

PICA PRE-ORDER PERENNIAL SALE 2020

Welcome to the PICA Plant Sale! This annual sale supports the efforts of Power in Community Alliances, based in Bangor. For more than 30 years PICA has been building grassroots community alliances to confront global problems of economic justice, human and worker rights, and to address the effects of the global economy on our own lives. For more information, go to www.pica.ws

These perennials are organically grown by Peter and Julie Beckford of Rebel Hill Farm, now located in Liberty, Maine. The plants are field grown, over-wintered, well rooted, and hardy. Gardeners' choices in plants matter a lot to wildlife and the surrounding natural areas. Many of our plants are natives, meaning that they were growing in Central or Eastern North America prior to European settlement. Plants native to Maine are noted as such. All plants are MOFGA certified organic.

1. Anemone canadensis (Meadow Anemone) MAINE 2'/white cups/ spring/best in sun.
Independent attitude- spreads quickly, tons of bright, white flowers in early summer, and perfect for filling unintended areas. Can do well in part shade and tolerates drought when established.
2. Aquilegia (columbine) Mrs. Scott Elliott 3' / pastels / long-spurred / June-July
How nice! A memorial to the breeder's wife. This strain is even older than the famous McKana.
3. Aruncus dioicus (Goatsbeard) 3-6'/ creamy white plumes/ early summer/partial sun to shade.
Will grow to shrub size after dying back to its crown every year.
4. Asclepias syriaca (Common Milkweed) MAINE 2-4'/pink and green/ summer / spreads
Exquisite, complex flowers and an excellent nectar plant. Its leaves are the only food for monarch caterpillars. Spreads by rhizomes, so give it room to breathe.
5. Campanulastrum americanum (Tall Bellflower) 4-6'/blue, delphinium-like/summer/biennial
Tall flower stalks really attract the bees. It's much like a delphinium. Biennial, native.
6. Coreopsis lanceolata (Sand Coreopsis) 18-30" / golden yellow / early summer
A tough, vigorous prairie plant with many cheery yellow flowers. Excellent, clump-forming perennial, adapted to sandy, dry soil. Extremely hardy; long-lived and bushy.
7. NEW Dicentra eximia (Bleeding Heart) 12-18"/red-pink/sun-shade/native to Appalachain Mts
This wild dwarf bleeding heart dangles intricate red blossoms. Leaves are tender, the plant is tough. Ant dispersed seed. Long blooming.
8. Echinacea purpurea (Purple Coneflower) 2-3'/pink-dark rose/ July-August - sun
Native to prairies, this is the classic robust cottage garden plant and well-known medicinal.
9. Echinacea purpurea 'White Swan' (Coneflower) 2-3'/white/sun
Part and parcel of diversity, these white forms pop up once in a great while, get selected and make the pinks pinkier.
10. Echinacea tennesseensis (Tennessee coneflower) 12-24" / pink / July - October / endangered
This coneflower is a rare endemic species native to Tennessee. We love the varying hues of pink to almost red and purple, with petals that often curl. Blooms as late as September. From cultivated, organic seed.
11. Eutrochium purpureum (Joe-Pye Weed) 4-5'/mauve to purple/moist/native
Joe Pye has large wide flower heads that pollinators love. Takes up some room; likes moisture but can take a dryish garden.
12. Helenium autumnale (Helen's flower) 4' / yellow / fall / sun
This was blooming on the edge of the Penobscot River, just beyond an area that was weed-whacked in the 'clean-up' effort for the National Folk Festival. Lucky plant!
13. Heliopsis helianthoides (Early Sunflower) 3-5'/golden/summer.
This rugged plant can take lots of exposure and will not give in to heat and rough winds. It blooms for a long time, starting around the summer solstice, and may have a secondary bloom in September.
14. Lavandula (lavender) 'Munstead' 12-16" / blue / July-August
Lovely dried, this most aromatic of herbs retains its scent forever. Crush a few dried stalks once in a while to be reminded of summer.
15. Lobelia cardinalis (Cardinal Flower) MAINE 18-24"/scarlet/sun/wet areas/August
As the name suggests, it stands alone when it comes to the color red. Plants may appear small upon

delivery but they will grow fast, especially if kept moist in rich soil.

16. Lobelia syphilitica (Great Blue Lobelia) MAINE 18-24"/blue/Aug-Sept.

No easier perennial, lobelia seeds in profusely and bursts into bloom with many blue stalks.

17. Monarda bradburnia (Bee Balm) 1-2'/pink-lavender/June

Much earlier, shorter, mildew resistant, with glossy maroon leaves in fall; native bee balm!

18. Monarda didyma (Bee Balm, 'Panorama Mix' cultivar) 4'/lavender, magenta, purple, white/June
Bees, butterflies and hummingbirds meet here. Uncommon colors, no telling what you'll get.

19. Monarda fistulosa (wild bergamot) 2-4' / pink/lavender / July –Sept / sun to part shade

This tough native bee balm tolerates deer and drought.

20. Papaver orientale Pizzicato Mix' 18-24" / pink to scarlet mix with black eye / sun

Winner of the Fleuroselect Gold Medal for 1995, this vigorous, compact poppy produces up to 20 huge flowers per plant.

21. Papaver orientale 'Prince of Orange' 2-3'/orange/May-June

These big showy petals will knock your socks off. Once established, plants will get huge.

22. Physostegia virginiana (Obedient Plant) MAINE 3'/pink/Sept-October

Spreads slowly to brighten the fall garden with a nice stand of light pink, obedient flowers.

