

TREE DESCRIPTIONS

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SHRUBS

Almond Russian
(Prunus tenella) Introduced from Europe and Asia. Suckers to form small colony. Produces showy pink or white flowers and a hairy inedible fruit. Can tolerate heavy clay and gumbo soils. Doesn't tolerate waterlogged soil.

Aronia, Black
(Aronia melanocarpa) Attractive white flowers, glossy foliage, and black berries. Edible fruit attracts birds. Excellent fall color.

Buffaloberry
(Shepherdia argentea) Native. Suckers to form colony. High pH and drought tolerant. Attractive silver leaves. Red fruit can be used for jelly. Good for wildlife.

Caragana
(Caragana arborescens) Introduced from Siberia and Manchuria. Sometimes called pea shrub. Produces yellow flowers in spring. Non-edible seedpods. Fine-leafed. High pH and drought tolerant. Extremely hardy and long lived.

Cherry, Nanking
(Prunus tomentosa) Introduced from China and Japan. Showy flowers and sweet red fruit. Good for jelly. Plants may be renewed by cutting to ground. Good for wildlife.

Cherry, Sand
(Prunus besseyi) Native. Glossy silver-green leaves. Suckers slightly to produce a low thicket. White flowers in spring and purple fruit in summer. Good for jelly.

Chokecherry, Common
(Prunus virginiana) Native. Will form colony. Produces white flowers and tart red to black fruit. Good for jelly or winemaking. Excellent for wildlife. Needs well-drained soil.

Chokecherry, Schubert
(Prunus virginiana 'Schubert') Native. Red leafed selection of common chokecherry. Uses and characteristics are the same as common chokecherry.

Cotoneaster, 'Centennial'
(Cotoneaster integerrimus 'Centennial') Selected by NRCS. Introduced from Europe, western Asia, and Siberia. Bluegreen leaves with whitish underside. Attractive small red inedible fruits ripen in August. Food source for wildlife.

Cotoneaster, Peking
(Cotoneaster lucidus) Introduced from Asia. Lustrous green leaves and dark black berries. Excellent hedge plant. Can be bothered by oyster shell scale and fireblight.

Cranberry, American Highbush
(Viburnum trilobum) Native in the Black Hills, northeast South Dakota and Europe. Attractive white flowers and red fruit. Excellent fall color. Fruit could be used for jelly. Prefers moist soil but adaptable to various soil conditions.

Currant, American Black--NOT IN 2027
(Ribes americanum) Native. Small shrub which grows in moist shaded flood plains and occasionally in open areas. Not defoliated by leafspot like Golden Currant. Edible fruits used by birds and animals.

Currant, Golden--NOT IN 2027

(Ribes odoratum) Native. Flowers are yellow and very fragrant. Produces tart edible black gooseberry type fruit. Susceptible to leafspot.

Dogwood, Redosier --NOT IN 2027

(Cornus sericea) Native. Grows along streams, lakes, etc. Fast growing on cultivated sites. Red stems are attractive in winter. White flowers and fruit. Attracts songbirds. Excellent riparian plant.

Elderberry, Common

(Sambucus canadensis) Native in eastern South Dakota. Produces showy white flowers and edible purple fruit which attract birds. Grows best in moist, rich soil along the edge of a woods or stream bank. Plants can be short-lived but will re-sprout from roots.

False Indigo

(Amorpha fruticosa) Native. Pinnate leaves. Purple flowers. Fast growing. Prefers moist soil. Excellent riparian plant.

Hazelnut, American

(Corylus americana) Native. A colony forming shrub. Grows in dry or moist areas. Forms thicket at the edges of woods. Produces edible nuts used in cooking or eaten raw. Excellent squirrel and small mammal food.

Honeysuckle, Freedom

(Lonicera x 'Freedom') Introduced. A large dense shrub with blue-green leaves and cream-colored flowers in early summer. Red inedible fruit follows in mid-summer. Grows 6-9 ft. tall. Moderate drought tolerance. Resistant to Russian aphid which causes witches broom. Price includes propagation royalty.

Honeysuckle, Hawkeye

(Lonicera tatarica 'Hawkeye') A Selection from Iowa. Pink flowers in spring followed by small red fruit in the fall. Resistant to Russian aphid. Grows 6-9' tall.

