

TOP PLANT PICKS | AUGUST 2023

Stokes Aster (*Stokesia laevis*)



Bloom Time: May–August

Sun Requirement: Full sun

Water Requirement: Medium

Wildlife: Attracts butterflies

Tolerates: Rabbit and drought

Native to North America: Yes

Other: This lovely native perennial features fluffy, violet blue flowers and a basal rosette of evergreen leaves. It has a long bloom time and is low maintenance.

Zones: 5–9

Location: *Bracken Foundation Children's Garden*

Shasta Daisy (*Leucanthemum x superbum*)



Bloom Time: July–September

Sun Requirement: Full sun

Water Requirement: Low to medium

Wildlife: Attracts butterflies

Tolerates: Rabbit, deer, drought and dry soil

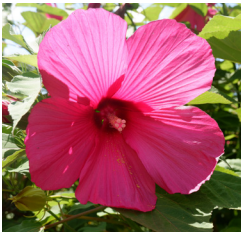
Native to North America: No

Other: This hybrid daisy provides an abundant floral display during the summer. It is perfect for perennial borders and cottage gardens.

Zones: 5–9

Location: *Color Garden*

Moy Grande Hibiscus (*Hibiscus 'Moy Grande'*)



Bloom Time: July–August

Sun Requirement: Full sun

Water Requirement: Medium to high

Wildlife: Attracts hummingbirds and bees

Tolerates: Acidic soils

Native to North America: Yes

Other: The huge deep cherry pink flowers of this hibiscus is sure to wow passersby. Add this perennial to your container gardens, bog gardens or any sunny and consistently moist site for bold summer color.

Zones: 5–9

Location: *Color Garden*

False Sunflower (*Heliopsis helianthoides*)



Bloom Time: June–August

Sun Requirement: Full sun

Water Requirement: Low to medium

Wildlife: Attracts butterflies and bees

Tolerates: Drought, erosion, clay soil, dry soil, and shallow rocky soil

Native to North America: Yes

Other: This perennial produces a profusion of bright yellow flowers and tolerates a wide range of soil conditions. It can grow quite tall, up to 5 feet.

Zones: 3–9

Location: *Howe Garden*

Blue Leadwood (*Ceratostigma plumbaginoides*)



Bloom Time: July–September

Sun Requirement: Full sun to part shade

Water Requirement: Medium

Wildlife: Attracts hummingbirds

Tolerates: Erosion and clay soil

Native to North America: No

Other: This remarkable groundcover is especially useful in shady areas but is adaptable in sun and soil preference. Large, colorful patches of showy, low-growing foliage is topped by blue flowers and in the fall, it has burgundy-red fall foliage.

Zones: 5–9

Location: [Sigourney Cheek Literary Garden](#)

George Davison Crocosmia (*Crococsmia x crocosmiiflora* ‘George Davison’)



Bloom Time: June–August

Sun Requirement: Full sun to part shade

Water Requirement: Medium

Wildlife: Attracts hummingbirds and butterflies

Tolerates: Rabbit and deer

Native to North America: No

Other: George Davison Crocosmia is perfect for providing color and contrast to a perennial border. The luminous, apricot to golden-yellow flowers are held on stalks above upright, sword-like foliage.

Zones: 5–9

Location: [Sigourney Cheek Literary Garden](#)

Snowflake Oakleaf Hydrangea (*Hydrangea quercifolia* ‘Snowflake’)



Bloom Time: June–August

Sun Requirement: Full sun to part shade

Water Requirement: Medium

Wildlife: Attracts butterflies and bumblebees

Tolerates: Compaction and wind

Native to North America: Yes

Other: This hydrangea has superb double-flowered blooms, excellent crimson fall color, and exfoliating bark—it has interest all year round.

Zones: 5–9

Location: [Bracken Foundation Children’s Garden](#)

Downy Skullcap (*Scutellaria incana*)



Bloom Time: July–September

Sun Requirement: Full sun to part shade

Water Requirement: Low to medium

Wildlife: Attracts bumblebees, hummingbirds, and butterflies

Tolerates: Drought, clay soil, dry soil

Native to North America: Yes

Other: This mounding perennial provides weeks of attractive violet blooms in mid summer. Undemanding and easy to grow, Downy Skullcap tolerates a wide range of soils as well as heat, drought, and shade.

Zones: 5–8

Location: [Herb Garden](#)