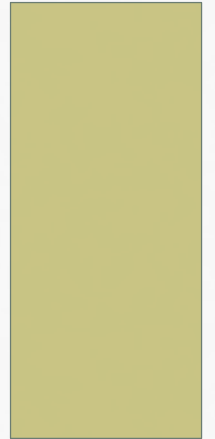


NATIVE PLANT EXAMPLES

TREES, SHRUBS, FORBS, GRASSES, OTHER AND VINES



BOXELDER

Negundo aceroides



Native Habitat: flood plains and drainageways in plains, basins, and foothills

Culture: prefers moist location in full sun, but adaptable to many habitats, including alkaline soils; considered somewhat untidy; suckers, resprouts from trunks, limbs subject to breaking, often splits at crotches; may attract boxelder bugs, aphids, leaf rollers; sometimes defoliated by insects; mature trees often develop hollows valuable to wildlife; can be limbed to create a single-trunked, small tree; reseeds readily; grown for shade, used for its rapid growth

AMERICAN ELM

Ulmus americana

Native Habitat: moist draws and ravines on plains

Culture: moist places in full sun, wide variety of soil types from slightly acid to moderately alkaline, from well drained to considerable clay; once widely planted, Dutch elm disease almost eliminated the species; some isolated populations survived in the west; an excellent shade, but should be used only in locations isolated from other American Elms



BUR OAK

Quercus macrocarpa

Native Habitat: moist slopes and draws in plains

Culture: full sun to shade, moist, well drained soil; once established, drought resistant and tolerant of adverse conditions; good as a shade tree



GREEN ASH

Fraxinus pennsylvanica

Native Habitat: flood plains and moist draws on the plains

Culture: full sun to partial shade where moist, tolerates heat and cold, moderately alkaline soils, does not like hot, dry wind; branches sometimes untidy if not pruned periodically; can look scruffy in winter; has few serious pests; widely planted as a street tree and for shade



HACKBERRY

Celtis occidentalis



Native Habitat: canyons and draws in plains and foothills

Culture: full sun or light shade, moist, well drained soil, deep rooted, tolerant of alkalinity, drought, heat, and wind; leaves come out later in spring than many native trees; often has nipple galls on leaves, which are unsightly but do not seriously affect tree; one of region's best native shade trees,

COTTONWOODS

Populous sp.

NOT *Populous tremuloides* (aspen)

Native Habitat: flood plains, washes, lake shores, wet depressions in plains and basins; -

Culture: moist places in full sun; tolerates cold, wind, alkalinity, and drought once established; root system will grow considerable distances to water; given plenty of room and water, this is a good shade tree for lower elevations, limbs will often break off, especially during high winds



PINE TREES

Pinus sp.

Pinyon, Limber, and Ponderosa

Native Habitat: dry lower mountain slopes and rock outcrops on the plains and northern basins

Culture: full sun to light shade and well drained soil; drought and wind tolerant; trees may grow up to 12 inches or more per year but late spring frosts seem to inhibit growth; may be attacked by bark beetles, widely used for windbreaks



PEACH LEAF WILLOW

Salix amygdaloides

Native Habitat: flood plains, lake shores, wet depressions in plains, valleys, and basins

Culture: moist to wet, poor soils, tolerant of full sun, hot summers, alkaline soils, and cold winters; once established it can tolerate periodic droughts; a good shade tree for wetter areas



WATER BIRCH

Betula occidentalis

Native Habitat: along streams in full sun to moderate shade in plains, basins, valleys, and mountains

Culture: prefers sun or part shade in moist, well drained soil, not tolerant of drought; grown along pond or stream and for winter bark color



ROCKY MOUNTAIN JUNIPER

Juniperus scopulorum

Native Habitat: flood plains to dry slopes and hills in the plains, basins, valleys, and mountains