Honeysuckle, Tatarian

(Lonicera tatarica) Introduced from Central Asia to Southern Russia. Seed propagated from aphid tolerant parents. May develop some aphid induced witches broom. Fragrant white, pink or red flowers. Inedible red or orange fruit attracts birds. Hardy and adaptable. Shade tolerant.

Juneberry --NOT IN 2027

(Amelanchier alnifolia) Native. White flowers. Edible dry purple fruit similar to blueberries. Fruit relished by birds and humans.

Lilac, Common

(Syringa vulgaris) Introduced from southeastern Europe. Fragrant flowers usually purple and sometimes white, blue, or red. Hardy and adaptable. Suckers to form colony.

Lilac, Japanese Tree--NOT IN 2027

(Syringa reticulata) Native to Japan. Tree-form lilac blooms 3 weeks after common lilac, and can be trained as a small tree or as a shrub. Creamy white flowers appear in large, terminal clusters.

Lilac, Villosa

(Syringa villosa) Introduced from northern China. Non-suckering. Rosy-lilac to white flowers are later than common lilac.

Lilac, White

(Syringa vulgaris) Same as common Lilac except has white flowers.

Nannyberry Viburnum

(Viburnum lentago) Native. Shiny leaves, white flowers followed by black fruit containing a single flat seed. Excellent fall color. Can be trained to a single-stemmed small tree.

Ninebark, Common

(Physocarpus opulifolius) Native. Interesting peeling bark exposes attractive reddish inner bark. White flowers. Grows along stream banks and in moist woods. Adapts to alkaline and dry soils.

Plum, American

(Prunus americana) Native. Fast growing. Fragrant white flowers in spring. Edible fruit makes good jam. Adaptable.

Plum, Prairie Red

(Prunus sp.) NRCS selection. Formerly ND-1134. Originally selected from plants in S.D. Produces large, tasty, red to yellow fruit up to 1.25 inches diameter. Similar growth habit and adaptation as American Plum, but much better fruit quality and size.

Rose, Hansen Hedge

(Rosa woodsii x Rosa rugosa.) Hybrid developed at SDSU. Fragrant pink flowers in June. Bright red-orange fruit in fall attracts wildlife. Thorns. Suckering plant.

Seaberry

(Hippophae rhamnoides) Introduced from Europe and Asia. Leaves silvery-green. Female plants produce yellow flowers and persistent orange fruit. Adapted to dry, high pH, and saline soils. Needs well-drained soil. Thorns.

Silverberry--NOT IN 2027

(Elaeagnus commutata) Native. Suckering shrub with silvery leaves and fragrant flowers. Tolerates drought, high pH, and saline soils. Will grow in sandy and gravelly soils. Intolerant of waterlogged soils.

Sumac, Skunkbush--NOT IN 2027

(Rhus trilobata) Native. Leaves and stems fragrant when crushed. Produces red seed clusters at tips of branches. Grows on hillsides and dry areas. Deer browse.

Sumac, Smooth

(Rhus glabra) Native. Large, loose shrub which suckers to form colony. Excellent red fall color. Dark red seed heads add winter interest. Moderate drought tolerance. Grows on hillsides and in woods and riparian areas.

Willow, Blue Artic

(Salix purpurea) Introduced from Europe, Central Asia, and Japan. Useful for stabilizing banks along waterways. Suckers and layers to form dense, erosion-resistant mats. Excellent riparian plant.

Willow, Sandbar

(Salix interior) Native. Suckers quickly to form thicket on a good site. Needs soil moisture. Not drought tolerant. Does not tolerate sod competition. Excellent riparian plant.

MEDIUM TREES

Apricot

(Prunus armeniaca var. mandshurica) Introduced from Manchuria and Korea. Pink flowers subject to frost. May produce edible fruit 2 out of 5 years. Good fall color. Won't tolerate waterlogged soil.

Chokecherry, Amur

(Prunus maackii) Introduced from Manchuria and Korea. Showy white flowers in spring. Black fruit is relished by songbirds. Attractive copper-colored bark adds winter interest. Very cold hardy. Needs well-drained soil.

Crabapple, 'Midwest' Manchurian

(Malus baccata var. mandshurica 'Midwest') NRCS selection. Introduced from Japan and China. Showy white flowers. Small red fruit (1/4 to 1/2") are held on tree until eaten by birds. Excellent wildlife tree.

