Annual Flowers for Utah Gardens

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Rainbows Take Second Place In The Color Contest When Compared To Spectacular Annual Flowers
Every Possible Color And Hue Is Available Either As The Work Of Mother Nature Or Of Plant Breeders Who Have Improved What Is Naturally Available
I Am Often Asked What I Consider To Be My Favorite Flower
You Might Just As Well Ask About My Favorite Flavor Of Ice Cream
Insulting an ice cream lover with almost any flavor is hard, and insulting a horticulturist with almost any flower is equally difficult.
I Can Safely Say My Favorite Is Usually The One I Am Looking At Right Now
Annuals Are Planted In The Spring And Die With The Fall Frost
Many Annuals We Grow Are Tender Perennials That Do Not Take Our Cold Winters
Some Are Winter Annuals That Are Planted In The Fall And Bloom With The Spring Bulbs
Annual Gardens Have Several Advantages
They Can Be Entirely Changed Each Year

– If You Were Unhappy With Last Year's
– Size,
– Shape
– Color
– Mix
– Pest Resistance
Start Over With New Everything Each Year
Annuals Advantages

– If You Are Dealing With Problem Soils You Can;
– Add Organic Matter
– Make Other Improvements When The Plants Die
– Change Designs Easily
– Rotate Plants
Annuals Advantages

– Annuals Also Offer An Opportunity For Serious Weed Control
– All The Flowers Are Taken Out Each Year
– This Allows Deep Cultivation, Digging And The Use Of Herbicides If Needed
This Creates The Beauty That You Want
Disadvantages Include

– The Need To Replant Each Year
– The Associated Cost Of Flowers And The Labor
In Spite Of These Factors, Annual Beds Are Often Less Costly Than Perennial Beds Because Of Perennial Flowers Require Additional Labor
No Flowers Present A Greater Show Than The Annuals
Fortunately, Most Gardens Happily Contain A Mix Of Both Annuals And Perennials
Each Year Dozens Of New Annuals Reach The Market
Combine These With Your Old Favorites And Create Beautiful Displays
Don't Fall Into The Trap Of Thinking That Petunias And Marigolds Are The Only Annual Flowers That Grow Here
The Best Advice About Designing Flower Beds Is To Use Several Kinds Of Plants
This Creates The Beauty That You Want
Formal Beds Or Those With A Single Color Or Variety Make A Stupendous Splash, But The Interest In Such Beds Soon Wanes
Vibrant Mixes Of Many Colors And Textures Give A Dynamic Feeling To The Planting That Keeps Your Interest As The Beds Change Through The Season
Use Them To Create Beautiful Beds That Will Enhance Your Garden
The Hundreds Of Varieties Give An Almost Endless Palette As You Recreate The Beauty Of The Rainbow In Your Garden
Consider The Following Flowers As Suitable Annual Flowers
Floss Flower

*Ageratum houstonianum*

- Height: 6-12 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): Long-lasting blue, white, or mauve
- Bloom: Early summer to fall frost
- Velvety flower clusters
- Use: Edging or cutting
Flossflower
Ageratum houstonianum
Joseph’s Coat

*Amaranthus tricolor*

- Height: 3 feet
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): Not important
- Foliage plant with red, orange, purple, gold, or lime green leaves
- Tolerates heat and drought
- Colorful all season
- Use: Tall background
Joseph’s Coat
Amaranthus tricolor
Amarath
Summer Forget-me-not

*Anchusa capensis*

- Height: 10-18 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): Blue
- Grows best in cool regions
- Blooms in summer
- Use: Beds, borders, and edging
Summer forget-me-not

Anchusa capensis
Wax Begonia

*Begonia semperflorens*

- Height: 6-12 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): Rose, pink, red and white, plus bicolors
- Exposure: shade or partial sun
- Bloom: Summer to fall
- Use: Beds, borders, window boxes, tubs, and containers
Begonia

Begonia
Browallia

*Browallia speciosa*

- Height: 8 to 18 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): Blue or white
- Requires shade
- Bloom: Summer to fall
- Use: Beds, borders, and hanging baskets
Browallia

*Browallia speciosa*
Caladium

*Caladium x hortulanum*

- Height: 1 to 3 feet
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): Not important
- Exposure: Light to deep shade
- Colorful foliage
- Use: Shade gardens and containers
Caladium

Caladium x hortulanum
Calceolaria

*Calceolaria crenatiflora*

- Height: 6 to 18 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): Red, rose-pink, orange, or yellow
- Cool shady areas
- Use: Containers, beds, borders
Pot Marigold

