



# BRECK'S<sup>®</sup> PLANTING HANDBOOK

*How to Bring the Magic of Holland  
to Your Garden*



# BRECK'S®

*Bulbs direct to you from Holland since 1818*

Dear Breck's Gardener:

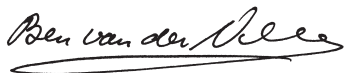
Thank you for ordering your bulbs and plants from Breck's. Here at our headquarters in the centre of Holland's bulb-growing region, we have selected only the very finest bulbs and plants for shipment to you. Your order has been carefully packed, and every possible effort has been made to see that your bulbs and plants reach you safely at the proper planting time for your area.

However, before you place your bulbs and plants in the garden, I suggest you read this special Breck's Planting Handbook. While planting and caring for top-quality bulbs and plants is relatively simple, we have included a number of suggestions to help you achieve maximum beauty.

You may find slight differences between the planting information in this handbook and that found in a Breck's catalogue or on the bag in which your bulbs and plants were shipped. In such cases, I recommend that you follow the instructions printed on the bag, since these instructions cover the specific variety you have received.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to send Breck's bulbs and plants for your garden. I hope their beauty will bring great pleasure to you, your friends and your neighbours.

Faithfully,



Ben van der Veldt  
Directeur, Breck Holland B.V.

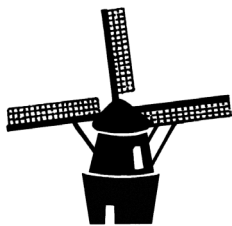
## QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS?

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## BULB AND PERENNIAL PLANTING TIPS FROM HOLLAND'S EXPERTS

### How to Create a Beautiful Dutch Summer Garden

#### ON ARRIVAL

Your bulbs and most of your perennials have been shipped to you in their natural dormant stage. Do not be alarmed if your plants appear to be dead or void of green leaves or sprouts. Almost all bulbs and perennials die back to the ground in autumn and early winter. Bulbs and plants are more easily transported in a dormant state than when they are actively growing.

All bulbs and perennials should be planted in your garden as soon as possible to ensure the best success. If you must delay planting, open the bags to permit air circulation and place them out of direct sunlight in a cool (45–55°F [7–13°C]), well-ventilated room. Do not place the bulbs where they can freeze. If you have the space, storing the bulbs in the refrigerator is another excellent way to “hold them” prior to planting. If you choose this method, be sure to keep them away from any fresh fruit. The ethylene gas given off by ripening fruit can be damaging to bulbs.

Growing masses of beautiful summer flowers is simple when you start with top-quality Dutch bulbs and perennials.

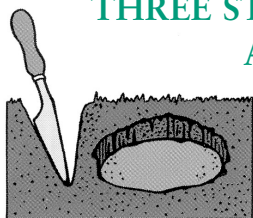
With just a minimum amount of effort, you can have the same beauty found in the finest gardens of Europe.

#### SOIL

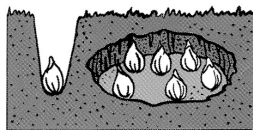
Summer-blooming Dutch bulbs are not too fussy about soil—provided it is not too heavy and sticky. If the soil is heavy, loosen it with a generous amount of humus, sand, gypsum, etc. If very light, add moisture holders like humus and leaf mold. Bulbs and perennials need plenty of water and good drainage. If water tends to stand in the planting area, you'll want to break up hard subsoil by putting in a layer of drainage material such as sand, coarse gravel, broken stone or sifted cinders below your surface soil.

Some perennials and bulbs have specific needs when it comes to the acidity, or pH level, of the soil. Soil acidity is measured on a scale of 1 to 14. Everything below 7 is considered acidic and everything above is considered alkaline. Most garden plants thrive at a pH level between 6 and 7.5. This range is optimal for most plants because it indicates the phosphorus in the soil is soluble—meaning that it dissolves in water—and can be taken up by plant

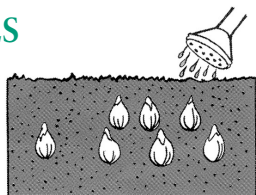
## THREE STEPS TO PLANTING BULBS AND PERENNIALS



*1. Dig a hole or bed to proper depth for the type of plant being planted and loosen the soil at the bottom of the hole or bed.*



*2. Place plant roots or bulbs (generally pointed tips up) at the bottom of hole. Be sure there are no pockets to hold water.*



*3. Cover with loose soil and pack well. Then give a good initial watering. That's all. Now Mother Nature takes over.*

roots.

It is good to know the pH level of your soil. There are a few methods you can use to test your soil's acidity. The first is to send a soil sample to your local cooperative extension office and have it analyzed there. You can also purchase do-it-yourself soil pH testing kits at most nurseries and garden centres.

If you want to raise the pH level, you can add garden lime. If you want to gradually lower it, you can add organic matter like compost, an acidic mulch (e.g., pine needle mulch) or peat. For rapid pH lowering, use one of the acidic soil additives available at your local garden supply store. Aluminum sulfate is one of the quickest-acting options available. In general terms, expect to use about 1.2 lbs of aluminum sulfate to lower the pH of a 10 sq ft patch of soil by one on the pH scale.

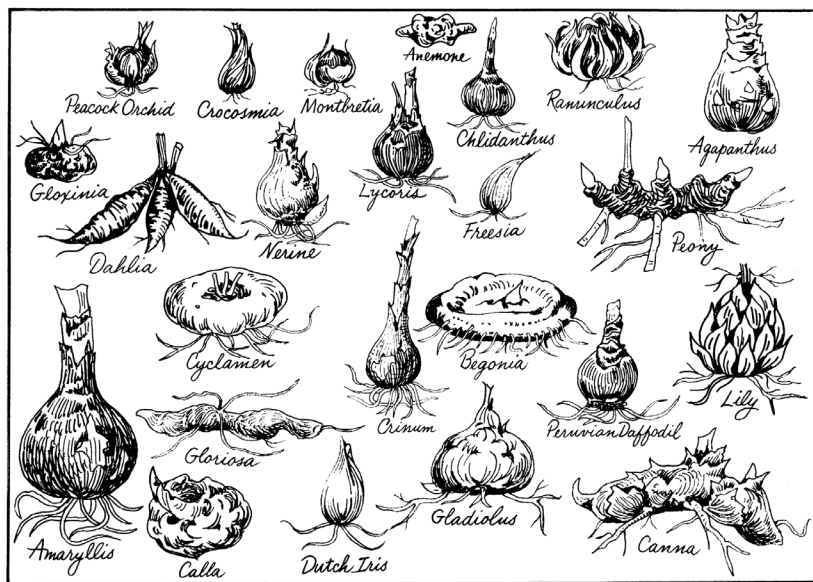
### PLANTING

Your bulbs should be planted as soon as possible after arriving from Holland in the spring. However, if there is danger

of severe frosts yet to come, store your bulbs in a cool, well-ventilated location for delayed planting. Your dormant perennial roots may be kept in their original bags at about 40°F (5°C) (the vegetable drawer of a refrigerator is ideal) for up to three weeks. Don't worry if the roots appear to be dead when they arrive. They are just dormant and will spring to life after you plant them.

On pages 32–39 you will find a detailed chart showing recommended planting depths, light requirements and other details. Planting depth is measured from the surface of the soil to the shoulder of a bulb (where the bulb begins to narrow) or the top of a perennial.

While each plant is a complete “plant factory” with built-in nourishment, it is a good idea to mix a quantity of Breck's Food for Bulbs and Perennials with the loose soil at the bottom of your planting. This will provide additional food without any danger of “burning.” Never apply fresh or half-rotted manure directly on bulbs and perennials.



## KNOW YOUR BULBS

The Dutch bulb is one of the wonders of nature—a complete “package” which includes not only an embryonic plant but also its own nourishment for the months it will spend

creating beautiful floral displays. While sizes vary, the guide above will help you recognize some of the basic types of bulbs for summer flowering.

### There are two basic methods of planting:

1. Dig individual holes for each plant or bulb. This can be done with a garden trowel or with a special hole-cutting tool called a bulb planter.
2. If you are planting several plants or bulbs in a single area, you may want to dig an entire bed to planting depth. Then you can place all the plants at once and fill dirt in around them.

### Planting flower bulbs and tubers step by step:

1. Spade or rototill the soil to a depth of 12–15" (30–40 cm).

2. Thoroughly mix in a generous 2" (5 cm) layer of dehydrated manure, garden compost and Breck's Food for Bulbs and Perennials.
3. Firm the soil a bit.
4. Place the bulbs at the proper depth (see detailed chart on pages 32–39).
5. Work soil in and around bulb/tuber, firming it with your fingers.
6. Water thoroughly after planting.

### Planting bareroot perennials step by step:

1. Remove the roots from the package and soak them in cold to lukewarm water for 30 minutes.

2. Spade or rototill the soil to a depth of 12–15" (30–40 cm).
3. Thoroughly mix in a generous 2" (5 cm) layer of dehydrated manure, garden compost and Breck's Food for Bulbs and Perennials.
4. Firm the soil a bit.
5. Make a hole large enough to place the root so the top of the plant is in the proper position (see detailed chart on pages 32–39). Spread roots over the surface of the soil at the bottom of the hole.
6. Carefully fill around and between the roots and cover the crown/eyes with a maximum of 0.5" (1–2 cm) of soil. Press to make sure each plant is firmly set and all air pockets have been eliminated.
7. Water thoroughly after planting.

#### **Planting potted perennials step by step:**

1. Before planting, place pots in approximately 0.5" (1–2 cm) of cold to lukewarm water for 30 minutes. Do not remove plants from pot.
2. Spade or rototill soil to a depth of 12–15" (30–40 cm).
3. Thoroughly mix in a generous 2" (5 cm) layer of dehydrated manure, garden compost and Breck's Food for Bulbs and Perennials.
4. Firm the soil a bit.
5. Make a hole slightly larger than the pot.
6. Carefully remove the plant from the pot. Score vertical marks on all four sides of the root ball to encourage roots to grow outside the

surrounding soil.

7. Hold the root ball level with the soil surface and carefully fill in around the root ball. Firm soil around the plant to remove air pockets.
8. Water thoroughly after planting.

### **SUMMER CARE**

Dutch bulbs and perennials require only a minimum of care during summer blooming periods. Like all garden plants, they appreciate a weed-free growing area and watering when nature does not supply enough rain to keep the soil moist. However, moist soil doesn't mean wet soil—do not let water stand around your bulbs.

It generally is not necessary to apply fertilizer while your summer bulbs are growing and blooming. However, sometimes you can increase blooming by adding dehydrated manure or another plant fertilizer. Be careful not to let any fertilizer touch the foliage.

### **CUT FLOWERS**

Most varieties are excellent for cut flowers. When cutting blooms for bouquets, never cut more foliage than necessary, because it nourishes bulbs for the following year's growth. Stems without leaves can be cut to within an inch of ground level.

The best time for cutting is when buds are just starting to open. Bulbs with many flowers per stem—like lilies and glads—are best cut when the first few buds open. The other buds will open while the stems are in water. Cutting should be done in early morning or late evening. Always cut the flowers—do not just pull them up or break off the stems.

Cut flowers should immediately be placed in clean, lukewarm water. Let them soak in a cool, dark place for at least six hours before arranging. To prolong bouquet life, add a bit of lemon-lime soda to the water

and place your arrangements in a cool place each night. If you rearrange your flowers, it's best to cut off a bit of their stems to help them take up additional moisture.

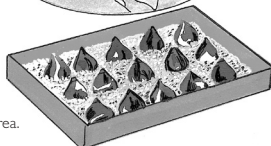
## CARING FOR YOUR DUTCH BULBS AND PERENNIALS

### How to Lift and Protect Bulbs for Winter Storage and Replanting

Remove ripened foliage from bulbs before storing.



