

RHS Trials

RHS Trials

The trials of the Royal Horticultural Society have been an intrinsic part of the Society since its foundation. Today there are 13 committees made up of 98 members with expertise from all aspects of the horticultural world. About 3,000 entries in 60 trials of different groups of herbaceous plants, vegetables, fruits, annuals, bulbs and woody plants are held each year. They combine, as no other organisation could, the best of British horticultural experts (the committee members) with the expertise of the RHS staff in the garden and science departments. The best plants within each group receive the Award of Garden Merit. This award (AGM \mathbb{T}) indicates that the plant is recommended by the RHS for garden decoration. The plants are also the subject of scrutiny for their correct names, and are described in detail, photographed and specimens prepared for storage in the RHS Herbarium.

Objectives of the Potentilla trial

The aims of the trial included those standard to all trials:

- To compare and assess as many cultivars as could be obtained and judge them for the RHS Award of Garden Merit
- To check the nomenclature of each entry
- To collect representative herbarium and photographic records together with detailed descriptions.
- The effect of sun on the colour of red, pink and orange flowered cultivars was also studied by shading duplicate entries of these plants
- The effect of different pruning regimes gave additional, although unscheduled, results in the course of the general cultivation of the plants in the ground

Entries

Initially 75 entries were submitted by nurseries, individuals and gardens but about 60 more entries were added in succeeding years. Several of these were to help clarify the nomenclature where there was suspected confusion and others were added as more sources of cultivars were discovered. Many of the later entries were submitted by Wilf Simms, some of which were new unnamed plants, which proved to be exciting and were subsequently given cultivar names.

Cultivation in trial

Three plants of each entry were planted 120cm apart in a prepared site at Deer's Farm in May 1996. The soil is free draining, light and sandy with a pH 6.5. The plants were drip watered but not sprayed against pest or disease nor fertilised. Plants were initially dead-headed and only lightly pruned in order to establish the natural habits of individual cultivars. In April 2000 one plant of each entry was cut down to 30cm, one moderately pruned and the third lightly pruned to discover the effect on flowering. This also gave each plant more light and space. However, it appeared that the severely pruned plants produced less flower and some were more affected by mildew so in March 2001 all plants were pruned less severely. Shading was initially erected during the summer for a duplicate set of the orange, red and pink flowered cultivars but this did not appear to have a significant effect on the depth of colour and they were not covered after autumn 1999.

In the autumn of 2000 and early spring 2001, the ground was very wet, but none of the plants appeared to be unduly affected. The Woody Plant Trials Subcommittee met about 18 times over the period of the trial with individual members visiting at other times of the year.

Records

Records were made throughout the trial of the dates of flowering periods, including peaks and second flushes, measurements of height and spread, percentage of reversion (if any) in variegated cultivars and any disease or frost damage. More detailed descriptions of colour and other characteristics were made as material was collected for the Herbarium.

Other contributors to this report

Linda Jones (Trials Officer) • Chrissie Ferriroli (Trials Recorder) • Wilf Simms (Shrubby potentilla enthusiast)

- Henny Kolster (Potentilla grower and member of the Subcommittee Trees and Shrubs of the Royal Boskoop Horticultural Society)
- Ronald Houtman (Secretary of the Royal Boskoop Horticultural Society) Kate Simpson and Barry Phillips (Herbarium Assistants)
- Woody Plant Trials Subcommittee: John Bond, Chris Brickell, Peter Catt, David Clark, John Gallagher, Alan Hardy, Michael Hickson, John Hillier, Roy Lancaster, Chris Lane, Archie Skinner.

RHS Herbarium

The Herbarium of the RHS is at Wisley where, like the Library, it is used continually as an essential reference tool by the botanists and others working for the Society. This herbarium is one of a small number in the world dedicated to horticultural plants but few have the RHS policy of active expansion. At present the collection contains about 80 000 herbarium specimens, 30 000 photographic images and 4000 paintings of plants, together with additional material such as seeds, and cones. Material is collected from the Gardens, shows and special collections and well-prepared and carefully curated dried, pressed specimens from RHS trials are an important addition. The Herbarium is leading an international initiative to prepare specimens of all new cultivars as they are introduced which will help to reduce the numbers of incorrectly named plants in the future. Many of these Standards come from RHS trials. Further information about these Standards may be viewed on the RHS web-site. The RHS Herbarium is therefore an invaluable repository of preserved specimens, illustrations and historical data concerning ornamental plants for today and for the future.

Introduction to the shrubby potentillas

The genus *Potentilla* contains about 500 species but the four woody ones from which the shrubby cultivars have been derived have given rise to this very important group of garden plants. These are hardy, deciduous, small shrubs, with peeling bark, tolerant of a wide range of soils and ideal for the average garden today. They flower over a long period from late spring to early autumn in sun or partial shade but will even tolerate more shaded sites. In strong sun the colour of the pale yellow flowers may fade. Specialist pruning is not necessary but regular light trimming after flowering, and removal of older stems, enables the plants to remain tidy and encourages more bushy growth. The plants are usually pest and disease free although some may be subject to powdery mildew in hot dry conditions. Red spider mite occasionally attacks some plants. The cultivars are easily propagated by softwood or semi-hardwood cuttings. Seed germinates readily although the resulting plants will not necessarily resemble the parents.

Origins of the shrubby potentillas

Following the nomenclature of European Garden Flora 4: 391-393 (1995), there are four species which comprise the Potentilla fruticosa group, and these have been involved in the parentage of the shrubby potentillas grown in gardens. P. fruticosa is found growing wild from North America to northern Europe, the Alps and the Pyrenees to western Asia and has long been cultivated in European gardens. It is very variable in its characteristics but is usually a bushy, loosely branching shrub to about 1m high, although erect and prostrate forms are also found. Typically it has yellow flowers with pale brown, lanceolate stipules, usually 5 hairy leaflets and a narrow epicalyx. P. parvifolia is native to Siberia, Central Asia and Mongolia. It is a loosely branching shrub with small grey-green leaves and very narrow, usually 7, leaflets. The small yellow flowers are borne on long, thin stalks and the epicalyx is narrow and not exceeding the calyx. P. arbuscula (syn. P. rigida - a name which has also been used for plants with only 3 leaflets in some literature) grows wild in the Himalayas and China. The plants are compact and low growing to about 60cm in height, with rather thick branches. The 3-5 hairy leaflets are large, the stipules are very conspicuous and the yellow flowers large with a epicalyx which is often forked. P. davurica may be found wild from Siberia to Japan to China. The flowers are white, the leaves usually with 5 leaflets, the epicalyx broad and obtuse and the plant compact and not usually hairy except in var. mandshurica. These 4 species have given rise to a vast number of named cultivars differing in their habit, flower colour and size. The classification of this group is not straightforward and in this account, except for a few instances, only the cultivar names are used. Even in wild plants there is variation in colour among populations and a number of hybrids have been named where the species overlap. The species (or dominant parent) from which a cultivar is derived is very obvious in some cases but other plants clearly have a very mixed parentage.



Woody Plant Subcommittee judging the potentilla trial in July 1999

Trial Results

Each entry was judged for the habit of the plant, the attractiveness of the foliage, the amount and length of flowering and, of course, the flower colour. Cultivars which received the Award of Garden Merit are recognised as being of outstanding excellence for ordinary garden decoration, of good constitution, not susceptible to pest or disease, not subject to reversion, and not requiring highly specialist growing conditions.

Awards recommended

The following cultivars were recommended for an Award of Garden Merit (

(Y) (H4) 2002:

- Large yellow flowers: 'Jackman's Variety' from Notcutts Nursery and Webbs of Wychbold; 'Medicine Wheel Mountain' from A. Robinson; 'Sommerflor' from Notcutts Nurseries; 'King Cup' from Webbs of Wychbold
- Small yellow flowers: 'Chelsea Star' from Wilf Simms
- Average yellow flowers: 'Yellow Bird' from Bridgemere Nurseries
- White flowers: 'Groneland' from Webbs of Wychbold; 'Penny White' from Hillier Nurseries; 'Abbotswood' (1993 award confirmed)
- Cream or pale yellow flowers: 'Limelight' from Wilf Simms; 'Primrose Beauty'
 (1993 award confirmed)
- Pink flowers: Lovely Pink 'Pink Beauty' from A. Briant
- Orange flowers: 'Hopleys Orange' from Bridgemere Nurseries
- Red flowers: Marian Red Robin 'Marrob' from Blooms of Bressingham

As a result of the trial, the AGM previously given to the following cultivars were rescinded as they either did not perform well over the 5 years of assessment or were superseded by newer cultivars: 'Elizabeth'; 'Goldfinger'; 'Katherine Dykes'; 'Maanelys'; 'Tangerine'; 'Tilford Cream' and 'Longacre Variety'.

