

# tan-y-lyn perennials – plants listed and descriptions 2025/6

Sun, 5 Oct 2025		week number	40	PDF COPY		(‘damp’ does not mean wet, ‘good drainage’ does not mean no moisture, ‘shade’ does not mean under a shade-tolerant plant)	
Genus	species	variety/cultivar	Description	RHS	Tolerates		Form
<i>Achillea</i>	<i>fillipendulina</i>	Gold Plate	A tall upright yarrow with impressively large golden flat heads. Attracts bees and flower arrangers.	AGM H7	dryish soil friendly		perennial
<i>Achillea</i>	<i>millefolium</i>	Salmon Beauty	Flat heads of salmon pink flowers becoming pale with age. Finely cut foliage. Used dried for sachets.		dryish soil friendly		perennial
<i>Acorus</i>	<i>gramineus</i>	Ogon	Fans of narrow green and yellow striped leaves, marginal or aquatic plant. A splash of colour in any year round. Ogon in Japanese = yellow/gold		dampness		herb / shrub
<i>Actinidia</i>	<i>deliciosa</i>	Kiwi Jenny	A vigorous climber to 6 metres. Sweet fruit from exposed, hardiness -5 to 10°C Very attractive velvety foliage especially when young (watch out for frosts!) The fruit is subtle but sweet and will ripen indoors. Self fertile and will pollinate other female cultivars.				fruit
<i>Aegopodium</i>	<i>podagraria</i>	variegata	Variegated ground elder; pretty but set on domination.		competition		perennial
<i>Aeonium</i>	<i>arboreum</i>	Zwartkop	Almost black architectural foliage. = Schwarzkopf. Not hardy unless you live in Madeira	AGM	sunshine!		shrub
<i>Ajuga</i>	<i>reptans</i>	Black Scallop	Very dark leaves (especially at cool or light times of year). Semi evergreen bugle. Grows in shade, soil, walls and rock crevices.	AGM	shade/damp friendly		perennial (low)
<i>Ajuga</i>	<i>reptans</i>	Caitlin's Gia	Giant' says it all... very useful competitive ground cover. Bugles that relish moist soils and can get sunburn if too exposed.	AGM	shade/damp friendly		perennial (low)
<i>Alchemilla</i>	<i>mollis</i>	Lady's Mante	More herbaceous than maritima; risky! You need a controlling personality, but romantics love the cupped leaves, full of sparkling droplets of water when it rains. Yellow foamy flowers good in a vase or dried. Give them a buzzcut when they look tired.		neglect!		perennial (low)
<i>Allium</i>	<i> fistulosum</i>	Welsh onion	A native of Siberia ("Walisch" = foreign) not Wales; an evergreen hollow leaved perennial useful for winter salads if the snails haven't been there first.				herb
<i>Allium</i>	<i>schoenoprasum</i>		Purple flower heads are edible, attractive and have good nectar.				friendly
<i>Allium</i>	<i>schoenoprasum</i>	Silver Chimes	A little charmer with bright green oniony stems like fine chives topped by silvery white edible flower heads.				friendly
<i>Alyssum</i>	<i>tuberosum</i>	[Garlic Chives]	Garlic chives, flat garlicky leaf, ornamental white flowers late in the year.				friendly
<i>Anemone</i>	<i>[see Lippia]</i>		Classy white flowers like a camellia in late summer				herb
<i>Angelica</i>	<i>archangelica</i>	Honorine Jobert	Short-lived impressively large perennial with globular flower heads in second year, or crystallise stems for cake decoration.		some shade		perennial
<i>Arenaria</i>	<i>montana</i>		Vigorous spreading evergreen rock plant, grey leaved prostrate perennial, saucer shaped white flowers (large for an Arenaria) in generous numbers, early summer. Full sun and sharp drainage.	AGM H5	sun+drainage friendly		perennial (low)
