

# Native Perennials

We use [www.plants.usda.gov](http://www.plants.usda.gov) as our source to determine whether a species is native to Minnesota. If you're looking for plants native to North America but not Minnesota, you'll find them in the Perennials section.

Native plants are marked with the Minnesota symbol ☒ and the source of the plant stock or seed used to grow these plants is given. Those without the Minnesota symbol are selections or cultivated varieties bred from the Minnesota species, sometimes called "nativars." In those cases, the term "cultivar," "selected," or "selection" is used.

Many of these plants are first-season seedlings that will stay small this year as they develop their root systems, not blooming until their second season in the garden.

## Key

- Full sun
- ◐ Part sun/part shade
- Shade
- 🐝 Attractive to bees
- 🦉 Audubon-endorsed
- 🦋 Butterfly-friendly
- 🐦 Hummingbird-friendly
- 🌿 Attractive foliage
- 🍷 Culinary
- 🌸 Edible flowers
- 🌱 Ground cover
- 🏠 Houseplant
- 🩹 Medicinal
- ☒ Minnesota native
- 🪨 Rock garden
- ❄️ Cold-sensitive: keep above 40°F
- ☹️ Toxic to humans
- 🔄 Saturday restock

## About those stars...

Throughout, you will notice plants that are marked with five stars (★★★★★). These plants have been awarded five stars by Heger, Lonnee, and Whitman in the 2011 edition of *Growing Perennials in Cold Climates* as some of the very best plants available on the market.



## No more Aster

All of the U.S. native plants named aster used to also have the scientific name *Aster*. The botany experts decided to change the genus of the U.S. native asters to a couple of other, much more complicated names.

Cutting back your aster plants by half in mid-June will make them bushier and will not impede blooming.



## Aster, New England continued

\$12.00—4.5" pot:

N011 **Pink Crush** *S. novae-angliae* 🌿—Bright fuchsia flowers cover the entire dome of this mounding cultivar, giving it the look of a pink pincushion. 20–24" h by 34–38" w

N012 **Aster, Short's** *Symphotrichum shortii* 🌿

Woodland aster with 1" lavender or pale blue-violet daisy flowers from summer to fall. The centers of the flowers age from yellow to reddish purple. Named for Charles Wilkins Short, an early 19th century physician and botanist, and not for the height of the plant. May self-seed. Seed from Clayton County, Iowa. 24–40" h

○●🐝🌿☒ \$4.00—3.5" pot

N013 **Aster, Sky Blue** 🌿

*Symphotrichum oolentangiense*

A best bet for late season beauty and drama. Dozens of 1" lavender to deep blue yellow-eyed daisies are held in large sprays August–October. Thrives in dry soil but is even more gorgeous in rich garden soil. Seed from central and southern Iowa. 12–48" h

○●🐝🌿☒ \$4.00—3.5" pot

N014 **Aster, Smooth Blue** 🌿

*Symphotrichum laeve*

Lavender daisy flowers in profusion August–October. One of the most versatile, appealing, and long-lived of all the asters. The attractive blue-green foliage is silky smooth. Plant in full sun for a charming floral display. Seed from the Upper Midwest. ★★★★★ 36–60" h

●🐝🌿☒ \$4.00—3.5" pot

**Baneberry** *Actaea*

Good on wooded hillsides. ●●☹️

\$9.00—1 quart pot:

N015 **Doll's Eyes** *A. pachypoda*—White bottlebrush flowers, but the show is the white berries with black tips contrasting with magenta stalks. Wild seed source outside Minnesota. ★★★★★ 36" h ☒

\$13.00—4" pot:

N016 **Wild Red Baneberry** *A. rubra*—Attractive lobed foliage followed by poisonous bright red berries in late summer and fall. Seed from Mille Lacs County, Minn. 18–24" h 🌿☒

**Beardtongue, Foxglove** *Penstemon digitalis*

Elongated, triangular leaves ripple slightly on upright stems. Not related to foxglove (*Digitalis*); it's so named because the June flowers resemble miniature foxgloves. Self-seeds, though not in a bad way.

○●🐝🌿☹️

\$4.00—3.5" pot:

N017 **Wild Foxglove Beardtongue** 🌿—White to light pink tubular flowers. Seed from Jo Daviess County, Illinois. 24–48" h ☒

\$8.00—4.5" pot:

N018 **Blackbeard** 🌿—Named after the English pirate Blackbeard, this cultivated variety has foliage that emerges dark red and deepens to almost black. Strong burgundy stems hold spires of tubular lilac-pink flowers, followed by burgundy seed pods. Rugged and easy to grow. 28–34" h by 20–24" w

N019 **Beardtongue, Large-Flowered** 🌿

*Penstemon grandiflorus*

Tubular, large-throated lavender flowers in early summer above blue-green foliage. Prefers a dry spot. Seed from Fall River County, S.D. 24–40" h

○●🐝🌿☹️☒ \$4.00—3.5" pot

See more BEARDTONGUE, page 32

N020 **Bee Balm, Spotted** 🌿

*Monarda punctata*

Tiers of pink or lavender petal-like whorls ring the stems, and are showier than the actual flowers, which are small and purple-spotted pink to yellow. Aromatic, self-seeding biennial. Prefers well-drained sandy soils. Native to prairie and savanna. Seed from Buffalo County, Wis. 12–36" h

○●🐝🌿☹️☒ \$4.00—3.5" pot

N021 **Bellflower, Tall** 🌿

*Campanula americana*

Blue star flowers on tall spikes in late summer, not bell-like. Long bloom time. Self-seeding biennial, not weedy like the unfortunately ubiquitous European creeping bellflower. Seed from Clayton County, Iowa. 24–72" h

○●🐝☒ \$4.00—3.5" pot

Plant widths are similar to their heights unless noted otherwise.

N022 **Bergamot, Wild** *Monarda fistulosa* 🌿

This fragrant member of the mint family has lavender blossoms July–September. Excellent for butterflies and moths; attracts hummingbirds and finches. Good for tea. Seed from Houston County, Minn. 24–48" h by 48" w

○●🐝🌿☹️☒ \$4.00—3.5" pot

N023 **Bishop's Cap** *Mitella diphylla* 🌿

Spikes of tiny, fantastically intricate white flowers with fringed petals April–June. Maple-shaped 3" leaves. Prefers moist soil. Spreads by seed or rhizomes. Seed from Grant County, Wis. and Clayton County, Iowa. 6–16" h

○●☹️☒ \$4.00—3.5" pot

**Black-Eyed Susan** *Rudbeckia hirta*

Daisies with long petals on single stems. Biennial or short-lived perennial. Also known as gloriosa daisy. Seed from Madison County, Iowa. ○●🐝☹️

\$3.00—2.5" pot:

N024 **Irish Eyes** 🌿—Gold with green centers. Highly rated for pollinators at the U of M trial gardens. Cultivar. 24–30" h

N025 **Toto Gold** 🌿—Yellow and red 4–5" flowers with prominent dark centers. Prolong bloom until frost by cutting back the plant after first blooming. Compact cultivar that is great for a summer container. 12–15" h

\$4.00—3.5" pot:

N026 **Wild Black-Eyed Susan** 🌿—12–40" h by 8–12" w 🌿☒

**Black-Eyed Susan, Sweet**

*Rudbeckia subtomentosa*

Large yellow daisies with red-brown centers. An outstanding perennial. Attracts butterflies. Blooms August–October. ○●🐝☹️

\$4.00—3.5" pot:

N027 **Wild Sweet Black-Eyed Susan** 🌿—Seed from Madison and Ringgold counties, Iowa. 24–72" h ☒

\$12.00—4.5" pot:

N028 **Henry Eilers**—A selection from a prairie stream-bank in Illinois. The unusual "rolled" golden petals look as though they have been plugged into a light socket. 48" h

See more BLACK-EYED SUSANS, page 22 and 32, and also BROWN-EYED SUSAN, page 53

**Blanket Flower** *Gaillardia aristata*

Sun-loving, colorful daisies on mounding plants. Blooms regardless of heat and drought. Deadhead for a blanket of color all summer. Requires good drainage. 🌿

\$3.00—2.5" pot:

N029 **Arizona Sun** 🌿—Bicolor 3" flowers in brick and gold. Cultivar. 8–10" h

N030 **Burgundy** 🌿—Wine red flowers, best in full sun. Cultivar. 24–30" h

\$9.00—1 quart pot:

N031 **Fanfare Blaze**—Fiery trumpet-like petals surround a red and yellow center. Cultivar. 12–16" h 🌿

**Blazing Star** *Liatris*

Vertical spikes of flowers. Loved by butterflies. Seeds eaten by birds. ○●🐝☹️

\$3.50—2.5" pot:

N032 **Eureka** *L. pycnostachya*—Reddish purple flowers on long spikes from midsummer to early fall. Densely clustered lower leaves. Tall selection, great for cut flowers. 60" h

\$4.00—3.5" pot:

N033 **Wild Button Blazing Star** *L. aspera* 🌿—Tufts of lavender flowers loosely line the stems creating a showy flower spike. Blooms August–September. Protect bulbs from rodents. Quite adaptable. Seed from northern Iowa. 24–36" h 🌿☒

N034 **Wild Dotted Blazing Star** *L. punctata* 🌿—

Narrow, horizontal leaves are interspersed with magenta-violet flowers. The most drought-tolerant blazing star, its roots go down 7–15'. Seed from the upper Midwest. 12–36" h 🌿☒

N035 **Wild Meadow Blazing Star** *L. ligulistylis* 🌿—Tall stalks of purple blossoms, best in moist soil. The absolute favorite of monarch butterflies. Seed from western Iowa. ★★★★★ 36–60" h 🌿☒

