



DIRECT-SEEDED ANNUAL FLOWER MIXES

by

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Alaskans are wild about flowers. Colorful flower gardens are popular in our short growing season, and enthusiastic gardeners have helped make the greenhouse industry the largest agricultural industry in Alaska. Because "instant color" in home landscapes is preferred, most gardeners grow their own annual flowers as transplants or purchase them from commercial greenhouses. Another landscape alternative is direct-seeded annuals. Although some annuals may bloom from direct-seeded beds, many gardeners feel that they bloom too late in the season for good color.

The thirteen beds (numbered 1 - 13) in the center of the Georgeson Botanical Garden have been seeded with annual flower mixes, some from commercial sources and some created by the Garden staff and volunteers. The purpose is to evaluate these mixes and determine which ones, if any, would provide adequate color during our short growing season. Below are lists of the seed mixes, their source, and the corresponding plot number. A list of scientific names corresponding to the common names follows the plot lists. Plots were seeded on May 20, 1993 by mixing 1 part seed with approximately 10 parts moist sand. The mixture was divided into 2 portions for more even coverage and spread by hand.

Plot No. 1 — Annuals for Sun

Seeds from Applewood Seed. Co.

African daisy
Baby blue-eyes
Bird's eyes
California poppy
Candytuft
Clarkia
Corn poppy
Dwarf cornflower
Dwarf Catchfly
Dwarf Godetia
Dwarf plains coreopsis
Five-spot
Pimpernel
Rocket larkspur
Spurred snapdragon
Sweet alyssum
Texas bluebonnet

Plot No. 2. — Proven All-annual Wildflower Mix

Seeds from The Vermont Wild-flower Farm

Annual lupine
Baby blue-eyes
Baby's breath
California poppy
Catchfly
Corn poppy
Cornflower
Cosmos

Farewell-to-spring
Indian blanket
Orange cosmos
Plains coreopsis
Red flax
Rose mallow
Succulent lupine
Sunflower
Thimble flower

Plot No. 3 — Rainbow Blend (Wildflower mix for cutting)

Seeds from Johnny's Selected Seeds

Baby's breath
Black-eyed Susan
Cornflower
Cosmos
Indian Blanket
Larkspur
Purple coneflower
Shasta daisy

Plot No. 4 — Golf Course Mix

Seeds from Applewood Seed Co.

African daisy
Baby blue-eyes
Baby's breath
Black-eyed Susan
California Poppy
Candytuft
Catchfly
Clarkia
Corn poppy
Dwarf cornflower
Dwarf Godetia
Dwarf Plains coreopsis
Rocket Larkspur
Spurred snapdragon
Virginia stock

Plot No. 5 — Pinto Brand All-annual Wild Flower Mix

Seeds from Loft's Seed Inc.

Baby snapdragon
Baby's breath
Calendula
California poppy

Catchfly
Corn poppy
Cornflower
Cosmos
Indian Blanket
Plains coreopsis
Red Flax
Yellow cosmos

Plot No. 6 — Firecracker 234

Seeds from Wildseed, Inc.

African daisy
Baby blue-eyes
Cushion baby's breath
Black-eyed Susan
California poppy
Clasping coneflower
Corn poppy
Cornflower
Five-spot
Lemon mint
Plains coreopsis
Rocket larkspur
Scarlet flax
Sweet alyssum
Toadflax
Yellow Cosmos

Plot No. 7 — Nasturtium Mix

Seeds from W. Atlee Burpee & Co., Park Seed Co., Northrop King and Stokes Seeds, Inc.

'Alaska Mix'
'Fordhook Favorites'
'Empress of India'
'Jewel Mix'
'Park's Fragrant Giant Mix'
'Whirlybird Mix'
'Whirlybird Tangerine'

Plot No. 8 — Experimental mix by Pat Wagner

Seeds from Ball, Inc. Stokes Seeds Inc., Wildseed, Inc., Applewood Seed Co. and The Vermont Wildflower Farm

Baby's Breath
Bachelor Button 'Florist's Blue Boy'
Bishop's flower
Calendula 'Lemon Beauty'

California bluebell
Catchfly
Dwarf California poppy
Farewell-to-spring
Globe gilia
Tidy-tips

Plot No. 9 — Experimental Red, White and Blue Mix by Ginger Gauss

Seeds from Johnny's Selected Seeds, Wildseed, Inc., Thompson & Morgan and The Vermont Wildflower Farm.

Baby's breath
Bachelor Button 'Florist's Blue Boy'
California bluebell
German camomile
Globe gilia
Poppy 'Danebrog Laced'
Poppy 'Lady Bird'

Plot No. 10 — Experimental Low-growing Mix by Grant Matheke

Seeds from The Vermont Wildflower Farm, Applewood Seed Co., and Wildseed, Inc.

African Daisy
Baby blue-eyes
Catchfly
Dwarf California Poppy
Farewell-to-spring
Five spot
Forget-me-not
Johnny-jump-up
Lance-leaved coreopsis
Missouri primrose
Perennial sweet pea
Plains coreopsis
Toad flax
Virginia stock

Plot No. 11 — Wildflower Carpet Mixture No. 12
Seeds from George W. Park Seed Co.