As well as assessment for the AGM, the trial indicated that regular but light pruning to maintain a neat habit and to avoid straggly, woody plants could be preferable to less frequent but severe pruning. The use of shading on duplicate entries of some coloured flowered cultivars demonstrated that these plants will grow in full sun and produce good colour. It appeared that the rainfall and temperature had more effect than sun, but perhaps the mix of sun, heat and rain of a typical English summer produces the best depth of colour which was especially clear in 2001. In long periods of hot, sunny weather, the flowers retain their colour best if the ground is kept moist. Further work would be necessary to confirm these suppositions.

The Woody Plant Trials Subcommittee was very grateful for the assistance of Wilf Simms in providing a large number of plants for the trial and for his great knowledge of the group. They are especially pleased that a collection is being developed at Fingal County Parks Department in Ireland under his supervision and material will be made available from the trial with the permission of the individual contributors.

The majority of entries were found to be correctly named but in some cases there is confusion in the trade and plants are sold under incorrect names.

A guide to shrubby potentillas from the RHS Trial

The following keys and descriptions are the result of a detailed study of entries in the trial, by committee members, specialists and botanists and should give a guide to the correct nomenclature of the majority of cultivars available today. A few cultivars in the trial could not be included in the guide below as the plants were received too late for comparison.

Key to groups of cultivars

Flowers white	Group A
Flowers cream or pale yellow	Group B
Flowers bright yellow	Group C
Flowers large to very large	Group C1
Flowers average	Group C2
Flowers small to very small	Group C3
Flowers orange, orange and yellow or red	Group D
Flowers pink	Group E
Flowers apricot (pale orange-pink to pale yellow or cream)	Group F

Keys for Groups and cultivar descriptions

NOTE: THE FOLLOWING CHARTS USE CHARACTERS USEFUL IN DISTINGUISHING CULTIVARS WITHIN EACH GROUP - THE SAME CHARACTERS ARE NOT NECESSARILY USED IN EACH CHART. THE SIZES ARE VERY DEPENDENT ON CULTIVATION CONDITIONS AND THE TIME OF YEAR AND IDEALLY SHOULD BE USED WITH DISCRETION AND IN COMPARISON WITH KNOWN CULTIVARS.

FLOWER SIZE: very large over 35mm; large 30-35mm; average 25-30mm; small 20-25mm; very small under 20mm. Flowers early in the season may be larger than average.

FLOWERING TIME: (dependent on part of the country) May-late spring; June-early summer; July-mid summer; August-late summer; September-early autumn; October-mid autumn.

LEAF SIZE EXCLUDING LEAF STALK (PETIOLE): large over 2cm long; average 1-2cm long; small under 1cm. Leaves on vigorous vegetative shoots may be larger.

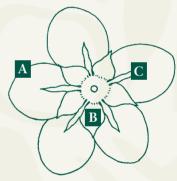
PLANT SIZE AND HABIT: is very dependent on the age of the plants, the growing conditions and the degree of pruning. The majority of cultivars are rounded, freely branching bushes, slightly drooping at the tips, about 50-100cm tall and called "bushy" in the descriptions below. However some cultivars are wide spreading or even prostrate, usually under 50cm after about 3 years. These are especially suitable for ground cover. In others the stems are much more erect and the plants usually more vigorous reaching to over 100cm in a similar time. These may be suitable for low hedges.

STIPULES: are membranous structures attached to the base of the leaf stalk, very conspicuous in some cultivars, especially those derived from *P. arbuscula*.

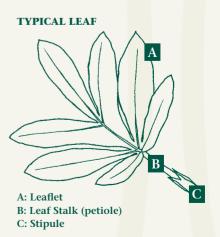
EPICALYX: flower buds are usually enclosed by 5 sepals (the calyx). In *Potentilla* the calyx is itself partly enclosed by an epicalyx which is also green with 5 lobes and not dissimilar to the calyx. It is quite variable in size and shape and sometimes a useful method of distinguishing otherwise very similar cultivars.

As with many plants, a number of conditions can affect the typical characteristics of the plant. It should therefore be remembered when using the charts below, that the colour and size of flowers is influenced by a number of factors such as cultivation, soil, time of year and weather conditions, especially temperature. Pale yellow cultivars are especially prone to fading. The same cultivar may look different in different seasons or when growing under different conditions. The habit of the plants is most typical in its earlier years and even the most prostrate plants will begin to mound up as they become older. The leaf characteristics on vigorously growing, non-flowering shoots may be larger than typical. Many cultivars on first glance look very similar and it is only on closer inspection that differences can be discerned. The stipules, the brownish membranous structure at the base of the leaf stalk, are sometimes very conspicuous and significant. The relationship between the calyx and epicalyx is also a useful diagnostic characteristic to separate closely related cultivars but even this feature can change in shape slightly through the season. In the descriptions below, assume that the petals are overlapping, the sizes of plant, flower and leaf are average and the apex of the leaflet pointed unless otherwise stated. The descriptions below are taken from the plants grown in the trial over a period of 3 to 4 years.

VIEW OF BACK OF FLOWER



A: Petal B: Calyx C: Epicalyx



Group A - White Flowers

Most plants in this group have a bushy habit and green leaves, although some are darker or duller and many have broad leaflets.

	PLAN ¹ LOW	T HABIT BUSHY	FOLIAGE COLOUR	FLOWER SIZE LARGE SMALL	OTHER
'Manchu'			Silver		Stems rather thick, reddish.
'Abbotswood'		•	Green to dark green	•	Large plant. Stems dark red-brown
'Hersii'		•	Dull green		Similar to 'Subalbicans', 'Snowflake' and 'Penny White'
'Snowbird'		-	Bright green		Semi-double flowers at least for part of season.
'White Beauty'		•	Bright green	•	Similar to 'White Rain' but with a larger flower.
'Groneland'		•	Green		Flowers not clear white and with a very pale yellow centre
'Mount Everest'		•	Green		Plant tall, rather erect.
'Subalbicans'		•	Green		Very similar to 'Hersii', 'Penny White' and 'Snowflake' but petals slightly more overlapping
'White Rain'		•	Green		Similar to 'White Beauty' with a smaller flower and darker leaf.
'Penny White'		•	Green	•	Similar to 'Subalbicans', 'Snowflake' and 'Hersii'
'Snowflake'		•	Green	•	Very similar to 'Subalbicans', 'Hersii' and 'Penny White' but slightly smaller flower.
'Wychbold White'			Green		Plant erect. Large leaves with very broad leaflets



- 1. 'Abbotswood': Plant bushy, large; older stems dark brown but younger stems strikingly red; stipules pale brown. Flower white, large, petals just overlapping; flowers from early summer to autumn; epicalyx narrow oblong equal to calyx. Foliage green to dark green; leaflets 5. F. Tustin, Abbotswood, Gloucester c. 1960. Reliable plant with dark stems showing off white flowers. AGM 1993 (H4).
- 2. 'Abbotswood Silver': not grown in the RHS Trial, is similar to 'Abbotswood' but with white-margined leaflets.

Introduced by Peter Catt, Liss Forest Nurseries, UK in 1988.

3. 'Groneland': Plant bushy; stems pale red; stipules pale brown. Flower white but not as bright as other cultivars in this group, with slightly yellow base to petals, petals just overlapping; flowers late spring to early autumn; epicalyx brown, broad, oblanceolate, equal to calyx. Foliage bright green; leaflets 5-(7), apex obtuse.

Raised in Hungary. Sometimes known as 'Greenland' in the trade. AGM 2002 (H4).

- **4.** 'Hersii': Plant bushy; stems red-brown; stipules inconspicuous. Flower white, average to small, petals just touching; flowers mid summer to early autumn; epicalyx narrow oblong equal to calyx. Foliage dull to grey-green, average-large; leaflets 5, very broad. See comments under 'Subalbicans'.
- **5.** 'Manchu': Plant bushy, dense mounded but low growing; stems reddish, very hairy with stout, stiff branches; stipules narrow. Flower white, petals just touching; flowers early to late summer; epicalyx narrow elliptic equal to calyx. Foliage grey-green to almost silver; leaflets 5. Sometimes grown as 'Mandshurica' Possibly introduced by E H Wilson from China in early 1900s.
- **6. 'Mount Everest': Plant** bushy tall to erect; stipules inconspicuous, pale brown. **Flower** white, flowers mid summer to early autumn; epicalyx brown, broad oblanceolate, some forked at tips, equal to calyx. **Foliage** green, large, overlapping when 7 leaflets are present; leaflets 5-(7), very large, spreading, margins tend to curl upwards especially on vigorous shoots.

 Introduced to UK from Holland 1950; raised by Gebr. Kruyt, Boskoop. In the trial, plants entered as 'Milkmaid' and 'Veitchii' were identical.
- 7. 'Penny White': Plant bushy, large; stems red-brown; stipules pale brown. Flower white, small, petals just touching, very floriferous; flowers late spring to mid autumn; epicalyx linear equal to calyx. Foliage dull green; leaflets 5, very broad and sometimes overlapping, apex obtuse.

 Raised in 1960s by Alf Alford at Hilliers Nursery. See comments under 'Subalbicans'. AGM 2002 (H4).
- **8.** 'Rhodocalyx': is a distinct form of *P. davurica* with a red calyx and cup-shaped, slightly nodding white flowers but the correct plant was not received for the trial.