N036 **Wild Prairie Blazing Star** *L. pycnostachya* 🌿—Dense flower spikes of bright purple from midsummer to early autumn over densely clustered lower leaves and hairy stems. Seed from Mower County, Minn. 24–48" h 🌿☒

\$13.00—4" pot:

N037 **Wild Slender Blazing Star** *L. cylindracea* (NEW)—Whirls of tufted pink to lavender 1" flower heads that have a fluffy, pleasantly disheveled appearance. Smallest of the five Minnesota blazing stars. Range mostly limited to southeastern open prairies. Adapts to poor soil and dry conditions. Also known as dwarf blazing star. Dakota County, Minn., seed source. 12–24" h 🌿☒

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# Native Perennials

**N038 Bloodroot** *Sanguinaria canadensis* 🌱  
Emerges in early spring with the leaf curled around the flower stem, soon unfurling as the flower blooms. Each stem has one distinctive, deeply scalloped 5–9" leaf and a 2" white flower with a yellow center. The flowers close at night, and last a day or two. Nice as a group in a woodland setting. Disappears in midsummer, returning next spring. The red sap in the stem and roots is used as a dye, originally by many Native American peoples, and gives the plant its name. Polk County, Wis., source. 6–9"h ○●🌱🌿☑  
\$14.00—4.5" pot

See more BLOODROOT, page 19

**Blue-Eyed Grass** *Sisyrinchium*  
Delicate, late-spring bloomer. Looks like a grass, but then small, star-shaped blue flowers appear. ○●  
\$4.00—3.5" pot:

**N039 Prairie Blue-Eyed Grass** *S. campestre* 🌱—Wild seed from Martin County, Minn. 4–12"h ☐

**N040 Stout Blue-Eyed Grass** *S. angustifolium* 🌱—Seed from Menard County, Illinois. 12–20"h ☐  
\$4.00—3.5" pot

**N041 Bluebells, Virginia** 🌱  
*Mertensia virginica*  
Blooms in spring, then disappears until the following spring. Pink buds open to lavender-blue bells. Good between daylilies or hosta. Seed from Mercer County, Pa. 12–24"h ○●🌱🌿☑  
\$4.00—3.5" pot

**N042 Boneset** *Eupatorium perfoliatum* 🌱  
Pink blossoms July–September. Interesting leaf texture with leaves pierced by the stem (the species name means "perforated foliage"). Prefers the wetter end of the garden or edge of pond. Excellent nectar for bees and butterflies. Seed from Houston County, Minn. 36"h ○🌱🌿☑  
\$4.00—3.5" pot

**N043 Brown-Eyed Susan** *Rudbeckia triloba* 🌱  
Yellow flowers with dark centers July–October. Great cut flowers. Easy to grow; blooms the second year. Short-lived, self-seeding perennial with smaller flowers than black-eyed Susan, but blooms more heavily. Seed from Appaloosa and Allamakee counties, Iowa. 24–60"h ○●🌱🌿☑  
\$4.00—3.5" pot

**N044 Bush Clover, Round-Headed** 🌱  
*Lespedeza capitata*  
Clusters of white pea-like flowers with lavender throats on stiff upright stems, late summer. Host plant to several butterfly and moth species and good for wildlife, including songbirds. Seed from Burnett County, Wis. 24–48"h ○●🌱🌿☑  
\$4.00—3.5" pot

**Cardinal Flower** *Lobelia cardinalis*  
Fan-shaped flowers on vertical stems. Blooms mid- to late summer. Best in part shade and constantly moist, rich soil. Deer- and rabbit-resistant. ○●🌱🌿☑  
\$4.00—3.5" pot:

**N045 White Cardinal** *L. cardinalis f. alba* 🌱—Uncommon white form of the red cardinal flower, with the same spikes of tubular flowers with a three-part lower lip. A naturally occurring color variation. Horticultural source. 24–36"h ☐

**N046 Wild Cardinal Flower** 🌱—Scarlet flowers. Seed from Clayton County, Iowa. 24–36"h 🌿☑  
\$12.00—4.5" pot:

**N047 Black Truffle** 🌱—Cultivar with vibrant red flowers set off by chocolate-purple foliage that holds its color through the season, darkening as the temperatures cool in fall. 36–48"h 🌿

**N048 Cinquefoil, Wineleaf**  
*Potentilla tridentata*  
Loose clusters of dainty white buttercup flowers in June and glossy leaves that turn wine and bronze in autumn. Seldom seen in gardens or anywhere else, these are undemanding rock garden plants that will be happy in sun and well-drained, even gravelly, soil. St. Louis County, Minn., source. 3–6"h by 12–15"w ○🌱🌿☑☑  
\$13.00—4" pot

**N049 Columbine, Wild** 🌱  
*Aquilegia canadensis*  
Red and yellow blossoms in late spring. Easy to grow, though short-lived and self-seeding. Excellent nectar source for hummingbirds. Does well in dappled shade. Good for edge of woodland or partly shaded hillside. Seed from the Upper Midwest. 24–36"h ○●🌱🌿☑☑  
\$4.00—3.5" pot  
See more COLUMBINE, page 34

**N050 Compass Plant** *Silphium laciniatum* 🌱  
Yellow daisy flowers June–September with huge, attractive leaves that point north and south. Tolerates drier soils. An excellent choice for a large-scale wildflower garden. Seed from central Illinois. 72–120"h ○●🌱🌿☑  
\$4.00—3.5" pot

N

**051 Coneflower, Green-Headed** 🌱  
*Rudbeckia laciniata*  
Turned-back yellow petals and a greenish center. Blooms late July–October. An edible green. Native to prairie, savanna, and woodlands. Spreads. Seed from Dane County, Wis. 72–120"h ○●🌱🌿☑  
\$4.00—3.5" pot

**N052 Coneflower, Narrow-Leaf** 🌱  
*Echinacea angustifolia*  
Large pink daisies with turned-back petals in July. Prefers dry, sandy, well-drained soil. Seed from western Minnesota. 12–24"h ○●🌱🌿☑  
\$4.00—3.5" pot

**N053 Coneflower, Yellow** 🌱  
*Ratibida pinnata*  
Long yellow petals droop attractively down around a prominent dark center, somewhat like a badminton birdie. One of the most elegant of all wild flowers. Blooms July–September. Easy to grow. Seed from McHenry County, Illinois. 36–72"h ○🌱🌿☑  
\$4.00—3.5" pot  
See more CONEFLOWERS, page 34

**N054 Coreopsis, Prairie** 🌱  
*Coreopsis palmata*  
Yellow daisy blossoms in July. Aggressive, spreads by rhizomes to form dense patches. Common on undisturbed prairies. Easy to grow. Tolerates dry conditions. Seed from Menard County, Illinois. 16–36"h ○●🌱🌿☑  
\$4.00—3.5" pot

**N055 Coreopsis, Sand** 🌱  
*Coreopsis lanceolata*  
Yellow 1–2" flowers with closely spaced, toothed petals and yellow centers. Flowers bloom on slender, upright stems from spring to early summer. Well-drained soil. Seed from Sheboygan County, Wis. 12–24"h ○🌱☑  
\$4.00—3.5" pot

See more COREOPSIS, page 34

**N056 Culver's Root** 🌱  
*Veronicastrum virginicum*  
Tall and stately with big, dramatic spikes of white to pale pink or pale blue flowers July–August. Watch the bees adore the flowers in the height of summer. Seed from central Iowa. 72"h by 36"w ○●🌱🌿☑  
\$4.00—3.5" pot  
See more CULVER'S ROOT, page 34

**N057 Cup Plant** *Silphium perfoliatum* 🌱  
Long-blooming yellow daisies in later summer. Huge leaves catch water at stem joint. There's nothing like seeing a goldfinch bathing in one of these naturally occurring bird baths! An impressive prairie plant that self-seeds freely. Prefers moist soil. Seed from Allamakee County, Iowa. 48–96"h ○●🌱🌿☑  
\$4.00—3.5" pot

**N058 Dutchman's Breeches** 🌱  
*Dicentra cucullaria*  
Delicate, fringed foliage and pale yellow to white pantaloons-like flowers in early spring. Dies back in summer only to pop back up the next spring. Seed from Grant County, Wis. \*\*\*\* 6–12"h ○●🌱☑  
\$14.00—4.5" pot

**N059 False Indigo** *Amorpha fruticosa*  
Loose, airy shrub that often forms dense thickets. Fine-textured foliage on the upper third of the plant. Small purple flowers in narrow 3–6" spikes from April–June. Happy anywhere from a dry prairie to a bog garden. Seed from the Upper Midwest. 72–120"h ○●🌱☑  
\$9.00—1 quart pot

**Ferns** see box, page 54

**N069 Figwort** *Scrophularia marilandica* 🌱  
Tiny reddish brown flowers that look like "a horse's mouth with a bad overbite," but are interesting enough to put in dried flower arrangements. This southeastern Minnesota native blooms July–October and has special value to native bees due to its large amount of nectar, according to the Xerces Society. Deer-resistant. Also called carpenter's square. Seed from Southeastern Minnesota and Clayton County, Iowa. 40–96"h by 24"w ○●🌱🌿☑☑  
\$4.00—3.5" pot

**N070 Fireweed** *Chamerion angustifolium* 🌱  
Spikes of 1" magenta to pink flowers on red stems with pointed, narrow leaves. So named because it rapidly fills open spaces left by fires (spreading by rhizomes and seeds). In England during World War II, it was called bombweed because it filled bomb craters. Does not like to be crowded. Blooms all summer. Formerly *Epilobium*. Seed from Burnett County, Wis. 48"h ○●🌱🌿☑  
\$4.00—3.5" pot



Helen's flower

## NATIVE PLANT GARDEN MIXES

36 plants, six plants each of six different species. Specific plants included will be based on those ready for transplant in early May. Once established, expect blossoms early in the year with more arriving as summer and fall roll around. Recommended for a 40–60 square foot area.

