## Blanket Flower

**Latin Name:** Gaillardia aristata  
**Mature Height:** 18-24”  
**Mature Spread:** 18-24”  
**Hardy To:** 8,500’  
**Water:** Low  
**Exposure:** Full Sun  
**Flower Color:** Yellow, Bronze  
**Flower Season:** Mid-Summer  
**Attracts:** Butterflies, Bees

**Description:** A thick clump of fuzzy grayish-green leaves support stems of large daisies consisting of half-domed, reddish-brown to orange centers circled by ray florets of yellow or yellow/bronze bicolor. The Blanket Flower is a Colorado native, and the entire plant is covered with fuzzy hair.  

**Care:** The Blanket Flower appreciates a bit of pampering the first season, and then takes off on its own. Be sure to deadhead occasionally to keep the flowers coming all summer long. Divide every 2 to 3 years in early spring to keep clumps thriving. Avoid planting in rich, moist soils, which can make the plants floppy and shorten their life-span. Drought-tolerant once established, the Blanket Flower, only needs supplemental moisture during extended hot and dry conditions. This plant is very low-maintenance, adaptable, and easy to grow.

## Red Daylily

**Latin Name:** Hemerocallis ‘Red Select’  
**Mature Height:** 30-36”  
**Mature Spread:** 24-30”  
**Hardy To:** 8,500’  
**Water:** Low  
**Exposure:** Sun  
**Flower Color:** Dark Red  
**Flower Season:** Early to Mid-Summer  
**Attracts:** Butterflies  
**Resistant To:** Rabbits

**Description:** The Red Daylily features showy dark-red blossoms with vivid yellow throats. Hemerocallis is native to Asia, primarily eastern Asia, and adapts easily to many different climate zones. Daylilies have even been referred to as, the “perfect perennial”, due to their: brilliant color, drought tolerance, frost tolerance, adaptability, hardiness, and low-maintenance nature. Generally, the Red Daylily provides a steady succession of colorful, long-blooming flowers, and, when the flowers are not in bloom, its fountain-like, deep-green leaves provide elegant foliage, color, and texture to the garden! This favored perennial performs best when planted in a location where it will receive full sun all day long in moist, well-drained soil.  

**Care:** Daylilies are easily grown in well-drained, average soil. They are heat tolerant but appreciate deep watering during dry spells to keep foliage attractive. Be sure to deadhead spent flowers for neatness and remove old foliage in late fall. Daylilies should be divided to maintain vigor when the clumps become overcrowded.
Oak-leaf Stonecrop
Latin Name: Sedum hybridum
Mature Height: 2-4’
Mature Spread: 12-18”
Hardy To: 8,000’

Water: Low
Exposure: Sun
Flower Color: Yellow
Flower Season: Late Spring to Early Summer
Attracts: Butterflies
Resistant To: Deer, Rabbits
Description: The Oak-leaf Stonecrop is a beautiful and hardy groundcover. It is an excellent option between stepping stones or as a feature in your rock garden, as it performs particularly well in hot, dry sites! This creeping evergreen forms a low, carpet-like mat of narrow and scalloped green leaves. In the late spring and early summer, this perennial is adorned with cheerful, yellow, star-shaped flowers. As the temperatures begin to cool, its foliage turns from a beautiful, bright green to a magnificent, warm orange-red color. The Oak-leaf Stonecrop will add interest to your garden all year long!
Care: This ground cover plant is easy to maintain. Trim or mow back the plants in spring to maintain compact form. The plants are easily divided in spring or fall, if desired.

Hardy Orange Gazania
Latin Name: Gazania krebsiana ‘Tananger’
Mature Height: 3-4”
Mature Spread: 8-10”
Hardy To: 5,000’

Water: Low
Exposure: Sun
Flower Color: Orange
Flower Season: Spring to Fall
Attracts: Butterflies
Description: The long-blooming, show-stopping, Hardy Orange Gazania, is native to the western provinces of South Africa. It grows best in sunny locations in well-drained soils, and is ideal as a stunning mass display. This low-maintenance and drought tolerant plant performs especially well in the Colorado high plains and the Rocky Mountain region. From late spring to early summer, it features prolific florescent orange daises that glow atop vertical stems. It continues to bloom sporadically into the fall, and, then, in the winter months, the blooms fade and the semi-evergreen foliage develops into a rich purple hue. Good drainage is essential to this plant, as it does not like soggy winter conditions. Be sure to amend your soil accordingly.
Care: The Hardy Orange Gazania adapts to various soil types and moderate to low moisture. Follow a regular watering schedule during the first growing season to establish a deep, extensive root system. As a ground cover, space plants 6 to 10” apart.
Fun Fact: The flowers close at night and on cloudy days.

