant around houses and buildings in frost-free areas. The hibiscus is underused as a tree form. For a spectacular flowering tree, limb up at the base and allow to grow as it will.





**Hibiscus, Texas Star**

*Hibiscus coccineus*

from

www.magnoliagardennursery.com:

Tall, slender perennial Hibiscus that produces large bright red, 5 petal flowers that has embarrassingly been mistaken as Cannabis sativa. Blooms on new growth and can be cut back after flowering to maintain size and encourage new bloom.



**Honeysuckle, Mexican**

*Justicia spicigera*

from mswm.com: Easily identified by its bright orange, narrowly tubular flowers. One of the few desert-adapted plants that works well in shady locations. It can be planted on north exposures, under desert trees, or other shady spots. Its lush foliage makes it an ideal addition.



**Jasmine, Sambac**

*Jasminum sambac*

Susceptible to rust diseases; aka Maid of Orleans. From www.floridata.com: bushy vine or scrambling shrub with shiny dark green leaves and fragrant little white flowers. Expect a sambac jasmine to grow no more than 6-10 ft high and just as wide in frost-free areas. Blooms throughout the summer - and almost continuously in warm climates.



**Jatropha**

*Jatropha integerrima*

Jatropha is a very diverse genus which includes cactus-like succulents, herbaceous perennials, and woody trees. As with most members of Euphorbiaceae, the milky sap can be a strong irritant to skin. Most parts of the plant can be toxic if ingested.



**Kidneywood, Texas**

*Eysenhardtia texana*

from http://www.wildflower.org: Much-branched shrub, with an open, airy structure. Flowers white, small, with a delicate fragrance, arranged in spikes up to 4 inches long at the ends of branchlets. This tree and its relative Kidneywood (*E. polystachya*) were once used in remedies for kidney and bladder ailments.



**Lantana, Florida Red Mound**

*Lantana camara 'Florida Mound Red'*

from http://almostedenplants.com: A dwarf mounding and freely branching lantana which produces clusters of orange and yellow flowers that fade to brilliant red. The tight mounding habit of this Lantana makes it an excellent choice for smaller spaces and containers. Great for butterflies and pollinators.



**Lantana, New Gold**

*Lantana x hybrida 'New Gold'*

cross between a *Lantana camara* and a *Lantana montevidensis*. from Michael Womack in the CCCT 03/22/2008: [applicable to most Lantanas]. This tough plant not only blossoms most of the year, but it is also drought and sun hardy - two important keys to its success in landscaping.



**Lantana, Texas**

*Lantana urticoides*

Leaf miners are an issue. From Michael Womack in the CCCT 03/22/2008: The most effective use of these plants is often mass plantings in sunny areas with well-drained soils. Often found along fenceposts where it is protected from mowing. The native form is considered the best variety for hummingbirds and butterflies because of its high nectar content.



**Pigeonberry**

*Rivina humilis*

not drought tolerant. from article in Rockport Pilot by Ernie Edmundson: Often hidden under prickly leaved Agarita, you will often find Pigeonberry. Protected from the deer and the sun by the Agarita, Pigeonberry blooms with pink or white clusters of flowers and tiny red fruit, both at the same time.



**Plumbago, Blue**

*Plumbago auriculata*

from www.floridata.com: Blooms all year long except for the coldest winter months. A white flowered variety (*P. auriculata* var. *alba*) is available. The cultivar, 'Royal Cape' has intense cobalt blue flowers. Use plumbago in borders, foundation plantings, and for color massed in beds. Blooms best in full sun.





**Poinciana, Mexican**

*Caesalpinia mexicana*

from <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu>: Mexican poinciana is found in Texas only in the extreme lower Rio Grande Valley. It is grown mainly for its highly fragrant, golden flowers borne in attractive racemes 3 to 6 inches long. It is highly ornamental with its spectacular flowers and ferny foliage, and thrives in heat, tolerating reflected heat.



**Pride of Barbados**

*Caesalpinia pulcherrima*

Brilliant scarlet and yellow flowers, feathery foliage, and quick growth make Dwarf Poinciana a popular evergreen shrub. It is hard to find a more attractive flower. This open-branched, fine-textured shrub will tolerate hot, dry areas, and forms an effective thorny barrier. It flowers year-round with peak displays in spring and fall.



**Rose of Sharon**

*Hibiscus syriacus*

from [www.floridata.com](http://www.floridata.com): Rose-of-Sharon is most commonly used in mixed shrub borders, or in a group for its tall, upright shape and summer color. It also makes a fine stand alone specimen. Rose-of-Sharon is a perennial favorite among home gardeners for its ease of care and its large showy flowers that persist for weeks in the hot summertime.



