



A List of Solar Dyeing Plants & Their Colours

Related Kurrara Designs Blog Post: *Solar Dyeing Part 2 – A Step by Step Guide*

The 10 plants listed here are safe to use for dyeing when handled correctly.

Do not ingest them when using them for dyeing.

I'd recommend wearing latex gloves when eco-dyeing and wash your hands thoroughly after handling plants.

Keep dyeing materials out of the reach of children and pets.

Any pots or utensils used for dyeing should not be used for food preparation or cooking.

1. Avocado (*Persea americana*)

- **Colour:** Soft pink to light peach
- **Notes:** Avocado pits and skins yield soft pink, beige, and apricot dyes. Due to their hard exteriors, they need to be simmered to release the dye.

2. Carnation (*Dianthus caryophyllus*)


- **Colour:** Red
- **Notes:** Red carnations produce a range of red-violets and blues, offering unexpected and beautiful colour results.

3. Dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale*)

- **Colour:** Yellow
- **Notes:** Dandelion flowers produce a vibrant yellow to yellow-green dye. Taller plants tend to give more colour.

4. Eucalyptus (*Euc. cinerea*)

- **Colour:** Silver/Green-Blue
- **Notes:** Eucalyptus cinerea creates soft orange and red-brown tones, contrasting with its leaf colour. Solar dyeing may take several weeks for colour release.



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5. Hydrangeas (*Hydrangea* spp.)

- **Colour:** Blue
- **Notes:** Hydrangea petals vary by season and variety. They can be a bit hit and miss, but mostly give soft greens or creams for a more pastel look.

6. Maple Leaves (*Acer* spp.)

- **Colour:** Various
- **Notes:** The colour depends on the leaves, ranging from yellow and yellow-green to indigo and orange-brown hues.

7. Onion (*Allium cepa*)

- **Colour:** Various
- **Notes:** Like passion fruit skins, onion skins should be heated to release their dye. Depending on the variety, they may yield yellow, orange, brown, or green hues.

8. Osteospermum (*Osteospermum* spp.)

- **Colour:** Red
- **Notes:** Red osteospermum flowers give similar results to red carnations.

9. Passion Fruit (*Passiflora edulis*)

- **Colour:** Purple
- **Notes:** The tough skins need to be simmered to release dye, resulting in deep blue to purple hues.

10. Rose (*Rosa* spp.)

- **Colour:** Various
- **Notes:** Roses provide a range of colours, from pinks and purples to greens and greys. Rose leaves can yield green to brown dyes.