- 9. 'Snowbird': Plant bushy; stipules pale brown. Flower white, bud sometimes tinged pink in cold weather, semi-double mainly early and late in season; flowers early summer to late summer; epicalyx narrow, shorter than calyx. Foliage bright green; leaflets 5-6-(7), broad, apex obtuse. Canada. Sometimes flowers pinker in cold weather; frequently one leaflet in basal pair instead of two. Not a very vigorous plant on trials field.
- 10. 'Snowflake': Plant bushy; stems red-brown; stipules pale brown. Flower white, average to small, petals just touching; flowers early summer to early autumn; epicalyx very narrow oblong, equal to calyx. Foliage green; leaflets 5, broad rounded, quite large on vigorous shoots. See comments under 'Subalbicans'.
- 11. 'Subalbicans': Plant bushy average to tall, upright but with open habit; stems red-brown; stipules pale brown. Flower white, petals slightly overlapping; flowers early summer to early autumn; epicalyx narrow oblong, more or less equal to calyx, sometimes forked at tips. Foliage green: leaflets 5. broad.

Natural variety from Gansu and Shanxi, West China. Plants in cultivation are probably from seed collected by Joseph Hers. Very similar to 'Farrer's White', (which did not survive in the trial), 'Hersii' and 'Snowflake' which are probably seedlings from the same source, and 'Penny White'. 'Subalbicans' has the largest flowers and petals that just overlap. 'Snowflake' has the narrowest epicalyx and occasional flowers with 1-2 extra petals. 'Penny White' has the broadest leaflets.

- 12. 'White Beauty': Plant bushy average to large; stipules pale brown. Flower white, large, flowers not massed, petals separated; flowers mid summer to early autumn; epicalyx small, oblong shorter than calyx. Foliage bright green, large; leaflets 5-7, broad and long, spreading, apex obtuse. Raised in Canada. Similar to 'White Rain'.
- 13. 'White Rain': Plant bushy; stipules brown. Flower white, very floriferous, petals rounded, well separated; flowers late spring to early autumn; epicalyx oblong equal to calyx. Foliage green to dark green, average to large; leaflets 5-(7), broad to almost overlapping, long and spreading, apex obtuse.

A chance seedling introduced by Jack Drake, Inschriach, Scotland 1969. Similar to 'White Beauty' but with slightly smaller flower and darker foliage.

14. 'Wychbold White': Plant tall, erect; stems brown; stipules broad, pale brown. Flower white, large; flowers late spring to early autumn; epicalyx large, oblanceolate, forked at apex. Foliage dull green, large; leaflets 5-6, very broad, apex obtuse.

Raised by Webbs of Wychbold.



Group B - Pale Yellow or Cream Flowers

The colour may fade so cream-coloured flowers may become almost white and pale yellow flowers looks cream. However pale yellow flowers usually have at least a slightly darker coloured flush at base of petals.

		T HABIT		OLOUR	FLOWER SIZE	FLOWER COLOUR	OTHER
'Springwood Cream'	LOW	BUSHY	SILVER	GREEN	Large	Cream, almost white,	
Springwood Cicain					Luige	with no yellow flush in centre	
'Cascade'	•			•	Small	Cream to pale yellow with pale orange base to petals	Plant with flat layered effect
'Primrose Beauty'		•	•		Large	Cream with a slightly darker centre	Similar to 'Wessex Silver' but with slightly larger flowers and with a more open, spreading habit
'Wessex Silver'		•	•		Average	Cream with a slightly darker centre	See under 'Primrose Beauty'
'Vilmoriniana'		•	•		Average	Cream with pale yellow centre	Not dissimilar to 'Wessex Silver' and 'Primrose Beauty' but more erect and with larger leaves
'Sandved'		•		•	Large	Almost white with cream flush but cream on opening	Stems brown. Leaves bright green
'Janet'		•		•	Large	Pale yellow flushed slightly darker in centre	Leaves bright green with 5 broad leaflets
'Dart's Cream'		•		•	Large to average	Cream to pale yellow flushed slightly darker in centre	Close to 'Wessex Silver' but with less silver leaves and more spreading habit

Table continued overleaf

Group B - Pale Yellow or Cream Flowers (continued)

	PLANT HABIT	LEAF COLOUR	FLOWER SIZE	FLOWER COLOUR	OTHER
'Limelight'	LOW BOSITI	JIEVER GREEN	Large to average	Very pale yellow with darker centre	Plant with open habit. Plant very floriferous
'Eastleigh Cream'	•	•	Average	Pale cream with no yellow flush in centre	Stems purplish red. Petals separate
'Judith'	•	•	Average	Pale cream with no yellow flush in centre	Stems very hairy. Leaves dull but pale green
'Macpenny's Cream'	•	•	Average	Cream flowers fading to white with a small yellowish eye	Plant with open habit and brown-red stems
'Tilford Cream'	•	•	Average	Cream with no yellow flush in centre	Plant small. Leaflets broad
'Alice'	•	•	Average	Pale yellow with slightly darker centre	Very floriferous. Petals separated
'William Purdom'	•		Small	Cream to pale yellow, darker at petal base	Very floriferous with darkest yellow flowers of the group



1. 'Alice': Plant bushy; stipules pale brown. Flower pale yellow with slightly darker centre, slightly paler reverse, very floriferous, petals separated; flowers early summer to late summer; epicalyx small, oblong shorter than calyx. Foliage pale green; leaflets 5 (7), broad, apex obtuse. Chance seedling of 'Ochroleuca' raised by Wilf Simms and named for his mother. Not dissimilar to 'Limelight' but with slightly smaller flowers and petals which do not overlap.

2. 'Cascade': Plant low growing plant with flat layered effect; stipules brown. Flower pale yellow to cream usually with pale orange base to petals, cream to very pale yellow reverse, small; flowers early summer to mid autumn; epicalyx small, oblanceolate equal to calyx. Foliage green; leaflets 5, small, broad, apex obtuse.

Raised by Hopleys Plants c. 1985 as a chance seedling.

3. 'Dart's Cream': Plant bushy, spreading; stems very hairy, pinkish-brown; stipules pale brown. Flower cream flushed yellow at base of petals to pale yellow, reverse pale green tinged cream; large; flowers early summer to early autumn; epicalyx oblanceolate, exceeding calyx. Foliage dull to greygreen; leaflets 3-5, broad, apex obtuse.

Raised by Darthuizer, Leersum, Holland, c. 1982. Good ground cover plant. Flowers larger than other pale yellow flowered cultivars. Not dissimilar to 'Wessex Silver' but a more spreading habit and darker flowers.

4. 'Eastleigh Cream': Plant bushy, angular spreading with long internodes; stems purplish-red; stipules long but narrow, brown. **Flower** cream with very faint yellow base, white reverse, petals separate; flowers early summer to mid autumn; epicalyx very narrow rhomboid, exceeding calyx. **Foliage** dull green, average to small; leaflets 5-6.

Raised in the Eastleigh Nursery of Hilliers Nurseries 1969. 'Gold Drop' x 'Sulphurascens'.

5. 'Janet': Plant bushy but rather dense; stipules brown vary large. Flower pale yellow flushed slightly darker in centre, very pale yellow reverse, large; flowers early summer to late summer; epicalyx oblanceolate, sometimes forked at apex, exceeding calyx. Foliage bright green; leaflets 5, broad, apex obtuse.

Selected by Wilf Simms from self sown seedlings at Cannon Hall, Barnsley, Yorkshire and named for his wife.

6. 'Judith': Plant bushy, wide spreading; stems very hairy, pale brown; stipules pale brown long, narrow. Flower white to cream with a hint of green, reverse similar; flowers early summer to late summer; epicalyx broad oblanceolate, forked at apex, exceeding calyx. Foliage dull but pale green; leaflets 5, broad, apex obtuse.

Only known from plants at Cannon Hall, Barnsley, Yorkshire.

7. 'Limelight': Plant bushy; stipules brown. Flower pale yellow with a darker yellow centre, white reverse, average to large; flowers late spring to mid autumn; epicalyx narrow oblong, forked at apex, equal to calyx. Foliage fresh green; leaflets 5, broad, apex obtuse.

Introduced by Liss Forest Nurseries, Hampshire 1985 from a plant thought to be a seedling, found in a garden in Kent. Synonym 'Lemon and Lime'. Long flowering period. very floriferous. Not dissimilar to 'Alice' but with larger flowers and overlapping petals AGM 2002 (H4).

8. 'Macpenny's Cream': Plant bushy but somewhat open habit; stems brown red; stipules brown, quite broad. Flower cream to white with small very pale yellow eye, reverse white, flowers cream on opening, petals just touching; flowering early summer to mid autumn; epicalyx broad with extra lobes and forked at apex, oblanceolate exceeding calyx. Foliage bright green; leaflets 5-6-7, large, apex obtuse.

