Salvia greggii, White

Salvia greggii “White”

“Salvia greggii is a popular, usually evergreen sub-shrub growing natively in rocky soils in Central, West and South Texas, and Mexico. It has small, dull pale green, glandular, aromatic leaves. The normally red-flowered species also has white and pink forms and many named cultivars with slightly larger or smaller, rounder or more elongate leaves, varying growth habits from very upright to sprawling, and a wide range of colors in addition to those mentioned above. It is valued for its adaptability to garden soils, its very long blooming season and as a magnet for hummingbirds. In a garden setting, prune back to 4 inches in late winter and again by one half in August to maintain a tidy shape, or allow to grow and spread or sprawl for a more natural appearance, with occasional pruning of old wood. Full Sun. Heat and drought tolerant.
Salvia Black & Blue
Salvia guaranitica ‘Black & Blue’

A perfect name! The flowers are an intense rich blue and the calyx is almost black in color. Blooms profusely from spring to frost and responds well to pruning. Grows 3’ tall and responds well to pruning. Sun or part shade.

Hummingbirds & Butterflies!
Dancing Flames Salvia
Salvia vanhouttei

Bright, golden variegated leaves topped with spikes of brilliant tomato-red flowers in the fall. This is great used in borders and along walkways, and is dynamite in mixed containers with purples, yellows and oranges. Sun, but appreciates afternoon shade. **Hummingbirds and Butterflies!**

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Salvia greggii, Red

*Salvia greggii “Red”*

“Salvia greggii is a popular, usually evergreen sub-shrub growing natively in rocky soils in Central, West and South Texas, and Mexico. It has small, dull pale green, glandular, aromatic leaves. The normally red-flowered species also has white and pink forms and many named cultivars with slightly larger or smaller, rounder or more elongate leaves, varying growth habits from very upright to sprawling, and a wide range of colors in addition to those mentioned above. It is valued for its adaptability to garden soils, its very long blooming season and as a magnet for hummingbirds. In a garden setting, prune back to 4 inches in late winter and again by one half in August to maintain a tidy shape, or allow to grow and spread or sprawl for a more natural appearance, with occasional pruning of old wood. Full Sun. Heat and drought tolerant.”
Common Name: Salvia Indigo Spires
Botanical Name: Salvia hybrid “Indigo Spires”

Plant Type: Perennial

Growth habit: A beautiful salvia that blooms 8”-10” spikes of rich blue flowers all spring, summer, and fall. Responds well to pruning.

Exposure: Full sun. Mature Height: 4’-6’

Attracts/Supports Wildlife: Excellent for hummingbirds and butterflies.

Close Up View (with Monarch Butterfly):
“Lady in Pink” is a terrific variation of cultivar of Texas Sage, a wildflower whose native range includes the southern United States. This showy beauty is a bit more compact than the species, growing about 12 to 18 inches tall with deep green foliage. Blooming from early summer until frost, producing dozens of long, airy spikes packed with pink flowers. A sure hummingbird magnet, whether planted in the garden or in patio containers.
Salvia Lady in Red
Salvia coccinea ‘Lady in Red’

Vibrant spikes of red color will cover *Salvia coccinea* 'Lady in Red'. Open and airy, with bright red, 6-8" spikes. Sow seeds indoors 8 weeks before last frost. All-America Winner. A native to South America in the tropics. Attracts butterflies and hummingbirds to its small trumpet like flowers.
“Lady in White” is a terrific variation of cultivar of Texas Sage, a wildflower whose native range includes the southern United States. This showy beauty is a bit more compact than the species, growing about 12 to 18 inches tall with deep green foliage. Blooming from early summer until frost, ‘producing dozens of long, airy spikes packed with white flowers. A sure hummingbird magnet, whether planted in the garden or in patio containers.
Belize Sage
(Red Miniata Salvia)
Salvia miniata

Bright red, tubular flowers summer to fall on tropical looking salvia 2’-3’ tall. Responds well to pruning, gets fuller and more floriferous! Prefers part shade.

Hummingbirds!
'Mystic Spires' Blue *Salvia* is a compact form of another popular salvia called ‘Indigo Spires’. Though shorter than ‘Indigo Spires’, it flowers even more freely during the entire growing season. It produces masses of true blue flowers that mix nicely with other annuals and perennials, is tolerant of heat and humidity (low and high), and is not bothered by pests, disease or deer. Plant in full sun. Grows to 18-30 “. Adapts to most soil, needs good drainage. Hardy to Zone 8. If needed, plants can be pruned during the growing season as deflowering occurs quickly. Shoots can be pruned to 12 inches or so in the fall after being killed by freezing, but refrain from pruning to the ground until growth is strong in the spring.
Salvia Pineapple Sage
Salvia elegans

Pineapple Sage should be called Hummingbird Highway. Its profuse bright red tubular flowers and its attraction to hummingbirds are reason enough to plant this late season bloomer.

