Plant*for*Life® www.plantforlife.info/plantspec

Top plants & trees for amenity landscapes

These plant lists highlight some of the most widely available plants for use in amenity plantings. The lists have been compiled by the Horticultural Trades Association using independent experts working closely with nurseries supplying the amenity plant market and in consultation with the Landscape Institute. Whilst expert knowledge is essential to create a successful and attractive landscape scheme, these lists can provide an initial reference guide to help in choosing the right plant for the right place. Each tree, shrub and herbaceous plant has been selected because it is a generally reliable performer in many amenity situations.

Use this list alongside the National Plant Specification (NPS) which provides specification details for thousands of plants that can be used in landscape schemes. To view these Top Plants Lists and NPS online visit www.plantforlife.info/plantspec or contact the HTA on 0118 9303132. For professional assistance on the design and management of landscape schemes, contact the Landscape Institute on 020 7299 4500 or visit www.landscapeinstitute.org

Mahonia aquifolium

Hedera helix

Rosa rugosa

Prunus avium

Crataegus monogyna

Acer campestre

Top 50 Trees

	Street	Specimen	Motorway	Hedging	Wet	Dry	Coastal	Exposed	Poor Soil	Native	Shade	Lime Tolerant
Acer campestre			✓	✓				✓	✓		✓	
Acer campestre 'Elsrijk'	✓	✓						✓			✓	✓
Acer platanoides	✓	✓			✓	✓						
Acer platanoides 'Crimson King'	✓	✓			✓	✓						
Acer platanoides 'Emerald Queen'	✓	✓			✓	✓						
Acer pseudoplatanus 'Erectum'		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Aesculus hippocastanum 'Baumannii'	✓	✓										
Alnus cordata		✓			✓			✓	✓			✓
Alnus glutinosa					✓			✓	✓	✓		✓
Alnus incana					✓			✓	✓	✓		✓
Betula pendula		✓			✓	✓				✓		
Betula utilis jacquemontii		✓			✓	✓						
Carpinus betulus		✓		✓		✓						
Carpinus betulus 'Fastigiata'	✓	✓				✓						
Castanea sativa						✓						
Corylus avellana			✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		
Corylus colurna	✓	✓										
Crataegus laevigata 'Paul's Scarlet'	✓	✓				✓			✓			
Crataegus monogyna			✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓		
Crataegus x lavallei					✓	✓		✓	✓			
Fagus sylvatica		✓	✓	✓		✓				✓		✓
Fagus sylvatica 'Purpurea'		✓		✓		✓						✓
Fraxinus angustifolia 'Raywood'	✓	✓			✓	✓						
Fraxinus excelsior ' Westhof Glorie'	✓	✓			✓	✓						
Malus 'Evereste'		✓				✓						
Malus 'John Downie'		✓				✓						
Platanus x acerifolia	✓	✓			✓	✓			✓			
Populus alba					✓				✓	✓		
Populus nigra					✓				✓	✓		
Populus tremula					✓				✓			
Prunus avium		✓	✓							✓		
Prunus avium 'Plena'	✓	✓				✓						
Prunus cerasifera 'Nigra'	✓	✓				✓						
Prunus serrulata 'Kanzan'	✓	✓				✓						
Prunus serrulata 'Snow Goose'	✓	✓				✓						
Pyrus x calleryana 'Chanticleer'	✓	✓										
Quercus palustris	✓	✓	✓			✓						
Quercus robur		✓	✓			✓				✓		
Quercus rubra	✓	✓				✓						
Salix alba					✓			✓	✓	✓		
Sorbus aria	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓				
Sorbus aucuparia 'Majestica'	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓					
Sorbus aucuparia		✓	✓		✓	✓				✓		
Sorbus aucuparia 'Cardinal Royal'	✓	✓			✓	✓						
Sorbus aucuparia 'Sheerwater Seedling'	✓	✓			✓	✓						
Sorbus intermedia	✓	✓			✓	✓						
Tilia cordata 'Green Spire'	✓	✓				✓			✓			✓
Tilia euchlora		✓				✓			✓	✓		✓
Tilia platyphyllos 'Rubra'		✓				✓			✓			✓
Tilia x europaea 'Pallida'	✓	✓				✓			✓			✓