A chance seedling at Macpennys Nursery, Christchurch in mid 1980s. Thought to be related to P.arbuscula. More floriferous than 'Eastleigh Cream'. Bleaches readily in sun to white.

- 9. 'Primrose Beauty': Plant bushy but low growing, large; stem very hairy; stipules brown. Flower pale yellow with a darker centre, reverse pale yellow, large; flowering early summer to early autumn; epicalyx elliptic, equal to calyx. Foliage silver; leaflets 5-(7), broad, apex obtuse. Raised by Cannegieter, Hattem, Holland in early 1950s. Long flowering. More open plant with slightly larger flowers but otherwise very similar to 'Wessex Silver'. AGM 1993 (H4).
- 10. 'Sandved': Plant bushy, but low growing at first becoming large and spreading; stems brown; stipules brown, conspicuous. Flower white with faint cream flush, reverse almost white, flowers cream on opening; average to large, petals just overlapping; flowers early summer to early autumn; epicalyx broad oblanceolate, some lobes forked at apex, equal to calyx. Foliage bright yellowishgreen; leaflets 5-7.

Raised by Bloch Sandved, Sandved Reasearch Station, Sandved, Norway 1949.

11. 'Springwood Cream': Plant bushy; stipules brown. Flower white to very pale cream, reverse almost white; flowers early summer to early autumn; epicalyx oblanceolate slightly exceeding calyx. Foliage green; leaflets 5-7, very narrow, spreading.

Chance seedling of 'Tilford Cream' raised by Springwood Nurseries, Almondsbury, Bristol.

12. 'Tilford Cream': Plant bushy, rather small and wide spreading; stems very hairy, pinkish-red; stipules brown, broad, showy. Flower cream, white reverse; flowers early summer to early autumn; epicalyx oblanceolate, equal to calyx. Foliage pale green; leaflets 5, very broad, apex obtuse.

Raised by Kelvin Lawrence, Tilford, Surrey, c. 1978. Reliable but not very free flowering. Tends to retain the dead petals.

13. 'Vilmoriniana': Plant bushy, upright; stems very hairy; stipules pale brown. Flower cream with yellow centre, paler reverse, petals touching; flowers early summer to mid autumn; epicalyx broad oblanceolate equal to calyx. Foliage very silver, average to large; leaflets mostly 5, broad.

Thought to be a hybrid of P. arbuscula and P. davurica and raised from seed sent from N China in 1905. Similar to 'Primrose Beauty' and 'Wessex Silver' but more upright in habit and with a larger leaf.

- 14. 'Wessex Silver': Plant bushy large, wide spreading; stem very hairy; stipules pale brown. Flower pale yellow slightly darker at petal base, reverse creamy yellow; flowers late spring to early autumn; epicalyx linear, equal to calyx. Foliage silver; leaflets 5-(7). Seedling of 'Primrose Beauty' raised by Wilf Simms and introduced by Wessex Propagators 1986. Very similar to 'Primrose Beauty' but slightly more resistant to mildew with smaller flowers and less spreading habit. More upright than 'Dart's Cream' and with paler flowers.
- 15. 'William Purdom': Plant tall, erect; stipules pale brown. Flower cream to pale yellow, darker at petal base, reverse pale yellow, small, very floriferous; flowers late spring to early autumn; epicalyx very narrow oblanceolate, shorter than calyx. Foliage green, small; leaflets 5, spreading, open.

Introduced by William Purdom from Shensi in 1911. Synonym 'Purdomii', but not the same as P. fruticosa var. purdomii.



Group C1 Large Yellow Flowers

Flowers over 3cm in diameter, often much more, bright yellow or golden yellow with paler yellow reverse.

	HABIT		LEAF COLOUR		LEAF SIZE		FLOWER COLOUR	OTHER	
	LOW	BUSHY	ERECT	GREY/SILVER	GREEN	LARGE	AVERAGE		
'Medicine Wheel Mountain'	prostrat	e		■ grey/green			•	Gold	Pinkish-red stems in whorled pattern on ground
'Yellow Gem'	prostrat	e		■ grey/green			•	Yellow to gold	Very pink stems
'Jolina'	spreadir	ng			with sheen	•		Gold	Spreading but not prostrate; leaves large
'Dart's Golddigger'	spreadir	ng			with sheen		to large	Gold	Very large flower; spreading but not prostrate

Table continued overleaf

Group C1 Large Yellow Flowers (continued)

	HABI	T	LEAF COI	LOUR	LEA	F SIZE	FLOWER COLOUR	OTHER
	LOW BUSH	IY ERECT	GREY/SILVER	GREEN	LARGE	AVERAGE		
'Goscote'	spreading			dull		•	Yellow to gold	Close to 'Sommerflor'; spreading but not prostrate
'Sommerflor'	smal!	I		to grey/ green		•	Gold	Similar to 'Elizabeth' but with larger, darker flower and leaf and smaller habit
'Elizabeth'	•		grey/green			•	Bright primrose yellow	Pinkish-red stems. Habit not as spreading as 'Longacre Variety'
'Longacre Variety'	spreadi	ng	grey/green			•	Bright primrose darker at centre	Spreading habit with age; petals just overlapping
'Hunter's Moon'	•			•		•	Yellow with gold centre	Shaggy stipules; flower tinged greenish, leaflets broad; stems brown
'Coronation Triumph'	rather o	pen		bright		to large	Gold	Flowers large to average but numerous
'Goldstar'	wide sprea	ading	grey		•		Gold	Flowers very large and flat when open
'Gold Parade'							Gold	Close to 'Goldstar'
'Jackman's Variety'		large	grey		very		Gold	Like Grandiflora with slightly larger flowers and more upright habit. Close to 'Goldfinger'
Grandiflora		•	grey		very		Gold	Almost erect but spreads with age. Close to Goldfinger' and 'Jackman's Variety'
'Goldfinger'		•				to large	Gold	Close to 'Jackman's Variety'and but smaller leaves
'King Cup'		tall		•	•		Gold	Leaflets spreading, large
'Hazel'		•		■ dull	•		Gold	Very thick brown stems; shaggy stipules; petals touching
'Whirligig'		•		•	very		Yellow	Petals and leaflets twisted; petals seperate



- 1. 'Coronation Triumph': Plant bushy, vigorous; stipules pale brown, long but inconspicuous. Flower gold, average to large, very floriferous, with noticeably overlapping petals; flowers early summer to early autumn; epicalyx oblanceolate, exceeding calyx. Foliage bright green, average to large; leaflets 5-7 long, narrow, slightly spreading.

 Raised at Indian Forestry Station, Saskatchewan, Canada c. 1950.
- 2. 'Dart's Golddigger': Plant bushy, low growing and spreading but not prostrate; stipules pale brown. Flower gold, very large; flowers early summer to early autumn; epicalyx elliptic, sometimes forked, equal to calyx. Foliage green with a slight sheen, average to large; leaflets 6-7, long, spreading.

Raised by Darthuizer in Holland in 1970. Close to 'Jolina'. Synonym 'Interdig'.

3. 'Elizabeth': Plant bushy, somewhat spreading but never upright; stems pinkish-red; stipules broad, brown. **Flower** bright primrose yellow; flowers late spring to mid autumn; epicalyx elliptic, often larger than calyx. **Foliage** dull grey-green; leaflets 5-(6).

Named by Hilliers Nurseries c. 1950 for the younger daughter of Sir Harold Hillier. Grown for many years as 'Arbuscula'. Probably a hybrid of P. arbuscula. Very long flowering.

4. 'Goldfinger': Plant tall, erect but somewhat open habit; stipules pale brown. Flower bright golden yellow, very large, petals touching to overlapping; flowers mid summer to mid autumn; epicalyx lanceolate with extra lobes. Foliage green, average to large; leaflets 7, narrow, spreading, open

Raised by H Knol, Gorssel, Holland c. 1970. Free flowering. Bushier habit, larger flowers and greener, smaller leaves than 'Jackman's Variety'.

- 5. 'Gold Parade': Plant bushy; stipules pale brown, large, quite conspicuous. Flower golden yellow; to very large; flowers from early summer to early autumn; epicalyx broad, often forked at apex, equal to calyx. Foliage green to grey-green, large; leaflets 5-(7), long, pointed spreading. Found in a private garden in Burton on Trent. Close to 'Goldfinger'.
- **6. 'Goldstar': Plant** bushy, with wide spreading loose habit; stipules brown, large. Flower golden yellow, very large; flowers late spring to mid autumn; epicalyx oblong, some lobes forked at tip, much longer than calyx. Foliage grey-green, large to average; leaflets 5-(7), apex obtuse. Raised by J. Hachmann, Germany and introduced 1976. ('Goldteppich' x 'Hachmann's Gigant'). Sometimes known incorrectly as 'Gold Plate'. Like a large version of 'Elizabeth' and 'Sommerflor'.
- **7.** 'Goscote': Plant bushy but low growing; stems reddish-brown; stipules brown, broad and conspicuous. Flower golden yellow; flowers late spring to early autumn; epicalyx oblanceolate, equal to calyx. Foliage dull grey-greengrey-green; leaflets 5-7, broad.

