

List of plants sold by Alan's Jungle Plants – descriptions and cultivation notes: P-R



This fifth set of notes lists plants in alphabetic order (by genus) and covers **P** to **R** thus including important genera such as ***Passiflora***, ***Persicaria***, ***Petasites***, ***Phormium***, ***Phytolacca***, ***Polypodium*** and ***Roscoea***.

We will update these notes each year to include new plants that we stock so that they remain current. Together, these sets of



notes should provide a valuable resource for the jungle gardener. We recommend that you retain these notes as an electronic resource to avoid excessive use of paper and ink.

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Name and category	Details	Main photo
<i>Pachyphytum oviferum</i> Succulents, Conservatory and house plants	<u>Sugared Almond Plant</u> This is a favourite succulent and, fortunately, it is easy to grow. The common name describes it well with each very fleshy leaf looking like a well-dusted sugared almond. The plants gradually clump and a many-headed specimen is a wonderful sight. The star-shaped flowers are a bit drab but can be removed without harming the plant. Grow in gritty compost, preferably in a terracotta pot for improved soil ventilation. Water when in growth (April-October) and keep cool and dry the rest of the year. The plant must have a lot of sunshine to produce the best leaves. Watch out for vine weevils that love these plants. H2 J1	
<i>Pachysandra terminalis</i> Hardy perennials, Ground cover	<u>Japanese Spurge</u> This is an understated short, evergreen shrubby perennial, very useful as ground cover in shady places. It seems to thrive where other plants struggle. The evergreen leaves are a useful foil and good in winter. The spikes of small white flowers are not particularly exciting, They are	

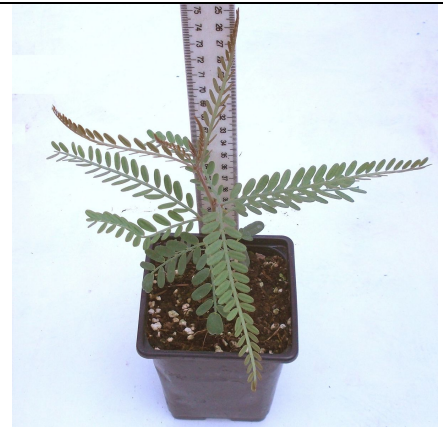
produced in late spring.
Grow in shade or semi-shade
with plenty of moisture, at least
while establishing.
H5 J2

Parkinsonia aculeata

Conservatory and house
plants, Half-hardy shrubs
and trees

Jerusalem Thorn

This is a rare, strange small
deciduous tree with grey-
green, narrow leaves formed
from numerous leaflets. Yellow
flowers with orange markings
are produced in loose clusters
in summer. It makes a
splendid plant for a large pot
that can be stood out on a
sunny patio in summer where
it will attract attention.
Easy to grow in a well-drained
soil or compost in a sunny
place. Water well in summer
and feed when growing. Keep
drier and frost free in winter.
H2? J2



Parochetus communis

Conservatory and house
plants, Half-hardy perennials

Shamrock Pea

This is a strange clover-like
plant that spreads rapidly. It
has trifoliate leaves with
speckling toward the centre
and (when pot-bound) single
bright blue pea flowers
produced on short stalks.
Unusual and fascinating,
especially in hanging pots
where it can sprawl over the
edge.
Grow in an acid/neutral free-
draining compost. Water freely
in summer, less so in winter
when it should be kept cool but
frost-free.
H3 J1



Parthenocissus henryana

Climbers and wall shrubs

Chinese Virginia Creeper

This partially self-clinging
climber has dark green leaves
with silver veining and
frequently develops a red
tinge, especially in bright
sunshine. Leaves turn bright
red in autumn before falling. It
is vigorous but not as
rampantly-so as some of its

relatives. One of the best for all round leaf colour. This is a tough plant which only needs a free-draining soil in which to thrive. Best in a sunny place.
H5 J1

Passiflora 'Beauty of Hannover'

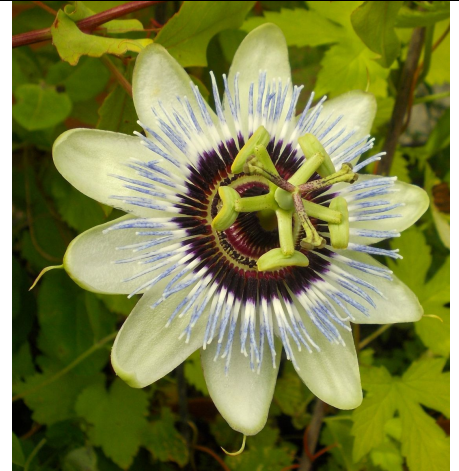
Climbers and wall shrubs, Conservatory and house plants

Passion Flower 'Beauty of Hannover'

This is a superb passion vine but not a particularly hardy one. The leaves are less glossy than some but the flowers are spectacular. Each is large, to 10 cm diameter and with very evenly-sized white petals. The filaments are very pale blue to white which contrast well with the very dark central markings.

Easy to grow in a warm, sheltered position with protection from frost. The plant needs a fertile, moist and well-drained soil. Probably best in a large pot that can be kept in a conservatory over winter but worth a try outside on a very sheltered wall.

H3? J3



Passiflora 'Beervelde'

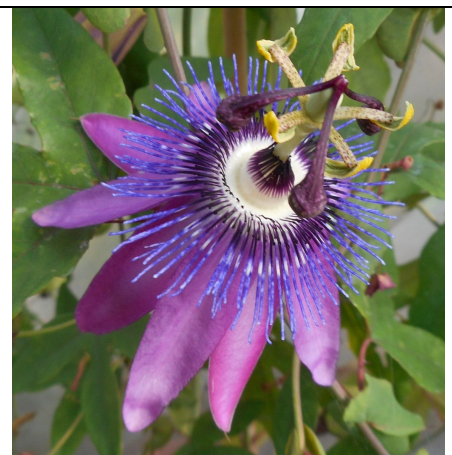
Climbers and wall shrubs

Passion Flower 'Beervelde'

This is a hybrid passion vine from the same parents as the older 'Amethyst' cross. It possibly has slightly more *P. kermesina* genes which give it a more re-curved appearance when in bloom. Seems to be at least frost hardy and may be tougher than it looks. Certainly worth a try outside on a warm sunny wall.

Easy to grow in a well-drained, fertile soil or compost in a sunny position with support. If grown in a pot, it will need protection from frost in winter.

H3? J3



Passiflora 'Betty Myles
Young'

Climbers and wall shrubs

Passion Flower 'Betty Myles
Young'

This seems to be a reasonably hardy passion vine with a large, light-purple flower and the usual blue filaments. Good glossy foliage which seems to be more-or-less evergreen in a sheltered spot. Our stock plant flowers all summer from May onwards and is without doubt the most enthusiastic of those we grow.

Easy to grow on a warm wall in a fertile, moist but well-drained soil.

H4 J3



Passiflora 'Purple Haze'

Climbers and wall shrubs

Passion Flower 'Purple Haze'

This is a really lovely form with large flowers dominated by the long, twisted filaments which are blue, purple and white. The petals are pale lavender. Good glossy foliage too. Frost hardy and possibly tougher.

Easy to grow in a well-drained soil or compost in a sunny position with support for the tendrils. If grown in a pot, protect from frost in winter.

H3? J3



Passiflora caerulea

Climbers and wall shrubs

Blue Passion Flower

This is the toughest passion flower for the tropical style garden, it is vigorous (even rampant) when happy. Stems with tendrils will grip to climb and are covered with glossy leaves divided into leaflets. The 10 cm diameter flowers are green-white with purple-blue filaments forming a ring above but are quite short-lived. They are produced in abundance however and may be followed by inedible orange fruits.

Grow in sunshine in a fertile soil. Flowers emerge on shoots produced from the previous year's growth so prune with care. If the plant is



badly frosted, it usually
recovers from suckers.
H4 J2

Passiflora caerulea
'Constance Elliot'

Climbers and wall shrubs

White Passion Flower

Not quite as hardy as the usual blue form, this is a passion flower with greenish-white petals and white filaments. It also seems to be a little less vigorous than the species. Despite these minor detractors, it is a lovely thing and when grown on a warm wall is a real eye-catcher. As with the species, it may produce orange fruits in a good year.

Grow in a warm site with plenty of sunshine and a moist, fertile soil.

