



# Top Gardening Websites & Apps

Garden smarter, garden  
better.

---

# How to tell if a website is reliable

- Domain names:
  - .com=commercial
  - .org=nonprofit
  - .edu=educational
  - .gov=government
- ABOUT or FAQ page
- Consider geography

# National Organizations





# National Gardening Assn.

- Plant finder
- Weed library
- Food garden guide
- Plant care guides
- Gardening articles & regional reports
- How to videos
- Pest control library



United States Department of Agriculture

# U.S. Government

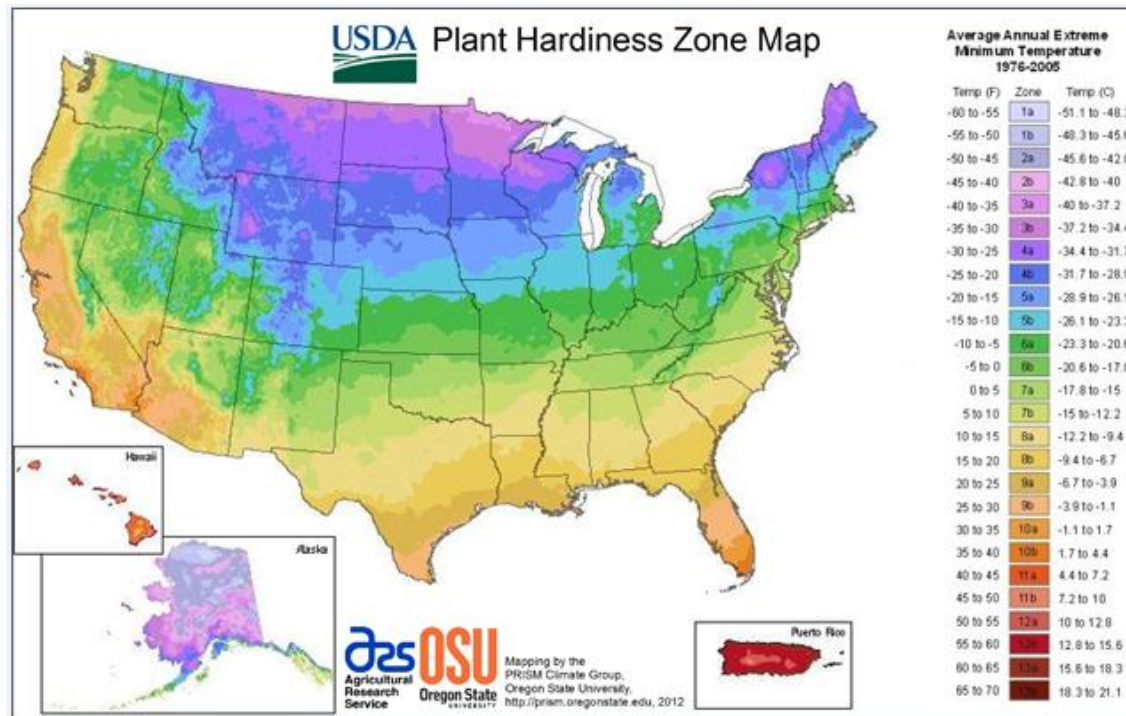
- US Dept of Agriculture
  - Links to extension services
  - Home and garden information
  - National Arboretum
  - Organic gardening
  - Horticultural information
  - Plant hardiness zones
  - USDA vegetable laboratory

# Dave's Garden

- Online community of gardeners who share information
- Includes discussion forums
- Searchable plant database including images, info and comments
- Searches limited if not registered member but membership is free
- Location, location, location!

# Gardening in Illinois

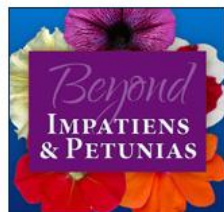
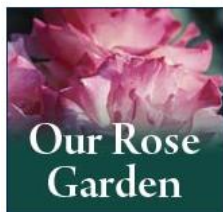
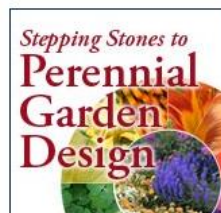
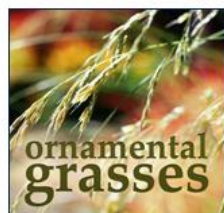
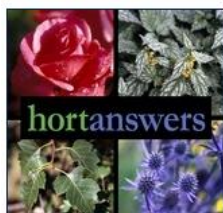
- Zone maps & frost date