Bulbs stored in trays should be kept in a cool, well-ventilated area.



Old nylon stockings are ideal for storing bulbs.

Most Dutch bulbs and perennials require only a minimum amount of care to provide annual summer beauty. As the chart on pages 32–39 indicates, some varieties are hardy enough to leave in the ground from one year to the next, and others require fall lifting for storage over the winter.

### PROTECTING HARDY BULBS AND PERENNIALS

It is a good idea to give your hardy bulbs and perennials some winter protection if temperatures will fall below freezing. Bulbs and plants without protection may even work themselves up out of the ground after periods of freezing and thawing.

There are many good winter “overcoats” for your bulbs, including leaves, evergreen boughs, straw, wood chips, compost and ground corncobs.

### LIFTING TENDER BULBS

Less hardy bulbs should be lifted each autumn. As soon as frost has blackened foliage, gently spade up the bulbs, being careful not to cut into the bulbs and damage them.

If you prefer to lift the bulbs before frost has hit, you can dig your bulbs early and store them in a well-ventilated, frost-free area until the bulbs and leaves are dry.

Most bulbs should be dried for about a week before you prepare them for storage. Then pull loose any remaining foliage, shake the bulbs gently to remove any clinging soil, and dust them with fungicide powder to prevent rot. Place them in unsealed paper bags or old nylon stockings with some dry peat moss to keep the bulbs from touching one another.

Dahlias should be dried for only a couple of hours before storing in plastic-lined shallow boxes with a blanket of vermiculite or peat moss.

Begonias should be given a bath just as soon as they are lifted and then stored in shallow, open trays. Cover trays with fine mesh wire to protect against rodents.

Summer-blooming bulbs require a relatively low temperature for winter storage, between 45–60°F (7–16°C). (Dahlias require an even lower temperature; if it gets above 45°F (7°C), they may sprout prematurely.)

Most modern basements are not cool enough for winter bulb storage. Often an unheated garage is a good alternative—just make sure that your bulbs will not freeze. If you have space in the vegetable compartment of a refrigerator, it is ideal

for bulb storage, as long as fruit is not stored in the same compartment.

## DIVIDING PERENNIALS

Perennials will grow bigger each year. You can divide your plants for even more beauty around your home. Dividing will also help to maintain their health and vigour. Every 3–4 years, in the fall or as growth is beginning in the spring, plants can be lifted and divided into clumps of 3–5 shoots. Spring-flowering plants, such as irises, are best divided between July and August after flowering, when they produce new roots. When you have very large clumps, use only their outer, active parts. Replant the divisions immediately.

## BAREROOT PERENNIALS

There are five basic types of root systems: fibrous roots, long taproots, rhizomes, roots with “eyes” and fleshy tuberous roots. Before planting, bareroot perennials should be soaked in water for 30 minutes.



### FIBROUS ROOTS

(example: tall hybrid phlox)

Dig a hole twice as wide and twice as deep as the bareroots. Carefully spread the roots out in the hole. Holding the roots with one hand, suspend them in the planting hole at the proper depth. Fill in and around the roots with soil. Tamp the soil with your hand to remove air pockets. Create a “saucer” around the planting hole with soil, mark the planting and fill the saucer with water.



### LONG TAPROOTS

(examples: hollyhocks, hardy hibiscus)

Follow the steps outlined above for fibrous roots.



### RHIZOMES

(example: bearded irises)

Dig a shallow hole 2–4" (5–10 cm) deep and twice as wide as the rhizome. Create a small mound in the middle of this shallow planting hole. Place the rhizome on top of this mound and spread the roots. Fill the hole with soil, but only partially cover the rhizome. Water thoroughly.





### ROOTS WITH "EYES"

(examples: peonies, astilbes) Dig a hole twice as wide and twice as deep as the root. Holding the root at the proper

planting depth and with "eyes" pointing up, fill in and around the root with soil until the planting hole is filled. Firm the soil with both hands and water thoroughly. (Note: It is important to plant the top of the peony level with the soil surface for proper blooming).



### FLESHY TUBEROUS ROOTS

(examples: daylilies, hostas)

Dig a hole twice as wide and twice as deep as the roots. Create a mound in the planting hole to hold the roots and the crown (where roots meet the stem) at ground level. Spread the roots over the mound. Fill the planting hole with soil and firm with both hands. Water thoroughly.

## INFORMATION BY VARIETY

### ACANTHUS

Easily grown in average, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade. Tolerates a wide range of soils except poorly drained ones. Dislikes wet soil during the winter months. In areas with severe frost, a winter mulch is advisable. Can be a bit slow to establish. Flowers are good for cutting. May be divided or moved in spring.

### AGAPANTHUS

Thrives in deep, rich, well-drained, moist soil. Agapanthus is frost-tender. In colder areas, grow them in large containers. Agapanthus flowers more heavily as it becomes rootbound in a container. Keep watered during the growing season, cutting back in fall and winter. Divide only when necessary. Does not like having its roots disturbed.

### ALLIUM

These instructions are for non-bulbous alliums, such as 'Like in Orbit', 'Millenium', etc. All like to grow in preferably full sun in a well drained soil. Plants are quite drought-tolerant and deer and heat resistant. Flowers are magnets for all kinds of pollinators. Plants can be divided

in fall or early spring after a few years.

### AMARYLLIS

(HIPPEASTRUM)

A special selection of outdoor-grown amaryllis that can withstand some frost. They can be planted outdoors in the spring or grown indoors year-round.

**Garden use:** Choose a sunny, well-drained spot. Loosen soil to a depth of about 12–15" and enrich the soil with organic matter. Plant the bulbs very shallow. The top half of each bulb should be above the soil. Bulbs can be left in the ground during the winter in zones 7–10. In colder zones, lift the bulbs in the fall and store cool, but frost free, until the following spring, preferably at a temperature of 50–55°F.

**Indoor use:** Plant in a pot that is preferably no more than 2" wider than the bulb. Any potting soil can be used. Place the pot close to a window. Start watering when the sprout starts to develop. If you want to keep the bulb, continue to water after flowering and provide some fertilizer during flowering. When foliage turns yellow, the bulb can be taken out of the pot and stored in

a cool place. The bulb needs about 10 weeks at 50–55°F before it can be placed in your room again.

### **ANCHUSA**

Easily grown in average, medium-moisture, well-drained soils. Some light afternoon shade is appreciated in hot, humid climates. Needs excellent drainage but avoid dry soils. Deadheading of spent flowers may prolong the bloom period and will help prevent any unwanted self-seeding. If foliage turns unsightly in summer after bloom, plants may be cut back hard. Clumps can be divided in fall or early spring.

### **ANEMONE POPPY CORONARIA**

(DAISY ANEMONES, WINDFLOWERS)  
Soak corms in lukewarm water for a few hours before planting. Plant your anemones in a site with rich to average garden loam and good drainage. Raised beds are advisable in gardens with heavy clay soil, as bulbs may rot due to excessive moisture after a wet winter. Anemone corms are lumpy and irregular, so do not worry about which side of the corm should face up—regardless of how the bulbs are positioned, they will grow.

### **ANGEL'S TRUMPET**

(BRUGMANSIA SUAVEOLENS)

Angel's trumpet blooms hang in wonderful masses and grow in long tubes that later burst open at the end. The pendulous flowers perfume the air after sunset. Angel's trumpets need 6–8 hours of full sun to support profuse blooming. As long as the plant receives a fair amount of sun, it will flower all summer long and grow several feet in just one season. When planting your angel's trumpet in a pot or in the garden, it needs moist, well-drained soil. It also needs regular (but not daily) watering. Angel's trumpets are heavy feeders, so

fertilize well at the beginning and once during the growing season. If you prefer to maintain a treelike look, remove the suckers (new stems) that pop up at the base of the plant. In most climates, it's best to grow them in a container that can easily be moved inside. All parts of the angel's trumpet plant are toxic, so take care when planting or touching.

### **ANISE HYSSOP**

(AGASTACHE)

Easily grown in average, medium-moisture, well-drained soils. Plants will perform poorly and may not survive winter in hard clay soils that retain moisture. Plants tolerate heat and some dry soils, once established. Deadhead spent flowers to promote additional bloom. In areas with severe winter weather, plants should be sited in protected locations (e.g., southern exposures) with leaf and flower stems left in place over winter for additional protection.

### **ARTICHOKE**

Best grown in moist, fertile, well-drained soils in full sun. It is a Mediterranean-type plant that grows best in temperate climates with cool summers and mild winters. May be grown for harvest of its edible leaf stalks and/or for enjoyment of its ornamental foliage.

### **ASCLEPIAS TUBEROSA**

Best planted in well-drained, sandy or gravelly soil. Plant the root vertically so the eye is 1" (2.5 cm) beneath the soil surface. Water sparingly. Drought tolerant. Clumps can remain undisturbed indefinitely.

### **ASPARAGUS**

Choose a location with fertile, sunny, well-drained soil that holds moisture well. Asparagus can produce an annual springtime harvest for up to 20 years.

It takes two to three years to really produce a strong crop, so growing asparagus is a lesson in patience. If planting asparagus crowns, prepare an 18" deep trench by filling it with 6" (15 cm) of compost followed by 6" (15 cm) of rich topsoil. Soak the crowns in water 20–30 minutes before planting. Spread the crowns over the soil and cover them with 2" (5 cm) of additional soil. After the spears emerge and reach about 3" (7.5 cm) tall, add another 2" (5 cm) of soil. Continue doing this throughout the spring until the trench is filled.

### **ASTER**

Asters provide mounds of colour in your garden in late summer and early fall. They are perfect to plant with other late-blooming flowers, such as cushion mums, helenium and rudbeckia, in a perennial border or in front of a house and evergreen hedges. They will also brighten your home in long-lasting fall bouquets. They do well in average, well-drained soil.

### **ASTILBE**

Astilbes are attractive, mound-shaped plants with glossy, fernlike foliage that provides a striking contrast to the delicate, plumelike flower spikes. They are attractive when planted in drifts or used in combination with other shade-loving perennials, such as hostas and ferns. Astilbes prefer medium to moist soil. If the soil is not allowed to dry out during the spring and summer months, the foliage will stay attractive until the fall. Astilbes grow rapidly and can exhaust the soil around them over time, which reduces flowering.

### **ASTRANTIA**

Best grown in moist, fertile, preferably humus-rich soil, but tolerates drier conditions. Cut back after flowers have

faded to tidy and encourage a fresh flush of leaf growth.

### **BABOON FLOWER**

(BABIANA STRICTA)

These bulbs are easy to grow in a sheltered location that receives lots of sun. Prefers medium to dry soil. Both heat and drought resistant. Frost tender.

### **BABY'S BREATH**

(GYPSOPHILA)

Plant in a free-draining, slightly alkaline soil. In areas with a long growing season, cut the plant back after it flowers to encourage a second flush of bloom. Once established, do not disturb. Baby's breath is ideal for cutting and drying and very suitable for mixed perennial borders.

### **BALLOON FLOWER**

(PLATYCODON)

Plant in moist, well-drained and preferably slightly acidic soil. Slow to start growing in the spring. Be sure to mark its location so you do not accidentally dig up during spring cleanup. Once established, balloon flowers will not need a lot of supplemental watering, because they can handle short periods of drought. For stockier plants, you can pinch them back when they are about 6" (15 cm) tall. Deadheading will keep the plants looking good and repeatedly blooming. Do not remove the whole stem, just the faded flowers. The remaining buds on the stem will continue to open. You can try making divisions, but the root system is dense and chunky with a long taproot and does not like being disturbed.