H3 J2



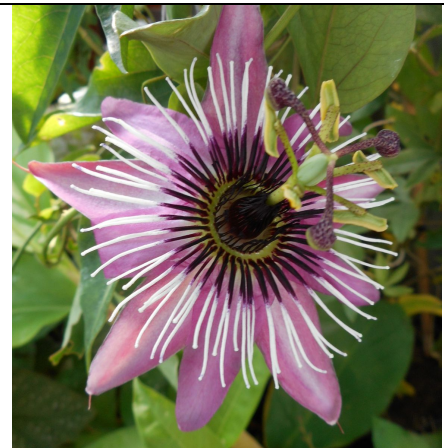
Passiflora x violacea
'Victoria'

Climbers and wall shrubs,
Half-hardy perennials

Passion Flower 'Victoria'

This is a very striking and tropical-looking passion vine and one that always attracts attention. The flowers are not the largest but they open from maroon-purple buds to reveal lovely pinkish flowers with white and purple filaments. This is a hybrid form and not as hardy as some so probably best in a conservatory (although it survives a light frosting with us most years). Grow in fertile, well-drained compost or soil in a sunny or lightly shaded position. Water well in summer, less so in winter when growth will stop. Protect from frost, especially if pot-grown as they will not live through frozen roots.

H2? J3



Patrinia scabiosifolia

Hardy perennials

Eastern Valerian

This is a rather unexpected hardy herbaceous perennial which resembles nothing less than a yellow-flowered *Verbena bonariensis* (with which it makes a good

companion but in slightly more shade). Basal leaf rosettes form a clump in time. Interesting, but no more jungly than its *Verbena* look-alike. Grow in a fertile, moist but well-drained soil in partial shade.
H6 J1

Paulownia tomentosa

Trees

Foxglove Tree

There are two ways to grow this deciduous tree. 1- let it grow into a tree, unhindered and it may reward you with its lavender-pink, foxglove-like flowers or 2- cut it back hard once it has got to a reasonable size when it will reward with huge lobed leaves on fast growing poles (but no flowers). Ideal as a summer screen. Much sought after. Easy to grow in any moist, fertile soil in a sunny but sheltered (no wind because of the huge leaves) site. It is hardy once it has got to the woody stage but youngsters are herbaceous for the first few years so protect young plants from frost.
H5 J4



Pelargonium 'Black Knight'

Conservatory and house plants, Half-hardy perennials

Geranium 'Black Knight'

We don't do many pelargoniums as they are not really jungle plants but this one is such a good-doer that we make an exception. Technically it is a miniature regal or angel *Pelargonium*, It is a bit straggly and rather slow-growing. However, it has the most delightful, neat purple and white flowers which, we think, are unmatched among geraniums. It seems this old hybrid is now rather rare in cultivation. Grow in a pot of well-drained compost and keep in full sun. Water well in summer and barely damp in winter. It will



stand the cold better when dry
so then only needs to be kept
frost free.
H1C? J1

Pelargonium 'Crocodile'

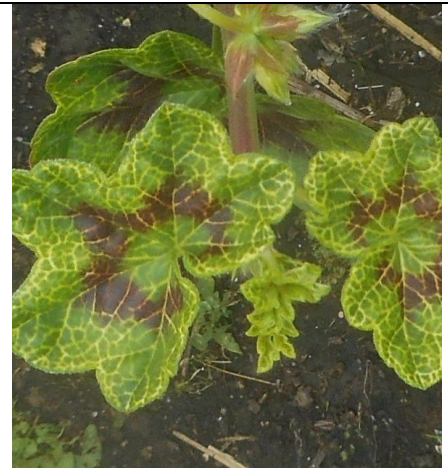
Half-hardy perennials

Pelargonium 'Crocodile'

This is a trailing variety of *Pelargonium* grown as much for its leaves as its flowers. Bright pink single blooms are produced in clusters above lobed leaves with a strange, net veining in yellow giving them a slightly reptile-like appearance.

Easy to grow in a well-drained, fertile compost in a sunny position. Water well in summer but keep much drier in winter when plants should be kept cool but frost-free.

H1C J2



Pelargonium 'Hemley'

Conservatory and house plants, Half-hardy shrubs and trees

Geranium 'Hemley'

This is another odd *Pelargonium* that combines the toughness of a scented-leaf species with the bloom of a regal. The plants flowers (for us) prolifically in late spring and then periodically through the summer and autumn. It is quite a large shrubby thing with oak-like leaves with darker markings in the middle. Good cedar scent from the leaves. Possibly worth trying outside against a south-facing wall if given some winter protection.

Grow in a sunny place in well-drained soil. Similar if grown in a pot. Keep frost-free in winter and almost dry.

H2? J2



Pelargonium 'Mystery'

Conservatory and house plants, Half-hardy perennials

Pelargonium 'Mystery'

This is a wonderful *Pelargonium* with bright crimson flowers shading to almost black in the middle. It has a lot of the regal type in its parentage and its plain green foliage supports this. It will, in time, form a bush of sorts. We don't stock a lot of pelargoniums but this one is worth while.

Grow in a sunny position in well-drained, fertile compost. Water well in summer. Keep frost-free and almost dry in winter while it rests.

H1C J2



Pelargonium 'Royal Oak'

Half-hardy perennials, Half-hardy shrubs and trees

Pelargonium 'Royal Oak'

This is a remarkably hardy *Pelargonium* which will stand a little frost but like all, would prefer to be kept frost free. Balsam-scented undulating leaves with a purple central blotch. They never strike as particularly oak-shaped. Pinky lavender flowers with darker markings.

Easy to grow in a pot of well-drained but fertile compost in a sunny position. Reduce watering in winter and keep cool. If you want to risk it outside on a permanent basis, try it against a sunny, south-facing wall (planted deep) and throw fleece over it when frost is likely.

H1C! J1



Pelargonium graveolens

Conservatory and house plants, Half-hardy shrubs and trees

Rose-Scented Pelargonium

This is, as far as we can tell, one of the hardiest pelargoniums around. It will tolerate frost if planted in a sunny, sheltered site, perhaps at the base of a south-facing wall. In severe weather it will be cut to the ground but usually sprouts again come warmer weather. Its leaves are its main feature being almost



fern-like, undulating and with a strong scent if touched. Small pale pink flowers with darker markings are also produced. Easy in a pot of well drained compost in full sunshine. Keep drier in winter and frost free. Outside, plant deeply in a sunny place with very well-drained soil. Provide some protection in very cold weather.
H3-4? J1

Penstemon 'Andenken an Friedrich Hahn'

Hardy perennials

Penstemon 'Andenken an Friedrich Hahn'

More commonly known as 'Garnet', this is one of the hardiest penstemons to be found. It also has spectacular pinky-red flowers produced in abundance from July onwards. Good, neat mounds of foliage. Pair with *Salvia patens* for a shocking effect. Easy to grow in a sunny or partly shaded site with good, well-drained soil.
H5 J3



Penstemon 'Raven'

Hardy perennials

Penstemon 'Raven'

This relatively hardy *Penstemon* has the most gorgeous plum-purple flowers which work so well with the yellows and oranges of the tropical garden style. Deservedly popular, these happy plants can reach 1 m in height. Grow in a sunny site in moist but well-drained soil. Protect from severe frosts in winter.
H4? J2

Penstemon 'Windsor Red'

Hardy perennials

Penstemon 'Windsor Red'

Perhaps not the brightest of penstemons but certainly one of the hardiest, this is a low, woody perennial with bright green willow-like leaves. In summer and autumn, lax spikes of red, tubular flowers with white interiors are produced. Looks good as ground-cover beneath fuchsias as the reds are complimentary. Easy to grow in well-drained soil in a sunny or partially shaded position. Some straw, loosely placed around the crown of the plant in winter will aid in protecting it from the worst of the weather.

H5 J2



Penstemon digitalis 'Husker Red'

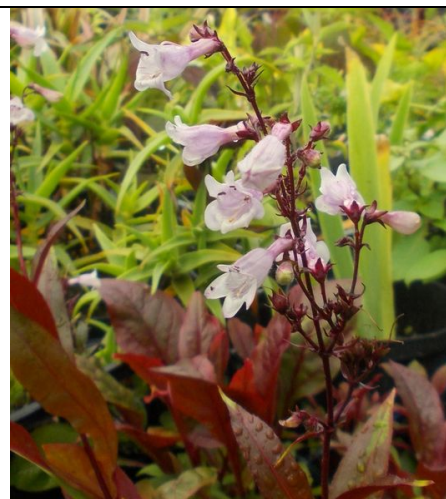
Hardy perennials, Ground cover

Penstemon 'Husker Red'

This is a hardier *Penstemon* than most being, it would seem, a partial hybrid with a hardy foxglove. The semi-evergreen foliage is purple red which justifies its exotic credentials. The flowers are a very pale pinky-blue white and rather sparsely produced, although they work really well with the foliage. Excellent for growing around fuchsias where the combination always seems to work.