Culture: needs well drained soil in open or lightly shaded area; small, young plants may need winter sun and wind protection; tolerates cold, full sun, drought, and significant wind once established; young trees often turn bronze in winter; cedar-hawthorn rust may be a problem around introduced hawthorns; also be aware of cedar-apple rust if you have apple trees; widely planted in windbreaks; there are many growth forms from narrowly conical to broadly rounded; good as specimen plant, for screening or windbreak, as a background, and for bird shelter and food source;



BUFFALOBERRY

Shepherdia argentea



Native Habitat: stream banks and other moist places in plains, basins, and valleys

Culture: full sun or partial shade, variety of soils, including moderately alkaline clayey soils, prefers a moist location, drought and cold tolerant; can be pruned to form a small tree; grown for silvery leaves, red berries, as a hedge, or for bird attraction

CURRENT

Ribes aureum



Native Habitat: stream banks, ditch banks, and other moist places in sun or light shade in plains, basin, valleys, and foothills

Culture: prefers full sun to light shade where moist, tolerates a variety of soils and drought, although it may not bloom or fruit in dry years; withstands some wind; grown for fragrant flowers, fruits, fall color, and for a hedge

FOURWING SALTBUSH

Atriplex canescens



Native Habitat: dry, open, often sandy areas in plains, basins, and valleys

Culture: dry, sandy or highly alkaline soils and full sun; extremely drought and wind tolerant; widely used in reclamation; good for the desert garden

MOCK ORANGE

- *Philadelphus sp.*

Native Habitat: stream banks, rocky hillsides, and cliffs in valleys and mountains

Culture: full sun or light shade, best in moist, well drained or loamy soils; adaptable to less ideal conditions, and once established is drought tolerant; benefits from regular pruning to prevent a scraggly appearance; grown for back of a border



MOUNTAIN MAHOGANY

Cercocarpus montanus

Native Habitat: moist to dry hills and slopes, often on limestone, plains, basins, and mountains

Culture: prefers moist to dry, well drained soil, full sun to light shade, drought and wind tolerant; grown for showy fruits



NANNYBERRY

Viburnum lentago

Native Habitat: open areas to partial shade in moist to dry woods or along streams in mountain foothills and plains

Culture: moist, loamy, open or partly shaded areas; makes an excellent background planting or attractive specimen plant, grown for flowers, fruits, and fall color



SAND CHERRY

Prunus pumila var. *besseyi*



Native Habitat: dry grasslands, rocky slopes, and sandy areas in plains and foothills

Culture: full sun or light shade, best in dry, well drained situations where it can receive an occasional deep watering; overwatering will cause it to sucker; should be pruned after flowering to remove damaged stems, especially if it has been covered by deep snow during the winter; often used for reclamation; useful for bank or slope cover, wildlife plantings, and fall color

SERVICEBERRY

Amelanchier alnifolia



Native Habitat: moist to dry, often rocky hills and slopes, open or partly wooded, in plains, basins, valleys, and mountains

Culture: prefers moist, well drained soil in sun or part shade, tolerates alkaline soils; drought tolerant, but may lose some or all of its leaves during very dry conditions; it should be watered during dry spells; susceptible to juniper rust, powdery mildew, and a variety of insect pests; grown for flowers and fruits, fall color, and bird food

SUMAC

Rhus aromatica var. *trilobata*



Native Habitat: dry rocky slopes, canyons, along streams, and other open areas in the plains, basins, and foothills

Culture: full sun or light shade, tolerates soils from moist to dry and slightly acid to alkaline, drought and wind tolerant; can be used to vegetate slopes or as a specimen plant or foundation planting; used for nesting cover by many bird species because of the dense growth form; also grown for fall color and fruits for birds

WILDPLUM

Prunus americana



Native Habitat: open areas in plains and foothills

Culture: full sun or light shade, does best in moist to dry, well drained situations; tolerant of wind; often used for windbreaks or wildlife plantings, sometimes used for a hedge

CHOKE CHERRY



Prunus virginiana var.
melanocarpa

Native Habitat: stream sides, shady hillsides, and other moist areas in plains, basins, valleys, and mountains

