

Cheyenne Native Plant Selector

The following list of plants is not inclusive. There are many other native plants that will grow in the Cheyenne area. If you are new to native plant cultivation, this list is a great starting place. Many of these plants can be found in area nurseries or easily grown from seed. Do not give up if some of your choices do not flourish. Every experienced gardener will tell you stories of the plants they have killed. Keep learning about native plants, trying new plants and refining your growing methods. **PS** superscript after a common name indicates this is a Plant Select variety.

Common Names	Scientific Name	Water	Soil	Sun	Mature Height/Spread	Flowers/Fruit	Bloom Time	Wildlife Values	Comments
TREES									
1. White Fir	<i>Abies concolor</i>	moist - moderate	loam, does not like highly alkaline soil	Full sun-partial shade	80'/20'	cones, disintegrate on tree	Spring	Food, shelter for birds	Evergreen, can become very large, attractive blue-green color, large trees can blow over
2. Rocky Mountain Juniper many named cultivars	<i>Juniperus scopulorum</i>	moderate - xeric	clay, loam, sandy, tolerates some alkalinity	Full sun-partial shade	20' (30)/15'	female cones berry like, blue green	early summer	Food, shelter for birds	Evergreen, very tough tree, tolerates wind, cold, drought, alkaline soils, excellent wind-break tree, many variations of foliage color
2a. Woodward columnar Juniper ^{PS}	<i>Juniperus scopulorum</i>	moderate-xeric	clay, loam, sandy, tolerates some alkalinity	Full sun-partial shade	20'/4'	female cones berry like, blue green	early summer	Food, shelter for birds	Evergreen, similar to species, narrow shape works better in some landscapes
3. Black Hills Spruce, White Spruce	<i>Picea glauca</i>	moist-moderate	loam	Full sun-partial shade, north exposure best	50'/15'	cones	early summer	Food, shelter for birds	Evergreen, seems to tolerate heat better than Blue Spruce, a weeping form available ^{PS}
4. Colo. Blue Spruce, many named varieties, forms and sizes	<i>Picea pungens</i>	moist	well-drained, loamy	Full sun	75'/20'	cones	early summer	Food, shelter for birds	Evergreen, blue-green color is genetic, some trees do not have this color and it will not change with age, smaller and dwarf varieties work well for yards
5. Rocky Mountain Bristlecone Pine	<i>Pinus aristata</i>	dry-moist	well-drained, gravelly	Full sun	20'/15'	cones	early summer	Food, shelter for birds	Evergreen, twisted irregular shape, resinous needles drip sap, few pests or diseases, tolerates cold, wind, native to CO but not WY
6. Pinyon Pine	<i>Pinus edulis</i>	dry-xeric	loam, sandy, well-drained	Full sun	30'/20'	cones	early summer	Food, shelter for birds	Evergreen, small tree, does best if sheltered from wind
6a. Dwarf Pinyon Pine ^{PS}	<i>Pinus edulis</i>	dry-xeric	loam, sandy	Full-partial sun	30"/30"	cones	early summer		Evergreen, good for rock gardens, low plantings, shelter from wind, drought tolerant

7. Ponderosa Pine	<i>Pinus ponderosa</i>	moderate-dry	well drained	Full sun	75'/25'	cones	early summer	Food, shelter for birds	Evergreen, can become very large tree, attacked by bark beetles, wind, heat, cold, drought tolerant
8. Bigtooth Maple	<i>Acer grandidentatus</i>	dry-moist	loamy, tolerates some clay, prefers well-drained	Full sun - partial shade	30'/20'	typical maple samara fruit	April - May	Food, shelter for birds	Deciduous, leaves turn red in fall, slow growing
9. Common Hackberry	<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	moderate - dry	clay, loam, sandy, tolerates clay, alkaline soils	Full sun	60'/30'	blooms inconspicuous, fruit a small red-purple berry attractive to birds	April - May	Food, shelter for birds	Deciduous, tolerates wind, heat, drought, alkaline soils, interesting bark on older trees creates winter interest, often has galls on leaves which do not harm the trees
10. Lanceleaf Cottonwood	<i>Populus acuminata</i>	wet - dry	clay, loam, sandy, well drained, tolerates some alkalinity	Full sun	60'/25'	female catkins shed copious amounts of cotton, males (cottonless) usually planted in cities	April - May	Food, shelter for birds	Deciduous, leaves turn gold-yellow in fall, male plants usually planted in cities because females produce copious amounts of cotton, roots can invade sewers, water lines, even grow up downspouts on houses
11. Bur Oak, Mossycup Oak	<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	moist - dry	loam, sandy, well drained	Full sun - partial shade	130'/30', usually much smaller	flowers inconspicuous, fruit an acorn about 1" long	May - June	Food, shelter for birds, wildlife	Deciduous, slow growing, long lived, leaves turn yellow, orange, red in fall
SHRUBS									
12. Western Serviceberry (many cultivars)	<i>Amelanchier alnifolia</i>	moist - dry	well-drained, tolerates alkalinity, clay	Full sun - partial shade	15'/10'	white clusters 1.5" dia., fruits dry, seedy berry, edible, sweetish	May - June	Food, shelter for birds, wildlife, flowers attract pollinators	Bark on new growth often reddish, suckers, during drought will shed leaves, subject to rust, powdery mildew, variety of insect pests
13. Lead Plant, False Indigo Dwarf Leadplant ^{PS}	<i>Amorpha canescens</i>	dry	clay, loam, sandy, well-drained, tolerates alkalinity	Full sun	3'/5'	6 " spikes of tiny blue-violet flowers with prominent orange anthers	May - August	Highly palatable to wildlife, flowers attract pollinators	Deep taproot, drought tolerant, roots fix nitrogen