*Calendula officinalis*

- Height: 12-24 inches
- Fragrant: Yes
- Flower color(s): Yellow, orange, or apricot
- Exposure: Full sun
- Bloom: Spring to fall
- Use: Beds, borders, and cutting
Pot Marigold
Calendula officinalis
Calibrachoa

*Calibrachoa hybrid*

- Height: 8 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): Purple, white, or pink
- Exposure: Full sun to light shade
- Bloom: Spring to fall
- Use: Baskets, containers, and groundcover
Ornamental Pepper

*Capsicum annuum*

- Height: 10 to 20 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): Not important
- Exposure: Full sun
- Colorful fruits
- Use: Containers and borders
Ornamental Pepper

*Capsicum annuum*
Vinca

*Catharanthus roseus*

- Height: 4 to 18 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): White, pink, or red
- Exposure: Full sun to partial shade
- Bloom: Late spring to mid fall
- Use: Bedding, borders, ground cover, and baskets
Vinca
*Catharanthus roseus*
Celosia

*Celosia species*

- Height: 6-30 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): Yellow, orange, pink, or red
- Requires full sun
- Bloom: Early summer to fall
- Use: Beds, borders, and dried flowers
Celosia

Celosia species
Bachelor’s Button

*Centaurea cyanus*

- Height: 15-36 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): Blue, pink, purple, or white
- Requires full sun or light shade
- Bloom: Early summer to fall
- Use: Mixed beds, borders, and cutting
Bachelor’s Button
Centaurea cyanus
Godetia
*Clarkia hybrids*

- Height: 24 to 36 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): White, pink, or mauve
- Exposure: Full sun or light shade
- Bloom: Spring to summer
- Use: Beds, borders, and containers
Godetia
Clarkia hybrids
Clarkia

*Clarkia unguiculata*

- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): White, red, orange, pink, or purple
- Bloom: Early summer
- Height: 36 inches
- Use: Cutting
Spider Flower

*Cleome hassleriana*

- Height: 36 to 72 inches
- Fragrant No
- Flower color(s): White, rose, pink, or purple
- Exposure: Full sun or light shade
- Bloom: Summer to frost
- Use: Backgrounds and cutting
Spider Flower
Cleome hassleriana
Cup and Saucer Vine

*Cobaea scandens*

- Height: 240 to 360 inches
- Fragrant Yes
- Flower Color(s): Violet-purple or white
- Attractive green calyx looks like a saucer
- Flowers not fragrant until fully open
- Sow in February for transplanting in May
Cup and Saucer Vine
Cobaea scandens
Coleus

*Coleus x hybridus*

- Height: 12 to 24 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): Blue
- Exposure: Shade
- Foliage colors include bronze, red, yellow, and green
- Use: Beds, borders, edging, and hanging baskets
Coleus

*Coleus x hybridus*
Larkspur
*Consolida ambigua*

- Height: 12 to 24 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): Pinks, blues, purples, or white
- Exposure: Full sun to light shade
- Bloom: Spring to fall
- Use: Borders, cottage, meadow, and cutting
Larkspur

Consolida ambigua
Dwarf Morning Glory

*Convolvulus tricolor*

- Height: 12 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): Bright blue, pink, or purple
- Exposure: Full sun
- Bloom: Spring to summer
- Use: Rock gardens, walls, edging, and containers
Dwarf Morning Glory
*Convolvulus tricolor*
Cosmos

*Cosmos bipinnatus*

- Height: 24 to 84 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): Pink, white, lavender, or magenta
- Exposure: Full sun to partial shade
- Bloom: Early summer to fall
- Use: Mixed beds, borders, cutting
Cosmos
Cosmos bipinnatus
Yellow Cosmos

*Cosmos sulphureus*

- Height: 18 to 60 inches
- Fragrant:
- Flower color(s): Yellow, orange, or scarlet
- Exposure: Full sun
- Bloom: Early summer to fall
- Use: Mixed beds, borders, cutting
Yellow Cosmos

*Cosmos sulphureus*
Cigar Plant
*Cuphea ignea*

- Height: 12 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): Red with black band at tip
- Exposure: Full sun to light shade
- Bloom: Midsummer to fall
- Use: Beds, borders, and planters
Cigar Plant

*Cuphea ignea*
Chinese forget-me-not

*Cynoglossum amabile*

- Height: 18 to 24 inches
- Flower color(s): Blue, white, or pink
- Exposure: Full sun
- Bloom: Early summer to fall
- Self sow readily
- Use: Beds, borders, edging, rock gardens, and dainty cut flowers
Chinese forget-me-not
*Cynoglossum amabile*
Bedding Dahlia