36 plants (a full flat) \$99.00

**N119 Butterfly Garden**—This plant mix creates the perfect environment for our orange-and-black-winged friends. With milkweed for the caterpillars to feast on and other blooming plants for nectar, they won't be able to resist. Other butterflies and pollinators will also enjoy the variety of colorful flowers as well. Wild seed from the Upper Midwest. ○●🌱🌿☑

**N120 Rusty Patched Bumble Bee Garden**—The species in this mix are considered "Superfood" by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) for the rusty patched bumble bee. Wild seed from the Upper Midwest. ○●🌱🌿☑

**N121 Shade Garden** **NEW**—Perfect for under tall trees with plenty of shade and filtered sunlight, or perhaps on the north side of your house. Wild seed from the Upper Midwest. ○●🌱🌿☑

**N071 Gentian, Bottle** *Gentiana andrewsii*  
Clusters of closed blue flowers, August–October, that must be pried open by bumblebees. Prefers damp soil. Seed from Winona County, Minn. 18–30"h ○●🌱☑  
\$13.00—4" pot

**N072 Geranium, Wild** 🌱  
*Geranium maculatum*  
Small lavender-pink flowers April–July. Red fall foliage. Seed from Madison County, Iowa. 18–30"h ○●🌱🌿☑  
\$4.00—3.5" pot

**N073 Ginger, Wild** *Asarum canadense* 🌱  
Aromatic ground cover with heart-shaped 4–6" leaves. Dark maroon and beige flowers hide under leaves in spring. Forms a colony. Deer-resistant. Midwestern seed source. 4–6"h ○●🌱☑☑☑  
\$4.00—3.5" pot

**N074 Golden Alexanders** *Zizia aurea* 🌱  
Bright yellow 3–4" flat-topped flower clusters like a yellow Queen Anne's lace bloom May–June. Leaves and fruits turn bright purple in fall. Self-seeds enthusiastically; tolerates heavy clay soil. Host for the black swallowtail butterfly. Seed from Iowa. 24–30"h ○●🌱🌿☑☑  
\$4.00—3.5" pot

**N075 Goldenrod, Gray** *Solidago nemoralis*  
Bright yellow flowers in 6–8" nodding plumes August–October. Grows well in poor soil. Not an aggressive spreader. Seed from the Upper Midwest. 6–24"h ○●🌱🌿☑  
\$17.00—6 plants in a jumbo pack

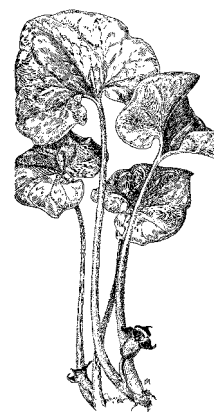
**N076 Goldenrod, Showy** 🌱  
*Solidago speciosa*  
Densely clustered yellow mini-flowers on reddish stems with olive-green foliage. Probably the nicest goldenrod for sunny locations. Blooms August–October. Seed from Blackhawk and Greene counties, Illinois. 36–60"h ○●🌱🌿☑☑  
\$4.00—3.5" pot

**N077 Goldenrod, Stiff** *Solidago rigida* 🌱  
A handsome plant, once common across the American prairie, with flat-topped yellow flower clusters. August–September bloom. Seeds are late-season food for birds. Adaptable to poor soils and salt exposure. Seed from Whiteside County, Illinois. 36–60"h ○●🌱🌿☑☑  
\$4.00—3.5" pot

**N078 Goldenrod, Zigzag** 🌱  
*Solidago flexicaulis*  
There are flowers in two places: 3–6" spikes of small yellow flowers on top and smaller flower clusters where the zigzag stem and large leaves meet. Adds color to shady areas. Best in naturalized woodland settings. Seed from Clayton County, Iowa. 24–36"h ○●🌱🌿☑☑  
\$4.00—3.5" pot

**N079 Harebells** *Campanula rotundifolia* 🌱  
A delicate-looking plant with down-facing purple bell-flowers on thin stems. Grassy leaves. Blooms June–September. Prefers drier soil. Native to prairie, savanna, and woodland edges. May be small at the sale. Seed from Grant County, Wis. 4–20"h ○●🌱☑☑☑  
\$4.00—3.5" pot

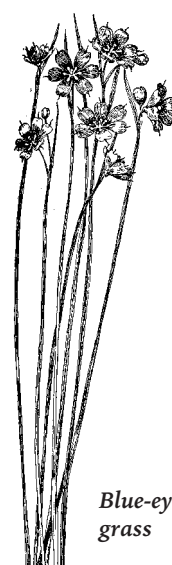
**N080 Helen's Flower** *Helenium autumnale* 🌱  
Yellow-centered flowers with a skirt of jagged-edged yellow petals. Grows beautifully in the garden and is great for clay soil. Thrives in damp soil. Nicknamed "sneezeweed" because the dried leaves were once used to make snuff—not because it aggravates allergies. Seed from Winona County, Minn. 48–60"h ○●🌱🌿☑☑  
\$4.00—3.5" pot  
See more HELEN'S FLOWER, page 36



Wild ginger



The little truck means we'll be restocking this plant on Saturday morning.



Blue-eyed grass



Harebells

We accept checks, cash, Amex, Visa,  
MasterCard, Discover, and Apple Pay

# Native Perennials

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- Shade
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- 🦋 Butterfly-friendly
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Northern  
blue flag iris

Plants  
marked  
with



are good  
for bees

## N081 **Hepatica, Round-Lobed** *Hepatica americana*

Sweet in the woodland garden, with lavender, white, pink, or blue flowers in April. Burgundy-brown leaves persist through winter. Midwestern source. 5" h ○●📄  
\$5.00—2.5" pot

## N082 **Hyssop, Anise** *Agastache foeniculum* 🍵

Fragrant purple flowers July–August. Goldfinches favor the seeds. Aromatic leaves used for tea. Vigorous spreader. Seed from Anoka County, Minn. 24–36" h ○●🐝🦋📄  
\$4.00—3.5" pot

## N083 **Hyssop, Purple Giant** 🍵

*Agastache scrophulariifolia*  
Crowded spikes of lavender flowers July–September. Large, fragrant leaves below the flower spikes. Spreads well (it's in the mint family). Seed from Winona County, Minn. 48–60" h ○●🐝🦋📄  
\$4.00—3.5" pot

## **Iris, Blue Flag** *Iris*

Brightens sunny marsh edges during early summer in the wild. Good for gardens with moist soil, too. ○●🦋☺  
\$4.00—3.5" pot:

N084 **Wild Northern** *I. versicolor* 🍵—Large, showy flowers, purple on the edges with a yellow and white throat. Seed from Crawford County, Wis. 18–30" h 🐝🦋📄

N085 **Wild Southern** *I. virginica shrevei* 🍵—Fragrant light blue to deep violet 3.5" flowers with yellow and white patches and prominent veining in late spring to early summer. Very similar to northern blue flag iris in appearance and habitat, with subtle differences in flower color and veining. Strappy, sword-shaped leaves. Native to inland swamps, marshes, and flood plains. Prefers consistent moisture. Also known as Shreve's iris. Seed from Houston County, Minn. 18–30" h 📄

## N086 **Ironweed, Prairie** 🍵

*Vernonia fasciculata*  
Tall plants with clusters of fluffy bright reddish purple flowers July–September. Seed from Winona County, Minn. 48–72" h ○●🐝🦋📄  
\$4.00—3.5" pot

## N087 **Jack-in-the-Pulpit** 🍵

*Arisaema triphyllum*  
Clusters of three leaves, followed by an upright green tube with a cover that curls over it. One of the easiest native plants to cultivate. Native to savanna and woodlands in neutral soil. Leaves, seeds, and root will severely burn mouth, eyes, and nose. Seed from Winona County, Minn. 12–36" h ○●📄☺  
\$4.00—3.5" pot

## N088 **Jacob's Ladder** *Polemonium reptans* 🍵

Small, bell-shaped light blue flowers in loose clusters appear on reclining stems in mid- to late spring. The foliage looks fresh until frost. Likes moist soil. Deer-resistant. Seed from Monroe County, Wis. 18" h ○●🐝🦋📄  
\$4.00—3.5" pot

## **Joe Pye Weed** *Eutrochium*

Blooms July–September. Moist soil, suitable for rain gardens or naturalized areas. Popular in European gardens. Formerly *Eupatorium*. ○🐝☺  
\$4.00—3.5" pot:

N089 **Wild Joe Pye** *E. maculatum* 🍵—Tall and stately with flat clusters of pink flowers. Seed from Winona County, Minn. 72–100" h 🐝📄📄

N090 **Wild Sweet Joe Pye** *E. purpureum* 🍵—Tall, with aromatic pink blossoms. Excellent nectar for bees and butterflies. Seed from Winona County, Minn. 84" h 📄

## N091 **Leadplant** *Amorpha canescens*

Small gray-green shrub with dense spikes of violet-blue flowers June–August. Nicely textured foliage. Tolerates drier soils. Seed from Sherburne County, Minn. 24–48" h ○🐝🦋📄  
\$13.00—2.5" deep pot

## N092 **Lily, Michigan** *Lilium michiganense*

Orange flowers with brown-spotted, curled-back petals, June–August. First-year seedlings. Seed from Sherburne County, Minn. 48–60" h ○●🐝📄  
\$13.00—4" pot