14. Bear - berry, Kinnikinnick	<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i>	moist-moderate	well-drained clay, loam, sandy	Full sun-partial shade	Sprawling, 1'3'	Pink flowers, red berries, flowers 0.25" across, berries 0.5" across	May - June	Food for birds, flowers attract some pollinators	Can be used as a ground cover, leaves usually evergreen, tolerant of heat, wind, drought, year round interest, good for rock gardens, slope stabilizer
15. Silver Sage ^{PS}	<i>Artemisia cana</i>	moderate-xeric	sandy, well-drained	Full sun	3'4'	Tiny yellow in spikes, inconspicuous	August - September	Shelter for ground-nesting birds	Roots can be both deep or shallow- spreading, foliage silvery, leaves remain overwinter, typical sage odor
16. Fern Bush ^{PS}	<i>Chamaebat- iaria millefolium</i>	dry - xeric	clay, loam, sandy	Full sun	6'5'	Clusters of white flowers, 1/2" across	July - August	Flowers attract many pollinators	Native to ID, UT, CO, but not WY, heat, wind, drought tolerant, long bloom period, aromatic leaves
17. Red- osier Dogwood	<i>Cornus sericea</i>	moist-moderate	clay, loam, sandy	Full sun - partial shade	10'10'	White flower clusters, white to bluish drupes, flowers and fruits at same time	June - August	Flowers attract pollinators, birds eat fruit	Maintain red twig color by pruning out older growth, yellow twig variety also available, grow against evergreens for winter contrast
18. Rubber Rabbitbrush	<i>Ericameria nauseosa</i> (<i>Chrysotham - nus nauseosus</i>)	moderate-xeric	clay, loam, pure sand	Full sun	6'6'	Masses of tiny gold flowers in flat clusters at tips of branches	August - October	Flowers attract many late season pollinators, birds eat seeds	Leave old seed heads on blue-green stems for winter interest, drought and wind tolerant, several cultivars in nursery trade
18a. Baby Blue Rabbitbrush ^{PS}	<i>Ericameria nauseosa</i> (<i>Chrysotham- nus nauseosus</i>)	moderate-xeric	clay, loam, pure sand	Full sun-partial shade	12-16"/24-36"	Masses of tiny gold flowers in flat clusters	August-October	Flowers attract many late season pollinators, birds eat seeds	Mound-shaped, leave old seed heads on blue-green stems for winter interest, drought and wind tolerant, small enough to be used in rock garden
19. Apache-plume ^{PS}	<i>Fallugia paradoxa</i>	dry - xeric	clay, loam, pure sand, rocky	Full sun, partial shade	8'4-6'	White, 1.5" across, showy pink, feathery, 2 " long styles	May - August, flowers and fruits at same time	Flowers attract pollinators	Grown for flowers and feathery achenes, prune lightly to encourage flowering, not native to WY, native to CO
20. Mountain-spray	<i>Holodiscus dumosus</i>	moderate-dry	well-drained, rocky, tolerates alkalinity	Full sun, half-day shade	5'5'	Tiny white to cream in large sprays covering bush	July - August	Flowers attract pollinators	Good for rock garden or sprawling over rocks, very showy when in full bloom

