



Royal Horticultural Society

Gardening without harmful invasive plants

A guide to plants you can use in place of invasive non-natives

Supported by:







Gardening without harmful invasive plants

With over 70,000 plants to choose from and with new varieties being introduced each year, it is no wonder we are a nation of gardeners.

However, a few plants can cause you and our environment problems. These are known as invasive non-native plants. Although they comprise a small minority of all the plants available to buy for your garden, the impact they can have is extensive and may be irreversible. Around 60% of the invasive non-native plant species damaging our natural habitats originate from gardens and garden ponds.

> Some invasive non-native plants might be straightforward for you to keep in check in your garden or garden pond if you can tend to them frequently, but in the wider countryside, where such pruning and weeding effort is not feasible, these plants can cause problems for native plants and animals. Trying to get rid of problem plants from natural habitats, especially important nature conservation sites, is expensive and difficult. Often complete eradication of such plants from the wild becomes impossible, and many hundreds of thousands of pounds are spent each year in an effort to limit their spread.

Other invasive non-native plants can cause you difficulties too. They may quickly outgrow their space or become entrenched so that no matter how hard you try to eliminate them, and regardless of how much of your flower bed is dug up, new shoots may keep on appearing. This guide, produced by the wild plant conservation charity Plantlife and the Royal Horticultural Society, can help you choose plants that are less likely to cause problems to the environment should they escape from your garden. Even the most diligent gardener cannot ensure that their plants do not escape over the garden wall (as berries and seeds may be carried away by birds or the wind), so we hope you will find this helpful.



There are laws surrounding invasive non-native plants. Dumping unwanted plants, for example in a local stream or woodland, is an offence. Government also has powers to ban the sale of invasive plants. At the time of producing this booklet there were no sales bans, but it is worth checking on the websites below to find the latest legislation that may be relevant to you:

Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs - www.defra.gov.uk Scottish Government www.scotland.gov.uk/invasivespecies

At the moment, many invasive plants are still available to buy from garden centres, aquatics centres and other plant retailers. Cuttings from a friend's garden may be taken from invasive plants.

Make sure you know what you are buying and take care before giving or accepting cuttings!

These websites provide more information about invasive plants that you may have in your garden or pond and how to remove them if you wish to: Plantlife - www.plantlife.org.uk Royal Horticultural Society - www.rhs.org.uk Non-Native Species Secretariat - www.nonnativespecies.org

Alternatively, you can contact Plantlife on 01722 342730

How to use this guide

Much of the fun of growing plants comes from the reward of beautiful flowers, scents or foliage. Your choice of plants will often also reflect what you want a plant to do – such as provide nectar to bees and butterflies, be able to thrive in a boggy area of your garden, or provide a screen to separate one area from another.

Invasive plants have sometimes been used in the past for those difficult areas of your garden – a particularly exposed patch, for example, or where a bare wall needs to be covered quickly. Meanwhile plants for other aspects of gardening, like summer bedding plants, are unlikely to be invasive. This booklet covers those areas of the garden where, traditionally, invasive plants have most been used.

The notorious invasive plant Japanese Knotweed, popular in Victorian times, for example, was sought after for its grand size and attractive leaves. We suggest safer tall feature plants with attractive foliage to try in the 'Architectural plants' section.

Although the plants we suggest shouldn't cause you undue problems, as always with gardening, no matter which plants you use you will need to manage your garden by weeding, thinning and pruning at regular intervals.

Please remember that ALL unwanted plant matter should be disposed of responsibly. Compost or throw unwanted plant matter into your green waste bin collection, or take it to your local recycling centre.

The *Be Plant Wise* website has more information about safe disposal of excess plant matter:

www.nonnativespecies.org/beplantwise

Happy invasives-free gardening!



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Within each section the recommended plants cover a range of different sites and cultivation requirements. For example, we list shrubs which offer spring or summer flowers or stunning autumn colours, shrubs that are good for hedging or providing background structure to your borders, and shrubs for sunny or shady spots.

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Berries for birds Nectar source		Provide: shelter/co for wildli	Submergeo aquatic plai		Floating aquatic pla	ant	Marginal / emergent aquatic plant	Bog garden plant	

Symbols under each plant highlight particular conditions the plant requires (for example, wet, dry, acid or alkaline soils, or full sun). Plants able to grow in shade are also indicated. A plant with no symbols is able to cope with a broad range of conditions. The index at the back of this booklet provides full details of each plant's cultivation tolerances.

Groundcover plants

Sunny/exposed sites



Aubrieta deltoidea

Aubretia

Mat-forming perennial to 5cm tall with small, hairy leaves and brightly coloured cross-shaped flowers usually in shades of red or purple. Double-flowered cultivars are available.

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Ceratostigma plumbaginoides Hardy Plumbago

Rhizomatous perennial, woody at the base with wavymargined, bright green leaves (to 10cm long) turning red in autumn. Produces clusters of bright blue flowers in late summer.



Frankenia laevis

Evergreen, prostrate perennial with tiny leaves and the general appearance of a heather. Produces small, five-petalled, pink flowers.



卷 咣 ☀) Genista pilosa

Hairy Greenweed (pictured: cultivar 'Vancouver Gold')

Deciduous, prostrate shrub with dark leaves to 1.5cm long which are covered in silky hairs on the underside. Yellow pea flowers appear in late spring and early summer.

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Geranium 'Mavis Simpson' Crane's-bill 'Mavis Simpson'

Herbaceous perennial to 30cm tall with silvery, lobed leaves. It bears open flowers (to 3.5cm wide) that are pale pink with darker veins.

GARDENING WITHOUT HARMFUL INVASIVE PLANTS

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Geranium sanguineum var. striatum

Striped Bloody Crane's-bill

Herbaceous perennial to 10cm with deeply cut leaves on long spreading stems. Produces large, very pretty, open flowers with very pale pink petals that are darker along the veins.



Lathyrus japonicus subsp. *maritimus* Sea Pea

Prostrate perennial with hairless, glaucous pinnate leaves and clusters of purplish pea flowers.



Silene uniflora 'Robin Whitebreast'

Sea Campion 'Robin Whitebreast'

Semi-evergreen perennial with lance-shaped grey-green leaves borne on prostrate stems. Bears white, double flowers with cut petals.



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Stachys byzantina

Lamb's-ear

Spreading perennial to 45cm tall with elliptic leaves to 10cm which are covered in thick white wool. Small pinkish flowers are carried on woolly stems in summer and autumn.



