

Drought Tolerant Trees, Shrubs & Plants *(As Recommended by the Royal Horticultural Society)*

Many drought tolerant plants have silver or grey-green leaves, their light leaf colour reflecting the harsh rays of the sun. Others have a coating of fine hairs on their leaves or stems, helping to trap moisture around the plant tissues. Below is a selection of plants with good drought-tolerant properties.

Trees

Acacia dealbata (mimosa) **AGM:** Height 15–30m (50–100ft); spread 15m (50ft)

Cercis siliquastrum (Judas tree) **AGM:** Height and spread 10m (30ft)

Koelreuteria paniculata (golden rain tree) **AGM:** Height and spread 10m (30ft)

Ptelea trifoliata 'Aurea' (hop tree) **AGM:** Height: 5m (15ft)

Conifers

Chamaecyparis lawsoniana (Lawson cypress): Height and spread variable according to cultivar

Cupressus arizonica var. *glabra*: 10–15m x 4–5m (30–50ft x 12–15ft)

Juniperus: Height and spread variable according to species and cultivar

Pinus: Height and spread variable according to species and cultivar

Palms

Cordyline australis **AGM:** 3–10m x 1–4m (10–30ft x 3–13ft)

Trachycarpus fortunei **AGM:** (20m x 2.5m (70ft x 8ft)

Small shrubs

Artemisia 'Powis Castle' **AGM:** 60cm x 90cm (24 x 36in)

Halimium: Height and spread variable according to cultivar

Hebe: Height and spread variable according to cultivar

Lavandula (lavender): Height and spread variable according to cultivar

Nandina domestica (sacred bamboo) **AGM:** 2m x 1.5m (6ft x 5ft)

Ozothamnus ledifolius **AGM:** 1m x 1m (3ft x 3ft)

Perovskia atriplicifolia 'Blue Spire' **AGM:** 1.2m x 1m (4ft x 3ft)

Santolina chamaecyparissus **AGM:** 50cm x 50cm (20in x 3ft)

Medium-large shrubs

Abelia x *grandiflora* **AGM:** 3m x 4m (10ft x 12ft)

Arbutus unedo **AGM:** 8m x 8m (25ft x 25ft)

Callistemon citrinus: Height and spread variable according to cultivar

Elaeagnus angustifolia **AGM:** 6m x 6m (20ft x 20ft)

Olearia macrodonta **AGM:** 6m x 5m (20ft x 15ft)

Ozothamnus rosmarinifolius 'Silver Jubilee' **AGM:** 2–3m x 1.5m (6–10ft x 5ft)

Vitex agnus-castus: 2–8m x 2–8m (6–25ft x 6–25ft)

Climbers

Campsis: 10m (30ft)

Eccecarpus scaber **AGM**: 3–5m (10–15ft)

Jasminum officinale: 12m (40ft)

Passiflora caerulea (e.g. 'Constance Elliott' **AGM**): 10m (30ft)

Solanum crispum: 6m (20ft)

Herbaceous perennials

Baptisia australis **AGM**: 1.5m x 60cm (5ft x 24in)

Euphorbia: Height and spread variable according to cultivar

Eryngium: Height and spread variable according to cultivar

Echinops: Height and spread variable according to cultivar

Osteospermum jucundum **AGM**: Height 10–50cm (4–20in) Spread 50–90cm (20–36in)

Verbena including *V. rigida* **AGM** and *V. bonariensis* **AGM**: Height and spread variable according to cultivar

Grasses

Cortaderia selloana: 2.5–3m x 1.5m (8–10ft x 5ft)

Panicum virgatum: 1m x 75cm (3ft x 30in)

Pennisetum alopecuroides: 0.6–1.5 x 0.6–1.2m (2–5ft x 2–4ft)

Stipa gigantea: **AGM** 2.5m x 1.2m (8ft x 4ft)

Briza media

Pennisetum rubrum

Containers and borders

Alonsoa

Amaranthus

Arctotis

Argyranthemum

Bidens

Brachyscome

Calendula officinalis (pot marigold)

Cerinthe major

Convolvulus sabatius

Cosmos bipinnatus

Diascia

Eschscholzia californica (Californian poppy)

Felicia

Gazania

Gomphrena globosa

Helianthus (sunflower)

Helichrysum petiolare

Heliotropium

Helipterum roseum (syn. *Rhodanthe chlorocephala* subsp. *rosea*)

Ipomoea purpurea

Lantana camara

Lavandula multifida*, *L. dentata

Limnanthes douglasii

Limonium sinuatum

Mesembryanthemum

Mirabilis jalapa

Nemesia

Nicotiana

Nigella damascena

Osteospermum

Papaver somniferum

Pelargonium

Plectranthus

Portulaca grandiflora

Senecio maritima

Silybum marianum

Tithonia rotundifolia

Tropaeolum majus

Verbena

***Zaluzianskya ovata* (night phlox)**

Half-hardy succulents

Aeonium

Aloe

Delosperma cooperi

Drosanthemum

Lampranthus

Hanging basket plants

Bidens

Brachyscome

Convolvulus sabatius

Diascia

Felicia

Nemesia

Pelargonium – trailing and zonal

Tropaeolum majus

Verbena