*Dahlia hybrids*

- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): All colors except blue
- Height: 12 to 24 inches
- Exposure: Full sun or light shade
- Bloom: Mid summer to frost
- Use: Borders, bedding, containers, and cut flowers
Datura

*Datura meteloides*

- Height: 36 to 60 inches
- Fragrant Yes
- Flower color(s): Yellow, pink, white, or peach
- Exposure: Full sun or light shade
- Bloom: Mid summer to frost
- Use: Borders and containers
Datura

*Datura meteloides*
California Poppy

*Eschscholzia californica*

- Height: 12 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): Orange, yellow, red, pink, or white
- Exposure: Full sun or light shade
- Use: Beds, borders, and rock gardens
California Poppy
*Eschscholzia californica*
Snow-on-the-mountain

*Euphorbia marginata*

- Height: 2 feet
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): White
- Exposure: Full sun or light shade
- Use: Beds, borders, and massing
Snow-on-the-mountain
*Euphorbia marginata*
Gazania

_Gazania rigens_

- Height: 6 to 12 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): Yellow, orange, red, or muted pink
- Exposure: Full sun
- Bloom: Summer to frost
- Use: Borders, beds, and containers
Gazania
Gazania rigens
Globe Amaranth

_Gomphrena globosa_

- Height: 18 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): White, pink, purple, orange, or red
- Exposure: Full sun
- Bloom: Summer to fall
- Use: Borders, beds, containers, and cutting
Globe Amaranth
Gomphrena globosa
Sunflower
Helianthus

- Height: 2 to 10 feet
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): White, yellow, gold, or red
- Exposure: Full sun or light shade
- Bloom: Summer to frost
- Use: Borders, screens, fences, lined along buildings and fences, and containers
Sunflower
Helianthus
Strawflower

*Helichrysum*

- Height: 18 to 36 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): White, yellow, orange, red, pink, or purple
- Exposure: Full sun
- Bloom: Summer
- Use: Beds, borders, cutting, and drying
Strawflower
*Helichrysum*
Heliotrope

*Heliotropium arborescens*

- Height: 1 to 2 feet
- Fragrant: Yes
- Flower color(s): Blue, white, or violet
- Exposure: Full sun or light shade
- Bloom: Indefinitely
- Use: Containers, alone, edging, and mixed plantings
Heliotrope

*Heliotropium arborescens*
Moonflower Vine

Ipomoea alba

- Height: 120 to 360 inches
- Fragrant Yes
- Flower Color(s): White
- Exposure: Full sun
- Bloom: Summer to fall
- Use: Trellis, fence, arbor, around patios, porches, and outdoor dining areas
- Sow in May after soaking seeds overnight, or notching seeds
- Flowers bloom in the evening, hence the name
Moonflower Vine

Ipomoea alba
Sweet Potato Vine

*Ipomoea batatas*

- Height: 72 to 120 inches
- Fragrant No
- Flower Color(s): Not grown for flowers
- Exposure: Full sun to partial shade
- 'Blackie' is a dark leafed cultivar; 'Tricolor' has shades of pink, cream, green; 'Chartreuse' is lime-green
- Use: Baskets and containers and also as a ground cover
Sweet Potato Vine
*Ipomoea batatas*
Annual Sweet Pea

*Lathyrus odoratus*

- Height: 72 inches
- Fragrant Yes
- Flower Color(s): Purple, pink, or white
- Exposure: Full sun
- Bloom: Mid spring to early summer
- Use: Trellises, bamboo canes, or string, and cut flowers
Annual Sweet Pea
Lathyrus odoratus
Keep cutting to promote flowering
Sow in mid-March to mid-April
Keep moist during growing
Annual Sweet Pea
*Lathyrus odoratus*
Tree Mallow

*Lavatera hybrids*

- Height: 24 to 48 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): White or pink
- Exposure: Full sun
- Bloom: Midsummer
- Use: Borders, beds, or as low screen or temporary shrub
Tree Mallow
*Lavatera* hybrids
Statice

*Limonium sinuatum*

- Height: 12 to 24 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): White, blue, lavender, yellow, or pink
- Exposure: Full sun
- Bloom: Midsummer
- Use: Mixed beds and borders and cutting
Statice
*Limonium sinuatum*
Toadflax

*Linaria maroccana*

- Height: 8 to 12 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): Wide range of bright colors
- Exposure: Full sun
- Bloom: April to frost
- Use: Rock gardens and walls, cottage gardens, window boxes, and edging
Toadflax
Linaria maroccana
Lisianthus

