

FEDCO'S FLOWER PLANTING GUIDE 2025

Name	mature height	annual/perennial in Maine	likely to self-sow	native to North America	shade tolerance	Uses beyond beds & borders				direct sow (DS) and / or transplant (TP)	ideal germ temp	seeding notes
						containers / window boxes	drying / everlasting	cutting	other special traits			
Achillea (Yarrow)	18-24"	perennial						•		DS spring / TP	60-65°	surface sow
Ageratum	2'	annual						•		TP	70-85°	surface sow
Alyssum	2-4"	annual			part	•			fragrant	DS spring / TP	55-70°	surface sow
Amaranth	3-6'	annual	YES					•	edible	DS after frost / TP	70-75°	surface sow
Aster, New York	3-4'	perennial						•	late	TP	65-70°	chill 2wks
Aster, China	12-30"	annual			part			•		DS after frost / TP	65-75°	
Bachelor's Button	2-3'	annual	YES		part			•		DS spring / TP	60-65°	
Balloon Flower	30-42"	perennial			part			•		TP	65-70°	surface sow
Basketflower, American	3-4'	annual		YES	part			•	fragrant	DS after frost	60-70°	
Bee Balm	24-30"	perennial	YES	YES	part			•		DS after frost / TP	60-70°	surface sow
Begonia	8-12"	annual			full shade	•				TP	70-85°	surface sow in March
Bells of Ireland	30"	annual	YES		part			•		DS spring / TP	50-65°	chill 2wks, surface sow
Broom Corn / Sorghum	7-9'	annual						•		DS after frost	70-85°	
Bupleurum	2'	annual			part			•		TP	60-65°	
Butterfly Weed	18-30"	perennial		YES				•		DS spring or fall	70-85°	chill 4wks
Calendula	18-24"	annual	YES					•	edible	DS spring / TP	60-65°	
Campanula	6-8"	perennial			part	•				DS after frost / TP	65-70°	
Canary Creeper	8'	annual			part				vine	DS after frost / TP	60-65°	
Catmint, Persian	12"	perennial	YES							DS spring / TP	60-65°	
Celosia	12-30"	annual				•	•	•		TP	70-85°	
Cerinthe	12-18"	annual						•		DS after frost / TP	70-85°	
Chinese Forget-Me-Not	16-18"	annual						•		DS spring / TP	65-70°	
Chinese Lantern	2'	perennial			part			•		DS spring / TP	70-85°	surface sow
Cleome	4'	annual	YES							DS after frost / TP	70-85°	chill, surface sow
Coleus	10-12"	annual			full shade	•				TP	65-70°	surface sow
Columbine	24-30"	perennial	YES		part			•	early	DS spring / TP	70-85°	ch 3-4wks, surface sow
Coneflower, Prairie	1-3'	perennial		YES						TP	70-85°	chill 1wk
Coreopsis	18"	perennial						•		TP	60-70°	surface sow
Cosmos	2-5'	annual	YES					•		DS after frost / TP	70-75°	surface sow
Daisy	2-3'	perennial						•		TP	70-85°	
Delphinium	6'	perennial			part			•		TP	65-75°	chill 2-4wks
Dianthus (Carnation)	14-20"	annual						•	fragrant	TP	65-70°	
Drumstick Flower	18"	annual						•		TP	65-70°	
Dyer's Coreopsis	2-4'	annual	YES	YES				•	dye	DS after frost / TP	60-65°	surface sow
Eucalyptus	2-3'	annual						•		TP	65-70°	slow germ; sow in March
Flax, Blue	9-12"	perennial								DS spring / TP	60-65°	
Forget-Me-Not	6-12"	perennial	YES		part			•		DS spring	65-70°	
Four O'Clock	2-3'	annual							fragrant	DS after frost / TP	70-85°	
Gaillardia, perennial	2-3'	perennial		YES				•		DS after frost / TP	70-85°	surface sow
Gaillardia, annual	12"	annual						•		TP	70-85°	surface sow
Gazania	8-10"	annual				•				TP	70-85°	surface sow
Globe Amaranth	2'	annual						•		TP	60-70°	chill 4-6wks
Godetia	20-30"	annual						•		TP	60-70°	
Helen's Flower	4-5'	perennial		YES				•		TP	65-70°	
Hibiscus	2-3'	perennial								TP	70-85°	
Hollyhock	4-8'	biennial	YES							DS fall / TP spring	65-85°	stratify
Honesty (Silver Dollar)	3'	biennial						•		DS spring / TP	65-70°	
Indigo	1-2'	annual							dye	TP	70-85°	
Jewels of Opar	32-40"	annual		YES				•	edible	TP	70-85°	surface sow
Job's Tears	2-3'	annual	YES					•	beads!	TP	60-65°	
Joe Pye Weed	5-9'	perennial	YES	YES	part			•		DS spring or fall	65-70°	surface sow, stratify

Seeding Notes

Scarify: Scuff up the seed with sandpaper or an emery board before planting.