Crabapple, Red Splendor

(Malus sp.) Grown from seed of the cultivated ornamental crabapple variety 'Red Splendor'. Flowers are white or pink. Leaves range from green to reddish. Fruit is 1/4" to 1" in diameter. Excellent wildlife tree.

Crabapple, Siberian

(Malus baccata) Introduced from Northern Asia, Northern China and Siberia. White flowers. Red to yellow fruits are 3/8" to 3/4" diameter. Attracts wildlife.

Hawthorn, 'Homestead'

(Crataegus arnoldiana 'Homestead') NRCS selection. Vigorous, dense growth. Rounded form. White flowers. Small non-edible red fruit. Attracts wildlife. Produces thorns.

Hawthorn, Roundleaf

(Crataegus chrysocarpa) Native. NRCS germplasm. Originally selected in Butte, Day, Hamlin, Harding, and Marshall County in S.Dak. Extremely drought tolerant and adaptable. White flowers. Small non-edible red fruit. Attracts wildlife. May produce thorns.

Maple, Amur

(Acer ginnala) Introduced from Asia. Three lobed leaves. Usually forms several trunks. Excellent fall color. Prefers moist well-drained soil. Intolerant of high soil pH.

Maple, Tatarian

(Acer tataricum) Introduced from southeastern Europe and western Asia. Similar to Amur maple but exhibits better alkaline soil tolerance. Leaves not lobed like Amur maple. Fall color is yellow, pink or red.

Mulberry

(Morus alba var. tatarica) Medium tree. Introduced from Asia. Fairly fast growing. Fruit is white, pinkish, purple or black. Edible fruit attracts birds. Drought tolerant. May suffer winter dieback. Plant in

Olive, Russian

(Elaeagnus angustifolia) Introduced from southern Europe and western and central Asia. Attractive whitish leaves. Fragrant yellow flowers. Fruit attracts birds. Very tough and drought tolerant. Tolerates high pH soil.

Pear, Harbin 'McDermand'

(Pyrus ussuriensis 'McDermand') NRCS selection. Introduced from northeastern Asia. Attractive white flowers. Non-edible round fruit. Excellent fall color. Intolerant of heavy, poorly drained soil.

Willow, Diamond

(Salix rigida) Native. Large, broad shrub with multiple stems to 15 feet tall. New leaves usually reddish. Inhabits stream banks and moist meadows. Good riparian plant. Intolerant of high soil salts and high ph. Harmless 'pine cone' galls often present on branches.

Willow, Flame

(Salix 'Flame') Large shrub or small tree with multiple red-orange stems which add amazing winter color. Attractive yellow fall leaf color. Branch tips curl toward center of plant for interesting compact effect. Cold hardy. Selected in Fertile, MN by Bergeson Nursery. Grows 20 ft. tall by 15 ft. wide.

Willow, Laurel Leaf

(Salix pentandra) Introduced from Europe. Beautiful glossy green leaves. Tolerates moist soils. Not drought tolerant.

LARGE TREES

Aspen, Quaking

(Populus tremuloides) Native in the Black Hills and Northeast SD. Attractive white to light green bark. Leaves flutter in slightest breeze. Prefers moist well-drained soil. Suckers to form loose colony. Excellent clear yellow fall color.

Birch, River

(Betula nigra) Native. Height 45' Width 35'. A beautiful tree with peeling cinnamon-brown bark which adds interest in the winter landscape. Yellow fall color. More tolerant of bronze birch borer than many white-barked birches. Leaves may exhibit chlorosis where soil pH is above 6.5. Prefers moist soil but does well on upland sites.

Boxelder

(Acer negundo) Native. Flood plain tree which also grows well in moist upland soil. Grows tall and straight when crowded and short and knotty when grown in open. Intolerant of 2, 4-D spray drift. Excellent riparian plant.

Buckeye, Ohio

(Aesculus glabra) Native to Eastern U.S. Mistakenly called Horsechestnut. Attractive greenish-yellow flowers produce inedible shiny red-brown nuts in spiny tan husks. Squirrel food. Grows best on moist well-drained soil. Leaf scorch common on dry sites.