Culture: full sun or part shade, a variety of soils, and moist conditions; will tolerate some wind and drying; prone to insect infestations; grown for shelterbelts, fragrant and showy flowers, fall color, and bird food

HORSE BRUSH

Tetradymia canescens

Native Habitat: dry, open places in plains, basins, and mountains

Culture: dry to moist areas in full sun and well drained soil, drought tolerant; grown for attractive flowers in shrub border



RABBIT BRUSH

Ericameria nauseosa



Native Habitat: dry, open, well drained places in plains, basins, valleys, and mountains

Culture: prefers well drained soils, even pure sand or gravel, and full sun, tolerant of drought and wind; provides summer and fall color and winter interest, and can be used as a single specimen or massed as a hedge, also good for the desert garden

WOODS ROSE

Rosa woodsii



Native Habitat: open woods, ravines, thickets, and stream banks in plains, basins, valleys, and mountains

Culture: full sun to partial shade where moist; tolerates poor soils; can be aggressive; cold and wind tolerant, very hardy; grown for the flowers and fruits

ARROWHEAD

Sagittaria cuneata

Native Habitat: temporary and permanent water habitats including ditches, ponds, slow moving streams, lakeshore mudflats, and swampy areas in plains, basins, valleys, and mountains

Culture: full sun to light shade, in shallow pond planted in bottom mud or in submerged pot, or other water feature with slow moving or still shallow water; grown primarily for the unusual leaves



BEDSTRAW

Galium boreale

Native Habitat: moist to somewhat dry, open or part shaded areas of the plains, basins, valleys, and mountains

Culture: full sun to part shade, moist, loamy soils; good for part of a mixed border



BEEPLANT

Cleome serrulata



Native Habitat: mostly disturbed or sandy areas in plains, basins, and valleys

Culture: full sun, well drained soils, dry conditions after germination, drought tolerant; self seeds readily, give it plenty of room; use where its height will be an advantage such as back of a border

BELLFLOWER

Campanula rotundifolia



Native Habitat: open woods and meadows in high basins, valleys, and mountains

Culture: full sun to light shade, moist to dry areas, humus rich soils; will do well in a north or east exposure, can be almost a weed with plants appearing all over a flower bed; good for a rock garden or for front of a perennial border

BLANKET FLOWER

Gaillardia pulchella

Native Habitat: moist to dry, open places of plains, basins, and mountains; widely planted outside of its native regions in reclamation projects and along roadsides

Culture: full sun, dry, well drained soil, heat and drought tolerant, remove old flowers to prolong blooming; good for the prairie garden, as a specimen plant, or for middle of a perennial border



BLAZINGSTAR

Mentzelia nuda

Native Habitat: dry, open, barren areas in plains and basins

Culture: full sun, dry, rocky or clayey soils; good for banks



BLUEBELL

Mertensia lanceolata



Native Habitat: moist to dry, open areas in plains and foothills

Culture: full sun to light shade, moist loamy or well drained soils, dies back during heat of summer; good for front of a perennial border

BUCKWHEAT

Eriogonum sp.



Native Habitat: open prairies, hills, slopes, and ridges in plains, basins, valleys, and mountains up to alpine slopes

Culture: very adaptable, full sun to light shade, variety of soils including some clay, drought tolerant; a good rock garden plant

BUSH MORNING GLORY

Ipomoea leptophylla



Native Habitat: dry, sandy or gravelly places on the plains

Culture: full sun, dry, well drained soil; mature specimens very difficult to transplant; beautiful in summer, dies back to ground in winter, leaving a tangled, brown mass which can be cut back; excellent specimen plant especially on banks; seeds and root are poisonous

CHICKWEED

Cerastium arvense

Native Habitat: moist prairies, meadows, and slopes in mountains, basins, plains, and valleys

Culture: moist, well drained soil in full sun or part shade; good for front of a perennial border or for ground cover



COREOPSIS

Coreopsis sp.