African daisy
Baby blue eyes
Blue flax
Calendula
Candytuft
Dwarf California poppy

Evening primrose
Evergreen plantain
Five-spot
Johnny jump-up
Matricaria
Nodding catchfly
Plains coreopsis
Poor man's weather glass
Red Ribbons
Sanvitalia
Tidy tips
Virginia stock

Plot No. 12 — Experimental Pastel Mix by Pat Wagner

Seeds from Wildseed, Inc., Applewood Seed Co., Johnny's Selected Seed and The Vermont Wildflower Farm.

Baby's breath 'Covent Garden'
Blue flax
Candytuft
Chinese houses
Cornflower
Larkspur 'Giant Imperial Mix'
Toad flax
Tree mallow
Virginia Stock

Plot No. 13 — Experimental White Flower Mix by Janet Bradner

Seeds from W. Atlee Burpee & Co., Johnny's Selected Seeds, Vaughan's Seeds, Northrop King, Thompson & Morgan, The Vermont Wildflower Farm and Wildseed, Inc.

Baby's breath
California poppy
Camomile 'German'
Chrysanthemum paludosum
Snapdragon 'Floral Carpet White'
Stock 'Midget White'
Sweet alyssum
Zinnia 'Big Snowman'

Annual lupine *Lupinus* sp.
African daisy *Dimorphotheca aurantiaca*
Baby blue-eyes *Nemophila menziesii*
Baby snapdragon *Antirrhinum majus*
Baby's breath *Gypsophila elegans* or *G. muralis*
Bachelor button *Centaurea cyaneus*
Bird's eyes *Gilia tricolor*
Bishop's flower *Ammi majus*
Black-eyed Susan *Rudbeckia hirta*
Blue flax *Linum perenne* ssp. *lewisii*
Calendula *Calendula officinalis*
California bluebell *Phacelia campanularia*
California poppy *Eschscholzia californica*
Camomile, German *Matricaria camomila*
Candytuft *Iberis umbellata*
Catchfly *Silene armeria*
Chinese houses *Collinsia heterophila*
Clarkia *Clarkia unguiculata*
Clasping coneflower *Rudbeckia amplexicaulis*
Corn poppy *Papaver rhoeas*
Cornflower *Centaurea cyaneus*
Cosmos *Cosmos bipinnatus*
Cushion baby's breath *Gypsophila muralis*
Dwarf California poppy *Eschscholzia caespitosa*
Dwarf cornflower *Centaurea cyaneus*
Dwarf Godetia *Clarkia (Godetia) amoena*
Dwarf Plains coreopsis *Coreopsis tinctoria*
Evening primrose *Oenothera lamarckiana*
Farewell-to-spring *Clarkia (Godetia) amoena*
Fivespot *Nemophila maculata*
Globe gilia *Gilia capitata*
Indian blanket *Gaillardia pulchella*
Johnny jump-up *Viola tricolor*
'Lady Bird' Poppy *Papaver commutatum*

Lance-leaved coreopsis *Coreopsis lanceolata*
Larkspur *Consolida ambigua*
Lemon mint *Monarda citriodora*
Matricaria *Matricaria* sp.
Missouri primrose *Oenothera missouriensis*
Mignonette *Reseda odorata*
Nasturtium *Tropaeolum majus*
Nodding catchfly *Silene pendula*
Orange cosmos *Cosmos sulphureus*
Perennial sweet pea *Lathyrus latifolius*
Pimpernel *Anagalis arvensis*
Plains coreopsis *Coreopsis tinctoria*
Poor man's weather glass *Anagalis arvensis*
Purple coneflower *Echinacea purpurea*
Red flax *Linum grandiflorum* "Rubrum"
Red ribbons *Clarkia concinna*
Rocket larkspur *Delphinium ajacis*
Rose mallow *Lavatera trimestris*
Sanvitalia *Sanvitalia procumbens*
Shasta daisy *Chrysanthemum maximum*
Spiny Spiderflower *Cleome spinosa*
Spurred snapdragon *Linaria maroccana*
Stock *Matthiola incana*
Succulent lupine *Lupinus succulentus*
Sweet alyssum *Lobularia maritima*
Texas bluebonnet *Lupinus texensis*
Thimble flower *Gilia capitata*
Tidy-tips *Layia platyglossa*
Toadflax *Linaria maroccana*
Tree mallow *Lavatera trimestris*
Viper's Bugloss *Echium vulgare*
Virginia stock *Malcomia maritima*
Yellow cosmos *Cosmos sulphureus*
Zinnia *Zinnia elegans*

We thank the following companies for donating seeds for this project. Refer to the publication, 'Commercial Seed and Plant Sources', (Georgeson Botanical Notes No 4 Revised edition, June 1992) for complete addresses of these companies.

Applewood Seed Co.
Ball Seed Co.
Johnny's Selected Seeds
Loft's Seed, Inc.
George W. Park Seed Co.
Stokes Seeds
Thompson & Morgan
Vaughan's Seeds Co.
The Vermont Wildflower Farm

