



2024 Seed Library Guide

**Use this guide as a starting place
to select what seeds will work best for you.**

For a greater chance of gardening success, we recommend that you research each variety in more depth and only select varieties that will work well with your garden and lifestyle. We can provide limited information on the seed package due to space.

There is something for all gardening interests, experience levels, and garden sites in the Seed Library. Gardening is an adventure and an experiment, not a guaranteed success. Refer to our growing guides for more detailed information on growing plants from seeds.



Hamilton East Public Library

2024 Seed Library Guide

Before you plant your seeds

There is a time and a season for your vegetables to be harvested and for your flowers to bloom. Read about when the vegetables and herbs will be ready for harvesting or when the flowers will bloom and consider these factors in your gardening plan.

1. Research! To be successful, especially if you are new to gardening or trying a new variety, you need to research the plant and its needs.
2. Is it the right time of year to plant this seed? Some plants, like arugula and fava beans, prefer cooler weather and won't grow well in the summer heat. Most others need to be planted after the last frost date. Some short-season crops like radishes, kohlrabi, and arugula can even be planted in the fall and will survive light frosts.
3. Think about where you are going to plant the seed. What is the soil like? How much space do you have versus how much space the plant needs? Does the area get full sun or is it partially shaded? Is it a dry area or does water tend to gather there? Will you plant in a container? What other plants are in the area? Compare these factors to what is recommended on the seed packet.



How and when do I plant seeds?

- **Direct sow:** Sow seeds in the ground, raised bed, or container. Assume you should do this after the average last frost date (April 30 in Hamilton County) unless noted.
 - You may see “direct sow when soil can be worked,” meaning you can sow the seed when the ground is no longer frozen, but before the last frost. These seeds germinate at lower temperatures and the seedlings tolerate mild frost.
 - Sometimes a soil temperature is given. Some seeds need a specific temperature in order to germinate or they may even go dormant at another temperature.
- **Start early/transplants:** Some plants, like tomatoes and peppers, need an early start indoors or in a heated space. Plan ahead! You'll need to start these in a warm place several weeks before hardening them off and transplanting outside after the last frost date (about April 30 in Hamilton County). To ensure you give your seedlings the best chance of success, research this process thoroughly.

Hamilton East Public Library

2024 Seed Library Guide

What does days to maturity and bloom time mean?

- For **direct sown seeds** (like radishes or marigolds), the approximate number of days from sowing until harvest/bloom.
- For **transplanted seeds** (like tomatoes and peppers), the approximate number of days from the transplant date until harvest. For example, the days to maturity for Glacier tomatoes is 55 days, but tomato seeds need to be planted indoors and hardened off 5-6 weeks (35-42 days) before being transplanted outside. The total number of days from seed planting to harvest is about 90-97.
- **Bloom time:** perennial flowers (like purple coneflowers and blue false indigo) usually do not bloom the first year. You may instead see an estimate of the months when it will bloom after the first year. Annual flowers (like sunflowers and marigolds) will bloom the first year a certain number of days after being sown.
- **This is an estimate from the seed company:** there are many factors that contribute to when a plant is ready for harvest or bloom, including weather, climate zone, water, and soil quality. Consider this number a guide, not an absolute.



How long will my plants live? Annuals, perennials, and biennials:

- **Annuals:** Most of the vegetables, fruits, and herbs in this list are annuals, as are many flowers. They will flower, produce seeds, and die after the first season.
- **Perennials:** Some herbs and flowers are perennials. They will live for more than two years if conditions are favorable.
 - Perennial flowers usually do not bloom in the first year if grown from seed since the plant needs the first year to become established. When you see perennial plants for sale at a store, they are usually in their second year of life so they will be more likely to bloom the same year you plant them.
- **Biennials:** These plants live for two years: the first year the plant becomes established, and in the second year it flowers and produces seeds, after which it dies. Only a few plants in the Seed Library are biennials, such as carrots and black-eyed susan.

2024 HEPL Seed Library - Fruit & Vegetables



Bean, Bush: Amethyst

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Purple beans will turn green when cooked
- Filet-style beans are 5-5.5 inches long
- Direct sow
- Full sun / Annual / Days to Maturity: 56



Bean, Bush: Gold Rush

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Yellow beans with green tips
- Beans are 4-5 inches long
- Direct sow
- Full sun / Annual / Days to Maturity: 55



Bean, Bush: Roma II

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

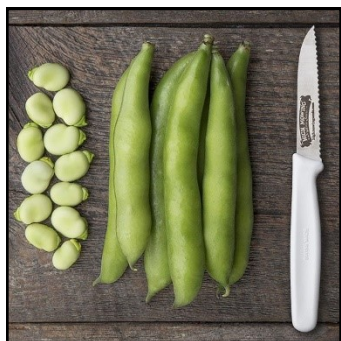
- Heirloom
- Flat beans are 5-6 inches long
- Direct sow
- Full sun / Annual / Days to Maturity: 59



Bean, Bush: Tobago

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Filet-style bean
- Beans are 4-5 inches long
- Direct sow
- Full sun / Annual / Days to Maturity: 54



Bean, Fava: Windsor

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Heirloom
- Needs cool conditions for growing – NOT heat tolerant
- Pods are 5-6 inches long, containing 3-5 beans
- Can be eaten in pods when small or shucked when larger
- Direct sow as soon as soil can be worked. Cool season crop only.
- Full sun / Annual / Days to Maturity: 75

2024 HEPL Seed Library - Fruit & Vegetables



Bean, Pole: Kentucky Wonder

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Heirloom
- Flat variety with 6-8 inch beans
- Direct sow. Pole beans need support (like a trellis) as they grow.
- Full sun / Annual / Days to Maturity: 70