Native Habitat: moist, often sandy areas in plains

Culture: full sun, moist, well drained soils, deadhead to promote more blooming, reseeds readily; good for mid-height annual border



TOWNSEND DAISY

Townsendia grandiflora



Native Habitat: dry, open areas of plains

Culture: full sun, dry, well drained soils; good for a rock garden or prairie garden

DOGBANE

Apocynum androsaemifolium



Native Habitat: dry to moist, rocky, open slopes or open woods in plains, valleys, basins, and mountains

Culture: sunny or partly shaded, dry to moist areas, well drained or rocky soils; all parts of the plant are poisonous; a good bank plant where spreading habit is useful

EVENING PRIMROSE

Oenothera sp.



Native Habitat: dry, open, often barren areas of plains, basins, valleys, and mountains

Culture: full sun, adaptable to a variety of soils, alkaline and drought tolerant, difficult to transplant mature specimens because of taproot; good for banks and rock gardens

FLAX

Linum lewisii

Native Habitat: open, moist to dry areas in plains, basins, and mountains up to alpine

Culture: full sun to light shade, adaptable to a variety of well drained soils, drought tolerant; widely used in reclamation and roadside plantings; good in middle of a perennial border or as a specimen plant



FRINGED SAGEWORT

Artemisia frigida

Native Habitat: dry plains, basins, valleys, and mountains to alpine areas

Culture: very adaptable, full sun, dry, well drained soil, drought tolerant, can be killed by overwatering; can be sheared to form an attractive, tight mound; excellent for rock garden or front of a perennial display where gray-green color is desired, use as ground cover in low traffic areas



GAYFEATHER

Liatris punctata



Native Habitat: dry, open places in the plains

Culture: full sun, adaptable to a variety of soils, drought tolerant; good for the prairie garden or for front of a perennial border

GOLDENROD

Solidago sp.

Native Habitat: dry,
open areas of plains

Culture: full sun, dry,
well drained soils;
good for middle of a
perennial border



GROUNDSEL

Senecio spartioides

Native Habitat: dry, open areas of plains and basins

Culture: full sun, dry, well drained soils; grown as specimen plant or for late season color in middle of perennial border, forms a fluffy white mound in fruit; poisonous to livestock



HOARY ASTER

Dieteria canescens



Native Habitat: dry, open places in plains, basins, valleys, and mountains

Culture: full sun, dry, well drained, loose soils, tolerates some alkalinity, heat, and drought; good for late season color at middle of a perennial border or for desert garden

HORSE MINT

Monarda fistulosa



Native Habitat: moist to somewhat dry, open areas in plains, basins, and foothills

Culture: full sun to light shade, moist to slightly dry conditions, sandy to loamy soils; clumps can become very large, divide every year or two in summer; can be aggressive; good for the prairie garden, a specimen plant, or middle of a perennial border

HYMENOXIS

Hymenoxys sp.



Native Habitat: dry, rocky slopes of plains, basins, valleys, and mountains

Culture: full sun, dry, well drained soils; poisonous to livestock but not often eaten if better forage is available; good for front of a perennial border or for the desert garden

INDIAN PAINTBRUSH

Castilleja angustifolia



Native Habitat: open areas in plains, basins, and mountains, often growing with sagebrush

Culture: full sun, moist to dry, well drained soils

Propagation: seed, but must be grown with another plant, preferably Big Sagebrush or Rubber Rabbitbrush, which can serve as a host

WILD IRIS

Iris missouriensis



Native Habitat: moist to wet meadows of the plains, basins, valleys, and mountains; habitats often become dry in late summer

Culture: full sun, loamy or clayey soils, does not like gravel or sand, easy to grow in moist conditions, very tough and drought tolerant once established; can become aggressive under ideal conditions; good for meadows and stream banks; plant is mildly poisonous