Catalpa, Northern

(Catalpa speciosa) Native in Midwest and S.E. United States. Produces huge leaves. Beautiful white flowers with yellow and purple markings are followed by long cigar-shaped seed capsules. Prefers moist, well-drained soil but adapts to dry and alkaline conditions. Wood is rot resistant.

Cherry, Black

(Prunus serotina) Native in forests in Eastern U.S. Fast growing tree produces attractive white flowers and dark fruit. Fruit makes syrup and drinks. Attracts songbirds. Valuable wood.

Cottonwood, Hybrid Male

(Populus hybrids) Fast growing. Cotton less. Tested and adapted to our climate. Needs moist well-drained soil for best growth.

Cottonwood, Native

(Populus deltoides) Native. Fast growing. Female trees produce cotton. Grows well near lakes, sloughs, rivers. Prefers moist, well-drained soil. Excellent riparian plant.

Elm, American

(Ulmus americana) Native. Large vase-shaped tree once common across the United States east of the Rockies. Susceptible to Dutch elm disease. Cold hardy, drought tolerant tree. Adaptable to moist or dry sites. Useful in areas isolated from other American elms. State tree of North Dakota.

Elm, Siberian

(Ulmus pumila) Introduced from Asia. Fast growing. Susceptible to Dutch elm disease and herbicide damage. Incorrectly called ‘Chinese’ elm.

Hackberry

(Celtis occidentalis) Native. Extremely drought tolerant and adaptable. Very long-lived. Excellent shade tree. Produces purplish brown fruit which are eaten by birds. Similar to American elm in appearance.

Honeylocust, Thornless

(Gleditsia triacanthos) Native in far southeast South Dakota. Tough and adaptable. May produce long brown seed pods. Fine lacey leaves.

Kentucky Coffee Tree

(Gymnocladus dioica) Native in far southeast South Dakota. Produces flattened pod containing hard round seeds. Coarse branches add winter interest. Prefers moist well-drained soil but will tolerate drier alkaline sites.

Linden, American

(Tilia americana) Native to eastern SD. Attractive fragrant white flowers in June. Prefers moist well-drained soil. Adapts to wide range of soil moisture and pH conditions. Honey derived from flowers is

Linden, Littleleaf

(Tilia cordata) Introduced from Europe. Pyramidal growth habit. Attractive fragrant white flowers in June. Prefers moist well-drained soil. PH adaptable. Honey derived from flowers is excellent.

Maple, Freeman

(Acer x freemanii) Native in Eastern U.S. Naturally occurring hybrid of silver and Red Maples. Good fall color. Appearance similar to silver maple. Prefers moist, slightly acidic soil. Fast growing.

Maple, Silver

(Acer saccharinam) Native in southeast South Dakota. Prefers moist soil. Fast growing. Brittle wood. Can have good yellow fall color. Can produce heavy crops of “helicopter” type seeds in early summer.

Oak, Bur

(Quercus macrocarpa) Native. Extremely tough, drought tolerant tree. Long-lived. Acorns provide wildlife food.

Oak, Red

(Quercus rubra) Native in Eastern U.S. forests as far west as Minnesota, Iowa and Nebraska. Transplants easily and grows quickly. Prefers rich moist loam soil. Develops chlorosis in high pH soils. Good red fall color.

Poplar, White

(Populus alba) Introduced from Europe and Asia. Young branches are attractive greenish-gray. Leaves and twigs have white felt-like covering. Prefers moist soil but tolerates drought, high soil pH, and salinity. May sucker to form a thicket.

Walnut, Black

(Juglans nigra) Native in southeast South Dakota. Valuable lumber tree. Edible nuts. Attracts wildlife. Grows best in deep, moist soils.

Willow, Golden

(Salix alba 'Vitellina') Introduced from Europe and Asia. Fast growing. Tolerates wet sites. Not drought tolerant. Attractive golden-orange bark adds winter interest.

Willow, Peachleaf

(Salix amygdaloides) Native. Usually multiple trunks. Often seen along streams, rivers, lakes and ponds. Great riparian plant.

CONIFERS

Cedar, Eastern Red

(Juniperus virginiana) Medium tree. Conifer. Native. Very drought tolerant. Has reddish brown to purple winter coloration. Produces inedible blue fruit. Excellent wildlife plant.