### **BEE BALM**

(MONARDA)

Strong stems make bee balm ideal for sunny borders and foundation plantings

where it will provide colour from midsummer to early fall. Plants will do well in moist, well-drained garden soils. As flower heads fade, cut back old flower stems and, in many cases, you'll enjoy a second flowering. After your bee balm plants have finished blooming in the fall and their foliage begins to die back, you can cut them to the ground and remove all foliage, but this is not necessary.

### **BEGONIA**

Begonias planted in a container can be spaced 4–6" (10–15 cm) apart. For planting in containers, use a commercial potting soil and place the tubers with the hollow side up. The soil should be moist but not soggy. Begonias grown in containers will need watered more frequently to keep soil from drying out. Before first frost, lift begonia tubers with stems still attached and dry them in a shady, well-ventilated area for two weeks. Remove stems and soil from tubers after drying. Dust tubers with a fungicide and place in paper bags with dry peat moss. Tubers should not touch each other in storage. Store at 40–45°F (4–7°C). For earlier blooms, start begonias indoors eight weeks before planting season (or as soon as your tubers arrive). Fill a box 3" (7 cm) deep with moist peat moss. Place tubers just below surface, hollow side up, 3" (7 cm) apart. Keep box in a well-lit area at 50–70°F (10–20°C). Keep peat moss moist but not soggy. Transplant to an outdoor site when plants have grown 3–5" (7–12 cm) tall and after all danger of frost has passed.

### **BLACK MAGIC BLACKBERRY** (*RUBUS FRUTICOSUS*)

Blackberries are some of the easiest and most popular fruit to grow. They should

be planted in an area that receives full sun and in well-drained soil. Many gardeners also plant the berries near a trellis. When selecting a spot to plant the blackberry bushes, keep in mind that the plants often live 15 years or longer. Plant at the same depth as in the nursery, so that the roots are below soil level. This is a double-cropping variety with a large summer crop and a later, fall crop. It has excellent heat tolerance. Be advised that they throw root suckers so vigorously, you may want to confine the roots with metal or fiberglass barriers.

### **BLAZING STAR** (*LIATRIS*)

Plant this hardy perennial in fertile, sandy, well-drained, slightly acid to neutral soil. Will not tolerate wet soil in winter. Plants are drought tolerant and, after spring rains trigger growth, will tolerate dry spells.

### **BLEEDING HEART** (*DICENTRA*)

Plant in well-drained, humus-rich soil that is not allowed to completely dry out during the growing season, but is also not constantly wet. May tolerate full sun in cool areas but prefers part to full shade. *Dicentra spectabilis* varieties' foliage dies back in midsummer. The smaller bleeding hearts keep their attractive foliage until fall.

### **BURGUNDY SHAMROCK** (*OXALIS TRIANGULARIS*)

Plant in sun to part shade in well-drained soil. Makes an excellent container plant and will also do well in mixed baskets. Plant in zones 3–9 and lift in fall in zones 3–6. In Canada, lift in fall for all zones. Water whenever the soil starts to dry out.

## **BURNET**

(SANGUISORBA MENZIESII)

These plants prefer a regular to moist site in full sun to part shade. Cut foliage back if it gets tired looking after blooming. Easy to grow and deer and rabbit resistant. Clumps may be easily divided in early spring.

## **BUTTERFLY BUSH**

(BUDDLEIA)

Best planted in average, well-drained soil in full sun. Becomes leggy if not grown in full sun. Does not perform well in wet, poorly draining conditions. In zones 5 and 6, this plant will often die to the ground in winter to form new shoots in the spring. Even if plants do not die to the ground in winter, they often grow more vigorously and maintain better shape if cut close to the ground in late winter each year.

## **CALADIUM**

For best results, start your caladiums indoors by planting in pots and keeping them warm (60–70°F [15–21°C]) and moist until all danger of frost has passed. Then move containers outdoors or transplant your caladiums into the garden. They will perform best when soil is kept moist, but not soggy. When caladium leaves turn yellow and droop or when frost threatens, lift the bulbs with tops still attached. Place in a shady, well-ventilated area. Dry until the tops can be removed easily with a gentle tug. Shake off the soil and dust the bulbs with a combination fungicide/insecticide. Then put the bulbs in a paper bag or tray with dry peat moss, perlite or vermiculite (to absorb any moisture) and store in a cool, dry location, such as a basement. Replant in spring when danger of frost has passed. If you grew your caladiums in containers, move the containers to an indoor, frost-free

location to enjoy during the winter, or place in a frost-free garage. Water as needed. When the danger of frost has passed, move containers outdoors for another year of colour.

## **CALLA LILY**

(ZANTEDESCHIA)

In frost-free areas, grow calla lilies in a moist soil that has been amended with organic matter. Water liberally and feed monthly during the growing season. After the flowers fade, reduce the amount of water. In areas where callas are not hardy, allow the plants to dry out. Dig the rhizomes and store in dry material for the winter. Calla lilies do very well in containers.

## **CAMPANULA**

Easily grown in moist but well-drained, neutral to alkaline soil. Cut back after flowering to encourage future growth.

## **CANNA**

Cannas bring a summer-long parade of bright colour to your garden, borders and containers. They require a minimum of care and reward you with beautiful blooms and unique foliage from midsummer to frost. Cannas do well in most garden soils or a standard potting mix for containers. They do best with a good supply of water, so water the plants during the summer if the rainfall is less than 1" (2.5 cm) per week. After the first frost of fall has blackened the leaves, carefully lift all tubers and store them in dry peat or perlite at 40–45°F (4–7°C). Do not use plastic bags, which do not allow enough air circulation. In spring, tubers can be divided to provide even more tropical beauty for your garden. Each tuber should have 2–3 eyes; excess growth may be discarded. Cannas may be pre-potted indoors for earlier blooming. Transplanting outdoors

should not be done until all danger of frost has passed. In frost-free areas, cannas may be left undisturbed in your garden; there is no need to lift and store.

### **CARNATION** (DIANTHUS)

For year-round beauty and a delightful, extra-long summer blooming season, there is no plant like the bright, cheerful carnation. It will do well in most garden soils or a standard potting mix for containers. After the first heavy frost, when your carnations have finished blooming, the stems can be cut back to 1" (2.5 cm) stubs. Although carnations are winter-hardy perennials, you may wish to cover the roots with a 2–4" (5–10 cm) layer of mulch.

### **CATMINT** (NEPETA)

This fast-growing perennial is highly floriferous when planted in well-drained soil in full sun. A lean soil and somewhat dry growing conditions will encourage more flowers and a stronger scent. Too much fertilizer will only make it grow lots of flimsy foliage. Cut back directly after the first flush, and it will flower again in late summer!

### **CHINESE GROUND ORCHID** (BLETILLA)

The easiest hardy orchid to establish, Bletilla does best when planted in rich, moist but well-drained soil. Plants are slow to emerge at first, so have patience in the spring. Mulch the plants heavily the first winter, after the foliage has been thoroughly killed by hard frost. Remove mulch in early spring, well before new growth is evident.

### **CHINESE LANTERN** (PHYSALIS ALKEKENG)

Plant in moist, well-drained soil, in either

a garden or a container. They prefer growing in full sun to partial shade. When planted in the garden, it is a good idea to spread a few inches of organic mulch around them to maintain soil moisture and keep weeds down. Because they tend to spread if left unchecked, you may prefer to grow Chinese Lantern plants in containers. When it begins to die back for the winter, cut down the plants at the base. Their roots will survive the cold season.

### **CHOCOLATE COSMOS** (COSMOS ATROSANGUINEUS)

Plants do best in average, medium-moisture, well-drained soil in full sun. Dry soils are tolerated. Good deer and rabbit resistance. Remove spent flowers for continued blooms. If grown in zones 3–6, you can dig up the tubers once the foliage has died back in the fall. In Canada, lift in fall for all zones. Tubers can be stored in slightly moist peat moss in a dark, cool, but frost-free place until next spring (same as you would store dahlias).

### **CINQUEFOIL** (POTENTILLA)

Plant in any well-drained soil. Plants are hardy, adaptable and tough. Good ground cover.

### **CLEMATIS**

Clematis should be planted in full sun or receive at least four hours of direct sun daily. Roots prefer shading, which can be supplied by small perennials, rocks or mulch. These vigorous, hardy vines may be trained to grow on fences, arbours, walls and trellises, where the emerald-green foliage creates a dramatic backdrop for the beautiful blooms. Plant as soon as possible but please be patient! Clematis plants take their time to adapt to new homes. A 2–4" (5–10 cm) layer

of mulch will help retain moisture.

Because clematis are very hardy, there is no need for winter protection. Each spring, apply a surface dressing of Breck's Food for Bulbs and Perennials to your plants, scratch into soil and water thoroughly.

Prune between February and April, cutting shoots at a height of about 4' (120 cm) from the base. The younger a plant, the lower it should be cut.

*Note: It is normal for clematis vines and foliage to appear withered and dry when dormant. Do not be discouraged if the top growth is slow to reappear in spring. Just give your plants time to develop a vigorous root system, and you'll be rewarded with years of beauty.*

### **COCONUT DAISY**

(LEUCANTHEMUM X SUPERBUM  
PP29993)

Best for planting in full sun but will tolerate partial shade. Average, well-drained soil will do. Daisies do not grow well in soggy soil. Winter drainage is especially important, and planting in raised beds will help to provide this. It produces multiples flowers the first year. Remove spent flowers to encourage fresh blooms. When foliage begins to fade, it is time to cut back the entire plant near the ground. You should dig up and divide your daisy plant every three to five years.

### **COLOUR FESTIVAL MIXTURE**

A mix of cinquefoil (potentilla) and hardy geraniums. Plant in any well-drained soil. Plants are hardy, quite drought tolerant (once established) and tough. Good as ground cover. Can be grown without additional care and division for many years.

### **COLUMBINE**

(AQUILEGIA)

Plant in moist, well-drained soil enriched with organic matter. Columbine plants are adaptable, but they prefer an acidic soil. They are tougher plants than they appear but tend to be short-lived perennials. However, they will seed and spread, remaining in your garden for years.

### **CONEFLOWER**

(ECHINACEA)

Once established, coneflowers are hardy, drought-tolerant, long-blooming perennials. They grow well in about any soil that has sufficient drainage. To get the most blooms and the sturdiest plants, plant coneflowers in a spot that gets at least five hours of full sun a day. They will tolerate partial shade, but plants may flop or strain to reach the sun. Too much supplemental fertilizer can cause them to become leggy.

### **COREOPSIS**

Plant in any well-drained soil. Coreopsis is slow to appear in spring, so be patient. Plants need regular water when first planted until they are established; after that, they are quite drought tolerant. Deadheading will keep the plants blooming throughout the summer. A decrease in flowering is a signal it is time to divide the plants.

### **COTTON CANDY GRASS**

(MUHLENBERGIA CAPILLARIS)

Easy to grow in areas with preferably warm summers. It is tolerant of heat, humidity, drought and wet conditions. Soil can be anywhere from slightly acidic to clay. Plant in full sun, 24–36" apart. Fertilize plants once a year during the spring.

### **CRIMSON FANS MUKDENIA**

A distant cousin to coral bells, this is

a woodland treasure native to China. It forms a low mound of large, bold, maple-shaped leaves. The leaves are bronze-green in spring and later become deep green with stunning crimson tips. Small, white, bell-shaped flowers appear in spring before the leaves. Must have an evenly moist, rich woodland soil. Deciduous in winter. Clumps slowly spread to form a small patch, which may be divided carefully in the spring every four years or so. Ideal for edging and gorgeous in containers. May prove to be hardy to zone 3 or colder.