Grow in a sunny position to enhance the red of the leaves. Otherwise it needs a well-drained, fertile soil.

H5 J2



Persicaria alpina

Hardy perennials

Alpine Knotweed

This is a tall, slowly spreading polygonum with excellent tropical-style foliage topped for much of the summer with slightly scented plumes of white flowers. These gradually take on a pinkish hue as they mature to reddish seedpods. Contrary to some reports, we find this plant to be fully herbaceous, disappearing completely in winter.

This is an easy plant that will enjoy a sunny site in moist soil. Site it to the back of a display as it reaches 2 m when happy and will need support.

H6 J3



Persicaria amplexicaulis

Hardy perennials

Red Bistort

Rather unimportant spikes of pinkish-red flowers much beloved by wasps crown this excellent jungle-style plant in late summer and autumn. However, it is the lush mid-green foliage that is so useful providing a dense, spreading tropical foil.

This is a very easy plant to grow in any moist soil and in partial shade or full sun.

H7 J3



Persicaria amplexicaulis
'Alba'

Hardy perennials

Red Bistort 'Alba'

This is the white flowered form of our popular *P. amplexicaulis*. It is generally less vigorous than the crimson flowered species. It also produces lush mid-green foliage but smaller.

This is a very easy plant to grow in any moist soil and in partial shade or full sun.

H7 J3



Persicaria campanulata

Hardy perennials

Lesser Knotweed

This is a charming polygonum of reasonable size (to 1 m) and thickly veined leaves which turn a lovely yellow in autumn. Grown for its gentle pink flowers. It looks a bit weed-like and grows as vigorously as one but is a joyous thing much loved by insects. Highly recommended.

Grow in a sunny or partially shaded site in any moist soil type.

H7 J2



Persicaria campanulata
'Madame Jigard'

Hardy perennials

Lesser Knotweed 'Madame Jigard'

This is a slightly more exotic-looking form of *P. campanulata* with a strong red central vein to the leaf, the colour of which extends outward a little. The stems and flower heads are suffused with slightly more red than the species.

Grow in a sunny or partially shaded site in any moist soil type.

H7 J2



Persicaria capitata 'Afghan'

Conservatory and house plants, Half-hardy perennials, Ground cover

Pink Bobbles

This is a very pretty creeping knotweed which makes an excellent plant for a hanging basket or conservatory pot where it will trail over the edge. The plant has rounded reddish-green leaves with a typical chevron marking and produces abundant 1 cm pink ball flower heads on short stems. It may well survive winters outside in sheltered localities where it will spread enthusiastically.

Easy to grow in any well-drained compost or soil in a sunny or partly shaded, sheltered position. Protect from frost in winter.

H2? J2



Persicaria microcephala 'Red Dragon'

Hardy perennials

Knotweed 'Red Dragon'

This is a very exotic-looking polygonum with red stems and red leaves which fade to a purple-green as they mature. Each leaf has a pale silvery chevron marking. Where it is happy, this plant can get huge, with sprawling stems well over 1 m in length. The white flowers are rather insignificant. Grow in a sunny place in moist, fertile soil for maximum size and colour. Support the plant if you do not want it to look untidy.

H5 J2



Persicaria odorata

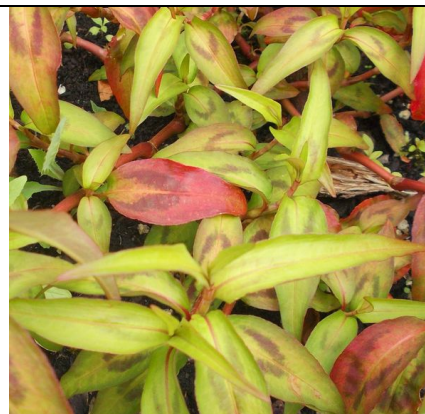
Edible plants and herbs

Vietnamese coriander

This is a charming tender herb useful in Asian cooking. The leaves have a strong smell of coriander and become spicier with age. Ideal as a pot plant in a conservatory where it will thrive.

Keep this plant warm for rapid growth. Keep frost-free in winter when less water is required. It grows best in full sun but semi-shade will do. Any fertile compost will support it.

H1C J2



Persicaria runcinata 'Purple Fantasy'

Hardy perennials, Ground cover

Knotweed 'Purple Fantasy'

This is a terrific plant if you don't mind it being a little invasive. It emerges early in spring and grows to around 60 cm in height producing branched, upright (initially) stems clothed with green, arrow-shaped leaves, each decorated with a purple and silver 'V'. The flowers are rather insignificant clusters of pinky-white bells.

Grow this polygonum in well-drained but moist soil in a sunny or partly shaded site. Be aware that it does spread quite rapidly so may need to be contained in the same way as



a mint.
H6 J2

Persicaria scoparius

Hardy perennials, Hardy shrubs

Broom Knotweed

This is not really very tropical-looking but is a useful plant for foliage (?) contrast and its wonderful scent when in bloom. Best described as a wiry sub-shrub, this is a sprawling plant consisting of greyish-green leafless stems which in late summer produce tiny white flowers with an amazingly strong scent of honey. Absolutely wonderful tumbling over walls of steps. Surprisingly quite rare. Grow this charming (if scruffy) plant in full sunshine in a well-drained soil. You can cut it hard back after flowering if you need to keep it neat.
H4? J0



Persicaria virginiana
'Brushstrokes'

Hardy perennials

Knotweed 'Brushstrokes'

This is a much larger plant than the *P. virginiana* var. *filiformis* forms, the wonderfully-marked leaves being over twice the size. Gently clump-forming and not invasive, this is probably the best we have found for the jungle effect. Somewhat unexpectedly, it does ok in full sun. Late to flower (if at all) but not worth the wait. Grow in a moist but well-drained soil in full sun to partial shade. Probably wise to mulch the base of the plant in winter when it will die back to a woody rootstock.
H6 J2



Persicaria virginiana var.
filiformis 'Batwings'

Hardy perennials

Knotweed 'Batwings'

This is a gently charming herbaceous plant with oval mid-green leaves but marked with a dark, jagged band that resembles a Halloween-style bat and that would undoubtedly appeal to any young batman fan. The thin spikes of pinkish flowers are an afterthought. The plant can be short-lived but usually seeds around.

This plant likes a moist soil that does not dry out. Semi shade is best but it grows well even in full shade at a pinch.
H6 J1



Persicaria virginiana var.
filiformis 'Lance Corporal'

Hardy perennials

Knotweed 'Lance Corporal'

This is a gentle herbaceous plant with oval yellowish-green leaves but marked with a red chevron. The thin spikes of pinkish flowers are an afterthought. The plant can be short-lived but usually seeds around.

This plant likes a moist soil that does not dry out. Semi shade is best but it grows well even in full shade at a pinch.
H6 J1

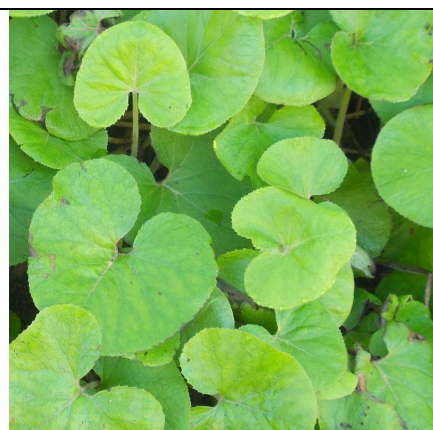


Petasites fragrans

Hardy perennials, Ground cover

Winter Heliotrope

This is a lovely herbaceous plant to have in the garden for its winter/spring foliage and flower. This plant is not (as many might think) a British native, it has nonetheless colonised many a shady roadside. Despite its weedy nature, it is quite easy to control if it spreads too much. The 25 cm rounded leaves push up in early spring and form a wonderful low green carpet and the spikes of flowers (that appear before and with the leaves) are a pinky purple and smell strongly of cherry pie (some say).
Grow in semi-shade in a moist,



humus soil.
H6? J3

Petasites japonicus subsp.
giganteus 'Nishiki Buki'

Hardy perennials

Japanese Butterbur 'Nishiki Buki'

This is a variegated butterbur which is nothing like as vigorous as its green counterpart. It also seems much more popular with slugs. Having said that, it will eventually produce dinner plate-sized leaves with splotches of cream variegation. The white flowers are much like the non-variegated species but smaller. Easily grown in rich, moist to wet soil (without slugs) in partial shade. Can be invasive.
H6 J2

