**Summary and Notes from the 2016 Demonstration Garden Surveys**

Over 65 public gardens around the Rocky Mountain and High Plains region are currently partners with the Plant Select® program. Education of visitors is a high priority for all of these gardens, offering opportunities for communities to learn about appropriate garden and landscape choices for their unique, local environmental conditions. To read more about these garden partners, visit the “Learn” section at [www.plantselect.org](http://www.plantselect.org/). Maps, images, driving directions, and more information about each garden are posted and updated regularly.

**Highlights**

* 53 Demonstration gardens participated in the 2016 plant performance survey.
* Over 140 plant taxa were rated on a 1-9 scale.
* Blonde Ambition blue grama grass is the plant that received the highest score by the highest number of gardens that completed and returned the survey. Of the gardens that completed and returned the 2016 survey, 43 (81.1%) rated Blonde Ambition blue grama grass and it received a mean score of 8.3.
* HOT WINGS® Tatarian Maple was also at the top of the list in 2016. Of the gardens that completed and returned the survey, 33 (62.3%) rated HOT WINGS® Tatarian Maple and it received a mean score 8.2.

**2016 Detailed Plant Rating Averages**

**Plant Select® Demonstration Garden 2016 Top Plants**

**Top Five Plants for 3000-5500 ft Elevations**

58.5% (31 of 53) participating gardens

(reported by at least half of the participating gardens at this elevation range)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SCIENTIFIC NAME** | **TRADE OR COMMON NAME** | **AVERAGE** | **NUMBER OF RESPONSES** |
| *Bouteloua gracilis* 'Blonde Ambition' PP 22,048 | Blonde Ambition blue grama grass | 8.8 | 25 |
| *Acer tataricum* 'GarAnn' PP 15,023 | HOT WINGS® Tatarian maple | 8.1 | 21 |
| *Hesperaloe parviflora* | Red yucca | 8.1 | 19 |
| *Veronica* liwanensis | Turkish veronica | 8.1 | 19 |
| *Zauschneria garrettii* 'PWWG01S' | ORANGE CARPET® hummingbird trumpet | 8.1 | 18 |

**Top Plants for 5500-7500 ft Elevations**

34% (18 of 53) participating gardens

(reported by at least half of the participating gardens at this elevation)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SCIENTIFIC NAME** | **TRADE OR COMMON NAME** | **AVERAGE** | **NUMBER OF RESPONSES** |
| *Acer tataricum* 'GarAnn' PP 15,023 | HOT WINGS® Tatarian maple | 8.4 | 11 |
| *Veronica* liwanensis | Turkish veronica | 8.3 | 12 |
| *Nepeta* ‘Psfike' PP 18,904 | LITTLE TRUDY® catmint | 8.2 | 12 |
| *Bouteloua gracilis* 'Blonde Ambition' PP 22,048 | Blonde Ambition blue grama grass | 8.1 | 15 |
| *Fallugia paradoxa* | Apache plume | 8.1 | 13 |

**Top Plants for Elevations over 7500 ft**

.075% (4 of 53) Participating Gardens

(reported by at least half of the participating gardens at this elevation)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SCIENTIFIC NAME** | **TRADE OR COMMON NAME** | **AVERAGE** | **NUMBER OF RESPONSES** |
| *Chamaebatiaria millefolium* | Fernbush | 9.0 | 2 |
| *Philadelphus lewisii* 'PWY01S' | CHEYENNE® mock orange | 8.7 | 3 |
| *Callirhoe involucrata* | Winecups | 8.5 | 2 |
| *Eriogonum umbellatum* var. *aureum* 'Psdowns' | KANNAH CREEK® buckwheat | 8.5 | 2 |
| *Aquilegia chrysantha* | DENVER GOLD® columbine | 8.3 | 3 |

**Top 10 Plants by Overall Rating**

(reported by at least half of the 53 participating gardens)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SCIENTIFIC NAME** | **TRADE OR COMMON NAME** | **AVERAGE** | **NUMBER OF RESPONSES** |
| *Bouteloua gracilis* 'Blonde Ambition' PP 22,048 | Blonde Ambition blue grama grass | 8.3 | 43 |
| *Acer tataricum* 'GarAnn' PP 15,023 | HOT WINGS® Tatarian maple | 8.2 | 33 |
| *Veronica* liwanensis | Turkish veronica | 8.1 | 33 |
| *Fallugia paradoxa* | Apache plume | 8.0 | 35 |
| *Eriogonum umbellatum* var. *aureum* 'Psdowns' | KANNAH CREEK® Buckwheat | 7.9 | 34 |
| *Ephedra equisetina* | Bluestem Joint Fir | 7.9 | 28 |
| *Nepeta* ‘Psfike' PP 18,904 | LITTLE TRUDY® catmint | 7.8 | 40 |
| *Zauschneria garrettii* 'PWWG01S' | ORANGE CARPET® hummingbird Trumpet | 7.8 | 30 |
| *Berlandiera lyrata* | Chocolate flower | 7.8 | 29 |
| *Chamaebatiaria millefolium* | Fernbush | 7.5 | 35 |
| *Tanacetum densum ssp. Amani* | Partridge feather | 7.5 | 30 |

**Gardens Participating in 2016 Survey**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Alamosa Community GreenhouseAurora Xeriscape Demonstration GardenBLM Anasazi Heritage CenterBerthoud Community Library DistrictBetty Ford Alpine GardensBoulder Bear Creek Park GardenButterfly PavilionCarnegie Public Library Demo GardenCity of Broomfield Xeriscape GardenCity of Greeley Water Department XeriscapeCity of Lakewood - Gardens at Kendrick LakeCliffrose Plant Select Demo GardenColorado Springs Utilities XeriscapeConservation Garden Park (West Jordan)Conservation Gardens at Northern WaterConverse County Master GardenersCSU Trial Gardens at RemingtonCSU Extension Adams County Fairgrounds | CSU Extension Boulder CountyCSU Extension Denver CountyCSU Extension Douglas CountyCSU Extension Eagle CountyCSU Extension Elbert CountyCSU Extension Gunnison County FairgroundsCSU Extension Jefferson County GardensCSU Extension Phillips CountyCSU Extension San Miquel County FairgroundsCSU Extension Summit County, Sue Cruth MemorialCSU Extension Tri-River AreaDenver Botanic GardensDurango Public Library Demonstration GardenFort Collins Xeriscape Demonstration GardenGardens on Spring CreekHighland's Garden VillageHome on the Range GardensHorticultural Art Society of Colorado Springs | Idaho Botanical GardenLeft Hand Water District – Peterson GardensMeadow Ridge Park PlaygroundMontrose Botanic GardenNatrona County ARLCOtero County Courthouse GardenPueblo West Xeriscape Demonstration GardenRed Butte Garden & ArboretumSE Colorado Water Conservancy DistrictSW Montana Master Gardener Association MSUThornton Fire Station 5 - Water-Wise GardenTizer Botanic Garden and ArboretumTown of Erie Community ParkTown of Parker PACE GardenTreasure Island Demonstration GardenWashington County Events CenterWestminster - Heritage Golf Course at Westmoor |

 **explore> plantselect.org**