Blue Cap Sea Holly
Latin Name: Eryngium planum ‘Blaukappe’
Mature Height: 15-24”
Mature Spread: 10-15”
Hardy To: 6,500’

Water: Low
Exposure: Sun
Flower Color: Blue
Flower Season: Summer
Attracts: Butterflies
Description: The Blue Cap Sea Holly is a unique herbaceous, clump-forming perennial. Its common name highlights its stunning blue cap flowers. It features sensational clusters of metallic-blue, ball-shaped blooms with silvery-blue bracts at the ends of its tall and erect stems. The deep royal blue stems add winter interest with their rich color and texture. To add contrast to the garden, plant this beauty near soft, yellowy-gold neighbors. From early spring to early fall, enjoy its exotic blooms and the butterflies that come to visit them. This is a very hardy variety of Sea Holly. It will tolerate hot, dry sites, and is considered to be drought resistant once established.
Care: The Blue Cap Sea Holly will require occasional maintenance and upkeek. It is best cleaned up in early spring before new growth sprouts. It will require a regular watering schedule until established. This plant does best in well-drained soil in full sun.
Fun Fact: For a dry arrangement, pick stems just as the flower clusters fully open, and hang upside down to dry in a warm, dark place. When dried, they retain their color indefinitely.

Standing Ovation Little Bluestem Grass
Latin Name: Schizachyrium scoparium ‘Standing Ovation’
Mature Height: 3-4’
Mature Spread: 12-18”
Hardy To: 8,000’

Water: Low
Exposure: Sun
Flower Color: Silver
Flower Season: Late Summer
Attracts: Butterflies
Description: This warm season grass is a cultivar of the parent species, Schizachyrium scoparium, which is native to the fields, prairies, and woods of North America. However, Schizachyrium scoparium ‘Standing Ovation’, features wider, thicker, and sturdier stems and leaves than its parent species making it capable of withstanding more adverse growing conditions. Not only does it tolerate a wide range of environments, but it also provides year round interest in the garden! In spring, bluish-green spikes emerge. As the summer temperatures rise, a deep purple color develops at the base of the plant while the bluish tint remains throughout the spikes. The summer months also give rise to tall, delicate flowering stems. Then, as fall settles in, the tight, upright grass transforms into a rich display of purples, reds, and oranges, and the remaining seed heads provide texture and dimension throughout the fall and winter months. Finally, once winter sets in, this ever-changing perennial transforms one last time into a stunning bronze hue, which looks magical against a fresh snow.
Care: While it tolerates a wide range of conditions, it prefers a sunny, dry location. It is drought resistant once established, and tolerates high heat and humidity. Cut back to the ground in late winter to early spring before new growth begins to emerge.
**Blue Grama Grass**
**Latin Name:** *Bouteloua gracilis*
**Mature Height:** 1-2’
**Mature Spread:** 1-2’
**Hardy To:** 8,500’

**Water:** Very Low  
**Exposure:** Sun  
**Flower Color:** Tan, Blonde  
**Flower Season:** Summer to Fall  
**Attracts:** Small Birds

**Description:** Blue Grama Grass is a greyish-green native grass commonly found in the Rocky Mountains. This attractive and hardy grass will compliment and add intrigue to any established garden. Blue Grama will stay colorful all the way through the fall season. Its delicate blonde “eyelash-like” spikelets grow horizontally on the grass stems. Its seeds are eaten by small birds in the fall.

**Care:** This adaptable grass does well in almost all soils aside from heavy and very wet clay. Cut back in mid-spring just before new growth emerges.

**Fun Fact:** The Colorado state grass!