### **CROCOSMIA**

Easily grown in moderately fertile, humus-rich soil that is moist but well drained. Keep watered throughout the growing season. In colder areas, mulch thickly or dig in fall and store indoors over the winter.

### **CULVER'S ROOT**

(*VERONICASTRUM VIRGINICUM*)

Plant Culver's Root in medium to wet, well-drained soil in full sun. Tolerates light shade (and appreciates some afternoon shade in the Deep South). May require support if grown in too much shade. Soil should not be allowed to dry out during spring and summer. Deadhead spent flowers to extend bloom period. Cut back plants after flowering to basal growth to stimulate new foliage growth and possible late summer or fall bloom.

### **CYCLAMEN**

Cyclamen needs well-drained, neutral to slightly alkaline soil, preferably with lots of organic matter. Grow cyclamen beneath deciduous shrubs, around trees in rock gardens or in mixed borders. Plant tubers with concave side up. Once established, do not disturb and they will slowly multiply. *Cyclamen hederifolium*, *coum* and *cilicium* are cold hardy.

*Cyclamen cilicium* is the tenderest of these three and needs a winter cover in areas with severe frost.

### **DAHLIA**

Plant tubers after the danger of frost has passed. Dahlias prefer a well-drained soil and full sun. Though dahlias will grow just fine on their own, "pinching" or "topping" will give you a stronger, bushier plant with more flowers. The best time to pinch a dahlia is when it is between 12–16" tall and has at least four sets of leaves on the centre stalk. Locate the uppermost sprout on the main stem and remove it with your fingers or a pair of scissors. Take care not to damage the stem or nearby leaves. If you want the largest flowers possible, you should not pinch. You will get fewer but larger flowers. When frost blackens the foliage in fall, cut your dahlias back to the ground immediately. Then carefully lift each clump of tubers. Put clumps in a plastic-lined box filled with perlite or brown peat. Space tubers so that none are touching. Store boxes off the floor in an area with temperatures of 40–45°F (4–7°C). Replant in spring when all danger of frost has passed.

### **DAYLILY**

Daylilies will tolerate just about any well-drained soil, but for optimal results, work in lots of organic matter. In the average home garden, a single fertilizer application in the spring is usually sufficient. (A fertilizer high in nitrogen is best.) Daylilies are rugged, adaptable, vigorous perennials that endure in a garden for many years with little or no care. They tolerate drought, but perform best in moist, well-drained soils.

### **DELPHINIUM**

Strong stems, which grow up to 5–6'



(150–175 cm), make delphiniums ideal for the back of sunny borders. Plants do well in most average to moist garden soils. As flower heads fade, you can cut back old flower stems. After your delphiniums begin to die back in the fall, you can cut the plants to the ground and remove all foliage.

### **DOUBLE MARSH MARIGOLD**

(*CALTHA PALUSTRIS* 'PLENA')

Grow in full sun to part shade in shallow water at the margins of a pond or water garden or in wet, boggy soil. Best flowering occurs in full sun, but plants appreciate some part shade in the South.

### **DUKE BLUEBERRY**

(*VACCINIUM CORYMBOSUM*)

Duke provides nice crops of early ripening, medium to large berries with an excellent flavour. The bushes grow taller than many other varieties, reaching 5–7' in zones 5–8. Besides producing deliciously sweet and healthful fruit, the shrubs also make handsome landscape plants. Once established, blueberries need little care or attention. Plant in full sun in an acidic soil and set the plants at the same depth as in the nursery. Blueberries should be pruned during the winter while the bushes are dormant.

### **ELEPHANT EAR**

Elephant ears do well in most garden soil but prefer damp or boggy earth. In fall, when leaves turn yellow and droop or when frost threatens, lift tubers with tops still attached and place in a shady, well-ventilated area. Dry until the tops can be removed easily with a gentle tug. Shake off the soil and, if you have it available, dust tubers with a combination fungicide/insecticide. Then place tubers in a paper bag or tray with dry peat moss, perlite or vermiculite (to absorb

any moisture) and store in a cool, dry location, such as a basement. Replant in spring when the danger of frost has passed. If you grew your elephant ears in containers, move the containers to an indoor, frost-free location to enjoy during the winter, or place them in a frost-free garage. Water as needed. When the danger of frost has passed, move containers outdoors for another year of colour. If you live in zone 8 and south, cut leaves only after they turn yellow. Leave plants in the ground and mulch heavily to protect.

### **EUPHORBIA**

Well-drained fertile, light soil is best. Drought tolerant, but does not like wet conditions. Tidy old leaves in spring or when needed.

### **FAIRY WINGS**

(*EPIMEDIUM*)

Easily grown in acidic, dry to medium-moisture, well-drained soil. Tolerates drought and dry shade (rhizomes hold moisture), once established. Intolerant of alkaline soils. Plants grow slowly but will form attractive colonies over time. In areas where plants are evergreen, cut back remaining old foliage in late winter prior to the emergence of the new growth. Propagate by division in early spring or fall.

### **FALSE SUNFLOWER**

(*HELIOPSIS*)

False sunflower can be grown in either full sun or partial shade, but it performs much better when it gets a lot of sun. Soil of average fertility is preferable. When grown in moist, rich soil, it tends to need staking. Deadheading spent flower heads will extend the flowering time and prevent self-seeding. Tolerates drought but does best if regularly watered. Stems may be cut back by half an inch in late

May to reduce overall plant height. This may cause them to bloom a little later, but they usually stand up better this way.

## **FERN**

Hardy ferns are tolerant of cold winter temperatures and can be grown outdoors year round. Most ferns are slow growing and can take several years to reach their mature size. Ferns give a delicate and airy quality to a shady garden. Many will grow in full shade areas where other plants will not grow. Being woodland dwellers, they require well-drained soil high in organic matter. Ferns may be divided in the fall or very early in spring before the new growth is emerging.

## **FLEECEFLOWER**

(PERSICARIA)

Vigorous and easily grown perennials for any garden soil in full sun or part shade. Deer resistant and drought tolerant once established. Plants are easily divided in early spring. During this time, you can also cut back last year's growth.

## **FLOWERING FERN**

(INCARVILLEA DELAVAYI)

Plant after all danger of frost has passed and the soil has warmed. Choose a sheltered, sunny, warm spot with sandy, well-drained soil enriched with humus. Keep watered during the growing season. Mulch deeply in later fall for winter protection or dig up and store in a cool but frost-free place, such as a basement.

## **FOUR O'CLOCKS**

(MIRABILIS JALAPA)

This perennial quickly develops into a bushy plant covered with fragrant, trumpetlike blossoms. Does best in a soil that is neutral to slightly acidic. They are heavy feeders, so a rich, well-draining

soil is ideal. The carrot-shaped tubers are frost-tender. Since four o'clocks bloom in the evening, plant them where you are sure to see them and catch a whiff of their fragrance.

## **FOXGLOVE**

(DIGITALIS)

Colourful foxgloves bloom with brilliance from late spring to midsummer on tall flower spikes. Their strong stems, which grow up to 4' (120 cm) tall, make them ideal for the back of sunny to partly shaded borders, along fences, at the wood's edge or in large containers. Provide water the first few weeks whenever rainfall is less than 1" (2.5 cm) per week. They prefer evenly moist, well-drained soils. Most foxgloves act as biennials, meaning that the plant will grow for two years and then mainly die off. However, if you cut them back immediately after they are done, you can encourage a second round of blooms the following year. Make sure to leave a few spent blooms on the plant, so they can shed seeds that grow into more the next year.

## **FREESIA**

Plant in good, well-drained soil, and keep it moist during the growing season. Freesias do best where nights are cool. After blooming, let foliage die back, and then lift bulbs and store indoors. Freesias may be perennial where summers are dry and winters are moist and cool, but above 32°F (0°C).

## **GAILLARDIA**

Gaillardias provide lots of colour in the garden from early summer into fall. They are perfect to plant with other summer-to-fall bloomers, such as black-eyed Susan, coneflowers and coreopsis, in the perennial border or in front of evergreen hedges. They

will also brighten your home in long-lasting bouquets. Gaillardias do well in average, well-drained soil. Deadheading spent blooms will prolong bloom time. After the first killing frost, cut back the stems of your gaillardias to 1" (2.5 cm). Although gaillardias are perennials and winter hardy, you may want to cover roots with a 2–4" (5–10 cm) layer of mulch after the soil has frozen. Because your gaillardias will multiply, you can divide your plants for even more beauty around your home.

### **GEUM**

Grow in well-drained soil with medium moisture, and where plants will receive full sun to part shade. Prefers moist, fertile soil in cool summer climates. Remove spent flowers to encourage additional blooming, but consider leaving some of the later flowers to let the fluffy seed heads form. Wet, poorly drained soils in winter can be fatal. Divide geum plants in spring as needed to maintain vigour. Foliage is evergreen in Southern climates. With prompt deadheading, sporadic reblooming may occur throughout the summer, particularly in Northern areas where summers are cool.

### **GLADIOLUS**

#### **Regular Glads**

Gladiolus grows best beneath a full sun in sandy, well-drained soil rich in organic matter. Planting can be done after spring's last frost. Tall-growing varieties may need staking. Water well throughout the growing season. Fertilize when flower spikes first appear and after flowers are picked. Dig up corms 4–6 weeks after flowers fade. Remove as much soil as possible and cut off flower stalk 1" (2.5 cm) above the corm. Dry and store bulbs indoors for winter.

### **Hardy Glads**

Plant in well-drained garden soil in full sun. Fertilize when planting but avoid animal manure, since it may encourage rot. Hardy enough to be left in the ground from year to year in all but the coldest areas. We highly recommend adding mulch for extra winter protection.

### **GLOBE THISTLE**

#### **(ECHINOPS RITRO)**

Easily grown in average, dry to medium-dry, well-drained soil. Avoid rich soil. Taller stems may need staking, particularly if grown in rich, fertile soil. Plants can be left undivided for years.

### **GOATSBEARD**

#### **(ARUNCUS)**

Fairly easy to grow without much attention. Goatsbeard prefers woodland conditions, so soil needs to be kept moist. If soil dries out too much or too often, the plant's leaves will burn, becoming dry and crisp on the edges. Having plenty of organic matter in the soil helps them thrive. Avoid full sun. Plants can easily be divided, but it is not necessary for plant growth.

### **GOLDEN SUNSET YELLOW**

#### **PRAIRIE GRASS**

#### **(SORGHASTRUM NUTANS)**

This drought-tolerant variety of upright grass is adaptable to a wide range of soils but prefers rich, silty loam in sun to part shade. It differs from other ornamental grasses due to its olive-green tone. It blooms in late summer, and its golden seed heads hold into winter. Golden Sunset remains upright and does not lodge or fall over. Mature plants can be 36" wide with hundreds of flowering stems. It has no known pests or diseases.

## **HARDY GERANIUM**

Very easy plants to grow and quite drought tolerant, once established. Hardy geraniums grow well in any well-drained garden soil. Do not be alarmed if they do not bloom until fall their first year. Geraniums tend to go dormant in hot midsummer weather, and growth begins again once the weather starts to cool. Be sure to keep them watered, and you will enjoy these plants for years to come.

## **HELENIUM**

Plant in highly organic, well-drained soil. Will tolerate moist soils as well as short periods of dry conditions. Responds well to a quick trim in spring for promoting even more branching and flowers. Divide every few years in fall or spring to keep plants vigorous and floriferous.

## **HELLEBORE** (HELLEBORUS)

Hellebores are rugged, easy-to-grow plants best grown in humus-rich, well-drained soil. Group in shady locations under trees or large shrubs, in woodland gardens or in border fronts. The dark green leaves are evergreen in warm climates but deciduous in extremely cold winters. When new foliage and blooms appear in late winter to early spring, just trim back the previous year's foliage for a cleaner look.