Fir, Douglas

(Pseudotsuga menziesii var. glauca) - Large tree. Native in Rocky Mountains and Western United States. Adaptable to varying soil conditions, but prefers moist well-drained soil.

Juniper, Rocky Mountain

(Juniperus scopulorum) - Medium tree. Conifer. Native. Very drought and alkaline tolerant. Needles may have bluish tint. Produces inedible blue fruit. Excellent wildlife plant.

Larch, Siberian

(Larix sibirica) Large tree. Deciduous conifer. Introduced from Siberia, eastern Russia and northern China. Grows best on moist, well-drained soil. Fair tolerance to drought. Low shade tolerance.

Pine, Austrian

(Pinus nigra) - Large tree. Conifer. Introduced from Europe and Asia. Slower growing than other pines. Stiff needles. Sucseptible to pine wilt disease.

Pine, Limber

(Pinus flexilis) native to the western United States, is more tolerant of alkaline soils than the Eastern white pine. The dark blue green needles help this tree stand out in the landscape.

Pine, Ponderosa

(Pinus ponderosa) - Large tree. Conifer. Native. Fast growing once established. Good wildlife plant. Drought tolerant. Intolerant of wet soils.

Pine, Scotch

(Pinus sylvestris) - Large tree. Conifer. Introduced from Europe and Asia. Attractive peeling orange bark on older trees. Drought tolerant. Popular Christmas tree. Fast growing. Needles may temporarily turn yellow in winter. Sucseptible to pine wilt disease.

Spruce, Black Hills

(Picea glauca var. densata) Large tree. Conifer. Native. A geographical strain of white spruce. State tree of South Dakota. Very ornamental. Dense growth habit. Drought and alkaline tolerant. Cones attract songbirds in winter.

Spruce, Colorado

(Picea pungens) - Large tree. Conifer. Native in Rocky Mountain States. Needles blue or green. Very ornamental.

Spruce, Meyer

(Picea meyeri) - Introduced from northern China and Inner Mongolia (a grassland region of P.R. of China). Size and coloration similar to Colorado Spruce. More drought tolerant than Colorado Spruce. Appears to have less insect/disease trouble than Colorado Spruce. Slower grower in early years, but once established, growth rate is similar to Colorado Spruce.

Spruce, Norway

(Picea abies) - Large tree. Conifer. Native to Europe. Green needles. Large cones. Ascending branches with drooping branchlets.

SPECIALTY FRUIT TREES

Apple, Cortland

An older, well-known variety. Medium-sized and bright red with a sprightly tropical flavor. White flesh holds its color well after being cut. Excellent for eating and cooking.

Apple, Fireside

University of Minnesota, 1943. Large, red striped fruit with a sweet, pleasant flavor. Excellent flavor good for eating. Good storage life. One of the most popular apples in Minnesota. Resistant to cedar-apple rust.

Apple, Freedom

The red fruit is large and good for eating, sauces and juice. The flesh is crisp and juicy with a slight tart flavor. The fruit will keep until January in cold storage. Very vigorous and productive tree. Developed for disease resistance. Immune to apple scab and resistant to mildew, cedar-apple rust and fireblight.

Apple, Honeycrisp

Ripens in late September in Minnesota and stores like a late season variety. Has become an outstanding commercial and home orchard variety because of its explosive crispness, flavor and storage life.

Apple, Liberty

A productive variety that was selected for its resistance to apple scab and cedar-apple rust. Crisp and juicy with a sprightly flavor.

Cherry, Evans Bali

Deep, dark red fruit 1" in diameter and excellent for baking and fresh eating. The fruit is much sweeter than other sour cherries. Extremely hardy buds.

Peach, Contender

A freestone peach with bright yellow flesh. Sweet, extra-juicy fruit is an absolute delight for fresh eating, canning, baking, and freezing. Self-pollinating. Ripens mid-to-late August.

Pear, Early Gold

Fruit is green-yellow, very juicy and approximately 2" in diameter. Has sturdy branching. Good for eating and canning.

Pear, Golden Spice

A very hardy pear. The 1.75" fruit are a medium yellow, lightly blushed with dull red and ripen mid-season. Good for canning and spicing, fair for eating.

