

BRIGHTON PLANTS

BRIGHTON PLANTS CATALOGUE

Updated May 2023

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variety	decription	price
Aconitum lycoctonum moldavicum	This is one of those species where the flowers have a tall narrow hood. The best-known forms have yellowish or off-white flowers but this is a very nice dusky purple form, to about 3ft tall and flowering in late summer.	£8
Actaea sp. Japan ex Fred Case		£8
Adenophora triphylla	A tall slender form with white to palest mauve flowers and attractive narrow foliage. Extremely graceful. An adaptable and easy border or woodland perennial.	£8

Adiantum venustum	The hardy maidenhair fern. A real classic - every garden should have it. Genuinely hardy and remarkably happy in dry shade, gradually spreading to form extensive colonies. An exquisite foil for any collection of choice woodlanders.	£10
Aesculus californica	This is a very large spreading shrub (or low spreading tree) and needs a lot of space - the flowers are fragrant, creamy or rosy white and held in solid 'candles'. The foliage is neat and attractive, and the bark is chalky white (especially good in winter after the leaves fall). Given an open sunny well-drained site this will be one of the most magnificent woody plants we can grow. Hardly ever offered and I have no idea why it isn't better known. Young plants grown from conkers collected in California.	£30
Aechmea recurvata recurvata	Another near-hardy bromeliad – definitely hardy to a few degrees below zero, planted in a very free-drained bed as you would Fascicularia, or mounted on a branch or wall as an epiphyte. The small rosettes are green and produce dense stemless inflorescences of vivid pink and purple, surrounded by red tinted leaves.	£15
Aeschynanthus buxifolius	A small reputedly hardy epiphytic gesneriad from south-east Asia but certainly a good species for a cool or cold greenhouse. The foliage is neat glossy green, and the flowers are a rich scarlet. I've not tried it outside yet but might be good mounted on a tree fern trunk perhaps?	£10
Alangium platanifolium	Another collector's item perhaps. This rare small deciduous tree or large shrub is grown both for its striking foliage (something between a plane tree and a tulip tree) and the flowers, which are individually quite small but numerous and very nicely made. They have been described as resembling little white martagon lilies. Hardy but growing and flowering best in a warm spot on any decent soil.	£20
Allium macranthum	An Asiatic species with loose heads of large nodding rounded mauve flowers in summer. Easy in a moist well-drained soil in sun or part shade. Likes cool conditions	£8
Alloerberis (Mahonia) aff. nevinii	I have two seed strains on the nursery, one collected from M.nevinii, the other from M.fremontii (both collected from cultivated plants in California by Dennis Carvalho). Neither have flowered much yet but the foliage has a marvellous colour and form - the pale veined coppery red new growth turning to sea green and has an unusual thin scratchy texture. Overall they look most like nevinii. The overall appearance will be of quite a dense shrub eventually up to 4 or 5 feet high. Fully hardy and very drought tolerant. These species are now included in a genus separate to Mahonia - Alloerberis	£12
Anemone fulgens multipetala	A very generous gift from a customer. I'm not usually a fan of double flowers but this is something special. The normal single A.x fulgens is a garden hybrid of pavonina and hortensis and not too rare, but although this form seems to be in cultivation in France (where the original colony is naturalised in rough grass near a sports field), it seems to be largely unknown here in the UK. It'll need a sunny well drained site, in a traditional cottage garden, or maybe in rough grass under olive trees, if you happen to have some?	£8