<i>Armeria</i>	<i>caespitosa</i>	Bevan's Variety	Clustafog Fair, "Mary's Pillow" – thrift thrives on poor seaside soils but grows bigger in the garden. This version however, remains compact.	AGM	sun+drainage		perennial (low)
<i>Aronia</i>		Little Helpers					herb / shrub
<i>Artemisia</i>	<i>dracunculus</i>	French	Don't even think about seed-grown Russian Tarragon. French has the flavour. It does need some winter chilling.				fruit
<i>Artemisia</i>		Powis Castle	Silver filigree wormwood. Excellent foil for strong colours	AGM	sunshine!		shrub
<i>Arundinaria</i>	<i>viridistriata</i>		Spreading, but politely as adventurous rather than rampant. Soft, yellow and green leaves to 1 m height.		shade/damp		shrub
<i>Asplenium</i>	<i>nidus</i>	Bird's Nest Fern	A houseplant with character; bright to dark green glossy leaves. Minimum temperature 10 deg C. Keep moist and humid but not wet or sitting in water. Avoid direct sunlight except in winter.	AGM			house plant
<i>Asplenium</i>	<i>scolopendrium</i>		Harts tongue fern, evergreen strap-like glossy leaves. Also makes a useful houseplant.	AGM			fern
<i>Asplenium</i>	<i>trichomanes</i>		Maidenhair Spleenwort. Good contrast between black and lime green. Widely distributed and not as delicate as it looks. Don't grow it in a swamp – it better suits dry stone walls, rocks and crannies.				fern
<i>Aster</i>	<i>x frikartii</i>	Wunder von Staufen	The best from the 'Munch' line of Aster. Lasts for years later by frikart. Lavenher blue rays with yellow centres, slightly paler slightly earlier; shorter and looser than 'Munch'. GSTT said it did benefit from staking.	AGM H7			friendly
<i>Athyrium</i>	<i>nipponicum</i>	var. pictum	Soft green fronds with silvery centres. Some, like cultivar Metalicum have touches of red on the edges.	AGM			fern
<i>Aucuba</i>	<i>japonica</i>		All green, richly glossy leaves and large red berries – if a friend is nearby.		dry shade		shrub
<i>Azara</i>	<i>microphylla</i>		A large shrub for a sunny wall, or small tree if sheltered. Narrow growing, small box-like leaves, tiny, early flowers with delicate scent.	AGM			shrub
<i>Betonica (Stachys)</i>	<i>officinalis</i>		Native betony nearly scalloped leaves and showy spikes of magenta/pink flowers. Sun or partial shade 0.5m				friendly
<i>Blechnum</i>	<i>pennifolium</i>		Pinnate bronze green fronds; prostate habit.		shade/damp		fern
<i>Blechnum</i>	<i>spicant</i>		Wintergreen, glossy leaved fern. Pinnae – singly divided fronds. Spreading habit, but fertile fronds grow upright. Very hardy.	AGM	shade/damp		fern
<i>Brunnera</i>	<i>macrophylla</i>	Alexander's Great	Impressively wide-spreading Brunnera, strikingly patterned silvery leaves, blue flowers.		shade/damp friendly		perennial
<i>Buxus</i>	<i>sempervirens</i>	Suffruticosa	Dwarf edging box, neat bright green foliage.	AGM	dryish soil friendly		shrub
<i>Buxus</i>	<i>sempervirens</i>	Elegansima	Handsome boxwood box with small cream green leaves and dense habit.		dryish soil friendly		shrub
<i>Buxus</i>	<i>(large leaf)</i>	Aureovariegata	Robust drought-tolerant evergreen with large dark green rounded foliage.		dryish soil friendly		shrub
<i>Campanula</i>	<i>garganica</i>	Mrs Reichold	Large box with golden variegation		dryish soil friendly		perennial (low)
<i>Campanula</i>	<i>poscharskyana</i>	E H Frost	Robust creeping perennial, blue buds and silvery flowers, good for dry banks. Named for poet and horticulturalist Elizabeth Hollister Frost		neglect		perennial
<i>Campanula</i>	<i>poscharskyana</i>		Lilac starry flowers, creeping and spreading, too enthusiastic for some, but good for dry sun banks.		neglect		perennial (low)