**Rose, Belinda's Dream**

*Rosa x 'Belinda's Dream'*

from [www.texasuperstar.com](http://www.texasuperstar.com): First rose to be named a Texas Superstar™ and to receive prestigious EarthKind™ designation. Gorgeous shrub rose with large, fragrant and very pink double blossoms. Successive flushes of bloom spring to frost. So disease tolerant that fungicide sprays are seldom required. A nearly perfect landscape rose.



**Rose, Martha Gonzales**

*Rosa 'Martha Gonzales'*

Super easy to maintain, just give it a light trim in late winter/early spring if desired. Can also be shaped into a low hedge.



**Rose, Mrs. Dudley Cross**

*Rosa x 'Mrs. Dudley Cross'*

from [www.antiqueroseemporium.com](http://www.antiqueroseemporium.com): A compact, shapely bush that rewards even the most careless gardener with a constant supply of fragrant, double, delicately shaped yellow flowers that blush a little pink in the sun. The stems are nearly always thornless and the foliage is healthy and handsome.



**Rose, Peggy Martin**

*Rosa sp. 'Peggy Martin'*

Verticillium wilt may affect roses as well as black spot. from <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu>: Surviving 20 feet of salt water over the garden of Mrs. Peggy Martin, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, after hurricane Katrina. It has been introduced into commerce in the United States and has become a symbol among gardeners.



**Rose, Sea Foam**

*Rosa x 'Sea Foam'*

from <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu>: An Earth-Kind rose. This is a rambling rose that can be used as a short climber. The creamy white blossoms glow in the nighttime garden. For something dramatic, try Sea Foam trained as a standard. Not aromatic.



**Sage, Green Cloud Texas**

*Leucophyllum frutescens 'Green Cloud'*

from [www.magnoliagardensnursery.com](http://www.magnoliagardensnursery.com): Texas Sage is a native to Texas and Mexico and will tolerate limestone, sand, and clay soils as long as they are well drained. This plant is also heat, drought, and salt tolerant, but definitely not humidity tolerant. The foliage is more green than other cultivars which are usually silvery gray.



**Sage, Mexican Bush**

*Salvia leucantha*

from [www.floridata.com](http://www.floridata.com): Mexican bush sage, with its graceful arching stems and soft downy foliage, is one of our favorite salvias. The fuzzy purple calyces are the main show, and these persist even after the actual flowers have fallen off, making Mexican bush sage one of the few salvias suitable for use as a cut flower.





**Sage, Russian**

*Perovskia atriplicifolia*

Not a sage and not from Russia! from [www.floridata.com](http://www.floridata.com): At its best in mass plantings. Include a group of Russian sage in a mixed border. The pale gray stems provide a strong vertical element, and are especially appealing in winter when they are leafless. Cut back almost to ground before growth begins - flowers on new wood.



**Shrimp Plant**

*Justicia brandegeana*

withstands wind and sand, will freeze to ground but regrow, from [www.floridata.com](http://www.floridata.com): Use shrimp plant in mixed perennial beds and borders, wherever you want a mass of continuous color - they bloom almost all year long! Keep the bushes tip pruned to promote bushiness and increase flowering.



**Skyflower, Brazilian**

*Duranta erecta*

Deer love all varieties of this plant. Purple and white varieties. from [www.rareflora.com](http://www.rareflora.com): Easy to grow and bloom. They can also be trained in different shapes. Trimmed on a regular basis it will become a shrub, grown on a trellis as a vine, or shaped like a patio tree with only 1 trunk.



**Thyallis**

*Galphimia gracilis*

from [www.floridata.com](http://www.floridata.com): This shrub is one of the best for shearing into low hedges. Use in foundation plantings beneath windows where it's dense thicket of stems will discourage prowlers. Thyallis makes a great background plant for perennial beds. Mass this shrub for large scale groundcovers.



**Turk's Cap Drummondii**

*Malvaviscus arboreus 'Drummondii'*

Primary food source for migrating hummingbirds. Flowers on native form stick up; on the larger tropical variety they hang down. From article in the Rockport Pilot by Ernie Edmundson: Turk's Cap is found growing along the fringes of live oaks as well as in the low lying areas adjacent to the bays.



**Yucca, Red**

*Hesperaloe parviflora*

from [wildflower.org](http://wildflower.org): Not a yucca, this member of the Century-Plant family produces soft, yucca-like, evergreen leaves, 2-3 ft. in length. The flower stalk rises 5 ft. and bears showy, coral-colored, tubular flowers occur on arching, wand-like, pink stems. Leaves are plum-colored in winter; blue-green other times.



**Yucca, Soft Leaf**

*Yucca recurvifolia*

from [www.magnoliagardensnursery.com](http://www.magnoliagardensnursery.com): The foliage is more blue green than most Yucca spp. Soft Leaf Yucca is generally a single stem in youth and can become multi trunked with age. The growth habit is rosette in youth, with age the plant can become tree like. The flowers are creamy white and bell shaped and are borne on 3-5' spikes.



