

NEU Teaching Herb Garden: Groundcovers Plant List 2008

Common Name	Botanical Name	Zone	Height X Spread	Comments
Bessingham Pink Thyme	<i>Thymus doerfleri</i> 'Bessingham Pink'	5 to 9	6" x 12"	Late summer bloom. Pink flowers on fragrant foliage. Attracts bees and butterflies. Prefers full sun and well drained, alkaline soil.
Bird's Eye Speedwell	<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>	3 to 7	12 - 20" X 12"	Foliage: bright green, toothed. Flower: Tiny, blue, white eye. Mid to late season. Sun to part shade. Well drained soil.
Caraway Thyme	<i>Thymus herba-barona</i>	5/6 to 8	2-4" X 24"	Wiry, carpeting sub shrub. Pink flowers in mid-summer. Aromatic, culinary herb with caraway scent. Sun.
Cat Mint, Walker's Low	<i>Nepeta X faassenii</i> 'Walker's low'	5	18"x 18"	Lavender blue flowers early to mid-summer. Tolerates part shade. Attracts butterflies and bees.
Cheddar Pink, Tiny Rubies	<i>Dianthus grantianopolitanus</i> 'Tiny Rubies'	4 to 9	4 " X 12 "	Double, ruby red, fragrant flower. Mat forming and long lived. Prefers well drained neutral to alkaline soil in full sun.
Comfrey	<i>Symphytum grandiflorum</i> 'Hidcote' Blue'	4 to 9	11/2' X 2'	Flower red in bud, opens to blue, fades to white. Early to mid season. Will grow in most soil conditions. Sun to shade. Invasive.
Coral Bells	<i>Heuchera 'Dale's Strain'</i>	Z 3	24"	Marbled foliage forms neat clumps. White flowers bloom May to July. Tolerates dry shade.
Creeping Bugleweed	<i>Ajuga reptans</i>	3 to 10	5" x 24"	Blue spiked flowers in late spring. Dark green, bronze foliage. Spreads quickly and needs to be kept in check. Prefers part shade but will tolerate sun.

Deptford Pink	<i>Dianthus armeria</i>	4 to 7	8" -20 "	Pink flowers with narrow petals. Blooms early summer. Prefers well drained neutral to alkaline soil in full sun.
Dianthus	<i>Dianthus 'Briana'</i>	5 to 7	6"	White flowers on steel blue foliage. Prefers well drained neutral to alkaline soil in full sun.
	<i>Dianthus 'Tatra Frangrarse'</i>	3 to 8	9"	Fragrant, fringed, white with crimson pin wheel markings. Prefers well drained neutral to alkaline soil in full sun.
	<i>Dianthus 'Tatra Blush'</i>	5 to 7	9"	Fragrant fringed pale pink flowers with pin wheel pattern. Prefers well drained neutral to alkaline soil in full sun.
Dragon Head	<i>Dracocephalum rupestre (or grandiflorus)</i>	3 to 8	1-2' X 2'	Upright, clump forming. Flowers dark violet in whorls. Sun to part shade. Same family as mint. Invasive.
Doone Valley Lemon Thyme	<i>Thymus x citriodorus 'Doone Valley'</i>	5 to 7	4"x 4"	Rose pink flowers on variegated lemon scented leaves. Not as hardy as other lemon thymes.
European Ginger	<i>Asarum europaeum</i>	4	5-6"	Shiny, heart shaped leaves are evergreen and quickly form mat.
Georgia Blue Speedwell	<i>Veronica peduncularis 'Georgia Blue'</i>	5/6 to 9	4-6" X 24' +	Foliage: glossy, mat-forming. Flower: cobalt blue with white eye. Early to mid season. Sun to part shade. Well drained soil.
Golden Creeping Jenny	<i>Lysimachis nummularia 'Aurea'</i>	4 to 9	2-4" X 36"	Foliage: Evergreen, golden yellow, may revert to green. Flowers: small bright yellow, cup shaped. Blooms mid-season. Sun to part shade. Easily controlled.
Heavenly Blue Speedwell	<i>Veronica prostrate 'Heavenly Blue'</i>	4 to 9	4-6" X 10"	Foliage: Deep green. glossy, prostrate. Flowers: bright blue. Early to mid season. Sun to part shade. Well drained soil.