## N093 **Lily, Prairie** *Lilium philadelphicum*

Deep orange flowers with purplish brown spots in summer. First-year seedlings that are many years from blooming. Seed from Clay County, Minn. 12–36" h ○●🐝📄  
\$13.00—4" pot

## N094 **Lion's Foot** *Prenanthes alba* 🍵

Small bunches of nodding white to pinkish half-inch buds open late July–early August to reveal purplish bracts and white petals with toothed tips. The bell-shaped flowers hang down. Leaves are variable in shape, but the large, three-lobed ones look somewhat like a lion's paw. One of the few late-summer blooming woodland residents. Lightly scented. Loved by bumble bees. Also known as white rattlesnake-root. Seed from Clayton County, Iowa. 20–60" h ○●🐝📄  
\$4.00—3.5" pot

## N095 **Lobelia, Great Blue** 🍵

*Lobelia siphilitica*  
Spikes of tubular blue-lavender flowers, July–September. The three lower petals are long landing pads for pollinators. Prefers moist soil, but adapts well to gardens. Good for stream banks or damp woods. Self-seeds. Seed from Winona County, Minn. 24–36" h ○●🐝🦋📄  
\$4.00—3.5" pot

## N096 **Loosestrife, Winged**

*Lythrum alatum*  
Dainty half-inch flowers open along vertical stems, with new buds from bottom to top. Flowers have six crinkly pink-purple petals with a deep purple midline. Blooms June–September and likes wet feet. Takes its name from the slight "wings" at the corners of the square stem. This plant is not invasive and should not be confused with the destructive purple loosestrife. Seed from the Upper Midwest. 24–48" h ○🐝🦋📄  
\$17.00—6 plants in a jumbo pack

## N097 **Lupine, Wild** *Lupinus perennis* 🍵

Showy blue to violet tiered spikes of blossoms May–June. Seven to 11 leaflets are arranged like wagon-wheel spokes. Excellent for butterflies, both for nectar and caterpillars; it's the only food for larvae of the endangered Karner blue butterfly. Rabbits also love to eat wild lupine. Must have sandy soil. Tolerates drier conditions. Goes dormant after seed. Seed from Crawford County, Wis. 12–24" h ○🐝🦋📄☺  
\$4.00—3.5" pot

## N098 **Marsh Marigold** *Caltha palustris* 🍵

Bright yellow buttercups in early spring. Native to swamps and brooksides throughout our area. Grows in prairie, savanna, and woodland, but requires year-round moisture. Readily cultivated in wet garden soil or containers. Seed from the upper Midwest. 4–16" h ○●📄☺  
\$4.00—3.5" pot

## N099 **May Flower** *Maianthemum canadense*

Shiny leaves alternate up the thin stems to clusters of star-shaped white flowers. Spreads by rhizomes, so will form a nice colony under trees. Seed from Carlton County, Minn. 4–8" h ○●🐝🦋📄  
\$24.00—6 plants in a pack

## N100 **Mayapple** *Podophyllum peltatum*

White, down-facing flowers under large umbrella leaves. The 1.5–2" green fruits are edible (though not the seeds) but bland when ripe and can be used in jellies or preserves. Blooms May–June. Happiest under oak trees. Midwestern source. 24–36" h ○●📄📄☺  
\$9.00—1 quart pot

## N101 **Meadow Rue, Early** 🍵

*Thalictrum dioicum*  
The flowers have an unusual form, like little jellyfish in pale green, purple, and yellow. The drooping stamens sway in the slightest breeze. A spring favorite with April–May bloom time. Spreads well. Midwest seed from Grant County, Wis. 8–28" h ○●🐝📄  
\$4.00—3.5" pot

## N102 **Meadow Rue, Purple** 🍵

*Thalictrum dasycarpum*  
Clouds of fluffy-looking clusters of creamy white flowers on tall dark purple stems June–July. Seed from Isanti County, Minn. 72" h ○●🐝📄  
\$4.00—3.5" pot

## N103 **Merrybells** *Uvularia grandiflora* 🍵

Bright yellow nodding flowers with twisted petals. Clump-former. Easy and well-behaved. Midwestern seed source. 12–24" h ○●🐝📄  
\$4.00—3.5" pot

## N104 **Mexican Hat** *Ratibida columnifera* 🍵

Colorful sombreros of mahogany and yellow in summer. A biennial cousin of the yellow coneflower. Seed from Montana. 24–36" h ○●🐝🦋📄  
\$4.00—3.5" pot

## N105 **Milk Vetch, Canadian** 🍵

*Astragalus canadensis*  
Pagoda-like spikes of creamy to greenish white tubular blossoms. Midsummer bloom; attracts butterflies. A knockout in perennial borders. Seed from Union County, Iowa. 60" h ○●🐝🦋📄☺  
\$4.00—3.5" pot

**Milkweed** see box, page 55

## N116 **Mint, Hairy Wood** *Blephilia hirsuta* 🍵

Whorled spikes of pale lavender flowers bloom late spring–midsummer. Fuzzy leaves and stems have a mild mint fragrance. Best in a wild or open woodland garden. Seed from Clayton County, Iowa. 18–36" h ○●🐝🦋📄  
\$4.00—3.5" pot

## N117 **Mint, Mountain** 🍵

*Pycnanthemum virginianum*  
Numerous clusters of blossoms, white often with purple dots, from June to September have a great mint aroma. A magnet for butterflies. May be used for tea and to flavor food. Put it in your garden for fragrance. Seed from central and southern Iowa. 12–36" h ○●🐝🦋📄  
\$4.00—3.5" pot

## N118 **Monkey Flower** *Mimulus ringens* 🍵

Violet 1" flowers with spreading lower petals and rounded upper petals said to resemble a laughing monkey. Blooms July and August. Spreads by seeds and rhizomes, but not aggressively. Low creeper, excellent at a pond edge. Host plant for common buckeye and Baltimore checkerspot butterflies. Seed from Winona County, Minn. 12–36" h ○●🐝🦋📄  
\$4.00—3.5" pot

**Native Garden Mixes** see page 53

## N122 **New Jersey Tea** 🍵

*Ceanothus americanus*  
Dense foliage and white flowers June–July, followed by flat-topped seed clusters. Seed from Howard County, Iowa. 24–36" h by 36–60" w ○●🐝🦋📄  
\$4.00—3.5" pot

# Native Ferns

## N060 **Christmas Fern** 🍵

*Polystichum acrostichoides*  
Stays green into winter and can be used for winter decorations. Clumps will grow larger, but do not spread. Tolerates drier soils in shade. Horticultural source. 12–24" h ○●📄📄  
\$13.00—4.5" pot

## N061 **Cinnamon Fern** 🍵

*Osmunda cinnamomea*  
One of our most majestic native ferns. Grows in boggy and swampy areas, but happy in a well-drained garden, too. Soon after the foliage appears in spring, erect, leafless golden yellow spore fronds emerge from the center of the crown. Horticultural source. ★★★★★ 36–60" h ○●📄📄  
\$12.00—1 gal. pot

## **Lady Fern** *Athyrium*

Prefers moist, rich soil, but is tolerant of sun and drought. Deer- and rabbit-resistant. ○●●📄  
\$6.00—3.5" pot:

N062 **Lady Fern** *A. filix-femina* 🍵—Vigorous with finely textured fronds. Horticultural source. ★★★★★ 24–36" h 📄  
\$12.00—1 gal. pot:

N063 **Lady in Red** *A. angustum rubellum* 🍵—Burgundy stems contrast with green fronds. Best color begins to be seen in the second year. Cultivar. ★★★★★ 30–36" h  
\$12.00—4.5" pot:

N064 **Victoriae** *A. filix-femina* 🍵—Criss-cross leaflets end in small tufts, looking like a fountain of bright green letter Xs. Cultivar originally popular during the Victorian fern craze. 18–24" h

## **Maidenhair Fern**

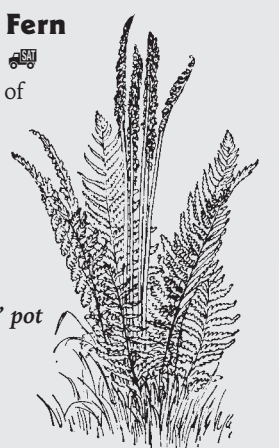
*Adiantum pedatum*  
Tiers of delicate 8–12" fronds held horizontally in a circular pattern like spokes on a wheel. Wiry purple-black stems are so thin that the fronds look like they are floating. Pinkish purple fiddleheads in spring. Deer-resistant. Water during drought. Horticultural source. ★★★★★ 12–24" h ○●📄📄  
N065 \$6.00—3.5" pot 🍵  
N066 \$12.00—1 gal. pot 🍵

## N067 **Ostrich Fern** 🍵

*Matteuccia struthiopteris*  
Vase-shaped, with huge leaves like ostrich plumes. Grow in moist shade in a woodland garden or at the edge of a pond. Extremely vigorous, spreading by rhizomes. Native to U.S., Europe, and Asia. Syn. *M. pensylvanica*. Horticultural source. ★★★★★ 36–60" h ○●●📄📄☺  
\$6.00—3.5" pot

## N068 **Sensitive Fern**

*Onoclea sensibilis* 🍵  
Spreading colonies of smooth, upright fronds. Goes dormant at 40°F (hence the name). Horticultural source. 12–36" h ○●●📄☺  
\$6.00—3.5" pot



CINNAMON FERN

See more hardy FERNs, page 35

# Native Perennials

Plant widths are similar to their heights unless noted otherwise.



