Fall Blooming Plants for South East Texas

Sheri Bethard, Orange County Master Gardeners Assn.

Everyone is familiar with the pansy and mums blooming in fall and some like the pansy will bloom thru the winter. I would like to share with you some of my favorite fall blooming plants that not familiar to everyone as those two.



Fall Aster - It has a deep purple, sometimes blue or pink bloom in the fall. The

center is dark yellow. It typically begins blooming in August, but I have found mine blooming all summer long. It has bloomed thru the end of October or longer. It likes well-drained soil and has even handled periods of drought. The Aster prefers full to partial sun. Mine gets the eastern sun in the morning and is in the shade the rest of the day.



Toad Lily - Is a garden lily, which produces small star-shaped and bell-shaped blooms together with a spotted appearance. They are very recognizable mostly

white with lavender/pink spots. Mine does best in full shade in moist soil but cannot tolerate very wet conditions. Do not let them dry out. They normally start blooming in late September/early October time frame. A native plant.



Goldenrod - Not to be confused with Ragweed as it does not put off pollen to affect your

allergies like Ragweed does. It has pretty, small yellow blooms and does best with morning sun and afternoon shade.

Oxeye Sunflower AKA "False Sunflower"
as it looks like a real
sunflower because of
its petals being the
same yellow and having



a brown center. Blooms start in late summer and go throughout the fall months. It needs at least 4 - 5 hours of full sun each day for sharp looking blooms. A well-drained soil is best and should be watered when the topsoil feels dry.

Obedient Plant - There are 2 varieties of this plant, one is a spring bloomer and this one is a fall bloomer. They look almost alike, blooms and leaves. You will see this plant in the roadside ditches, as it likes wet areas and does best in full sun. A native plant.

Cardinal Flower - The bright Cardinal red "spike" of flowers blooms in late September and early October It is a native plant with trumpet shaped flowers rising above dark



green foliage. Hummingbirds love the flowers but this plant likes early morning sun and afternoon shade. Keep a good layer of organic matter on the soil to help prevent evaporation. Water deeply and fertilize in the fall with a shovelful of compost worked into the soil. Cover with pine mulch to protect during the winter.