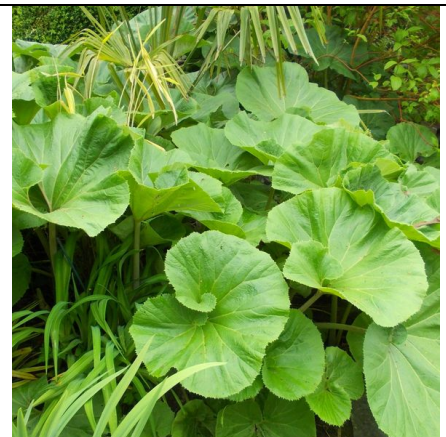


Petasites japonicus var.
giganteus

Hardy perennials

Giant Butterbur

A potentially invasive giant, this is a wonderful deciduous foliage plant which will rapidly cover an area with gigantic umbrella-like leaves which can reach almost 1 m in diameter. The plant has the added charm of rounded piles of white flowers surrounded by bright green bracts at ground level in early spring. This plant demands a moist soil at all times (it is a spectacular wilter when it is too dry). It also needs semi shade to look its best and produce the largest leaves. Otherwise very easy to grow. It may need constraining in the same way as bamboos.
H6 J2



Phalaris arundinacea var.
picta 'Arctic Sun'

Bamboos and grasses,
Hardy perennials

Gardener's Garters 'Arctic Sun'

A lovely variety of this deciduous, variegated grass with unusual yellow stripes, rather than the more common white. Generally a similar habit so can be invasive. Very good in a pot providing it can be kept moist. Reaches around 50 cm although the unexciting flower heads can reach greater heights. Can be prone to slugs.

Easy to grow in a sunny position with plenty of moisture (but not soggy). Cut to the base in early spring.

H7 J1



Phaseolus coccineus
'Painted Lady'

Climbers and wall shrubs,
Annuals and biennials,
Edible plants and herbs

Runner Bean 'Painted Lady'

Yes this is the runner bean, originally introduced from Central America as a flowering plant but now much more commonly grown as a vegetable. 'Painted Lady' is a vigorous tall twining climber with bright green leaves and clusters of red and white flowers in summer. remove the bean pods if you want more flower or leave them to develop if you want to eat them. They are perennials and may survive the winter in mild areas.

H2 J3



Phlebodium aureum 'Blue Star'

Ferns, Conservatory and
house plants

Blue Star Fern

This is a popular houseplant and deservedly so as the leaves are a fabulous blue-green. It will also do really well outside in the summer in a shady place where it will be the star of the show. Beware as these plants are naturally epiphytes (they grow on trees in pockets of leafy humus) and do not like to be over-potted. They will get huge in time with ladder-like fronds reaching 1 m in length in good conditions. They tend to shed a lot of the



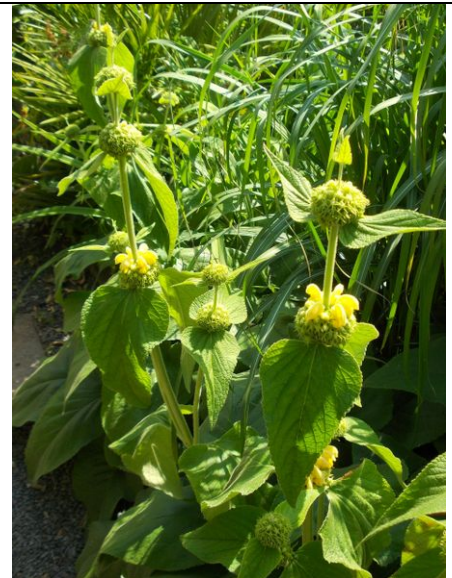
small, undivided juvenile leaves as they establish and as the rhizomes begin to creep.
Grow in a humus rich, well-drained compost in a bright but shaded position. Water regularly but never let them stand in water or become soggy. Keep cool (min 5 degrees C) in winter and allow to just dry between waterings.
H2? J2

Phlomis russeliana

Hardy perennials, Ground cover

Turkish Sage

This is a vigorous spreading herbaceous plant growing from surface runners. The mostly evergreen leaves are large, heart-shaped, apple-green and softly hairy. Stems extend in summer to produce 1 m spikes of whorled flower heads consisting of green calyces and primrose yellow flowers. The calyces remain long after the flowers and if you like, leave the dead stems on through the winter when they will add an interesting feature. Easy to grow in well-drained soil in sunshine. It will tolerate some shade but will not flower. Not very jungle-worthy but a real charmer.
H6 J2



Phoenix canariensis

Palms and cordylines, Conservatory and house plants

Canary Island Date Palm

Very well known, this is one of the toughest feather palms but is sadly not as hardy as *Trachycarpus fortunei*. The plants grow fast if planted out but usually they die off in the first really harsh winter. They grow reasonably well in pots but are slower and tend to get very pot-bound.
Grow in fertile, well-drained soil and give them lots of sunshine. Protect pot grown plants from frost in winter.
H2 J3



Phormium cookianum subsp. *hookeri* 'Tricolor'

Hardy perennials, Hardy shrubs

Mountain Flax 'Tricolor'

This is a fairly small *Phormium* which we rescued from some local woods where someone had dumped some garden waste. Because of this, the name is not certain. It grows to about 1 m and is reluctant to flower. Despite this it is quite a focal point with its yellow and green striped leaves with a thin but noticeable red edge and central vein.

These plants seem to like plenty of moisture so a good, damp soil is ideal. Grow in full sun for the best leaf colour.

H4 J3



Phormium tenax Purpureum Group

Hardy perennials, Hardy shrubs

New Zealand Flax Purpureum Group

This is a large *Phormium* with the usual strap-shape leaves in a lovely blue-purple and very exotic red and lime green flowers on 2 m long, angled flower stems.

Give this enthusiastic plant plenty of room as it grows fast. It needs plenty of sunshine and water. This is certainly one of the toughest phormiums and will withstand quite a cold frosty winter.

H5 J4



Photinia x fraseri 'Pink Marble'

Hardy shrubs

Christmas Berry 'Pink Marbled'

This is a fabulous, tropical-style foliage plant which is colourful for almost the entire year. 'Pink Marbled' hardly describes the shocking magenta-red colour of the young shoots and leaves of this evergreen, hardy shrub. Plants usually have two flushes of leaves each year and the intense colour takes a while to fade (to dark green and cream variegated) so interest all year round. Sprays of cream flowers are a side show.

Easy to grow in sunshine or



semi-shade but best when you can get sun behind the developing leaves. Likes a moist, fertile soil.
H5 J3

Photinia x fraseri 'Red Robin'

Hardy shrubs

Christmas Berry 'Red Robin'

This is a well-known evergreen shrub, often used as hedging. It is less often grown as a freely branching shrub (or indeed small tree if left completely alone) where it can attain a very tropical appearance. Grown largely for its red new shoots which can be encouraged by careful pruning, it is vigorous and relatively tough. The flowers are creamy-grey and not really up to much. Cut them off if you wish to encourage more red shoots.

Grow this interesting shrub in a sunny or partially-shaded site (although sunshine is best for leaves) in a rich, moist soil. Sometimes the new growth suffers frost damage but plants usually recover rapidly with new growth.

H5 J2



Phyllostachys aureosulcata f. *aureocaulis*

Bamboos and grasses,
Hardy shrubs

Yellow-Groove Bamboo

This is a very large bamboo with canes will exceed 3 m once established and happy. The canes are a lovely golden yellow and contrast well with the mid-green leaves. The plant is vigorous and establishes quickly, and for us, remains as a clump (although it will run in time). If you only have room for 1 *Phyllostachys*, this or the black-stemmed one are your best choice. Can be grown in a very large pot. Grow in humus-rich, moist soil in a sheltered sunny or partially-shaded site.

H5 J2



Phyllostachys aureosulcata f. *spectabilis*

Bamboos and grasses,
Hardy shrubs

Showy Yellow Groove Bamboo

This is a runner so beware!
The tall canes can reach 3 m and are a wonderful yellow colour that are (despite the name) green in the groove. The stems are often a bit zigzag at the base while the leaves may also sport a thin yellow stripe. An interesting, reliable, hardy bamboo which is best confined, perhaps in a large pot where it will do well providing it is kept well-watered.

Grow in moist, humus-rich soil in a sunny or partially shaded site. Protect from cold winds if possible, although this one does not seem to care once established.

H5 J2



Phyllostachys nigra

Bamboos and grasses,
Hardy shrubs

Black Bamboo

This is a partially-running bamboo which forms dense clumps of green, turning to black, culms (stems) which will reach a height of 3 m. The foliage is typical of the group, willow-like and a mid green in colour.