Top 100 Shrubs

	Ground Cover	Motorway	Hedging	Wet	Dry	Coastal	Exposed	Poor Soil	Native	Evergreen
Amelanchier canadensis		✓			✓		✓	✓		
Aucuba japonica 'Crotonifolia'				✓	✓	✓		✓		✓
Berberis darwinii & other species & cultivars	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓		✓
Berberis thunbergii & cultivars	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓		
Brachyglottis 'Sunshine'					✓	✓		✓		✓
Buxus sempervirens			✓						✓	✓
Buxus sempervirens 'Suffruticosa'			✓			✓			✓	✓
Caryopteris x clandonensis					✓			✓		
Ceanothus 'Blue Mound'	✓					✓				✓
Ceanothus thyrsiflorus repens	✓					✓				✓
Ceratostigma willmottianum	✓				✓			✓		
Choisya 'Aztec Pearl'					✓					✓
Choisya ternata					✓					✓
Choisya ternata 'Sundance'					✓					✓
Cistus 'Silver Pink'	✓				✓	✓		✓		✓
Cornus alba & cultivars		✓		✓				✓	✓	
Cornus sanguinea 'Mid Winter Fire'		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	
Cornus sericea 'Flaviramea'		✓		✓				✓	✓	
Corylus avellana			✓					✓	✓	
Cotinus coggygria 'Royal Purple'			✓				✓	✓		
Cotoneaster conspicuus 'Decorus'	✓				✓			✓		
Cotoneaster dammeri	✓				✓			✓		
Cotoneaster franchetii	✓				✓			✓		
Cotoneaster horizontalis	✓				✓			✓		
Cotoneaster microphyllus	✓				✓			✓		
Cotoneaster simonsii	✓				✓			✓		
Cotoneaster suecicus 'Coral Beauty'	✓				✓			✓		✓
Cytisus praecox 'Allgold'		✓			✓					✓
Elaeagnus x ebbingei						✓				✓
Elaeagnus pungens 'Maculata'						✓				✓
Escallonia 'Apple Blossom'			✓			✓				✓
Escallonia 'Donard Seedling'			✓			✓			✓	
Escallonia iveyi			✓			✓				✓
Escallonia 'Red Elf'			✓			✓				✓
Escallonia rubra 'Crimson Spire'			✓			✓				✓
Euonymus fortunei 'Emerald Gaiety'	✓		✓			✓		✓		✓
Euonymus fortunei 'Emerald 'n' Gold'	✓		✓			✓		✓		✓
Genista hispanica	✓				✓	✓		✓		✓
Genista lydia	✓				✓	✓		✓		✓
Griselinia littoralis			✓			✓				✓
Hebe albicans	✓				✓	✓				✓
Hebe albicans 'Red Edge'	✓				✓	✓				✓
Hebe 'Mrs Winder'					✓	✓				✓
Hebe pinguifolia 'Pagei'	✓				✓	✓				✓
Hebe rakaiensis	✓				✓	✓				✓
Hebe sutherlandii	✓				✓	✓				✓
Hedera colchica 'Dentata Variegata'	✓				✓					✓
Hedera helix	✓	✓			✓			✓	✓	✓
Hedera helix 'Green Ripple'	✓	✓			✓			✓	✓	✓
Hedera helix 'Hibernica'	✓	✓			✓			✓	✓	✓