**Female monarch butterflies only lay their eggs on milkweed.**

**N123 Northern Bedstraw** *Galium boreale* 🌿  
Thin smooth stems with whorls of four narrow leaves are topped by airy groups of four-petaled white flowers. Blooms June–July, and spreads by seeds and rhizomes. Deer-resistant. Seed from Blue Earth County, Minn. 12–24”h ○●🌿🌱🌱 **\$4.00—3.5” pot**

**N124 Onion, Nodding** *Allium cernuum*  
Drooping lavender onion flowers July–August. An edible perennial that will self-seed. Seed from northern Illinois. 24”h ○●🌿🌱🌱 **\$17.00—6 plants in a jumbo pack**

**N125 Onion, Prairie** *Allium stellatum* 🌿  
A very nice, well-behaved onion. Lavender flowers in July and August. An edible perennial. Seed from Kossuth County, Iowa. 10–20”h ○●🌿🌱🌱 **\$4.00—3.5” pot**

**N126 Partridge Pea** 🌿  
*Chamaecrista fasciculata*  
Delicate leaves and almost orchid-like gold blossoms in summer. Seed pods are eaten by gamebirds and songbirds. Leaves collapse when touched. Self-seeding annual. Syn. *Cassia fasciculata*. Seed from Houston County, Minn., and Allamakee County, Iowa. 12–36”h ○●🌿🌱 **\$4.00—3.5” pot**

**N127 Pasque Flower** *Anemone patens* 🌿  
Fragrant white to pale violet flowers on feathery foliage in April and May. Easy. A sign of spring on the prairie. Seed from central South Dakota. 8–14”h ○●🌱🌱 **\$6.00—4 plants in a pack**

**N128 Pearly Everlasting** 🌿  
*Anaphalis margaritacea*  
What look like puffy white flowers are actually clusters of tiny yellow flowers inside a cup of white, petal-like bracts, looking like a quarter-inch poached egg. Fresh or dried, they make excellent cut flowers. Neat, clumping silvery green foliage. An important larval host for the American lady and painted lady butterflies. Blooms July–October. Seed from Aitkin County, Minn. 12–18”h ○●🌿🌱 **\$4.00—3.5” pot**

**N129 Petunia, Wild** *Ruellia humilis* 🌿  
Lavender-blue flowers with new flowers every afternoon. Blooms mid- to late summer. Desirable for the sunny wild garden. Prefers dry areas. Seed from Ogle County, Illinois. 6–24”h ○●🌿🌱 **\$6.00—4 plants in a pack**

**Phlox, Garden** *Phlox paniculata*  
Cultivars with cheerful flowers. Very floriferous; excellent cut flower. Nectar attracts day-flying sphinx moths. All have good mildew resistance, but leave room for air circulation. ○●🌿🌱 **\$8.00—4.5” pot:**

**N130 Flame Coral** 🌿—Clusters of fragrant bright coral pink flowers on bushy plants. Midsummer bloom. 15–18”h

**N131 Flame Red** 🌿—Large, fragrant magenta to red blossoms, midsummer. 16–20”h

**N132 Jeana** 🌿—Loose clusters of lavender-pink flowers, smaller and more numerous than other phlox—almost like lilacs—from summer to fall. The #1 phlox in the Mt. Cuba, Del., trial garden, and a top butterfly magnet. 36–48”h

**N133 Phlox, Prairie** *Phlox pilosa* 🌿  
Broad clusters of deep pink flowers. Good for restorations and perennial gardens. Blooms May–July. Seed from Freeborn County, Minn. 18–24”h ○●🌿🌱 **\$4.00—3.5” pot**

**Phlox, Woodland** *Phlox divaricata*  
Good spreader for shade or wildflower gardens. Will eventually form colonies. Floriferous and the foliage stays nice. Perfect for underplanting spring bulbs. Moist, well-drained soil. ○●🌿🌱🌱 **\$4.00—3.5” pot:**

**N134 Wild Woodland Phlox** 🌿—Blue flowers, May–June. Seed from Grant County, Wis. 8–12”h 🌱🌱

**\$7.00—4.5” pot:**  
**N135 Blue Moon** 🌿—Selection with showy and fragrant blue-violet flowers. 12–18”h

**N136 May Breeze** 🌿—Pale blue to white flowers in thick but loose clusters. Very fragrant selection. 12–15”h

See more PHLOX, page 38



Woodland phlox

## Milkweed *Asclepias* ○🌿🌱🌱🌱

*Milkweed leaves are the only food source for monarch caterpillars. Their flowers are also a great nectar source for the butterflies and bees. You’ll be surprised by the different leaf shapes, fragrances, and flower colors these native milkweed varieties have to offer, from orange to pink to white. Milkweed is taprooted, so once it’s planted, it’s hard to move.*

**\$3.50—2.5” pot:**

**N106 Gay Butterflies** *A. tuberosa* 🌿—Mixed reds, oranges, and yellows. Cultivar of orange butterfly weed. 24”h 🌱

**N107 Hello Yellow** *A. tuberosa*—Showy bright yellow flowers. Cultivar of orange butterfly weed. 30”h 🌱

**\$4.00—3.5” pot:**

**N108 Poke** *A. exaltata* 🌿—White flowers in June and July. Normal to dry soil. Great for butterflies. Seed from Washburn County, Wis. 36–72”h 🌱🌱

**N109 Showy** *A. speciosa* 🌿—A tall milkweed that will not spread invasively like the common milkweed (*A. syriaca*). It has softly felted gray leaves and dramatically structured pink flowers, June–August, that are sweetly fragrant. Attracts butterflies and bees. Average to dry soil. Utah seed source. 48”h 🌱🌱

**\$4.00—3.5” pot (continued):**

**N110 Sullivant’s** *A. sullivantii* 🌿—Lavender-pink flowers, similar to common milkweed (*A. syriaca*), but less aggressive and with slightly smaller flowers, June–August. Visited by hummingbirds and a wide variety of bees and butterflies. Seed from Champaign County, Illinois. 36”h 🌱🌱

**N111 Swamp** *A. incarnata* 🌿—Deep rosy pink flowers in large, domed clusters. Superb cut flowers, and, of course, butterflies find them irresistible. Very long-blooming, with the aroma of buttercream frosting. Seed from Madison County, Iowa. 36–48”h 🌱🌱

**N112 Whorled** *A. verticillata* 🌿—Sweet-scented white flowers July–September and long needle-like leaves make this wildflower a petite enchanter. Thrives in poor, dry soil and multiplies rapidly. Seed from northeastern Iowa. 12–24”h 🌱🌱

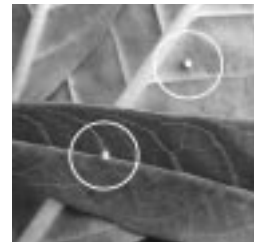
**\$7.00—4.5” pot:**

**N113 Ice Ballet** *A. incarnata* 🌿—Compact, white-flowered selection of swamp milkweed, named for the corps de ballet from Swan Lake. Blooms July–August. Deer-resistant, tolerates clay soils. 24–36”h

**Orange Butterfly Weed** *A. tuberosa* 🌿—Clusters of bright orange flowers followed by puffy seed pods. Best in dry soils and full sun. Very attractive to butterflies. Late to emerge in spring, so mark the spot where you plant it. ★★★★★ 24”h 🌱🌱

**N114 \$8.00—4.5” pot:** Seed from the Upper Midwest.

**N115 \$17.00—6 plants in a jumbo pack:** Seed from Benton and McCloud counties.



Monarch eggs on milkweed leaves.



This is what you want to see on your milkweed plants.

**N137 Prairie Baby’s Breath** *Euphorbia corollata*

For most of July and August, airy clusters of half-inch white flowers with yellow and green centers cover a mound of bluish green foliage. Leaves turn gold, orange, and red in the fall. Avoid the irritating sap common to all *Euphorbia*. Will take time to become established and fill out, but worth it. Needs full sun and well-drained soil, actually preferring poor, dry soil. Deer-resistant. Wild seed from northeastern Iowa. 18–36”h ○●🌿🌱🌱 **\$3.50—2.5” pot**

**Prairie Clover** *Dalea*

Cylindrical flower heads July–September. Lacy foliage. Grows well in most soils. Fair for butterflies and an excellent cover crop for wildlife. Grows in association with leadplant. ○●🌿🌱

**\$4.00—3.5” pot:**

**N138 Wild Purple** *D. purpurea* 🌿—Lavender-purple. Polk County, Minn., seed source. 12–36”h 🌱

**N139 Wild White** *D. candida* 🌿—White flowers form a 3” bottle brush on a slender stalk. Spikes bloom from the bottom up. Lower leaves are wider than those of the purple prairie clover. Seed from Stearns County, Minn. 12–24”h by 15–20”w 🌱

**N140 Prairie Smoke** *Geum triflorum*

Not enough can be said about this beautiful, three-season plant. Nodding dark pink flowers in early spring are followed by feathery, long-lasting seed heads. Showy clumps of dark green foliage turn burgundy in fall. Adapts to a variety of sites. Spreads by rhizomes. Seeds eaten by birds. Seed from Polk County, Minn. 6–13”h ○●🌱 **\$17.00—6 plants in a jumbo pack**

**N141 Prickly Pear, Eastern** 🌿

*Opuntia humifusa*  
Forms flat, spiny blue-green pads. Also known as low prickly pear, Indian fig, and devil’s-tongue. Syn. *Opuntia compressa*. Seed from Grant County, Wis. 12”h ○🌱 **\$4.00—3.5” pot**

