

Annuals I

LATIN NAME

COMMON NAME

Ageratum houstonianum 'Blue Horizon'

floss flower

Antirrhinum majus

snapdragon

Catharanthus roseus

vinca

Linaria maroccana

toadflax

Melampodium divaricatum

melampodium

Nicotiana glauca

flowering tobacco

Portulaca grandiflora

moss rose

Salvia farinacea 'Victoria Blue'

mealycup sage

Tagetes patula

French marigold

Torenia fournieri

wishbone flower



fluffy flowers in flattened to slightly rounded clusters

rounded, cordate-at-the-base



Ageratum

aj-e-rA'-tum

Ageratum houstonianum 'Blue Horizon'

Common name: floss flower

Height: 1 to 2.5 feet

Spread: 0.5 to 1.5 feet

Bloom Time: June to frost

Bloom Color: lavender to purplish-blue

Sun: full sun to part shade

Water: medium

Maintenance: medium

Problems: aphids and whiteflies, powdery mildew

1. Flowering suffers in too much shade
2. Leaves are rounded, cordate-at-the-base, hairy, slightly quilted and soft green
3. Fluffy flowers (basically asters with ray flowers absent) in flattened to slightly rounded clusters

Ageratum comes from Greek words meaning "non-aging" in reference to the long life of the flowers. Specific epithet honors William Houston (1695-1733) who collected species plants in Mexico in the early 1700s.



**dragon-shaped,
tubular,
two-lipped,
closed flowers**

**lance shaped,
glossy, dark green
leaves**



Antirrhinum



an-ti-rI'-num

Antirrhinum majus

Common name: snapdragon

Height: 1 to 3 feet

Spread: 0.5 to 1 feet

Bloom Time: April to frost

Bloom Color: white, yellow, pink, red, orange, peach, purple plus bicolor

Sun: full sun

Water: medium

Maintenance: medium

Problems: susceptible to fungal diseases, especially rust.

1. Deadhead spent flowers to prolong bloom
2. Leaves lance shaped, glossy, dark green
3. Dragon-shaped, tubular, two-lipped, closed flowers that appear in terminal racemes

Genus name comes from the Greek words *anti* meaning like and *rhis* meaning a nose or snout in allusion to the appearance of the flower which looks like a dragon's snout.



tubular flowers have five flattened petal-like lobes

oblong to ovate, glossy green leaves



Catharanthus



ka-tha-ran'-thus

Catharanthus roseus

Common name: **vinca**

Height: 0.5 to 1.5 feet

Spread: 0.5 to 1.5 feet

Bloom Time: June to frost

Bloom Color: rosy pink to red with mauve throats

Sun: full sun to part shade

Water: medium

Maintenance: low

Problems: susceptible to stem rot, leaf spot, and aster yellows

1. Oblong to ovate, glossy green leaves
2. Tubular flowers have five flattened petal-like lobes
3. Considered an annual in St. Louis but a tender perennial in USDA Zones 10-11

Specific epithet means rose colored.



miniature snapdragon-like flowers



grass-like leaves

Linaria



li-nAr'-E-a

Linaria maroccana

Common name: toadflax

Height: 0.75 to 1.5 feet

Spread: 0.5 to 0.75 feet

Bloom Time: April to June

Bloom Color: purple, lavender, yellow, orange, pink, red and white

Sun: full sun to part shade

Water: medium

Maintenance: medium

Problems: watch for aphids

1. Leaves narrow and grass-like
2. Long-spurred, two-lipped, miniature snapdragon-like flowers
3. Like pansies plants begin to fade with the onset of hot and humid summer weather

Genus name comes from the medieval name from the Greek word *linon* and the Latin word *linum* in allusion to the flax like leaves of *L. vulgaris*. Specific epithet means from Morocco.

light green, oblong, pointed



daisy-like flowers

Melampodium



mel-am-pO'-dE-um

Melampodium divaricatum

Common name: **Melampodium**

Height: 1 to 2 feet

Spread: 0.75 to 1 feet

Bloom Time: May to frost

Bloom Color: yellow

Sun: full sun

Water: medium

Maintenance: low

Problems: susceptible to powdery mildew

1. Light green, oblong, pointed stem leaves
2. Daisy-like flowers with yellow rays and darker yellow centers
3. As the flowers fade, the stems branch to produce additional bloom

Genus name comes from the Greek *melam* meaning black and *pous* meaning foot for its black stalks.
Specific epithet means spreading or growing in a straggling manner.