Bean, Pole: Rattlesnake

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Heirloom
- Purple spots will fade when cooked
- Beans are 7 inches long
- Can be eaten in pods or as a dried bean
- Direct sow. Pole beans need support (like a trellis) as they grow.
- Full sun / Annual / Days to Maturity: 75-80



Beet: Touchstone Gold

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Both the greens and the root can be eaten
- Beets are best harvested in spring and fall and are frost-tolerant
- Direct sow when soil warms to 45°F or 8 weeks before heavy frost
- Full sun / Annual / Days to Maturity: 55 days



Broccoli: De Ciccio

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Heirloom
- Broccoli grows best in cool weather. Plan for spring or fall harvest.
- Start indoors 3-4 weeks before transplanting outdoors
- Full sun / Annual / Days to Maturity: 45 days



Carrot: Dragon

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Heirloom
- Avoid planting this variety in heavy soil
- Fall harvests can remain in the ground after frost and dug as needed
- Direct sow when soil can be worked. Best in spring and fall.
- Annual if you harvest the carrot, and a biennial if not harvested.
- Full sun / Days to Maturity: 75 days

2024 HEPL Seed Library - Fruit & Vegetables



Carrot: Parisian

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Heirloom
- This variety does well in heavy/clay soils
- Direct sow when soil can be worked. Best in spring and fall.
- Fall harvests can remain in the ground after frost and dug as needed
- Annual if you harvest the carrot, and a biennial if not harvested.
- Full sun / Days to maturity: 55



Carrot: Scarlet Nantes

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Heirloom / Carrots are 7 inches long
- Direct sow when soil can be worked. Best in spring and fall.
- Fall harvests can remain in the ground after frost and dug as needed
- Annual if you harvest the carrot, and a biennial if not harvested.
- Direct sow
- Full sun / Annual / Days to Maturity: 74



Cucumber: Homemade Pickles

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Plants will be 5 feet tall
- Harvest pickles between 1.5-6 inches long, based on preference
- Direct sow when soil temperature is at least 65 degrees
- Can be trellised, but not required.
- Full sun / Annual / Days to Maturity: 60



Cucumber: Marketmore 76

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Heirloom
- Slicing cucumber / 8-9 inch fruits
- Direct sow. Can be trellised, but not required.
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 58



Cucumber: Striped Armenian

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Heirloom, AKA painted serpent, snake melons, or yard-long cucumbers
- 8-18 inch fruits / Widely grown in the Middle East and Asia
- Direct sow. Can be trellised for straighter fruit, but not required.
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 63

2024 HEPL Seed Library - Fruit & Vegetables



Cucumber: Suyo Long

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Heirloom Asian cucumber
- 15 inch fruits / Prickly when young, becoming smoother at maturity
- Direct sow. Can be trellised for straighter fruit, but not required.
- Full sun / Annual / Days to Maturity: 60 days



Eggplant: Ping Tung

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Heirloom Asian eggplant
- Fruits will be 12-14 inches long and 1-2 inches wide
- Start indoors 8-12 weeks before transplanting outside
- Soil must be 80-90 degrees for germination. Use a seedling heat mat.
- Harden off plant gradually before transplanting outdoors.
- Full sun / Annual / Days to Maturity: 70 days



Gourd: Autumn Wings

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Gourds will be 8-12 ounces
- Direct sow after danger of frost when soil is at least 70 degrees
- Cure gourds before use/storage
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 95



Greens: Allstar Lettuce Mix

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Mixture of green oakleaf, red oakleaf, green romaine, red romaine, lollo rossa, and red leaf lettuces
- Plant successively for more harvests
- Direct sow as soon as before last frost. Best in spring and fall.
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 28



Greens: Arugula

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- AKA Rocket
- Flavor is spicy, peppery, and nutty. Flowers are edible.
- Prefers cool weather: plant and harvest in spring or fall
- Direct sow as early as 4-6 weeks before last frost date
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 21 for baby or 40 for full size

2024 HEPL Seed Library - Fruit & Vegetables



Greens: Collards: Champion

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Rarely eaten raw. Texture becomes softer & the flavor mellows when cooked; similar in taste to kale
- Direct sow. Plant/harvest from early spring until fall
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 60



Greens: Deer Tongue Lettuce

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Heirloom, Bibb-type lettuce
- Crunchy and flavor said to be nutty, buttery, and sweet
- Prefers cool weather: plant and harvest in spring or fall
- Direct sow as early as soil can be worked / Frost tolerant
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 31 for baby or 46 for full size



Greens: Kale: Red Russian

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

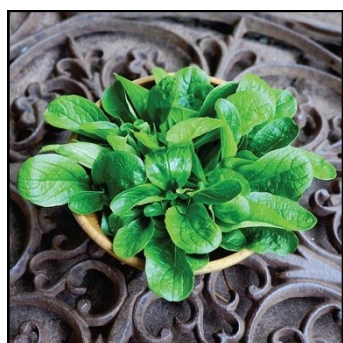
- Heirloom
- Best in cool/frosty weather—plant for spring and fall crops
- Direct sow when soil temperature is at least 45°F
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 29 for baby leaf and 50 for full



Greens: Kale: Toscano

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Heirloom / AKA dinosaur kale, lacinto kale, and Tuscan kale
- Tolerant of both hot and cold, but flavor best in cool/frosty weather
- Direct sow when soil temperature is at least 45°F
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 32 for baby leaf and 65 for full