**Prickly Pear, Little** *Opuntia fragilis*

The hardiest cactus. Happy in sandy, gravelly soil or in an all-year outdoor trough with sand and gravel mix. ○●🌱

**\$6.00—2” pot:**

**N142a From St. Cloud**—Finger-like cactus pads with long thorns. Yellow flowers. From Quarry Park near St. Cloud. Grows on exposed granite outcroppings. Accompanies moss, so it’s a cactus that likes water! 3–5”h 🌱

**N142b Potato** (NEW)—Almost thornless cultivar from James Waddick at the Missouri Botanical Garden, with many oval pads like little potatoes. Bright yellow flowers. 3”h by 24”w

**N143 Pussytoes** *Antennaria neglecta*

Woolly white quarter-inch flowers April–June, like kitty toe beans on a stick. Low, almost succulent-appearing gray-green foliage. Spreads by rhizomes and tolerates drought. Best in full sun. Host of the American painted lady butterfly caterpillar. Rabbit-resistant. Seed from Rice County, Minn. 2–6”h by 6”w ○●🌿🌱 **\$17.00—6 plants in a jumbo pack**

**N144 Queen of the Prairie** 🌿

*Filipendula rubra*  
Peach-pink tiny flowers in 6–9” clusters on red stems. Huge, but rarely requires support. Evenly moist soil. Blooms June–July. Seed from Henry County, Ind. 72–96”h ○●🌱🌱 **\$8.00—4.5” pot**

**N145 Rattlesnake Master** 🌿

*Eryngium yuccifolium*  
Outlandish-looking bristly greenish white 1” globes are composed of tiny flowers within pointy bracts. Stiff, branching stems are almost leafless above, but with strappy, toothed silvery leaves below. June–September. Self-seeds. Seed from Burnett County, Minn. 36–60”h ○●🌿🌱🌱 **\$4.00—3.5” pot**

**N146 Rue Anemone** 🌿

*Anemonella thalictroides*  
White to light pink flowers last all through spring, April–June. Lobed foliage. May go dormant after blooming. Midwestern seed source. 4–10”h ○●🌱🌱🌱 **\$4.00—3.5” pot**

**Sagebrush, Prairie** *Artemisia ludoviciana*

Aromatic, narrow leaves covered with white hairs on a shrub-like plant. Adaptable. ○●🌱

**\$3.50—2.5” pot:**

**N147 Valerie Finnis**—Mounds of felted 4” silver leaves with jagged tips. Tiny, interesting pale yellow flowers are crowded on spikes above the foliage in summer. A selection of a Minnesota native was found by British gardener Valerie Finnis in the Munich Botanic Garden in 1950. ★★★★★ 18–24”h

**\$4.00—3.5” pot:**

**N148 Wild Prairie Sagebrush** 🌿—Spreads by rhizomes to form large colonies. Seed from Allamakee and Madison counties, Iowa. 24–48”h 🌱🌱

**N149 Saint John’s Wort, Great** 🌿

*Hypericum pyramidatum*  
Yellow flowers with tufts of stamens, July–August. Attractive seed pods, used in flower arrangements. Prefers moist soil. Seed from Vernon County, Wis. 24–60”h ○●🌿🌱🌱 **\$4.00—3.5” pot**

**N150 Sarsaparilla, Wild** *Aralia nudicaulis*

White flowers May–July followed by purple-black edible berries. Green compound leaves emerge shiny bronze in spring. Creeps by underground stems. Seed from St. Louis County, Minn. 12–24”h ○●🌿🌱🌱 **\$13.00—4” pot**



Pussytoes



Prairie phlox

# Native Perennials

Plant widths are similar to their heights unless noted otherwise.

## Key

- Full sun
- ◐ Part sun/part shade
- Shade
- 🍯 Attractive to bees
- 🦉 Audubon-endorsed
- 🦋 Butterfly-friendly
- 👤 Hummingbird-friendly
- 🌿 Attractive foliage
- 🍷 Culinary
- 🌸 Edible flowers
- 🌱 Ground cover
- 🏠 Houseplant
- 🩹 Medicinal
- 🇺🇸 Minnesota native
- 🪨 Rock garden
- ❄️ Cold-sensitive: keep above 40°F
- ☠️ Toxic to humans
- 🔄 Saturday restock



Shooting star



White turtlehead



Blue vervain

**N151 Shooting Star** *Dodecatheon meadia* 🍯  
White to light pink flowers. Delicate flowers fly up and then point down from the leafless stalks, each blossom resembling a shooting star with a pointed red and yellow center. Lush foliage base. Blooms May–June. Plants may go dormant in late summer. Self-seeds gently in good locations. Pollinated by bumble bees. Deer-resistant. Midwestern seed source. 18–20”h ○●🍯🌿☺  
\$4.00–3.5” pot

**N152 Spiderwort, Ohio** 🍯  
*Tradescantia ohiensis*  
Blue-purple flowers, May–July. Bluish green leaves. Prefers dry areas (xeriscape plant). Absolutely loved by bees. Self-seeds. Seed from McHenry County, Illinois. 24–48”h ○🍯🌿 \$4.00–3.5” pot

**N153 Spurge, Mountain Snow** 🍯  
*Euphorbia marginata*  
It’s hard to believe this is a native plant, let alone a true annual that reseeds. Groups of 2–3” green bracts with wide white margins topped by clusters of tiny white flowers. Midwestern seed source. 12–36”h by 12–24”w ○🌿☺ \$4.00–3.5” pot

**N154 Steeplebush** *Spiraea tomentosa*  
Spires of showy pink flowers and foliage that turns bright gold and auburn in fall. Good for hedges—plant 36” on center. Prefers rich, moist soil. Also called rosy meadowsweet and hardhack. Upper Midwest source. 24–48”h by 36–60”w ○●🍯🌿 \$9.00–4” pot

**N155 Strawberry, Wild** *Fragaria virginiana* 🍯  
Delicate, five-petaled white flowers in spring lead to half-inch sweet red fruit in summer. This spreading ground cover is a parent plant to the modern cultivated strawberry (a hybrid of *F. virginiana* and the South American *F. chiloensis*), which were called “strawberry” because historically, the plants were mulched with straw to prevent fungal disease. Prefers sandy loam; good for erosion control. Seed from Houston County, Minn. 4–7”h by 12–24”w ○●🍷🌿☺ \$4.00–3.5” pot

**Sunflower, Early** *Heliopsis helianthoides*  
Easy to grow. Known as one of the best “clay busters,” breaking up heavy clay soils. July–September bloom. Not a true sunflower. ○●🍯🌿

**\$4.00–2.5” pot:**  
**N156 Burning Hearts**—Stems of dark purple carry gold daisies with red centers. Leaves are dark green with shades of purple. This cultivar blooms mid- to late summer. 36–48”h by 18–24”w 🍯  
**N157 Summer Nights**—Bright yellow 2–3” flowers with red-orange centers on mostly red stems. Purple-red foliage in spring. Deadheading will prolong bloom from midsummer into fall. Cultivar. 36–48”h by 24–36”w

**\$4.00–3.5” pot:**  
**N158 Wild Early Sunflower** 🍯—Abundant 2” yellow blossoms June–September. Excellent for butterflies. Blooms for an exceptionally long time. Seed from the Upper Midwest. 24–60”h 🍯🌿

**\$11.00–4.5” pot:**  
**N159 Bleeding Hearts** 🍯—Profuse 2” daisies first red, then orange, then bronze. Black stems and dark purple leaves for contrast. Cultivar. 40–48”h 🍯

**N160 Sunflower, Maximilian** 🍯  
*Helianthus maximiliani*  
Tall and upright, this is one of the great prairie plants. Yellow 3” daisy flowers with brown centers. Seed from North Dakota. 72”h ○●🍯🌿☺ \$4.00–3.5” pot

**N161 Thimbleweed** *Anemone cylindrica* 🍯  
Stalks emerge in summer with buttercup-shaped, furry white flowers. After each flower blooms, its center elongates into a light green 1.5” cone, then becomes a wad of cottony fluff that enables the attached brown seeds to ride the breeze. Not keen on being transplanted, but reliable once established. Enjoys the absence of taller competitors. Likes dry, sandy, or gritty soil. Seed from Houston County, Minn. 18–30”h ○●🍯🌿☺  
\$4.00–3.5” pot

**N162 Trillium, White** *Trillium grandiflorum* 🍯  
Very showy, large white blossoms April–May. Flowers change to pink as they age. The best trillium for gardens. A colony of these spring beauties will last for years. Rich, deep, rather moist soil and year-round leaf mulch. Polk County, Wis. source. 12–15”h ○●🍯🌿☺  
\$16.00–4.5” pot

See more TRILLIUMS, page 40

**N163 Turtlehead, White** *Chelone glabra* 🍯  
Creamy white turtlehead flowers on arching spikes July–September. Desirable for the moist wild garden. Excellent nectar plant for butterflies and bees. Seed from Winona County, Minn. ★★★★★ 36–48”h ○●🍯🌿☺ \$4.00–3.5” pot

**N164 Twin Leaf** *Jeffersonia diphylla*  
Solitary white flowers on 5–10” leafless stalks in early spring, flowers lasting but a day. However, a very interesting lidded seed pod develops from the fleeting flowers. The basal leaves are 12” tall and are deeply divided into two wings, hence the common name. Desirable for the wild garden. Prefers rich soil. Michigan source. 14”h ○●●🌿☺  
\$18.00–4.5” pot

**Vervain, Wild** *Verbena*  
Tiny dark blue to violet flowers on mini-candelabras. ○●🍯🌿☺  
\$4.00–3.5” pot:

**N165 Blue** *V. hastata* 🍯—Blooms July–September. Native to moist cordgrass and cattail prairies over most of North America. Self-seeds. Seed from Monroe County, Wis. 36–72”h 🌿