Veronica perfoliata Digger's Speedwell

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Evergreen perennial bearing low, arching stems with pairs of stalkless, rounded, glaucous, leathery, toothed leaves to 5cm long. Attractive racemes of blue flowers are borne in late summer.





Groundcover plants

Sunny/exposed sites



Groundcover plants

Shady/sheltered sites



Astrantia major

Masterwort

Ground-hugging perennial to 90cm (though often less extensive) with glossy, lobed basal leaves and umbels of small flowers surrounded by white, pink or red bracts.



Lorimer Curator of Native Brooklyn Botanic Garden®

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Bergenia cordifolia & hybrids Elephant-ears

Robust perennials spreading on thick, branching rhizomes. Leaves are large, glossy and paddle-like and purple-tinged in winter. The flowers are usually in shades of pink, borne on fleshy stems.



Leucothoe fontanesiana

Drooping Laurel

Shrub to 2m or so with arching branches carrying evergreen, leathery, lance-shaped leaves and small white flowers in spring. Variegated cultivars are available. Needs a sheltered position.





Pachysandra terminalis **Carpet Box**

Evergreen perennial spreading on smooth stems from which are produced deeply cut, glossy, dark green leaves. Small white flowers are produced in early summer.

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Sarcococca hookeriana var. humilis Christmas Box

Low-growing, suckering shrub grown for its glossy, dark green, narrow leaves and small but fragrant, pink-tinged white flowers produced in winter. The flowers are followed by dark, shiny fruit.

GARDENING WITHOUT HARMFUL INVASIVE PLANTS

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Shady/sheltered sites

Rhizomatous perennial bearing toothed, heart-shaped



bell-shaped, often pink flowers. A great range of cultivars selected for flower and foliage characters is available.

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Crambe maritima

Viola odorata

white spurred flowers.

Waldsteinia ternata

Siberian Waldsteinia

Sweet Violet

Sea-kale

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Heather

Calluna vulgaris

Spreading perennial to 75cm tall with large, thick, lobed, glaucous leaves and dense racemes of white, cross-shaped flowers in early summer.

leaves and, in winter or early spring, perfumed blue or

Rhizomatous, semi-evergreen perennial with lobed,

toothed leaves above which are borne bright yellow, open

Variable shrub to 60cm with tinu, densely packed leaves and

flowers to 1.5cm across in late spring and early summer.





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Naturalising plants

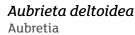


Aethionema 'Warley Rose' Stone Cress 'Warley Rose'

Semi-evergreen subshrub with narrow glaucous leaves (to 1cm) and abundant racemes of pink, cross-shaped flowers in late spring and summer.

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Mat-forming perennial to 5cm tall with small, hairy leaves and brightly coloured cross-shaped flowers usually in shades of red or purple. Double-flowered cultivars are available.

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Campanula rotundifolia

Harebell

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Spreading perennial to 30cm tall with heart-shaped leaves. Slender stems bear nodding, bell-shaped flowers, usually in shades of blue.



Digitalis purpurea Foxglove

Biennial forming a neat rosette of hairy leaves in the first year followed in the second by graceful, one-sided spikes to 2m of tubular, purple flowers with maroon spots on the inside.

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Echium vulgare Viper's-bugloss

Bushy biennial bearing bristly, narrow leaves and in the second year purple, pink-tinged, bell-shaped flowers in dense inflorescences.

GARDENING WITHOUT HARMFUL INVASIVE PLANTS

Eryngium giganteum

Tall Eryngo

Architectural biennial (to 90cm) bearing a rosette of heartshaped leaves. Above these, cylindrical umbels of flowers are set upon a ruff of spiny, silvery bracts.



Iberis saxatilis

Alpine Candytuft

Evergreen subshrub with fleshy leaves to 2cm long (becoming flatter on flowering shoots). The small, white, cross-shaped flowers are borne in late spring and summer.



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Lunaria annua

Honesty

Annual or biennial with toothed, heart-shaped leaves above which appear racemes of four-petalled, bright purple flowers. Can grow to a height of 90cm.



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Asphodeline lutea

Yellow Asphodel

Tall, fleshy-rooted perennial forming clumps of narrow, glaucous leaves topped by dense spikes of fragrant yellow flowers. Grows to 1.5m high.





Camassia quamash Common Camassia

Vigorous, bulbous perennial to 80cm producing bright green, channelled leaves and large, upright spikes of star-shaped, showy blue flowers.





Naturalising plants

Bulbs

Bulbs



Colchicum autumnale

Meadow Saffron

Cormous perennial producing copious pink, goblet-shaped flowers (to 15cm), followed by lance-shaped leaves. Doubleflowered cultivars are available.





Colchicum speciosum Giant Meadow Saffron

Vigorous, cormous perennial to 18cm with narrow leaves. Goblet-shaped flowers are pink-purple, often with a white throat.





Crocus banaticus Byzantine Crocus

Cormous perennial to 10cm producing solitary, purple flowers. The outer tepals are large and boat-shaped, the inner much smaller. Leaves are dark green and linear.



Crocus biflorus

Silvery Crocus

Variable cormous perennial to 6cm carrying flowers which have yellow throats and can be found in shades of blue or white, sometimes with purple striping.



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Cormous perennial to 5cm with flowers which can vary in colour from pale cream to deep yellow, often with a purplish suffusion on the exterior.

GARDENING WITHOUT HARMFUL INVASIVE PLANTS

Crocus etruscus

Tuscan Crocus

Cormous perennial to 8cm usually seen with lilac-blue flowers that are silvery brown on the outside. Leaves are produced after the flowers.



Crocus laevigatus

Smooth Crocus

Variable cormous perennial to 8cm with usually white to lilac, fragrant flowers often with distinct feathering. Flowers are produced simultaneously with the dark green, linear leaves.





Crocus nudiflorus

Autumn Crocus

Spreading, cormous perennial to 20cm. Its purple flowers with a long tube are produced before the narrow leaves.





Autumn

Crocus tommasinianus

Early Crocus

Variable cormous perennial to 10cm with pale-striped linear leaves and flowers which can be pale lilac to deep purple.



Spring 🔆 🔿

Cyclamen coum Eastern Sowbread

Tuberous perennial to 8cm with silver-patterned, rounded, deep green leaves and flowers in shades of pink with swept back tepals.