Raised by Derek Cox of Goscote in 1974 as a seedling of Elizabeth. Prostrate for about 8 years and then begins to mound up. Not dissimilar to 'Sommerflor' but with very conspicuous stipules.

8. 'Grandiflora': Plant bushy, tall, erect, large but tends to spread with age; stipules pale brown, broad. Flower golden yellow, very slightly paler reverse, petals touching to overlapping; flowers late spring to late summer; epicalyx very long and narrow. Foliage dark grey-green, very large; leaflets 5-7, very long, finger like.

First described from herbarium specimen of Willdenow taken from a garden plant. Similar to 'Jackman's Variety' which is more common in cultivation and has slightly larger flowers.

9. 'Hazel': Plant tall, erect, remaining upright; stems thick, brown; stipules brown, very broad and conspicuous. Flower golden yellow, centre darker tinged almost orange, petals touching; flowers late spring to early autumn; epicalyx very narrow, some lobes forked at tip. Foliage green, large; leaflets 5, somewhat spreading.

Raised at Cannon Hall, Barnsley, Yorkshire from self sown seedling by Paul Gorman 1995 and named for his wife. Stems darken as plants mature as good contrast to foliage and flowers. Closely related to 'Jackman's Variety'.

10. 'Hunter's Moon': Plant bushy, erect; stems brown; stipules brown, large, shaggy and very conspicuous. Flower bright yellow tinged lime-green with golden centre, petals just touching; flowers late spring to early autumn; epicalyx large, broad, forked at tip. Foliage dark green; leaflets 5, broad to almost overlapping, apex obtuse.

Jack Drake, Inschriach c. 1959. Found in Highdown Gardens, Worthing, Sussex. Probably related to P. arbuscula. Flowers have a semi-luminous quality. Mildew resistant.

- 11. 'Jackman's Variety': Plant tall, erect; stems brown; stipules broad, brown. Flower golden yellow, reverse very slightly paler; flowers late spring to early autumn; epicalyx long, narrow, some lobes forked at tip. Foliage dark green, very large; leaflets 5-7, spreading, "finger like". Presumed to be a seedling of 'Grandiflora'. It was found in Jackman's Nursery, Woking when stocks were cleared out to grow food during the war and bulked up for sale in 1946. Slightly larger flowers and more upright in habit than 'Grandiflora'. AGM 2002 (H4).
- **12.** 'Jolina': Plant low growing to spreading; stipules very pale brown, large. Flower golden yellow, very large; flowers early summer to early autumn; epicalyx linear, shorter than calyx. Foliage greygreen with a sheen, large; leaflets 5-7, long and large.

Raised in Berlin, Germany c. 1977. Lower growing and larger leaves than 'Dart's Golddigger'.

13. 'King Cup': Plant tall, erect; stipules brown. Flower bright golden yellow, reverse slightly greener yellow; flowers early summer to mid autumn; epicalyx linear exceeding calyx. Foliage green, large; leaflets 5, apex obtuse.

Thought to have originated in Holland. Very similar to 'Goldfinger' but is distinct and has less dense foliage. AGM 2002 (H4).

14. 'Longacre Variety': Plant bushy, somewhat spreading with age; stipules brown, broad. Flower bright primrose yellow, slightly darker at centre; large to average; petals touching; flowers mid summer to early autumn; epicalyx narrow elliptic, sometimes forked at apex, exceeding calyx. Foliage grey-green; leaflets 5.

Arose in garden of Longacre in Northern Ireland as a self-sown seedling and introduced 1956 by Slieve Donard. Similar to 'Elizabeth' but lower and more spreading with less cupped flowers and slightly darker foliage.

15. 'Medicine Wheel Mountain': Plant prostrate with whorled branches; stems reddish-pink; stipules broad, pale brown. Flower bright golden yellow, petals slightly crumpled; flowers early summer to mid autumn; epicalyx elliptic. Foliage grey-green; leaflets 5.

Found by Roy Davidson of Seattle, in Sioux territory of Utah in 1970s. Introduced to UK from Canada c. 1985 by Allan Robinson. The name refers to the mountain where it was found and the term "Medicine Wheel" means a collection of stone patterns, either cairns, rings or spokes. Needs open exposed moist position to stay prostrate and continue flowering. Similar to 'Yellow Gem'. AGM 2002 (H4).





16. 'Sommerflor': Plant bushy; stems reddish-brown; stipules brown. Flower bright golden yellow, sometimes semi double early in season; flowers early summer to mid autumn; epicalyx narrow, equal to calyx. Foliage green to grey-green; leaflets 5-(7), spreading, apex obtuse. From J Hachmann 1976 ('Goldfinger' x 'Goldteppich'). Very long flowering. Slightly darker and brighter flowers than 'Elizabeth' but otherwise similar. AGM 2002 (H4).

17. 'Whirligig': Plant tall, erect; stipules pale brown, narrow. Flower bright yellow, reverse paler, petals twisted, separate; flowers early summer to early autumn; epicalyx narrow elliptic with extra lobes, equal to calyx. Foliage dull green, very large; leaflets 5, broad, slightly twisted. Raised by Alf Alford, Hilliers Nursery 1969.

18. 'Yellow Gem': Plant ground cover, very low growing; stems very pink; stipules pale brown, narrow. Flower bright yellow to gold, very slightly paler reverse, very large; petals give slightly crinkled appearance; flowers early summer to mid autumn; epicalyx ovate, equal to calyx. Foliage grey-green; leaflets 5-7 with slightly upturned margins.

Raised in Botanical Garden of University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada. Similar to 'Medicine Wheel Mountain' but petals more crumpled.

Group C2 Average Yellow Flowers

Most cultivars in this group have flowers 2.5-3.0cm diameter, bright flowers with a paler yellow reverse but some are a more primrose yellow and others more golden. They are very variable in habit and foliage..

	HABIT	LEAF COLOUR	FLOWER COLOUR	OTHER	
	LOW BUSHY ERECT	GREY/SILVER GREEN			
'Glenroy Flattie'	prostrate	•	Primrose	Broader leaflets than 'Wickwar Trailer' which tend to curl upwards at margins	
'Wickwar Trailer'	prostrate		Gold	Leaflets narrower than 'Glenroy Flattie'	
'Golden Spreader'	•	•	Yellow	Leaves greener than 'Yellow Carpet' but plant less flat	
'Yellow Carpet'	•		Yellow	Leaves slightly duller and greyer than 'Golden Spreader'; flowers slightly cupped	
'Beesii'	•	very silver	Gold	Foliage silver, leaflets broad; stipules large, brown and conspicuous	
'Silver Schilling'	•	very silver	Gold	Leaves very silver	
'Kingdon Ward'	•		Yellow	Foliage grey-green, leaflets 5	
'Walton Park'	•	■ dark	Gold	Leaves dark green; leaflets spreading	
'Burren Gold'	•	blue/green	Gold	Flowers have a slightly darker centre; foliage dark	
'Chilo'	•	•	Gold	Plant small; leaves variegated, green to grey- green	
'Kobold'	•		Gold to yellow	Not dissimilar to 'Knap Hill Buttercup' but with larger flowers and overlapping petals	
'Knap Hill Buttercup'	•	•	Gold to yellow.	Similar to 'Kobold' but with slightly smaller flowers. Close to 'Gold Drop'	
'Perryhill'	•	•	Yellow	Leaflets 3-5, very broad, sometimes overlapping	
'Maybe'	•		Yellow	Foliage bright green; leaflets broad; darker flower centre	
'Katherine Dykes'	•	•	Primrose	Leaflets small but plant vigorous	
'Maanelys'	•		Primrose	Foliage grey-silver	
'Teesdale Silver'	•	•	Gold	Similar to 'Teesmaid' but with more silvery leaf and smaller flower	
'Teesmaid'	•	blue/green	Gold to yellow	Similar to 'Teesdale Silver' but with greener leaf and larger flower	
'Yellow Bird'	•	•	Gold to yellow	Flowers sometimes semi-double; leaflets large, broad	

1. 'Beesii': Plant bushy, rather dense; stipules very large, brown, conspicuous. Flower petals touching, golden yellow; flowers from early summer to mid autumn; epicalyx small. Foliage silver; leaflets 3-(5), broad, apex obtuse.

Raised by Bees from seed collected in China. Syn.'Nana Argentea'. A good foliage plant. The flowers are typically male with stamens but without carpels and therefore do not produce seed.