Greens: Mache: Vit

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- AKA corn salad and lamb's lettuce
- Leaves are delicate and tender with a nutty, herbal taste
- Heat sensitive: best in cool weather and tolerant of frost.
- Plant in early spring / Slow germinating (10-14 days). Be patient!
- Soil temp should be 41-68°F / Seeds go dormant at more than 70°F
- Full sun-part shade / Annual or tender perennial / Days to maturity: 50

2024 HEPL Seed Library - Fruit & Vegetables



Greens: Nevada Lettuce

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Batavian/summer crisp-type lettuce, forming loose heads as it matures
- Heat-tolerant and bolt-resistant
- Direct sow as soon as soil can be worked
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 55 days



Greens: New Zealand Spinach

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Heirloom AKA kōkihi, Botany Bay spinach, tetragon, & warrigal greens
- Leaves and tender shoots have a spinach-like taste
- Direct sow after danger of frost
- Full sun / Annual or tender perennial / Days to maturity: 50



Greens: Pac Choi: Ching-Chiang

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- AKA bok choy, pak choi, or Chinese cabbage
- Dwarf variety with mild flavor and few strings
- Best in cool seasons, but tolerant of heat and cold
- Direct sow 1-2 weeks before last frost date or for fall harvest
- Full sun / Annual / Maturity: 40 days



Greens: Red Malabar Spinach

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Vining Asian green, not related to spinach
- Leaves and tender shoots have a taste similar to Swiss chard
- Flavor is best with young leaves and stems
- Start indoors 5-6 weeks before transplanting outside
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 50 for baby leaf or 85 for full size



Greens: Romaine Mix

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Mix of red, green, and speckled romaine lettuces
- Best in cool weather (spring and fall), but somewhat heat tolerant
- Direct sow as early as soil can be worked
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 28

2024 HEPL Seed Library - Fruit & Vegetables



Greens: Spinach: Bloomsdale

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Best in cool weather: plant in early spring or fall
- Direct sow as early as soil can be worked / Frost tolerant
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 30



Greens: Swiss Chard: Bright Lights

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Flavor is similar spinach; full size leaves/stalks are usually cooked
- Slow-bolting and somewhat heat tolerant
- Seedlings are tolerant of light frosts
- Direct sow in midspring through midsummer
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 28 for baby leaf & 55 for full



Greens: Tatsoi

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Mustard green with a flavor similar to pac choi/bok choy
- Best in cool weather: plant in early spring or fall
- Direct sow as early as few weeks before last frost date
- Partial shade is preferred, but can adapt to Full sun / Annual
- Days to maturity: 25 for baby leaf & 43 for full



Greens: Wasabina

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Mustard green
- Direct sow early in the season to midsummer / cold tolerant
- Full sun / Annual
- Days to maturity: 21 for baby leaf & 45 for full size



Kohlrabi: White Vienna

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Heirloom
- Prefers mild to cool weather
- Direct sow when the soil can be worked
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 55

2024 HEPL Seed Library - Fruit & Vegetables



Leek: American Flag

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Heirloom
- Fall harvest variety
- Should be started indoors 8-10 weeks before transplanting outside
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 90-120



Melon: Cantaloupe: Charentais

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Heirloom
- Melons are 2-3 pounds and delicate
- Direct sow 1-2 weeks after last frost date when soil warms to 70°F
- Melons need a large space to grow and for fruit to develop
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 85



Melon: Watermelon: Moon & Stars

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Heirloom
- Fruit may weigh up to 40 pounds
- Start indoors 3-4 weeks before transplanting outdoors or direct sow
- Melons need a large space to grow and for fruit to develop
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 100



Okra: Perkins Long Pod

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Heirloom
- Pods will be 3-4 inches long
- Soak seeds prior to planting
- Start indoors 4-5 weeks before transplanting outdoors
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 55



Pea, Shelling: Alaska Early

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Heirloom
- Pods are 2-3 inches long / Peas can be eaten fresh or dried for later
- Direct sow when soil can be worked. Cool season crop: spring & fall
- Be sure to add support as the plant climbs!
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 57

2024 HEPL Seed Library - Fruit & Vegetables



Pea, Snap: Sugar Snap

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Heirloom
- Pods and peas are edible
- Direct sow when soil can be worked. Cool season crop: spring & fall
- Be sure to add support as the plant climbs!
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 58



Pea, Snow: Oregon Sugar Pod II

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Heirloom
- Direct sow when soil can be worked. Cool season crop: spring & fall
- Snow peas have edible pods
- 30 inches tall – be sure to add support as the plant climbs!
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 55



Pepper: Aconcagua

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Heirloom from Argentina
- Sweet pepper: 0 Scoville Heat Units
- Plant will be about 3 feet high and will need staking
- 10+ inch green > red fruits
- Start indoors 8-10 weeks before transplanting outdoors
- Full sun / Annual / 75 days to harvest



Pepper: Anaheim

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Heirloom
- Moderately hot chile pepper: 500-2500 Scoville Heat Units
- 5-8 inch fruits will ripen from purple to orange to red
- Start indoors 8-10 weeks before transplanting outdoors
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 77



Pepper: Buena Mulata

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Heirloom
- Hot pepper: 30,000-50,000 Scoville Heat Units
- 4-6 inch fruits will ripen from purple to orange to red
- Start indoors 8-10 weeks before transplanting outdoors
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 77

2024 HEPL Seed Library - Fruit & Vegetables



Pepper: California Wonder

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Heirloom
- Classic sweet bell pepper: 0-100 Scoville Heat Units
- 3.5 x 4 inch green > red fruits with thick walls and sweet, fresh taste
- Start indoors 8-10 weeks before transplanting outdoors
- Full sun / Annual / 75-80 days to harvest



