

# The Native Roots Line of Plants

## Wildflowers

**I** University of Idaho  
Extension  
Kootenai County  
1250 W Ironwood, Ste 107  
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814

Phone: (208) 292-2525  
Plant Clinic: (208) 292-1377  
E-mail: [kootenaimg@uidaho.edu](mailto:kootenaimg@uidaho.edu)  
Web: [uidaho.edu/kootenai](http://uidaho.edu/kootenai)



By Kathy Hutton, Plants of the Wild, Tekoa, WA. [www.plantsofthewild.com](http://www.plantsofthewild.com)



The Native Roots™ branded line is a licensed collaboration between the University of Idaho and Native Roots, LLC. The intellectual property created by Dr. Stephen Love has been combined with the privatized business of growing native plants at Native Roots, LLC ultimately providing a product to market that has previously not been available. These predictable and reliable native plants have been bred for specific traits selected through years of plant trials within the University of Idaho. Look for these nearly-native plants at our native plant nurseries.

### **Agastache cusickii - Cusick's Hyssop**

- Selected for longevity and compactness.
- Grows in coarse well-drained rocky soil and sandy clay soils with low fertility that is neutral to slightly alkaline.
- Drought tolerant
- Soft pink flowers
- 16-20" tall, 18-24" wide
- Full sun to part shade

### **Aquilegia chrysantha - Golden Columbine**

- Selection was based solely on prolonging the bloom period.
- Grows best in part sun with well-drained soils but will tolerate dry areas if provided some additional water. It will also grow in full sun with irrigation.
- Drought Tolerant
- Golden yellow flower
- 24-36" tall, 18-24" wide
- Part shade to full sun

### **Aquilegia desertorum - Desert Columbine**

- *Short mounded plant with reddish green leaves and dark red and yellow flowers*
- *Grows best in well-drained soils with low nitrogen but will tolerate clay soils if allowed to dry down*
- *Does well in partial shade, but can take full sun with some irrigation*
- *Drought tolerant*
- *10-14" tall, 12-18" spread*

### **Aquilegia scopulorum - Utah Columbine**

- Selected for deeper blue flowers. The plant habit is very uniform.
- Grows best in well drained soils with low nitrogen, or clay soils that dry down. Prefers part shade but will do well in full sun with irrigation.
- Drought Tolerant
- Medium blue flowers
- 8-12" tall, 8-10" spread

### **Artemisia frigida - Fringed Sage**

- Requires less maintenance than common strains and shines brighter because it has more silvery leaves, and branches that are more compact.
- Drought tolerant - Semi-evergreen
- 18-24" tall, 24-36" wide
- Full sun to part shade

### **Erigeron glaucus – Seaside Daisy**

- Being selected for cold hardiness and compactness from a patch of Seaside Daisies grown in the clay soils found near Aberdeen, ID has yielded a plant that can survive the temperature extremes of the intermountain region.
- Drought tolerant
- Light lavender flower with a yellow center
- 10" tall, 16-24" spread
- Part shade to full sun

### **Erigeron speciosus - Aspen Daisy**

- Selected for foliage color, flower size and plant height
- Prefers deep sandy loam soils but will tolerate sandy clay, too.
- Drought tolerant
- Lavender petals with yellow centers
- 16-18" tall, 14-16" wide
- Full sun to part shade

### **Eriogonum brevicaulis - Short-stem Buckwheat \*An IMG Favorite in our Pollination Project Garden\***

- This Buckwheat is quite possibly the hardiest plant in the Native Roots line. It flourishes in the tightest, heaviest, most alkali soils, and is an excellent choice for many tough applications.
- Prefers coarse to medium clay soils, but will grow in slightly acidic, well-drained soils as well.
- Drought tolerant
- Yellow flowers
- 10-12" tall, 12-15" wide
- Full sun

### **Eriogonum Jamesii -James' Buckwheat**

- Loose cushion-type habit and cream flowers that turn to a deep rust color as the flowers age.
- Prefers coarse to medium clay soils, but will grow in slightly acidic, well-drained soils.
- Drought tolerant
- Cream to rust flowers
- 10-12" tall, 12-14" spread
- Full sun

### **Eriogonum strictum - Strict Buckwheat**

- Selections increased the silver on top of the leaves and warmed up the pink in the flowers.
- Overall plant habit is a globe-shape with protruding flower stalks.
- Drought tolerant
- Pink flowers
- 10-15" tall, 10-12" wide
- Full sun

### **Gaillardia aristata - Blanketflower**

- Lots of deep red blooms with very dense foliage and a long bloom period.