## **HENS & CHICKS** (SEMPERVIVUM)

Drought tolerant and very hardy, hens and chicks thrive with little maintenance. Colouring of the evergreen leaves may change throughout the season due to changes in temperature, sunlight and other factors. Hens & chicks are excellent for rock gardens, crevices in rock walls, decorative containers and as ground cover in sunny gardens. They do

not like wet conditions and prefer light, sandy, even rocky soil. Because soil must have good drainage, a mixture of sand and gravel may be added to improve it. If planting in a container, cactus soil may be used. Hens & chicks form rosettes and spread by offset from the base of a larger rosette. The base plants are the hens and the offsets are the chicks. Hens generally live for only three years. Before dying, they produce a centre stalk that flowers. After the flower fades, the rosette dies. However, the empty spot it leaves is almost unnoticeable because its surrounding chicks will quickly fill in the space.

## **HEUCHERA AND HEUCHERELLA**

Plant in well-drained soil enriched with a lot of organic matter. In areas with hot summers, plant in partial to full shade. In cold climates, mulch after the ground has frozen to control heaving of the roots. Divide in spring when the bloom diminishes and the crown becomes woody, usually every 4–5 years. Evergreen in mild climates.

## **HIBISCUS** (PERENNIAL & HARDY)

Plants thrive in medium to moist soil that is neutral to acidic. Do not let the soil dry out during its active growing period. Apply ample amounts of fertilizer during spring and summer for optimal results.

## **HOLLYHOCK** (ALCEA ROSEA)

Grow in well-drained, neutral to slightly alkaline soil. Choose a sheltered location or stake the flower spikes to avoid wind damage. Good air circulation helps prevent powdery mildew on the leaves in summer. Hollyhocks are biennial. At the end of their blooming season, these plants have used up all of their energy and die. Seeds produced then shed and

go back to the ground to start the whole process over.

## **HOSTA**

Hostas bring beauty to shady areas where nothing else seems to grow. They are a delight on the north side of buildings, under large trees and in other areas where too much shade makes it difficult to grow other plants. It is especially important to keep your hostas from drying out in the first year of growth. Check the soil for moisture regularly.

## **IRIS**

### **Bearded Iris**

(including Golden Zebra Iris)

Plant in any well-drained soil in full sun to part shade. To plant, dig shallow holes 10" (25 cm) across and 2–4" (5–10 cm) deep. Make a ridge of soil down the middle of each hole, dividing it in half. Place the iris rhizome on the ridge, spreading roots to both sides. Cover with soil and firm with hands. In clay soil, the top of the rhizome should be slightly to half exposed. In sandy soil, it can be covered with 1" (2.5 cm) of soil maximum. Water thoroughly. Feed in the spring before blooming and again after flowering is done. As flowers fade, cut stems back to the rhizomes. When fall comes, trim away all dead foliage. Trim all other foliage to 4–5" (10–13 cm). Plants can be divided every 4–5 years. August is the best time to do this. Older rhizomes, which have few white feeding roots, should be discarded. Be sure each rhizome you replant has one or two leaf fans. Replant as you did your new irises.

### **Dutch Iris**

Plant in well-drained, average soil. Dutch iris bloom best when planted in full sun. For greater impact, plant in larger groups. Allow foliage to ripen through

summer and then gently remove. We recommend letting your Dutch iris form thick clumps over 3–5 years, after which time flowering will diminish. Lift while dormant and remove and replant offsets that form along mature bulbs.

### **Japanese Iris**

Plant in slightly acid to neutral, moisture-retentive soil. This iris is happy in shallow standing water, but only during the summer months. It cannot tolerate dry conditions. Divide every 3–4 years in the fall as plants become crowded. Replant the divisions immediately; do not let them dry.

### **Louisiana Iris**

Requires normal to moist soil and benefits from a yearly application of fertilizer. Louisiana iris are native to the southeastern part of the U.S. It is said that they prefer acidic soil, but we have found that they do equally well under neutral to slightly alkaline conditions.

### **Siberian Iris**

Slender but strong stems make Siberian iris ideal for sunny borders and waterside plantings. They do well in most average to moist garden soils. Avoid dry soil.

## **JAPANESE ANEMONE**

(ANEMONE X HYBRIDA)

Will grow in any garden soil, but avoid excessive winter wet. Prefers medium to moist, acidic to neutral soil. Dislikes being moved around. Mulch to keep roots cool and preserve moisture, avoiding the crown. Water regularly during first growing season to establish an extensive root system. For a tidy appearance, remove old foliage before new leaves emerge.

## **JAPANESE BOTTLEBRUSH**

(SANGUISORBA OBTUSA)

Easily grown in a moderately fertile,

moist but well-drained soil that does not dry out. It is not particular about soil type or pH and is generally disease and pest free. Japanese bottlebrush is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. It can be propagated by division a few years after planting.

### **JAPANESE SPIDER LILY** (NERINE BOWDENII)

Plant in a moderately fertile, well-drained soil in a sunny, sheltered position in borders or at the foot of a wall. Japanese spider lily will not flower in shaded situations. Protect in colder areas with a deep, dry mulch over winter. When you garden in a temperate climate, leave the bulbs undisturbed for years until they become crowded and flowering declines.

### **JERUSALEM SAGE** (PHLOMIS TUBEROSA)

This perennial prefers organically rich, fertile, medium-moisture, well-drained soils in full sun to part shade. Plants tolerate some dry soil conditions. Avoid wet soils. The ornamental seed heads look very attractive during fall and winter, and the birds love the seed. In early spring plants can be cut back to the base. A fast-growing perennial.

### **LADY'S MANTLE** (ALCHEMILLA MOLLIS)

Plant in rich, medium to moist soil. Lady's mantle grows best in partial to full shade in warmer zones but will tolerate full sun in more temperate regions. This carefree plant does not require any special attention or fertilizing. Since it's prone to reseeding and can become mildly aggressive in some areas, deadheading the flowers as they start to dry is helpful in preventing it from spreading into unwanted parts of the

garden. In addition to seed propagation, the plant can be divided in spring or fall as needed.

### **LAVENDER**

#### (LAVANDULA X INTERMEDIA)

Lavender thrives in soil that is not fertile. Supplemental feeding is not necessary. Perfect drainage is a must, especially through the winter, as plants will die in wet soil. A pH value close to or slightly above neutral is best, so add lime if your soil has a pH value below 7. Lavender demands full sun. Plants are very drought resistant once established but will flower better if not allowed to dry out. Prune in spring after new growth appears. Plants may be sheared back and shaped after flowering, but do not cut low into old wood. If old flower spikes are sheared off after the first blooming period, a second flush of flowers may appear later in the season.

### **LILAC**

#### (SYRINGA)

Lilacs prefer cool temperatures and early planting as soon as the soil can be worked in. Plant in soil with a pH value of 6–7. Never prune lilacs severely; just trim off the old blooms immediately after flowering. It is easy to see where you should make the cut: you will notice next year's buds developing just below this season's flower cluster. As soon as the blooms are spent, remove them to make way for next year's crop of blossoms.

### **LILY**

#### (LILIUM)

Take care not to break off any sprouts that may be on the bulb. Choose a sunny spot, preferably where there is light, porous soil enriched with compost. The ideal site is one where the plants get full sun at the tops and are shaded at the

soil level to keep the ground moist. After flowering, remove only the blooms, not the stems or leaves. The stalk can be cut back carefully when the foliage has died back naturally.

### **LILY-OF-THE-VALLEY** (CONVALLARIA)

Plant in rich, well-drained soil with lots of organic matter. Plant the fleshy rhizomes ("pips") horizontally about 1" (2.5 cm) deep. Divide only when flowering poorly—a good indication of overcrowding.

### **LITTLE REDHEAD INDIAN PINK** (SPIGELIA MARILANDICA)

Extremely easy to grow, this perennial thrives in part to full shade in organically rich, well-drained soil. Tolerates full sun with enough moisture. Drought tolerant once established. Its flowering season can be prolonged by removing blooms as they wither. This perennial can be found growing in the wild woodlands, and along streams and banks throughout the Eastern U.S.

### **LOOSESTRIFE** (LYSIMACHIA CLETHROIDES)

Easily grown in any well-drained soil in full sun to part shade. Prefers moist, rich, humusy soil. Spreads by rhizomes and can grow into big clumps under ideal conditions, so give the plants enough space and they will develop into truly handsome, eye-catching drifts!

### **LUNGWORT** (PULMONARIA)

Plant in cool, moist soil. Intolerant of full sun, it grows well under deciduous trees. Lungwort is one of the few plants that is immune to the toxic effects of black walnuts, and it makes a lovely underplanting for these trees. Once established, lungworts need watered

only in times of drought, and they require light fertilizer just once a year.

### **LUPINE**

Easily grown in any well-drained soil and preferably in full sun. Good air circulation (spacing) helps combat powdery mildew. Deadhead spent flower spikes to encourage additional bloom and maintain plant vigour. Divide in late fall or early spring.

### **MEADOW RUE** (THALICTRUM)

Plant in medium to moist, humus-rich soil. Meadow Rue is late to emerge in mid to late spring, so be patient. Plants may be easily divided in early spring.

### **MEADOWSWEET** (QUEEN OF THE PRAIRIE)

Plant in medium to very moist soil. Will tolerate full sun as long as the soil is moist. Thrives when planted beside a stream or pond. With sufficient moisture, foliage remains attractive throughout the growing season. If foliage depreciates in late summer, cut it back after bloom. May be divided in fall or spring.

### **MINIATURE HOLLYHOCK** (SIDALCEA HYBRID)

Best grown in consistently moist, well-drained soil. Remove spent flower spikes to encourage additional flowering and prevent self-seeding. You can cut the plant back to the basal foliage in fall. Prefers cool summers and generally does not perform well in hot, humid climates. You can propagate by divisions.

### **MISTY BLUE WHITE DOLL'S EYES** (ACTAEA PACHYPODA 'MISTY BLUE')

Thrives in slightly acidic, moist, highly organic soil in part to full shade, but tolerates drier soil. Clumps can be

divided in early fall.

## **MONKSHOOD**

(ACONITUM)

Prefers somewhat moist, neutral to slightly acidic soil but tolerates other moist soils as long as they are rich and drain well. If you are growing monkshood in a hot, dry area, give it a spot with some shade, especially in the afternoon. When grown in shade, you will probably need to stake the plants. Very long lived, once established. After 3–5 years, you can divide plants in either spring or fall.

## **MOUNTAIN FLEECE**

(PERSICARIA)

Easily grown in average, medium-moisture, well-drained soil. Tolerates wet conditions. Best with consistent moisture, particularly when grown in sunny locations. Appreciates partial shade in hot summer climates. In optimum growing conditions, plants will slowly spread in the garden.

## **MUM**

The vibrant fall colours of mums are the highlight of the late-season garden. Among the easiest of all perennials to grow, they are ideal for a sunny border and patio with regular garden soil. A 1" (2 cm) layer of mulch may be used to help retain moisture and keep weeding to a minimum. When your mums are 6–8" (15–20 cm) high, begin pinching off the light green growing tips to encourage branching and flowering. After you pinch, new branches will develop along the stems. Continue to pinch back tips until mid July. After your mums have finished flowering and there has been a heavy frost, cut plants back to about 4" (10 cm). A mulch of shredded leaves may be applied after the ground freezes. An application of Breck's Food for Bulbs and Perennials in spring and once a month

during the summer will result in larger, faster-growing plants with more flowers.

