

Lecture II: Cultivation of Annuals

Annuals are plants that complete their life cycle in one season or one year. They attain their full growth from seed, flower and die in one year or one season.

Classification

- **Bedding purpose:** Dahlia, Marigold, Phlox, Verbena, Pansy, Carnation, Petunia, Zinnia, Portulaca, Gomphrena, Gaillardia.
- **Fragrant flowers:** Carnation, Sweet pea, Sweet Alyssum, Sweet William, Stock
- **Cut flowers:** Carnation, Aster, Antirrhinum, Stock, Gypsophila, Coreopsis
- **Loose flowers:** Marigold, Gomphrena, Aster, Zinnia, Gaillardia, Paper Flower, Dahlia
- **Cut Greens:** Kochia, Amaranthus, Coleus, Quamoclit
- **Hanging basket:** Daisy, Nasturtium, Verbena, Phlox, Sweet Alyssum, Portulaca
- **Rock garden:** Nasturtium, Verbena, Phlox, Ice Plant, Stock, Venidium
- **Screening:** Hollyhock, Sweet pea, Kochia, Moon Flower, Ipomoea
- **Pot plants:** Carnation, Antirrhinum, Aster, Petunia
- **Dry flowers:** Helichrysum, Gomphrena
- **Shade loving:** Salvia, Cineraria, Clarkia, Verbena, Delphiniums
- **Edging:** Ageratum, Marigold, Portulaca, Pansy, Phlox, Candytuft
- **Long lasting flowers:** Calendula, Paper flower, Amaranthus, Nasturtium, Gomphrena
- **Short day:** Amaranthus, Salvia, Cosmos, Salvia
- **Log day:** Carnation, Petunia, Antirrhinum, Rudbeckia
- **Day neutral:** Gompherin, Impatiens
- **Seed germination only in night:** Nicotiana, Lobelia, Echium
- **Seed germination only in dark:** Nigella, Phlox, Amaranthus, Allium
- **Winter season:** Sown during September-October
- **Summer season:** Sown during Feb- March (Kochia, Gaillardia, Cosmos, Sunflower, Zinnia)
- **Rainy season:** Sown during June-July (Amaranthus, Balsam, Celosia, Gomphrena)

IMPORTANCE OF ANNUALS IN LANDSCAPE GARDENING

- They are easily grown plants due to their short life cycle.
- These plants vary widely in form, growth habit, flower colour, size, shape and season of flowering.
- These plants bear profuse flowering in a short period of time.
- They are used primarily to brighten the landscape with abundant amounts of color.
- Seasonal flowers can be an excellent source of colour and variety for enriching any surroundings including a garden environment.
- They bring a change in outlook of garden with the changing season.
- They beautify the surroundings and exhibit a good show of blooms at low cost and labour.
- They cover the entire place within a short span of time.
- The planting of seasonal in the border of a plot becomes a site of attraction in the garden.
- These plants provide mass effect in the garden using different colour schemes.
- These plants produce a huge amount of seeds within a short period of time.
- These plants are grown for various situations and purposes in the garden like for pots, hanging baskets, bed, edging, rock garden, as herbaceous border or in shrubberies, shady situations etc.