Pineapple Sage does have a pineappley fragrance, but it's only real use in cooking is as a fresh edible flower. The flowers are reminiscent of Honeysuckle and make a colorful addition to salads, fruit cocktails or any garnish. They are particularly attractive with yellow or green bell pepper. They can be sugared and used to garnish cakes or cookie platters.
Pink Van Houtte Salvia
Salvia vanhouteii ‘Pink’

Extremely interesting, jumbo, shrimp-like buds open to tubular magenta-fuchsia blooms that have with fluted edges. Attractive dark green leaves with dark maroon stems. 24” - 36” tall and wide. Sun, well-drained soil.

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The SALVIA Every AGGIE should have!

Burgundy Van Houtte Salvia
_Salvia splendens_ ‘Burgundy Van Houttei’

A practically non-stop blooming salvia! This 3’x3’ plant produces 10”-12” spikes of burgundy-wine flowers in late summer and fall. It’s a tender perennial north of zone 8. Color is best with some shade. Moist, well drained soil. Responds well to pruning. **Hummingbirds!**
Texas Silver Sage  
*Leucophyllum frutescens*

Texas Silver Sage is a flowering evergreen shrub with arching branches and woolly, silvery gray leaves. In summer, it bears solitary, bell-shaped rose-purple flowers an inch across. Useful as hedging and in seaside plantings. Grows in poor, sandy soil and full sun. Sow seed in spring or take greenwood cuttings in early summer.
Scaevola, Blue Fan Flower
*Scaevola aemula ‘New Wonder’*

Heat loving, easy care annual thrives in the sun and covers itself with a profusion of fan-shaped, lavender flowers.

**Hardiness:** [Zone 9](#)

**Exposure:** Full sun

**Size:** Height 8 inches tall, 36 inches wide

**Bloom Time:** Spring till frost

**Care:** Don't plant in poorly aerated soils, instead grow in large container (filled with well aerated potting mix) as accent for a sunny patio.
Scarlet bouvardia
Bouvardia ternifolia

Blooming from May to November, this lovely Texas native is known for its use as a cut flower. Dead head regularly to keep it dense and neat. **Good drainage**—partial sun to full sun. 2’ x 2’. Root hardy in a normal winter. **Hummingbirds!**
Shrimp Plant Maroon

*Justica ‘Maroon’*

Maroon and white 1" tubular blooms arch from a spike of reddish-maroon bracts. An upright to sprawling perennial becoming full and dense with age. Average mature size is 18-24"H x 12-18"W. Hardiness Zones: 9,10,11. Plant outdoors in full to part sun.
The Shrimp Plant is a medium growing mound evergreen broadleaf shrub. Growing to a height of 3 ft and a width of 2 ft. Plant is where it will get morning sun only. It is hard to about 24 degrees. Colorful lime green bracts and red flowers. Species named for American botanist Townshend Stith Brandegee. Water usage is low. Flower bracts resemble hanging shrimp.
The Shrimp Plant is a medium growing mounding, evergreen, broadleaf shrub. Growing to a height of 2-4 ft and a width of 3-4 ft. Plant is where it will get morning sun only. It is hardy to about 24 degrees. Produces chartreuse blooms Spring through the Fall. Water usage is low. Flower bracts resemble hanging shrimp.
The Shrimp Plant is a medium growing mound evergreen broadleaf shrub. Growing to a height of 2-4 ft and a width of 3-4 ft. Plant is where it will get morning sun only. It is hard to about 24 degrees. Produces red blooms Spring through the Fall. Water usage is low. Flower bracts resemble hanging shrimp.
White Shrimp Plant or White Candles is a 4’-6’ shrub that prefers filtered light and moist soil. It will wilt if allowed to dry out. It has very attractive shiny dark green foliage and beautiful candle-like white blooms almost year round. It is hardy to the low 30s so should be protected in colder weather. Pinch back for fuller growth.
Skeleton-Leaf Goldeneye
Viguiera stenoloba

Viguiera is one tough, Texas native. Growing 3’x3’ in the harshest conditions, its deep yellow daisies appear in mass spring to frost. Responds well to pruning. Drought tolerant is an understatement! Once established, it seems to thrive on neglect. Loves full sun and good drainage. Evergreen! Butterflies!