JOE PYWEED

Eutrochium maculatum



Native Habitat: moist to wet places in the plains, basins, and foothills

Culture: full sun to light shade, moist to wet, loamy soils; could be part of a landscape around a water feature

LARKSPUR

Delphinium geyeri

Native Habitat: open, dry hills and prairies of the plains and basins

Culture: full sun, well drained soil, moderate moisture when blooming, drought tolerant after flowering; all parts poisonous to livestock and humans; good for middle of perennial border or prairie garden



LEADPLANT

Amorpha canescens

Native Habitat: moist to dry, usually sandy open woods and open areas in Black Hills and on the plains

Culture: prefers full sun, tolerates clayey soils and alkalinity, but prefers well drained soils; has a deep tap root which makes it drought tolerant; fixes nitrogen; may produce suckers and become invasive; highly palatable to livestock and wildlife; grown for flowers in shrub border; cut back in late fall



LOCOWEEDS AND MILKVETCHES

Astragalus sp.

Oxytropis sp.

Native Habitat: dry areas, often in selenium soils of plains, basins, and foothills

Culture: full sun, dry soils; toxic to horses; good for front of a perennial border



LUPINE

Lupinus polyphyllus

Native Habitat: open meadows and slopes in plains, basins, valleys, and mountains

Culture: full sun to light shade, cool, moist to dry, well drained or loamy soils; good for back of a perennial border



GLOBEMALLOW

Sphaeralcea coccinea



Native Habitat: dry, open areas, often in clayey or alkaline soils, in plains, basins, and foothills

Culture: full sun, dry, adaptable to a variety of soils including sand; tolerates extreme drought and heat; good for front of a perennial border or for the desert garden or rock garden

MEXICAN HAT

Ratibida columnifera



Native Habitat: dry, open areas of plains and basins

Culture: full sun, dry, well drained soil, drought tolerant, widely used in reclamation plantings; good for the prairie garden or middle of a perennial border; short lived but self seeds readily

PENSTEMONS

Penstemon sp.



This large genus has over 100 species in our area with most having the potential to be used in landscaping. They are often referred to as beardtongues.

Check the species account

PHLOX

Phlox sp.



Native Habitat: moist to dry, rocky places or in sand in plains and basins

Culture: full sun, dry, well drained soils, will grow in pure sand, tolerates heat and drought; good for front of a perennial border

PRINCES PLUME

Stanleya pinnata



Native Habitat: dry, open hills, often on clay or soils containing selenium, in plains and basins

Culture: full sun, dry, well drained, poor soil, tolerant of clayey soils; good as specimen plant, for back of a perennial border, or for the desert garden

PUSSY TOES

Antennaria parvifolia



Native Habitat: dry prairies, hills, and slopes in plains, basins, and mountains

Culture: full sun, dry to moist, well drained soils; use as a ground cover in low traffic areas

PURPLE CONE FLOWER

Echinacea angustifolia



Native Habitat: dry places in the plains

Culture: full sun, will grow in clayey and well drained soils, drought tolerant; roots of this plant are often dug for herbal market, in some areas it is over-collected; slow to establish; good for the prairie garden or middle of a perennial border

PURPLE PRAIRIE CLOVER

Dalea purpurea

Native Habitat: dry, often rocky hills and prairies in plains and basins

Culture: full sun, well drained soil preferred, but will grow in clayey soils, drought tolerant; good for the prairie garden or front of a perennial border



BLACKEYED SUSAN

Rudbeckia hirta

Native Habitat: open fields and meadows of the plains and foothills

Culture: full sun, moist to dry, well drained soils, adapts to almost any soil; good for a meadow or middle of a perennial border



SAND VERBENA

Abronia fragrans

Natural Habitat: sandy or gravelly soils in plains and basins

Culture: full sun, well drained, sandy or gravelly soils, low moisture; wind tolerant; long blooming period and low, sprawling growth habit make it ideal for front of flower bed, desert rock garden, sandy banks