Hypericum calycinum		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓
Hypericum 'Hidcote'		✓	✓	✓	✓					✓
Hypericum x moserianum		✓			✓	✓		✓		✓
Ilex aquifolium		✓	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓
Ilex aquifolium 'J C Van Tol'		✓	✓		✓	✓				✓
Juniperus cvs eg 'Blue Carpet'					✓					✓
Lavandula angustifolia & cultivars	✓		✓		✓			✓		✓
Lavandula stoechas 'Pedunculata'	✓				✓			✓		✓
Ligustrum ovalifolium 'Aureum'		✓	✓					✓		✓
Lonicera nitida 'Baggesen's Gold'		✓	✓					✓		✓
Lonicera nitida 'Maigrun'	✓	✓	✓					✓		✓
Lonicera pileata	✓	✓	✓					✓		✓
Mahonia aquifolium	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓		✓
Mahonia japonica		✓	✓		✓					✓
Mahonia x media 'Charity'		✓	✓		✓					✓
Olearia x haastii					✓					✓
Olearia macrodonta					✓					✓
Osmanthus burkwoodii		✓								✓
Pachysandra terminalis	✓				✓			✓		✓
Philadelphus 'Belle Etoile'					✓			✓		
Philadelphus coronarius 'Aureus'					✓			✓		
Phormium tenax 'Purpureum'						✓				✓
Photinia x fraseri 'Red Robin'			✓		✓					✓
Potentilla fruticosa & cultivars	✓				✓					
Prunus laurocerasus 'Otto Luyken' & other cultivars	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓		✓
Prunus lusitanica		✓	✓		✓			✓		✓
Pyracantha coccinea & cultivars		✓	✓			✓		✓		✓
Ribes sanguineum & cultivars								✓		
Rosa rugosa			✓			✓		✓	✓	
Rosmarinus officinalis 'Miss Jessopp's Upright'			✓		✓					✓
Rubus 'Betty Ashburner'	✓			✓						✓
Rubus tricolor	✓			✓	✓				✓	✓
Ruscus aculeatus	✓									✓
Sambucus nigra 'Aurea'		✓		✓				✓	✓	
Santolina chamaecyparissus	✓				✓					✓
Sarcococca confusa										✓
Skimmia japonica 'Rubella'					✓			✓		✓
Spiraea arguta	✓		✓							
Spiraea japonica 'Firelight'	✓		✓							
Spiraea 'Goldflame'	✓		✓							
Spiraea nipponica 'Snowmound'	✓		✓							
Symphoricarpos x chenaultii 'Hancock'		✓		✓				✓		
Ulex europaeus		✓			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Viburnum davidii	✓									✓
Viburnum opulus		✓							✓	
Viburnum tinus and cultivars		✓	✓							✓
Vinca major 'Variegata'	✓							✓		✓
Vinca minor alba	✓							✓		✓
Vinca minor 'Argenteovariegata'	✓							✓		✓
Weigela florida 'Variegata'		✓								