21. Creeping Juniper, Rug Juniper	<i>Juniperus horizontalis</i>	dry-xeric	well-drained, clay, loam, sandy, rocky	Full sun-partial shade	12"/ spreading to 10-15'	Female bears berry-like blue-purple cones 0.4" across	June - July	Berries eaten by birds	Evergreen, wind, heat, drought tolerant, some varieties blue-green color, good for rock garden, bank stabilization, many cultivars, not all do well in our area
22. Shrubby Cinquefoil	<i>Dasiphora fruticosa</i> (<i>Pentaphylloides floribunda</i> , <i>Potentilla fruticosa</i>)	moist-moderate	well-drained clay, loam, sandy	Full sun - partial shade	4'/3', occasionally spreading to much larger size	Yellow, 3/4" across, many single flowers, cultivars with white, salmon flowers also	June - August	Flowers attract pollinators	Cultivars with white, salmon, pink flowers are usually not as hardy in our area, old bushes can become very scraggly
23. Wild Mockorange, Cheyenne Mockorange ^{PS}	<i>Philadelphus lewisii</i>	moderate-dry	well-drained, loamy, will tolerate clay	Full sun - partial shade	10'/8'	White, 2" across, mature plant may have 100s of flowers	June - July	Flowers attract pollinators	Not native to WY, native to MT, very fragrant flowers, Cheyenne Mockorange does well in area, was developed at Cheyenne High Plains Research Station
24. Desert Mockorange, Little Leaf Mockorange	<i>Philadelphus microphyllus</i>	moderate-dry	well-drained, clay, loam, sandy	Full sun - partial shade	4'/3'	White, 1/2 -1" across	May - September	Flowers attract pollinators	This species is more heat and drought tolerant than <i>P. lewisii</i> . It is native to southwest, including sw WY
25. Wild Plum	<i>Prunus americana</i>	moderate-dry	well-drained, clay, loam, sandy	Full sun-partial shade	10'/10'	White, 0.5-1" across in clusters, edible plums about 1" long	April - May	Masses of flowers attract many early spring pollinators	Forms thorny thickets and provides good habitat for birds and other wildlife
26. Western Sandcherry, Pawnee Butte Sandcherry ^{PS}	<i>Prunus pumila</i> var. <i>besseyi</i> (<i>Prunus besseyi</i>)	moderate-dry	well-drained, clay, loam, sandy	Full sun - partial shade	4'/ 4', sprawling, sometimes prostrate	White, 1/2", in many small clusters, fruit small cherry, edible, tart	April - May	Flowers attractive to pollinators, berries eaten by birds	Can be used for stabilizing banks or rock gardens
27. Autumn Amber Sumac, ^{PS} Lemonade Sumac, Threeleaf Sumac	<i>Rhus aromatica</i> var. <i>trilobata</i> (<i>Rhus trilobata</i>)	moderate-xeric	well-drained, dry, some clay, tolerates sandy and alkaline soils	Full sun - light shade	6'/10', suckers, variety Grow Low shorter	Light yellow, 1/4" across in small clusters, berry-like fruit orange or red, tart	April - May	Berries eaten by birds, the dense thickets provide habitat for many birds	Leaves aromatic, some varieties more scented than others, many varieties in nursery trade, leaves often turn red or orange in fall

28. Golden Currant, Yellow Currant	<i>Ribes aureum</i>	Moist - moderate, drought tolerant	tolerates variety of soils	Full sun - light shade	6' (10')/4', mature plants vase-shaped	Yellow, tubular, 1" long in small clusters	April - June	Flowers attractive to pollinators, birds eat fruit	Fragrant flowers, berries may be red, orange, purple, yellow, leaves often red in fall, may not bloom or fruit in dry years
29. Boulder Raspberry, Rocky Mountain Raspberry	<i>Rubus deliciosus</i>	Moderate - dry, drought tolerant	Well drained, rocky soils	Full sun - light shade	10'/8'	White, single, 2.5" across, fruit a dry, tasteless raspberry	May - July, flowers and mature fruits at same time	Birds eat fruits, flowers attract pollinators	Shrub is usually vase-shaped, wind and drought tolerant
30. Oregon Grape	<i>Mahonia repens</i> (<i>Berberis repens</i>)	Moist - moderate, tolerates dry conditions after bloom	Well-drained	Partial to full shade	Creeping, 1'/4', may cover large area	Yellow, 0.4" long cluster in leaf axils, tart blue-green berries	April-June	Birds eat fruit	Needs protection from wind, leaves turn bronze, red, red-purple, leaves are glossy, holly-shaped, spines at tips of leaf points, attractive in winter
ANNUAL, BIENNIAL, PERENNIAL FORBS									
31. Yarrow, many named varieties with colored flowers	<i>Achillea millefolium</i> (<i>Achillea lanulosa</i>)	Moderate - dry, drought tolerant	Most soil types except extreme clay	Full sun - light shade	15"/10", may spread to form large patches	Native is white, occasionally pink, .25" across, in flat-topped clusters	May - September	Flowers attract pollinators	Many of the colored varieties are hybrids with our white native, they may be pink, salmon, yellow, orange, red, drought tolerant
32. Colorado Desert Bluestar, Bluestar ^{PS}	<i>Amsonia jonesii</i>	Moderate - xeric, drought tolerant	Clay, loam, sand, gravelly, tolerates alkalinity	Full sun	24"/16"	Blue, tubular, 0.75" long, small clusters at tips of stems	April - June	Flowers attract pollinators	Native to CO but not WY, grow in clusters to obtain showy effect and contrast with other flowers
33. Plains Pussytoes, Low Everlasting	<i>Antennaria parvifolia</i>	Moist - dry	Well drained	Full sun	6"/ mat forming	Flowers inconspicuous surrounded by papery white - pinkish bracts	May - June	Flowers attract early pollinators	Native to prairies around Cheyenne, good ground cover, bracts remain on plants for most of summer, leaves are gray-green
34. Colorado Columbine	<i>Aquilegia coerulea</i>	Moist - moderate	Well-drained, some loam	Light shade	2'/1'	4" across, bicolored, blue to lavender sepals, white petals	June - July	Flowers attract pollinators, particularly butterflies	Prefers cooler sites, try growing in north-facing exposures, other native columbines including red flowered, all suitable for cultivation