Pepper: Chile de Arbol

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

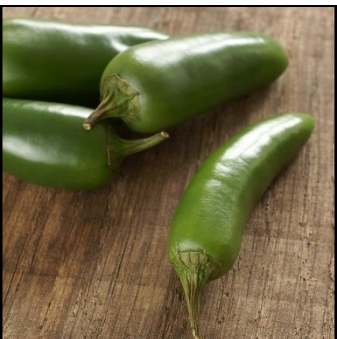
- Heirloom
- Hot: 15,000-30,000 Scoville Heat Units
- 2-3 inch fruits with a smoky flavor
- Start indoors 8-10 weeks before transplanting outdoors
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 60



Pepper: Corno di Toro Rosso

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Heirloom / sweet Italian frying pepper
- Mild: 0-100 Scoville Heat Units
- 8-inch long red fruits when mature
- Start indoors 8-10 weeks before transplanting outdoors
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 60-80



Pepper: Jalapeno Early

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Heirloom
- Hot pepper: 2,500-5,000 Scoville Heat Units
- 4-inch long fruits
- Start indoors 8-10 weeks before transplanting outdoors
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 65-70



Pepper: Shishito

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Heirloom / Japanese frying pepper
- Mild heat: 100-1,000 Scoville Heat Units
- 2-4 inch long fruits
- Start indoors 8-10 weeks before transplanting outdoors
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 60 days for green, 75 for red

2024 HEPL Seed Library - Fruit & Vegetables



Pumpkin: Jill-Be-Little

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Small, ornamental pumpkin with 3-4 inch fruits
- 15-20 fruits per plant
- Direct sow
- Pumpkins need a large space to grow and for fruit to develop
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 100



Pumpkin: Long Island Cheese

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Heirloom
- 6-10 pound fruits suitable for cooking or ornamental use
- Direct sow
- Pumpkins need a large space to grow and for fruit to develop
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 108



Pumpkin: New England Pie

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Heirloom
- 4-6 pound fruits suitable for cooking or ornamental use
- 3-4 fruits per plant
- Direct sow
- Pumpkins need a large space to grow and for fruit to develop
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 105



Radish: Cherry Belle

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Heirloom
- Mature radishes will be 1-2 inches in diameter
- Prefers cool weather: plant in early spring or fall
- Direct sow when soil can be worked: 4-6 weeks before last frost date
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 21



Radish: Daikon: Miyashige

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Intended for fall harvest / suitable for pickling and storage
- Mature radishes will be 16-18 inches long
- Direct sow in late July or August
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 50 days

2024 HEPL Seed Library - Fruit & Vegetables



Radish: French Breakfast

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Heirloom
- Mature radishes are about 3 inches long
- Prefers cool weather: plant in spring or fall
- Direct sow when soil can be worked: 4-6 weeks before last frost date
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 28



Rutabega: Laurentian

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Roots will be 5-6 inches when ready
- Direct sow / cool weather crop best in fall
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 95 days



Salsify: Mammoth Sandwich Island

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Heirloom with an oyster-like flavor
- Direct sow in mid-late spring
- Harvest in fall / flavor is best after several frosts
- Roots are 8-10 inches long
- Annual if you harvest the root, and a biennial if not harvested.
- Full sun / Days to maturity: 120



Squash: Black Futsu

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Japanese heirloom
- 2-4 pound fruits with thin edible skin
- Flavor described as sweet, fruity, and nutty
- Start indoors 3 weeks before transplanting outdoors or direct sow
- Long vines; leave adequate space for the plant to grow
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 105



Squash: Cushaw Striped

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Winter squash with a sweet, mild flavor
- 7-25 pound fruits
- Direct sow
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 105

2024 HEPL Seed Library - Fruit & Vegetables



Squash: Delicata JS

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Winter squash with a sweet taste and tender skin
- 7-9-inch fruits
- Direct sow
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 100



Squash: Red Kuri

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Hubbard-style, chestnut-flavored winter squash
- Fruits will be about 3-4 pounds each
- Direct sow
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 92



Squash: Spaghetti

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Sweet, nutty squash often used as a pasta alternative
- 3-5 pound fruits ripen from white > yellow
- Direct sow
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 88



Squash: Yellow Crookneck

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Heirloom
- 6-inch fruits
- Direct sow. Bushes will be 4-5 feet wide.
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 60



Tomato: Amana Orange

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Heirloom
- Large fruits (16+ ounces), with a sweet, fruity, low-acid flavor
- Beefsteak & slicing tomato
- Start indoors 5-6 weeks before transplanting outdoors
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 78

2024 HEPL Seed Library - Fruit & Vegetables



Tomato: Black Krim

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Heirloom
- 8-16 ounce, multicolored, oval fruits with a smoky flavor
- Beefsteak & slicing tomato
- Start indoors 5-6 weeks before transplanting outdoors
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 80



Tomato: Brandywine

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Heirloom
- Large fruits (16 ounces+), with a rich flavor
- Beefsteak & slicing tomato
- Start indoors 5-6 weeks before transplanting outdoors
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 78



Tomato: Cherokee Purple

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Heirloom
- 10-12 ounce, multicolored fruits often ranked among the best-tasting
- Beefsteak & slicing tomato
- Start indoors 5-6 weeks before transplanting outdoors
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 75



Tomato: Glacier

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Heirloom
- 1-2 ounce fruits (small)
- Cocktail & snacking tomato
- Start indoors 5-6 weeks before transplanting outdoors
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 55 (extra early)



Tomato: Japanese Black Trifele

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Heirloom
- 4-6 ounce pear-shaped green and burgundy fruits
- Slicing tomato
- Start indoors 5-6 weeks before transplanting outdoors
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 74