## **NAKED LADIES**

(NERINE, AMARINE)

Plant the bulbs in well-drained soil in a sunny, sheltered location. They are excellent for planting in containers as well. Plant with the neck of the bulb just exposed. For winter protection in cold areas, mulch clumps when they have finished flowering. If you think the flowers are getting fewer, year after year, feed in summer with a fertilizer. The bulbs hate disturbance, so once planted try to avoid moving them. After planting, the bulbs should grow some strap-shaped leaves until midsummer, and then they will die down. After many years, the bulbs will become congested, but it is best not to divide them as they flower much better when grown like this.

## **ORIENTAL POPPY**

(PAPAVER ORIENTALE)

Plant in deep, rich, fertile, very well-drained soil. It is especially important that the soil is not waterlogged in winter, which would spell death to the roots. Once planted, do not disturb because the long taproots can easily break. Intolerant of hot, humid conditions and thrives in areas with cool summers. Foliage often dies back after flowering.

## **OXEYE**

(HELIOPSIS HELIANTHOIDES, FALSE SUNFLOWER)

Plants thrive in average, dry to medium-moisture, well-drained soil. Oxeye is quite drought-resistant, but does best if soil is not allowed to dry out. Tolerates a wide range of soils, including poor, infertile ones. Plants are less vigorous and stems need support when grown in partly shaded conditions. Remove spent



flowers to extend the season.

### **PAINTED DAISY** (*TANACETUM*)

Grows best in rich, well-drained soil in full sun. Do not allow the soil to dry out during the growing season. Deadhead to encourage a second flush of flowers. Divide in early spring or fall every three years to keep the plants compact and vigorous. Fertilize once or twice during the growing season.

### **PASQUE FLOWER** (*PULSATILLA VULGARIS*)

Thrives in full sun in fertile, well-drained soil that is rich in humus, gritty and of medium moisture. Good drainage is essential to survival. Needs consistent moisture in hot summer climates. Pasque flower is a good choice for areas of the garden that are sunny and dry. Flowers are nodding when they first open and gradually extend upward to face the sun. They are followed by equally ornamental plumes that are similar to seedpods in fluffy, spherical clusters. Pasque flowers will seed themselves all over. Plants may be divided in early fall.

### **PEACOCK ORCHID** (*GLADIOLUS CALLIANTHUS* 'MURIELAE')

Best grown in humus-rich, medium-moisture, well-drained soil. Adapts to a wide range of soils except heavy clay. Water well throughout the growing season. After foliage yellows and before the first frost, dig up the corms and cut off stems and leaves. Store for winter in a dry medium and a cool, frost-free location.

### **PENSTEMON**

Best grown in full sun in fertile, dry to medium moisture, well-drained soil. Dislikes damp conditions and needs

excellent drainage. Drought tolerant once established. Penstemon needs very little water and barely any plant food. Fertilize lightly when planted and then never again. Overfertilizing penstemon leads to excessive die back in winter. Divide clumps in spring. Deadhead after flowering (unless the seeds are needed). Leaves emerge in spring with deep maroon colouration but mature to dark green during the summer.

### **PEONY**

Peony plants relish slightly acidic soils (pH 6.5–7) with good drainage. Avoid soils that become waterlogged from time to time. Position the root so the eyes (pink buds) will be just below the soil, 0.5–1" (1–2 cm) below ground level. If planted deeper, it will take longer for your peonies to flower. Deadhead peony blossoms as soon as they begin to fade, cutting to a strong leaf so the stem does not stick out of the foliage. After the first frosts of fall blacken the foliage, cut to just above ground level and discard. Once your peonies are established, annual winter mulching is not necessary as winter protection.

### **PERUVIAN DAFFODIL** (*HYMENOCALLIS*)

This plant does well in partial shade and full sun, but not in full shade. It appreciates moist but well-drained soil. It can also be grown in containers but should be moved inside in zones 3–7, and in all zones in Canada. Caring for the Peruvian Daffodil is simple: water the beds weekly if rain does not keep the soil moist. This is especially important during the blooming period. This flower does not like temperatures less than 59°F (15°C), so do not plant it outdoors too early in spring and bring it indoors in fall (in zones 3–7 and all zones in

Canada) before it gets hit with frost.

### **PERUVIAN LILY** (ALSTROEMERIA)

Alstroemerias are free flowering, producing attractive flowers in a wide range of colours from June until first frost. Plant in rich, fertile, free-draining soil that is neutral or slightly acidic. Plants are drought tolerant, but watering in dry periods will encourage further flowering. Mulch heavily the first two years after planting to protect tender young plants from frost. After that, the roots should be deep enough in the ground to survive the winter. However, Alstroemeria hardiness can vary. Check the zone information for your specific variety to see if more winter protection is needed.

### **PHLOX**

#### **Carpet/Creeping Phlox** (*P. subulata*)

Ideal for rock gardens, edgings, foundations or ground covers. Plant in humus-rich, medium-moisture, well-drained soil. Best flowering is in full sun, but plants generally appreciate some dappled sun in the hot summers of the deep South. Quite drought resistant.

#### **Tall Phlox/Bambini Phlox/Phlox Tree** (*P. paniculata* & *amplifolia*)

Strong, 2–3' (60–90 cm) stems make tall phlox ideal as a background for borders and foundation plantings. Plants grow well in any well-drained soil. As flower heads fade, cut back old flower stems and, in many cases, you'll enjoy a second flowering. After your tall phlox have finished blooming in the fall and foliage begins to die back, you can cut the plants to the ground and remove all foliage, but this is not necessary.

### **PIGSQUEAK** (BERGENIA)

Easily grown in average, medium, well-drained soil in part to full shade. Tolerant of a wide range of soils, but prefers moist, humusy ones. Evergreen in parts of the country with mild winters. Remove all damaged foliage in late winter to early spring. Spreads very slowly by thick rhizomes. Good ground cover. Rabbits and deer tend to avoid this plant. Plants can grow for a very long time without any care or need for division.

### **PINEAPPLE LILY** (EUCOMIS)

Plant in fertile, well-drained soil, preferably in full sun. Excessive shade will reduce flowering. Keep plants well watered during the growing season. Bulbs will not survive long periods of freezing weather, so protect them in winter with a layer of mulch, such as bark or leaf mould. Alternatively, lift the bulbs, dry them off and store them in a frost-free place, such as a greenhouse or shed. Pineapple lilies do well in containers.

### **PINK PAMPAS GRASS**

#### (*CORTADERIA SELLOANA* 'ROSEA')

Winter hardy in zones 7–10, where it is best grown in dry to medium moisture, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade. It will tolerate drought, once established. Cut foliage back to the ground in late winter. Clumps may be divided in late winter to early spring. You need to ensure that your pampas grass has enough room to grow after you plant it. The foliage is sharp and may cut skin and catch clothing. Use gloves and some protective clothing when cleaning up and maintaining. In zones 3–6, this grass generally will not survive winter and should be transplanted into large containers for overwintering in a

greenhouse. It is called pampas grass as it is native to Brazil and Argentina.

### **POLIANTHES**

Plant in spring after the weather is relatively warm (60°F [16°C] or more at night). Choose a moist, well-drained, humus-rich location in full sun. Feed after the foliage appears and keep lightly moist. In colder areas, dig up bulbs in fall before the first frost and store them indoors over the winter.

### **PRAIRIE MALLOW**

(SIDALCEA)

Best grown in consistently moist, well-drained soil. Remove spent flower spikes to encourage additional flowering. You can cut the plants back to the basal foliage in the fall. Prefers cool summers and generally does not perform well in hot, humid climates.

### **PRUNELLA**

Winter hardy in zones 4–9, where it may be grown in a variety of moist but well-drained soils in sun to part shade. Prefers organically rich soil. Plants should be kept consistently moist in summer. For large ground cover plots, plants may be mowed after bloom on a high mower setting for the purpose of not only deadheading but also helping to maintain the structural integrity and appearance of the planting. Propagate by divisions, cuttings or seed. Cultivars often do not come true from seed, so deadheading spent flowers may be necessary to prevent unwanted self-seeding.

### **QUEEN OF THE PRAIRIE**

(FILIPENDULA RUBRA)

Easily grown in average to wet, well-drained soil in full sun to partial shade. Prefers consistently moist, fertile soil rich in humus. Intolerant of drought. It appreciates growing in part shade in hot

climates. Foliage may scorch in full sun if soil is allowed to dry out. Propagate by dividing clumps in spring. Freely self-seeds and can form large colonies in optimum growing conditions. Flower panicles are best left in place after blooming since deadheading does not extend the bloom period. With sufficient moisture, foliage may remain attractive throughout the growing season.

### **RANUNCULUS**

(PERSIAN BUTTERCUPS)

Choose a spot with well-drained, sandy, preferably slightly acidic soil. Before planting, soak corms for 3–4 hours in warm water. Plant corms with claws pointing downward. Ranunculus like cool nights and sunny but mild days. They grow best when soil around the crown is dry but roots are moist. Do not overwater. The tuberous roots are not easy to store successfully.

### **RAZZMATAZZ® GRAPE**

(VITIS ROTUNDIFOLIA '05-22-3-29')

U.S. PATENT NO. 9045767)

Combines the sweet flavour and tender crisp texture of table grapes with the disease resistance and native hardiness of muscadines. RazzMatazz is the first seedless grape to provide gardeners with true fruiting success without spraying. It's also the first continuously fruiting grape, setting blooms and fruit all summer. While most varieties produce three or four clusters of grapes per shoot, RazzMatazz delivers up to 24 clusters on each shoot. Enjoy the rich, sweet flavour from midsummer to first frost, as early as six months after planting. Plant in sandy, loamy soil that is well drained. Each vine requires about 15' (4.5 metres) of growing space on a wire trellis or fence where it will get at least eight hours of sunlight.

## RED HOT POKER

A tough and reliable clump-forming perennial, *Kniphofia* thrives in full sun and loves the heat. Drought tolerant, it requires only average soil and water. Deadheading by cutting the flower stalk all the way back often helps promote flowering. In spring, once the danger of hard frost has passed, old foliage can be cut back to about 3" (7 cm).

## RHUBARB

Grow in full sun to partial shade in rich, lightly moist soil. In hot regions, plant rhubarb where it will get some protection from hot afternoon sun. It will not thrive in a soggy location where it will be susceptible to root rot, one of the few problems the plant can encounter. Plant divisions 3–4" (7.5–10 cm) below the soil surface. Rhubarb is very hardy: leaves can withstand temperatures as low as 35°F (2°C) without damage, and the woody rhizomes and crown will stay in frozen or very cold, dry soil for a month without being harmed. It is generally recommended that home gardeners stop harvesting rhubarb in early to mid-June. Continued harvesting through the summer months weakens the plant, and reduces the yield and quality of next year's crop. Start regular harvesting in year three after planting when stalks are 12–18" (12–45 cm) long and reach their ideal red colour.

## RODGERSIA

Best grown in rich, humusy, consistently moist soil in full sun to part shade. Leaf margins may brown if soils are allowed to dry out. Deadhead spent flower stalks after blooming. Propagation is simple, by divisions of the clumps when dormant in early spring. The dense rhizomes can simply be chopped with a spade or pulled gently apart to leave a plant with

a good central node in the rhizome to produce new growth. Divisions take a few years to settle back in.

## RUDBECKIA

This *rudbeckia* will thrive in average, well-drained soil in full sun. Performs best in moist, organically rich soil. Tolerates heat, drought and a wide range of soils except poorly drained, wet ones. Deadhead spent flowers to encourage additional blooms. Whether or not plants survive from one year to the next, they will often self-seed and will usually remain in the garden through self-seeding.

## RUSSIAN SAGE

(PEROVSKIA)

Easily grown in average, well-drained soil in full sun. Good drainage is important! Avoid wet, poorly drained soils. Plants have good drought tolerance. Flowers best in full sun. Stems are more likely to flop if plants are grown in part shade. Cut back plants almost to the ground in late winter to early spring.