35. Denver Gold Columbine ^{PS} , Golden Columbine	<i>Aquilegia chrysantha</i>	Moist - moderate	Well-drained, clay, loam	Sun - part shade	36"/20"	Yellow, 2-4" across, very long spurs	June - August	Flowers attract pollinators, particularly butterflies	Prefers cooler sites, try growing in north-facing exposures
36. Prickly Poppy	<i>Argemone polyanthemus</i>	Dry - xeric, drought tolerant	Well-drained, sandy	Full sun	2.5'/1.5'	White, 4" across, many per plant, reseeds readily	May - September	Flowers attract many pollinators	Annual to short-lived perennial, leaves are thistle-like, spiny margins, may re-bloom if cut back, sticky yellow sap
37. Fringed Sage	<i>Artemisia frigida</i>	Dry - xeric, killed by overwatering	Well-drained	Full sun	4 -12"/mat forming	Flowers inconspicuous	July - September		Grey-green leaves, typical sage odor, excellent for rock gardens, mat-forming, use as ground cover in low traffic areas
38. Common Milkweed, Showy Milkweed	<i>Asclepias speciosa</i>	Moderate - dry	Most soil types, not fussy	Full sun to light shade	2'/18", can form large clumps	Pink, in large clusters at tips of stems, large seed pods	July - August	Flowers attract pollinators, host plant for Monarch butterflies	Can form colonies and spread aggressively, several other pink-flowered native milkweeds in area, but all require more moisture
39. Butterfly weed, Orange Milkweed	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	Moist - dry	Clay to sandy, well-drained best	Full sun - light shade	2.5'/2'	Bright orange, 0.6" across, in flat clusters at tips of stems and in upper leaf axils	July - August	Flowers attract many pollinators, host plant for Monarch butterflies	Native to most western states, but not WY, horticultural varieties may have yellow, cream and salmon colored flowers, difficult to transplant because of deep root
40. Winecup, Purple Poppy-mallow ^{PS}	<i>Callirhoe involucrata</i>	Moderate - xeric, drought tolerant	Clay, sandy, well drained	Full sun	12", sprawls up to 6'	Rose to purple, 2.5" across, borne singly, 100s on mature plants	May - September	Flowers attract many pollinators	Difficult to transplant because of huge taproot, easy to grow from seed and reseeds readily, white and pink horticultural varieties available
41. Prairie Lode Sundrops ^{PS}	<i>Oenothera serrulata</i> (<i>Calylophus serrulatus</i>)	Moderate - xeric	Sandy, gravel, well-drained	Full Sun	12"/16" usually much smaller	Yellow, 1" across in upper leaf axils	May-September	Flowers attract pollinators	Shrub-like, not easy to transplant mature plants, sometimes subject to rust
42. Harebell	<i>Campanula rotundifolia</i>	Moist - dry	Loamy	Full -sun to light shade	18"/12"	Blue, 3.5" long, 1/2" wide, bell-shaped, nodding	June - September	Flowers attract pollinators	Short-lived perennial, reseeds readily, large clumps can be divided and transplanted