This is an easily-grown bamboo which is tolerant of most soils providing they are moist. Protect from wind while the clump is establishing.

H5 J2



Phyllostachys vivax

Bamboos and grasses

Giant Timber Bamboo

This is a huge bamboo that will reach 5 m or more when happy. It has thick green culms (up to 8 cm) which are initially clothed in large sheaths that later fall away. The leaves are small and dark green. It is a reasonably tight clump-former initially but will run when happy and needs constraint as the rhizomes are thick and very hard. Canes tend to disarticulate when dead so it's useless as timber despite the



name.
Easily grown in moist soil in a sunny place, however, it needs protection from wind (and snow) as the giant culms are rather thin-walled and will snap if stressed.
H5 J2

Physalis alkekengi
'Halloween King'

Hardy perennials

Chinese Lantern 'Halloween King'

This is a more compact form of this potentially invasive plant, and all the better for it. The plants have rather uninteresting foliage in early spring and summer. This hides the cream-coloured flowers. The foliage dies away in late summer leaving a display of bright orange inflated calyces containing a poisonous orange berry. Fabulous autumn decoration and can be cut for use in dried arrangements. Easy to grow in sunshine or light shade in a moist, fertile soil. This compact form does better in large pots than the species. Watch out for slugs, snails and other beasts while the plants are in leaf.
H7 J1

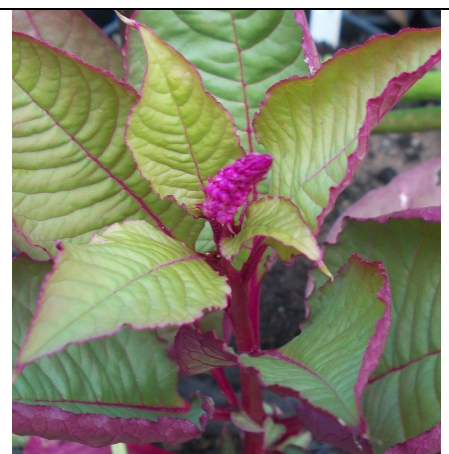


Phytolacca 'Laka Boom'

Half hardy perennials

Pokeweed 'Laka Boom'

This is a wonderful variety with a lot of purple, beetroot colour markings to the undersides and veins of the leaves. The flowers are purple pink too, followed by the usual black (toxic - but not to birds) fruits. utterly amazing under banana clumps and as tropical-looking as you like. Grow in fertile but well drained soil in sunshine with a little shade at times. A mulch in winter, after the plants die back, may be beneficial.
H4 J3



Phytolacca acinosa

Hardy perennials

Indian Poke

This is a large herbaceous perennial with a woody, tuberous rootstock that sprouts thick stems clothed in large rounded leaves in spring. The stems extend to 1 m to produce spikes of pale pink flowers which mature through purple to black fruits. Very exotic-looking and of interest for much of the year, the plant is said to be edible but should be regarded as poisonous as are its close relatives. Grow in deep, rich soil with plenty of moisture in a sunny or partially shady site.

H4? J3



Phytolacca americana

Hardy perennials

American Pokeweed

This is a glossier version of *P. acinosa* and rather poisonous to humans so plant with care. It produces oval, clean green leaves on a well-branched herbaceous plant and, ultimately, pinkish flower spikes followed by purple, turning black fruits, which are more decorative than the flowers. Very tropical-looking and good for dryish shade where other things may not survive.

Easy to grow in a sunny or partly shaded place and a well-drained soil.

H7 J3

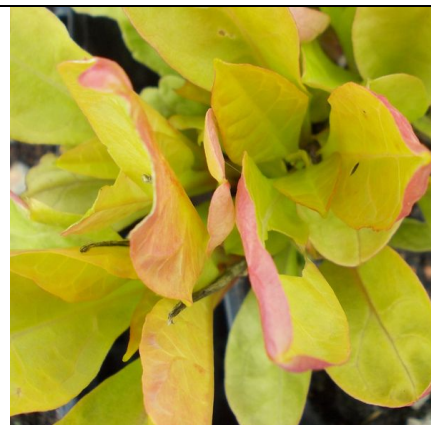


Phytolacca americana
'Golden' seedlings

Hardy perennials

American Pokeweed 'Golden'

This is a superb jungle-effect herbaceous perennial with large ovate leaves, pinkish stems and pinkish flower spikes that give rise to black berries. All parts of the plant are poisonous. This is a golden-leaved form that is shy of flowering but nonetheless gives a good display of foliage. Easy to grow in sunshine or semi-shade. Not too fussy over soil but as they are



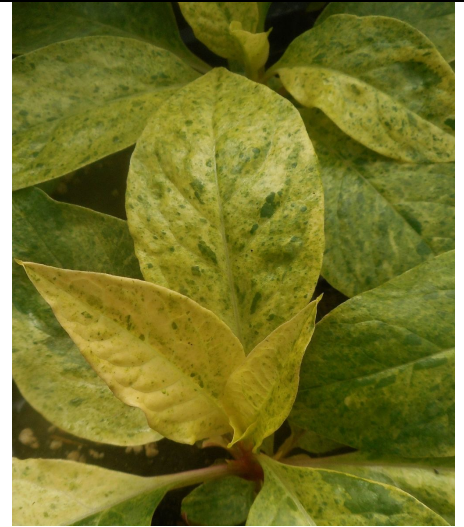
woodlanders, plenty of humus and good drainage is advised.
H7 J3

Phytolacca americana
'Silberstein'

Hardy perennials

American Pokeweed
'Silberstein'

This is a superb jungle-effect herbaceous perennial with large ovate leaves, pinkish stems and pinkish flower spikes that give rise to black berries. All parts of the plant are poisonous. This is a mottled-leaved form that is particularly exotic-looking but is a little weak in growth so may need some extra care. Grow in sunshine or semi-shade. Not too fussy over soil but as they are woodlanders, plenty of humus and good drainage is advised.
H7 J3



Pilea matsudai 'Taiwan Silver'

Hardy perennials

Pilea 'Taiwan Silver'

Not unlike a silver-leaf version of Persian shield (*Strobilanthes dyeriana*), this is a very attractive woodland plant that really doesn't look as hardy as it is. It's a member of the nettle family so has very uninteresting greenish flowers but the leaves more than make up for it. Reaches around 50 cm in good conditions. Easy to grow in a good, humus-rich compost in a shady place. Moist soil at all times and perhaps a winter mulch in cold areas.
H4 J1

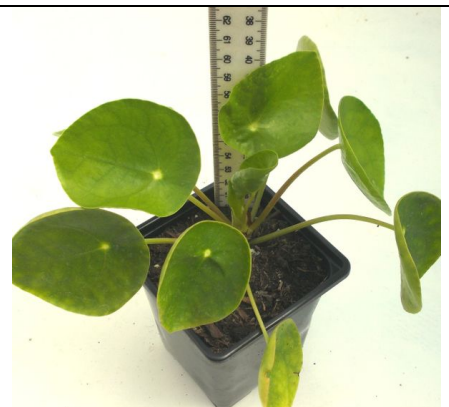


Pilea peperomioides

Conservatory and house plants, Half-hardy perennials

Missionary Plant

This is a peculiar member of the nettle family with glossy, rounded (perfoliate), bright green leaves on short stems from an ultimately woody stem. Plants gradually cluster from the base. Short sprays of green-pink flowers are produced but are very unremarkable. This makes a



very undemanding house or conservatory pot plant but is equally happy outdoors in the summer where humidity may be higher.

Grow in a partially shady location in rich, moist potting compost. Keep frost free and drier in winter.

H1C J2

Pitcairnia bergii

Bromeliads, Conservatory and house plants, Half-hardy perennials

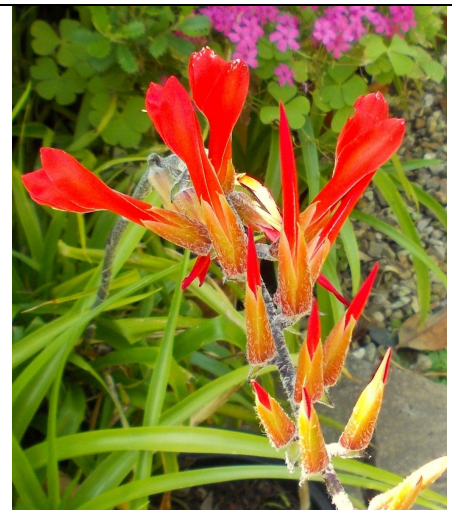
Berg's Pitcairnia

We use this name as this is the one under which the parent plant was obtained but apparently similar plants have also been named *P.*

heterophylla (which it clearly is not) and *P. pungens*. It is a seasonal (deciduous), winter-growing, grassy, clump-forming bromeliad which produces spikes of very bright red flowers in late winter to early spring. It is charming in flower but rather scruffy afterward. Certainly a talking point and good winter colour for the conservatory.

