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2020 Perennial Groundcovers

(rev. 1-20-20)

Mary's Greenhouse carries the following plants that are useful as groundcovers in various situations. All of these plants are considered perennial in our area, although many factors affect a plant's ability to live year after year. Light and moisture needs vary. Some are best suited to be used as filling the spaces between paving stones, spilling over rock walls, or defining the edges of a border. Others are useful for covering large areas of ground in a relatively short amount of time (*see note at end of list*). Plants in this last category are denoted in the list by an asterisk*.

Aegopodium podagraria 'Variegatum' (Bishop's Weed) – partial shade
Ajuga reptans (Bugleweed) (all varieties we carry)– partial shade
Anemone sylvestris – partial shade to shade
Carex (glauca, hachijoensis, morrowii, pensylvanica) – shade to part shade
Ceratostigma plumaginoides (Dwarf Plumbago) – sun to partial shade
Chamomile, Roman (Anthemis) – full to partial sun
Coreopsis (certain varieties) – full sun to light shade
Cranberry (Vaccinium macrocarpon) – sun to light shade [needs constant moisture]
Delosperma (Hardy Ice Plant) (all cultivars we carry) – full sun
Dianthus (some cultivars) – full sun to light shade
Erodium (Heron's Bill) – sun to partial shade
Euonymus fortunei 'Coloratus'* (Purple Wintercreeper) – sun or shade
Galium odoratum (Sweet Woodruff) – partial to full shade
Hedera helix* (English Ivy) (all cultivars we carry) – sun or shade
Houttuynia cordata 'Chameleon' – partial shade to shade
Hypericum cerastoides 'Silvana' (St. John's Wort) – sun to partial sun
Hypericum calycinum* (Creeping St. John's Wort) (all cultivars we carry) – full sun to light shade
Iberis sempervirens (Candytuft) – full sun to light shade
Isotoma fluviatilis (a.k.a. Laurentia) (Blue Star Creeper) – partial shade
Jasminum nudiflorum (Winter Jasmine) – partial sun
Lamiastrum 'Herman's Pride' – partial to full shade
Lamium (Deadnettle) (all cultivars we carry) – partial to full shade
Laurentia (a.k.a. Isotoma) (Blue Star Creeper) – partial shade
Lemon Balm (Melissa officinalis) – full sun to partial shade
Leptinella squalida 'Platt's Black' – full sun
Liriope muscari (Monkey Grass) (all varieties we carry except 'Variegata') - partial sun to shade
Liriope muscari (Monkey Grass) 'Variegata' – full sun to partial shade
Liriope spicata (Creeping Monkey Grass) (all varieties we carry) – partial sun to shade
Lysimachia nummularia (Green Creeping Jenny), 'Aurea' (Gold Creeping Jenny) – sun to partial shade
Mazus reptans (Blue), 'Alba' (White) – full sun to partial shade
Mints* (all varieties) – full sun to light shade
Monardella macrantha 'Marian Sampson' – partial shade

Muehlenbeckia (Creeping Wire Vine) – sun to light shade
Oenothera (Missouri Primrose) – full sun
Ophiopogon japonicus (Mondo Grass) (all varieties we carry) – partial to full shade
Ophiopogon planiscapus ‘Nigrescens’ (Black Mondo Grass) – partial to full shade
Oregano (all varieties we carry) – full sun to light shade
Orostachys (Chinese Dunce Cap) – full sun to partial shade
Othonno capensis – sun to partial shade
Pachysandra terminalis* (all varieties we carry) – partial to full shade
Phlox subulata (creeping varieties) - full sun to light shade
Phlox (certain low growing varieties) – partial shade
Pennyroyal – sun to partial shade
Pratia pedunculata ‘Super Star’ – sun to partial shade
Rubus calycinoides (Creeping Raspberry) – full sun to light shade
Sagina subulata (Irish Moss), ‘Aurea’ (Scotch Moss) – partial shade
Sedum (creeping varieties) – full sun to partial shade
Sweet Woodruff – partial to full shade
Thyme (all varieties we carry) – full sun to light shade
Verbena (Homestead and other creeping varieties) – full sun
Veronica (creeping varieties) – partial sun
Vinca minor* (Green Myrtle) – partial sun to shade
Vinca minor ‘Ralph Shugert’ (Variegated Myrtle) – partial sun to shade

Note: Many groundcovers don't attain full speed in their first season. Some, such as English Ivy, follow the "three-year rule": the first year it sleeps, the second year it creeps, the third year it leaps -takes over. It's also good to remember that what makes some plants such good groundcovers is their very aggressive nature once established. Care should be exercised when placing these so as to avoid a future maintenance nightmare.