Naturalising plants

Bulbs

Bulbs



Cyclamen hederifolium

Sowbread

Tuberous perennial producing waxy heart-shaped or triangular leaves with pale patterning. The flowers are in shades of pink, borne singly on upright stems and have twisted, swept back tepals.





Dierama pulcherrimum Angel's Fishing-rod

Cormous perennial to 1.5m with narrow, grass-like leaves and graceful, arching stems of pendant, bell-shaped flowers in shades of pink. It requires plentiful water when in growth and may be susceptible to hard frost.



Fritillaria meleagris Snake's-head Fritillary

Bulbous perennial to 30cm with delicate stems that carry heavy, pendant flowers (to 4.5cm long). The flowers are in shades of pinkish purple with dark checkering.





Galtonia candicans Summer Hyacinth

Bulbous perennial with fleshy, lance-shaped leaves and leafless stems to 1.2m tall. Bears pendant, white, bell-shaped flowers that are each 5cm long. Soils need to be moist in spring and summer but drier over winter.



举 Spring

Narcissus 'Actaea' Daffodil 'Actaea'

Strongly fragrant bulbous perennial to 45cm. The white flowers have a short, cup-shaped corona which is yellow margined red. Leaves are narrow and hairless.

GARDENING WITHOUT HARMFUL INVASIVE PLANTS

Narcissus 'Hawera'

Daffodil 'Hawera'

Bulbous perennial producing multiple flowers per bulb, each of which are buttery yellow and wide-spreading with a short, broad corona.



Scilla siberica

Siberian Squill

Bulbous perennial to about 15cm with shiny, lance-shaped leaves and pendant, bright blue flowers to 1.5cm across.





Angelica gigas

Purple Angelica

Herb to 2m tall with toothed, pinnate leaves. Dark red umbels of flowers are borne on red stems in late summer. Biennial or short-lived perennial.



Aralia cachemirica

Angelica-tree

Huge leaves to 1.2m long divided into shiny leaflets above which appear spikes of starry umbels to 3m tall.



Crambe cordifolia Greater Sea-kale

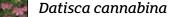
Huge clumps of heart-shaped foliage to 1.5m across are topped by branching sprays of small white flowers to 2m high.





Architectural plants

Herbaceous



Cretan Hemp

Slender stems to 3m bear delicate, dissected leaves and tassels of green flowers.





Eupatorium maculatum Atropurpureum Group Joe Pye Weed

Perennial to 3m with domed heads of purple flowers over whorls of dark foliage.

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Ferula communis Giant Fennel

Robust perennial to 3m tall with finely cut pinnate leaves and dramatic, much-branched inflorescences bearing umbels of yellow flowers.



Herb to 2.5m tall with glossy, pinnate leaves and umbels of yellow flowers in midsummer.



Rheum palmatum Ornamental Rhubarb

A huge ornamental rhubarb to 2.5m tall or more with large, deeply lobed leaves and upright spikes of small greenish flowers.

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Rodgersia aesculifolia

Chestnut-leaved Rodgersia

Large, wrinkled basal leaves are palmately divided and bear branching stems of small pink or white flowers. Forms clumps to 1.5m across.



Thalictrum rochebrunianum

Meadow-rue

Much-divided foliage bears frothy lavender and yellow flowers to 3m or more in height.



Architectural plants

Herbaceous



Veronicastrum virginicum Culver's Root

Perennial to 2m or more bearing architectural whorls of toothed foliage and tall wands of lilac flowers.



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Astelia chathamica

Silver Spear

Clump-forming perennial to 1.2m tall bearing clumps of broad, channelled, silvery leaves. Yellowish green flowers are sometimes produced and followed by orange berries.



Chusquea culeou

Chilean Bamboo

Erect, clump-forming bamboo with solid, yellow-green stems growing to 6m in ideal conditions with a spread of 2.5m.





Architectural plants

Grasses & bamboos



Fargesia nitida

Fountain Bamboo

Graceful, slow-growing bamboo forming clumps of slender, dark purple canes growing to a height of 5m with a spread of 1.5m.





Phyllostachys nigra Black Bamboo

Clump-forming bamboo with arching, slender canes turning deep black. Grows to 5m with a spread of 3m.



Pleioblastus simonii Simon's Bamboo

Fairly small bamboo to 3m in height. The variegated cultivar 'Variegatus' has linear, white-striped leaves.



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Stipa gigantea Golden Oats

Forms dense, evergreen clumps over which are carried high plumes of golden flowers.

GARDENING WITHOUT HARMFUL INVASIVE PLANTS



Actinidia kolomikta

Kolomikta

Vigorous twining climber to 5m or more, rarely producing its small flowers but bearing large leaves that become attractively variegated white and pink in the upper half.



Akebia quinata Chocolate Vine

Striking, purple, sausage-shaped fruits to 10cm long are borne on a twining semi-evergreen climber. The leaves are in five parts and the fragrant brownish flowers are attractive. Climbs to 10m.

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Ceanothus arboreus 'Trewithen Blue'

Californian Lilac 'Trewithen Blue'

Evergreen shrub to 5m or so with glossy, dark green, oval leaves to 10cm long. In spring and summer frothy heads of blue flowers are borne in abundance. May be damaged by frosts.



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Chaenomeles japonica

Japanese Quince

Spreading, thorny shrub to 1m tall and 2m across bearing large orange-red flowers in spring as the glossy leaves appear. The fruits are red, tinged with yellow and around 4cm long.

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Chaenomeles × superba 'Rowallane'

Japanese Quince 'Rowallane'

Spiny deciduous shrub to 1m bearing glossy green leaves and scarlet flowers to 4cm across. Flowers may be followed by yellowish fruit.







Climbers / Plants to cover walls



Clematis cultivars

Clematis

'Etoile Rose' (pictured) is a reliable small-flowered climber carrying nodding, bell-shaped pink flowers from midsummer to autumn. Place its roots in shade.

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Clematis cultivars

'Hagley Hybrid' (pictured) is a robust large-flowered climber bearing broad pinkish flowers in summer. Place its roots in shade.





Elaeagnus × *ebbingei* Ebbinge's Silverberry

Evergreen shrub to 4m with a dense, leafy habit. Leaves are leathery with silver scales on the underside. The flowers, produced in autumn are small, white and extremely fragrant. There are several variegated cultivars.