Easily grown in a well-drained compost in a large pot. Semi shade seems to suit it. Tough, but it probably isn't frost hardy so keep it frost free.

H2? J2



Plectranthus 'Easy Gold'

Conservatory and house plants, Half-hardy perennials

Plectranthus 'Easy Gold'

This is a widely-available *Plectranthus* but nonetheless worthy of inclusion as a jungle exotic. The rather succulent, mint-like growth forms a low shrub in time. The leaves are yellow with a green central marking and purple-red undersides. Blue flowers are sometimes produced but do not add greatly to the plant.

Easy to grow in a well-drained compost in partial shade. Keep free of frost and drier in winter.

The plant can be used as bedding for a summer display where it is a less-fussy



alternative to *Coleus*
(*Solenostemon*).
H1C J2

Plectranthus 'Mona
Lavender'

Conservatory and house
plants

Plectranthus 'Mona Lavender'
This is a quite succulent bushy
form with wavy-edged leaves
in dark green and with a very
dark purple, almost black,
underside. Pretty sprays of
lavender *Salvia*-like flowers
are produced and, unlike other
Plectranthus, are a real
feature.
Easy to grow in a fertile but
well-drained compost in a very
bright position (but not full
sun). Keep at around 5
degrees C minimum in winter.
H1B J3



Plectranthus argentatus

Conservatory and house
plants, Half-hardy perennials

Silver Shield
This is a tender, shrubby
perennial with felted silvery
leaves and spikes of white
flowers with blue tints in late
summer. Try planting with
Strobilanthes dyeriana for a
very interesting combination.
Grow in well-drained, fertile
compost in semi shade. Water
well when in growth but much
less in winter when it needs to
be kept at a minimum
temperature of around 5
degrees C.
H1B J2



Plectranthus coleoides
'Variegata'

Conservatory and house
plants

Variegated Swedish Ivy
This is a charming little
shrubby plant (not an ivy) with
rather fleshy leaves that have
lovely white margins. Grey-
blue deadnettle-like flowers
may be produced but are
probably better cut off.
Shrubland Nurseries suggest it
be planted beneath bananas
and we fully agree.
Grow in a well-drained, fertile
soil in partial shade (otherwise
the white edges burn). Keep
drier in winter when it is happy
cool but frost-free.



Plectranthus succulentum

Succulents, Conservatory and house plants

Succulent Spurflower

We have had this plant for many years and remain uncertain of its name. Most *Plectranthus* are slightly succulent but this is extremely so. The slightly sticky leaves are prominently veined beneath, light green in colour and heavily (pleasantly) scented if touched. The flowers are sage-like, small and blue. Ideal as a pot plant on a sunny windowsill or conservatory and can be used outside for summer display. Lovely.

Grow in a sunny place in a pot of clean-draining compost with extra grit. Water and feed in summer and keep more or less dry in winter. Frost will kill it.

H1C? J1



Pleioblastus variegatus

Bamboos and grasses, Hardy perennials, Ground cover

Dwarf White-Striped Bamboo

This is a good little, gentle runner that has good, strong white variegation to the leaves. It reaches around 1 m in height once the plant is settled in. This is a tough plant, yet graceful.

Grow in a moist, humus rich soil in sunshine or partial shade. Use a barrier if you are concerned about invasiveness.

H5 J3



Plumbago auriculata

Climbers and wall shrubs, Conservatory and house plants, Half-hardy shrubs and trees

Cape Leadwort

This is a tender, vigorous, slender shrub which can be used on a wall in frost-free areas but is perhaps best as a conservatory plant in a large tub or pot that can go outside for the summer. The plant has simple green leaves and *Phlox*-like heads of pale blue flowers produced in summer and autumn. Given good growing conditions they can be very floriferous. Can be used



as a hedge if you are lucky enough to live somewhere very mild.

Grow in a sunny site in fertile, well-drained soil. Provide similar in a pot. Water well in summer but keep a little drier in winter. Keep frost-free.

H2 J1

Podocarpus macrophyllus

Half-hardy shrubs and trees

Yew Plum Pine

This is an unusual and uncommon conifer that produces remarkably large, broad needles and which give it the appearance of an evergreen, congested willow. Podocarps are either male or female but since our parent plant has never done its thing, we have no idea what our young cutting-raised plants are. Mature females that are near a male will produce plum-like fruits. Plants are quite slow-growing but can ultimately form large trees. Grow in a fertile, well-drained soil in a sunny or slightly shaded position. Plants are a little tender and usually perform best as wall shrubs where they will probably need some support.

H3 J3



Polypodium 'Whitley Giant'

Ferns, Half-hardy perennials

Polypody 'Whitley Giant'

This is a large form of the common, evergreen fern. The gently lobed (pinnatifid) leaves can reach 50 cm. The plants gradually form clumps in time as the rhizomes spread across the surface. This fern has potential as an epiphyte as it will naturally grow on trees and walls where there is enough moisture and drainage. Easy to grow in a well-drained but moist position in sunshine or semi-shade. It will grow in dry shade once established.

H7 J2



Polypodium vulgare

Ferns, Half-hardy perennials,
British natives

Polypody

This is the relatively common, native, evergreen fern. The gently lobed (pinnatifid) leaves can reach 50 cm. The plants gradually form clumps in time as the rhizomes spread across the surface. This fern has potential as an epiphyte as it will naturally grow on trees and walls where there is enough moisture and drainage. Easy to grow in a well-drained but moist position in sunshine or semi-shade. It will grow in dry shade once established.
H7 J2



Polystichum acrostichoides

Ferns

Christmas Fern

An evergreen fern that will reach around 70 cm or more once mature, this species has pinnate-lobed leaves (ladder-like). Rather like a more leathery *P. munitum*. Easy to grow in moist soil in shade or semi-shade.
H5 J3



Polystichum munitum

Ferns, Hardy perennials

Western Sword Fern

This is a really good fern for shady areas and is as tough as they come. The plant produces evergreen rosettes of cycad-like leaves which can reach 1 m in length. Robust and remarkably duck-proof (in case you need to know). Grow in moist, but well-drained soil in shade. Once established it will tolerate dry soil for short intervals.
H7 J2



Polystichum setiferum

Ferns, Hardy perennials,
British natives

Soft shield Fern

This is a beautiful fern with finely-divided foliage which will grow to around 50 cm in height. The foliage is more-or-less evergreen and a light green in colour. Fantastic contrast to bold, solid leaves such as hostas.

Grow in any moist soil in semi to full shade. Protect from excessive winter wet in the crown.

H7 J2



Polystichum setiferum

Divisilobum Group
'Herrenhausen'

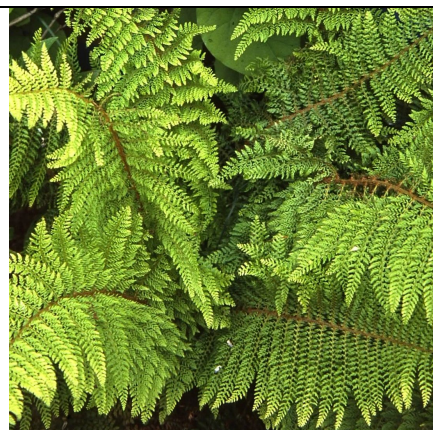
Ferns, Hardy perennials,
British natives

Soft shield Fern Divisilobum Group 'Herrenhausen'

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Grow in any moist soil in semi to full shade. protect from excessive winter wet in the crown.

H7 J2



Pontederia lanceolata

Bog and water plants, Hardy
perennials

Giant Pickerel Weed

If you struggle with *Thalia dealbata*, this plant makes an excellent substitute and is fully hardy in most parts. Worth growing for the foliage alone (vertically-held mini-banana leaves), the blue flowers are also showy. Growing to over 1 m in height when happy, this is well worth creating a small pond for, although we grow it in a large, raised, waterproof container to stop the ducks eating it! The plant dies back to the rhizome in winter.

Easy to grow in a fertile, preferably neutral soil with a maximum of 20 cm of water over the spreading rhizomes. It likes warmth and full sun to thrive.