2024 HEPL Seed Library - Fruit & Vegetables



Tomato: Matt's Wild Cherry

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Heirloom
- 5 gram bright-red fruits
- Cherry tomato for salads and snacking
- Start indoors 5-6 weeks before transplanting outdoors
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 60



Tomato: Moskvich

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Heirloom
- 4-6 ounce red fruits can be used for slicing or cooking
- Start indoors 5-6 weeks before transplanting outdoors
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 60



Tomato: Nepal

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Heirloom
- 10-12 ounce fruits in late season
- Start indoors 5-6 weeks before transplanting outdoors
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 78



Tomato: San Marzano

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Heirloom
- 4-6 ounce red, elongated fruits
- Paste tomato: best for making sauce
- Start indoors 5-6 weeks before transplanting outdoors
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 78



Tomato: Striped German

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Heirloom
- 12+ ounce bicolor yellow and red fruits
- Beefsteak-type tomato
- Start indoors 5-6 weeks before transplanting outdoors
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 78

2024 HEPL Seed Library - Fruit & Vegetables



Tomato: Washington Cherry

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- 1 oz fruits
- Cherry tomato
- Determinate tomato plant
- Start indoors 5-6 weeks before transplanting outdoors
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 60



Zucchini: Costata Romanesco

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Heirloom
- Edible flowers as well as fruit
- Direct sow
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 52

2024 HEPL Seed Library - Herbs



Basil: Genovese

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Heirloom / Classic Italian basil with a spicy, herbal flavor
- Attracts beneficial insects and pollinators if allowed to flower
- Height: 24-30 inches / White flowers are edible
- Direct sow / Good for container gardening
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 68



Basil: Holy (Tulsi)

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Mildly spicy-sweet aroma
- Attracts beneficial insects
- Height: 12-18 inches / Purple flowers are edible
- Direct sow / Good for container gardening
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 60



Basil: Sweet Thai

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- AKA horapha, hung que / widely used in Southeast Asia
- Spicy flavor with cinnamon, clove, and anise
- Height: 16-20 inches
- Direct sow / Good for container gardening
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 64



Borage

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Flowers often used as garnishes, candied, or frozen in ice cube trays
- Leaves have a cucumber flavor and used in salads and teas
- Attracts bees, butterflies, beneficial insects, and pollinators
- Height: 24 inches
- Direct sow / Does well in containers
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 50



Catnip

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Attracts bees and other beneficial insects. Also cats.
- Height: 24-48 inches
- Start indoors 6-8 weeks before transplanting outdoors or direct sow
- Full sun / Perennial / Days to maturity: 75-85

2024 HEPL Seed Library - Herbs



Chamomile: German

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Often used in teas and edible flowers used as a garnish
- Height: 15-24 inches / White and yellow daisylike flowers
- Direct sow
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 60-65



Chervil: Vertissimo

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Widely used in French cuisine
- Described as a cross between tarragon and parsley with anise notes
- Height: 10-16 inches
- Direct sow / Good for containers
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 60



Chives

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Common herb with an onion flavor, same family (allium) as onions, garlic, and leeks
- Height: 12 inches; can be divided as it grows
- Direct sow / Good for containers
- Full sun or part shade / Perennial/ Days to maturity: 75



Cilantro: Cruiser

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- AKA coriander (seeds) / cilantro refers to the leaves
- Used in many cuisines around the world
- Can be planted successively throughout the season
- Direct sow / Good for container gardening
- Height: 12-18 inches
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 50 for leaves & 120-150 for seeds



Dill: Dukat

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Attracts butterflies and other beneficial insects
- Height: 18-24 inches
- Direct sow / Can be planted successively throughout the season
- Good for container gardening
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 60

2024 HEPL Seed Library - Herbs



Hyssop

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Ornamental & aromatic herb used in teas and for attracting bees
- Height: 16-24 inches
- Direct sow
- Full sun / Biennial / Days to maturity: 85-90



Lavender: Munstead

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- English lavender with flowers ranging from pale blue to purple
- Usually blooms in second year; do not expect blooms the first year
- Height: 12-18 inches
- Sow indoors 8-10 weeks before transplanting outdoors
- Full sun / Tender perennial / Days to maturity: 100-110



Oregano, Greek

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Strong aroma and flavor perfect for Mediterranean dishes
- Attracts beneficial insects
- Height: 8-24 inches / grows well in containers
- Sow indoors 8-10 weeks before transplanting outdoors
- Full sun / Perennial / Days to maturity: 80-90



Parsley, Curled: Wega

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Good for container gardening
- Height: 12-18 inches
- Direct sow / Good for container gardening
- Blooms and seeds in the second year / Leaves ready any time
- Full sun / Biennial / Days to maturity: 75



Parsley, Italian: Giant of Italy

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Flat-leaf parsley
- Height: 18-20 inches
- Direct sow / Good for container gardening
- Blooms and seeds in the second year / Leaves ready any time
- Full sun / Biennial / Days to maturity: 75

2024 HEPL Seed Library - Herbs



Savory, Summer

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Peppery herb with hints of mint and pine
- Height: 5-7 inches
- Direct sow after last frost
- Full sun / Annual / Days to maturity: 60-70

2024 HEPL Seed Library - Flowers/Ornamentals



Ageratum: Red Flint

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Heirloom AKA Floss flower, *Ageratum houstonianum*
- Attracts butterflies, moths, & pollinators / Deer & rabbit resistant
- Blooms 60-90 days after sowing
- Height: 24 inches
- Direct sow
- Full sun or partial shade / Annual



Anise Hyssop

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- AKA *Agastache foeniculum*
- Attracts butterflies, pollinators, & birds / Deer resistant
- Blooms June-September, likely during the first year
- Height: 36 inches
- Direct sow after cold moist stratification / needs light to germinate
- Full sun or partial shade / Perennial



