

Garden & Plant Source Guide for Flower Arranging
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This guide is intended to help residents of the eastern Sierra select plants to grow in their gardens so they can have their own source of arrangement material for much of the year. I have not included roses on the list of recommended plants to grow, because you should be growing at least five anyway. Many varieties provide the most continuous bloom of any flowering plant in our area. They also produce beautiful hips which can also be used.

The commercial availability of cut material from commercial sources is also noted along with the approximate cut-flower cost at local florist wholesalers.

	Trees & Shrubs	Reno bloom time or use / comments	Cut Stem Commercial Source
	apple	May	rarely
	azalea	branch, foliage & bloom / not all are hardy in Reno	plants seasonal
	bamboo	branch & foliage / purchase clumping varieties	rarely
x	broom, scotch	May-June & branches year-round / grows well in Reno	yes
	broom, genista	May & branches year round / good freestyle material	no
x	cherry	late April to May	not often
x	crabapple	May & small fruit in fall	rarely
x	currant	May-June blooms/fruit in fall	
	dogwood, eastern	June / understory flowering tree - shade	
x	dogwood, red-stem		yes-branches
x	forsythia	May / small flowering shrub	
	holly	need male & female plants for berries	seasonal
x	lilac	May-June / needs extra care to keep from wilting when cut	
x	maple, small-leafed	branch & foliage / more sheltered shadier area in Reno (aka Japanese maple)	no
x	nandina	needs sheltered area & extra water (aka heavenly bamboo)	rarely
	paulownia		no
x	peach	both native and domesticated varieties in Reno	not often
x	pine or other similar evergreens		seasonal winter

x	Photinia	branch & foliage /	yes
x	plum	April-May & branch material / small flowering tree	not often
x	quince	April-May, branch, foliage & bloom / small flowering shrub purchase newer hybrids which bloom on newer wood	not often
x	raspberry	branch & foliage	no
	redbud	May-June & branch material / semi-hardy small tree in Reno	seasonal
	rhododendron	May-June & foliage / shadier area sheltered from drying wind	no
	rose-of-sharon	May-June, branch & bloom/ small tree-large shrub	no
	smoke tree	June & branch material / small tree in Reno	no
x	spirea, bridal wreath	May-June & branch material	
	spirea, false	elegant foliage/branch & delicate June bloom - not a true spirea - grows vigorously in moist areas	no
	spirea, reeves		
x	viburnum	June / grown for bloom and foliage; many varieties	
	willow, pussy	may grown for branches w/ buds only / illegal in city limits (also major aphid & disease bearer - better to purchase)	winter-spring
	winterberry	4-8' tall w/ red berries / need male & female plants	seasonal
FOLIAGE & BRANCH			
	agapanthus	house or summer terrace plant (aka Lily of the Nile)	\$6-8
	apache tears	May / small drought-resistant shrub in Reno	no
	asparagus	foliage / substitute for asparagus fern	no
	asparagus fern	foliage / house plant	yes-cut
x	aspidistra	houseplant	yes
	banana plant	large leaves / house plant	no
	bird-of-paradise	houseplant grown foliage & bloom (aka strelitzia)	\$4/stem
	bittersweet	vine — fall green/orange berries — NO LONGER RECOMMENDED — most sold are invasive non-natives	
	boxwood	foliage & branch / burns in afternoon sun	\$5-6
	bulrush	invasive	
	caladium	houseplant for large leaves	
	canna	annual bulb in Reno, can force for specific bloom date	yes
	cast-iron plant	houseplant	