# University of Illinois Extension

## Featured Websites







LURIE  
GARDEN

# Gardens



  
CHICAGO BOTANIC GARDEN



MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN





# Chicago Botanic Garden

## Your Garden

- [Gardening Help](#) – Plant Information
  - General & specific plant information
  - FAQ Topics
  - Articles
- [Plant finder](#) – for plants in the garden
- [Plant Evaluation](#)
- [Illinois' Best Plants](#)
  - Plant search, plant index + glossary & resources



# Missouri Botanic Garden

- [Plant finder](#)

## Plant Finder

Look up, view a photo and read about the over 6,400 plants which are growing or have been grown in the Kemper Center display gardens (plus selected additions) by scientific name, common name and/or selected plant characteristics.

### Scientific Name List

---

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Profile View  List View

### Basic Search

---

Enter Common or Scientific Name or Kemper Code:

Search

Profile View  List View



# Lurie Garden

## Plant Life of the Garden

[Overview](#)

[Seasonal Highlights](#)

[Perennials and Bulbs](#)

[Grasses](#)

[Shrubs](#)

[Trees](#)

### Garden Highlights

There's something remarkable to see in the Lurie Garden all year long! Help plan your visit by learning more about select highlights from each season.



Spring



Summer



Fall/Winter

### Plant Categories

Learn the details about the plant life of The Lurie Garden by visiting one of the following plant categories: [perennials and bulbs](#), [grasses](#), [shrubs](#) and [trees](#). Click here for an up-to-date [Plant List](#).



[Perennials and Bulbs](#)  
Perennials die back in the winter and come to life in each spring.



[Grasses](#)  
Many varieties of grass are native to the Midwestern United States.



[Shrubs](#)  
Shrubs provide year-round interest in the garden.



[Trees](#)  
The Lurie Garden's trees provide shade during Chicago's warm summers.

# Gardening Magazines



# Fine Gardening Magazine

- Primarily for ornamental gardening
  - Includes info about annuals, perennials, trees, shrubs, bulbs, vines, grasses, ground covers & container plants
- Social media – id plants, share info
- How to videos (includes veggies)
- Pronunciation guide



# Better Homes & Gardens

- Go to **Gardening**
  - Garden designs- "[garden plans](#)"
  - Plant finder
  - Articles
  - Links to White Flower Farm if you want to buy plants
- Downside-lots of ads!





# Chicagoland Gardening Magazine

- Local resource guide
- Seasonal tips
- Q & A
- Mike Nowak columns



# Horticulture Magazine

- Informative and educational articles
- Teaches the serious gardener how to be better
- Gardening forums
- Blogs
- Covers ornamental and edible gardening

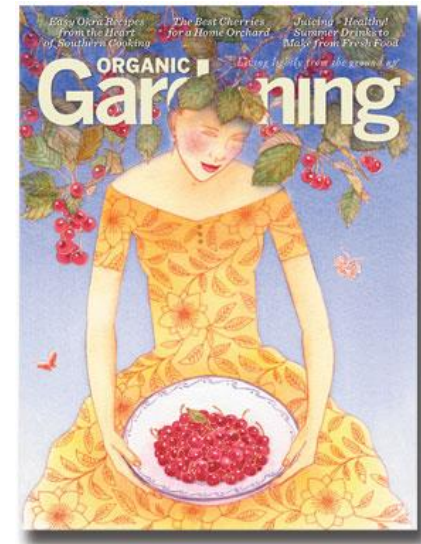
# Vegetable Gardener

- Produced by same company as Fine Gardening – articles, video, recipes
  - In the kitchen
  - Projects
  - Living
  - Go organic
  - gallery



## Organic Gardening Magazine

- Published by Rodale Press
- Geared mostly to vegetable gardening
- Includes articles, forums, blogs, videos & recipes
- Can sign up for free newsletters
- Free downloadable articles such as companion planting & seed starting chart





# Wildflowers & Natives

- Illinois Wildflowers

- Prairie, savanna and thicket, woodland, wetland, trees, shrubs, woody vines, grasses & sedges, weedy wildflowers





# Prairie Moon Nursery

- Good source of information about native plants. Seeds & plants for sale.