Aster, China: Valkyrie Mix

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- AKA *Callistephus chinensis*
- Attracts beneficial insects / Edible flowers
- Blooms 65-75 days after sowing
- Height: 30-38 inches
- Direct sow / Prefers cooler temperatures
- Full sun / Annual



Bachelor's Button: Florist Blue Boy

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Heirloom/naturalized wildflower AKA cornflowers; *Centaurea cyanus*
- Attracts beneficial insects / Edible flowers
- Blooms 65-75 days after sowing
- Height: 30-38 inches
- Direct sow / Prefers cooler temperatures
- Full sun / Annual



Bee Balm

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Native plant AKA wild bergamot; *Monarda fistulosa*
- Attracts butterflies, bees, hummingbirds, and beneficial insects
- Blooms July-September
- Height: 48 inches
- Full sun or partial shade / Perennial

2024 HEPL Seed Library - Flowers/Ornamentals



Black-Eyed Susan

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Native plant AKA Rudbeckia; Rudbeckia hirta
- Blooms June-September, likely in the first year if started indoors
- Height: 18-48 inches
- Direct sow or start indoors
- Full sun/tolerant of partial shade / Biennial



Blanket Flower

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Native plant AKA Common Gaillardia; Gaillardia aristata
- Attracts butterflies, native bees, and beneficial insects
- Flowers may not bloom first year / Blooms July-September
- Start indoors up to 8 weeks before transplanting outdoors
- Height: 24-36 inches
- Full sun / Perennial



Blazing Star, Marsh

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Native plant; AKA gayfeather or liatris spicata
- Attracts butterflies, beneficial insects, and birds / Deer resistant
- Blooms July, August, and September, not in the first year
- Direct sow after cold moist stratification
- Grows well in marshy and wooded areas / Height: up to 60 inches
- Full sun, but can adapt to partial shade / Perennial



Blue False Indigo

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Native plant AKA wild blue indigo or Baptisia australis
- Attracts bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds
- Blooms May-July, likely not the first year
- Blooms will be showier as plant becomes established
- Direct sow / Height: 48 inches
- Full sun or partial shade / Perennial



Calendula: Pacific Beauty

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Heirloom AKA Calendula officinalis / Edible flowers
- Attracts butterflies, bees, and beneficial insects.
- Blooms throughout season 60 days after sowing
- Height: 12-24 inches
- Direct sow / Good for container gardening
- Full sun to partial shade / Annual

2024 HEPL Seed Library - Flowers/Ornamentals



Candytuft: Dwarf Fairy Mix

Level 1: Easy to Grow

- Heirloom AKA Iberis umbellata
- Attracts butterflies & pollinators / Deer & rabbit resistant
- Blooms 60-90 days after sowing
- Height: 8-10 inches
- Direct sow after cold, moist stratification
- Full sun / Annual



Cardinal Flower

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Native plant AKA Lobelia cardinalis
- Attracts butterflies and hummingbirds
- Blooms July-September, likely not the first year
- Height: up to 48 inches
- Direct sow after cold, moist stratification
- Full sun to partial shade / Perennial



Carnation: Chabaud La France

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Heirloom AKA Dianthus caryophyllus
- Blooms 130-140 days after sowing
- Height: 24-30 inches
- Start indoors 6-8 weeks before transplanting outdoors
- Full sun / Annual in Indiana



Celosia: Mixed Pampas Plume

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Native columbine variety
- Attracts butterflies, hummingbirds, and beneficial insects
- Blooms 60-90 days after sowing
- Height: 30 inches
- Start indoors 6-8 weeks before transplanting outdoors
- Full sun / Annual



Columbine (Aquilegia canadensis)

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Native columbine variety
- Attracts butterflies, hummingbirds, and beneficial insects
- Blooms April-June, likely not the first year / Deer-resistant
- Height: up to 24 inches
- Direct sow after cold, moist stratification
- Full sun, partial shade, or shade / Perennial

2024 HEPL Seed Library - Flowers/Ornamentals



Coreopsis, Lance-leaf

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Native plant AKA Lanceleaf tickseed & Coreopsis lanceolata
- Attracts beneficial insects, butterflies, and birds
- Blooms 60-90 days after sowing
- Height: about 18 inches
- Direct sow / Does well in most soil conditions
- Full sun to partial shade / Perennial



Coreopsis, Plains

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Native plant AKA golden tickseed, calliopsis, & Coreopsis tinctoria
- Attracts beneficial insects, butterflies, and birds
- Blooms 60-90 days after sowing
- Height: 12-36 inches
- Direct sow / Does well in most soil conditions
- Full sun to partial shade / Annual



Corn Poppy

Level 1: Easy to Grow

- Naturalized wildflower in Indiana
- AKA Flanders poppy, red poppy, Papaver rhoeas
- Prefers cooler temperatures
- Blooms 55-65 days after sowing / Height: 12-24 inches
- Direct sow as soon as soil can be worked
- Full sun / Annual in Indiana



Cosmos: Sensation Mix

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Heirloom AKA Cosmos bipinnatus
- Attracts beneficial insects
- Blooms 75-90 days after sowing / Deadhead for continued blooms
- Height: 48-54 inches
- Direct sow
- Full sun / Annual



Foxglove Beardtongue

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Native plant AKA Penstemon digitalis. Not poisonous.
- Attracts beneficial insects, butterflies, and hummingbirds
- Blooms June-July, likely not the first year
- Height: 48 inches
- Direct sow after cold moist stratification
- Full sun to partial shade / Perennial

2024 HEPL Seed Library - Flowers/Ornamentals



Grass: Little Bluestem

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Native grass used as an ornamental, AKA *Schizachyrium scoparium*
- Attracts birds and butterflies; deer and rabbit resistant
- Bluish-green stems turn coppery-pink in fall / Winter interest
- Height: 24-48 inches, may get taller
- Direct sow / Tolerant of many soils, but no wetland areas
- Full sun to partial shade/ Perennial that reseeds itself



Great Blue Lobelia

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Native plant AKA *Lobelia siphilitica*
- Attracts beneficial insects, butterflies, & hummingbirds
- Blooms July-October, likely the first year
- Height: 36 inches
- Direct sow after cold moist stratification / Prefers moist soil
- Full sun or partial shade / Perennial (short-lived)



Hollyhock: Single Mix

Level 1: More effort & equipment required!