	cattail	invasive, water-loving plant in Reno	\$4
	dahlia	annual in Reno, can be forced indoors	yes
	dieffenbachia	large-leaf foliage	
	flax, New Zealand	foliage / houseplant in Reno	\$5-6
	grass, wheat	annual in Reno	dried-yes
	grass, pampas	large perennial in Reno	
	horsetail	green stems April-October/ very invasive	\$5
	hydrangea	foliage / outdoors dies down to ground & does not rebloom	seasonal
	monstera	houseplant	\$3
	mountain ash	foliage, branch & berries / grows well in Reno, but is a producer of very irritating pollen	
	oregon grape	foliage & branch / attracts earwigs in Reno	\$5-6
x	palm, date	houseplant	no
	palm, rhapsis	houseplant	no
	pampas grass		
	pothos	houseplant	
	rubber tree	houseplant	
	ti	large flat leaves - houseplant	\$8
FLOWERS with commercial cost of ~8 stems			
	allium	May-June depending on variety	yes
x	aster	August-October / grow from seed or cuttings	\$4-5
	astilbe	June-July / shade lover	\$7-8
	baby's breath	May-July / both annual and perennial varieties available	yes
x	bachelor button	May-August / does well in Reno area grow from seed (aka cornflower)	\$4-8 seasonal
	bellflower, Chinese	May /	
x	black-eyed susan	June-September / does well in Reno grow from seed	no
x	bleeding heart	May / shade lover	
x	calla lily	June / tender bulb grown as annual	seasonal
	carnation	best if purchased	\$5-12
x	chrysanthemum	September-October / dozens of varieties & many colors	\$4-9

	clematis	May-June depending on variety / perennial vine in Reno	
	columbine	April-May / short-lived perennial in Reno	no
	coral bells	May / shade plant	no
	cosmos	July-August / annual from seed	
x	crocoshmia	perennial bulb if the squirrels do not get it beautiful bright flowers & graceful seed heads	no
x	daffodil	May / choose late-blooming varieties	\$ 6 - seasonal
x	dianthus	May-July / biennial-perennial in Reno (aka pinks)	yes
x	daisy	May-July depending on variety / perennial (cut commercial version is actually a 'daisy' mum)	\$2-4
	fuchsia	houseplant or annual in Reno	
	gardenia	houseplant in Reno	bloom w/ no foliage
x	geranium, cranesbill	May-August / perennial in Reno	
x	geranium, house	ever-blooming houseplant in Reno, can be grown outdoors in summer	plants
x	gladiola	May-June / tender perennial easily grown from spring- planted bulbs	yes
	heather/heath	January-April / does well where sheltered from afternoon sun	\$5-6
	hydrangea	rarely re-blooms as outdoor plant	\$10-12
	iris, breaded	May / not generally used in oriental arrangements	no
x	iris, Dutch	substituted for Japanese iris/ perennial bulb grows well in Reno	\$6-7
x	iris, yellow flag	June-July	no
	iris, Japanese	May-June (includes rabbit)	no
	iris, Siberian	June	no
x	lady's mantle	June / free-seeding perennial in Reno grown for large round leaves	no
	liatris (gayfeather)	May-June / perennial - does well in Reno, but tends to be short	yes
x	lily, Asiatic	June-August / perennial bulb does well; white preferred	
x	lily, day	June-July / perennial (tuber) does very well in Reno	
x	lily, oriental	June-August / perennial bulb does well, white preferred	yes
	mallow	May-September depending on variety	yes

	narcissus, white	force indoors	\$7
	orchid	bloom time depends on variety / houseplant in Reno	expensive
x	peony	late May / perennial in Reno	\$14-15
x	poppy, California	May-July / annual in Reno	no
	poppy, oriental	May-July / perennial, may be invasive	yes
	rape flower	May-June / planted as annual	
	snapdragon	May-October / short-lived perennial in Reno	\$7-8
	statice	May-August / annual in Reno	\$4-5
x	sunflower	July-Sept / Reno annual from seed	expensive
	sweet william	May-August / good Reno biennial	
x	tulip	April-May	\$9-16
	yarrow	May-July / perennial (take great care in selecting variety - some can overrun even lawns)	yes
x	zinnia	May-September / summer annual from seed	sometimes