

**Mary's Greenhouse, Inc.**  
**202 Meiser Lane, McMinnville, TN 37110**  
**(931) 668-2119    marysgh@blomand.net**  
**Drought-tolerant Plants (2012)**

“Drought-tolerant,” as a category, can cover a range of ideas. On one hand, there are plants that have adapted to live on less water, and these thrive in situations in which the soil dries out thoroughly between deep-soaking rains (or hand-waterings, as the case may be). On the other hand, there are plants that, though they really only thrive and show their best with regular moisture, will *survive* periods of dryness, provided such periods are not of too great a duration. Choosing to grow more plants that truly have low water requirements is a proactive act of water conservation, as well as a reduction in the maintenance needed to have a pretty garden. Increasing the number of plants that can survive periods of drought, even though they might not flourish, can decrease the need (and expense) of replacing plants and become a sensible approach to the capriciousness of our changing climate.

Even though a plant may be considered “drought-tolerant,” this really only applies if the plant is established (i.e., settled in its new home and sending out roots into the surrounding soil). Until then, watering is necessary unless there are regular rains and the ground stays moist. Usually, 4 to 6 weeks of hand-watering is enough to get most “drought-tolerant” plants set and going.

Achillea (Yarrow)	Jasminum (Winter Jasmine)
Agapanthus (Lily of the Nile)	Kerria (Japanese Rose)
Agastache (Anise Hyssop)	Kniphofia (Red Hot Poker)
Armeria (Thrift)	Lantana
Artemisia	Lathyrus (Sweet Pea)
Arundo (Giant Variegated Reed)	Lavender
Asarum (Wild Ginger) – dry shade	Leonotis (Lion's Ear)
Asclepias tuberosa (Butterfly Weed)	Liatris (Gayfeather)
Baptisia (False Indigo)	Liriope (Monkey Grass)
Bay Laurel	Lonicera (Honeysuckle)
Bearded Iris	Marigold
Bignonia (Crossvine)	Melampodium (Blackfoot Daisy)
Boston Ivy (Parthenocissus)	Miscanthus
Bougainvillea	Muhlenbergia (Pink Muhly Grass)
Buddleia (Butterfly Bush)	Nandina
Callicarpa (Beautyberry)	Nasella (Mexican Feather Grass)
	Oenothera (Evening Primrose)

## Drought-tolerant Plants cont'd

Campsis (Trumpet Creeper)  
Caryopteris (Bluebeard)  
Celosia (Cock's Comb)  
Centranthus (Jupiter's Beard)  
Cerastium (Snow in Summer)  
Christmas Fern (dry shade)  
Coreopsis  
Cortaderia (Pampas Grass)  
Crape Myrtle  
Delosperma (Hardy Ice Plant)  
Dusty Miller  
Echeveria  
Echinacea (Coneflower)  
Erigeron (Fleabane)  
Erysimum (Wallflower)  
Euonymus  
Euphorbia (Spurge)  
Festuca (Blue Fescue)  
Gaillardia (Blanket Flower)  
Gazania  
Gaura  
Gelsemium (Carolina Jessamine)  
Geranium (Pelargonium)  
Germander (Teucrium)  
Gomphrena  
Gypsophila (Baby's Breath)  
Hedera (English Ivy) – dry shade  
Heliopsis (False Sunflower)  
Helleborus – dry shade  
Hemerocallis (Daylily)  
Hosta – dry shade  
Opuntia (Spineless Prickly Pear)  
Oregano  
Pachysandra – dry shade  
Passiflora (Passion Flower)  
Penstemon (Beardtongue)  
Perovskia (Russian Sage)  
Phlox (*Intensia Series*, an annual)  
Phlox subulata (Creeping Phlox)  
Portulaca  
Rosemary  
Roses  
Rudbeckia  
Salvia (most kinds)  
Santolina  
Saponaria (Rock Soapwort)  
Sedum  
Sempervivum (Hen and Chicks)  
Silver Lace Vine (Polygonum)  
Solanum (Variegated Potato Vine)  
Stachys (Lamb's Ear)  
Stokesia (Stokes Aster)  
Sweet Autumn Clematis  
Sweet Marjoram  
Thyme  
Verbena  
Vinca (annual)  
Vinca minor (Myrtle)  
Wisteria  
Yucca  
Zinnia