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Clusters of fuchsia pink, 1 1/2", tubular blooms are borne throughout most of the year on this beautiful tropical trailing perennial. Glossy green slightly quilted foliage on arching to trailing stems. Great for hanging baskets, mixed containers, or in the front of the garden. Attracts Hummingbirds.
Average mature size 12-18"H and trailing to 2'+. Plant outdoor in morning sun, part sun to light shade.
Hardiness Zones: 9, 10, 11
Snake Herb
*Dyschoriste lineraris*

This attractive groundcover is found in a variety of soil types throughout the state - from sand to clay. It is a stellar performer in sun or light shade situations. In Spring, the plant bursts forth with a continuous display of 1/2"- 3/4" lavender purple blooms that continue until the weather turns cold. Snake Herb fills dull flowerbeds with dependable color when other plants are struggling in the heat of our Texas summers. The plant is quite drought tolerant and spreads by stolonizing under the ground.
Society garlic is hardy only to Zone 9. Southern gardeners can grow it year-round outdoors; it tolerates summer heat well and blooms for months. The plants do best in full sun and in light, sandy soil. Though the foliage will be damaged by temperatures below 25 degrees, it grows back rapidly. Set the individual bulbs 8 to 12 inches apart, just below the surface of the soil. The plants fill in quickly under favorable conditions, but they usually are not considered invasive. When they become crowded, dig them up and reset them. A slower method of propagation is to grow them from seed.
Red blooms that appear in early fall; returns year after year. This triploid mule has proven Texas tough and, while not producing seed, it offsets quite readily and produces more bulbs and larger flowers than its modern counterpart from Japan. Some say that the flowers bloom two weeks after the first good fall rain. The foliage follows the flower, staying green well through the winter and into late spring.
St. Elmo’s Fire Coral Fountain
Russelia X St. Elmo’s Fire

Taller, straighter, darker! This new selection has all of the great attributes of the species – fine foliage, lush mounded habit, slender, graceful stems, and bright red-orange tubular flowers.

What sets St. Elmo’s Fire apart is that it has a more upright form and the flowers are a darker, showier red. Maturing to 4’ – 6’ in height and 6’ – 8’ wide. Sun, moist, well-drained soil. Hummingbirds!

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‘Starry Eyes’ Nierembergia

*Nierembergia gracilis*

A wonderful evergreen perennial. Narrow foliage and cheery white flowers with lavender center on a sea of green. Forms a tight mound approximately 10” tall. Smothered in flowers from spring to fall. Loves the full sun. Needs good drainage.
Sunflowers are a familiar flower in almost every garden and yard. Everyone knows how sunflowers turn their blooms to follow the sun throughout the day. There is much more to the magic of a sunflower, however. Plant in full sun. Attracts many types of birds. Drought tolerant.
Sweet Olive

*Osmanthus fragrans*

Fragrant olive (also sweet olive or sweet tea) produces clusters of not particularly showy flowers that have an extremely powerful apricot fragrance. It is a small, upright, evergreen tree or large shrub that will typically grow to 10-15’ tall in cultivation, but may reach 20-30’ tall in its native habitat in Asia (Himalayas, China and Japan). Features oval, leathery, glossy green leaves (to 4” long). Leaf margins may be smooth or finely toothed. Blooms from Summer to Fall. Varieties of the species bear flowers in orange, gold and reddish hues. Plant in full sun, medium water.
Sweet Spire ‘Little Henry’
Itea virginica ‘Sprich’

Little Henry Sweetspire is an excellent four season plant. Long white spikes of lightly fragrant flowers cover the mounded shrub in early summer. The dark green foliage turns spectacular shades of orange, red and purple in fall, and can last well into December. Use this compact, low maintenance variety of Sweetspire for a dramatic mass planting or as a specimen in a smaller garden. Sweetspire prefers full to partial sun and moist soil.
Sweetspire Morning Star

Itea virginica ‘Morning Star’

A native east Texas shrub with arching stems of very fragrant 6” racemes of white flowers in early spring, & gorgeous red & orange foliage color in fall. Grows in sun or shade & can tolerate wet areas. Slowly colonizes & is a great shrub for use in erosion control. Averages 4’-6’ tall. ‘Morning Star’ Sweetspire forms a full, practically evergreen shrub & ‘Little Star’ Sweetspire is a dwarf variety that averages 2’-3’ tall & has spectacular red fall color.
Texas Mountain Laurel