H5 J3



Populus candicans 'Aurora'

Trees

Balm of Gilead

Much grown in Ireland, this is a charming, medium to tall-growing, short-lived (sometimes) poplar grown for its striking summer foliage (it has tassels of green flowers in spring which are of little interest). The early spring leaves are a bright, slightly glaucous green but as the shoots grow, the later leaves are marbled and edged with white and are pink when very young. Lovely. It can be cut back each year (in which case the leaves will be larger than usual) but this tends to shorten its life.

Grow in fertile, moist soil but with reasonable drainage. Plenty of sunshine brings out the best leaf colour.

H6 J2



Primula vulgaris 'Dunbeg'

Hardy perennials, Ground cover, British natives

Primula 'Dunbeg'

This is a lovely *Primula* with dark, purplish leaves and strongly-contrasting peachy-yellow flowers. Difficult to beat and easy to grow.

Site in sun or partial shade in most soils.

H7 J2



Primula vulgaris purple flowered form

Hardy perennials, Ground cover, British natives

Primrose Purple-flowered Form

A chance seedling in the garden gave rise to these lovely plants. They are tough, more or less evergreen, and form tight clumps. The flowers are a vivid purple with a yellow eye. Not very tropical but great used as ground cover among *Ajuga*.

Easy in partial shade in most soils. They may well seed around but seedlings may not



have the same intense colour.
H7 J1

Prunella vulgaris 'Pagoda'
Pink

Hardy perennials, Ground
cover, British natives

Selfheal 'Pagoda' Pink

These are absolute charmers
with their colourful heads of
bright pink hooded flowers.
They are a variant of the blue-
flowered native plant but with
much larger heads of flowers.
The plants form creeping mats
of foliage and flower in
summer. Who needs orchids?
Very easy to grow in a sunny
position and any soil providing
it is well-drained.

H5 J2



Prunus laurocerasus

Hardy shrubs

Cherry Laurel

Probably known to everyone,
this common, vigorous shrub
has large, glossy, oval
evergreen leaves and is an
excellent foil for more
interesting plants. It fits very
well in the tropical style garden
where it can be perhaps left
untrimmed so that its structure
as a large shrub can be seen.
It will, however, take close
pruning hence its frequent use
as a hedging plant. Spikes of
small white flowers are
produced on mature plants.
Grow this plant in any soil
providing it is not soggy. It
likes sunshine but will also
grow well in partial shade.

H5 J4



Prunus laurocerasus
'Castlewellan'

Hardy shrubs

Cherry Laurel 'Castlewellan'

This is an excellent slow-growing shrub for the tropical garden style with lovely evergreen marbled leaves in a creamy yellow. White flowers are rarely produced. It makes a useful alternative for sunnier positions where an *Aucuba* (with similar foliage) might scorch.

Easy to grow in a fertile soil (preferably neutral to acidic) and in a sunny place.

H5 J3



Puya mirabilis

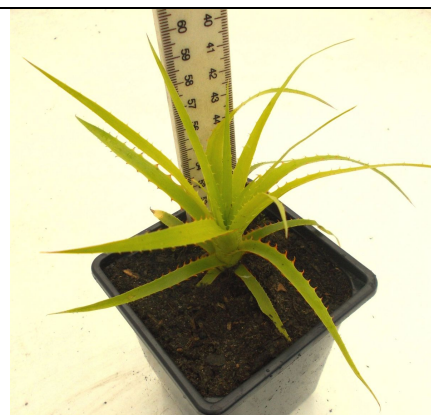
Bromeliads, Conservatory and house plants, Half-hardy perennials

Wonderful Puya

This is a fiercely-spiny bromeliad which produces a large rosette of leaves that may reach 50 cm in length when mature. The flower spikes have pendulous flowers that are very large for the genus (up to 10 cm) and yellow-green in colour. The plant will take a little frost but is best grown in a pot that can be taken under cover in winter, largely to prevent wetness as much as cold.

Easy to grow in a well-drained compost in a sunny position. Protect from frost in winter.

H2 J2



Puya venusta

Bromeliads

Chaqualillo

A rarely-offered bromeliad which has very spiny, grey-green leaves in (ultimately) a large (75 cm) rosette. Blue flowers on purple stems are produced on older plants which should then offset from the base. Very fierce and not gardener, pet or child friendly. Slow-growing so you may not need to worry for a few years. Best grown in a pot but possible outside in very mild localities.

Grow in a well-drained compost in full sunshine. A



cool but constant temperature is best. Treat as for a succulent so dryish in winter. Not very frost tolerant. H2? J3

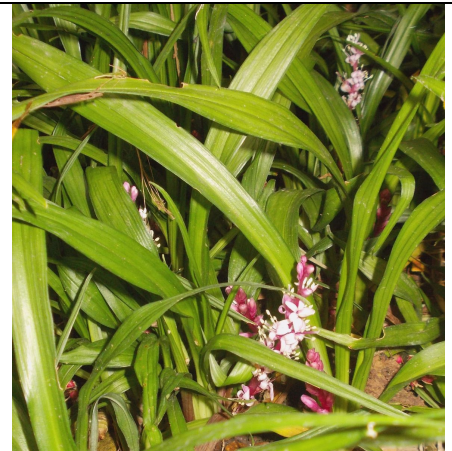
Reineckea carnea

Hardy perennials, Ground cover

Hyacinth Grass

This is an amazing little plant that seems to thrive in dry shade once established. Grassy, pleated leaves arise from a tough ground-level rhizome which gradually spreads to form a green carpet of leaves. In autumn, spikes of pink, scented flowers arise on stems little higher than the foliage.

Grow this unassuming treasure in humus-rich soil in semi-shade (at least initially). H6 J2



Remusatia vivipara

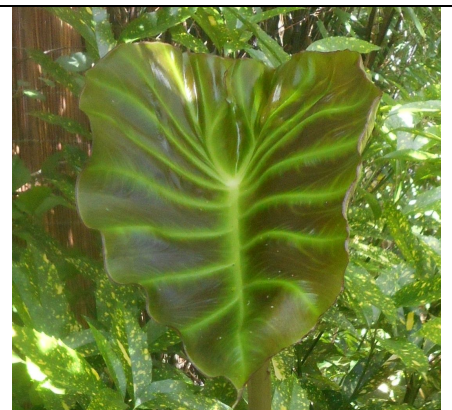
Aroids, Half-hardy perennials

Hitch-hiker Elephant Ear

This is an uncommon herbaceous, tuberous aroid that has large, elephant ear-style leaves in summer. The common name derives from the small tubers it produces with hooked spines that get transported by furry animals - so beware! The plants are unlikely to flower but if they do, they have interesting yellow spathes.

Easy to grow in pots in a well-drained, fertile compost. They are winter dormant when they should be kept dry and frost-free.

H1C? J3



Rheum palmatum var. *tanguticum*

Hardy perennials

Chinese Rhubarb

This is a rather coarse but impressive plant closely related to our common rhubarb but inedible. It produces large (50 cm) leaves which are at their most impressive while they retain the red colouration they possess as they unfurl. Tall branched flower spikes are covered with tiny pinkish



flowers but for the jungle garden, are probably best removed. The plant completely disappears in winter. Grow this rhubarb in rich, moist soil in a sunny site and make sure it has the space it needs to look impressive.
H5 J1

Ricinus communis
'Carmencita Pink'

Half-hardy shrubs and trees,
Annuals and biennials

Caster Oil Plant 'Carmencita Pink'

Apparently an award winner, this tender shrub produces large lobed green leaves on red stems and stalks. The flowers (which are relatively insignificant) give rise to colourful pink seed pods. Like all *Ricinus*, these plants are fast growing in warmth and are usually used as annuals but may survive if kept frost-free over winter. *Ricinus* are exceptionally poisonous so do not plant if this is an issue. Grow in any soil although bigger leaves result from more fertility. The plants need full sun and lots of water when in growth. If over-wintering, keep free of frost and fairly dry.
H2 J4



Ricinus communis 'Red Giant'

Half-hardy shrubs and trees,
Annuals and biennials

Caster Oil Plant 'Red Giant'

This tender shrub produces large lobed red-bronze leaves on red stems and stalks. The flowers (which are relatively insignificant) give rise to colourful red seed pods. Like all *Ricinus*, these plants are fast growing in warmth and are usually used as annuals but may survive if kept frost-free over winter. *Ricinus* are exceptionally poisonous so do not plant if this is an issue. Grow in any soil although bigger leaves result from more fertility. The plants need full sun and lots of water when in growth. If over-wintering, keep free of frost and fairly dry.