- 2. 'Burren Gold': Plant bushy, but plant tends to open and spread with age; stipules pale brown. Flower petals touching, bright golden yellow with a darker centre, very slightly paler reverse; flowers from late spring to early autumn; epicalyx small, lanceolate, some lobes forked at tip. Foliage dark blue-green, large; leaflets 5-(7), large but narrow, apex obtuse. Selected by Wilf Simms from the Burren in 1994 as half as big again as rest of wild stock. Somewhat similar to 'Teesmaid' but a smaller growing plant.
- 3. 'Chilo': Plant small, bushy; stems; stipules pale brown. Flower petals bright golden yellow; very floriferous; flowers from early summer to early autumn; epicalyx linear shorter than calyx. Foliage grey-green with cream to yellow variegation, small; leaflets 5-(7) small, narrow. Introduced from Boskoop, The Netherlands in 1994 and said to be named for a Dutch pop group or a singer called Chilo. Very floriferous but variegation unstable and tended to revert in trial.
- **4.** 'Glenroy Flattie': Plant more or less prostrate and wide spreading; stipules ginger brown but not conspicuous. Flower bright primrose yellow; flowers from mid summer to mid autumn; epicalyx broad, large often with extra lobes. Foliage green; leaflets 5, broad and slightly upturned at margins, apex obtuse.

From Ballalheannagh Gardens Nurseries, Glenroy, Isle of Man. Found as a seedling.

5. 'Golden Spreader': Plant low growing suitable for ground cover; stipules brown. Flower yellow; flowers from late spring to early autumn; epicalyx lanceolate sometimes with extra lobes at base. Foliage green; leaflets 5-(7).

Raised in Orkney by A. Bremmer and introduced into cultivation by Blooms. Very hardy. Similar to 'Yellow Carpet' but flowers later, is slightly less flat and has a brighter green leaf.

6. 'Katherine Dykes': Plant bushy large, vigorous; stems purplish-red; stipules brown. **Flower** petals touching, bright primrose yellow; flowers from late spring to mid autumn; epicalyx narrow. **Foliage** green; leaflets 5-(7), small.

Self sown seedling in garden of W R Dykes and named for his wife c. 1925. Possibly P. parvifolia x 'Friedrichsenii'.

7. 'Kingdon Ward': Plant bushy; stems quite thick; stipules very large, brown. **Flower** petals just overlapping; flowers from early summer to early autumn; epicalyx broad, forked at apex. **Foliage** grey-green, very hairy; leaflets 5, broad.

Raised from seed collected in Tibet by Kingdon Ward in 1925. Similar to 'Beesii' but larger flower, large epicalyx and less grey foliage. Very close to P. arbuscula.

8. 'Knap Hill Buttercup': Plant bushy; stipules ginger brown but not conspicuous. Flower yellow, petals touching; flowers from late spring to mid autumn; epicalyx long, narrow. Foliage bright green, small; leaflets (5)-7, narrow.

With larger flowers than 'Chelsea Star' and 'Gold Drop' but less overlapping petals than 'Kobold'. There is some confusion over the nomenclature of this plant but 'Knap Hill Buttercup' is listed in the catalogue of Knaphill Nursery in Woking as a recent introduction in 1949 and is still listed under this name in 1973. It is described as a selected form of 'Farreri'. In the trial, plants received as 'Knap Hill' and as 'Buttercup' appeared to be the same.

- 9. 'Kobold': Plant bushy; stipules ginger brown but not conspicuous. Flower yellow to gold; average to large; flowers from early summer to early autumn; epicalyx oblong exceeding calyx. Foliage bright green, average to small; leaflets (5)-7, rather narrow.

 Raised by Marelski, Oldenburg, W Germany 1968. Close to 'Knaphill Buttercup' except for larger flower and more overlapping petals.
- 10. 'Maanelys': Plant tall, erect; stipules brown, large. Flower petals touching, bright primrose yellow; flowers from mid summer to early autumn; epicalyx large, oblong equal to calyx, sometimes forked at tip. Foliage grey silver, large; leaflets 5, large, spreading, apex obtuse. Raised over 50 years ago in Denmark by Axel Olsen, Kolding. Useful for hedging. Synonym 'Moonlight'. Flowers fade as they age but always have a darker centre.
- 11. 'Maybe': Plant bushy, erect; stipules pale brown. Flower bright primrose yellow with darker centre; flowers from late spring to mid autumn; epicalyx small, elliptic. Foliage bright green, average to large; leaflets 5, broad, apex obtuse.

 Selected as a self sown seedling at Cannon Hall, Bamsley, Yorks, 1996. Foliage better than 'Katherine Dykes'. Early Flowering

12. 'Perryhill': Plant bushy; stipules brown. Flower yellow cup-shaped, average to large; flowers from mid summer to early autumn; epicalyx oblong, exceeding calyx. Foliage grey-green; leaflets 5-(7), broad, sometimes overlapping, apex obtuse.

Raised by Perryhill Nurseries, Hartfield, E Sussex from a chance seedling pre-1980. Close to 'Elizabeth'.





- 13. 'Silver Schilling': Plant bushy, vigorous; stipules pale brown, broad. Flower petals touching, golden yellow; flowers from early summer to mid autumn; epicalyx silver, linear to lanceolate, exceeding calyx. Foliage very silver, small to average; leaflets 5-7. Raised by Tony Schilling from seed collected in Anapurna, Nepal in 1983 (Schilling 2704). A useful foliage plant. Close to P. arbuscula.
- **14.** 'Teesdale Silver': Plant tall, erect; stipules pale brown. Flower petals more or less separate, golden yellow; flowers from early summer to early autumn; epicalyx very long, narrow, some lobes forked at apex. Foliage blue green, large; leaflets 6-7, very long, narrow, spreading.

Selected by Wilf Simms 1996 from Teesdale for silvery colour of foliage.

15. 'Teesmaid': Plant tall, very upright; stipules pale brown, large. Flower petals more or less separate, yellow to gold; flowers from early summer to early autumn; epicalyx very long, narrow, some lobes forked at apex. Foliage blue-green, very large; leaflets 6-7, very long, narrow, spreading.

Selected by Wilf Simms 1996 from Teesdale for large flowers and upright vigorous growth. Has slightly larger flowers than 'Teesdale Silver' and larger but greener leaves.

- **16.** 'Walton Park': Plant bushy; stipules pale brown, narrow. Flower petals touching, golden yellow; flowers from mid to late summer; epicalyx elliptic much longer than calyx. Foliage dark green; leaflets (3)-5, spreading, apex obtuse. Raised before 1955. Synonyms 'Waltoniensis' and 'Waltonensis'.
- 17. 'Wickwar Trailer': Plant prostrate suitable for ground cover but mounding and not as wide-spreading as 'Medicine Wheel Mountain'; stipules ginger brown, conspicuous. Flower golden yellow, slightly cup-shaped; flowers from early to late summer; epicalyx narrow, exceeding calyx. Foliage green; leaflets 3-5, fairly broad, apex obtuse.

 Seedling raised by George Osmond, Wickwar Nurseries, Gloucestershire. Not a strong grower.
- **18.** 'Yellow Bird': Plant tall erect; stipules pale brown, small. Flower bright yellow to gold, semi-double especially early in season; flowers from early summer to early autumn; epicalyx sometimes with extra lobes, equal to petiole. Foliage green; leaflets 5, broad, apex obtuse. *Raised in Manitoba, Canada, 1988.* AGM 2002 (H4).
- **19. 'Yellow Carpet': Plant** low growing suitable for ground cover; stipules brown. **Flower** slightly cupped, bright yellow, margins slightly darker; flowers from early summer to autumn; epicalyx very broad with extra lobes, equal to calyx. **Foliage** green, small; leaflets 5-(7), broad, tend to be slightly cupped.

Raised by Hopleys Plants c.1980. Similar to 'Golden Spreader' but later flowering and slightly duller or grever foliage.

Group C3 Small Yellow Flowers

Bushy plants with small bright green, narrow leaves and small (under 2.5cm diameter), golden yellow flowers very difficult to distinguish without comparison to others in the group. They are all close to *P. parviflora*.

	COMMENTS
'Chelsea Star'	Plant more upright. Petals separated but flowers slightly larger, and earlier than other cultivars
'Gold Drop'	Plant later to flower than 'Chelsea Star' and a slightly smaller plant. Petals just touching
'Sungold'	Very similar to 'Gold Drop' although petals are more or less overlapping and slightly less golden







1. 'Chelsea Star': Plant bushy, average to large, upright; stipules brown. Flower bright golden yellow, very small, very floriferous, petals separate; flowers late spring to early autumn; epicalyx very narrow, with some extra lobes, equal to calyx. Foliage bright green, small; leaflets 5-7, narrow.

Raised by Hopleys Plants and introduced at the Chelsea Flower Show in 1989. Like 'Gold Drop but earlier to flower with a less green leaf and an open petalled, "star-like" flower. AGM 2002 (H4).

2. 'Gold Drop': Plant bushy, average to large; stipules pale brown. Flower bright golden yellow, small, very floriferous, petals just touching; late spring to early autumn; epicalyx very long and narrow exceeding calyx. Foliage bright green, small; leaflets 7, narrow, apex acute to obtuse. Introduced in 1916 as one of the seedlings known as 'Farreri' which originated from Farrer 188 collected in SW Kansu in 1914. Bean suggests that it was collected from a hybrid swarm of P. parviflora and P. davurica which resulted in a number of slightly different seedlings. 'Gold Drop' was named in USA. It flowers slightly later than others in the group and in the trial appeared to be more affected by rain causing the plants to spread. Synonym 'Goldkugel'. The trial entry from Highdown as 'Farreri' is probably from the original collection. It had a slightly more compact habit than others in the group and flowered earlier than 'Gold Drop'. 'Klondike' (not in trial) is similar.

