

Drought Tolerant Plants

By Joe Covington

Many people nowadays want plants that not only add beauty to their landscapes, but also thrive in full sun with low water requirements!

Here are some of our Texas tough plants that fit the bill:

Annual & Perennial Flowers

Blackfoot Daisy
Bougainvillea
Coreopsis
Esperanza
Gaura (Whirling Butterflies)
Hardy Hibiscus
Lantana
Mexican Heather
Mexican Petunia (Ruellia)
Moss Rose & Purslane
Rosemary
Russian Sage
Salvia Greggii
Skullcap
Sedums & Succulents
Turk's Cap
Verbena
Vinca (Periwinkle)

Shrubs & Trees

Abelia
Althea (Rose of Sharon)
Cedar Elm
Chinese Pistache
Crape Myrtle
Desert Willow
Eastern Red Cedar
Holly
Nandina
Oaks (many varieties)
Oleander
Ornamental Grasses
Palms
Roses
Texas Mountain Laurel
Texas Sage
Vitex (Chaste Tree)
Yucca, Agave & Cactus

As you can see, we have many suggestions for plants that are well adapted to sunny and dry conditions, but equally important is how you plant them. These simple steps will help to ensure that your "drought tolerant" plants flourish and their roots dry out between waterings as they do in their native settings:

- Before planting, amend the clay soil with expanded shale and compost, or simply mix in Covington's Soil Builder.
- Place plants in an area with good drainage such as a raised mounded area or berm, or high in a sloping landscape bed.

The trick is to get new plants well rooted so they can be drought tolerant, then you can water less and enjoy reduced water bills!

Joe Covington is the owner of Covington's Nursery & Landscape Co. at 5518 President George Bush Hwy @ SH66 in Rowlett.

Texas Tough Plants



Great Selection
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