Plum, Black Ice

A large fruited dessert plum with superior winter hardiness. Bred by Prof. Brian Smith of UW-River Falls, who spent years crossing cherry plums with Japanese dessert plums. The large, round plums are blue-black with very sweet, juicy, yellow flesh. Fruit ripens in early August, about 2-4 weeks earlier than other plums grown in the Midwest.

Plum, Toka

Red skin with firm yellow flesh. Rich and spicy flavor. Large, pointed fruit. Heavy producer. Hardy cold climates. Excellent pollinator for other plum varieties. SD Experiment Station release in 1911. Ripens in mid-August.

Plum, Waneta

Fruit is large, red, and juicy. Good flesh quality. Produces fruit as a very young tree. Released by the South Dakota Experiment Station in 1913. Ripens late in July.

Raspberry, Caroline

Ever bearing red raspberry. Very large flavorful fruit. Vigorous and more tolerant of root rot and yellow rust. Leaf coverage reduces sunscald on berry.

Raspberry, Killarney

Summer bearing. Attractive red berries with great aroma and flavor. Excellent for freezing, canning and of course pie. One of the most disease resistant varieties, making it very easy to maintain. Sturdy growth habit. Released in Manitoba in 1961, thus very winter hardy.

Strawberry 'All-star'

The fruit has excellent flavor and the plant is resistant to verticillium wilt disease. The entire crop ripens in June, mid-to-late season.

SPECIALTY ORNAMENTAL TREES

Crabapple 'Prairifire'

(Malus 'Prairifire') This disease resistant cross by Dr. Dan Dayton, University of Illinois, has especially good foliage retention during summer. It blooms later than most crabs. The bark is a glossy dark red with numerous prominent lenticels, and the fruit does not drop.

Crabapple 'Spring Snow'

(Malus 'Spring Snow') This fruitless Canadian introduction is completely covered with pink buds that open to fragrant white flowers in spring. It has bright green, shiny foliage and good heat tolerance.

Elm, American Prairie Expedition

(Ulmus americana 'Lewis and Clark') Incredibly tough and cold hardy, this American elm native selection is a lone survivor among elm trees that died of Dutch elm disease near Fargo, ND.

Elm, St. Croix

(Ulmus americana 'St. Croix') Native. Zone 3. 80'tall x 60' wide. Has typical arching canopy of American Elm. Dark green leathery leaves turn yellow in the fall. Discovered near Afton, MN. Original tree is 100+ years old and 75" diameter trunk. Dutch elm disease resistant. Tested and released by University of Minnesota.

Linden, American 'Frontyard'

(Tilia americana 'Frontyard') A great "front yard" tree, it is broadly pyramidal when young and nicely rounded with age. The dense foliage offers excellent shade.

Linden, American 'Redmond'

(Tilia americana 'Redmond') A valuable tree for street planting, 'Redmond' has the largest leaves of the lindens. The dense foliage is glossy green with bright yellow autumn color.

Maple, Autumn Blaze

(Acer x freemanii 'Jeffersred') This hybrid of silver and red maple has experienced phenomenal popularity due to its ascending branch habit, rapid growth rate, drought tolerance when established, ability to grow in most soils, beautiful fall color and form.

NATIVE PERENNIALS

Aster, New England

(Aster novae-angliae) Stout erect perennial with several branches growing 20" to 40" from a single base. Several flowers form on the terminal end of the stems. Flowers are large blue-violet to reddish purple with yellow centers. Is found on wet prairie meadows, stream banks and boggy areas.

Aster, Smooth Blue

(Aster laevis) Native perennial is 1-1/2' to 3' tall. Forms a central stem which remains erect during the early to late fall blooming period. Flowering stems produce numerous lavender or light blue-violet daisy-like flowers with yellow centers. Smooth Blue aster have smooth foliage and stems, unlike other asters.

Bergamot, Wild

(Monarda fistulosa) Native. Strong plant with square stems has minty scented foliage. Large pink to lavender flowers are produced mid-summer. Good plant for pollinators and butterflies. Spherical seed heads remain on plant over winter. Mildew may be a problem if not grown with good air circulation. Prefers moderate soil moisture. 2-4 feet tall.

Black–eyed Susan

(Rudbeckia fulgida) Native in US, east of SD. Yellow-orange daisy-like flowers with dark centers cover plants late-summer to fall. Similar to Rudbeckia 'Goldstrum' but flowers later. Good cut flower. Seed heads allowed to stand over winter provide bird food. Grows 2 feet tall.