3. 'Sungold': Plant bushy; stipules brown. **Flower** bright yellow to gold, petals touching to overlapping; flowers late spring to early autumn; epicalyx very long and narrow, exceeding calyx. **Foliage** bright green, small; leaflets (5)-7, rather narrow.

The origin uncertain but the plant is closest to 'Gold Drop'



Group D - Orange and Red Flowers

All plants in this group have a bushy habit and green leaves with 5 to 7, usually narrow, leaflets.

	LEAF SIZE AVERAGE SMALL	FLOWER COLOUR	OTHER
'Tangerine'	•	Pale orange	Very close to 'Sunset' but earlier flowering and leaves with a silver sheen
'Sunset'		Orange slightly darker in colour	Very close to 'Tangerine' but later flowering and
'Annette'	•	Bright yellow, petals with orange margins	Large flowers. Leaflets broader than others in the group
'Orange Star'	•	Bright yellow margined and flushed orange giving the effect of an orange star	Flowers sometimes semi-double
'Hopleys Orange'	•	Brownish-orange edged yellow with distinct darker orange eye	
'Red Ace'	•	Orange-red, paler and more orange	Very similar to Marian Red Robin 'Marrob' but with more later in the season orange red flowers
Marian Red Robin 'Marrob'	•	Bright ruby-red becoming slightly paler red later in season	Very similar to 'Red Ace' but with redder flowers

1. 'Annette': Plant bushy, dense; stipules pale brown. Flower bright yellow with orange-edged petals, sometimes orange, yellow reverse, average to large, petals just overlapping; flowers early summer to mid autumn; epicalyx very narrow equal to calyx. Foliage dense, green; leaflets 5-7, long and broad.

'Hachmann's Gigant' x Red Ace', from J P Louwers, Hazerswoude, Holland. Closely related to 'Orange Star' but with more dense foliage; a larger plant with larger flowers. Performed well in a sunny position.

2. 'Hopleys Orange': Plant bushy; stipules pale brown. **Flower** bright yellow flushed with brown orange, with broad darker brown orange centre, bright yellow reverse, small to average; flowers early summer to mid autumn, yellow reverse; epicalyx narrow sometimes with extra lobes, equaling calyx. **Foliage** green, small; leaflets 5-(7) narrow.

Raised by Hopleys Plants as a seedling of 'Red Ace'. Resistant to red spider mite. Performed well in a sunny position. AGM 2002 (H4).

- 3. Marian Red Robin 'Marrob': Plant dwarf compact bush; stipules brown, quite broad. Flower ruby-red, cream to pale yellow reverse; flowers mid summer to mid autumn; epicalyx narrow elliptic with extra lobes, equal to calyx. Foliage green, small; leaflets 5, narrow. Raised by Laddie de Jong, Marian Nurseries, Ireland. Retains colour best of all reds and less orange than 'Red Ace'. AGM 2002 (H4).
- **4.** 'Orange Star': Plant bushy; stems pale red-brown; stipules pale brown. Flower bright yellow with orange border to petals and flushed orange or bright yellow flushed orange, reverse pale yellow; single with a few semi-double flowers, especially early in season small to average; flowers early summer to mid autumn; epicalyx oblanceolate exceeding calyx. Foliage green, small; leaflets 5-7, narrow, spreading.

Selected by Allan Robinson as seedling of 'Tangerine' in early 1970s at Robinsons Hardy Plants. Coloured margins of overlapping petals create a star-like effect to flower. Synonym 'Orange Stripe'.











5. 'Red Ace': Plant bushy, rather small; stipules brown. **Flower** orange-red, brick red in shade and sun, pale yellow reverse; flowers mid summer to mid autumn; epicalyx linear, equal to calyx. **Foliage** green, small; leaflets 5-(7), narrow.

Raised by David Barker, Hopleys Plants as a self sown seedling and put into commerce 1976. Slightly more orange-red than Marian Red Robin.

6. 'Sunset': Plant bushy; stipules brown. **Flower** orange or bright yellow flushed orange, reverse pale yellow; flowers mid summer to early autumn; epicalyx broader than in 'Tangerine', exceeding calyx. **Foliage** green, small; leaflets 5-7, narrow.

Sport of 'Tangerine' found in garden of M.J. McGill, Ambleside, Cumbria. Often confused with 'Tangerine' but flowers later and darker in colour. Similar to 'Orange Star'.

7. 'Tangerine': Plant bushy; stipules pale brown. Flower orange fading to yellow with orange flush at edges, reverse yellow; flowers early summer to mid autumn; epicalyx oblanceolate exceeding calyx. Foliage green with a silvery sheen so that it appears paler/more silvery than 'Sunset'; leaflets 5-(7).

Raised by Slieve Donard Nurseries c. 1955 as a result of repeated selections from a batch of seeds received from Reginald Farrer in 1920s, labelled "Potentilla red flowered". Not dissimilar to plants collected by George Forrest on Burma-Yunnan border.

Group E - Pink Flowers

Most plants in this group have a bushy habit and green leaves. The colour is variable in most cultivars from season to season and in different locations. The majority have been introduced within the last 20 years.

	LEAF SIZE		FLOW	ER SIZE	FLOWER COLOUR	OTHER
	AVERAGE	SMALL	LARGE	SMALL		
'Glenroy Pinkie'	•		•		Pink fading to very pale pink	Similar to 'Glenroy Seashell' but retains flower colour better
'Glenroy Seashell'	•		•		Very pale pink to almost white	Similar to 'Glenroy Pinkie' but flower colour fades more
'Mallows Pink'	•		•		White flushed pink	Similar to 'Glenroy Pinkie'
'Hopleys Pink'	•				White flushed pink	Leaves silvery grey-green
'Sophie's Blush'	•				Very pale pink with darker centre fading to almost white	
'Pastel Pink'	•				Very pale pink fading to almost white	Small plant; leaves pale grey-green
'Pink Beauty' Lovely Pink	•				Bright pink	Flower colour usually remains bright pink Pink through the season
'Pink Pearl'	•				White flushed pink fading to very pale pink	Most vigorous, tall plant of group. Leaves greyish-green
'Grace Darling'	•			•	Salmon pink with very pale yellow reverse	Leaves with slight silvery sheen. Flowers retain colour well
'New Dawn'		•			White flushed deep pink.	Flower colour does not usually fade
Princess 'Blink'		•			Pale pink	
'Floppy Disc'		•		•	Pale pink fading to white	Low growing habit. Some flowers semi-double
'Pretty Polly'		•		•	Pink with a darker centre	Small plant



1. 'Floppy Disc': Plant small to prostrate; stipules pale brown. Flower white flushed pink to pink, sometimes fading, white reverse, small; flowers mid summer to mid autumn; epicalyx linear more or less equal to calyx. Foliage green, very small; leaflets (3)-6, very narrow. Imported as a new introduction from Boskoop in 1994. Flowers sometimes misshapen in trial and in other locations. Some flowers semi-double early and late in season.

2. 'Glenroy Pinkie': Plant bushy, somewhat spreading; stipules very pale brown. Flower white edged pink, to very pale pink, white reverse, large; flowers early summer to mid autumn; epicalyx oblanceolate, large exceeding calyx. Foliage green, average to large; leaflets 5-7, fairly broad, apex obtuse.

From Ballalheannagh Gardens Nurseries, Glenroy, Isle of Man. Larger flower and larger leaves than most pink flowered cultivars. Very similar to 'Glenroy Seashell' but has slightly larger flowers which retains colour better.

3. 'Glenroy Seashell': Plant bushy, large, vigorous and wide spreading; stipules brown. Flower cream flushed pink to white, white reverse; flowers early summer to mid autumn; epicalyx large, oblanceolate, exceeding calyx. Foliage green, average to large for pink cultivar; leaflets 5-(6), apex obtuse.

From Ballalheannagh Gardens Nurseries, Glenroy, Isle of Man. Almost same as 'Glenroy Pinkie' but more vigorous and flowers tend to fade more readily.

4. 'Grace Darling': Plant rather neat, bushy plant; stipules pale brown. Flower salmon pink, (very slightly darker in sun) very pale yellow reverse, small; flowers mid summer to mid autumn; epicalyx large for flower size, exceeding calyx. Foliage dull green with slight silver sheen, small; leaflets 5.

Raised by Jack Drake, Inshriach Nursery, Aviemore from material given to him by Mrs Brunskill, Goosewells, nr. Wooler, Northumberland c. 1950s. Thought to have originated from a chance seedling in the garden of Miss Aitchison. Very hardy in North and retains colour well.

5. 'Hopleys Pink': Plant bushy; stipules brown. Flower white flushed pink, reverse white; flowers early summer to mid autumn; epicalyx linear, more or less equal to calyx. Foliage silvery grey-green; leaflets 5-7, average to broad.