*Sophora secundiflora*

Mescal bean or Texas mountain laurel is an evergreen, usually multi-trunked shrub or small tree ranging from just a few feet tall to more than 30 ft. in height, though its usual height at maturity is 10-15 ft. The dense, dark green, and glossy compound leaves are composed of 7–9 shiny, leathery leaflets that are rounded on the ends. The leaflets are up to 2 inches or more long, tapering more gradually to the base than to the tip, and arranged along an axis terminated by a single leaflet. The bluish lavender flowers, in 3-7 in. drooping clusters, are very showy and fragrant. The fruit is a semi-woody pod with bright red poisonous seeds.
Vitex, Texas Lilac
The Next Mega-Superstar Plant for Texas

Vitex reaches heights of 25 feet in good soils, but most specimens in the San Antonio area are about 12 to 15 feet tall. It is a tree that is inclined to be about twice as wide as it is tall, so folks have the tendency to allow the plant to become overgrown and consequently, seed pods cannot be easily reached and removed. Peach growers prune their trees for the same reason that you will need to "prune" Vitex - so that they can reach the peaches during harvest, just as you will want to reach the seed pods when its time to remove them.

Pruning this tree encourages maximum floral display of the Texas Lilac Vitex. The Texas Lilac Vitex* must be cut after EVERY bloom cycle, and cut back to the ground EVERY winter. If you live in an area with a large deer population, the deer rubbing their antlers on the Vitex will "prune" the plant to the ground for you, or at least remind you to cut the ravaged stems back.

The blooms were small and, for the most part, unattractive. Horticulturists now have identified and tested improved varieties such as 'Montrose Purple', 'LeCompte' and 'Shoal Creek' which have spikes as long as 8 to 12 inches. All of these will be marketed under the name of Texas Lilac Vitex*. Attracts butterflies.
Texas Wild Olive
Cordia boissieri

Also known as the Texas Olive this plant is native to Mexico and Texas. A large evergreen and can become shrub or small tree it blooms year round with clusters of white flowers. Once established it will become drought tolerant, needs good drainage.
Golden Showers Thryllis  
Galphimia glauca

It is a semi-hardy plant. If we have an exceptionally cold winter, it can die to the ground, but it will come back, and most years it doesn't even die back. Thryallis likes a lot of sun. While it will grow in shade, it just doesn't bloom as well.

You can allow it to be a large, open loose bush to about 6' tall, or you can keep it dense and low with periodic shearing. Some people plant them in a mass as a low hedge. Just remember that the more you shear, the fewer flowers that you'll have.
Big Momma Turk’s Cap
*Malvaviscus drummondii* ‘Big Momma’

Another spectacular introduction from Greg Grant! The best of our Native Red Turk’s Cap crossed with Giant Pink Turk’s Cap, this selection features large, vivid coral-red flowers swirled like a turk’s cap from mid-summer until frost. Emerges from dormancy each spring and grows into a lush 6’-8’ shrub. Sun or part shade. Will perform well in a variety of soil types.

*Hummingbirds!*
“It’ll grow in full sun, full shade, wet soil, dry soil, alkaline soil and acid soil it’s a pretty dang amazing plant,” said Greg Grant, formerly with AgriLife Research and now with Stephen F. Austin Gardens. “Plus, it attracts hummingbirds and butterflies, you’d think, heck, why isn’t everyone growing it.” The Turk’s cap native to Texas generally has dark green leaves and cherry-red or white flowers that look like miniature Turkish turbans, hence the name.
“It’ll grow in full sun, full shade, wet soil, dry soil, alkaline soil and acid soil it’s a pretty dang amazing plant,” said Greg Grant, formerly with AgriLife Research and now with Stephen F. Austin Gardens. “Plus, it attracts hummingbirds and butterflies, you’d think, heck, why isn’t everyone growing it.”
White Lightning
Turk's Cap
*Malvaviscus arboreus var drummondii*
'White Lightning'

The twisted, sleepy white blossoms are borne against the dark green velvety foliage from May to November on this durable perennial. Easy to grow. Mix one in with your red flowered turk's cap for a great contrast. Plant in light shade.

Average Mature Plant Size: 2x2ft.
Drought and cold tolerant. Attracts hummingbirds.

USDA Cold Hardiness Zones:
7B,8,8B,9,10,11
Turnera
Yellow Buttercup
Turnera ulmifolia

The deep green leaves are oblong-ovate in shape with serrated margins (edges) and can reach four inches in length. The 2-inch wide flowers are usually yellow, but can sometimes be violet at the base. Many stems originate close to the ground but they branch infrequently forming an open, leggy plant.