SAND DOCK

Rumex venosus

Native Habitat: sandy or gravelly places in the plains, valleys, and basins

Culture: full sun, dry, well drained, sandy soils, can be aggressive; good for sandy banks; grown for fruit display



SANDWORT

Eremogone hookeri

Native Habitat: open rocky or sandy areas in plains and basins

Culture: full sun, well drained soil, drought tolerant; an excellent rock garden plant or for the desert garden



SEGO LILY

Calochortus nuttallii



Native Habitat: open places in plains, basins, and lower mountains, often with sagebrush

Culture: full sun, dry, well drained soils, will tolerate some clay, must be kept dry after flowering; mulching in winter may help survival; good for front of a perennial border; considered difficult to grow

SKULL CAPS

Scutellaria brittonii



Native Habitat: dry rocky or gravelly soils of the plains

Culture: full sun, dry, well drained soil; good for a rock garden or banks

SNOW ON THE MOUNTAIN

Euphorbia marginata



Native Habitat: disturbed areas, loose soils in the plains

Culture: full sun to light shade in loose, well drained soil; considered poisonous and contact with the milky juice should be avoided; good for specimen plant or annual border

STONECROP OR SEDUM

Sedum sp.



Native Habitat: dry to moist, open, gravelly or rocky areas of plains, basins, valleys, and mountains

Culture: full sun, dry to moist, well drained soils; good for rock gardens or gravelly banks

SUGARBOWL CLEMATIS

Clematis hirsutissima



Native Habitat: open areas in higher basins, valleys, foothills, and mountains, often with short sagebrush near forest edge

Culture: full sun to light shade, well drained or loamy soils, moderate moisture to fairly dry conditions; slow to establish; good for the prairie garden or edge of woodland; plants may be poisonous

SUNFLOWERS

Helianthus sp.

Native Habitat: disturbed areas, loose soils of plains, basins, and valleys

Culture: full sun, loose, well drained soils; decaying roots sometimes inhibit other plants, best to pull up plants in late fall if you plan to replant with other species; this plant was first cultivated by Native Americans; grown as specimen plant, back of border, or in waste sites



SWAMP MILKWEEDS

Asclepias incarnata

Native Habitat: swampy areas in the plains and basins

Culture: full sun, silty or clayey soils, wet to moist conditions, tolerates dryer conditions after flowering; good near a water feature



VERBENA

Verbena stricta

Native Habitat: moist to dry, open, often disturbed areas of plains, basins, and foothills

Culture: full sun, dry to moist, adaptable to a variety of loose soils; good for back of perennial border



WALLFLOWER

Erysimum asperum

Native Habitat: dry, open areas in plains, basins, valleys, and mountains

Culture: full sun, well drained soils, slightly moist to dry, reseeds readily, usually blooms second year; good for the prairie garden



WILD CROCUS

Anemone patens

Native Habitat: moist open or part shaded areas in plains, valleys, and mountains, one of earliest flowers to bloom in spring, often appearing on south slopes at edge of melting snow banks

Culture: full sun or light shade, rich, well drained soil that receives spring moisture, south facing slopes for earliest blooms, plants dry up and disappear by early summer; good for early flowers under pines or with sagebrush, plant in scattered groups; plants may be mildly poisonous



WINECUPS

Callirhoe involucrata



Native Habitat: dry plains

Culture: full sun, well drained soils, tolerates clay, drought tolerant once established, mature plants are difficult to transplant, provide wind protection in exposed locations; long blooming, especially if flowers removed before seed set; good for banks or for cascading over a wall

WOODY ASTER

Xylorhiza glabriuscula



Native Habitat: dry, barren, clay areas of plains and basins, often where soil contains selenium

Culture: full sun, dry, infertile soils, tolerant of clay and drought; toxic to livestock where it can accumulate selenium; good for a specimen plant, for front of a perennial border, or for a desert garden

YARROW

Achillea millefolium



Natural Habitat: moist to dry open areas in plains, foothills, basins, and mountains

