

# **SHADE PLANTS**

ACTEA (also known as CIMICIFUGA)

Common Names: Baneberry, Bugbane, Snakeroot, Cohosh

Tall - some up to 125 cm. Foliage - green, purple, almost black

Flowers - white, whitish pink – small, fluffy, rise like roman candles in late summer

Slow grower but well worth it.

Grown primarily for its foliage



*Actaea simplex* 'Atropurpurea'



*Actaea simplex* 'Hillside Black Beauty'



*Actaea simplex* 'Pink Spike'

## ANEMONE

Common Names: Japanese Anemone, Windflower

Tall - 90 to 120 cm.

Flowers - beautiful - white, shades of pink - in late summer and autumn

Some have double flowers

Excellent garden plant



*Anemone hupehensis* 'Pamina'



*Anemone x hybrida* 'Honorine Jobert'

## ANEMONE SYLVESTRIS

Common Name: Snowdrop Anemone

Smaller than the Japanese Anemone - 30 to 45 cm.

Small white flowers in late spring

Makes an excellent border plant



*Anemone sylvestris*

## ASARUM SPLENDENS

Common Name: Chinese Wild Ginger

Height: 15 cm.

Large, dark purple flowers in Spring

Likes moist soil



*Asarium maximum* 'Shell Shocked'



*Asarum splendens*

## ARUNCUS

Common name: Goat's Beard

The most common Aruncus - *A. Sylester* grows 1 to 1.2 m.  
*A. aethusifolius* (dwarf Goat's Beard) grows to 30 cm.

Foliage - very attractive and fernlike

Flowers - creamy white in summer

Very hardy and problem free



*Aruncus aethusifolius*



*Aruncus dioicus* 'Kneiffii'

# ASTILBE

Common Name: Astilbe, False Spirea

A great many species and cultivars that vary in height and spread

Foliage deeply cut fern-like leaves

Flowers - shades of red, pink, salmon, magenta, cream and white.  
Feathery-like and long lasting

An easy to grow, popular shade plant



*Astilbe arendsii* 'Rock and Roll'



*Astilbe arendsii* 'Sister Therese'



*Astilbe chinensis* 'Pumila'

## BRUNNERA

Common Name: Siberian Bugloss

Height: 25 - 30 cm. Flowers - blue - in early spring

Foliage - large heart shaped leaves with interesting white, silver and gold patterns



Brunnera 'Jack Frost'



Brunnera macrophylla 'Variegata'



## CAREX SIDEROSTHICHA

Common Name: Creeping Broadleaf Sedge

Feature: Stripped yellow/green leaves are ribbon-like and light up dark shady areas

Excellent ground cover or border

Late to come out in Spring



Carex siderosticha 'Banana Boat'



Carex siderosticha 'Snow Cap'

## DICENTRA

Common Name: Bleeding Heart

Height - varies with species--foliage - attractive, deeply cut fern-like

Flowers - red, pink and white - spring bloomers

The most common Dicentra (*D.spectabilis*) is 90 cm. with green foliage

The dwarf varieties are 30 cm. with blue-green foliage

An excellent old fashioned favourite due to it's beautiful heart-shaped flowers



*Dicentra spectabilis* 'Valentine'



*Dicentra spectabilis* 'Alba'



*Dicentra formosa* 'Luxuriant'

## EPIEDIUM

Common Name: Barrenwort

Height - generally about 25 cm. Although some species range from 15 to 35 cm.

Flowers - a wide range of shapes and colours (yellow, pink, red, violet and white) that bloom in the spring.

Foliage - striking compound leaves, some with lovely bronze fall colours.



*Epimedium perralchicum*  
'Frohneiten'



*Epimedium rubrum*



*Epimedium rubrum* foliage  
in Fall

## FERNS

Many species and different cultivars



*Athyrium filix-femina* 'Frizelliae'



*Athyrium niponicum* 'Ghost'



*Athyrium niponicum* 'Ursula's Red'

## GALIUM

Common Name: Sweet Woodruff

Height - 15 cm. Foliage - whorled, cut leaf, green

Flowers - white stars that bloom in late spring

Often has an aromatic scent carried by a light breeze

One of the best spreading shade ground covers.