Hopleys Plants. Very similar to 'Pink Pearl' but tends to have broader leaflets. Performed well in sun.

- **6.** 'Mallows Pink': Plant bushy; stipules pale brown. Flower white flushed pale pink, white reverse, average to large; flowers early summer to mid autumn; epicalyx oblanceolate, large, more or less equal to calyx. Foliage green, average to large; leaflets 5, broad, apex obtuse. Found by Dr Barker, Hopleys Plants as a chance seedling in his Devon garden. Similar to 'Glenroy Pinkie' but with more pink flushing. In some seasons, the flower has an effect of a pink cross on a white background. Larger in flower and leaf than many pink-flowered cultivars.
- 7. 'New Dawn': Plant bushy, small; apex obtuse; stipules brown. Flower white flushed deep pink in shade and open, white reverse; flowering early summer to mid autumn; epicalyx equal to calyx, oblanceolate with broad apex. Foliage green, small; leaflets 5-(7).

 Raised at Bridgemere Nurseries 1994. Said to be best grown in shade but in the trial plants did not show a marked difference. Flowers fade less than some pink cultivars. Epicalyx longer than in Princess 'Blink'.
- **8.** 'Pastel Pink': Plant bushy, small; stems rather thick, red brown; stipules dark brown. Flower white with hint of very pale pink, white reverse; flowers early summer to mid autumn; epicalyx broad, forked at apex, equal to calyx. Foliage grey-green to silver, small; leaflets 5-7. Flowers sometimes almost white. First listed by Hopleys Plants in 1990.
- 9. 'Pink Beauty' Lovely Pink: Plant bushy, average to small; stipules pale brown. Flower dark dusky pink, cream to pale yellow reverse; flowers early summer to mid autumn; epicalyx very long, oblanceolate. Foliage green, small; leaflets 5-6, narrow.

 Raised Canada 1994 by L.M. Lenz/C.G. Davidson, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg. Considered the best pink with deepest coloured flowers retaining colour through the season. In the trial the foliage was improved by shade but the flowers showed little difference. AGM 2002 (H4).
- 10. 'Pink Pearl': Plant bushy, wide spreading; stipules brown, long. Flower white flushed pale pink, white reverse, fading very pale pink, petals just overlapping; flowers early summer to early autumn; epicalyx oblanceolate exceeding calyx. Foliage grey-green; leaflets 5-(6). Introduced to Blooms by Raymond Evison. Very close to 'Hopleys Pink', with larger flowers than Princess 'Blink'. Good vigour but flowers fade to white in sun. Sold as 'Grace' in Holland. Taller than other pink flowered cultivars.
- 11. 'Pretty Polly': Plant bushy, small, low growing; stipules pale brown. Flower pink with a bluish tinge and darker pink centre, reverse white, small to very small; flowers mid summer to mid autumn; epicalyx very narrow equal to calyx. Foliage green, very small; leaflets 5, very narrow.

Raised by Peter Catt, Liss Forest Nurseries, 1984. Flowers with a bluer shade of pink than most in the group.

12. Princess 'Blink': Plant bushy; stipules lanceolate. **Flower** white flushed pink, reverse white; flowers mid summer to mid autumn; epicalyx, oblanceolate with broad spoon shaped apex equal to calyx. **Foliage** green, small; leaflets 5-(7).

Selected by R. Blair, Dawyck Gardens as a chance seedling, and put into commerce by Bressingham Gardens in 1982.

13. 'Sophie's Blush': Plant bushy, compact; stipules brown. **Flower** pale pink with slightly darker centre, fading to almost white, reverse very pale cream or pink-flushed, small; flowers mid summer to early autumn; epicalyx oblanceolate, equal to calyx. **Foliage** green, small; leaflets 5-7.

A seedling, probably of 'Daydawn', found at Baronscourt, Co. Tyrone and introduced by Abercorn Nurseries in 1982. It was named for the daughter of the Duke and Duchess of Abercorn.



Group F - Apricot (pale orange-pink to pale yellow or cream flushed pink-orange)

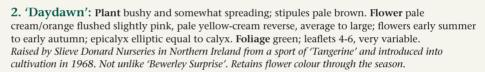
All plants in this group have a bushy habit but are usually rather small or slower growing and best distinguished by their flower colour.

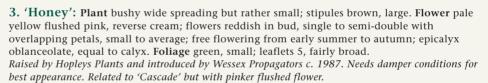
	LEAF	LEAFLETS	FLOWER COLOUR	OTHER
'Bewerley Surprise'	Green	5-6-(7), narrow and spreading	Cream to pale yellow flushed pink	Flower larger than others in the group. Similar to 'Daydawn'
'Daydawn'	Green	4-6 very variable	Pale orange to pink to yellow with a pink flush	Similar to 'Bewerley Surprise'. Retains colour well
'Honey'	Green	5 broad	Pale yellow flushed pink	Flowers semi-double at least during part of season
'Pink Glow'	Dull grey-green	(6)-7 broad	Pale yellow flushed pink	Plant small
'Tom Conway'	Bright green	(5)-7, narrow and spreading	Salmon pink and cream, reverse pale yellow	Leaves small



1. 'Bewerley Surprise': Plant bushy, somewhat spreading; stipules brown. Flower cream flushed pink, (pale yellow flushed pink in shade), cream-pale yellow reverse, average to large, flowers early summer to autumn; epicalyx oblanceolate, exceeding calyx. Foliage green; leaflets 5-6-(7), narrow, spreading and "finger-like".

Sport of 'Tangerine' c. 1980. Found by A. Sigston-Thompson at Bewerley House, Pateley Bridge, N. Yorkshire. Similar to 'New Dawn'.





4. 'Pink Glow': Plant bushy but small and spreading; stipules pale brown, quite prominent. Flower pale yellow flushed pale salmon pink, reverse pale yellow; flowers early to late summer; epicalyx oblanceolate, equal to calyx. Foliage dull green-grey; leaflets (6)-7 broader than average, apex obtuse.

Raised by Jack Drake, Inshriach from material supplied by Mrs Brumskill, Northumberland. Poor flowering and subject to mildew in trial. Also listed as 'Pink Dawn'.



5. 'Tom Conway': Plant bushy; stipules brown exceeding petiole. Flower salmon pink and cream, reverse pale yellow; flowers mid summer to early autumn; epicalyx elliptic with extra lobes, exceeding calyx. Foliage fresh green, average to small; leaflets (5)-7, narrow spreading. Found as a branch sport in a private garden of the Conway family, Henfield, East Sussex and named by Mrs Conway for the husband, a war hero. Introduced to cultivation by Allan Robinson in late 1970s. Thought to be a sport of 'Sunset'. A better colour than 'Daydawn'.

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Kolster, P and Kromhout, W H, Potentilla fruticosa. Dendroflora 37: 41-59 2000

Senders of plants to Trial of Potentilla

Ballalheannagh Gardens, Glen Roy, Lonan, Isle of Man IM4 7QB Blooms of Bressingham Ltd, Bressingham, Diss, Norfolk IP22 2AB Mrs Bishop, c/o RHS Wisley Bluebell Nursery, Anwell Lane, Smisby, nr Ashby de le Zouch, Derbyshire LE65 2TA Bridgemere Nurseries, Nantwich, Cheshire CW5 7QB E B Champernowne, Green Lane Gardens, Yelverton, Devon PL20 7NP Cutting Edge Nursery, Knowle Road, Barnsley, Yorks S70 4AW Jack Drake, Inshriach Nursery, Aviemore, PH22 1QS Goscote Nurseries Ltd, Syston Road, Cossington, Leicester LE7 4UZ Hillier Nurseries Ltd, Ampfield House, Ampfield, Nr Romsey, Hants SO51 9PA Hunts Court Nursery, North Dibley, Dursley, Gloucestershire GL11 6DZ Little Treasures Nursery, Wheal Treasure, Horsedowns, Cornwall TR14 0NL Notcutts Nurseries, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP12 4AF Perryhill Nurseries, Hartfield, Sussex TN7 4JP Allan Robinson, c/o Royal Horticultural Society's Garden, Wisley, Woking, Surrey GU23 6QB Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, Wakehurst Place.

Ardingly, West Sussex RH17 6TN The Royal Horticultural Society's Garden, Wisley, Woking, Surrey GU23 6QB Scotts Nurseries (Merriott) Ltd, Merriott, Somerset TA16 5PL W F Simms, c/o Royal Horticultural Society's Garden, Wisley, Woking, Surrey GU23 6QB Webbs of Wychbold, Wychbold, Droitwich, Worcs WR9 0DG The Royal Botanic Gardens, Inverleith Row, Edinburgh EH3 5LR

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'Annette'	Group D	'Hunter's Moon'	Group C1	'Rhodocalyx'	Group A
'Beesii'	Group C2	'Jackman's Variety'	Group C1	'Sandved'	Group B
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'Burren Gold'	Group C2	'Jolina'	Group C1	'Snowbird'	Group A
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We welcome comments on any aspect of this report.



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