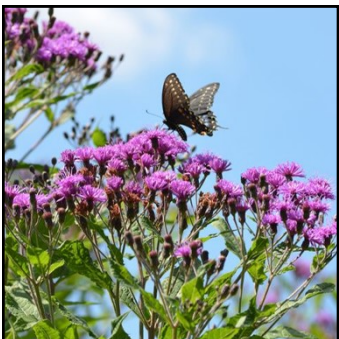
- Heirloom AKA *Alcea rosea*
- Blooms summer-fall, possibly in the first year
- Height: up to 60 inches / May need support
- Direct sow up to 1 week before last frost / Deer & rabbit resistant
- Full sun / Biennial or short-lived perennial



Illinois Bundle Flower

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Native plant AKA *Desmanthus illinoensis*
- Attracts beneficial insects & provides food for native birds and mammals
- Blooms July-August
- Direct sow, but seeds require scarification
- Full sun / Perennial



Ironweed, Common

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Native plant AKA *Vernonia fasciculata*
- Attracts butterflies, native bees, & pollinators
- Blooms July-September, likely in the second year
- Height: up to 6 feet
- Direct sow after cold moist stratification / Prefers moist soil
- Full & partial sun / Annual

2024 HEPL Seed Library - Flowers/Ornamentals



Joe Pye Weed

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Native plant AKA *Eutrochium maculatum*
- Attracts butterflies, bees, and beneficial insects / Deer resistant
- Blooms July-September, likely not first year
- Height: 60 inches
- Direct sow after cold moist stratification / Prefers moist soil
- Full sun / Perennial



Love-Lies-Bleeding

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Heirloom AKA Tassel Flower, Amaranth, *Amaranthus caudatus*
- Blooms 65-75 days after sowing
- Height: 36-60 inches / May need support
- Direct sow 4-6 weeks before last frost
- Full Sun / Annual



Marigold: Lemon Star

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- AKA *Tagetes tenuifolia*
- Attracts beneficial insects / Good in containers or as a cut flower
- Blooms 60 days after sowing
- Height: 12-18 inches
- Direct sow
- Full sun / Annual



Marigold: Queen Sophia

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- AKA French Marigold; *Tagetes patula*
- Grows well in containers
- Blooms 60 days after sowing
- Height: 10-12 inches
- Full sun / Annual



Mexican Sunflower

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- AKA *Tithonia rotundifolia*
- Attracts butterflies, bees, and beneficial insects
- Blooms 85-90 days after sowing
- Height: 60-72 inches
- Direct sow / Needs dry soil
- Full sun / Annual

2024 HEPL Seed Library - Flowers/Ornamentals



Milkweed, Butterfly (*Asclepias tuberosa*)

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Native plant AKA Pleurisy Root
- Attracts butterflies, beneficial insects, and hummingbirds
- Blooms June-August, maybe not first year
- Height: up to 24 inches
- Direct sow / Prefers well-drained sandy soil and tolerates drought
- Full sun / Perennial



Milkweed, Common (*Asclepias syriaca*)

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Native plant AKA silkweed
- Attracts butterflies, bees, and beneficial insects / Deer resistant
- Blooms June-September / may not bloom the first year
- Height: 36 inches
- Direct sow in early spring or fall / Requires cold moist stratification
- Full sun or partial shade / Perennial



Milkweed, Rose (*Asclepias incarnata*)

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Native plant AKA Swamp Milkweed, Red Milkweed, Marsh Milkweed
- Attracts butterflies, bees, and beneficial insects / Deer resistant
- Blooms June-August / Height: 48 inches
- Prefers moist soils
- Direct sow in fall or in spring after cold moist stratification
- Full sun or partial shade / Perennial



Mountain Mint

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Native plant AKA *Pycnanthemum virginianum*
- Attracts bees, butterflies, and other beneficial insects
- Blooms June-September, may not bloom the first year
- Height: 36 inches / Leaves are edible
- Direct sow / Does well in moist conditions
- Full sun or partial shade / Perennial



Nasturtium: Empress of India

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Heirloom AKA *Tropaeolum minus*
- Attracts beneficial insects / Flowers and leaves are edible
- Blooms 55-65 days after sowing
- Height: 16-20 inches / Good for containers
- Direct sow with seed preparation / Does well in most soil conditions
- Full sun to partial shade / Annual

2024 HEPL Seed Library - Flowers/Ornamentals



Nigella

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Heirloom AKA Love-in-a-Mist and Nigella damascena
- Attracts beneficial insects
- Blooms 65-70 days after sowing
- Direct sow when soil warms to 60°F
- Height: 12-24 inches
- Full sun / Annual



Phlox: Art Shades

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- AKA Phlox drummondii
- Blooms 50-65 days after sowing
- Grows well in containers and great for bouquets
- Direct sow in early spring when soil can be worked
- Height: 20-26 inches
- Full sun / Annual



Purple Coneflower

Level 1: More effort & equipment required!