Galium

## HAKONECHLOA

Common Name: Japanese Forest Grass

Height - 35 to 45 cm.

Foliage long slender leaves that cascade and create a waterfall effect. The foliage is chartreuse and seems to “glow” in shady locations, especially at dusk. The ‘Ben Kaze’ cultivar has red streaks in the leaves.

The best ornamental shade grass - makes a great specimen.



Hakonechloa macroa 'All Gold'



Hakonechloa macroa 'Aureola'



Hakonechloa macroa 'Beni Kaze'

# HELLEBORUS

Common Name: Lenten Rose, Helebore

Height - 30-50 cm. Foliage - dark green, often evergreen

Flowers - "Stunningly beautiful" a wide range of colours and shades

Bloom time - late winter to mid spring, long lasting blooms

One of the most popular shade plants.



*Helleborus orientalis* 'Double Ellen Purple'



*Helleborus* 'Ivory Prince'



*Helleborus orientalis* 'Spotted Hybrids'

## KIRENGESHOMA

Common Name: Yellow Wax Bells

Height - 60 - 90 cm.

Foliage - Velvety green with toothed edges

Flowers - pale yellow bell flowers in late summer and fall.



*Kirengeshoma koreana*



# LAMIUM

Common Name: Dead Nettle

Height - 20 cm. Foliage - interesting silver patterns on green

Flowers - white, silver, red - blooms in summer for about 4 weeks

An excellent ground cover.



Lamium maculatum 'Purple Dragon'



Lamium maculatum 'Golden Anniversary'



Lamium maculatum 'White Nancy'



Lamiastrum galeobdolon 'Herman's Pride'

## MUKDEMIA

Common Name: Mukdemia or Mukdenia

Height - 15 cm. Foliage - large green serrated leaves that have a leathery feel and texture

Flowers - creamy white, bloom in mid to late spring

A no-hassle, easy to grow plant that looks good as a specimen, in groups, or in containers.



*Mukdenia rossii* 'Karasuba'



*Mukdenia rossii*

## POLYGONATUM MULTIFLORUM

Common Name: Solomon's Seal

Height - 1.2m. The cultivar - 'Variegate' is native to Great Britain

Flowers: white bell-like - in late spring.



*Polygonatum multiflorum*



*Polygonatum oriental variegatum*

# PRIMULA

Common Name: Primrose

Height - 15 - 20 cm. Foliage - rosettes of tongue shaped leaves

Flowers - this is the feature of Primula!  
These beautiful flowers are available in almost any colour

Bloom time is early spring, and often lasts 3 to 4 weeks. Great for rock gardens.



Primula 'Pacific Giants Mix'



Primula elatior 'Victorian Lace'



Primula denticulata 'Rubin'

## PULMONARIA

Common Name: Lungwort

Height - 20 - 40 cm. Foliage - long leaves ranging from solid green to variegation to heavily patterned in silver or white

Flowers - blue, pink and white - in lovely rosettes

Blooms - early to mid-spring. Grows well in moist areas.



*Pulmonaria saccharata* 'Mrs. Moon'



*Pulmonaria longifolia* 'Roy Davidson'

## TIARELLA

Common Name: Foamflower

Height - 15 - 30 cm. Foliage - leaf shapes vary in shape and colour and are heavily marked with deep purple

Flowers - spikes of pink and white - bloom in late spring, often for 4-6 weeks

Foliage is evergreen and turns reddish in the fall.



Tiarella 'Happy Trails'



Tiarella 'Spring Symphony'

## TRICYRTIS

Common Name: Toad Lily

Height - 40 to 100 cm. depending on cultivar.

Foliage - lily like - sometimes mottled

Flowers - 3 petal and 3 sepals, beautiful spotting and attractive anthers

Colours are white, yellow, pink, lavender, purple, often mottled

Bloom time is late summer



Tricyrtis 'Tojen'



Tricyrtis formosana 'Gilt Edge'



Tricyrtis 'Blue Wonder'