Ricinus communis 'Zanzi Palm'

Half-hardy shrubs and trees,
Annuals and biennials

Caster Oil Plant 'Zanzi Palm'

This tender shrub produces large lobed green leaves on green stems and stalks. The flowers (which are relatively insignificant) give rise to colourful red seed pods. Like all *Ricinus*, these plants are fast growing in warmth and are usually used as annuals but may survive if kept frost-free over winter. *Ricinus* are exceptionally poisonous so do not plant if this is an issue. Grow in any soil although bigger leaves result from more fertility. The plants need full sun and lots of water when in growth. If over-wintering, keep free of frost and fairly dry.

H2 J4



Robinia pseudoacacia

Trees

False Acacia

Somewhat overlooked, this lovely tree has the feel of a tropical acacia but is tough and vigorous. Large, compound leaves of rounded leaflets are borne on spiny stems. The white flowers are scented. Elongate seed pods subsequently form. This tree suckers quite enthusiastically so plant where you can mow around it.

Grow in any good soil, not too wet. A sunny site is best as it does like warmth.

H6 J2

Rodgersia podophylla

Hardy perennials

Rodger's Bronze Leaf

This is an excellent foliage plant producing large, divided leaves on stems up to 60 cm. Emerging leaves have bronze tones in spring and collapse in piles of yellow in autumn. Unexciting flower-heads of many greenish-white tiny flowers are produced on long stems above the foliage. Grow in partial or full shade in



a moist but not wet soil. Avoid dry shade. Feed to encourage huge leaves.
H6 J1

Roscoeia auriculata

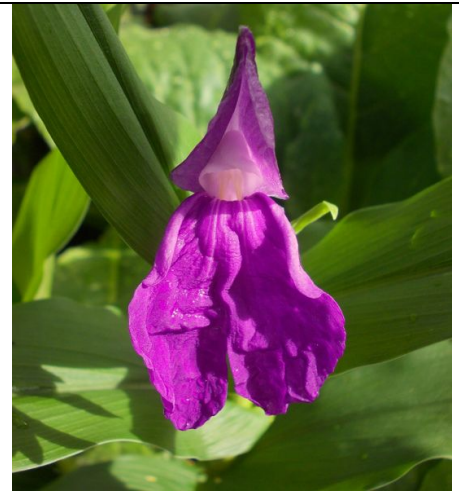
Gingers and cannas, Hardy perennials

Eared Roscoeia

This is one of the fully-hardy gingers with elongate leaves and purple flowers which are described as orchid-like but are more like huge *Salvia* blooms. These are very tropical-looking plants but are easy to grow providing the slugs can be kept at bay. Late emerging.

Grow roscoeas in a humus-rich, fertile soil that is well-drained but remains moist in summer. They like some shade too otherwise they will wilt.

H5 J3



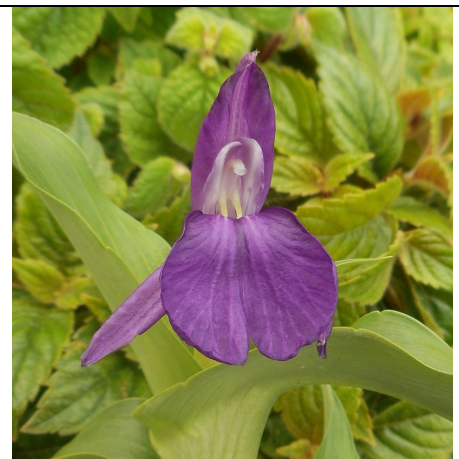
Roscoeia auriculata 'India'

Gingers and cannas, Half-hardy perennials

Eared Roscoeia 'India'

Reaching around 50 cm, this is one of the larger roscoeas and this form has dark purple hooded blooms. These stand out against the rather bamboo-like foliage. Exotic and easy. Grow in a sunny or partially shaded, sheltered position in well-drained, humus-rich, fertile soil (neutral to mildly acidic). Protect the young shoots from slugs. Otherwise, trouble free. If you live somewhere really cold, they can be kept in large pots, just damp and cool (but frost-free) rather like dahlias.

H5 J2



Roscoeia purpurea 'Shot Silk'

Gingers and cannas, Hardy
perennials

Purple Roscoeia 'Shot Silk'

This a large-flowered, colourful form of the species with pinkish-red flowers striped with purple lines. Very unusual. The leaves are linear and green, produced on short, bamboo-like stems.

These are easy plants to grow in a moist, humus-rich compost in a lightly shaded position. They are hardy but usually late up and can be attacked by slugs.

H5 J3



Roscoeia purpurea violet-flowered

Gingers and cannas

Purple Roscoeia Violet-Flowered

This is an interesting selection of *R. purpurea* with quite large, violet-purple flowers produced in clusters at the top of the stems in mid-summer. The leaves are linear and green and produced in the manner of a small bamboo.

These plants are easy to grow in a moist, humus-rich soil in a sunny or partially shaded position. Mulch in winter if you are in a very cold area. Plants are late to come into growth. Slugs may be a problem.

H5 J3



Roscoeia x beesiana Cream Group

Gingers and cannas, Hardy
perennials

Roscoeia Cream Group

These are easy but small deciduous gingers which will reach a maximum height of around 40 cm. They quickly form quite large clumps of stems that carry narrow, slightly pleated leaves, and clusters of creamy yellow flowers, sometimes marked with purple.

These plants need a rich, organic soil with good drainage. They like partial shade but will survive in full sunshine providing they do not dry out. They are quite tough but a mulch in winter is useful, if only to remind of where they



are planted. They emerge quite late and may be savaged by slugs.
H5 J2

Rubus amphidasys

Half-hardy shrubs and trees

No common name available

This is a rare and unusual evergreen plant from southern China where it forms scrambling mounds of foliage and, for most of the year it seems, small white flowers followed by red berries. The leaves are very exotic-looking, flannel-like and with red markings (when young) that fade to darker green as the leaf ages. Stems are thornless but hairy.

Easy in sunshine or partial shade providing it does not dry out. Probably prefers an acidic or neutral soil. We are unsure about hardiness having yet to try it outside. It seems happy kept just frost-free in winter.
H3? J2



Rubus lineatus

Half-hardy shrubs and trees

Common name unavailable

This is a sub-tropical bramble which is fortunately more or less thornless. It is semi-deciduous, keeping some of its multi-parted leaves through the winter. Each leaflet is strongly veined above and silvery beneath. It is a really wonderful foliage plant and very unusual in appearance. White flowers and red berries may be produced on larger plants.

Grow in a semi-shaded, sheltered (preferably frost-free) site in a moist, humus-rich soil. It requires the same conditions if you intend to grow it in a pot when it will need protection from frost.

H3? J3



Rudbeckia laciniata

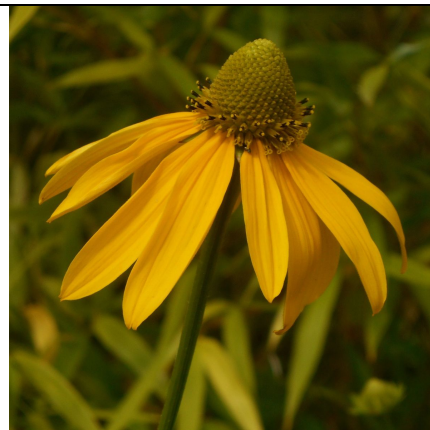
Hardy perennials

Cut-Leaved Coneflower

At AJP we like big daisies (they are good for insects) and few come as tall as this one. Typical *Rudbeckia* flowers (a central blob surrounded by a ring of large petals) in vivid yellow sit atop stems that may reach 2.5 m in ideal conditions. The foliage is good too, being deeply incised and with purple tints at times. Needless to say, they always need some support.

Grow in any good, well-drained soil in a sunny position but one that is sheltered from winds that can easily destroy a large plant.

H6 J1



Rumex sanguineus var. *sanguineus*

Hardy perennials, Edible plants and herbs, British natives

Red-Veined Sorrel

This is a small clump-forming dock which although edible, should be ingested in small quantities. It has a tart, lemony flavour and makes a good sauce with salmon. The leaves can reach 30 cm but are generally smaller. They have distinctive red veins. Flowering stems should be removed as they add nothing to the plant. Grow in a moist, fertile soil in sunshine or with a little shade.

H4 J2



Russelia equisetiformis

Conservatory and house plants, Half-hardy shrubs and trees

Coral Plant

This is a peculiar low shrub that produces stems with tiny leaves that are short-lived. In summer, the wiry branches sport tubular red flowers that will hang wonderfully around the pot. Recommended for a sunny patio in an raised pot or equally happy in a sunny conservatory.

Easy to grow in a well-drained compost in a sunny position. Water well in summer but keep drier in winter.

H1C J1