Euonymus fortunei 'Silver Queen' Spindle 'Silver Queen'

Evergreen shrub to 2.5m with flexible stems bearing waxy, white-margined leaves. White fruit opening to reveal orange-coated seeds may be produced after the small flowers.



Hedera algeriensis 'Gloire de Marengo' Ivy 'Glorie de Marengo'

Large-leaved ivy with creamy marginal variegation with long, easily trained stems. Tolerant of a wide range of conditions once established.

GARDENING WITHOUT HARMFUL INVASIVE PLANTS

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Hedera colchica 'Sulphur Heart'

Persian Ivy 'Sulphur Heart'

Large-leaved ivy with a large central, golden variegation growing to perhaps 5m. Tolerant of a wide range of conditions once established.

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Hydrangea petiolaris Climbing Hydrangea

Deciduous climber with leaves turning yellow before falling. Grows to 10m or more and carries domes of white flowers with bracteate flowers at the margins. Avoid shallow, chalky soils.



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Indigofera heterantha

Himalayan Indigo

Spreading shrub to 3m bearing pinnate, grey-green leaves to 10cm long on arching branches. Throughout summer racemes of purple-pink pea flowers are produced.



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Itea ilicifolia

Holly-leaved Sweet-spire

Evergreen shrub with arching, flexible shoots to 5m tall with sharp-pointed, glossy leaves to 10cm long. Pendant racemes (to 30cm long) of small, greenish flowers make a graceful display from midsummer into autumn. Needs shelter from cold winds.



Jasminum nudiflorum

Winter Jasmine

Deciduous shrub to 3m with wiry, green stems which bear pinnate leaves to 3cm long in summer. Bright yellow flowers to 2cm across appear in winter and early spring.

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Climbers / Plants to cover walls



Myrtus communis

Common Murtle

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Evergreen shrub to 3m bearing a dense coverage of dark green aromatic foliage and, from midsummer, white flowers with prominent stamens which are followed by black fruit. Not fully hardy; shelter from cold winds.

Strong-growing, twining climber to 7m. Very fragrant white

flowers, aging yellow, are followed by red fruit.



Pileostegia viburnoides

Climbing Hydrangea

Evergreen climber to 6m with attractively leathery, oblong leaves and creamy white flowers in late summer. May suffer in the coldest winter weather



Rosa 'New Dawn' Rose 'New Dawn'

A vigorous climbing rose with arching stems bearing glossy leaves and full, palest pink flowers. Suitable for sun or partial shade. A great range of climbing roses, providing for different aspects and effects, are available.

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Stachyurus praecox Early Stachyurus

Deciduous shrub to 4m with arching stems and egg-shaped leaves. In spring stiff, hanging racemes of bell-shaped greenish yellow flowers are borne on the bare stems. Needs shelter from cold winds.

GARDENING WITHOUT HARMFUL INVASIVE PLANTS

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Lonicera periclymenum 'Graham Thomas' Trachelospermum jasminoides 'Variegatum' Variegated Star Jasmine

Glossy-leaved, twining climber with foliage margined and splashed with white. Bears starry, fragrant white flowers in summer. Requires shelter from cold winds and may be susceptible to frost.



Vitis coignetiae

Crimson Glory-vine

Vigorous, tendril climber with large, lobed leaves to 30cm across that turn yellow, then bright red, in autumn.





Wisteria floribunda cultivars

Japanese Wisteria

Numerous wisteria cultivars are offered. 'Yae-kokuryu' (pictured) has large, very fragrant racemes of double flowers.



Abelia \times grandiflora Glossy Abelia

Semi-evergreen shrub to 3m bearing glossy, dark green leaves and fragrant pinkish white tubular flowers that fall





Acer palmatum var. dissectum

Cut-leaved Japanese Maple

to reveal persistent pink caluces.

Rounded shrub bearing deeply cut, sometimes purple, foliage that colours up well in autumn and is often accompanied by ornamental winged fruits. Protect from cold, drying winds.



Shrubs



Aucuba japonica 'Crotonifolia' Spotted-laurel

Dependable shrub to 3m tall grown primarily for its glossy, toothed leaves (to 20cm long) which are speckled with yellow markings. Small purple flowers may be followed by bright red berries. Grows best in partial shade.





Buxus sempervirens

Box

Dense-growing, rounded shrub eventually to 5m but responding well to pruning. Leaves evergreen, small and dark green. Produces small and yellowish flowers in spring. If positioned in full sun it will need a moist soil.



Camellia japonica cultivars

Common Camellia

Evergreen shrubs to 4m or more, with glossy, toothed elliptic leaves. A huge number of cultivars have been selected often with large double flowers in shades of pink.



Cornus alba White Dogwood

Hardy and resilient deciduous shrub to 3m tall bearing red bark and available as several variegated cultivars. Good for background structure or screening. Grow in full sun for most striking stem colour.

Cotinus coggygria Smoke Tree

Shrub to 5m with oval leaves turning rich orange and red in autumn and retaining whispy panicles after flowering. Purple-leaved forms available. Coloured-leaved cultivars perform best in full sun.

GARDENING WITHOUT HARMFUL INVASIVE PLANTS

$Elaeagnus \times ebbingei$

Ebbinge's Silverberry

Evergreen shrub to 4m with a dense, leafy habit. Good for background structure or screening. Leaves are leathery with silver scales on the underside. Variegated cultivars are available. Extremely fragrant, small, white flowers are produced in autumn.



Enkianthus campanulatus

Redvein Enkianthus

Deciduous shrub to 4m or so with toothed leaves on whorled branches turning yellowish in autumn. Dainty, pendant, bell-shaped, creamy flowers (with red on the veins) are produced in late spring.



Escallonia macrantha

Escallonia

A fine shrub to 4m but easily pruned with dark, glossy, aromatic leaves and tubular, rosy flowers. Good as a windbreak, though may be susceptible to frost in inland areas.



Forsythia × intermedia

Forsythia

Easily propagated, pollution-tolerant deciduous shrub to 2m tall bearing bright golden flowers on bare stems in spring. Good for background structure or screening.



Garrya elliptica

Silk-tassel Bush (pictured: cultivar 'James Roof')

Hard-wearing evergreen shrub to 4m with glossy, greygreen, opposite leaves. Highly ornamental catkins are borne in winter and early spring. Good windbreak.





Hamamelis vernalis

Spring Witch-hazel

Upright shrub bearing spidery yellow or orange flowers on bare twigs in winter and spring. The leaves turn clear yellow in autumn.