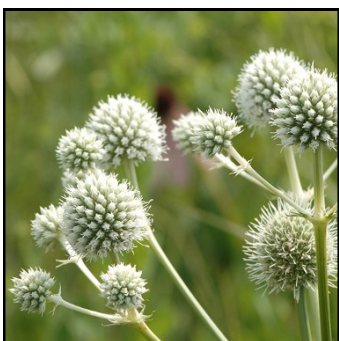
- Native plant AKA Echinacea purpurea
- Attracts beneficial insects
- Blooms midsummer-fall, not the first year
- Direct Sow
- Height: 48 inches
- Full sun or partial shade / Perennial



Purple Prairie Clover

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Native plant AKA Dalea purpurea
- Attracts bees, butterflies, pollinators, and other beneficial insects
- Blooms July and August, perhaps the first year
- Height: 24 inches
- Full sun to partial shade / Perennial



Rattlesnake Master

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Native plant AKA Eryngium yuccifolium
- Attracts beneficial insects / Deer and rabbit resistant
- Blooms July-September, likely not the first year
- Height: 48 inches
- Full sun / Perennial

2024 HEPL Seed Library - Flowers/Ornamentals



Rose Mallow

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Native, hardy hibiscus AKA *Hibiscus laevis*
- Attracts beneficial insects, butterflies, and birds / Deer-resistant
- Blooms July-August in the second or third year
- Height: 60 inches / prefers wet or medium-wet soil
- Direct sow after cold, moist stratification
- Full sun or partial shade / Perennial



Showy Tick Trefoil

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Native plant AKA *Desmodium canadense*
- Attracts beneficial insects, bees, butterflies, and birds
- Blooms July-August, perhaps not the first year
- Height: 60 inches
- Direct sow
- Full sun or partial shade / Perennial



Snapdragon: Lion's Mouth Mix

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Heirloom AKA *Antirrhinum majus*
- Excellent cut flower
- Blooms 110 days after sowing
- Height: 12-24 inches / Deer & rabbit resistant
- Start indoors 8-10 weeks before transplanting outdoors
- Full sun to partial shade / Annual



Snapdragon: Magic Carpet Mix

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Heirloom AKA *Antirrhinum majus*
- Excellent cut flower
- Blooms 75-80 days after sowing
- Height: up to 8 inches / dwarf variety / Deer & rabbit resistant
- Start indoors 10-12 weeks before transplanting outdoors
- Full sun / Annual



Spiderwort, Ohio

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- Native plant AKA *Tradescantia ohiensis*
- Attracts butterflies & beneficial insects, especially native bees
- Blooms May-July, likely not the first year / Deer resistant
- Height: 3 feet
- Direct sow after cold, moist stratification
- Full to partial sun / Perennial

2024 HEPL Seed Library - Flowers/Ornamentals



Strawflower: Sultane Mix

Level 2: More effort & equipment required!

- AKA *Bracteantha bracteata*
- Blooms 75-85 days after sowing
- Excellent cut flower
- Height: 36-40 inches
- Start indoors 4-6 weeks before transplanting outdoors
- Full sun / Annual



Sunflower: Lemon Queen

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- AKA *Helianthus annuus*
- Blooms are 5-7 inches wide / Height: up to 70 inches
- Blooms 80-100 days after sowing
- Attracts butterflies, hummingbirds, and pollinators
- Direct sow
- Full sun / Annual



Sunflower: Ring of Fire

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- AKA *Helianthus annuus*
- Blooms are 5-6 inches wide / Height: 40-50 inches
- Blooms 75-80 days after sowing
- Attracts butterflies, hummingbirds, and pollinators
- Direct sow
- Full sun / Annual



Sunflower: Sunspot

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- AKA *Helianthus annuus* / dwarf variety
- Blooms are up to 10 inches wide / Height: 18-24 inches
- Blooms 85-95 days after sowing
- Attracts butterflies, hummingbirds, and pollinators
- Direct sow
- Full sun / Annual



Sunflower: Teddy Bear

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- AKA *Helianthus annuus* / compact variety
- Blooms are 3-5 inches wide
- Height: 8-12 inches in containers / 35-42 inches in ground
- Blooms 80-100 days after sowing
- Attracts butterflies, hummingbirds, and pollinators
- Direct sow
- Full sun / Annual

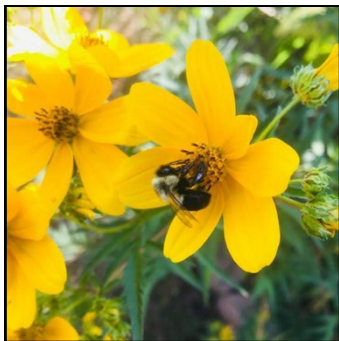
2024 HEPL Seed Library - Flowers/Ornamentals



Sunflower: Velvet Queen

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- AKA *Helianthus annuus*
- Blooms are 5-6 inches wide / Height: 60 inches
- Blooms about 100 days after sowing
- Attracts butterflies, hummingbirds, and pollinators
- Direct sow
- Full sun / Annual



Swamp Marigold

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- AKA *Bidens aristosa*
- Despite its name, it is related to sunflowers, not marigolds
- Blooms 85-95 days after sowing
- Height: 48 inches / Prefers wet/medium-wet soil
- Direct sow after cold, moist stratification
- Full sun or partial shade / Annual



Zinnia: Giant Dahlia-flowered Mix

Level 1: Easy to Grow!

- Heirloom AKA *Zinnia elegans*
- Blooms 90-100 days after sowing
- Height: 30-40 inches
- Direct sow
- Full sun / Annual