Anemone sylvestris	A common and widespread European alpine eventually making large clumps of deeply cut dark green foliage up to about 6ins high, with individual nodding white anemone flowers above. Easy and hardy in a sunny well-drained spot.	£6
Anemopsis californica	Not to be confused with Anemonopsis – this is a relative of Houttuynia with very striking flowers, somewhat reminiscent of a Magnolia (though actually made up of lots of small flowers, rather than one big one). A colonising plant for shallow water or wet mud and one of the few garden plants that should be happy in a salt marsh. Fully hardy, but grow as warm as possible in full sun for best results.	£8
Apios americana	An unusual herbaceous climber closely related to Wisteria. The dense clusters of pea flowers are an odd shade of terracotta and produced in summer. It grows from long strings of (apparently edible) tubers which wander about underground over some distance but not enough to become a weed. An easy and attractive hardy plant for any well drained soil in sun, best allowed to twine up through shrubs	£8
Aralia californica	One of the herbaceous species, and like many of those, makes an impressive clump of big compound leaves, topped by umbels of pale flowers late in the season. Unlike most others the foliage is fleshy and glossy. For moist soils, in sun or shade – the more sun, the more moisture it'll require	£12
Aristolochia sempervirens from Toulon	A very special form of this species from the South of France with relatively large, lush foliage (up to about 3ins long), a more vigorous climbing habit and very refined, richly coloured flowers. Hardy. Very nice indeed.	£10
Arthropodium milleflorum	A very pretty and understated plant found growing among the grasses and other herbs under Eucalypts over large parts of south-eastern Australia, where it is very adaptable. In the UK it will be less adaptable (shade in England is not like shade in New South Wales) but given a well-drained soil and sun or light shade it is quite hardy and the delicate mauve flowers on tall, slender arching stems (to 3ft high) give a fresh, light effect in the border.	£8
Asclepias exaltata	To my mind one of the best new things I've come across, and I have no idea why I so rarely sell any. Although the flowers are not vividly showy they are exquisitely crafted in jade and ivory and dangle elegantly on long filaments from the tips of the 2ft stems. Completely frost hardy and easy to please on any fertile retentive soil in sun or part shade.	£8
Asclepias incarnata	There are lots of exciting species of Asclepias in the U.S.A. This is one of the most common and deserves to be more widely grown over here. The flowers, in contrasting pale and dark pink resemble those of a Hoya (to which it is related) and are worth a close look. Leafy, clump-forming herbaceous perennials with reddish stems to 2ft. Any soil, but heavy and damp soils in sun are especially favoured.	£8
Berberis calliantha	The spiny edged foliage is glossy green above and white underneath and the flowers are lemon yellow – nothing unusual about any of that - except that the flowers are bigger than any similar species – the leaves up to 2ins long and the flowers an inch across, and all this on a low compact shrub not more than 3ft tall. At the same time this is as hardy and adaptable as any of the more familiar types. Many people dismiss Berberis as just a lot of dull scruffy spikey shrubs, too often planted around carparks (and full of litter) but there are quite a few good, interesting species for the more discerning gardener – and calliantha is one.	£15
Boehmeria platanifolia	A striking member of this non-stinging nettle genus, with broad, matt grey green, rounded serrated leaves, and very	£8

