

## Drought Gardening Series – Part 3

### Drought Tolerant Plants from Goddess Gardener, Cynthia Brian

Enriched, compost amended soil is the most important foundation element to growing any garden. Apply three inches of mulch to maximize water savings, maintain moisture, reduce run-off, and shield the soil from direct sunlight. Group plants with similar water needs together, stop fertilizing, eliminate weeds, deadhead before seed pods form, build wind barriers, create shade, and water appropriately, infrequently, yet deeply. Choose a sampling of these drought resistant, low maintenance specimens:

<b>Annuals</b>	Daylily	<b>Shrubs</b>	Dill	<b>Vegetables</b>	Squash
Amaranthus	Echinacea	Abelia	Fennel	Armenian Cucumber	Swiss Chard
Cosmos	Fern	Holly	Feverfew	Artichoke	Tomato
Cleome	Geranium	Hibiscus	Lemongrass	Bean	Turnip
Dusty Miller	Ginger	Hydrangea	Marjoram	Beet	Zucchini
Lupine	Helleborus	Palm	Oregano	Corn	
Marigolds	Ice Plant	Nandina	Parsley	Chile	<b>Grasses</b>
Poppy	Lamb's Ear	Oleander	Purslane	Eggplant	Blue Oatgrass
Portulaca	Lamium	Pomegranate	Rosemary	Garlic	Fountain Grass
Verbena	Lavender	Viburnum	Sage	Lettuce	Japanese Bloodgrass
	Russian Sage		Spearmint	Mustard	Leatherleaf Sedge
<b>Perennials</b>	Sedum	<b>Herbs</b>	Savory	Onion	Maiden Grass
Agastache	Succulents	Anise	Stinging Nettle	Pea	Pampas Grass
Bush Sage	Yarrow	Bay	Thyme	Peppers	Reed Grass
Blanket flower	Yucca	Catmint	Wild Garlic	Radish	Zebra Grass
Cactus		Catnip		Rhubarb	
Currant		Chives		Spinach	

This is not a complete list of plants that will grow with minimal moisture and maintenance. Talk to your nursery professional for more advice and local recommendations. Visit garden centers to see the specimens that will work best with your landscaping requirements. Remember that all plants need water. Natives, succulents, and cacti fare the best in dry conditions and may add beauty and texture to your existing garden with less care. Bulbs are always excellent choices providing perennial color, form, and fragrance. Consider xeriscaping as it conserves 50-75 percent of water utilizing creative landscaping techniques.

Until next time, remember that to build a better future we must nurture nature. We are blessed to live on planet Earth. Care for the land and all of God's creatures and we will reap the benefits. Never forget that love always wins when kindness prevails, plus gardens make us happy. Read a book in May – it's a garden in bloom. Stroll through the garden to actually smell the roses! They are glorious this year.

Happy Gardening! Happy Growing!

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