43. Scotts Sugarbowl, ^{PS} Sugarbowl Clematis	<i>Clematis hirsutissima</i> (<i>Clematis scottii</i>)	Moist - dry	Loamy, well drained	Light shade to full sun	2'/1.5'	Deep blue - purple, urn-shaped, 1.25" long, nodding at stem tips	May - July	Flowers attract pollinators, especially bees	Mature plants can have large numbers of flowers, the plant also has attractive feathery achenes
44. Purple Beeplant	<i>Peritoma serrulata</i> (<i>Cleome serrulata</i>)	Dry - xeric	Sandy, loamy, gravel	Full sun	6'/3'	Lavender, pink, white, 1" across, in rounded clusters at tips of stems	July - September	Attractive to many pollinators, huge seed crop eaten by many birds	Annual, can grow very large with masses of blooms and seeds, very easy to grow from seed
45. Annual Coreopsis, Tickseed	<i>Coreopsis tinctoria</i>	Moist - dry	Sandy, loamy	Full sun	1.5'/1'	Yellow composite, 1.5" across, often with reddish spot at base	July - September	Attractive to pollinators	Annual, many cultivars available
46. Purple Prairieclover	<i>Dalea purpurea</i>	Dry - xeric	Well-drained preferred, will grow in clay soil	Full sun	2'/1'	Purple, .25" across in dense spike at tip of stems	July - August	Flowers attract pollinators, birds eat seed	A legume, roots fix nitrogen, often used in reclamation
47. White Prairieclover	<i>Dalea candida</i>	Dry - xeric	Well-drained preferred, will grow in clay soil	Full sun	1.5'/1"	White, .25" across, in dense spike at tip of stems	July - August	Flowers attract pollinators, birds eat seed	A legume, roots fix nitrogen, often used in reclamation
48. Narrow-leaf Purple Coneflower	<i>Echinacea angustifolia</i>	Dry - xeric	Well -drained , gravel, clay	Full sun	2'/1'	Pink to light purple, 3 " across, ray petals drooping, stem prickly	June - August	Flowers attract pollinators, birds eat seeds	This species is native to WY and very drought tolerant, <i>Echinacea purpurea</i> , also called Purple Coneflower, is a midwestern species which requires more moisture
49. Humming-bird Trumpet ^{PS} , Orange Carpet	<i>Epilobium canum</i> var. <i>garrettii</i> , (<i>Zauschneria garrettii</i>)	Moderate - dry	Loam, sandy, clay	Full sun	6"/24", often sprawling	Orange to red, trumpet shaped, 1.75" long	July - September	Flowers attract pollinators, hummingbirds	some varieties sold under this name are not reliably hardy in Wyoming, if original seed source is from nw WY, ID, plants should grow in this area
50. Kannah Creek Buckwheat, ^{PS} , Sulphur Flower, Sulphur Buckwheat	<i>Eriogonum umbellatum</i>	Dry - xeric	Well-drained, loamy, tolerates clay, alkalinity	Full sun	18"/ 3' with mat of gray-green leaves, 12" tall bloom stalks	Flowers yellow, cream or reddish, 1.5 " across in loose, rounded clusters	July - August	Flowers attract pollinators	There are many other <i>Eriogonum</i> species in WY that are worth growing, plants usually turn bronze in fall, can be left for winter interest

51. Common Blanket-flower, many named cultivars	<i>Gaillardia aristata</i>	Moist - Dry	Well-drained soils	Full sun - light shade	2'/1'	Yellow often with hint of reddish, 3" across, solitary at ends of stems	June - September	Flowers attract pollinators, finches eat seed	There are many hybrids of western <i>Gaillardia</i> in all shades of yellow, orange and reddish, most are short lived, reseeds readily, clumps can be divided and transplanted
52. Prairie - smoke, Old Man's Whiskers	<i>Geum triflorum</i>	Moist - Dry	Loamy, well-drained	Full sun to light shade	12"/12"	3/4" long, nodding, cream to pale pink, feathery pink achenes	May-August	Flowers attract pollinators	Grown for attractive flowers as well as the feathery, pale pink achenes
53. Maximilian Sunflower	<i>Helianthus maximiliani</i>	Moist	Loamy, well-drained	Full sun	up to 8'/3'	3" across, golden yellow, flowers borne singly along upper stems	July - October	Flowers attract pollinators, birds eat seeds	Leave seed heads overwinter as food source for birds, this species is widely available in nurseries, plant at back of border, other <i>Helianthus</i> also available
54. Scarlet Gilia	<i>Ipomopsis aggregata</i> (<i>Gilia aggregata</i>)	Moderate - Dry	Well-drained	Full sun	36"/12"	Red, pink, salmon trumpet shaped, 2" long, 1-2 stalks per plant	May - August	Flowers attract pollinators, hummingbirds	Biennial or short-lived perennial, varieties may flower at different times depending on pollinators
55. Prairie Blazingstar, Dotted Gayfeather	<i>Liatris punctata</i>	Dry -xeric	Adaptable to variety of soils	Full sun	18"/12"	Pink-purple in spike-like inflorescence	July-September	Flowers attract pollinators, birds eat seeds	This is the most drought tolerant of the <i>Liatris</i> , other species prefer moister conditions
56. Blue Flax, Lewis Flax	<i>Linum lewisii</i>	Moist-dry	Well-drained	Full sun	2.5'/1'	Pale to deep blue, 1.5" across, reseeds easily	May-July	Flowers attract pollinators	Widely planted in reclamation and roadside plantings, easy to grow from seed
57. Tansyleaf Spiny Aster, Tahoka Daisy	<i>Machaeranthera tanacetifolia</i> (<i>Aster tanacetifolius</i>)	Dry-xeric	Well-drained, will grow in pure sand	Full sun	18"/12"	Lavender with yellow centers, 1.5" across, many flowers at tips of stems, branches	July-September	Flowers attract pollinators	Annual with showy, aster-like flowers, drought and heat tolerant, easy to grow from seed