	attractive creamy catkins late in the summer to autumn. To 4ft tall	
Boehmeria sieboldiana	Shiny fresh green attractively veined and serrated nettle leaves on an impressive bushy plant over 6ft tall. Whitish catkins. Moist woodland ideally but adaptable	£8
Boehmeria tricuspis	A smaller species to 3ft with fresh green jaggedly cut leaves, red stems and pale yellow-green catkins. The leaves have a distinctive outline, with a triangular cut in each side. A lush, easy-going, late-flowering perennial, especially good in moist rich soils in sun or semi shade, but adaptable.	£8
Buddleja lindleyana	A very striking species and not at all what you might expect a Buddleja to look like. The rich purple flowers are tubular and have a waxy bloom to them which gives a particularly richly coloured effect and are produced over a long period in summer.	£14
Buddleja loricata	A hardy South African species with very striking narrow foliage -the undersides and stems being soft and white, contrasting with the dark deeply veined upper surfaces. The flowers are white and often dismissed as uninteresting but I like them. Full sun, good drainage and some shelter	£16
Buddleja nivea yunnanensis	In contrast to limitanea this is an absolutely enormous shrub growing to 10ft very quickly and demanding a big space. The leaves are also very big – up to 20-30cm pale grey above, pure white felted beneath and along the stems. The flowers resemble davidii but the small purple orange eyed flowers are in hefty clusters up to about 30cms long and set in white fluff. All in all a dramatic and remarkable thing. The down side is that the new shoots and buds have been severely damaged by late frosts so needs a sheltered situation or a mild garden. Easy and undemanding otherwise.	£16
Bupleurum longifolium Bronze	A very unusual umbellifer, the umbels of flowers being condensed into a head surrounded by coloured bracts - in this case the whole inflorescence and the leaves immediately below it being heavily tinted with a rich reddish brown, which contrasts gorgeously with the soft green oval leaves. A long-lived and easy perennial for a rich moist soil in sun. There is some confusion about the name - sometimes seen as angulosum or even perfoliatum (which it definitely isn't) and also copper form - but this seems to be about right	£8
Buxus balearica	An attractive evergreen – the leaves are a bit larger, thicker, and deeper green than sempervirens. Hardy here (no damage in December 2023) Pale yellow flowers in early spring. So far no problems with moth or blight.	£12
Cachrys alpina	A gorgeous 'fennel' - with only 2 finely divided leaves making a translucent billowing green cloud a few inches above the soil, with elegant umbels of good yellow flowers above in late spring. These turn into peanut sized but almost weightless seeds in summer. Only about 2ft tall, with a compact rootstock, not at all weedy and one of the very best umbellifers for a small space.	£8
Callicarpa japonica		£12
Callirhoe involucrata	I have absolutely no idea why everyone doesn't grow this – maybe it's just too colourful! Intense shocking pink mallow flowers are produced throughout the summer on long trailing leafy stems that can be made to decorate other plants that have finished for the year. The stems do not root so it is not invasive. It dies back to a compact rootstock in autumn. Totally hardy and long-lived.	£8

Callirhoe involucrata tenuissima	A really lovely soft bicolour pink version with perhaps more narrowly lobed leaves. First time I've grown this and I'm extremely taken with it. If it's as tough and long-lived as the species, it'll be an absolute winner.	£8
Calycanthus occidentalis	A lovely lush medium sized shrub from California with fresh green aromatic leaves and good sized deep pink flowers good enough to rival any of the popular Sinocalycanthus hybrids. Flowers periodically through the summer. Easy, hardy, and nowhere near well-known enough.	£16
Campanula raddeana	A Caucasian species with strongly serrated basal leaves and rich purple bells in reddish calyces on slender reddish stems. An easy 'alpine' for any well drained soil in sun, but like many bell-flowers it is a bit of a runner.	£5
Canna x ehemannii	This is a wonderful plant - I normally find Cannas a bit garish for my taste but this one has elegant and vivid cerise flowers in nodding sprays and on tall dark stems and broad lush green leaves, plus it's an enormous tropical looking banana-y thing to 10ft or more in full flower. Plus, it's been hardy here. All I've done is give it a thick pile of straw in winter. It dies down completely (the straw is held in place by the dead stems) but always reappears in May and is luxuriant and magnificent by August. A wonderful plant for anyone with a taste for the tropics.	£15
Caragana arborescens	Not often seen in its basic wild form – a remarkable and characterful tree from Siberia with fresh green leaves and bright yellow pea flowers. Extremely hardy and adaptable	£16
Caragana aurantiaca	Another bushy pea shrub with dense greyish foliage and plentiful orange tinted yellow flowers. Very tough in full exposure and good drainage	£10
Caragana microphylla	A low growing version of the, to my mind anyway, grossly underrated Siberian pea tree – Caragana arborescens. This has fresh yellow pea flowers among fine small pinnate leaves. Excellent for any harsh exposed unpleasant situation where not much else will grow, but choice enough for a sunny well-drained border.	£10
Cardamine glanduligera	In my estimation the best and showiest of the Eurasian species with rich purple flowers and deeply textured foliage. A vigorous spreader in a retentive soil in part shade, and probably a bit too vigorous with choice woodlanders, but a splendid groundcover among shrubs and larger woodland perennials.	£6
Cardocrinum cordatum 'red flowers'	Actually I'd describe the flowers of this form as a deep chocolate brown, with paler edges. Otherwise typical of the species – the bulbs take a few years to get big enough to flower – during which time it produces rosettes of arum-like leaves. Then, one spring it'll produce a 12in stem with several 6in long flowers. Mine have taken 6 years to flower from seed – some should flower next year while others have flowered and will be making several off-sets, ready to flower in a few years time. Best in moist woodland conditions but surprisingly tolerant of recent dry summers here.	£15
Caryopteris (Tripora) divaricata	A lush green upright bush, dying down completely in winter. The late flowering is the same but the flowers themselves are larger, rich blue, and much more interesting. Another purveyor of rare plants describes the flowers as merely 'harmless' which I think is rather a shame. They're not huge or especially plentiful, but they are jolly pretty. Hardy and adaptable. Very different to the familiar grey twiggy subshrubs (C. x clandonensis and the like) and this is now classified under another name - Tripora.	£9