Stratify: Seed needs alternating temps to germinate. Plant in moist soil and refrigerate for 3-4 weeks. For many wildflowers, you can skip stratification if you sow seed in the fall.

Chill: Put your seed packet in the fridge for a few weeks before planting seeds.

Surface sow: Seeds need light to germinate. Don't cover them with soil. You can gently pat the seeds down. If seeds are small, water very carefully so they don't float away.



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Johnny-Jump-Up	4-6"	perennial	YES		part				edible	DS spring or fall	65-70°	
Kiss-Me-over-the-Grdn	6-7'	annual			part					DS spring / TP	70-75°	stratify
Laceflower	2-3'	annual					•	•		DS after frost	65-70°	
Larkspur	3-4'	annual	YES		part		•	•		DS spring / TP	55-65°	Chill 1 wk
Lavatera	2'	annual						•		DS spring / TP	65-75°	
Lobelia, Cardinal Flwr.	2-4'	perennial	YES	YES	part					DS spring or fall	60-65°	surface sow, stratify
Lobelia, Cascade Mix	6-8"	annual			part	•				TP	65-70°	surface sow, start early
Love-in-a-Mist	18"	annual	YES			•	•	•		DS spring / TP	60-65°	
Lupine	3'	perennial	YES					•		DS spring / TP	60-70°	soak seed, peat pots
Madder	3-4'	perennial							dye	DS after frost / TP	70-80°	
Maltese Cross	3'	perennial								TP	65-70°	
Marigold	8-30"	annual				•		•		DS after frost / TP	75-80°	
Mignonette	10"	annual				•			fragrant	DS after frost	65-70°	surface sow
Milkweed, Common	3-5'	perennial	YES	YES					fragrant	DS spring/fall / TP	65-70°	stratify
Millet, Purple Majesty	3-5'	annual			part			•		TP	70-85°	
Morning Glory	8-15'	annual	YES						vine	DS after frost / TP	70-85°	scarify, stratify
Morning Glory, Bush	18"	annual				•				DS after frost / TP	70-85°	
Nasturtium	12-16"	annual				•		•	edible	DS after frost / TP	65-70°	
Nicotiana, Only Lonely	4-6'	annual							fragrant	DS spring / TP	65-70°	surface sow
Nicotiana, Lime Light	3'	annual	YES		part			•		TP	70-85°	surface sow
Pansy	4-6"	annual			part	•		•		TP	60-65°	
Petunia	6-15"	annual				•				TP	70-75°	surface sow
Phacelia	18-30"	annual		YES						DS spring	60-65°	chill and soak
Phlox, annual	6-8"	annual	YES			•		•	fragrant	DS spring / TP	60-65°	
Phlox, perennial	3'	perennial						•		DS fall / TP	60-65°	stratify
Pincushion Flower	30-36"	annual					•	•		TP	65-70°	chill 1 wk
Poppy, Oriental	16"	perennial								DS spring	60-65°	surface sow
Poppy, annual	2-4'	annual	YES					•		DS spring or fall	60-65°	
Poppy, California	8-18"	annual								DS spring	60-65°	
Queen Anne's Lace	3'	annual						•		DS spring	60-65°	
Red Hot Poker	32-40"	perennial						•		DS after frost / TP	70-75°	
Rudbeckia, perennial	2'	perennial						•		TP	70-85°	surface sow
Rudbeckia, annual	12-30"	annual						•		TP	70-85°	
Salvia	18-36"	annual					•	•		TP	65-70°	surface sow, start early
Snakeroot	2-4'	perennial	YES	YES	part			•		DS spring or fall	65-70°	stratify
Snapdragon	20-36"	annual				•		•		TP	65-75°	Chill 2wk, surface sow
Soapwort (Bouncing Bet)	1-3'	perennial	YES		part				fragrant	TP	65-70°	stratify
Statice	24-30"	annual						•		TP	65-85°	surface sow
Stock	15-20"	annual				•		•	fragrant	DS spring / TP	60-65°	surface sow
Strawflower	24-40"	annual				•		•		TP	70-75°	surface sow
Sunflower	2-12'	annual	YES					•		DS after frost / TP	65-75°	
Sweet Annie	3-5'	annual	YES		part			•	fragrant	DS fall / TP	60-65°	surface sow, stratify
Sweet Pea, annual	1-6'	annual						•	vine	DS spring / TP	60-65°	soak seed 24 hrs
Sweet Pea, perennial	5-6'	perennial						•	vine	DS spring	60-65°	soak seed 24 hrs
Sweet William	18"	biennial	YES					•	fragrant	DS spring / TP	65-70°	
Thyme, Creeping	2"	perennial								DS spring / TP	60-65°	surface sow, start early
Tithonia	4-6'	annual						•		DS after frost / TP	70-85°	
Verbena	8", 48"	annual			part	•		•		TP	65-70°	Chill 3wk, surface sow
Wallflower	9-12"	biennial						•		DS spring / TP	60-65°	
Winged Everlasting	2'	annual						•		TP	65-70°	
Zinnia	20-42"	annual						•		DS after frost / TP	80-85°	