Blazing Star, Meadow

(Liatris ligulistylis) Native. Monarch Butterfly magnet! Produces tall purple flower stalk in late summer. Grows in moist meadows, prairies, and road ditches. Good garden, rain garden, and landscape plant. Grows 3-4 ft. tall.

Blazing Star, Prairie

(Liatris pycnostachya) Native. Grows 3-5 ft tall with a 1 foot spread. Grows well in moist soil and in clay. Too little sun will cause twisted growth, and not enough water will cause leaf loss. The purple spikes are covered with purple flowers.

Columbine, American

(Aquilegia canadensis) This is an herbaceous perennial that can grow to 24” tall and wide. The flower spikes can reach up to 3’ in height at maturity. Is ideal for naturalizing and woodland gardens. This perennial should be cut back in late fall in preparation for winter. This late spring flowering perennial has red to orange bell-shaped flowers with yellow eyes. Deer will usually leave columbine alone in favor of tastier treats.

Coneflower, Purple

(Echinacea purpurea) Native in U.S, east of SD. Produces large quantities of showy pinkish-purple flowers in midsummer. Very popular garden plant. Seed heads provide winter bird food. A favorite of Monarch Butterflies. Grows 2-3 ft. tall.

Coneflower, Yellow

(Echinacea paradoxa) Native in US. Large yellow flowers appear in early to mid-summer. Petals droop down from central seed head. Flowers similar to other Echinacea but with yellow petals. Grows 2-4 feet tall.

Coreopsis, Prairie

(Coreopsis, palmata) Considered a good source for honey by beekeepers this native plant blooms yellow flowers for 3-4 weeks in June-July. Grows to 2 feet in height and may sprawl across the ground in search of full sun. Plant in full sun in medium to dry soil or soil containing loam.

Goldenrod, Showy

(Solidago speciosa) This plant lives up to its name each autumn when it displays beautiful yellow flower spikes that are a favorite of native pollinators and butterflies. Grows well on moist to dry sites and reaches a height of up to 4 feet. A great cut flower for fall bouquets. Flowers dry well too. NOT a cause of hay fever.

Hyssop, Anise

(Agastache foeniculum) Native. Grows 2-4 ft. with lavender flower spikes at the end of square stalks. A member of the mint family. Leaves and stems are licorice scented, especially when crushed. Can be used to flavor food and beverages. Attracts pollinators, butterflies, and birds. Flowers June-September. Needs half to full sun and average soil moisture. Clip spent flowers to avoid re-seeding.

Indigo, Wild Blue

(Baptisia australis) Once established very drought tolerant and long lived. Blue flowers bloom from May to July. Spend the first few years developing below ground making it slow to establish. Plant 2-3' apart in full sun. Medium to dry conditions with a slightly acidic soil if possible.

Milkweed, Butterfly

(Asclepias tuberosa) Native. A hassle free, drought tolerant perennial, with three months of tangerine orange blooms. Attracts scores of butterflies. Excellent long-lasting cut flowers. Breaks dormancy late. Grows to 24”

Milkweed, Swamp

(Asclepias incarnata) Native. Food for Monarch butterfly caterpillars. Beautiful pink-red flowers. Milky sap. Riparian plant. Use in gardens, rain gardens, moist sites. After flowering, remove developing seed pods in garden and landscape situations to avoid self-sowing. 3-4 feet tall

Penstemon, Shell Leaf

(Penstemon grandiflorus) Native. A bumblebee favorite! Beautiful light pink flowers produced in early summer 2-3 foot stalks from a greenish-white rosette of leaves. Grows best on well-drained sandy or gravelly soil. May not be long-lived in the garden, but worth the effort!

Prairie Smoke

(Geum triflorum) Native. Delightful prairie plant with interesting flower stalks produced in May and June. Nodding reddish flowers produce feathery seed heads which look like smoke. Leaves form a basal rosette which is attractive the rest of the summer. 6-12” tall.

Rose, Prairie

(Rosa arkansana) Native shrub, typically less than 18” tall. Prickly stems. Flowers are large, 5 petals, mostly pink and very fragrant. The persistent red-orange fruit is called a hip and is used by wildlife. Found in open prairies, bluffs, open woodlands, thickets and roadsides. It is the state flower of North Dakota and Iowa.

