

Autumn Colour In Your Garden

The Ontario countryside in the fall is a spectacularly colourful landscape that we all admire and enjoy. Many of us make special trips to view the brilliant colours of Maples and waysides adorned with Goldenrod and Asters. But where is the colour in our own garden?

In planning our gardens, we very logically begin at the beginning. Spring flowering bulbs are followed by the early flowering shrubs such as Flowering Almond, Japanese Cherries and others. We realize that these flower only for a short time and look for other shrubs and trees for continuing colour throughout the summer: Deutzia, Mockorange, Weigela and of course, Roses.

Soon, our garden space is fully planted and only in September do we realize that we have neglected to include the late flowering shrubs and those with brilliant fall foliage. Burning Bush (*Euonymus alatus*) is one popular shrub that is widely used but there are many more that can enhance your garden in the fall and extend your season of colour to the fullest.

Trees for Fall Colour

Sugar Maple, <i>Acer saccharum</i>	orange and red
Red Maple, <i>Acer rubrum</i>	red
Other Maples	yellow, orange and red
Red Oak, <i>Quercus rubra</i>	red
Pin Oak, <i>Q. palustris</i>	red
Katsura, <i>Cercidiphyllum</i>	orange-red
Ash, <i>Fraxinus</i>	mainly yellow
Mountain Ash, <i>Sorbus</i>	orange, red, yellow
Ginkgo, <i>Ginkgo biloba</i>	yellow
Larch, <i>Larix</i>	yellow
Dawn Redwood, <i>Metasequoia</i>	golden

Shrubs for Fall Colour

Wayfaring Tree, <i>Viburnum lantana</i>	purple/bronze
Arrowwood, <i>V. dentatum</i>	orange/red
Serviceberry, <i>Amelanchier</i>	yellow/orange
Smoketree, <i>Cotinus</i>	purple/red
Sumac, <i>Rhus</i>	orange/red
Blueberry, <i>Vaccinium</i>	orange
Dogwood, <i>Cornus</i>	reds and orange
Burning Bush, <i>Euonymus alatus</i>	red
Spindle tree, <i>E. europaea</i>	red
Amur Maple, <i>Acer ginnala</i>	red
Hedge Maple, <i>A. campestre</i>	yellow

Colourful Vines

Boston Ivy and Virginia Creeper (*Engelmann's Ivy*) are highly colourful in fall. Virginia Creeper bears a heavy crop of black berries. Bittersweet Vine has colourful seed coverings. The three-parted orange husk opens to reveal bright orange and red fruit. Only the female plant bears fruit and must be planted together with a male plant for pollination.

Shrubs with Colourful

Berries

Coralberry, <i>Symphoricarpos</i>	purple/pink
Snowberry, <i>S. albus</i>	white
Cotoneaster, <i>Cotoneaster</i>	red
Firethorn, <i>Pyracantha</i>	orange/red
Holly, <i>Ilex</i>	red
Winterberry, <i>I. verticillata</i>	red
Cranberry, <i>Viburnum</i>	red
Redleaf Rose, <i>Rosa glauca</i>	red

Shrubs that Flower in the Fall

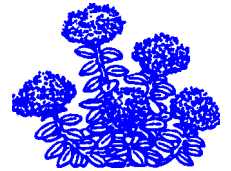
Bluebeard, <i>Caryopteris</i>	blue
Butterfly Bush, <i>Buddleia</i>	purple, blue, pink, white
PeeGee Hydrangea, <i>Hydrangea</i>	white/pink
Witch Hazel, <i>Hamamelis</i>	yellow

Perennials for Fall Colour

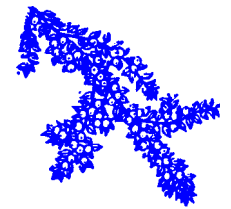
Sneezewort, <i>Achillea ptarmica</i>	white
Yarrow, <i>A. taygetea</i>	yellow
Monkshood, <i>Aconitum</i>	blue
Japanese Anemone, <i>Anemone japonica</i>	pink/white
Mugwort, <i>Artemisia lactiflora</i>	white
Italian Aster, <i>Aster amellus</i>	blue, purple
New England Aster, <i>A. novae-angliae</i>	purple, pink, white
New York Aster, <i>A. novi-belgii</i>	violet
(The Feast Day of St. Michael is September 29, and these asters are also called Michaelmas Daisy).	
Boltonia, <i>B. asteroides</i>	white
Carpathian Harebell, <i>Campanula carpatica</i>	blue
Chrysanthemum, <i>C. x morifolium</i>	
(Garden Chrysanthemums come in a wide variety of colours and shapes).	
Coreopsis (flowering since June, will still be flowering in Sept.)	yellow
Purple Coneflower, <i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	purple
Globe Thistle, <i>Echinops</i>	blue
Gallardia, <i>G. x grandiflora</i> (still flowering since June)	red and yellow
Sneezeweed, <i>Helenium autumnale</i>	bronze, yellow
Sunflower, <i>Helianthus x multiflorus</i> & <i>H. decapetalus</i>	yellow
Heliopsis, <i>Heliopsis</i>	yellow
Coralbells, <i>Heuchera</i> (still flowering since May)	red, pink, white
Rose Mallow, <i>Hibiscus moscheutos</i>	red, pink, white
Hosta "Honeybells"	blue
Hosta "Royal Standard" (fragrant)	white
Lamium, <i>L. maculatum</i>	lilac
Gay Feather (Blazing Star), <i>Liatris</i> spp.	lilac, purple, white
Cardinal Flower, <i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>	scarlet
Blue Cardinal Fl., <i>L. siphilitica</i>	blue
Catmint, <i>Nepeta</i> spp.	blue
Giant Sundrop, <i>Oenothera missouriensis</i>	yellow
Phlox, <i>Phlox paniculata</i> (flowering since July)	pink, white
False Dragonhead (Obedient Plant), <i>Physostegia</i> spp.	white, pink, purple
Balloon Flower, <i>Platycodon</i> spp.	blue, white
Black-eyed Susan, <i>Rudbeckia</i> spp.	yellow
Sedum Autumn Joy, <i>Sedum spectabile</i>	pink, mauve
Greek Mallow, <i>Sidalcea</i> spp.	pink
Goldenrod, <i>Solidago</i> spp.	yellow



Aster frikartii flowers and how they grow: lavender-blue with yellow centers.



Sedum spectabile: flower clusters 7.5-10 cm across, pink, rose, or carmine red.



Cranberry cotoneaster (*C. apiculata*) has big (13 mm) bright red berries.

The fall flowering Goldenrod is maligned and ignored by Canadian gardeners, no doubt because it grows wild everywhere and is perhaps considered a weed. In Britain, where it is less common, Goldenrod is highly valued.

The plants listed will let you take advantage of the change of season and keep your garden interesting and colourful until the heavy frosts and first snow of winter.

HAPPY GARDENING!



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