## SALVIA

(SAGE)

Easy to grow in any medium to dry, well-drained soil. Tolerates drought. Plants may repeat bloom throughout the summer but need regular moisture to encourage this. Remove spent flower spikes to help extend the bloom period. Plants may become somewhat floppy and open up as summer progresses, particularly in humid climates. If plants flop or otherwise depreciate in summer, you can cut them back to the basal foliage.

## SANGUISORBA LITTLE ANGEL

Adaptable to average to moist soil. Plant is only moderately drought tolerant. Deadhead regularly to encourage further blooms and divide congested

clumps in spring or fall. The foliage of *Sanguisorba* dies back in fall and regrows again in spring, but spent flowers can still look attractive if left on the plants over winter. Cut them back in late winter or early spring before new stems appear.

### **SEA HOLLY**

(*ERYNGIUM*)

Sea holly loves the sun and does best in moderately fertile, dry to medium-moisture, well-drained soil. This is a taproot plant that transplants poorly and is best left undisturbed, once established.

### **SEDUM**

All sedums need well-drained soil and to avoid wet conditions. Other than that, they are not fussy about soil and are drought-tolerant perennials once mature.

### **SHOOTING STAR**

(*DODECATHEON MEADIA*)

Best grown in evenly humusy, well-drained soil in full to part shade. Avoid wet, poorly drained soils, particularly in winter. Slow and difficult to grow from seed. Needs moisture during the growing season and dry conditions when dormant. The entire plant dies down when summer arrives. Virtually disease free. Propagate by seeds in pots or by divisions in spring.

### **SIBERIAN BUGLOSS**

(*BRUNNERA*)

Siberian Bugloss likes rich, moist soil with lots of organic matter and is not particular about soil pH. Plants can grow in full sun but need more moisture. Leaves can easily burn in direct sunlight, and plants may go dormant in extreme heat.

### **SNAKEROOT**

(*CIMICIFUGA*)

Prefers moist, acidic, rich soil. Without proper soil and light, plants remain

stunted and may not flower. Keep soil moist to prevent foliage from burning. Plants are slow growing, so division is rarely needed, as clumps can remain undisturbed indefinitely.

### **SNOW-IN-SUMMER**

(*CERASTIUM TOMENTOSUM*)

Best grown in dry, well-drained soil in full sun. Tolerates a somewhat wide range of soils except poorly drained ones that inevitably lead to root rot. Spreads by runners to fill areas but is not considered to be invasive. Plants will self-seed in the garden if spent blooms are not removed, preferably by shearing off flower stems. Divide every year if needed to help maintain compact size of the mat.

### **SOLOMAN'S SEAL**

(*POLYGONATUM*)

Likes a humus-rich soil that does not dry out but also never gets waterlogged. Performs best in cool, dappled shade. Do not plant deep as this can kill the plant. Propagation of Solomon's seal is easy by divisions or seed. The fastest way to propagate them is by divisions in spring just as growth is about to start. Dig up the rhizomes and cut them into 3" (7.5 cm) lengths. They do not require the growing point at the tip for the rhizome to grow into new plants. They will have dormant buds along the length of the rhizome, which will sprout new shoots when divided and potted up.

### **SPEEDWELL**

(*VERONICA*)

Prefers medium rich, medium to moist soil. Intolerant of dry soils. Weak floppy growth occurs in too much shade or with overly rich soils. Remove spent flower spikes to encourage additional bloom. Lift, divide and replant after 3–4 years.

## STRAWBERRY

Strawberry plants prefer soil that is rich and loamy. Plant them so their roots are covered in soil, but the crown is exposed to fresh air and light. If planted too deep, the plant will rot. It is generally recommended to pinch off all blooms the first year. This encourages plants to put their energy into root growth, which increases yield in the second year. The fruits grow from the ends of delicate, leafless shoots. Individual plants are not particularly fast growing, but they quickly spread outward with runners. In colder climates, mulching over the strawberries plants in winter will prevent injury to the crown. Interestingly, straw is the traditional mulch for strawberries.

## SUMMER CHEER DAFFODIL

This daffodil has an intriguing twist—it blooms in summer when planted in early spring! After its first year, Summer Cheer will flower in late spring. Tolerates a wide range of soils but grows best in moderately fertile, well-drained earth that is kept moist during spring and summer. Sprinkle a little bulb fertilizer in the hole during planting. Deadhead plants as flowers fade (for neater garden appearance) and allow leaves to yellow naturally, if you want the bulbs to flower again next year.

## SUMMER MIXTURE

Mixture of *Dichelostemma congestum*, *Dichelostemma ida-maia* and mixed crocasmias. Plant in any well-drained soil. Bulbs are winter hardy in zones 8–10; in other zones, dig up and store bulbs in a cool and dry location, such as an unheated basement or garage.

## SUMMER TRUMPETS

(HABRANTHUS ROBUSTUS/  
RAIN LILIES)

These bulbs prefer to be kept evenly

moist but can tolerate periodic dry spells without a problem. They do very well in containers and can be planted close together. Bulbs seem to prefer being slightly crowded and even somewhat pot-bound. Will bloom several times a season, usually after a good downpour. If you live in a zone where summer trumpets are not hardy, simply bring the bulbs indoors and keep them dry all winter. If planted in a container, bring the whole container inside and set it outside again in the spring.

## SUNFLOWER

(HELIANTHUS)

Offers the iconic colour of sunflowers in a perennial that blooms year after year. Thrives in heat, drought and poor soil, including heavy clay. It is rhizomatous and spreads, so give it enough space. Attracts pollinators all season long.

## SWAMP MILKWEED

(ASCLEPIAS INCARNATA)

Easily grown in medium to wet soil in full sun. Surprisingly tolerant of average, well-drained soils in cultivation even though the species is native to swamps and wet meadows. Plants have deep taproots and are best left undisturbed once established. Foliage is slow to emerge in spring. The colourful umbels give way to attractive seedpods in the fall, which persist into winter. It is a low-maintenance perennial that is generally pest and disease free. Self-seeding occurs after blooming; the plant produces elongated pods that later split, releasing seeds on silken threads to be carried on the wind.

## TIGER FLOWER

(TIGRIDIA PAVONIA,  
MEXICAN SHELL FLOWERS)

Plant in a fast-draining, preferably sandy soil enriched with organic material. After

the flowers fade, reduce water, then when foliage browns, stop watering. In colder areas with frost, dig the bulbs in fall and store in sand or sawdust in a cool, dry place during winter.

### **TOAD LILY** (TRICYRTIS)

This shade lover does well in most well-drained garden soil. Plant near the front of a border or along pathways where its unique flower can be viewed at close range. Toad lilies tend to be late risers, so just relax if you do not see them coming up with other perennials.

### **TRITELEIA**

Easily grown in fertile, well-drained soil that's rich in humus and in full sun to partial shade. Performs well in sandy loam. Best with regular and consistent moisture during the growing season, but needs a dry soil during the post-bloom dormancy period. In U.S. zones 3–4, they should be lifted in fall and stored in a dry, cool place. In Canada, they should be lifted in all zones in fall. *Triteleias* grow from underground corms that last for only one year, but are replaced yearly by new corms that develop from spring to fall. Plants go dormant in summer after their blooming period.

### **TURTLEHEAD** (CHELONE OBLIQUA)

Best grown in moist to wet soil rich in organic humus, in full sun to partial shade. Preference is for dappled sun and consistently moist soil conditions. Consider pinching back the stem ends in spring to reduce mature plant height, especially when growing plants in strongly shaded areas where they most likely to need some support. Optimally, staking is usually not required. Will self-seed in most soils. Propagates by divisions, cuttings or seed.

### **UMBRELLA PLANT** (DARMERA PELTATA)

Easily grown in average to wet soil, in full to part shade. Leaf scorch will occur if soil is allowed to dry out. Prefers cool summer climates and does not perform well in the hot, humid summers of the deep South. Upward-facing leaves typically collect and hold small pools of rain water. Cut back after flowering. Propagate by seed sown in containers in spring or fall, or by divisions in spring. Easy to grow, it requires very little care, and is pest and disease free.

### **WEIGELA**

Easily grown in average to medium moisture, well-drained soils in sun to part shade. Tolerant of clay soil. Need full sun for best flowering and foliage colour but will tolerate some light shade or sun dappled shade. Prune to shape if needed immediately after flowering. Propagate by stem cuttings. A low-maintenance plant.

### **WIDOW'S TEARS** (TRADESCANTIA, SPIDERWORT)

Plant in a medium to moist, well-draining, slightly acidic soil. No deadheading is necessary, but shearing the plants back by 1/3 after flowering will reinvigorate the plants and make them better for the rest of the season. Plants can be divided when they start to die out in the centres.

### **YARROW** (ACHILLEA)

A very easy, low-maintenance perennial, yarrow does well in any well-drained soil and is drought-tolerant once established. (Be sure to water well the first few weeks after planting.) Remove spent flowers of *Achillea millefolium* cultivars throughout the growing season to ensure the most repeat blooms possible. A very easy, low-maintenance perennial.



# BRECK'S® BULB & PERENNIAL PLANTING HANDBOOK

| Description                 | Planting Depth | Lift in Fall | Sun/Shade        | Deer Resistant |
|-----------------------------|----------------|--------------|------------------|----------------|
| 4 O'Clocks                  | SB*            | X            | Sun              |                |
| Acanthus                    | SB*            |              | Sun/Part Shade   | X              |
| Agapanthus                  | SB*            | X            | Sun/Part Shade   | X              |
| Anchusa                     | SB*            |              | Sun/Part Shade   | X              |
| Angel Trumpet               | Level*         | X            | Sun              |                |
| <b>Anemone:</b>             |                |              |                  |                |
| Japanese                    | SB*            |              | Sun/Part Shade   | X              |
| Poppy                       | 2"             | X            | Sun              | X              |
| Anise Hyssop                | SB*            |              | Sun              | X              |
| Artichoke                   | SB*            |              | Sun              | X              |
| Asclepias                   | SB*            |              | Sun              | X              |
| Asparagus                   | 8"             |              | Sun              |                |
| Aster                       | SB*            |              | Sun/Part Shade   | X              |
| Astilbe                     | SB*            |              | Shade/Part Shade | X              |
| Astrantia                   | SB*            |              | Sun/Part Shade   |                |
| Baboon Flower               | 4"             | X            | Sun              | X              |
| Baby's Breath               | SB*            |              | Sun/Part Shade   | X              |
| Balloon Flower              | SB*            |              | Sun/Part Shade   | X              |
| Bee Balm                    | SB*            |              | Sun/Part Shade   | X              |
| Begonia                     | 1"             | X            | Shade/Part Shade | X              |
| Bell Flower (see Campanula) | SB*            |              | Sun/Part Shade   |                |