- Grows in most soil conditions from coarse to fine, mildly acid to mildly alkaline.
- Drought tolerant
- Deep red flower with yellow tips and butterflies love the blooms
- 24" tall, 24-30" spread
- Full sun

#### **Geum rossii -Ross' Avens**

- Selected for compact dense foliage and increased flowering.
- Moderately drought tolerant
- Yellow flowers enjoyed by butterflies
- 8-10" tall, 8-10" spread
- Part shade to full sun

#### **Monarda menthaefolia -Western Beebalm**

- Selections improved susceptibility to mildew, unique flower color and sturdiness.
- Moderately Drought Tolerant
- Lavender-pink flowers enjoyed by butterflies and hummingbirds
- 30-36" tall, 36-42" spread
- Full sun
- Deer resistant

#### **Penstemon confertus -Yellow Beardtounge**

- Prefers coarse to fine soils that are well-drained.
- Pale yellow flowers
- 24" tall, 18" spread
- Prefers partial shade

#### **Penstemon montanus - Cordroot Beardstongue**

- Compact plant with gray/green leaves
- Large lavender-to-purple blooms will re-bloom in late summer if dead-headed
- Prefers full sun and well-drained coarse or gravelly soils but will tolerate partial shade
- Drought tolerant
- 8-10" tall, 18-24" spread

#### **Penstemon pinifolius-Pineleaf Penstemon**

- Selected for a deep red color and heavy blooms.
- Prefers coarse soils, but also does well in sandy clay areas.
- Moderately drought tolerant
- Semi-evergreen with bright red flowers
- 12-18" tall, 12-18" spread
- Full sun

#### **Penstemon strictus - Rocky Mountain Penstemon**

- This selection will exhibit dense bluish-purple basal foliage and is also resistant to powdery mildew.
- Adapts to most any conditions, but prefers well-drained soils.
- Moderately drought tolerant
- Blue flowers
- 36-42" tall, 12-18" wide
- Full sun

**Penstemon whippleanus – Whipple’s Penstemon** \*An IMG Favorite in our Pollination Project Garden\*

- Dense mat of dark green foliage and large purple flowers on spikes
- Grows in coarse to medium soils that are neutral to slightly acidic and well-drained
- Prefers part shade and should be watered relatively well.
- 18-24” tall, 12-18” spread

**Potentilla thurberi - Thurber's Cinquefoil**

- Mounded plant thrives in many conditions, including full sun and clay soil. Selection was to improve the rich red of the blooms.
- Drought tolerant
- Crimson red flowers
- 15-20" tall, 20-36" spread
- full sun to partial shade
- Deer resistant

**Salvia pachyphylla - Giant purple sage** \*An IMG Favorite in our Pollination Project Garden\*

- Selections were made to enhance compactness and general "ranginess" in addition to enriching the flower color.
- Drought tolerant
- Evergreen
- Blue flower color
- 24-30" tall, 30-42" wide
- Full sun

**Townsendia incana-Hoary Townsend's Daisy**

- Prefers sandy, well-drained soil but will tolerate clay if it is allowed to dry down.
- Drought tolerant
- White flower with yellow center
- 4-6" tall, 6-10" wide
- Full sun or part shade

**Zinnia grandiflora - Desert Zinnia**

- One of the best performers of the Native Roots line, it will grow in a wide variety of conditions, but prefers a little "breathing room" to avoid foliar fungal issues.
- Drought tolerant
- Yellow flowers
- 5-10" tall, 16-24" spread
- Full sun

*MORE INFORMATION*

- [www.plantsofthewild.com](http://www.plantsofthewild.com)
- University of Idaho Arboretum has a display and trial area on the UI campus in Moscow, ID.