Hebe rakaiensis Rakai Hebe

Dense shrub to 1m with glossy green leaves to 2cm long thickly covering a rounded bush. The white racemes of flowers (to 4cm long) are borne in summer. Good for hedging. Will tolerate maritime exposure but not very cold winds.



Hebe topiaria Topiarist's Hebe

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Summer

Summer

Dense, low-growing shrub to 60cm with glossy, grey-green leaves to 1.5cm long. Racemes of white flowers to 2cm are carried in summer. Good for hedging. Will tolerate maritime exposure but not very cold winds.





Hydrangea macrophylla Mophead Hydrangea

Compact, deciduous shrub to 2m with opposite, broad leaves to 20cm long. There are many cultivars which bear domes of flowers in a great range of colours, some formed of entirely sterile bracts and others with fertile flowers at the centre.

Hydrangea serrata Lacecap Hydrangea

Deciduous shrub with opposite leaves to 15cm long and flattened domes of flowers which bear colourful sterile bracts at the margins. Many cultivars are available.

GARDENING WITHOUT HARMFUL INVASIVE PLANTS

Ilex aquifolium

Holly

Hardy evergreen shrub bearing spiny, glossy foliage when young. Available in a range of variegated cultivars. Female plants bear red berries. Good as a windbreak.

Ligustrum lucidum Chinese Privet

Evergreen shrub or tree easily pruned to size with glossy, dark green leaves. Variegated cultivars are available. Good for background structure or screening.





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Magnolia stellata

Star Magnolia

Deciduous shrub, becoming spreading with age, bearing narrow leaves to 10cm long. Silky buds carried on the bare branches open into white, star-like flowers, 12cm across. Shelter from cold winds and avoid transplanting.



$Magnolia \times soulangeana$

Chinese Magnolia

Variable large shrub to 6m with dark green leaves to 20cm long. Large goblet-shaped flowers (to 30cm across) ranging from white to purple. Shelter from cold winds and avoid transplanting.

Spring PH

Nandina domestica Heavenly Bamboo

eavenly Bamboo

Bamboo like stems carry graceful compound, evergreen leaves that turn vivid red in autumn and winter. Small, starry flowers are sometimes followed by bright red fruit. Requires a sheltered site to thrive.







Shrubs



New Zealand Hollu

Olearia macrodonta

Shrub, eventually to 5m, with holly-like, greyish leaves. Profuse heads of fragrant, daisy-like flowers are borne in summer. A good windbreak.



Olearia x haastii Daisy-bush

Tough, bushy evergreen shrub to 2m tall with dark green leaves felted on the underside. Produces daisy flowers in summer. Good for background structure or screening.



Osmanthus x burkwoodii Burkwood Osmanthus

Evergreen shrub to 3m with a dense habit and toothed, dark green leaves. The small, tubular white flowers are extremely fragrant.



Philadelphus coronarius Mock-orange

Shrub to 3m bearing toothed, deciduous leaves and highly fragrant, creamy, cup-shaped flowers (to 2.5cm across) in early summer.



Photinia × fraseri Christmas Berry

Evergreen shrub growing to 5m but easily pruned to size. White flowers are carried in spring and young foliage is bright red. Good for background structure or screening. Needs protection from cold winds.

GARDENING WITHOUT HARMFUL INVASIVE PLANTS

Pieris japonica

Lily-of-the-valley Bush

Evergreen shrub of neat habit to 4m tall with toothed elliptic leaves that are reddish when young. Panicles of numerous urn-shaped, white flowers appear from pink buds. Several cultivars are available. Protect young growth from late frosts.



Sarcococca hookeriana

Sweet Box

Small, suckering shrub to 1.5m forming neat clumps of upright stems which bear glossy, broadly lance-shaped leaves. In winter, clusters of sweetly fragrant, small white flowers form and are followed by shiny black fruit.

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Skimmia japonica 'Nymans'

Skimmia 'Nymans'

A spreading shrub to 1m x 2m bearing glossy, evergreen, aromatic foliage. Fragrant white flowers and round, red fruits are freely produced.



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Viburnum betulifolium

Birch-leaf Viburnum

Deciduous shrub with an upright habit growing to 3m tall. The white flowers in early summer are followed by pendant clusters of bright red fruit which persist well through the winter.



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Viburnum × burkwoodii cultivars

Burkwood Viburnum

Evergreen shrub to 3m with dark green, shiny leaves. Globes of very fragrant white flowers to 10cm across open from pink buds and are sometimes followed by small red fruit (turning black).









Acer palmatum

Japanese Maple

Small tree bearing graceful, lobed leaves that become scarlet in autumn. Many choice cultivars are available.

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Arbutus × andrachnoides Hybrid Strawberry Tree

Tree to 8m with peeling red bark and glossy, toothed leaves that are glaucous on the underside. The small flowers are white and appear in autumn. Alkaline soils may be tolerated but acid is preferred. Shelter from cold winds.



Cercis siliquastrum Judas Tree

Deciduous tree to 10m bearing pink, pea flowers which appear on the bare stems. The attractive foliage is glossy and heart-shaped.



Crataegus laevigata 'Paul's Scarlet' Hawthorn 'Paul's Scarlet'

Thorny, deciduous tree to 8m. Bears a great profusion of bright red-pink, very double flowers in late spring.





Spreading, semi-deciduous tree to 7m bearing domed heads of white flowers followed by orange-red fruits to 2cm across that persist through the winter.

GARDENING WITHOUT HARMFUL INVASIVE PLANTS

Fraxinus ornus

Manna Ash

Deciduous tree to 15m with pinnate leaves that turn red in autumn. Creamy white flowers are followed by pendulous clusters of winged yellow or red fruit.



Liquidambar styraciflua

Sweet Gum

Conical tree to 20m with neatly lobed leaves turning deep bronze, red and orange before falling. For best autumn colour plant in full sun. Can tolerate alkaline conditions where soils are deep.



Magnolia grandiflora

Large-flowered Magnolia

Magnificent tree to 10m or more with large, very glossy, bright green leaves that are rusty brown on the underside. Bears huge, cup-shaped, fragrant white flowers. May be damaged by very cold weather.



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Malus 'Golden Hornet'

Crab Apple 'Golden Hornet'

Deciduous tree to 8m with a rounded habit. White flowers in spring are followed by copious, spherical, golden yellow fruit to 2cm across which are carried over a long period.