58. Tenpetal Blazing Star, Evening Star	<i>Mentzelia decapetala</i>	Dry - xeric	Clay, alkaline soils	Full sun	3'/2'	Cream-pale yellow, 6" across, open in late afternoon, close by mid-morning, fragrant	July-September	Flowers attract moths due to night-blooming habit	Many flowers per plant over a long bloom period. <i>Mentzelia nuda</i> is similar, also native to this area, slightly smaller flowers
59. Horsemint, Coyote Mint, Wild Bergamot	<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	Moist to dryish	Loamy to sandy	Full sun to light shade	2'/2' or more, forming large clumps	Pink to lavender, 1.5" long in tight cluster at tips of stems	June-August	Flowers attract many pollinators	Leaves aromatic, can form large clumps and become aggressive, can be divided and transplanted
60. Firecracker Penstemon	<i>Penstemon barbatus</i>	Dry to moist	Well-drained	Full sun to light shade	3.5'/1'	Red-orange, tubular 1.5" on one side of stem	June - July	Flowers attract pollinators, hummingbirds	Not WY native, native to CO and southwest but does well in WY, available in many nurseries, short bloom period
61. Large flower Penstemon, Prairie Jewels Penstemon ps	<i>Penstemon grandiflorus</i>	Dry to moist	Well-drained, sandy, loamy, light clay	Full sun to light shade	3'/1.5'	Pink, pale blue, lavender, tubular, 2 " long, 1" across scattered along stem	April - June	Flowers attractive to pollinators, hummingbirds	Biennial or short-lived perennial, reseeds readily, short bloom period of 2-3 weeks per plant, but worth growing for the large flowers
62. Rocky Mountain Penstemon	<i>Penstemon strictus</i>	Dry to moist	Well-drained, sandy, loamy or some clay	Full sun to light shade	2.5'/19"	Deep blue to purplish, 1.25" long tubular	June-August	Flowers attractive to pollinators	Widely used for reclamation and roadside plantings, widely adapted
63. Rocky Mountain Phlox, Flowery Phlox	<i>Phlox multiflora</i>	Moderate to dry	Well-drained, sandy, rocky, some clay	Full sun to light shade	10"/4" sprawling at times to form mats	White, pink, pale lavender, 1" across, loosely clustered at tips of stems	May - July	Flowers attractive to pollinators	A large flowered creeping phlox. Tolerates heat and drought, good for a rock garden
64. Prairie Coneflower, Mexican Hat	<i>Ratibida columnifera</i>	Dry to moist	Tolerant of most soil types	Full sun to light shade	24"/18"	Ray flowers yellow or partly to totally red - bronze, disk in center reddish to brown, 2.5" long	June - September	Flowers attractive to pollinators, seeds eaten by birds	Drought and heat tolerant, easy to grow from seed, widely used in reclamation and roadside plantings, short-lived perennial but reseeds readily

65. Black-eyed Susan, Denver Daisy ^{PS}	<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	Moderate - dry	Well-drained, adapts to most soils	Full sun to light shade	3'/1'	Ray flowers yellow, center disk flowers dark brown to black, 3" across	June-September	Flowers attractive to pollinators, seeds eaten by birds	Many horticultural varieties available, a biennial or short-lived perennial, easy to transplant, can be treated as an annual
66. Stiff Goldenrod	<i>Solidago rigida</i> var. <i>humilis</i> (<i>Oligoneuron rigidum</i>)	Moderate - dry	Well-drained, most soil types	Full sun	18"/12"	Flower heads golden yellow, up to 0.5" across, in dense clusters at tips of stems	August - October	Flowers attractive to late season pollinators, seeds eaten by birds	Can be grown from rootstock divisions or seed, one of many goldenrods in area that are excellent for late season bloom, all are some shade of yellow or gold
67. Scarlet Globe-mallow, Common Desert-mallow	<i>Sphaeralcea coccinea</i>	Dry - xeric	Tolerates clay, alkaline soils, pure sand	Full sun	8"/8"	Deep salmon-orange, 1.5" across, in clusters at tips of stems	May-July	Flowers attractive to pollinators	One tough plant. Tolerates cold, heat, wind, drought, alkaline soils, good for rock garden
68. New England Aster	<i>Symphotrichum novae-angliae</i> (<i>Aster novae-angliae</i>)	Moist - dry	Well-drained, loamy	Full sun to light shade	4'/1.5'	Ray flowers purple, disk flowers yellow, 1" across, clustered at stem tips	August - October	Flowers attractive to late season pollinators	Many horticultural varieties of this perennial aster in shades of white, pink, blue, lavender and deep purple, native to ne WY and much of eastern US, very frost tolerant in fall, clumps can be divided and transplanted
69. Largeleaf Daisy, Easter Daisy	<i>Townsendia grandiflora</i>	Dry - xeric	Well-drained, tolerates alkaline soils, likes limestone	Full sun	8"/8" low growing mound	Ray flowers white, disk flowers yellow, flower heads 1.5" across	April-July	Flowers attractive to earliest pollinators in Spring	Biennial or short-lived perennial, forms low mounds covered with blooms, good for a rock garden, other <i>Townsendia</i> are also good for rock garden, all bloom in early spring
70. Western Spiderwort	<i>Tradescantia occidentalis</i>	Dry - xeric	Well-drained, likes sandy soils	Full sun	18"/12", may form larger clumps	3 petals, bright blue to blue purple, 1.25" across, many flowers per plant, in clusters at ends of stems	May-September	Flowers attract pollinators	Perennial, lily-like, blooms in morning, closes by mid-day, large fleshy root makes transplanting of mature plants almost impossible, can form large clumps with many blooms, reseed readily

