

Whatley Farm

TOPSHAM. MAINE

Planting Guide

Herbs and Flowers

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Edible Flowers

Scarlet Runner Bean

Edible scarlet flowers, use open flowers and buds. Eat beans while they're young, pick regularly to encourage more blooms. Nitrogen fixing. Hummingbirds love it!



Bronze Leaf Fennel

For flower and leaf use. Use fresh in soups and salads, dry for teas, or let go to seed. Anise flavor. Good for attracting swallowtails!



Snapdragon

Slightly bitter but makes a lovely garnish. Blooms through summer, tolerates light frost. Stands out in fresh arrangements.



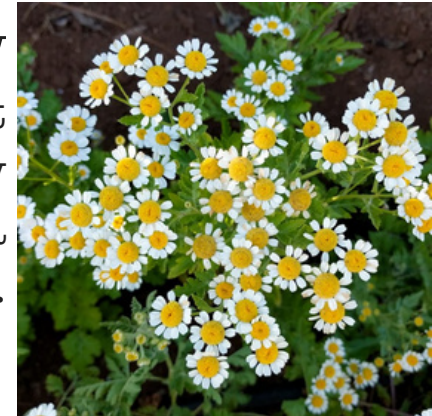
Chamomile

Well-known for calming effect. Delicate flowers have apple aroma. Blend with other herbs for your own homemade tea. Attracts pollinators and lady beetles!



Feverfew

Chamomile's more medicinal cousin. Perennial plant popular in medieval gardens. Grows up to 36" and bushy in full sun. Chew fresh leaves or drink dried as tea for a traditional migraine remedy.



Pansies/Violas

Mix of colors, lovely light wintergreen flavor when used fresh in salads, or candy with egg white & sugar for sparkly homegrown cake decor.



Companion Flowers



Attract pollinators & other beneficial insects right to your garden!

Calendula

Pluck petals for soups, salads, teas, baked goods, and garnish. Slight sweet butter flavor.



Marigolds

Gem & full sized mix. Perfect for containers, garden edges, and garnish! Edible flowers have delicate citrus scent.



Nasturtium

The spicy flower! Riotous shades of orange and pink. Will climb if allowed. Edible leaves & blooms

Sweet Alyssum

Spreads out nicely in a container, hanging basket or planted alongside your veggies! Beneficials can't resist the sweet scent. In the brassica family!



Borage

Plant with tomatoes, peppers or eggplant to attract buzz pollinators & repel hornworms. Edible, cucumber-flavored flowers, leaves can be juiced or put into smoothies, both can be dried for tea.



Perennial Flowers

Perennial flowers return for at least a second year. Plants will either resprout from root balls or self-seed. Some perennials will stay in their garden beds, but many will spread if allowed.



Bee Balm

Blooms in second year. Quintessential bee attractant, but also a favorite of butterflies and hummingbirds. Petals have a spicy mint flavor, try tender spring leaves in salad.



Echinacea

Late summer blooms are favored by bees and butterflies. Stands 2-4' tall. Deadhead to encourage extra blossoms. Roots harvestable after 3-4 years.



Rudbeckia Triloba

Domestic black-eyed Susan. Excellent cut flower with branching flower stems. Will self seed in place for next year!

Perennial Flowers

Hyssop

Columbine



Blooms in spring of second year. Pastel color palette. Can be over 2' high. A hummingbird favorite!

Fragrant border plant, bees love it! Shorter than Anise Hyssop. In mint family; makes excellent herbal tea



Anise Hyssop

Edible, anise-scented foliage and flowers, grows up to 4' tall. Excellent insect and hummingbird attractor.



Yarrow (Ornamental) Makes a lightly sweet iced tea.



Beneficial insect attractant. Long vase life as a cut flower, retains color well in drying. Up to 24" tall.

Yarrow (Native White)

Scented flowers and foliage attract all manner of pollinators and beneficials. Traditionally used in tea to sweat out a fever or as a clotting poultice on wounds.



Sunflowers

Autumn Beauty



We offer several types of sunflowers with various heights, bloom size, and colors.

Mammoth



Two-toned color on flowers 8" across. Excellent for mazes or other late season displays. Buds may be fried as a vegetable.

12' tall plants with more than enough seeds for the birds! Great for building a natural fence and making local pollinators very happy.

Soraya

Branching growth for maximum flowering. Up to 24 branches per plant, up to 4' high, 4-6" blossoms



Teddy Bear

Dwarf sunflower growing only a foot high in a container, up to three feet in the garden. Minimal pollen, 3-5 blooms per plant, great for children's gardens.

Tithonia (Mexican Sunflower)

Not a true sunflower. Very tall (up to 6'!), late blooming pollinator attractant well suited to droughty summers.



Annual Flowers

Zinnia

High yields of 4-6" blooms. Long vase life as a cut flower. Will love the sunniest spot in your garden.