Culture: adaptable, full sun, most soil types, drought tolerant, can be aggressive; good for mixed border or meadow garden

ALKALI SACATON

Sporobolus airoides

Native Habitat: moist to dry, open areas in alkaline clayey soils of plains, basins, and valleys

Culture: full sun, moist to dry, clayey soils, tolerant of alkaline soils and seasonal flooding; good for alkaline sites



BASIN WILDRYE

Elymus cinereus



Native Habitat: open areas, gullies, and other temporary drainages receiving extra moisture in the plains, basins, and valleys

Culture: full sun, dry to moist, loamy or well drained soils, drought tolerant once established; useful as a large specimen grass or use multiple clumps for a tall grass hedge

BIG BLUESTEM

Andropogon gerardii

Native Habitat: slightly moist hills and depressions in the plains

Culture: full sun, dry, well drained, loamy soils, drought tolerant, long lived and tough but can be killed by repeated mowing during a season; best used as a decorative specimen grass or for the prairie garden



BIG BLUEGRASS

Poa juncifolia

Native Habitat: moist to dry open areas of plains, basins, valleys, and mountains

Culture: full sun, moist to dry, well drained to loamy soils; grow for specimen grass or in meadow



PRAIRIE JUNE GRASS

Koeleria macrantha

Native Habitat: open, moist to dry areas in plains, basins, valleys, and mountains

Culture: early to green up and flower, full sun, cool, moist to dry, variety of soils; often used in a mix of seeds for reclamation, does not tolerate mowing, plant for an early touch of green; good for the prairie garden



BLUE GRAMA

Bouteloua gracilis

Native Habitat: dry, open areas of plains, basins, and foothills

Culture: full sun, dry, well drained soils, does well on sandy and alkaline soils; not suitable for cool summer areas; does not green up until late spring, remains green as long as adequate moisture available (about 1 inch per month), will turn brown and become dormant if too dry; drought tolerant once established, greens up readily with moisture; excellent for native grass lawns, tolerates occasional mowing if necessary, also good for the prairie garden



BUFFALO GRASS

Buchloe dactyloides



Native Habitat: moist areas of plains

Culture: full sun to light shade, moist (about 15 inches annually or more), loamy or clayey soils, not salt tolerant and not as drought tolerant as Blue Grama, wind and heat tolerant; can be used for a native grass lawn, infrequent mowing required, slow to green up in spring, turns brown under dry conditions or frost, do not overfertilize, cultivars may be mostly female plants; not recommended above 6000 feet in north, 7000 feet in south; also good for the prairie garden

COMMON REED GRASS

Phragmites australis

Native Habitat: edges of ponds, lakes, streams, and marshes in plains, valleys, and basins

Culture: very moist to wet, sunny areas, alkaline tolerant; good for edges of water features where a tall grass is desirable; purplish stage good for dried arrangements; can become aggressive



INDIAN GRASS

Sorghastrum nutans



Native Habitat: moist areas including pond edges and stream banks in plains

Culture: full sun, moist, sandy or loamy soils; this species does best at a pond margin or in moist well drained areas, but can be grown in drier sites if given periodic moisture; attractive as a tall, specimen grass

INDIAN RICEGRASS

Achnatherum hymenoides



Native Habitat: dry, usually sandy, open areas of plains, basins, and valleys

Culture: full sun, dry, adaptable to a variety of soils including pure sand and alkaline soils, does not tolerate clay well, drought tolerant, attractive as a specimen grass, dries to a light tan to ivory color

LITTLE BLUESTEM

Schizachyrium scoparium



Native Habitat: dry, open hills of plains, basins, and foothills, often where gravelly

Culture: full sun, dry, well drained soils, does not tolerate mowing more than once per year, drought tolerant, adaptable to many soils; good for specimens and winter color, an extremely attractive grass at all seasons

NEEDLEANDTHREAD

Hesperostipa comata



Native Habitat: prairies, hills, slopes, and open woods in the plains, basins, mountains, and valleys