**N166 Hoary** *V. stricta* 🍯—Blooms June–September. Prefers dry areas (xeriscape plant). Seed from Houston County, Minn. 24–48”h 🌿

**N167 Violet, Bird’s Foot** *Viola pedata*  
Lovely light and dark violet bicolor with leaves in the shape of birds’ feet. Midwestern source. 3–6”h ○●🍯🌿 \$5.00–2.5” pot

**N168 Violet, Prairie** *Viola pedatifida* 🍯  
Violet-purple flowers April–June, often reblooming in September. Fan-shaped leaves. Good food for butterfly caterpillars. Prefers a well-drained sunny site. Seed from Will County, Illinois. 4–8”h ○●🍯🌿☺  
\$4.00–3.5” pot

**N169 Violet, Yellow** *Viola pubescens* **NEW**  
Velvety half-inch yellow flowers with distinctive purple-black veins radiating from the center on the lowest petal. Woodland companion to the other native Minnesota yellow violet, yellow prairie violet (*Viola nuttallii*). Excellent for naturalizing in a shade garden. Host plant of the fritillary butterfly. Also known as downy yellow violet. Mille Lacs County, Minn. source. 9–12”h ○🍯🌿 \$13.00–4” pot

**Wild Indigo Baptisia**  
Blue-green, pea-like foliage and long spikes of flowers. Seed from central Illinois. ○●🍯☺  
\$4.00–3.5” pot:

**N170 Cream** *B. bracteata* var. *leucophaea* 🍯—Creamy yellow flowers that are held horizontally, spring to early summer. Particularly effective when planted on top of a rock wall where the flowers can be viewed at eye level. 18”h 🌿🌿

**N171 White** *B. alba* 🍯—Many small white flowers in late spring on tall, dark stems. Attractive seed pods. Easy to grow in average to dry soils; drought-tolerant. 36–48”h 🍯🌿

**N172 Wintergreen** *Gaultheria procumbens*  
Evergreen ground cover known for its red-tinted winter leaves and red winter berries with characteristic wintergreen scent. Plant it on shady banks, in rock gardens, or along paths. Requires acidic soil; try it under rhododendrons or blueberries. Carlton County, Minn., source. 6”h by 24–36”w ○●🍯🌿☺  
\$8.00–3.5” pot

## More Minnesota Native Plants



Look for these native plants in other sections:

<b>Climbers</b>	<b>Shrubs and Trees</b>
C017 Virgin’s Bower	S012 Aspen
	S020 Bladdernut
<b>Fruit</b>	S024 Bush Honeysuckle
F035 Elderberry	S027 Buttonbush
F043–044 Hazelnut	S033 Cherry, Black
F052 Huckleberry	S034 Chokeberry
F061 Mulberry, Red	S036 Chokecherry
F071 Plum, Wild	S039 Cranberry, Highbush
F086–087 Serviceberry	S041b, S042 Dogwood
<b>Grasses</b>	S048 Elderberry
G002 Blue Joint Grass	S054 Hemlock
G003 Bluestem, Big	S068 Ironwood
G005 Bluestem, Little	S090 Nannyberry
G009 Bottlebrush Grass	S093 Oak, Bur
G012 Dropseed, Northern	S128–30 Rose, Wild
G025 June Grass	S133 Snowberry
G030 Rye, Silky	S139 Sweetfern
G033–039 Sedge, Native	S140 Tamarack
G040 Side-Oats Grama	<b>Unusual</b>
G042 Sweet Grass	U034 Lady’s Slipper
G044 Yellow Prairie Grass	U052 Puccoon
<b>Herbs</b>	<b>Vegetables</b>
H122 Self-Heal	V205 Ramps
	V215 Strawberry Spinach

**N173 Wood Sorrel, Violet** *Oxalis violacea*  
A sweet spring ephemeral, lavender flowers with a yellow eye. All parts of the plant are edible, though like all *Oxalis*, should only be eaten in limited amounts. Seed from Benton County, Minn. 4–8”h ○●●🌿☺  
\$13.00–4” pot

**Yarrow** *Achillea millefolium*  
Dome-shaped 3–4” flower clusters and lacy foliage. Long bloom time, June–August. Good for cutting and drying: they are what architects use as the “trees” around model buildings. Drought-tolerant. ○●🍯🌿

**\$3.00–2.5” pot:**  
**N174 Cerise Queen** 🍯—Cherry pink cultivar. 24–36”h 🌿

**N175 Summer Pastels** 🍯—A mix of pink, salmon, yellow, and white. Cultivar. 24–36”h

**\$5.00–4” pot:**  
**N176 Wild White Yarrow** 🍯—White flowers. Popular in bee lawns, it can be cut back and even mowed. Will spread by seed and rhizomes. Source from the upper Midwest. 24–36”h 🍯🌿🌿

**\$8.00–4.5” pot:**  
**N177 Desert Eve Terracotta** 🍯—Small peachy yellow flowers turn burnt orange and have gold centers and stripes. Cultivar. 12–18”h

**N178 New Vintage Red** **NEW** 🍯—Ruby red flowers with a cream center. Cultivar. 10–15”h

**N179 New Vintage Violet** 🍯—Small magenta flowers with a cream eye. Cultivar. 12–18”h

**N180 Pink Grapefruit** 🍯—Large clusters of tiny white-centered flowers emerge bright pink and become light pink. Color is brightest in full sun. Cultivar. 18–24”h

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# Grasses & Sedges

Most grasses and sedges are showiest in late summer and fall. Many grow in attractive clumps and provide winter interest as well. They can be used to replace spikes in containers and provide vertical, mounding garden accents.

**G001 Blue Grama Grass**

*Bouteloua gracilis* Blonde Ambition  
Selection of a Minnesota native perennial with 36" stems in fall, holding seed heads like horizontal blond eyelashes. Clump-former with fine gray-green foliage. The native species is dominant through the central Great Plains, ranging to western Wisconsin. Host to 13 native butterfly species. 12–18" h \$12.00—4.5" pot

**G002 Blue Joint Grass**   
*Calamagrostis canadensis*

Bluish leaves with delicate purple panicles in summer. Clump-forming perennials that spread by rhizomes. Wet to normal soil; it's good for holding banks along lakes and ponds. Used by the Cree to make mattresses. Seed from Mille Lacs County, Minn. 36–72" h \$3.00—2.5" pot

**Bluestem, Big** *Andropogon gerardii*

Vertical stems in a dense clump. Known for its three-pronged "turkey-foot" seed heads in late summer. From the prairie and savanna, it's drought-tolerant, reliably perennial, and adaptable. Host plant for the caterpillars of arosos skipper, dusted skipper, and Delaware skipper butterflies. Best in lean soil. Emerges in late spring.   
\$3.00—2.5" pot:

**G003 Wild Big Bluestem** —Midwestern seed source. 60–92" h \$16.00—1 gal. pot:

**G004 Holy Smoke** —Bluish green leaves on this cultivar turn green, then gradually become covered with a purple haze until they are steely purple in fall. The stems turn shades of red, coral, hot pink, and burgundy. It's quite a show, and will be at its best when given full sun. 60–72" h by 36–48" w

**Bluestem, Little** *Schizachyrium scoparium*

A favorite for ornamental and naturalized landscapes. Prefers sun. Clump-forming and deer-resistant. Drought-tolerant perennial once established. Provides larval food for 11 native butterflies and moths.   
\$3.00—2.5" pot:

**G005 Wild Little Bluestem** —Midwestern seed source. 12–36" h \$12.00—1 quart pot:

**G006 Blue Heaven**—Upright, slender green leaves with a tinge of blue at base. Purplish bronze flowers in August, followed by fluffy silver-white seed heads. Bronze-orange fall foliage. Selection. ★★★★★ 24–48" h

**G007 Standing Ovation**—Thick bluish green leaves. Fiery foliage in fall. Selection. 36–48" h  
**G008 The Blues**—Selected for pronounced blue color. Best in dry soils. Selection. 12–24" h

**G009 Bottlebrush Grass** *Elymus hystrix*   
Clump-forming perennial with tall spikes that look like bottlebrushes. A must for forest restorations and shady gardens. Excellent for texture. Seed from Benton and Wright counties, Minn. 36" h \$3.00—2.5" pot

**G010 Bunny Tails** *Lagurus ovatus*   
Fun for children and adults. Fuzzy seed heads on compact grass. Drought-tolerant annual; needs well-drained soil. 20" h \$3.00—2.5" pot

**G011 Dropseed, Giant** *Sporobolus wrightii*  
Airy, feathery cream to bronze 12–24" plumes on dramatic 60–72" stems from August–October, above a 36–48" clump of arching, gray-green foliage. Fast-growing and drought-tolerant perennial once established. 36–84" h \$10.00—1 quart pot

**Dropseed, Northern** *Sporobolus heterolepis*  
Fine-textured clump-forming perennial with seed heads variously described as scented like buttered popcorn, cilantro, or Juicy Fruit gum. Host plant to six native butterflies.   
\$3.00—2.5" pot:

**G012 Wild Dropseed** —Grown for its arching, thin leaves and cloud-like panicles of pinkish beige flowers in midsummer. Midwestern seed source. ★★★★★ 24–48" h \$14.00—1 gal. pot:

**G013 Tara** —Short and upright selection, less arching than the species. Orange-red fall color. 12" h

**Feather Reed Grass** *Calamagrostis*

Showy, feathery plumes that last into fall and winter. Clump-forming perennial.