<i>Castanea</i>	<i>sativa</i>	Sweet Chestnut	An attractive large tree – source of chestnuts and coppice wood in addition to deeply grooved, swirly bark and well-closed pointed leaves. Does not care for exposure, prefers well-drained soils.				shrub
<i>Ceanothus</i>	<i>thrysiflorus</i>	var repens	An evergreen cushion which spreads sideways, not upwards (very much) Useful for covering things at ground level in a sunny spot. Powder blue flowers in spring, hardiness RHS H4	AGM	dryish soil friendly		shrub
<i>Centranthus</i>	<i>ruber</i>	var <i>coccineus</i>	Reliable, drought-resistant perennials; 'Rose-red'		dryish soil		perennial
<i>Ceratostigma</i>	<i>plumbaginoides</i>		Late blue flowered ground cover; autumn leaf tints. 'Hairy plumbago' – hardy in all but the very coldest spots.	HS			perennial (low)
<i>Chamaemelum</i>	<i>nobile</i>	Treneague	The best type for chamomile lawns – no flowers. Chamomile lawns were designed for gardeners who enjoy weeding out annual meadow grass — perhaps start with a lawn of grasses?				herb
<i>Chamaenerion</i>	<i>angustifolium</i>	Stahl Rose	Beautiful soft pink flowers contrast with darker pink buds midsummer. This is a form of willowherb so place it with care.		competition		perennial
<i>Choisya</i>	<i>ternata</i>		Evergreen 1.5m glossy foliage and white summer flowers; sometimes again in autumn. Sweet nutty scent.	AGM	dryish soil friendly		shrub
<i>Cistus</i>	<i>x corbarensis</i>		A substantial shrub sun rose, lovely pale yellow flowers; plant as close to the Mediterranean as you can.		sun+drainage		shrub
<i>Clematis</i>	<i>cirrhosa</i> var. <i>purpureascens</i>	Freckles	Evergreen climber; early bowl shaped yellow flowers speckled maroon. Glossy divided foliage.	AGM	friendly		climber
<i>Clematis</i>	<i>flammea</i>		Late flowering, vigorous scrambler with white flowers strongly scented of almond or honey. Can prune hard in spring.		competition		climber
<i>Clematis</i>	<i>viticella</i>	Etoile Violette	Late summer; Rich purple, white centre, very floriferous				climber
<i>Cordyline</i>	<i>australis</i>		Why would anyone call it a cabbage palm? Whorls of glossy foliage on top of wood-like stems.	AGM			shrub
<i>Corydalis</i>	<i>chelanthifolia</i>		Yellow green ferny foliage turning bronze in autumn, yellow teeth like flowers. Enthralling pink flowers in early summer.		competition		perennial
<i>Corydalis</i>	<i>flexuosa</i>		Dark foliage and bright blue flowers in spring and autumn. Summer dormant, so don't forget where you planted it.		shade/damp		perennial (low)
<i>Crocus</i>	<i>sieberi</i>	Tricolor	A cornous perennial with large, fragrant flowers; the inner tepals pale mauve, outer ones mauve, and the throat yellow with a white outer zone, opening with the leaves in late winter (RHS)	AGM	friendly		bulb corn rhiz
<i>Daphne</i>	<i>tangutica</i>		Rounded evergreen shrub with strong scent	AGM			shrub
<i>Dianthus</i>	<i>Sops in Wine</i>		Full pink flowers strong scent.	AGM	friendly		perennial
<i>Dianthus</i>	<i>Wharfie in Cancin</i>		Dusty dark dwarf pink with strong scent		friendly		perennial
<i>Dianthus</i>	<i>Wharfie Ruby</i>		Low divided, grey foliage sprouts from fleshy rhizomes, white tubular flowers tinted pink.	AGM			perennial (low)
<i>Dicentra</i>	<i>formosa</i>	Langtrees	Large pink flowers, good for shade and sun.		neglect		perennial
<i>Dryopteris</i>	<i>affinis</i>	Cristata	Attractively tough, a fern with divided tips to the fronds. Evergreen if mild but looks better for an autumn tidy.	AGM HS	dry shade		bulb corn rhiz