| Description                      | Planting Depth | Lift in Fall | Sun/Shade        | Deer Resistant |
|----------------------------------|----------------|--------------|------------------|----------------|
| Black Eyed Susan (see Rudbeckia) | SB*            |              | Sun/Part Shade   | ×              |
| Black Magic Blackberry           | Level*         |              | Sun              |                |
| Blazing Star                     | 2"             |              | Sun              | ×              |
| Bleeding Heart                   | SB*            |              | Shade/Part Shade | ×              |
| Burgundy Shamrock                | 1–2"           | ×            | Sun/Part Shade   | ×              |
| Burnet                           | SB*            |              | Sun/Part Shade   | ×              |
| Butterfly Bush                   | Level*         |              | Sun              | ×              |
| Caladium                         | 2–4"           | ×            | Shade/Part Shade | ×              |
| Calla Lily                       | 3"             | ×            | Sun/Part Shade   | ×              |
| Campanula                        | SB*            |              | Sun/Part Shade   |                |
| Canna                            | 3"             | ×            | Sun              | ×              |
| Camation                         | Level*         |              | Sun              | ×              |
| Catmint                          | SB*            |              | Sun              | ×              |
| Chinese Ground Orchids           | 4"             |              | Part Shade       |                |
| Chinese Lantern                  | SB*            |              | Sun/Part Shade   | ×              |
| Chocoholic Black Snake Root      | 6"             |              | Part Shade       | ×              |
| Chocolate Cosmos                 | 2"             | ×            | Sun              | ×              |
| Cinquefoil                       | SB*            |              | Sun/Part Shade   | ×              |
| Clematis                         | Level*         |              | Sun/Part Shade   | ×              |
| Coconut Daisy                    | Level*         |              | Sun              |                |
| Colour Festival Mixture          | SB*            |              | Sun/Part Shade   | ×              |
| Columbine                        | SB*            |              | Sun/Part Shade   | ×              |
| Coral Bells (see Heuchera)       | SB*            |              | Shade/Part Shade | ×              |
| Coneflower                       | SB*            |              | Sun              | ×              |

| Description                   | Planting Depth | Lift in Fall | Sun/Shade        | Deer Resistant |
|-------------------------------|----------------|--------------|------------------|----------------|
| Coreopsis                     | SB*            |              | Sun              | X              |
| Cotton Candy Grass            | Level*         |              | Sun              | X              |
| Crimson Fans Mukdenia         | SB*            |              | Part Shade       | X              |
| Crocasmia                     | 2–4"           | X            | Sun/Part Shade   | X              |
| Culver's Root                 | SB*            |              | Sun/Part Shade   | X              |
| Cyclamen                      | SB*            |              | Shade/Part Shade | X              |
| Dahlia                        | 2"             | X            | Sun              | X              |
| Daylily                       | SB*            |              | Sun/Part Shade   |                |
| Delphinium                    | Level*         |              | Sun/Part Shade   | X              |
| Dicentra (see Bleeding Heart) | SB*            |              | Shade/Part Shade | X              |
| Duke Blueberry                | Level*         |              | Sun/Part Shade   |                |
| Elephant Ears                 | 5–6"           | X            | Part Shade       | X              |
| Fairy Wings                   | SB*            |              | Shade/Part Shade | X              |
| False Sunflower               | SB*            |              | Sun/Part Shade   | X              |
| Ferns                         | SB*            |              | Shade/Part Shade | X              |
| Fleeceflower                  | SB*            |              | Sun/Part Shade   | X              |
| Flowering Fern™               | 1"             | X            | Sun/Part Shade   |                |
| Foamy Bells (see Heucherella) | SB*            |              | Shade/Part Shade | X              |
| Foxglove                      | SB*            |              | Shade/Part Shade | X              |
| Freesia                       | 4"             | X            | Sun/Part Shade   | X              |
| Gaillardia                    | Level*         |              | Sun              | X              |
| Geum                          | SB*            |              | Sun/Part Shade   |                |

| Description  | Planting Depth | Lift in Fall | Sun/Shade        | Deer Resistant |
|--|----------------|--------------|------------------|----------------|
| <b>Gladiolus:</b>                                    |                |              |                  |                |
| Glamini®   | 3"             | ×            | Sun/Part Shade   | ×              |
| Hardy  | 6"             | ×            | Sun/Part Shade   | ×              |
| Tall   | 6"             | ×            | Sun/Part Shade   | ×              |
| Globe Thistle  | SB*            |              | Sun              | ×              |
| Goatsbeard   | SB*            |              | Shade/Part Shade | ×              |
| Golden Sunset Yellow Prairie Grass                   | Level*         |              | Sun/Part Shade   | ×              |
| Sun & Moon Aster Beckia Duet (see Aster & Rudbeckia) | SB*            |              | Sun/Part Shade   | ×              |
| Hardy Geranium                                       | SB*            |              | Sun/Part Shade   | ×              |
| Helenium   | SB*            |              | Sun              | ×              |
| Hellebore  | Level*         |              | Shade/Part Shade | ×              |
| Hello Yellow Butterfly Flower (see Asclepias)        | SB*            |              | Sun              | ×              |
| Heuchera & Heucherella                               | SB*            |              | Shade/Part Shade | ×              |
| Hibiscus   | SB*            |              | Sun/Part Shade   | ×              |
| Hollyhock  | SB*            |              | Sun/Part Shade   | ×              |
| Hosta  | SB*            |              | Shade/Part Shade |                |
| Hydrangea  | Level*         |              | Sun/Part Shade   |                |

| Description                  | Planting Depth | Lift in Fall | Sun/Shade        | Deer Resistant |
|------------------------------|----------------|--------------|------------------|----------------|
| <b>Iris:</b>                 |                |              |                  |                |
| Bearded                      | SA*            |              | Sun/Part Shade   | ×              |
| Chrysographes Black          | SA*            |              | Sun              | ×              |
| Dutch                        | 4"             | ×            | Sun/Part Shade   | ×              |
| Japanese                     | SB*            |              | Sun/Part Shade   | ×              |
| Louisiana                    | SB*            |              | Sun/Part Shade   | ×              |
| Siberian                     | SB*            |              | Sun/Part Shade   | ×              |
| Japanese Bottlebrush         | SB*            |              | Sun/Part Shade   | ×              |
| Japanese Spider Lily         | 2"             | ×            | Sun              |                |
| Jerusalem Sage               | SB*            |              | Sun              | ×              |
| Lady's Mantle                | SB*            |              | Sun/Shade        |                |
| Lavender                     | Level*         |              | Sun              | ×              |
| Liatris (see Blazing Star)   | SB*            |              | Sun              | ×              |
| Lilac                        | Level*         |              | Sun              | ×              |
| Lily                         | 6"             |              | Sun/Part Shade   |                |
| Lily-of-the-Valley           | SB*            |              | Shade/Part Shade | ×              |
| Little Redhead Indian Pink   | SB*            |              | Sun/Shade        |                |
| Loosestrife                  | SB*            |              | Sun/Part Shade   | ×              |
| Lungwort                     | SB*            |              | Sun/Shade        | ×              |
| Meadow Rue                   | SB*            |              | Sun/Part Shade   | ×              |
| Meadowsweet                  | SB*            |              | Sun/Part Shade   | ×              |
| Michaelmas Daisy (see Aster) | SB*            |              | Sun              | ×              |
| Miniature Hollyhock          | SB*            |              | Sun/Part Shade   | ×              |
| Misty Blue White Doll's Eyes | SB*            |              | Shade/Part Shade | ×              |

| Description                         | Planting Depth        | Lift in Fall | Sun/Shade      | Deer Resistant |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| Monkshood                           | SB*                   |              | Sun/Shade      |                |
| Mountain Fleece                     | SB*                   |              | Sun/Part Shade | ×              |
| Mums                                | Level*                |              | Sun/Part Shade | ×              |
| Naked Ladies                        | SA*                   | ×            | Sun            |                |
| Orange Glory Flower (see Asclepias) | SB*                   |              | Sun/Part Shade | ×              |
| Oriental Poppy                      | SB*                   |              | Sun            | ×              |
| Oxeye                               | SB*                   |              | Sun/Part Shade |                |
| Painted Daisy                       | SB*                   |              | Sun/Part Shade | ×              |
| Pasque Flower                       | SB*                   |              | Sun            | ×              |
| Peacock Orchid                      | 5"                    | ×            | Sun/Part Shade | ×              |
| Penstemon                           | SB*                   |              | Sun            | ×              |
| <b>Peony:</b>                       |                       |              |                |                |
| Bush                                | SB*                   |              | Sun/Part Shade | ×              |
| Itoh                                | SB*                   |              | Sun/Part Shade | ×              |
| Tree                                | 3–4" below soil level |              | Sun/Part Shade | ×              |
| Peruvian Daffodil                   | 6"                    | ×            | Sun/Part Shade | ×              |
| Peruvian Lily                       | SB*                   |              | Sun/Part Shade |                |
| Phlox                               | SB*                   |              | Sun/Part Shade |                |
| Pigsqueak                           | SB*                   |              | Sun/Part Shade | ×              |
| Pineapple Lily                      | 6"                    | ×            | Sun/Part Shade | ×              |
| Pink Pampas Grass                   | Level*                |              | Sun/Part Shade |                |
| Polianthes                          | 3"                    | ×            | Sun            |                |
| Prairie Mallow                      | SB*                   |              | Sun/Part Shade | ×              |

| Description   | Planting Depth        | Lift in Fall | Sun/Shade        | Deer Resistant |
|---|-----------------------|--------------|------------------|----------------|
| Prunella  | Level*                |              | Sun/Part Shade   |                |
| Queen of the Prairie  | SB*                   |              | Sun/Part Shade   | X              |
| Ranunculus  | 2–3"                  | X            | Sun              | X              |
| RazzMatazz Grape  | Level*                |              | Sun/Part Shade   |                |
| Red Hot Poker   | SB*                   |              | Sun              | X              |
| Rodgersia   | SB*                   |              | Sun/Part Shade   | X              |
| Rose  | Level*                |              | Sun/Part Shade   |                |
| Rhubarb   | 3–4" below soil level |              | Sun              |                |
| Rudbeckia   | SB*                   |              | Sun/Part Shade   | X              |
| Russian Sage  | SB*                   |              | Sun              | X              |
| Sanguisorba Little Angel  | SB*                   |              | Sun/Part Shade   | X              |
| Salvia  | SB*                   |              | Sun              | X              |
| Sea Holly   | SB*                   |              | Sun              | X              |
| Sedum   | SB*                   |              | Sun              |                |
| Shooting Star   | SB*                   |              | Shade/Part Shade |                |
| Siberian Bugloss  | SB*                   |              | Shade/Part Shade | X              |
| Sky's the Limit Collection<br>(see Salvia, Nepeta & Hardy Geranium) | SB*                   |              | Sun/Part Shade   | X              |
| Snow in Summer  | Level*                |              | Sun              | X              |
| Solomon's Seal  | SB*                   |              | Shade/Part Shade |                |
| Speedwell   | SB*                   |              | Sun/Part Shade   | X              |
| Strawberry  | SB*                   |              | Sun              |                |
| Summer Cheer™ Daffodil  | 6"                    |              | Sun/Part Shade   | X              |

| Description  | Planting Depth | Lift in Fall | Sun/Shade        | Deer Resistant |
|--|----------------|--------------|------------------|----------------|
| Summer Mixture   | 4"             | ×            | Sun/Part Shade   |                |
| Summer Trumpets  | 3"             | ×            | Sun/Part Shade   | ×              |
| Summertime Illusion Mixture (see Coneflower & Sea Holly) | SB*            |              | Sun              | ×              |
| Sunflower  | SB*            |              | Sun              | ×              |
| Swamp Milkweed   | SB*            |              | Sun              | ×              |
| Tiger Flowers  | SB*            | ×            | Sun/Part Shade   |                |
| Toad Lily  | SB*            |              | Shade/Part Shade | ×              |
| Triteleia  | 3"             | ×            | Sun/Part Shade   | ×              |
| Turtlehead   | SB*            |              | Sun/Part Shade   | ×              |
| Umbrella Plant   | Level          |              | Shade/Part Shade | ×              |
| Weigela  | Level          |              | Sun/Part Shade   |                |
| Widow's Tears  | SB*            |              | Sun/Part Shade   | ×              |
| Yarrow   | SB*            |              | Sun              | ×              |

**SB:** Top of plant should be just below soil level

**SA:** Top of plant/bulb should be just above soil level

**SU:** Upper half of the bulb should be above soil level

**Level:** Top of root (ball) level with the soil surface

# BRECK'S®

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