\$3.00—2.5" pot:  
**G014 Korean C.** *brachytricha* —Feathery mauve-pink plumes in fall are great as a cut stem or left to give winter interest to your garden. Can take some shade. 36–48" h

\$7.00—1 quart pot:  
**G015 Karl Foerster C.** *× acutiflora* —Great for use as a grass hedge. Blooms earlier than most tall grasses with wheat-colored seed heads. ★★★★★ 48–60" h

\$7.00—3" pot:  
**G016 Art's Golden C.** *× acutiflora*—Variegated green and yellow. Bred by the late Art Boe of North Star Nursery in Faribault, Minn. ★★★★★ 48–60" h

\$10.00—1 quart pot:  
**G017 Avalanche C.** *× acutiflora*—Variegated with a wide white stripe in the center of each blade. Gold seed heads. 48–60" h

**G018 El Dorado C.** *× acutiflora*—Gold-centered, variegated leaves. Wheat-colored seed heads. ★★★★★ 48" h

**G019 Fescue, Dwarf Blue**   
*Festuca ovina glauca*

Soft tufts provide contrast in the garden. Also for edging, ground cover, or lawn alternative. Good drainage needed. Clump-forming perennial. 10–16" h \$3.00—2.5" pot

**G020 Fiber Optic Grass** *Isolepis cernuus*  
It really does look like fiber optic filament, only green. A great accent grass. Not hardy, but worth bringing inside for the winter, because the mature plant develops a "trunk." Moist soil. 8–12" h \$3.00—2.5" pot

**G021 Flame Grass**   
*Miscanthus sinensis purpurascens* Red Flame  
Gray-green foliage turns brilliant red-orange in fall. Narrow silvery plumes in midsummer. Clump-forming perennial from Asia with prominent feathery flower heads. ★★★★★ 36–48" h \$7.00—4.5" pot

**G022 Fountain Grass**   
*Pennisetum setaceum* Fireworks  
Long stripes of burgundy, hot pink, and white. New growth is the most vibrant. In late summer, it looks like purple foxtails. Treat as an annual. A garden favorite. 24–30" h \$6.00—4" pot

**Japanese Forest Grass** *Hakonechloa macra*  
A delightful, ornamental perennial, forming graceful mounds of draping foliage. Lights up shady areas of the garden. Slow to emerge in spring and slow-spreading. Moist but well-drained soil. 12–18" h \$14.00—4.5" pot:

**G023 Aureola** —Variegated in gold and green.  
**G024 Green** —Leaves turn copper-orange in the fall. More sun- and drought-tolerant than the variegated varieties.

**G025 June Grass** *Koeleria macrantha*   
Low-grower suitable for edging native restoration plantings. Provides larval food for five native butterfly species. Clump-forming perennial, most commonly found growing in dry sandy soils. Seed from Burnett County, Wis. 12–24" h \$3.00—2.5" pot

**G026 Mondo Grass, Black**   
*Ophiopogon planiscapus* Black Dragon  
One of the blackest plants available, with elegant 8" grass-like leaves. Grows slowly, making it useful in miniature gardens or as a dramatic contrasting accent in small containers. May survive our winter with protection. Also known as ebony knight, Kokuryu, and, less properly, Nigrescens. 6–8" h \$7.00—3" plug

**G027 Muhly Grass**   
*Muhlenbergia capillaris* Pink Cloud  
A well-behaved and drought-tolerant clump-former, its seeds are a favorite of birds. Puffy, rose-pink clouds of graceful plumes in early fall that look even better backlit by early or late sun. Try planting with deep pink shrub roses or in a bed of groundcover juniper or even as a small hedge. Treat as an annual. 30–36" h \$6.00—4" pot

**G028 Ruby Grass**   
*Melinis nerviglumis* Savannah  
Ruby pink 3–4" plumes that rise a foot above the foliage from late July are real showstoppers. Blue-green foliage turns purple-red in the fall. Annual. 8–12" h \$6.00—4.5" pot

**G029 Rush, Corkscrew** *Juncus effusus* Spiralis  
Curly foliage is fantastic in flower arrangements. Prefers a moist location, even 1–6" underwater in a pond, but also does well with well-drained soil. Cut back the old stems in late winter. Clump-forming perennial. 12–18" h \$4.00—2.5" pot

**G030 Rye, Silky** *Elymus canadensis*   
Arching feathery plumes in late summer and fall on this oak savanna native. Larval host to more than 30 native butterflies and moths. Clump-forming perennial. Wet to dry soil, good for shade. Seed from Morrison County, Minn. 36–72" h \$4.00—3.5" pot

**Sedge Carex**  
Colorful sedges that may be perennial in sheltered spots, so don't pull them up in spring until you're sure.

\$6.00—4" pot:  
**G031 EverColor Everglow** —Mound of slender leaves with cream margins turn golden orange in early fall. Great addition to moist shade gardens. Morning sun is ideal. 12–18" h

**G032 Red Rooster C.** *buchananii* —Slender orange-brown to red-brown leaves with wispy, slightly curly tips. Graceful and upright. Great in containers or the garden. Can take full sun. 20–30" h

**Sedge, Native Carex**  
Glossy, arching leaves. Perennials useful as a shady lawn substitute in moist, rich soil. Clump-forming unless noted otherwise. Prefers partial to full shade, but will grow in full sun if soil is kept moist. Deer- and rabbit-resistant.

\$3.00—2.5" pot:  
**G033 Gray's Sedge C.** *grayi*—Large showy seed heads like spiked medieval clubs. Wider leaves are more upright than most sedges. Originally found in moist shade, but will grow in many locations. Seed from Wisconsin. 24–30" h

**G034 Long-Beaked Sedge C.** *sprengelii* —Showy, pendant seed heads. Found in woodlands but will grow in full sun. Provides cover and seeds for birds, but is not attractive to herbivores. Will slowly spread. Seed from Fillmore County, Minn. 24" h

**G035 Palm Sedge C.** *muskingumensis* —This Great Lakes native is one of the tallest sedges in cultivation. Its graceful weeping foliage and height make it a natural for the middle of a sunny border or as a stand-alone statement. Spreading. Seed from northern Indiana. ★★★★★ 28" h

**G036 Porcupine Sedge C.** *hystericina* —A great front-of-border accent that's also good in containers, with tiny porcupine-like bottlebrushes. Good for moist to wet soil and variable light conditions. Seed from Winona County, Minn. 12–36" h

**G037 Rosy Sedge C.** *rosea* —Narrow arching leaves with twisted rose-tinted seed heads. Consider for dry shade. Midwestern seed source. 12" h \$5.00—3.5" pot:

**G038 Pennsylvania Sedge C.** *pennsylvanica* —Arching to weeping spreader that tolerates light foot traffic. Grows well under oaks and with ephemeral wild flowers. Good for everywhere from prairies to woodlands to rain gardens. Even good in dry shade, and needs no mowing. Midwestern seed source. ★★★★★ 6–12" h \$12.00—4.5" pot:

**G039 Hop Sedge C.** *lupulina* —Mop of 24" leaves and blooming stalks with 3–12" cylinders of prickly spikelets in early summer. Useful for rain gardens and shorelines. An important source of food for waterfowl and songbirds. Seed from Anoka or Washington County, Minn. 18–36" h

**G040 Side-Oats Grama**   
*Bouteloua curtipendula*  
Graceful, upright grass whose flowers align on one side of the stems. Host to six native butterfly and moth species. Tolerates dry soil. Prefers sun. Clump-forming perennial. Seed from Green and Madison counties, Iowa. 12–36" h \$3.00—2.5" pot

**G041 Silky Thread Grass** *Stipa tenuissima*   
Slender green foliage with gold-brown fluffy seed heads late spring to midsummer. Not hardy, but self-seeds freely. Clump-forming. 12–36" h \$3.00—2.5" pot

**G042 Sweet Grass** *Hierochloa odorata*   
Upright grass with tan seed heads. Sacred plant among many Native American tribes. Used in basket-weaving and braided to make incense. Likes moist to wet soil. Aggressive perennial spreader. Seed from western Illinois. 12–24" h \$3.00—2.5" pot

**G043 Switch Grass**   
*Panicum virgatum* Shenandoah  
Most compact and controlled cultivar. Red by mid-summer. Delicate, feathery seed heads. Prefers light soil. Clump-forming perennial. 36" h \$7.00—4.5" pot

**G044 Yellow Prairie Grass**   
*Sorghastrum nutans*  
Silky plumes in shades of gold and brown. Good grass for gardens. Tolerates dry soil. Clump-forming perennial. Midwestern seed source. ★★★★★ 36–72" h \$3.00—2.5" pot

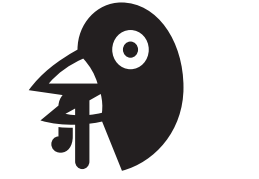
**Key**  
 Full sun  
 Part sun/part shade  
 Shade

Attractive to bees  
 Audubon-endorsed  
 Butterfly-friendly  
 Hummingbird-friendly  
 Attractive foliage  
 Culinary  
 Edible flowers  
 Ground cover  
 Houseplant  
 Medicinal  
 Minnesota native  
 Rock garden

Cold-sensitive: keep above 40°F  
 Toxic to humans  
 Saturday restock

**About those stars...**  
Throughout, you will notice plants that are marked with five stars (★★★★★). These plants have been awarded five stars by Heger and Whitman in the 2011 edition of *Growing Perennials in Cold Climates* as some of the very best plants available on the market.

Watch for the birdie!



Plants marked with the bird icon are endorsed by the Audubon Society as providing food and habitat for birds. [www.audubon.org/native-plants](http://www.audubon.org/native-plants)



Bunny tails