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Nyssa sylvatica Tupelo

Broadly conical tree to 15m. Leaves produce spectacular fiery shades in autumn. Shelter from cold winds and plant out when young.



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Parrotia persica

Persian Ironwood

Spreading tree to 8m tall bearing peeling bark and spidery, bright red flowers in winter and early spring. Produces firecoloured autumn foliage. Grow in acid soil for best autumn colour.

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Prunus cerasifera 'Pissardii' Cherry Plum 'Pissardii'

Purple-leaved deciduous tree to 10m bearing cup-shaped flowers (2.5cm across) that are pink, fading to white.

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Sorbus 'Joseph Rock' Mountain Ash 'Joseph Rock'

Deciduous tree to 10m bearing pinnate leaves that colour well in autumn. Spring white flowers are followed by round, pale yellow fruit to 1cm across.



Sorbus thibetica 'John Mitchell'

Tibetan Whitebeam 'John Mitchell'

Tree to 20m or so with very broad, round, silver-grey leaves with heads of white flowers in spring followed by yellowish fruit to 1.5cm across.

GARDENING WITHOUT HARMFUL INVASIVE PLANTS

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Anthriscus sylvestris 'Ravenswing'

Cow Parsley 'Ravenswing'

Biennial, or short-lived perennial, to 1m tall with lacy, dark foliage. Umbels of pink flowers on slender stems are carried early in the season.



Aster linosyris Goldilocks Aster

GOIGIIOCKS ASTER Clumping perennial with erect stems of golden yellow





Aster novi-belgii

Michaelmas Daisy

Clump-forming perennial to 1.2m. Available as a wide range of cultivars mostly with violet, daisy flowers in late summer and autumn.

flowers to 70cm high in late summer and early autumn.



Tate Season

Buddleja globosa

Orange-ball-tree

Erect, deciduous shrub with orange flowers borne in eyecatching spheres in June. May be damaged by hard frosts.



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Ceanothus thyrsiflorus Californian Lilac

Dense evergreen shrub providing cover and shelter for wildlife. Bears bright blue flowers in early summer. Hardy in all but the coldest areas.





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Chimonanthus praecox

Wintersweet

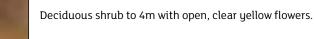
Strong-growing deciduous shrub to 4m with glossy lanceolate leaves to 20cm. Nodding, deliciously fragrant, greenish-yellow flowers are produced on the bare twigs in winter. The flowers are often stained purple inside and are up to 2.5cm across.

Chimonanthus praecox 'Luteus'



Wintersweet 'Luteus'







$Erica \times darleyensis$

Darley Dale Heath (pictured: cultivar 'Arthur Johnson')

Low-growing shrub with needle-like leaves, bearing flowers in late winter and spring. Flowers are urn-shaped, usually in shades of pink and form racemes to 10cm long. Many cultivars are available. Alkaline soils may be tolerated.





Hamamelis × intermedia Intermediate Witch-hazel

Shrub to 4m with upright branches which carry green leaves (to 15cm) that turn yellow in autumn. In winter the bare twigs bear spidery, fragrant flowers in shades of yellow, orange or red. Various cultivars are available.



Early Season

Heliotropium arborescens Common Heliotrope

Bushy, low-growing shrub best grown as an annual with dark, wrinkled leaves and flat heads of violet-blue flowers that are carried in summer.

GARDENING WITHOUT HARMFUL INVASIVE PLANTS

Hesperis matronalis

Dame's-violet

Biennial, or short-lived perennial, to 1m forming a rosette of basal leaves. Leafy stems bear cross-shaped flowers to 4cm across, in white or shades of purple.



Hyssopus officinalis

Hyssop

Dwarf semi-evergreen shrub to 60cm with small, dense, aromatic foliage and spikes of two-lipped, dark blue flowers from midsummer.



Ilex aquifolium 'J. C. van Tol'

Holly 'J.C. van Tol'

Self-fertile tree to 6m with glossy evergreen, fairly spine-free leaves and copious bright red berries.







4 🛎

$Ilex \times altaclarensis$

Highclere Holly

Evergreen shrubs providing cover and shelter for wildlife, with broad, glossy leaves that are variegated in many cultivars. Female plants bear fruit. May be damaged by hard frosts.



Kniphofia rooperi

Rooper's Red-hot-poker

Imposing perennial to 1.2m with clumps of broadly linear leaves and impressive, fat heads of red hot poker flowers in autumn.



Plants for wildlife



Mahonia × media

Yellow Lily-of-the-valley Bush

Upright shrub, eventually to 5m, with leathery, hairless, sharp-pointed pinnate leaves to 45cm long and racemes of fragrant yellow flowers to 35cm long at the ends of the shoots. If planting in full sun requires damp soil.



Malus 'Golden Hornet'

Crab Apple 'Golden Hornet'

Deciduous tree to 8m with copious, spherical, golden yellow fruit to 2cm across which are carried over a long period. White flowers are produced in spring.





Matthiola longipetala subsp. *bicornis* Night-scented Stock

Annual with linear or lobed, grey-green leaves to 8cm long. In summer four-petalled flowers (2cm across) in shades of pink and purple are borne in loose racemes.





Narcissus cultivars

Bulbous perennials flowering in late winter and spring. Flowers are mostly in shades of yellow (sometimes white or pink) and have outer tepals and a central corona. Choose single-flowered cultivars for best wildlife value.



Nicotiana alata Sweet Tobacco

Earlu Season

Perennial but usually grown as an annual. Forms a rosette of leaves from which emerge loose racemes of strongly fragrant flowers, spreading at the mouth from a long tube. Flowers are greenish yellow outside and white within.

GARDENING WITHOUT HARMFUL INVASIVE PLANTS

Nicotiana sylvestris

Flowering Tobacco

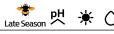
Biennial, or short-lived perennial, to 1.5m tall. Produces a rosette of dark leaves from which emerges an inflorescence bearing strongly fragrant white flowers with long tubes to 10cm. May survive outdoors but best raised from seed each year.



Sedum spectabile

Butterfly Stonecrop

Easily propagated, fleshy perennial with flat heads of (usually) pink flowers. For best wildlife value sterile hybrids should be avoided. Neutral, moderately fertile soil is best.