Table1: Description of annual flowers

Botanical name	Common Name	Family	Remarks
A. Rainy and summer season annuals			
<i>Amaranthus</i> sp.	Joseph's coat	Amaranthaceae	Beds & borders
<i>Celosia argentea</i>	Cock's comb	Amaranthaceae	Dry flower arrangement
<i>Gaillardia pulchella</i>	Blanket flower	Asteraceae	Bedding, border and cutting
<i>Gomphrena globosa</i>	Globe Amaranth	Amaranthaceae	A long summer to frost bloom
<i>Helianthus annuus</i>	Sunflower	Asteraceae	Suitable for containers
<i>Impatiens balsamina</i>	Touch-me-not	Balsaminaceae	Border and potted plant
<i>Kochia scoparia</i>	Kochia	Chenopodiaceae	Foliage annual
<i>Portulaca grandiflora</i>	Sun plant	Portulacaceae	Trailing stem, Edge plant
<i>Tithonia rotundifolia</i>	Mexican Sunflower	Asteraceae	Taller types good for background
<i>Zinnia elegans</i>	Zinnia	Asteraceae	Riverside Beauty
B. Winter season annuals			
<i>Abronia umbellata</i>	Sand- verbena	Nyctaginaceae	Rosy lilac, sweet scented in night
<i>Acroclinium roseum</i>	Paper flower	Asteraceae	45-60cm tall, double daisy like
<i>Adonis aestivalis</i>	Pheasant's Eye	Ranunculaceae	Suitable for mixed borders
<i>Ageratum houstonianum</i>	Floss Flower	Asteraceae	Colourful powder-puff like flowers
<i>Agrostemma githago</i>	Corn Cockle	Caryophyllaceae	Cut flowers, mixed borders, pots
<i>Althaea rosea</i>	Hollyhock	Malvaceae	Screens and as annual borders
<i>Alyssum maritimum</i>	Sweet Alyssum	Brassicaceae	Beds, borders, hanging baskets
<i>Anchusa capensis</i>	Alkanet Bugloss	Boraginaceae	Blue Bird
<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	Snapdragon	Snapdragon	Bedding, pot, edges and borders
<i>Arctosis grandis</i>	African daisy	Asteraceae	Used for daytime decoration
<i>Baetonia aurea</i>	Blazing Star	Losasaceae	Bedding plants
<i>Bellis perennis</i>	Daisy	Asteraceae	Bedding edging , rock gardens.

<i>Brachycome iberidifolia</i>	Swan River daisy	Asteraceae	Pot, edges and cut flowers.
<i>Cacalia coccinea</i>	Tassel flower	Asteraceae	Cut flowers border or bedding
<i>Calendula officinalis</i>	Pot Marigold	Asteraceae	'Indian Prince' & 'Jane Harmony'
<i>Centanria cyanus</i>	Cornflower	Asteraceae	Grey-green branched stems
<i>Centnaria moschata</i>	Sweet Sultan	Asteraceae	Look like powder puff
<i>Chrysanthemum coronarium</i>	Corn Marigold	Asteraceae	Annual chrysanthemum used in beds, pots mixed and annual borders
<i>Clarkia elegans</i>	Mountain garland	Onagraceae	Bedding and borders & pot plant
<i>Cleome spinose</i>	Spider plant	Capparidaceae	Pink Queen and Helen Campbell
<i>Clianthus dampieri</i>	Sturt's Pea	Febaceae	Red Flag and Pink Boss
<i>Coreopsis tinctoria</i>	Tick seed	Asteraceae	Beds, background borders
<i>Cosmos bipinnatus</i>	Mexican Aster	Asteraceae	Beds and borders
<i>Delphinium ajacis</i>	Larkspur	Ranunculaceae	Border and pots
<i>Dianthus barbatus</i>	Sweet Williams	Caryophyllaceae	Mixed border, bedding & Pot
<i>Dimorphotheca sinuate</i>	African daisy, Cape Marigold	Asteraceae	White colour flower
<i>Eschscholzia californica</i>	Californian poppy	Papaveraceae	edging along walks, borders, rock gardens
<i>Gazania splendens</i>	Treasure flower	Asteraceae	Rock garden, border amd edging
<i>Gypeophila elegans</i>	Baby's Breath	Caryophyllaceae	Flowering pot plant
<i>Helichrysum bracteatum</i>	Strawflower	Asteraceae	Ornamental bracts
<i>Iberis umbellate</i>	Candytuft	Brassicaceae	Sweetly scented flowers
<i>Laythyrus odoratus</i>	Sweet pea	Sweet Pea	Open sunny situation
<i>Petunia sp.</i>	Petunia	Solanacea	Hanging basket

<i>Phlox drummondii</i>	Star flower	Polemoniaceae	Suited for bed and pots
<i>Papaver</i> sp.	Poppy	Papaveraceae	Suitable for high altitude
<i>Salvia splendese</i>	Sage flower	Lamiaceae	Beds and borders
<i>Senecio cruentus</i>	Cineraria	Asteraceae	Shady in nature
<i>Torenia fournieri</i>	Wish-borne Flower	Scrophulariaceae	Container and border plant
<i>Thunbergia alata</i>	Black eyed Susan	Acanthaceae	Wide adaptability
<i>Verbena hybrida</i>	Verbena	Verbenaceae	Trailing annual

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