**trumpet-
shaped,
white
flowers that
resemble
shooting
stars**



Nicotiana



ni-kO-shE-an'-a

Plant of Merit: *Nicotiana glauca*

Common name: **flowering tobacco**

Height: 3 to 5 feet

Spread: 1 to 2 feet

Bloom Time: June to frost

Bloom Color: white

Sun: full sun to part shade

Water: medium

Maintenance: low

Problems: susceptible to tobacco mosaic virus

1. Leaves are coarse, oblong to spatulate basal leaves
2. Pendant clusters of trumpet-shaped, white flowers resemble shooting stars
3. Do not plant near vegetable gardens with other nightshade family members because of susceptibility to and possible transmission of common viruses

Genus name honors Jean Nicot, 16th century French consul.



cylindrical, fleshy, medium green leaves



ruffled, rose-like flowers

Portulaca

Portulaca grandiflora

Common name: moss rose

pOr-chU-lak'-a

Height: 0.25 to 0.75 feet

Spread: 0.5 to 1 feet

Bloom Time: June to frost

Bloom Color: red, rose, orange, yellow or white

Sun: full sun

Water: dry to medium

Maintenance: low

Problems: aphids & crown rot

1. Leaves are cylindrical, fleshy, medium green that appear in clusters
2. Ruffled, rose-like flowers open in direct sun & do not open on cloudy or rainy days
3. Prostrate to slightly ascending stems that form a moss-like foliage



leaves are long & toothed



two-lipped, violet-blue flowers in axillary
& terminal racemes

Salvia



sal'-vE-a

POM: *Salvia farinacea* 'Victoria Blue'

Common name: mealycup sage

Height: 1 to 2 feet

Spread: .75 to 1.50 feet

Bloom Time: May to frost

Bloom Color: deep blue

Sun: full sun to part shade

Water: medium

Maintenance: low

Problems: susceptible to downy and powdery mildew

1. Grown as annual in St. Louis (self-seeds like crazy at my house)
2. Leaves are long & toothed, soft & light green tending to silver, especially the undersides
3. Two-lipped, violet-blue flowers in axillary and terminal racemes

Common name and specific epithet are in reference to the white powdery felting found on the upper stems and calyx ("mealy" means covered with powdery meal) "cup" is in reference to the calyx shape and *farinacea* comes from the Latin word for flour or meal)



**single, semi-double, double or
crested flowers**



pinnate leaves with toothed, lance-shaped leaflets

Tagetes



ta-jE'-tEz

Tagetes patula

Common name: French marigold

Height: 0.5 to 1 feet

Spread: 0.5 to 0.75 feet

Bloom Time: June to frost

Bloom Color: yellow, orange, red , and bicolor

Sun: full sun

Water: medium

Maintenance: low

Problems: susceptible to root rot & powdery mildew, Botrytis, leaf spot and rots

1. Pinch young plants to promote bushy growth & promptly deadhead spent flowers
2. Aromatic, pinnate leaves with toothed, lance-shaped leaflets
3. Feature single, semi-double, double or crested flowers



toothed, oval, light green



**pair of stamens unites at the anthers
forming a wishbone shape**

Torenia



tO-rE'-nE-a

Torenia fournieri

Common name: wishbone flower

Height: 0.5 to 1 feet

Spread: 0.5 to 0.75 feet

Bloom Time: June to frost

Bloom Color: pale violet, and dark purple bicolor

Sun: part shade to full shade

Water: medium

Maintenance: medium

Problems: susceptible to root rot and powdery mildew

1. Young plants may be pinched to promote compact, bushier growth
2. Leaves are toothed, oval, light green
3. A pair of stamens unites at the anthers forming a wishbone shape

Genus honors Olof Toren, an 18th century Sweedish chaplain.