Buxus sempervirens

Amelanchier canadensis

Deschampsia cespitosa

Stachys byzantina

Acanthus spinosus

Primula vulgaris

Geranium 'Brookside'

Top 100 Herbaceous

Including grasses, perennials and bamboos

	Ground Cover	Border	Specimen	Wet	Dry	Exposed	Shade
Acanthus spinosus		✓	✓				
Achillea filipendulina 'Gold Plate'		✓					
Agapanthus africanus		✓	✓		✓		
Agapanthus 'Headbourne Hybrids'		✓			✓		
Ajuga reptans & cultivars	✓			✓	✓		
Alchemilla mollis	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
Allium sp		✓	✓		✓		
Anemone hupehensis 'September Charm'		✓		✓	✓		
Anemone hybrida 'Honorine Jobert'		✓		✓	✓		
Artemisia 'Powis Castle'		✓			✓		
Aruncus dioicus		✓					
Aster sp + cultivars		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Astilbe 'Fanal'	✓			✓			✓
Astrantia major		✓		✓	✓		✓
Athyrium filix-femina	✓			✓			✓
Bergenia cordifolia & cultivars	✓						✓
Bergenia cordifolia 'Rotblum'	✓						✓
Bergenia 'Silberlicht'	✓					✓	✓
Calamagrostis acutiflora 'Karl Foerster'		✓	✓				
Caltha palustris	✓			✓			
Campanula carpatica 'Dark Blue Clips'		✓					
Carex buchananii		✓					
Carex oshimensis 'Evergold'		✓			✓		
Cortaderia selloana 'White Plume'		✓			✓		
Crocosmia 'Lucifer'		✓		✓	✓		
Deschampsia cespitosa		✓			✓		
Dicentra eximia 'Snowdrift'		✓		✓			✓
Digitalis purpurea		✓		✓			✓
Dryopteris felix-mas				✓			✓
Echinacea purpurea		✓		✓	✓		
Epimedium versicolor 'Sulphureum'	✓				✓		✓
Euphorbia amygdaloides 'Purpurea'		✓		✓			✓
Euphorbia amygdaloides 'Robbiae'	✓	✓		✓			✓
Euphorbia griffithii 'Fireglow'		✓		✓			✓
Euphorbia martinii		✓		✓	✓		✓
Euphorbia wulfenii		✓	✓		✓		
Fargesia murieliae 'Simba'		✓	✓				
Festuca glauca & cultivars		✓	✓		✓		
Filipendula ulmaria	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓
Geranium 'Brookside'	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Geranium clarkei 'Kashmir White'	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Geranium endressii 'Wargrave Pink'	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Geranium 'Johnson's Blue'	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Geranium macrorrhizum	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Geranium renardii	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Helenium 'Moerheim Beauty'		✓			✓		
Helictotrichon sempervirens		✓			✓	✓	
Helleborus argutifolius		✓		✓			✓
Helleborus niger		✓		✓			✓
Helleborus orientalis		✓		✓			✓
Hemerocallis 'Stafford'		✓		✓	✓		
Hemerocallis 'Stella de Oro'		✓		✓	✓		
Heuchera micrantha 'Palace Purple'	✓	✓			✓		✓
Hosta sp & cultivars	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Imperata cylindrica 'Red Baron'		✓	✓			✓	
Iris foetidissima		✓		✓			✓
Iris germanica & cultivars		✓		✓			✓
Iris pallida 'Argentea Variegata'		✓		✓			
Iris sibirica		✓				✓	
Kniphofia 'Royal Standard'		✓	✓		✓	✓	
Lamium maculatum 'Beacon Silver'	✓			✓		✓	
Leucanthemum 'Wirral Supreme'		✓	✓			✓	
Liatris spicata		✓			✓	✓	
Liriope muscari		✓			✓		
Luzula sylvatica	✓			✓			✓
Matteuccia struthiopteris	✓			✓			✓
Miscanthus sinensis 'Gracillimus'			✓	✓			
Miscanthus sinensis 'Silberfeder'			✓	✓			
Molinia caerulea			✓			✓	
Nepeta faassenii 'Six Hills Giant'		✓		✓	✓		
Ophiopogon planiscapus 'Nigrescens'	✓					✓	
Osmunda regalis			✓	✓			✓
Pennisetum alopecuroides		✓			✓	✓	
Penstemon 'Garnet'		✓				✓	
Penstemon 'Sour Grapes'		✓				✓	
Persicaria affine 'Darjeeling Red'	✓			✓			
Persicaria bistorta 'Superba'		✓		✓		✓	
Phlomis fruticosa		✓			✓		
Pleioblastus auricomus		✓			✓	✓	✓
Polystichum setiferum		✓		✓			✓
Primula vulgaris	✓			✓			
Pseudosasa japonica			✓	✓			
Pulmonaria officinalis 'Sissinghurst White'	✓						✓
Rodgersia pinnata		✓		✓			
Rudbeckia fulgida 'Goldsturm'		✓			✓		
Salvia officinalis 'East Friesland'		✓			✓		
Salvia officinalis 'Purpurascens'		✓			✓		
Sanguisorba officinalis 'Tanna'		✓		✓			
Sasa palmata		✓		✓	✓		
Sedum spectabile 'Autumn Joy'		✓		✓	✓	✓	
Sedum spectabile 'Brilliant'		✓			✓		
Stachys byzantina	✓	✓		✓	✓		
Stipa arundinacea			✓		✓		
Stipa gigantea		✓	✓		✓		
Stipa tenuissima		✓	✓		✓		
Tellima grandiflora	✓			✓	✓		✓
Tiarella cordifolia	✓			✓	✓		✓
Verbena bonariensis		✓				✓	
Viola labradorica	✓			✓		✓	
Waldsteinia ternata	✓				✓	✓	

The National Plant Specification
The NPS – drawn up by plant specifiers and growers – is an important vehicle to aid the selection, specification and delivery of reliable plant material throughout the landscape industry.

For more information visit: **www.gohelios.co.uk**

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