## Plant Finder

It is not necessary to fill out all the fields. You can specify values only for the features relevant to you.

**Sun Exposure** = Prairie (100-70% sun), Savanna (20-70% sun), Woodland (70-100% shade)

**Soil Moisture** = **Wet**: soggy or marshy most of the year.

**Wet Mesic**: excessively wet in spring and after heavy rain but often dries in summer.

**Mesic (Medium)**: water soaks in with no run-off. Average garden soil.

**Dry Mesic**: well drained. Water is removed from soil readily but not rapidly.

**Dry**: Excessively drained.

**Height**= average height of a mature plant in flower under normal sun/soil conditions. \*\*note - if you are looking for all plants under 2', for example, you must choose all the heights under 2'. Hold down the 'Ctrl' key ('Apple' key on a Mac) while selecting multiple heights.

Note: It is not necessary to fill out all the fields. You can specify values only for the features relevant to you.

Sun Exposure

- Prairie
- Savanna
- Woodland

To select more than one entry, press the 'Ctrl' key (or 'Apple' key on a Mac). To unselect, press the 'Ctrl' key again and click on the selected items.

Soil Moisture

- Wet
- Wet Mesic
- Mesic (Medium)
- Dry Mesic
- Dry

To select more than one entry, press the 'Ctrl' key (or 'Apple' key on a Mac). To unselect, press the 'Ctrl' key again and click on the selected items.

Height

- 2 inches
- 3 inches
- 4 inches
- 5 inches
- 6 inches
- 8 inches

To select more than one entry, press the 'Ctrl' key (or 'Apple' key on a Mac). To unselect, press the 'Ctrl' key again and click on the selected items.

## Anemone virginiana (Tall Thimbleweed)

Product details

Images

Range Map

Companions

Send to friend



Tall Thimbleweed is similar to its cousin Anemone virginiana but its fruiting cluster or "thimble" is shorter, about twice as long as wide. Also called Tall or Virginia Anemone, Tall Thimbleweed prefers open woods or clearings.

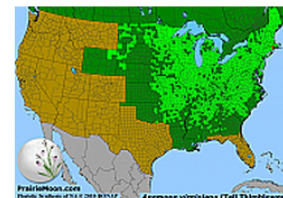
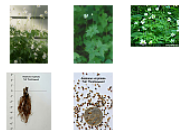
Seeds / Packet: 300

Seeds / Ounce: 28,000

### Details

Catalog Number	ANE10F
<a href="#">Germination Code</a>	C(60)
<a href="#">Wetland Code</a>	FACU
<a href="#">Sun Exposure</a>	Prairie, Savanna, Woodland
<a href="#">Soil Moisture</a>	Mesic (Medium), Dry Mesic
<a href="#">Height</a>	3 feet
Bloom Color	White
<a href="#">Bloom Time</a>	June, July, Aug
Plant Type	Wildflowers (Forbs)
Availability	Seeds

[click image\(s\) below to view larger](#)



PrairieMoon.com Photo: Nicholas J. B. 2012 Anemone virginiana (Tall Thimbleweed)

[Click Map to Enlarge](#)

# Media

- HGTV
- Youtube channels such as:
  - P. Allen Smith channel
  - U. of Illinois Extension channel