<i>Dryopteris</i>	<i>cycadina</i>	[atratula]	Long fronds develop dark hairs which give a shaggy appearance. A character.	AGM			fern
<i>Dryopteris</i>	<i>erythrosora</i>		Red croziers turn into glowing bronze foliage, colouring again in autumn, irresistible.	AGM H4			fern
<i>Erigeron</i>	<i>kaninckiae</i>		Reliable, frost-tolerant, competitive and persistent – works well with light and shade. Popular with beneficials but can self seed enthusiastically	AGM	competition		perennial (low)
<i>Euonymus</i>	<i>fortunei</i>	Emerald Gaiety	Wood Aster – waxy black stems scrambling through other plants, masses of small pinkish white flowers. Good in light shade.	AGM	dryish soil friendly		shrub
<i>Eurybia (Aster)</i>	<i>divaricata</i>		A subshrub with a large, rounded, hairy, yellow flower head. 'Rose-red'		shade/damp		perennial
<i>Ficus</i>	<i>carica</i>	Brown Turkey	The best for a sunny spot. Not hugely long lived, but the red yellow tipped flowers are superb.	AGM			herb
<i>Filipendula</i>	<i>rubra</i>	Venusstra	Tall meadowweet with dark pink flowers. Grows well in fertile damp soils.	AGM	neglect		perennial
<i>Foeniculum</i>	<i>vulgare</i>	Purpureum	Bronze Fennel, distinctive flavour and presence – works well with light and shade. Popular with beneficials but can self seed enthusiastically		competition		perennial
<i>Foeniculum</i>	<i>vulgare</i>		Green fennel, finely divided leaves, delicate flower heads and a propensity for self seeding		shade/damp		perennial
<i>Fragaria</i>		Strawberry Elegance					fruit
<i>Gaillardia</i>	<i>x grandiflora</i>	Kobald	A perennial for a sunny spot. Not hugely long lived, but the red yellow tipped flowers are superb.				perennial
<i>Geranium</i>	<i>himalaense</i>		I've already got the blue one!" say visitors wishing to keep their purses intact. It's common, but reliable, loved by bees, will flower again if cut back. Violet blue with hints of red at the centre.		neglect		perennial
<i>Geranium</i>	<i>macrorrhizum</i>		Along with <i>G. himalaense</i> , probably a parent of <i>Geranium Rozanne</i> .		competition		perennial
<i>Geranium</i>	<i>macrorrhizum</i>	Album	Large white flowers in autumn; pink buds midsummer. This is a form of willowherb so place it with care.	AGM	dry shade		perennial (low)
<i>Geranium</i>	<i>sanguineum</i>	Cedric Morris	Evergreen red with white flowers; pink buds midsummer. This is a form of willowherb so place it with care.	AGM H7	friendly		perennial (low)
<i>Geranium</i>	<i>sanguineum</i>	Album	A white form of <i>Geranium Rozanne</i> ; lovely for lightening up the front of a border.	AGM H7	friendly		perennial (low)
<i>Geranium</i>	<i>x magnificum</i>		Luminous deep pink	AGM H7	friendly		perennial (low)
<i>Geranium</i>	<i>Brookside</i>		Hybrid vigour and rich red foliage.	AGM	friendly		perennial
<i>Geranium</i>	<i>Nimbus</i>		Evergreen with finely divided leaves and large rounded flowers, violet blue with purple veins.	AGM H7	friendly		perennial
<i>Geranium</i>	<i>Orion</i>		Sprawling with finely divided leaves and large rounded flowers, violet blue with purple veins.	AGM	friendly		perennial
<i>Geranium</i>	<i>pratense</i>	Mrs Kendall Clark	A meadow cranesbill with flat pale blue flowers and conspicuous white veins. Stood the test of time but can be a martyr to powdery mildew.	AGM H7	dry shade		perennial
<i>Geranium</i>	<i>psilostemon</i>		The black eye; magenta petals reminiscent of an anemone or a liquorice allsort. Striking. Nicely lobed foliage.	AGM			