71. Yellow Prairie Violet	<i>Viola nuttallii</i>	Dry to xeric	Loam, sand, some clay, adaptable	Full sun	7"/10"	Yellow , marked with brownish lines, .5" across, borne singly at ends of stems	April-June	Flowers attract spring pollinators	A common flower of the prairies around Cheyenne
72. Spanish Bayonet, Soapweed, Yucca	<i>Yucca glauca</i>	Dry to xeric	Rocky, sandy, well-drained	Full sun	3'/3'	Cream to greenish white, drooping, 2" long, 1" across, along a tall spike, open fully at night	May-July	Night blooming, attracts moths which are necessary for pollination	A great specimen plant with sword-like leaves and tall bloom spikes, plant where it doesn't interfere with foot traffic as leaves are very sharp and have coarse, irritating hairs
73. Desert Paperflower, Gold on Blue ^{PS}	<i>Zinnia grandiflora</i>	Dry to xeric	Clay, sandy, rocky	Full sun	8"/12"	Ray flowers yellow, disk flowers orange, flower head 1.5 " across, borne at tips of many stems	July-September	Flowers attract pollinators	Do not overwater, can form large masses of low growing flowers
GRASSES									
74. Indian Ricegrass ^{PS}	<i>Achnatherum hymenoides</i> (<i>Oryzopsis hymenoides</i> , <i>Stipa hymenoides</i>)	Dry	Sandy, loamy, rocky, some clay	Full sun	Bunchgrass, 24"/15"	Inflorescence diffuse along upper stems, small fat seeds droop on wiry branches, dry to ivory color	May - July	Seeds eaten by birds	Use as a specimen grass, has a delicate feathery appearance
75. Big Bluestem, Turkey Foot, Wind Walker Blue ^{PS}	<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>	Moderate to dry, drought tolerant	Well drained, loamy	Full sun	Bunchgrass 6'/18"	3 to 6 elongate spikes at end of stalk, 3" wide, 24" long	July - September	Seeds eaten by birds	Use as a specimen grass, attractive in fall-winter when it turns reddish, can be killed by repeat mowing, leave overwinter, mow in spring

76. Sideoats Grama	<i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i>	Dry	Well drained, rocky	Full sun	Bunchgrass, 1.5'/1.0'	A series of short, nodding spikes borne on one side of upper 1' of stem, each spike 0.5" long	June - August	Seeds eaten by birds	Use as a specimen grass, has attractive seed heads that mix well with native flowers
77. Blue Grama, Blonde Ambition ^{PS}	<i>Bouteloua gracilis</i> (<i>Chondrosum gracile</i>)	Dry	Well-drained, sandy and alkaline soils	Full sun	Densely tufted bunchgrass or rhizomatous, 3-4" tall with 12" flower stems, leaves curly	Inflorescence a sickle-shaped spike, 2" long, usually nodding, 1-3 at tip of each stem	July - September		Use rhizomatous forms for a native grass lawn. Does not green-up until temperatures warm, goes dormant in drought, mow infrequently if at all, select varieties for lawns from local seed sources if possible
78. Buffalo Grass	<i>Bouteloua dactyloides</i> (<i>Buchloe dactyloides</i>)	Moderate - Dry	Loamy to clay	Full sun - light shade	Rhizomatous, mat forming, short curly leaves, up to 12" tall	Male and female inflorescence on separate plants	Does not green-up until late spring, flowers July - August		Perennial, mat-forming grass for native lawn, can be mixed with Blue Grama, mow infrequently, requires a bit more moisture than Blue Grama
79. Western Wheatgrass	<i>Pascopyrum smithii</i> (<i>Elymus</i> s., <i>Agropyron</i> s., <i>Elytrigia</i> s.)	Moist - dry	Loamy to clay	Full sun - light shade	Rhizomatous, up to 2.5 feet tall		Blue-green leaves, flowers June - August	Seeds eaten by birds	Use for a coarse "lawn" area, can be mowed once a year, attractive blue-green color
80. Blue-bunch Wheatgrass	<i>Pseudoroegneria spicata</i> (<i>Elymus spicatus</i> , <i>Agropyron spicatus</i>)	Dry	Well-drained	Full sun	Bunch grass up to 3' tall	Spike-like inflorescence at tops of stems, turn golden	June - August	Seeds eaten by birds	Use for an accent grass, leave seed stalks overwinter for winter structure in landscape
81. Little Bluestem, Standing Ovation ^{PS}	<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	Dry	Well-drained, adaptable to many soils	Full sun	Bunchgrass, up to 2' tall/1' wide	Inflorescence a series of narrow elongate fuzzy racemes turns rust or reddish in fall	July - September	Seeds eaten by birds	Attractive at all seasons, especially in winter when entire plant turns a mahogany-red color, looks good against evergreens or in snow, several varieties with different leaf colors
82. Indian Grass, Thin Man ^{PS}	<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	Moist	Sandy, loamy	Full sun	Bunch grass, up to 9' tall	Inflorescence plume like, turning red or yellow in fall	August - September	Seeds eaten by birds	Use as tall accent grass, leave seed stalks overwinter for attractive winter accent and garden structure

