Hardy & Sort-Of-Hardy Sedums for Albuquerque



Penny Hoe & Martha Parker 2014

CRASSULACEAE

Crassuloideae Kalanchoideae Cotyledonoideae Echeverioideae Sempervivoideae

Sedoideae

Double whorl of stamens, petals generally not fused Flowers 4- and 5-partite Orostachys, Rosularia, Villadia, & others

Sedums

Subgenera *Hylotelephium, Rhodiola, & Sedum*Old World & New World, mostly Northern Hemisphere

Distribution of the Sedums on our List



GREEN – Evergreen Hardy GroundcoversGOLD -- Native to New MexicoORANGE – Marginally HardyBL

ers YELLOW – Non-evergreen Hardy Groundcovers
PINK – Non-evergreen Late-flowering Clumps
BLUE – Non-Sedums (Orostachys, Rosularia, Sempervivum)

Landscaping with Sedums



Late-blooming, mounding specimen plants





Sedum acre v. krajinae

Sedum acre, aka Mossy or Biting Stonecrop, was used as an emetic by Romans & Medieval Europeans.

Sedum apoleipon

Sedum album – relentless groundcover!



Sedum dasyphyllum



- Tiny leaves & flowers
- Good in bonsai pots
- Eaten as salad crop in the Middle Ages
- Needs some summer shade
- Plant can fall apart after flowering, but leaves root



Sedum hispanicum
Small soft leaves

Sedum japonicum (& similar species S. senanense) Leaves turn red in winter





Sedum reflexum 'Blue Spruce'

Sedum reflexum 'Angelina'



- **Sedum reflexum** often labeled **S. rupestre**
- Old common names include 'Prickmadam', 'Stone Orpine' & 'Crooked Yellow Stonecrop'
- Partial shade in summer
- Eaten in Europe as salad herb
- Variegated variety available



Evergreen Hardy Groundcovers S. sediforme & S. reflexum in sun 'Blue Spruce'

potted together

Sedum sediforme

- Tall, stiff stems
- Full sun
- Very drought tolerant
- Tall inflorescence
- Blue foliage turns red



Sedum sexangulare

(& similar species **Sedum grisebachii**)

- Small leaves spiral around stems
- Neither species likes cold, wet conditions





Sedum spurium

- Leaves turn red in sun, but may need shade
- Cultivars: 'Bronze Carpet', 'Dragon's Blood', 'John Creech', 'Tricolor', 'Voodoo'



Evergreen Hardy Groundcovers

New Mexico Sedums



Sedum cockerellii, Observed along the 10 K and Sandia Crest Trails, in the Sandia Mountains



- <u>Sedum cockerellii</u> Cockerell's stonecrop -- semi-evergreen, white to pale pinkish flowers, creeping stems, widespread in SW USA & into Mexico, likes cracks in limestone outcrops, seeds available.
- **Sedum integrifolium** King's Crown red-purple flowers atop plants 12" tall, widespread in Rocky Mts., dislikes hot summers, not recommended for cultivation.
- **Sedum lanceolatum** Alpine yellow stonecrop -- upright inflorescences of yellow flowers above creeping stems, widespread in western NA in rocky areas
- **Sedum rhodanthum** Queen's crown rose flowers atop 12" tall plants, widespread in Rockies, dislikes hot summers, enjoy it while hiking!
- <u>Sedum stenopetalum</u> Narrow-petaled stonecrop light yellow flowers on 6" plants, viviparous rosettes form on flower stalk, fall to ground & propagate new plants, leaves reddish in summer, found in western USA in mountains.
- <u>Sedum wrightii</u> fleshy rootstock & small evergreen rosettes, late-summer white flowers on 4" tall plant, northern Mexico mountains into NM & TX, iffy in ABQ, likes north-facing slopes or some shade.



2 pots of **Sedum ewersii** in May that wintered under different conditions



Sedum cauticola produces light pink flowers

Sedum middendorffianum in the fall; note reddish leaves

Sedum ellacombianum



Sedum kamtschaticum & Sedum 'Brilliant' in late spring



Sedum kamtschaticum variegatum

buds...

...flowers ... and seeds



Sedum pachyclados may look scraggly in April, but by July monsoons, it is lush.



Sedum pluricaule is a pink-flowered native of Siberia.



Sedum sarmentosum

will grow almost any place under a variety of conditions.

In ABQ it likes a little more water & partial shade in the summer. Use it to trail from hanging pots or to fill in as groundcover.





Sedum sieboldii is often sold as a hanging basket houseplant, but it has uses outside in Abq. Flower clusters are light pink.

Sedum takisimense was found only on one island between Korea and Japan before it became available for cultivation.



Non-Evergreen Hardy Groundcover Sedums

- Aka border sedums or autumn blooming sedums
- Larger plants tend to form mounds or rounded clumps of foliage
- Smaller cultivars may be sprawling
- Specimen plants, non-evergreen, de down to the ground after frost
- Aphids love them but don'tusually cause permanent damage.
- House finches often eattender leaves like salad!



Spring



Summer



Winter

- Versatile enough for traditional gardens, xeriscapes, even cut flowers.
- In ABQ give them regular water in summer & less in winter.
- Good drainage is vital!



Grow for foliage or blossoms or both!

Sedum spectabile 'Autumn Fire'

- Nomenclature in nurseries & online can be confusing or erroneous.
- New cultivars are being developed yearly.



Sedum telephium 'Autumn Joy'





Usual progression shown. Past several years plants have been budding & blooming 4 to 6 weeks earlier.



O C T O B E R







Sedum spectabile

'Brilliant'











- During winter remove dead stems without pulling up roots.
- New sprouts may show at ground level in mild winters.
- Divide clumps in spring after new growth emerges & forms a small mound.



Cultivation challenges:

- Aphids
- Finches
- Root rot

Shown above: 'Brilliant', 'Purple Emperor', 'Matrona', 'Frosty Morn', 'Autumn Joy'

'Grandma'



'Matrona'

'Purple Emperor'





'Vera Jameson'

Marginally Hardy Sedums

Three Far
Eastern species
with yellow
flowers and
fancy foliage

Sedum lineare variegatum

Sedum mexicanum 'Lemon Ball'



Sedum makinoi 'Salsa Verde'

- Micro-environments may help
- Winter protection
- Try growing in pots
- Treat as an annual or tender perennial



Sedum oreganum needs extra water.

Also from the Pacific Northwest is **Sedum spathulifolium 'Cape Blanco'**.



Three Marginally Hardy Sedums native to the USA



Sedum ternatum needs shade & moist soil. It is found from the Appalachians to the Great Plains, wherever the Cherokee Indians lived and was used by them & by early settlers as an herbal cure-all.

Relatives of Sedums in Crassulaceae for the Garden



Sempervivum
assortment
in winter colors.
May need some
shade in summer.
Evergreen rosettes
from Europe.

Rosularia – small evergreen rosettes from Europe, Turkey, & North Africa



Orostachys, from Japan & China, grows tall flower spikes from non-evergreen basal leaves

Fall

Spring

Questions?