# Garden Design

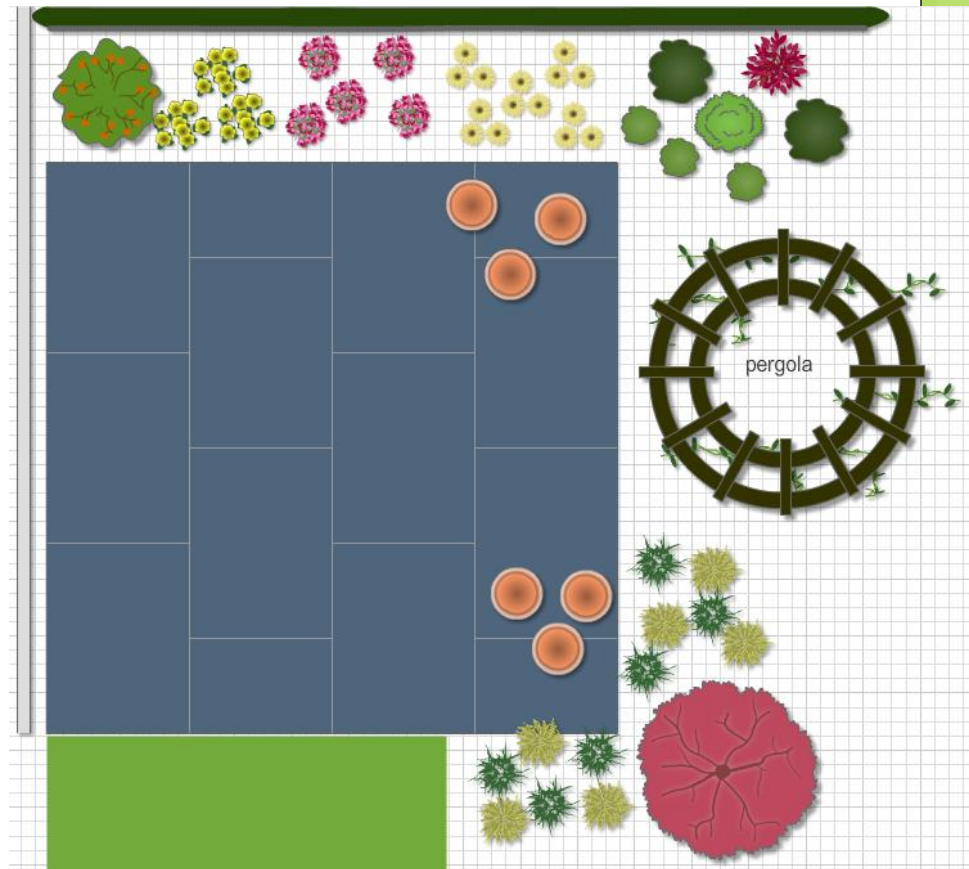
- Perennial Garden Design (also available in Spanish) from University of Illinois Extension
  - Helps you design your perennial garden, includes site assessment, garden style, perennial selection & placement, bed preparation
- Garden Design Magazine
  - Design ideas





# Garden Design

- Garden Planner
- Online design tool
- Download free trial version for Windows or Mac





# Rating Catalogs

- Cyndi's Catalog of Garden Catalogs
  - Contacts and critiques of more than 2,000 catalogs from around the world
- Garden Watchdog from Dave's Garden
  - top 30 mail order garden companies rated by Dave's Garden customers



# Insect Pests

- University of Illinois Bug Review
  - search by name or location (ie tree, vegetable, flower)



# IPM

## (integrated pest management)

- University of Illinois Extension IPM



The screenshot shows the University of Illinois Extension IPM website. At the top left is the IPM logo with the text "integrated pest management". To the right are links for "Educational Materials", "FAQs", "Videos", and "Decision Aids". Below this is a navigation bar with categories: "Field Crops", "Fruits", "Vegetables", "Landscape & Turf", "Greenhouse", "Home, Yard & Garden" (highlighted in red), and "Livestock".

The main content area for "Home, Yard & Garden" features a heading "Home, Yard & Garden" with a circular icon. Below it is the text: "Please select a subject area from the list below, or use the navigational tool to the right." To the right of this text is a small image of a bouquet of colorful tulips. Below the text are links: "Insects - Other Pests - Weeds - Related Websites".

Below the tulip image is a large image of a field of yellow flowers, possibly Black-eyed Susans. To the right of the main content area is a sidebar with a red header "HOME, YARD & GARDEN". It contains a list of links: "Insects", "Other Pests", "Weeds", and "Related Websites". Below this is a "Hot Topics" section with the text: "Soybean Aphid Workshop Download and view powerpoint presentations from the workshop...." and a "more" button. At the bottom of the sidebar is the "Google powered by" logo.

# Weeds

- Turf Grass weeds
- Is this plant a weed? U. of MN Extension

## Is this plant a weed?

**Welcome!** Have you found a plant growing where it's not wanted? Is it a *weed*? A **weed** is defined as any plant that is considered undesirable, unattractive, or troublesome, especially one growing where it is not wanted. This online diagnostic tool is designed to help you identify and manage common and invasive weeds in Minnesota lawns and landscapes. To begin, select one of the plant categories below.

Choose a plant type.