Some Plant Sources:

Native plants can be difficult to find in nurseries. Seed is often easier to locate than potted plants. For both potted plants and seeds, consider the source. Some species of native plants have a wide range, a few even occurring in Europe (as different subspecies or variety). Source your plant material as close to your location as possible to increase success. Do check the scientific names. If you are attempting to grow native plants from seed, be aware that many of the natives require cold stratification of seed to break dormancy and start germination. The easiest method to overcome this type of dormancy is to sow the seed in late fall-winter and place the seeded pot outside in a protected location with some screening to discourage seed eating birds and rodents. Germination rates may be low in native seeds, and some may take a year or more to germinate. Once the seed has germinated and produced true leaves, it is probably time to transplant to a permanent location or at least repot into a bigger pot before the roots get too big for transplanting. Many native plants grow significant roots before much top growth is evident, and do not transplant well after this initial root development, even if the above ground part is small. Be sure to label both seed containers and new little plants and give them some protection.

Following are some sources of Rocky Mountain native plants. Many of these sources have extensive web sites with pictures of plants and detailed growing information. Many other sites offer seed of some native plants and/or some potted native species.

Plant Select Colorado, <https://plantselect.org> Joint program of Colorado State University and The Denver Botanic Gardens to develop plants suitable for the high plains and intermountain region. The plants are tested for several years before release to area nurseries. Plants developed by this program are marked with a P^S. The web site has pictures and growing information on all species released under the Plant Select label. Not all of the plants listed with this label are natives. Some are introductions from other continents that do well in the Rocky Mountain climate. The information states the origin of each species. Nurseries that carry the Plant Select plants are listed on the site.

High Country Gardens, <https://highcountrygardens.com> . A mail order source of plants adapted to the xeric conditions of the high desert and foothills, especially aimed at the Santa Fe, NM area. Many of the plants in the catalog are natives to the high plains and intermountain region. They also carry non-natives adapted to the area, as well as natives from the southwest which will not survive Cheyenne winters.

Colorado Native Plants, <https://coloradonativeplants.com> A small nursery in Lakewood CO, owned by Andrew Wright, specializing in native plants of the great plains. (303) 489-6290

Prairie Moon Nursery, <https://www.prairiemoonnursery.com> Some of the plants offered by this nursery will not do well in Cheyenne. However many of the widespread prairie species should do well in the Cheyenne area. Very informative catalog and web site. 32115 Prairie Lane, Winona, MN 55987, (866) 417-8156

Prairie Nursery, <https://www.prairienursery.com> This nursery offers many native plants of the plains and prairies. Many of the widespread prairie species should do well in the Cheyenne area. P.O. Box 306, Westfield, WI 53964

Piney Island Native Plants, www.pineyislandnativeplants@gmail.com Locally sourced, locally adapted container grown native plants. Plants are grown in easily opened cone-tainers which promote good root development, also in 1 gallon pots. This is not a walk-in retail establishment, so call ahead. Offers perennial forbs, shrubs, willows, grasses. Alisha Bretzman, Conservation Horticulturist, owner, P.O. Box 7002, Sheridan, WY 82801, (307) 683-6753

Pawnee Buttes Seed Co., <https://pawneebuttesseed.com> Offers a variety of native grass, forb, shrub seeds. Aimed primarily at the reclamation and agricultural markets and large quantities. Will sell seed in lots down to one pound and offers several native seed mixes for various habitats. Consider sharing seed among several gardeners. P.O. Box 100, Greeley, CO 80632. Store at 605 25th Street, Greeley. (800) 782-5947 or (970) 356-7002

Wind River Seed Company, windriverseed.com Wyoming's only native seed grower. Aimed at the reclamation market but will sell seed in smaller lots. Consider sharing seed among several gardeners. 3075 Lane 51 1/2, Manderson, WY 82432, (307) 568-3361 or (800) 967-1798

High Plains Environmental Center, <https://high-plains-environmental-center.square.site> .2698 Bluestem Willow Drive, Loveland, CO 80538. (970) 622-9676. A nature center devoted to growing and demonstrating use of native plants. Open all year. Nature trail, demonstration gardens. Annual plant sale held each year starting in late April. Check out web site to learn what plants are available each year.