

Plant Select®

Smart plants for the right places

CLICK TO SEARCH RIGHT PLANT RIGHT PLACE

If you're new to our newsletter, cheers! For 28 years, our nonprofit has tested and selected plants that thrive in the intermountain regions and high plains, so you can create water-wise landscapes that are beautiful, low maintenance and have a positive environmental impact—no matter your skill level.

Photo: It's nearly mid-October, and [SONORAN SUNSET® hyssop](#) (*Agastache cana* 'Sinning' PP 13,673) is still going strong in the Crevice Demonstration Garden on the Colorado State University campus in Fort Collins, Colo.

And yes, that's [meadow blazing star](#) (*Liatris ligulistylis*) making a surprisingly late showing as well.



Plant Select's goal is to create smart plant choices for a new American landscape inspired by the Rocky Mountain region

A warm welcome to our new Plant Select members:

- [Charlene's Greens](#) – Frisco, Colo. – Landscape Professional Member
- [Outdoor Design Group](#) – Arvada, Colo. – Landscape Professional Member
- [Annie Barrow](#) – Individual Ambassador
- [Barbara Grob](#) – Individual Ambassador
- [Cheryl Orr](#) – Individual Ambassador
- [Eric Cornejo](#) – Individual Ambassador
- [Judith Brundage](#) – Individual Ambassador

- Matthew Ruud – Individual Ambassador
- Milton McLain – Individual Ambassador
- Teresa Moore – Individual Ambassador

And thanks to all who've renewed their memberships!

Learn how to become a Plant Select member Landscape Professional, Retail, Wholesale, Mail Order, Local Government or Individual Ambassador

In the garden with Grace Gorgeous fall grasses



Ornamental grasses are strutting their stuff in fall landscapes.

In this new video, Horticulturist Grace Johnson of [Denver Botanic Gardens Chatfield Farms](#) shares four of her faves from Plant Select.

[Watch video](#)

6 design tips for ornamental grasses Seamlessly add grasses to your home landscape



#1: Look for grasses in similar tones to your house color for cohesion.

Many popular house colors have muted tones—gray greens, tans or steel blues — as do grasses!



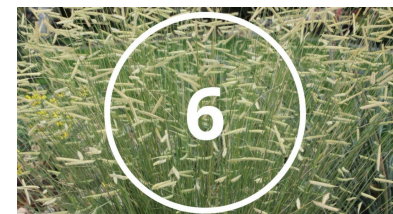
#2: Use grasses in scale to your garden beds and house.

If you don't have an extensive yard, small- to medium-sized grasses typically work best.



#3: Plant grasses in groups for a bigger “wow” factor.

Use odd numbers of the same grass (sets of three, five, etc.) to create a dynamic and visually pleasing look.



#4: Pair grasses with perennials of contrasting colors and shapes.

Meadow blazing star, SUNSET® hyssop, regal torchlily, LITTLE TRUDY® catmint and Wee One lavender make great companion plants.

#5: Repeat grasses across your landscape for visual continuity.

Grasses can serve as a unifying element, helping your landscape feel more harmonious (even in naturalistic landscapes).

#6: Include both cool season and warm season grasses for continuous interest.

Cool season grasses leaf out when temps are cooler. Warm season grasses—like Blonde Ambition grass—grow when it gets hot.



Our thanks to Horticulturist and Garden Designer **Jennifer Miller** of Denver Botanic Gardens for sharing these tips!

For additional ideas, explore [10 Ways to Boost Your Curb Appeal With Ornamental Grasses](#) in Utah's *Bloom Gardens* magazine.

NATIVE PLANT FEATURE

Balance autumn's amber tones with UNDAUNTED® Ruby muhly

UNDAUNTED® Ruby muhly (*Muhlenbergia reverchonii* 'PUND01S') is a fine-textured, regionally native grass that's long lived and low maintenance. It develops fluffy, pink clouds of flowers late in the season. The seeds remain attractive through winter.

Late summer and early fall



[The Gardens on Spring Creek](#) | [Denver Botanic Gardens](#) | [City of Fort Collins parkway strip](#)



[Denver Botanic Gardens](#) | [SummerHome Garden](#)

Lauren Springer and Scott Ogden selected this grass from a wild population of [Muhlenbergia reverchonii](#) in north central Texas that has since been plowed under. This *Muhlenbergia* was chosen for its compact size, and it's proven to be cold hardy for zones 5–10. It readily tolerates heat, drought and clay. [Learn more about this grass >](#)

Late fall and winter



[Idaho Botanical Garden](#) | [City of Fort Collins parkway strip](#) | [Denver Botanic Gardens](#)

Create a year-round landscape with inspiration from local botanic gardens

Fall doesn't mean your landscape has to shut down. It's when things can get interesting: textures, changing colors, movement, cool wildlife!

Autumn is a great time to explore the waterwise landscapes at your local botanic garden or demo garden—like [Conservation Garden Park](#) or [Idaho Firewise](#). While you're



there, look for low-water plants that offer autumn beauty and may still be feeding pollinators.

(No disrespect to pumpkin festivals, but we can't get enough of the plants!)

Photo: Idaho Firewise Demonstration Garden in Boise during autumn | Andrea Dorman

Your plant questions... answered!

"I planted this fall. Any tips to help my new Plant Select plants make it through winter?"

Congrats on your new plants! It's helpful to understand that low-water plants aren't instantly waterwise. It can take time for their roots to get established. With this in mind, here are **three, simple tips** to help your fall-planted perennials, shrubs and trees better manage their first winter.

Show me the tips!



Friend of Extension Award

Ross Shrigley of Plant Select received the **Friend of Extension Award** from the Epsilon Sigma Phi Zeta Chapter (Colorado) on October 4.

Ross and Plant Select were recognized for outstanding public service and support of state extension programs.

Many thanks to Epsilon Sigma Phi for the honor and to **Alison O'Connor** and **Deryn Davidson** of Colorado State University for the nomination!

Photo: Ross Shrigley and Alison O'Connor

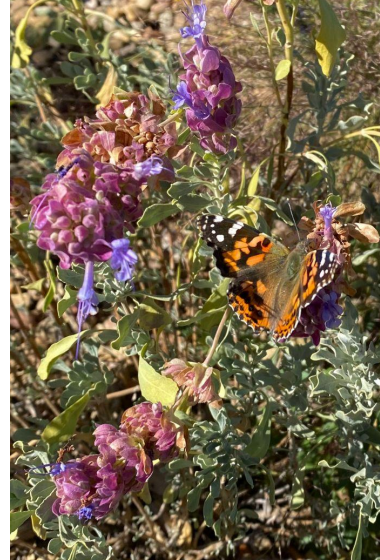
Smart plants for the right places
Mild autumn. Still buzzing. Still beautiful.



SONORAN SUNSET®
hyssop



Autumn
Sapphire™ sage



Mojave sage

Botanical names:

Agastache cana 'Sinning' PP 13,673 | *Salvia reptans* 'P016S' | *Salvia pachyphylla*

Quick links

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