Silene noctiflora

Night-flowering Catchfly

Annual to 60cm with hairy leaves and upright sticky stems bearing fragrant, yellowish, pink-tinged flowers which open at night.









Valeriana officinalis

Common Valerian

Pinnate-leaved, clump-forming perennial to 80cm tall or more with upright stems bearing flat-topped pink or white flowerheads.



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Viburnum × bodnantense

Bodnant Viburnum

Deciduous shrub to 3m bearing toothed leaves to 10cm that have a reddish tinge when young. The highly fragrant, tubular flowers in shades of pink are borne in clusters at the ends of the branches.



Early Season

Plants for ponds and bog gardens

Plants for ponds and bog gardens



Ceratophyllum demersum Rigid Hornwort

small and insignificant, borne in summer.

Callitriche stagnalis

Common Water-starwort

Submerged oxygenating plant with low light requirements. Perennial with stiff stems eventually growing to 1m if left unchecked. Leaves are dark green and forked into linear, toothed segments. Prefers quite nutrient rich water.

Oxygenating perennial with narrow, opposite submerged

leaves that become broader in the open air. The flowers are



Eleocharis acicularis

Needle Spike-rush

Rhizomatous oxygenating perennial to 10cm with rush-like leaves and flowers in spikelets to 5mm (not produced when submerged).



Fontinalis antipyretica

Attractive, evergreen, oxygenating moss lacking proper roots with shoots to 15cm long and tightly packed leaves to 5mm.



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Hottonia palustris Water-violet

Perennial oxygenator with whorled, pinnate, narrow-lobed leaves. Whorls of lilac, yellow-throated flowers to 2.5cm across are borne on upright stems that appear above the surface of the water in spring.

GARDENING WITHOUT HARMFUL INVASIVE PLANTS

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Myriophyllum spicatum

Spiked Water-milfoil

Perennial oxygenator with whorls of deeply divided leaves borne on stems to 1m or more. In summer small reddish flowers are carried just above the water.

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Myriophyllum verticillatum Whorled Water-milfoil

Perennial oxygenator with whorls of deeply divided leaves and linear leaflets borne on stems to 1m or more. In summer very small yellowish flowers are carried just above the surface of the water.

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Potamogeton crispus Curled Pondweed

Perennial oxygenator bearing submerged, dissected, almost translucent leaves and leathery, floating leaves with very undulating margins. The flowers are very small and whitish, carried just above the water.

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Ranunculus aquatilis

Common Water-crowfoot

Pretty annual/short-lived perennial with submerged branching stems and finely divided leaves and floating lobed, kidney-shaped leaves. Produces white flowers (2cm) at the water's surface in summer. Prefers shallow water with good nutrient levels.



Hydrocharis morsus-ranae Froqbit

Stoloniferous perennial spreading on the surface of water and producing rounded, glossy leaves to 3cm long. White, bowl-shaped flowers, 2cm across, yellow at the centre are borne in the summer. Less vigorous in deeper water.

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Plants for ponds and bog gardens

Plants for ponds and bog gardens



Nymphaea alba

White Water-lily

Perennial with floating, rounded, dark green, often redtinged leaves to about 30cm across. The starburst flowers to 20cm or more across are white with yellow centres. FOR LARGE PONDS ONLY.

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Nymphaea hardy hybrids Garden Water-lily

There are many hybrids to choose from. *Nymphaea* 'Marliacea Albida' (pictured) has cup-shaped flowers to 15cm across that are white with yellow centres.

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Alisma plantago-aquatica Water-plantain

Perennial to 1m bearing linear submerged leaves and rosettes of long-stalked, lance-shaped, greyish leaves above the water. Produces very pale pink flowers to 1.5cm on much-branched inflorescences in summer. Best in water 15-30cm deep.





Butomus umbellatus

Flowering-rush

Perennial to 1.5m with rush-like, twisted leaves emerging purple and turning green. Umbels of fragrant pink flowers to 2.5cm across are borne in late summer on tall stems. Grow in mud or water to 25cm deep.

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Caltha palustris Marsh-marigold

Rhizomatous perennial bearing kidney-shaped leaves to 10cm long. Open, waxy, yellow flowers are carried on stems to 45cm in spring.

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Canna 'Endeavour'

Water Canna 'Endeavour'

Tender, rhizomatous perennial to 1.8m with erect, glaucous, paddle-shaped leaves and spikes of narrow-petalled red flowers to 5cm across in summer and autumn. Lift tubers and overwinter in frost-free conditions.



Canna 'Erebus'

Water Canna 'Erebus'

Tender, rhizomatous perennial to 1.2m with erect, dark green, paddle-shaped leaves and spikes of exotic salmon flowers to 8cm across in summer and autumn. Lift tubers and overwinter in frost-free conditions.



Canna 'Ra'

Water Canna 'Ra'

Tender, rhizomatous perennial to 1.8m with erect, slender, green leaves and spikes of exotic lemon yellow flowers in summer and autumn. Lift tubers and overwinter in frost-free conditions.





Chrysosplenium davidianum

David's Golden-saxifrage

Mat-forming perennial to 8cm tall with hairy, rounded, dark green leaves and greenish yellow, cup-shaped flowers above leafy bracts.



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Lysimachia nummularia 'Aurea'

Golden Creeping-Jenny

Prostrate perennial grown for its rounded, golden leaves in opposite pairs but also bearing yellow, cup-shaped flowers in summer.





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Plants for ponds and bog gardens

Plants for ponds and bog gardens

Astilboides tabularis

Common Astilboides

Clump-forming perennial with large, round leaves to 90cm long. Small, white flowers are borne on long stalks in summer. Can cope with wet but not waterlogged soils.

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Carex elata 'Aurea'

Bowles's Golden Sedge

Rhizomatous, perennial sedge to 70cm, dying back in winter with leaves that bear a central, golden variegation. Small flowers are produced in spring and early summer.

Ø BOG

Darmera peltata

Indian-rhubarb

Slow-spreading rhizomatous perennial bearing umbrellalike leaves to 60cm across, preceded by heads of bright pink flowers on long stalks. Will tolerate drier conditions in a shady position.



Ø BOG

Eriophorum angustifolium

Common Cottongrass

A spreading, perennial member of the sedge family growing to about 40cm and producing spikes of cotton-like flowers in summer. Survives in water to 5cm deep.