**PALMS, PALM-LIKE & TREES**

**Ash, Texas**

*Fraxinus texensis*

<http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu>: Texas Ash is a smaller, more drought tolerant relative of White Ash, *F. americana*. Its water requirements are low, although it can tolerate moderate amounts of moisture as long as it has good drainage. Its leaves turn glowing red, gold, orange and purple colors in the fall.



**Bottlebrush**

*Callistemon rigidus*

from [www.magnoliagardensnursery.com](http://www.magnoliagardensnursery.com): This Bottlebrush has a bushy growth habit with stiff stems and stiff linear shaped leaves and will do best on a well-drained soil. In the summer this Callistemon will bloom sporting bright red flowers.



**Crepe Myrtle, Natchez**

*Lagerstroemia x faurei 'Natchez'*

from <http://www.tree-land.com>: Developed by the US National Arboretum in 1978, The Natchez Crepe Myrtle was one of the first hybrids released and is certainly the most popular. The Natchez Crepe Myrtle produces long lasting clusters of white flowers. It has very good resistance to powdery mildew.





### Horseradish Tree

*Moringa oleifera*

from [www.wikipedia.com](http://www.wikipedia.com): While it grows best in dry sandy soil, it tolerates poor soil, including coastal areas. Considered one of the world's most useful trees, as almost every part can be used for food. The immature green pods, called "drumsticks" are probably the most valued and widely used part of the tree.



### Laurel, Texas Mountain

*Sophora secundiflora*

LARVAL HOST for Bordered Patch butterfly; from [www.wildflower.org](http://www.wildflower.org): very popular as a native evergreen ornamental tree, valued for its handsome, dark green foliage and lush early spring blooms. It is drought-tolerant.



### Olive, Wild

*Cordia boissieri*

Hardy as far north as San Antonio. Fruit may make livestock disoriented if eaten to excess. Needs water to get established but drought-tolerant afterwards. Wonderful white flowers spring through fall in the Coastal Bend area. Excellent landscaping



### Palm, Mexican Fan

*Washingtonia robusta*

Best not to shave trunk. If done, stop within 2' of beginning of dead fronds. from <http://horticulture.tamu.edu>: The tallest and fastest growing of the widely planted palms in Texas. Cold damage is common and occasional winters may wipe them out. Washingtonia filifera is a shorter, stockier, more cold hardy version. Thorns on petiole.



### Palm, Pygmy Date

*Phoenix roebelenii*

from [www.floridata.com](http://www.floridata.com): Small stature, delicate lacy appearance and easy care make this an exceptional palm that everyone can enjoy whether in the landscape or indoor containers. Pygmy date palm is inexpensive and available from mail order, nurseries and plant shops everywhere. Susceptible to hard freeze.



### Palm, Queen

*Arecastrum romanzoffianum*

from [www.monrovia.com](http://www.monrovia.com): With its crinkled fronds, Queen is among the most graceful of the palms. This stately landscape palm grows more frost tolerant as it ages, but won't stand up to a hard or prolonged freeze. A good candidate for oceanfront landscapes and larger homesites inland, provided there are few gusts of hot wind to tatter its fronds.



### Papaya

*Carica papaya*

Not salt tolerant, does not tolerate frost or even periods of near freezing temperatures. Grown in partial shade, they produce fruit that is not very sweet. Papaya is a short lived plant and young plants produce more fruit than older specimens. Grow local cultivars for best fruit.



### Pecan

*Carya illinoensis*

from <http://uvalde.tamu.edu>: The leaves are between 9 and 20 inches long. The Pecan grows best in river bottom soils. Pecans are planted as ornamentals and for their edible nuts. The nut is eaten by various wildlife, such as birds, squirrels, opossums, raccoons and peccaries. The wood can be used for furniture, flooring and fuel.



### Persimmon, Texas

*Diospyros texana*

Beautifully textured peeling bark combined with fine textured dark green foliage that stays evergreen in the southern range, intricate branching, and wide range of suitable environments for growth, make it worthy use in modern landscapes, especially those with limited space.



### Schefflera

*Schefflera actinophylla*

from [www.floridata.com](http://www.floridata.com): Use for screens, windbreaks, hedges, specimens, street plantings, and patios. A popular container plant for use indoors and out. Used extensively in south Florida along freeways and turnpikes. Trim to one trunk for a more tree-like specimen with additional height.





**Willow, Desert 'Bubba'**

*Chilopsis linearis* 'Bubba'

from <http://tree-land.com>: The Desert Willow 'Bubba' has become one of the most popular *Chilopsis linearis* cultivars because of it's beautiful and fragrant trumpet shaped pink-burgundy flowers. No seed pods.