Culture: dry to moist, well drained soil in full sun, drought tolerant; good for the prairie garden or as specimen plant, the inflorescences of a stand are highly attractive when waving in a breeze; highly palatable to livestock but the fruits can drill into the hide or mouth parts causing injury

PRAIRIE SANDREED

Calamovilfa longifolia

Native Habitat: sandy areas of plains, basins, and valleys

Culture: full sun, dry, sandy soils, drought and heat tolerant, very difficult to cut back; not suitable for cool summer areas; excellent as a sand binder or a specimen grass, also grows in fine, loose shale



SIDE OATS GRAMA

Bouteloua curtipendula

Native Habitat: dry, often rocky hills of plains

Culture: full sun, dry, well drained soils, tolerates clayey soils and drought; not suitable for cool summer areas; rhizomatous variety can be used as a turf grass if mowed, bunchgrass variety, with its delicate nodding flower spikes, is most effective as a specimen grass, for the rock garden, or for the prairie garden



SWITCHGRASS

Panicum virgatum

Native Habitat: moist to wet areas, including stream banks and pond edges, in plains and basins

Culture: full sun, moist, well drained to loamy soils; useful as a tall specimen grass; may become aggressive



YUCCA

Yucca glauca

Native Habitat: dry prairies and hills in plains and basins

Culture: full sun in dry, rocky, sandy, or gravelly soil, drought and wind tolerant; young plants may be eaten to the ground by jackrabbits; grown for its flowers and evergreen, unusual leaves as character, good for the desert garden



WILD HOPS

Humulus lupulus var.
neomexicanus

Native Habitat: woods and thickets or rocky banks in plains, basins, and mountains

Culture: full sun or light shade, moist to dry, well drained soils, plant where it has a support such as a fence; grown primarily for leaves and cone-like fruiting structures, good on banks



VIRGINS BOWER

Clematis ligusticifolia

Native Habitat: roadsides, thickets, moist to dry, climbing on fences and trees in plains, basins, and valleys

Culture: full sun to partial shade, moist to dry, well drained soils; can be aggressive if not controlled, can be vigorously pruned; grown mostly for vine foliage, attractive flower and fruits, good for fence or trellis; plants may be poisonous



VIRGINIA CREEPER

Parthenocissus vitacea



Native Habitat: moist woods and thickets in plains, basins, and foothills

Culture: full sun to light shade, moist, loamy or well drained soil, provide support for climbing, leaves may be affected by powdery mildew in shady sites; grown for foliage, including fall color, and blue-black berries; Beware of the similar *Parthenocissus quinquefolia* which should not be planted against a wood sided building as tendrils may creep under the siding and cause problems

WILD RASPBERRY

Rubus idaeus



Native Habitat: open, moist, rocky places in plains, basins, valleys, and mountains

Culture: well drained, moist soil in full sun, needs adequate moisture to bloom and fruit; may be useful for vegetating disturbed ground or areas that mimic the natural habitat; grown for the fruit

PRICKLY PEAR CACTUS

Opuntia polyacantha



Native Habitat: dry, open areas in rocks, sand, gravel, or clay of plains, basins, and valleys

Culture: full sun, adaptable to a variety of dry, infertile soils, drought tolerant; good for the desert or cactus garden

PIN CUSHION CACTUS

Coryphantha vivipara



Native Habitat: mostly open, sandy or gravelly areas in plains and basins

Culture: full sun, dry conditions, well drained soils, do not overwater; good for rock garden or cactus garden

JUNE GRAPE

Vitis riparia

Native Habitat: riparian forests and moist thickets of the plains and basins

Culture: full sun to light shade, moist, well drained soils, provide support for climbing, the tangles are attractive nesting sites for birds; do not plant where it can climb over trees or shrubs as it can smother them; grown for the foliage and fruit for birds on trellis or fence, sometimes seen as a hedge supported by a fence