Eustoma

- Height: 12 to 18 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): Ivory, pink, or purple
- Exposure: Full sun
- Bloom: Summer
- Use: Cut flowers, borders, and containers
Lisianthus

Lisianthus
Edging Lobelia

*Lobelia erinus*

- Height: 4 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): Blue, lavender, pink, or white
- Exposure: Shade or sun
- Bloom: Spring into summer
- Use: Edging, containers, and rock gardens
Edging Lobelia
*Lobelia erinus*
Sweet Alyssum

*Lobularia maritima*

- Height: 3 to 6 inches
- Fragrant Yes
- Flower color(s): Lavender, pink, or white
- Exposure: Full sun or light shade
- Bloom: Spring to frost
- Use: Edging beds, borders, rock gardens, and dry walls
Sweet Alyssum
*Lobularia maritima*
Melampodium

*Melampodium paludosum*

- Height: 8 to 12 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): Golden yellow
- Exposure: Full sun
- Bloom: Summer to frost
- Use: Beds, borders, edging, and containers
Melampodium

*Melampodium paludosum*
Four-o’ clock

*Mirabilis jalapa*

- Height: 24 to 36 inches
- Fragrant Yes
- Flower color(s): White, yellow, red, pink, or bicolor
- Exposure: Full sun to partial shade
- Bloom: Summer through fall
- Use: Temporary shrubs, beds, and borders
Four-o’ clock
Mirabilis jalapa
Bells of Ireland

*Moluccella laevis*

- Height: 24 to 36 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): White
- Exposure: Full sun to partial shade
- Bloom: Midsummer to fall
- Use: Cutting or dried flowers
Bells of Ireland

*Moluccella laevis*
Forget-me-not

*Myosotis sylvatica*

- Height: 15 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): Sky-blue, white, or pink
- Exposure: Sun or shade
- Bloom: Spring
- Use: Massed as a groundcover, under spring bulbs, borders, water, and bog gardens
Forget-me-not

Myosotis sylvatica
Nemesia

*Nemesia strumosa*

- Height: 12 to 24 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): White, yellow, red, pink, orange, or mauve
- Exposure: Full sun or partial shade
- Bloom: Late spring into fall
- Use: Bedding, edging, borders, and cutting
Nemesia

*Nemesia strumosa*
Baby blue-eyes

*Nemophila menziesii*

- Height: 6 to 12 inches
- Fragrant Yes
- Flower color(s): Blue and white
- Exposure: Full sun or partial shade
- Bloom: June to frost
- Use: Edging, naturalizing, beds, rock gardens, and containers
Baby blue-eyes
*Nemophila menziesii*
Flowering Tobacco

*Nicotiana*

- Height: Various
- Fragrant: Yes
- Flower color(s): Various
- Exposure: Sun or partial shade
- Bloom: Early summer into fall
- Use: Borders, beds, containers, spotted, massed, and near sitting areas or doorways
Flowering Tobacco

*Nicotiana*
Love-in-a-mist

*Nigella damascena*

- Height: 15 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): Pink, white, or blue
- Exposure: Full sun
- Bloom: Summer
- Use: Informal borders, cottage gardens, or as an airy foil to dense plants
Love-in-a-mist
*Nigella damascena*
Ornamental Basil

*Ocimum basilicum*

- Height: 8-24 inches
- Fragrant Yes
- Flower color(s): White
- Exposure: Full sun
- Bloom: Summer to fall
- Use: Backgrounds in beds and borders
Basil
Ocimum
Geranium

*Pelargonium x hortorum*

- Height: 18 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): Wide range of bright colors
- Exposure: Full sun
- Bloom: Spring through fall
- Use: Pots, bedding, borders, hanging baskets, and other containers
Geranium
Pelargonium x hortorum
Petunia

*Petunia x hybrida*

- Height: 12 inches
- Fragrant Yes
- Flower color(s): All colors except orange
- Exposure: Full sun or partial shade
- Bloom: All season long
- Use: Bedding, borders, hanging baskets, window boxes, and containers
Petunia

*Petunia x hybrida*
Annual Phlox

*Phlox drummondii*

- Height: 8 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): Pink, red, salmon, purple, mauve, white, or bicolor
- Exposure: Full sun
- Bloom: Summer to frost
- Use: Bedding, edging, and containers
Annual Phlox
*Phlox drummondii*
Moss Rose

*Portulaca grandiflora*

- Height: 6 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): Pink, Purple, Orange, Yellow, Red
- Exposure: Full sun
- Bloom: Early summer to frost
- Use: Edges, walls, cracks between paving stones, beds, rock gardens, and containers
Moss Rose
*Portulaca grandiflora*
Castor Bean