※ 만 BOG

Hosta 'Sum and Substance'

Plantain Lily 'Sum and Substance'

Large, ribbed, heart-shaped yellow or green leaves and spikes of bell-shaped lilac flowers in summer.

🖉 🐣 BOG





Christopher Whitehouse (5)

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Menyanthes trifoliata



Myosotis scorpioides Water Forget-me-not

Mentha aquatica

Water Mint

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Bogbean

PONDS ONLY

Creeping, rhizomatous perennial with leaves to 10cm and, in summer, a profusion of bright blue, very open flowers to 8mm across with a paler eye. Grows best in water to 10cm deep.

Rhizomatous perennial to 90cm with purple stems and

narrow, toothed, hairy and aromatic leaves. In summer

dense spheres of tubular lilac flowers are produced. Grows

in water to 15cm deep. Plant in baskets to contain spread.

Rhizomatous perennial forming floating mats of three-

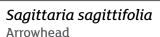
parted leaves with leaflets to 6cm long. Erect inflorescences

of white, star-shaped flowers are sometimes produced

in summer. WILL NEED REGULAR TRIMMING: FOR LARGE







Spreading perennial bearing arrow-shaped leaves with long lobes at the base and 1m tall inflorescences carrying white flowers to 2.5cm across. In deep water long, floating leaves may also be produced. FOR LARGE PONDS ONLY

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Thalia dealbata Powdery Alligator-flag

Perennial to 2.5m bearing lanceolate grey-green leaves on long stalks. Striking, violet flowers are borne in slender spikes in summer. Not fully hardy and may be deciduous in cold weather.

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Plants for ponds and bog gardens

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Iris ensata

Japanese Iris

Rhizomatous iris to 90cm with narrow leaves. Purple or reddish flowers are borne in midsummer.

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Iris pseudacorus Yellow Iris

Vigorous, rhizomatous perennial to 1.5m tall with lanceshaped, greyish leaves and bright yellow flowers with darker markings. FOR LARGE PONDS ONLY.

рH BOG

Iris sibirica Siberian Iris

Rhizomatous iris to 120cm tall with narrow leaves and bluish flowers. A parent of many fine cultivars.

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Ligularia 'Gregynog Gold' Leopard Plant 'Gregynog Gold'

Award-winning hybrid with rounded leaves to 35cm long. Bears pyramids (to 1.8m tall) of golden daisy flowers 10cm across in late summer and autumn. Needs protection from very hot sun.

BOG ×

Zantedeschia aethiopica Altar-lily

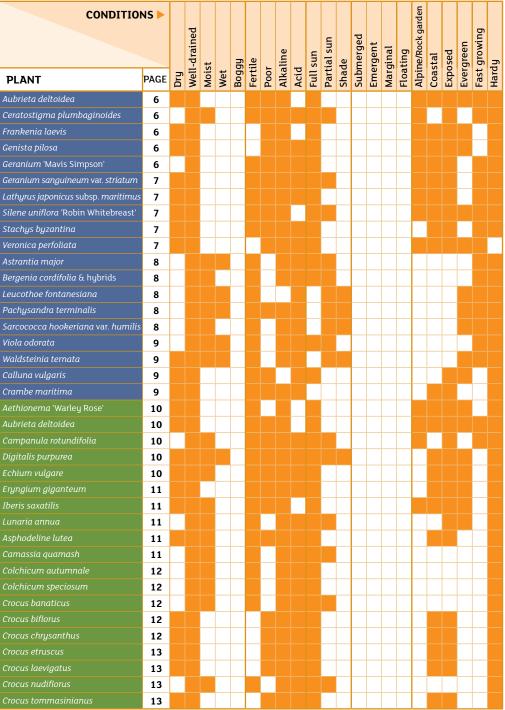
Rhizomatous perennial with large, arrow-shaped, glossy green leaves and big, white, arum-like flowers on stems to 1m or more. May need winter protection with fleece or a mulch.

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BOG

Cultivation chart & index



A PLANTLIFE / RHS GUIDE

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GARDENING WITHOUT HARMFUL INVASIVE PLANTS

CONDITIO	NS 🕨		Well-drained	st		6	ile		line		sun	Partial sun	de	Submerged	rgent	Marginal	Floating	Alpine/Rock garden	stal	Exposed	Evergreen	Fast growing	ly
PLANT	PAGE	Dry	Well	Moist	Wet	Boggy	Fertile	Poor	Alkaline	Acid	Full sun	Part	Shade	Subr	Eme	Març	Floa	Alpir	Coastal	Expo	Ever	Fast	Hardy
Sedum spectabile	37																						
Silene noctiflora	37																						
Valeriana officinalis	37																						
Viburnum × bodnantense	37																						
Callitriche stagnalis	38																						
Ceratophyllum demersum	38																						
Eleocharis acicularis	38																						
Fontinalis antipyretica	38																						
Hottonia palustris	38																						
Myriophyllum spicatum	39																						
Myriophyllum verticillatum	39																						
Potamogeton crispus	39																						
Ranunculus aquatilis	39																						
Hydrocharis morsus-ranae	39																						
Nymphaea alba	40																						
Nymphaea hardy hybrids	40																						
Alisma plantago-aquatica	40																						
Butomus umbellatus	40																						
Caltha palustris	40																						
Canna 'Endeavour'	41																						
Canna 'Erebus'	41																						
<i>Canna</i> 'Ra'	41																						
Chrysosplenium davidianum	41																						
Lysimachia nummularia 'Aurea'	41																						
Mentha aquatica	42																						
Menyanthes trifoliata	42																						
Myosotis scorpioides	42																						
Sagittaria sagittifolia	42																						
Thalia dealbata	42																						
Astilboides tabularis	43																						
<i>Carex elata</i> 'Aurea'	43																						
Darmera peltata	43																						
Eriophorum angustifolium	43																						
Hosta 'Sum and Substance'	43																						
Iris ensata	44																						
Iris pseudacorus	44																						
Iris sibirica	44																						
Ligularia 'Gregynog Gold'	44																						
Zantedeschia aethiopica	44																						

A PLANTLIFE / RHS GUIDE



in the New Forest National Park from invasive Parrot's-feather.

Please remember to dispose of all your garden waste responsibly. Some invasive non-native plants can re-grow from tiny fragments and impact greatly on the countryside.

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Front cover image © Ben Goldsmith

Inside layout design by Andrew Evans





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The RHS is the UK's leading gardening charity Registered Charity Number 222879/SC038262



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