Sage, Blue

(Salvia azurea) Excellent for dry sites, requires minimal mosture with its tap root. Plant in partial to full sun. Reaches a height of 3-5' blooming in midsummer. Plant in sandy, loam, or gravel type sites. Great for pollinators and hummingbirds.

Vervain, Hoary

(Verbena stricta) This native perennial grows up to 3 feet. Drought resistant and non-aggressive. Self-seeds easily but does not compete well with more aggressive plants. The blue-purple spikes last for 4-6 weeks from June-September. The leaves are a host for the Common Buckeye Butterfly while the nectar is a source for butterflies. The seeds feed small birds and mammals. Plant 10-12 inches apart. Full sun to part shade. Prefers dry to medium, well drained loamy soils.

Yucca

(Yucca glauca) Native. Spectacular cream-colored flower panicle produced in early summer from clump of lance-shaped leaves. Often grows on dry, sandy, gravelly hillsides, especially in the western half of South Dakota. Grows 2-4 feet tall.

NATIVE GRASSES

Bluestem, Big

(Andropogon gerardii) Native. Warm season. Major component of tallgrass prairie. Produces “turkey foot” seed heads. Plants turn red in the fall and remain upright in winter. Excellent cattle food. Grows 3-7 feet tall.

Bluestem, Little

(Schizachyrium scoparium) Native. Warm season, perennial bunchgrass which grows in mixed-grass prairie. Drought tolerant. Often grows on dry hillsides. Attractive seed heads are fluffy when mature. Foliage turns pinkish-red in autumn. Grows 1-3 ft. tall.

Dropseed, Prairie

(Sporobolus heterolepis) Native. Warm season. Produces nearly circular tufts of fine leaves which are 4-10” in diameter. Grows in wetter mixed grass prairies. Very attractive in bloom and seed. Interesting accent plant. Can be used to line walkways and edge gardens. Grows 1-3 ft. tall.

Feather Reed Grass ‘Karl Forester’

(Calamagrostis acutiflora ‘Karl Foerster’) a cool season bunch grass. Strong erect growth habit remains upright, even in winter. Attractive seed head. 2001 Perennial Plant Association Plant of the Year. Grows 4-5ft.

Indiangrass

(Sorghastrum nutans) Native. Warm season. Major component of tall grass prairie. Grows best on moist soil. Produces seeds in large, fluffy terminal panicles. Interesting landscape plant.

Sweetgrass

(Hierochloe odorata) Native. Cool-season grass inhabits wet, sandy soil along rivers and lakes. Crushed leaves smell like vanilla or sweet clover due to coumarin content. Native American cultures burn dried sweet grass braids in traditional ceremonies. Spreads vigorously if weeds are controlled and soil is moist. Grows 1-3 ft. tall.

Switchgrass

(Panicum virgatum) Native. Tall, warm-season, perennial sod grass. Seed head is an airy panicle. Turns golden yellow in fall/winter. Usually remains upright during winter. Birds make some use of seeds. Grows 3-5 ft. tall.

GARDEN PERENNIALS

Coneflower, 'Cheyenne Spirit'

(Echinacea 'Cheyenne Spirit') 2013 AAS Winner. The first of its kind offering a color range from tomato red, magenta, near fluorescent orange, yellow-gold, and white. Grows 22-30 inches tall and produces a well-branched bushy plant. Maintenance free and quite drought tolerant.

Gaillardia

(Gaillardia aristata 'Arizona Sun') Spreading wildflower with daisy-like flowers provide a continuous display of large, single, mahogany-red flowers with bright yellow petal edges on compact plants. Absolutely outstanding. Height of 8-10" and 10-12" wide.

Rhubarb, Victoria

"The rhubarb grandma grew!!" Great for pies, sauce, and jam. Freezes well. Produces long, thick, stalks which are reddish at the base. Very productive.

VINES

Grape, Riverbank

(Vitis riparia) Native. Vine up to 30 ft. long. Produces edible purple fruit. Good for juice and jelly. Grows in low woodlands, stream banks, etc., in moist soil. Useful for covering fences, trellises, rock piles, brush piles, etc. (Size: 5/32", 12-20")