Lavender	<i>Lavendula angustifolia</i> "Munstead"	5 to 8	18" X 24"	Dwarf variety, mid green leaves. Flowers: deep lavender, early bloomer. Has culinary, medicinal and fragrance uses. Sun.
Lemon Thyme	<i>Thymus X citriodorus</i>	5 to 9	6" X 12"	Fragrant lemon scented leaves. Pale pink flowers attract bees and butterflies. Prefers full sun in well drained , alkaline soil..
Lesser Celandine	<i>Ranunculus ficaria</i>	4 to 8	2-4" X 5' +	Foliage: glossy, dark green with silver or bronze markings. Flowers: golden yellow. Early. Dies back after blooming. Sun to part shade. Invasive.
Longwood Thyme	<i>Thymus vulgaris</i> "Longwood Thyme'	4 to 8	5"	Prostrate, fuzzy leaves larger than most wooly thymes. Long, spiked lilac purple flowers.
Maiden Pink	<i>Dianthus detoides</i> 'Artic Fire'	3 to 9	8" x 18"	Flowers white with dark pink center. Self sows. Prefers well drained neutral to alkaline soil in full sun.
Memorial Rose	<i>Rosa wichurana</i> "Snow Carpet"	5 to 6	to 9'	Profuse, fragrant, small, single white flowers. Blooms once, late in season. Disease resistant. Sun.
Pink Chintz Creeping Thyme	<i>Thymus praecox</i> ' Pink Chintz'	5 to 8	6" X 6"	Fuzzy Foliage forms low mat. Pink flowers attractive to bees and butterflies. Early to Mid summer bloom. Draught tolerant. Well drained soil. Sun.
Rock Rose	<i>Helianthemum nummularium</i>	5 to 9	6" x 18"	Pink flowers on gray/green foliage bloom late spring to early summer. Cut back to encourage re-bloom. Prefers well drained soil. Sun.
Red Creeping Thyme	<i>Thymus praecox</i> 'Coccineus'	6 to 8	6" X 6"	Fuzzy foliage forms low mat. Flowers red; attractive to bees. Early to Mid summer bloom. Draught tolerant. Well drained soil. Sun.
Sand Pink	<i>Dianthus arenarius</i>	3 to?	8"	Fragrant white, fringed flowers. Grass like foliage. Prefers slightly alkaline, well drained soil.

Spotted Dead Nettle	<i>Lamium maculatum 'white Nancy'</i>	3 to 9	4"-8" " by 36"	Foliage: silver, narrowly margined with green. Flowers: white produced in whorls; early to late season. Tolerates sun if soil moist. Invasive
Sweet Woodruff	<i>Galium odoratum</i>	3 to 9	6" X 36"	Pointed leaves grow in whorls around stem. Tiny white fragrant flowers in spring. Grows in shade. Uses: medicinal, culinary and in potpourris,
Thrift, Sea Pink	<i>Armenia maritime 'Sea Thrift'</i>	3 to 9	6" X 12"	Rose pink flowers bloom on narrow, dark green leaves early to mid summer. Dead head to encourage re-blooming. Prefers well drained soil.
Woolly Thyme	<i>Thymus praecox articus 'Lanugous'</i>	5	3"	Foliage: Soft, silvery. Flowers rare. Full sun.

Compiled and Researched by Lucy Dean and Riekie Sluder for the New England Unit of The Herb Society of America. 6/08

References: Brown, Deni. *The Herb Society of America New Encyclopedia of Herbs & Their Uses*. New York: Dorling Kindersley Ltd., 2001.

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