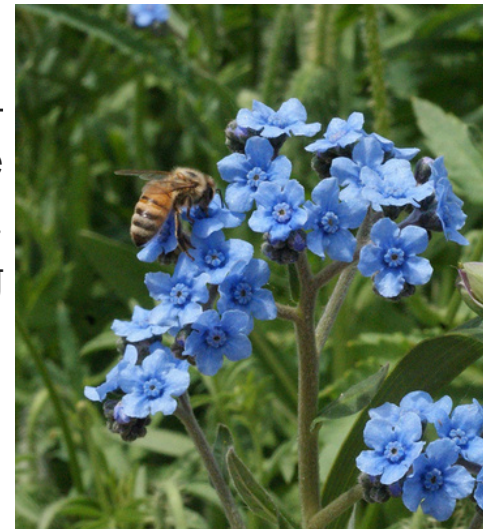


Sweet Pea

Early flowering, drought resistant. Beautiful arrangements, attracts hummingbirds. *All parts are poisonous*

Cynoglossum

Chinese-Forget-Me-Not with bright blue flowers. Flower stems can reach 2' tall. Attracts bees, self seeding



Dried Flowers



Amaranth: Hot Biscuits

Tall and full plants make great filler in autumn bouquets. Pinch out central buds to encourage maximum branching.

Amaranth: Love-Lies-Bleeding

Classic trailing amaranth for maximum drama in flower arrangements. Harvest when 3/4 of blossoms are open for fresh; for dried, harvest when seed is set & flowers are firm. Allow to dry standing to preserve trailing shape.



Dried Flowers

Annuals that can be cut for continuous regrowth through the season. Dry hanging upside down in a well-ventilated dark space.

Strawflower

The most perfect dried flower there ever was! Profuse bloomers, use fresh or dried. Pick regularly to encourage new blooms. Allow ground to fully dry between waterings.



Gomphrena

AKA "globe amaranth." Lovely little accent flowers that keep color once dried.



Celosia

Tall, sturdy plants with 2-7" blooms. Perfect for fresh or dried arrangements.



Statice

Papery, delicate and prolific! Great dried bouquet filler.

Sweet Annie

The official headgear of the Common Ground Fair! AKA "artemisia" or "everlasting." Great for wreaths, or infuse fresh into honey for a special treat!



Basil

Plant where it will get 6-8 hours of full sun daily.

Containers & raised beds provide necessary drainage.

Genovese 'Prospera'

Classic Italian flavor, downy mildew resistance.



Kapoor Tulsi

AKA holy basil. Versatile, medicinal, beautiful. Use in cooking, tea, or your pollinator garden.



Spicy Globe

Perfect for container gardening. Tiny leaves have a hint of spice. Can be culinary or ornamental.



Sweet Thai

Classic Thai basil with spicy anise-clove flavor. Perfect for soups and spring rolls.



Lemon

Vibrant lemon flavor perfect for salad dressings. Great ice cream flavoring! Add a citrus zing to your fish dishes.



Red Rubin

Italian flavor with a different look. Wow your family with purple pesto!

Tuscany

Large, crinkly lettuce-like leaves. Make the most of your tomato sandwiches!

Greek Columnar

Perfect container plant, resists setting seed, may overwinter inside!



Herbs

Catnip

Hardy perennial, in mint family with similar spreading habit. For tea, companion plant, mosquito repellent, and cat toys.



Shiso

Used in Japanese cooking, sushi & salads, or to color pickles & umeboshi. Distinctive color and cinnamon/cloves flavor. Add to lemonade or iced tea for a refreshing pink twist, or infuse in rice vinegar for delicious salad dressings year round.



Summer Savory

Delicate thyme and marjoram flavor. Pairs well with beans, frequently used in sausages & BBQ seasonings.



Winter Savory

Similar to summer savory but stronger and more pungent. Hardy and compact perennial. Traditionally used to reduce “wind” in beans.



Marjoram

Tender oregano relative with a sweeter, more citrusy aroma. Lovely dried for cooking or tea.



Herbs

Hill Hardy Rosemary

Hardy perennial dwarf rosemary. Use in the kitchen or as a member of your flower garden. Can be trimmed into topiary!



Barbecue Rosemary

Makes a great container plant or small hedge in full sun! Long stems make great skewers for on the grill.

Berggarten Sage

Hardy perennial. Classic culinary sage. Large, low growing leaves can be harvested regularly. Attracts butterflies when in bloom.



Purple Sage

High medicinal value perennial for tinctures and tea, while being beautifully ornamental.

White Sage

Tender perennial sacred to many native peoples in the southwest. Requires minimal watering. Make your own smudges or use in cooking.



Pineapple Sage

Tender perennial. Use fresh leaves or flowers in beverage infusions or fruit salad. Stunning tropical-looking flowers attract hummingbirds.

Herbs

Lemon Balm

Perennial in mint family, so watch out for spreading habit. Fantastic for teas, salads, infused oil. Repels garden pests and attracts bees.