### Broadleaf

A plant with relatively broad leaves with branched leaf veins



### Woody

Plants with woody trunks or stems



### Grass

A plant with long narrow leaves with parallel leaf veins and round, or slightly flattened, jointed stems



### Moss

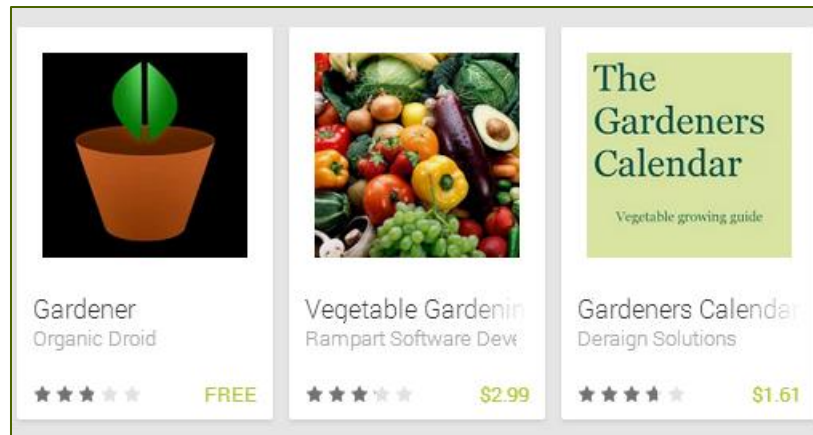
Small, flowerless plants having stems with leaflike structures and growing in velvety clusters in moist, shady areas



### Sedge

A plant that resembles grass but has a triangular stem

# Apps for Android & iOS



## Gardening Apps

These iPhone and iPad Apps Will Help You Plant A Plentiful Garden





# Our Rose Garden

- Information about various roses
- How to plant and prune roses
- How to protect roses in the winter
- Gallery to keep track of favorite roses with notes
- Information on diseases and pests, and includes several University of Illinois Extension YouTube videos about rose care.
- Available from Google Play or Apple Store



# Virtual Garden & Patio Planting







# Garden Calculator

3G 3:12

Landscape Calculators

Spacing Calculator

Single Item Width

Space Between Items

Run Length

Run Length (End to End)

Feet  Inches  None

Single Item Width

Inches  None

Space Between Items

Inches  None

Surface Angle

Degrees - Leave Blank If Level

3G 3:14

Landscape Calculators

Fence Calculator

Rail

Post

Rot Board

Picket

Section Length

Fence Length

Feet

Section Length

Feet

Width of Picket

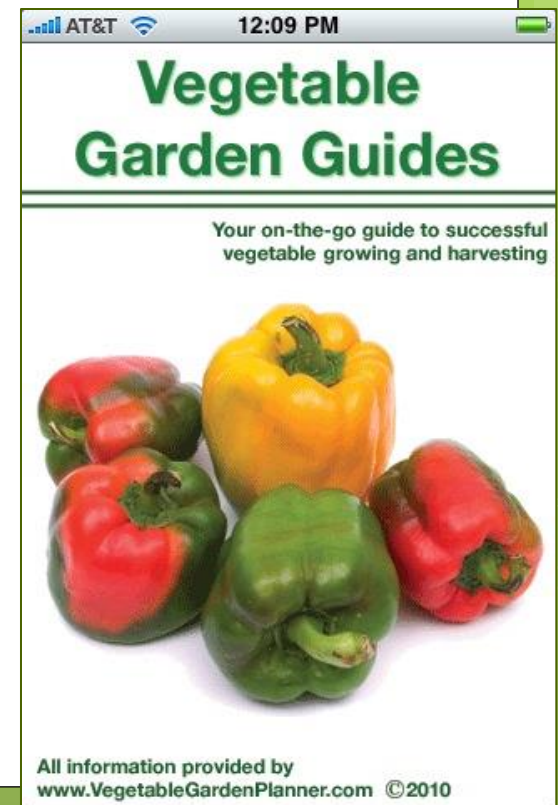
Inches

# of Rails

# of Rails

# Vegetable Garden Planner

- Pocket reference for experienced & novice gardeners
- Will help you successfully grow and harvest over 90 vegetables and herbs
- Available for iPhone & Android





## Electronic Field Guide

- For identifying trees (for iOS)
- Currently only for trees of the Northeast
- Designed by scientists from Columbia, University of Maryland & the Smithsonian