



ZC Creations

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Facebook: As The Crowe Flies, *musings of a seasoned gardener*

What's in a Name?

Presented by Zannah Crowe

Binomial nomenclature:

Genus *species* 'Cultivar' / **Marketing Name**TM ("*Common Name*")

Capitalize *lower case* single quotes / **TM or R** (*double quotes*)

Also may see (after species name): subspecies (subsp.) or variety (var. or v.)

We are going to concentrate primarily on the **species names**, which can provide important information about the plant:

acaulis	stemless	lutea	yellow	spicata	spiked
alba	white	macrantha	large flowers	spinosa	spiny
angustifolia	narrow-leaved	macrophylla	large leaves	stellate	starry
annua	annual	macrorrhizum	large roots	sulphureum	yellow
argentea	silvery	maculata	spotted	sylvestris	of the woods
aurea	golden, yellow	micrantha	small flowers	tenuifolia	thin/narrow leaves
autumnalis	of autumn	microphylla	small leaves	tomentosa	fuzzy leaves
azurea	blue	millefolia	many leaves	trifoliata	three leaves
caerulea	blue	montana	from the mountains	umbellate	umbel flowers
caespitosa	dense	multiflora	many flowers	vernalis	of spring
campanulate	like a bell	nana	small	villosa	hairy
campestris	of the fields	pallida	pale	viridis	green
canadensis	from North America	palustris	from marshes	vitifolia	grape-like leaves
chinensis	from China	parviflora	small flowers	vulgaris	common
chrysantha	yellow	parvifolia	small leaves		
coccinea	red	pendula	hanging/pendant		
compacta	compact	perennis	perennial		
decidua	deciduous	pinnata	pinnate leaves		
densiflora	dense-flowered	polyphylla	many leaves		
digitata	5 lobed leaves	praecox	of spring, early		
esculenta	edible	pumila	small		
farinosa	floury, powdery	purpurea	deep pink/purple		
flava	yellow	pygmaea	small		
flora plena	double flowers	quercifolia	oak-leaved		
foetida	unpleasant smell	rosea	rose pink		
glabra	smooth	rotundifolia	round leaves		
grandiflora	large-flowered	rubra	red		
hirsute	hairy	rupestris	of the hills/cliffs		
humilis	short	sanguinea	blood red		
japonica	from Japan	sativa	cultivated		
lanceolate	lance shaped leaves	saxatilis	of rocks		
latifolia	wide leaves	scandens	climbing		
longiflora	long flowers	siberica	from Siberia		
longifolia	long leaves	somniferum	sleep inducing		

Descriptive of Leaf Form/Color/Texture:

Brunnera macrophylla (Perennial Forget-me-Not)
 Sisyrinchium angustifolium (Blue Eyed Grass)
 Achillea millefolium (Yarrow)
 Hydrangea quercifolia (Oak Leaf Hydrangea)
 Coreopsis lanceolata (Lance –Leaf Coreopsis)
 Pulmonaria longifolia (Lungwort)
 Peperomia rotundifolia (Trailing Jade)
 Heuchera villosa (Alum Root)
 Ratibida pinnata (Grey Headed Coneflower)
 Sempervivum (Hens & Chicks)
 Kalanchoe tomentosa (Kitten Ears)
 Tillandsia tenuifolia (Air Plant)
 Anemone vitifolia (Grape-Leaf Anemone)
 Gillenia/Porteranthus trifoliata (Bowman’s Root)
 Larix decidua (Tamarack/Larch)

Descriptive of Color:

Coreopsis rosea (Pink Coreopsis)
 Allium azureum/caeruleum (Blue Ornamental Onion)
 Plectranthus argentatus (Silver Plectranthus)
 Echinacea purpurea (Purple Coneflower)
 Echinacea pallida (Pale Purple Coneflower)
 Zizia aurea (Golden Alexander)
 Aquilegia chrysantha (Yellow Columbine)
 Corydalis lutea (Yellow Fumitory)
 Hemerocallis flava (Lemon Daylily)
 Salvia coccinea (Scarlet Sage)
 Actaea rubra (Baneberry)
 Sanguinaria canadensis (Bloodroot)
 Acer palmatum v. dissectum ‘Viridis’ (Jap. Maple)

Descriptive of Season of Bloom:

Lathyrus vernus (Spring Vetchling)
 Thymus praecox (Creeping Thyme)
 Sesleria autumnalis (Autumn Moor Grass)

Descriptive of Place of Origin:

Cercis canadensis (Redbud)
 Astilbe chinensis (Astilbe)
 Armeria maritima (Sea Thrift)
 Spiraea japonica (Spirea)
 Spiraea alba (Spirea)
 Scilla siberica (Siberian Squill)
 Tulipa saxatilis (Rock Garden Tulip)
 Catha palustris (Marsh Marigold)
 Centaurea montana (Mountain Bluets)
 Vitis rupestris (Mountain Grape)
 Anemone sylvestris (Spring Anemone)
 Cannabis sativa (Marijuana/Hemp)

Descriptive of Flower Form/Size:

Campanula (Bell Flower)
 Rosa multiflora (Wild Rose)
 Hydrangea paniculata ‘Grandiflora’ (P.G. Hydrangea)
 Stachys macrantha (Big Betony)
 Liatris spicata (Gayfeather)
 Aesculus parviflora (Bottlebrush Buckeye)
 Magnolia stellata (Star Magnolia)

Descriptive of Habit/ Form:

Fagus sylvatica ‘Pendula’ (Weeping Beech)
 Ruellia humilis (Prairie Petunia)
 Celastrus scandens (Bittersweet)
 Astilbe chinensis ‘Pumila’ (Dwarf Astilbe)
 Juniperus horizontalis (Rock Garden Juniper)
 Potentilla fruticosa (Shrubby Potentilla)

Used Medicinally:

species name *officinalis* or common name including “wort”

- Asparagus officinalis (Asparagus)
- Borago officinalis (Borage)
- Calendula officinalis (Pot Marigold)
- Melissa officinalis (Lemon Balm)
- Nasturtium officinalis (Watercress)
- Pulmonaria officinalis (Lungwort)
- Salvia officinalis (Sage)
- Stachys officinalis (Betony)
- Symphytum officinalis (Comfrey)
- Taraxacum officinalis (Dandelion)
- Valeriana officinalis (Valerian)

Descriptive of Distinctive Characteristic:

Symplocarpus foetidus (Skunk Cabbage)
 Camassia esculenta (Quamash)
 Geranium macrorrhiza (Big Root Geranium)
 Rhus glabra (Smooth Sumac)
 Cleome spinosa (Spiny Spiderflower)
 Syringa vulgaris (Common Lilac)
 Papaver somniferum (Opium Poppy)