Lemon Verbena

Tender perennial. Most intense of lemon herbs! Popular for chicken and fish dishes, makes a lovely tea from fresh or dried.

Lemongrass

Fresh, dried or frozen--soups, sauces, stir-fry, tea! Possible to overwinter if brought indoors. Natural mosquito repellent.



Lovage

Perennial celery alternative. Candy stems as a sweet digestif, infuse leaves into cider vinegar. Seeds make a great pickling spice! Attracts beneficial insects.

Stevia

Also called candyleaf. Several times sweeter than sugar. Dry and powder to sparingly sweeten tea. Tender perennial makes a good houseplant in winter.



White Horehound

Hardy perennial traditionally used as a flavoring for hard candies that double as cough drops. Dry for tea or infuse fresh into honey for a delicious, all natural sore throat remedy and vocal booster.

Herbs

Chives: Staro

75-85 days. Perennial. Thicker than average chives, making them great for drying or freezing. Let some flower for an edible oniony treat for you and the bees!



French Tarragon

Delightful in egg dishes and with tomatoes and summer squash! Essential for fines herbs blend and many French dishes. Fertilize or amend transplanting area and keep well watered. Harvest green, non-woody growth up to a month before first frost.

Italian Oregano

Perennial, drought-resistant essential for pizza, pasta sauce and other tomato-rich dishes. Grows well in marginal areas. Clip budding growth to prevent flowering and continue leaf production.



Mexican Oregano

Not a true oregano, related to verbena, with a bright, citrusy flavor. Dries well.

Zaatar

Extremely zesty tender perennial oregano relative native to the Middle East. Dry and combine with sumac and toasted sesame for the spice blend za'atar.



Parsley

Giant of Italy

75 days. Very high yielding with strong, classic parsley flavor.



Darki

75 days. Slightly milder than flat leaf, very cold hardy. Great for tabbouleh!



Calypso

50-55 days leaf, 120-150 days seed. Full, bulky and slow bolting. Will self seed in place if allowed to go to seed, or collect seeds for use as spice (coriander).



Cilantro

Dill

Bouquet

40-45 days leaf, 85-105 days seed. Makes a great companion plant for most garden crops, attracting beneficial insects with its flowers, and is handy to have when you've got cukes to pickle!



Thalia

Slow bolting for continuous frond production! Keeps going right along with your cucumbers and beans for homegrown pickles and dilly beans.



Herbs: Mint

All members of the mint family have a spreading habit if not contained. Plant in buried containers to minimize invasive habit. Fairly hardy perennials; can winter kill if soil is too moist. Great for attracting pollinators and scenting the garden!

Spearmint

Most versatile! Use fresh in cooking, dry for tea, DIY cleaners & pest control--the list goes on!



Peppermint

Makes a calming cup of tea after a long day or a big meal.

Orange Mint

Best used fresh. Fruit salads, dressings, jellies, muddled into beverages & creamy desserts-yum!



Chocolate Peppermint

Perfect for desserts or to make your coffee extra special! Fresh leaves make the crew's favorite iced tea in summer.

Mojito Mint

Spearmint relative beloved in Cuba for cocktails, with a milder flavor and large leaves perfect for muddling. Flavor stays fresh even when cooked!





Mountain Mint

Grows into 2-3' small hedges that suppress weeds, attract pollinators and deter hungry deer. Great for garden borders.

Catmint

For the flower garden. Perfect for borders or under your roses. Needs yearly pruning. Lower growth than catnip.



Herbs: Lavender

Fragrant perennial that will attract pollinators to the garden year after year. Most commonly known as a soothing essential oil, lavender is quite versatile as a fresh and dried herb. Use fresh in baking and water infusions, use dried in teas, sachets, and homemade salves. Deadhead spent blossoms to encourage denser growth. Drought resistant.

Provence



Most fragrant flowers. Grows up to 3' tall. Perfect for hedgerow. Essential ingredient in the herbes de Provence blend.

Munstead



Compact growth perfect for flowing out of containers,, generally 2' wide and 2' tall. Flowers twice. Popular in potpourri as it retains color when dried.

Herbs: Thyme

Woody perennial. Known the world over as a highly versatile culinary herb, alone or in herb blends, but also medicinally valuable. Can be used fresh or dried, Also makes a lovely and fragrant ground cover. Flowers attract bees and other beneficial insects. Drought resistant and can even be harvested in winter (if you can get to it)

French

Plants grow 12" tall, prefer 12" spacing. Round gray-green leaves with slightly sweet flavor. Prized by chefs.



Lemon

Plants grow 12" tall, prefer 18-24" spacing. Light, citrusy flavor! Use fresh as garnish or grind with sugar for baking. Lovely with summer fruit or dried and brewed into a tea with honey.

Mother of Thyme

AKA creeping thyme, used for ground cover. Plants are under 6" tall. Fragrant flowers, use leaves as you would any other type of thyme. Popular to plant in between cobblestones.