23. **NEW** Pycnanthemum muticum (Blunt Mountain Mint) 3-4'/white to violet/August/moist is fine/Maine
A great nectar plant for wasps, flies, moths, and co. Silvery flower bracts over deep green foliage.

24. Rhubarb -- Good ol' rhubarb, with all the benefits of a good ol' pie. Wait a year or two to begin harvesting. Keep it weed free and feed it an annual mulch of compost. Its gigantic, glossy leaves and tall flower stalks are quite architectural; some people grow it for foliage alone. Rhubarb was cultivated for medicinal purposes in China as early as 2700 BCE.

25. **NEW** Rosa virginiana (Virginia Rose) 2-4'/pink/summer/patches/drought tolerant/Maine

This is the true native wild rose that you want for an impenetrable patch that all wildlife love, from spiders to birds and mammals. Shortish, with small rose hips that linger into winter.

26. Rudbeckia fulgida (coneflower) 24" / golden / July / sun

This wild variety is the only reliably hardy perennial rudbeckia we've found. Bright golden flowers with dark centers, and plenty of them.

27. Rudbeckia laciniata (Wild Golden Glow) MAINE 5-8'/yellow, green disk/summer

A woodchuck taught us that the very early, fresh shoots taste like celery. Makes a tall patch, spreads quickly. Maine's version of the prairie helianthus.

28. Salvia azurea (Blue Sage) 2-3'/light blue/fall/sun/native

One of our favorite late bloomers, also loved by the last bumble bees. The flowers are a striking blue and large for a sage. Slow to emerge in spring.

29. Silphium perfoliatum (Cup Plant) 3-8'/yellow/4' wide/summer/moist or dry/native

This awesome prairie plant has big flowers and great leaves that catch dew for insects and birds.

30. Solidago juncea (Early Goldenrod) MAINE 3'/late July/dry is fine.

Let the goldenrod promenade begin! This is the opening act for the extravaganza of nineteen Maine goldenrods. Not aggressive. Contrary to popular belief, goldenrods do not cause hay fever.

31. Symphytum novae-angliae (New England Aster) MAINE 2-6'/ purple or pink/fall/sun /

The late bees rely on New England Asters to brighten their last fall days.

32. Verbena hastata (Blue Vervain) MAINE 4-7'/thin purple spikes/rugged

Blue vervain is a popular Maine wildflower, often seen roadside in wet areas. easy to grow, seeds in.

33. Viola sororia (mixed colors) – beloved spring flower that appears in lawns and will self-seed.

SPECIALS – top quality Maine natives! These are trickier to propagate so we ask a little more, \$11/plant.

40. Onoclea sensibilis (Sensitive Fern) 1-2' / spreads / part shade

Easy to grow, spreads quickly, and is a light green that glows in dappled sunlight. Once established, it can form a solid mass of broad fern leaves. It is both rugged (can tolerate occasional mowing) and sensitive (to the first light frost).

41. Rubus odoratus (Purple Flowering Raspberry) 3-6' / deep rose purple / showy flowers / shrub / part shade

So showy it's hard to believe it's a native Mainer! The flowers look like wild roses, nearly 2 inches wide, and have a shimmery satiny texture. The foliage is also nice, like large fuzzy maple leaves. It spreads

but doesn't form a thicket, and there are no thorns. Reportedly it has fruit, but we've never noticed any.

42. Sanguinaria canadensis (Bloodroot)

Bloodroot is the earliest spring ephemeral – i.e., it blooms in the sun, before trees leaf out above it. The milky white flowers are an astonishing sight in late April, all the more valued because they remain just a few days. Then the round-lobed leaves take over to make an excellent groundcover. It will spread, but slowly. The common name of this charming plant comes from the red sap in the flowering stems.

MEDICINAL AND CULINARY HERBS

- A. Catnip (*Nepeta mussinii*) **NEW**
- B. Comfrey (*Symphytum officinale*)
- C. Horehound (*Marrubium vulgare*)
- D. Hyssop
- E. Lavender (*Lavandula 'Munstead'*)
- F. Lemon Balm (*Melissa officinalis*)
- G. Marshmallow (*Althea officinalis*)
- H. Nettles, Stinging (*Urtica dioica*)
- I. Oregano (*Origanum heracleoticum*) **NEW**
- J. German Thyme (*Thymus vulgaris*) **NEW**
- K. Yarrow, white (*Achillea millefolium*)

IMPORTANT DETAILS

QUESTIONS? Contact Francine Wickes at 945-0020 or <fraw@gwi.net>

PRICES: One Plant for \$10, 4 plants for \$9 each, 10 or more plants for \$8.50 each. Specials numbered 40-42 -- \$11 each (not included in multiple discounts).

PAYMENT: due on delivery.

DEADLINE: Please have your order to the PICA Office (61 Main Street, Suite 25, Box 7, Bangor) or Francine Wickes by May 8.

PICKUP: Your order will be available for pick up (at a safe physical distance of course!) in mid to late May; the date and location are yet to be determined. **We'll keep you posted.**

RELAX: These plants are sold in pots, labeled, and raring to grow. Most are in gallon-size or six-inch containers. They are not bare-root, and will be fine in their pots until you're ready to garden.

GUARANTEE: if any plant you buy doesn't survive its first summer, or you are less than satisfied in any way, please let Julie and Pete at Rebel Hill Farm know, and they will set things right; (207) 589-3023.

To research plants, visit the native plant database at: wildflower.org



