

Super Summer Annuals

Summer annuals should be planted after the danger of frost has past or they may be sown indoors 6 weeks before the frost free planting date. Many summer annuals can be sown outdoors during summer for fall flowering.

Plant	Height inches	Spread inches	Exposure	Comments
Ageratum	6-20	8-20	Sun	Good source of blue color
Alyssum	4-8	12-24	Sun	Fragrant; withstands frost
Amaranthus	48	30	Sun	Brilliant foliage
Caladium	12-18	15-18	Shade	Bright foliage; plant tubers 1 month after frost-free date
Cockscomb	12-36	10-30	Sun	Crested and plume types available
Coleus	8-24	12-24	Shade	Colorful foliage
Cosmos	36-72	48-72	Sun	Bright, daisy-like flowers; good background plant; may need staking
Firebush	24-30	24-36	Sun	Tremendous heat tolerance; red blooms attract hummingbirds and butterflies
Gaillardia	12-18	12-18	Sun	Tolerates heat; single or double flowers
Globe amaranth	12-24	12-24	Sun	Attractive cut or dried flowers
Gloriosa daisy	15-30	15-30	Sun	Perennial, but often treated as annual
Joseph's coat	10-16	24-36	Sun	Grown from cuttings; beautiful fall foliage
Lantana	12-48	30-48	Sun	Trailing or upright; many colors; few pests; some perennial
Marigold	6-36	10-36	Sun	Spider mites only problem; withstands heat well
Morning glory		Vine	Sun	Grows rapidly to 10 feet; do not apply excessive nitrogen
Nierembergia	6	6-8	Sun	Rich purple; good in baskets
Periwinkle	12-24	12-24	Sun	Excellent in exposed areas
Pentas	10-24	10-24	Sun	Tolerates heat, several colors, butterfly plant
Petunia	8-12	12-24	Sun	Many varieties and types; withstands some frost
Portulaca (moss rose)	12	12-18	Sun	Withstands heat; bright colors
Scarlet Sage (<i>Salvia coccinea</i>)	12-24	2-24	Sun	Beautiful, needs dead heading, attracts hummingbird
Spider plant (cleome)	48	36-48	Sun	Long blooming period; good background plant
Strawflower	30-40	30-40	Sun	Good for cut or dried flowers
Verbena	6-12	12-24	Sun	Withstands heat; spider mite may be problem
Zinnia	6-36	6-36	Sun	Attractive cut flowers; heat tolerant new dwarf varieties