*Ricinus communis*

- Height: 60 to 180 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): White
- Exposure: Full sun
- Use: Use sparingly as a background
- Very Poisonous Seeds! Use with caution
Castor Bean
*Ricinus communis*
Painted Tongue

*Salpiglossis sinuata*

- Height: 24 to 36 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): Clear white, yellow, purples, reds, bronzes, blues, or pinks
- Exposure: Full sun
- Bloom: Summer
- Use: Borders and cut flowers
Painted Tongue
Salpiglossis sinuata
Salvia

Salvia species

- Height: 18 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): Many
- Exposure: Full sun or light shade
- Bloom: Summer through fall
- Use: Bedding, borders, containers, and cut flowers
Salvia
Salvia species
Creeping Zinnia
Sanvitalia procumbens

- Height: 6 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): Golden-yellow or orange
- Exposure: Full sun
- Bloom: Summer through frost
- Use: Edging, ground cover, beds, borders, rock gardens, walls, and containers
Creeping Zinnia
Sanvitalia procumbens
Fan Flower

*Scaevola*

- Height: 10 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): Blues
- Exposure: Full sun
- Bloom: Late spring to frost
- Use: Hanging baskets, mixed container plantings, beds, and walls
Fan Flower
Scaevola
Dusty Miller

*Senecio cineraria*

- Height: 8 to 16 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): Not important
- Exposure: Full sun or light shade
- Silver foliage
- Use: Beds, borders, mixed containers, edging, and carpet bedding
Dusty Miller
*Senecio cineraria*
Marigold

*Tagetes hybrids*

- Height: 12 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): Yellows, golds, oranges, or some bicolor
- Exposure: Full sun
- Bloom: Summer into fall
- Use: Bedding, edging, cutting, and borders
Marigold
*Tagetes* hybrids
Black-eyed Susan vine

*Thunbergia alata*

- Height: 60 to 120 inches
- Fragrant No
- Flower Color(s): Yellow, orange, white with dark purple center
- Exposure: Full sun or light shade
- Sow seeds early to transplant in May
Black-eyed Susan vine
*Thunbergia alata*
Dahlberg Daisy

*Thymophylla tenuiloba*

- Height: 4 to 8 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): Yellow
- Exposure: Full sun
- Bloom: Summer into fall
- Use: Edging, bedding, desert, rock gardens, walls, hanging baskets, and containers
Dahlberg Daisy
*Thymophylla tenuiloba*
Mexican Sunflower

*Tithonia rotundifolia*

- Height: 48 to 72 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): Red-orange
- Exposure: Full sun
- Bloom: Midsummer through fall
- Use: Borders, temporary screen, specimen, hedge, and cutting
Mexican Sunflower
*Tithonia rotundifolia*
Wishbone Flower
*Torenia fournieri*

- Height: 8 to 12 inches
- Fragrant
- Flower color(s): Rich purple or pink bi-tones
- Exposure: Partial to deep shade
- Bloom: Summer to frost
- Use: Bedding, edging, and hanging baskets
Wishbone Flower
*Torenia fournieri*
Nasturtium

*Tropaeolum majus*

- Height: up to 10 feet
- Fragrant No
- Flower Color(s): Orange, red, yellow, white, bicolors
- Exposure: Full sun
- Flowers are edible
- Use: Trailing edger and in window boxes
Nasturtium

*Tropaeolum majus*

- Prefers loose soil
- Don't fertilize
- Doesn't like to be transplanted
Nasturtium
*Tropaeolum majus*
Garden Verbena

**Verbena x hybrida**

- Height: 6 to 8 inches
- Fragrant Yes
- Flower color(s): Neon blue, red, white, pink, or purple
- Exposure: Full sun
- Bloom: Summer
- Use: Beds, borders, containers, and walls
Garden Verbena
Verbena x hybrida
Narrowleaf Zinnia

*Zinnia angustifolia*

- Height: 12 inches
- Fragrant: No
- Flower color(s): White, gold, or orange
- Exposure: Full sun
- Bloom: Summer to frost
- Use: Ground cover, edging, borders, rock gardens, walls, and hanging baskets
Narrowleaf Zinnia
Zinnia angustifolia
Zinnia

- Height: 6 to 40 inches
- Fragrant: No
- Flower color(s): Many colors
- Exposure: Full sun
- Bloom: Summer to frost
- Use: Borders, beds, edging, cut flowers, and in containers
Zinnia
Zinnia
The End
Thanks for Coming