Those planted in the full sun branch more and stay fuller than those in partial shade. Clear yellow flowers are produced daily, each lasting several hours before closing at night. New flowers open the next morning. Leaves stay dark green with little or no fertilizer.
For people living in warm regions, the ground cover homestead purple verbena (Verbena canadensis "Homestead") offers evergreen foliage and several months of bright purple blooms. This verbena hybrid is not only ornamental but useful for filling in large amounts of yard -- each plant has a spread of 3 feet and is 1 foot tall. Use purple homestead in sunny, well-drained situations to edge a herbaceous border, line walkways, replace lawn, trail from a container or to control erosion on a gentle bank. The plant is perennial in U.S. Department of Agriculture hardiness zones 7 to 9 and can be grown as an annual in other climates.
Common Name: Hot Pink Moss Verbena
Botanical Name: 

Plant Type: Perennial

Growth Habit: Gorgeous, tough, low growing, colorful, great texture! This verbena has it all! Wonderful texture in the landscape with dark green, cut-leaf foliage covered with clusters of hot pink flowers from early spring thru fall. They normally take a slight rest in mid summer, then explode again with color all fall. Needs moist, well drained soil.

Exposure: Sun or light shade  Mature Height: Groundcover

Attracts/Supports Wildlife: Butterflies

Landscape View: 

Close Up View: 

Heidi Sheesley of Treesearch Farms

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Dark purple flower clusters cover this verbena spring through frost. A hardy, native groundcover to about 12” tall with lacy fern-like foliage. Drought tolerant. Full to part sun. An outstanding butterfly nectar plant.
Lemon Verbena
Aloysia citrodora

Lemon verbena is a tall, beautiful herb. With a pure lemon scent and shiny leaves, it makes a wonderful background plant in a container garden. Growing well indoors and out, lemon verbena is a must have. Plant in full sun, flowers are showy and fragrant. Medium water requirements.
Vitex Arabian Lilac  
Vitex trifolia ‘Purpuae’

Exceptional aromatic foliage accent for warm, dry climates. Distinctively colored velvety leaves are green on top with purple undersides. Clusters of small purple flowers appear at shoot tips. Superior accent for wild gardens. Deciduous. Open, branching shrub, moderate growth 8 to 10 ft. tall and wide. Follow a regular watering schedule during the first growing season to establish a deep, extensive root system. Watering can be reduced after establishment. Feed with a general purpose fertilizer before new growth begins in spring. Likes full sun, and regular watering, but can also be very drought tolerant! Produces tiny lilac-colored flowers spring through fall.
Montrose Purple
Vitex agnus-castus

Slightly larger foliage & magnificent blooms that are 3 times larger than the standard Vitex & a richer, darker blue color. A drought tolerant, sun loving, small, single or multi-trunked tree up to 18’ tall. **Butterflies!**
Vitex, Texas Lilac
The Next Mega-Superstar Plant for Texas

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Water Celery, Variegated Flamingo

Oenanthe javancia ‘Flamingo’

Grow in average to wet soil in part shade to full shade. Spreads rapidly and can be invasive, particularly in rich, moist soils. Oenanthe (sometimes commonly called flamingo plant) is a low-growing ground cover which typically grows 9-16” tall. Features pinnate, tricolor foliage (bluish green edged in pink and white), with leaflets sometimes lobed and irregularly toothed. Tiny, creamy white flowers in umbels appear in mid-summer.
The common name for this flower is Lotus. It is hardy to 22-30 degrees. Needs part sun to full sun. The growth rate of this plant is slow and the difficulty to grow this lily is medium. This plant is low growing so it should be in the foreground of you aquascape. The lovely flowers are open from midday to late afternoon. The bloom is pink. If you don't want this plant to form floating leaves, try pruning the roots and removing the floating leaves. This keeps the plant young. A nutritious bottom encourages growth, as in all water lilies.
An aquatic plant with bright yellow flowers and floating leaves. The lovely flowers are open from midday to late afternoon. When the plants are crowded, the leaves may rise above the water. The plant was first discovered in Mexico, which accounts for the species name. It is also known as the Sun-lotus or Banana Water-lily.
Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow
Brunsfselia pauciflora

With flowers opening purple, then turning pale lavender and finally white, yesterday-today-and-tomorrow is an aptly named little shrub. The pansy-like flowers have white throats, are about 2 in across and borne in profuse clusters (cymes, actually) of up to 10 blossoms, displayed all over the plant. Flowers of all three colors are present from spring through the end of summer. Yesterday-today-and-tomorrow gets 3-8 ft tall with several stems, an open, airy habit, and a spread of 2-5 ft. The leaves are leathery and semi-evergreen, 3-6 in long, dark green above and pale beneath.