Chelone glabra linifolia	An upright form with narrow leaves and slightly green-tinged white flowers – very fresh and elegant in the autumn border. Any retentive soil in sun or part shade.	£8
Chionanthus retusus	The Asian fringe tree. Similar to the more familiar American species – with the same masses of narrow-petalled white flowers but with smaller, more leathery rounded leaves. Blue fruits in hot summers.	£18
Chlorogalum pomeridianum	The Soap Lily - a relative of Yucca, Agave, Polianthes and Camassia from the western USA. Simple but very elegant white asphodel type flowers are produced on tall rigid stems over a long period in summer above rosettes of undulating grey leaves. Hardy and easy to grow in full sun on a very well-drained soil.	£9
Chrysogonum virginianum australe	A terrific small sunflower type making a compact clump of deep green leaves and bright golden flowers over a long period. Very adaptable to a variety of conditions. This is the southern form of the species and to my mind, definitely the nicer plant – more compact and better colours.	£6
Cicerbita plumieri	A rather fine relative of the chicory from European damp alpine meadows. Loose sprays of soft violet flowers appear in late summer/autumn over broad lettuce-like leaves. Late flowers for shady conditions are always worth looking out for. Perennial and not at all invasive.	£8
Cirsium oleraceum	A big lush green non-spiky thistle from the mountain woods of central Europe. The flowers appear on tall upright stems in late summer/autumn and are relatively small and off-white but surrounded by pale bracts which makes them rather striking. For cool damp and/or semi shady sites. The young stems and leaves are a good edible vegetable apparently, especially if blanched.	£12
Clematis fremontii	A unique non-climbing species from the Prairies. The plant makes a low cluster of stems clothed in simple elliptical leaves, topped in spring with nodding bell-shaped flowers of very unusual colouring. The buds start out a rich shiny woody colour then open to reveal a soft pale green interior. Ultimately, the petals curl back and the flower turns a soft rosy colour. Should be reasonably easy to grow in a well-drained sunny site.	£20
Clematis otophora	A very rare evergreen species with relatively large (3cm) nodding rich yellow flowers over a long period in summer. The foliage is maroon when young turning rich green. A hardy climber of modest size. I never have many of these but they're well worth the investment.	£25
Clematis scottii	Surprisingly large (to more than an inch in diameter) rounded violet flowers are produced on lax stems up to about 18ins long in spring and summer. The foliage is greyish green pinnate. Plants die down completely in winter. In time will build up into a hefty clump of fine-cut foliage with the flowers held above, a bit like some sort of giant Pulsatilla. Easy to grow here in large pots over-wintered in the tunnel but better in a sunny, very well drained spot outside, especially in the drier parts of the country. Exciting plants	£21
Clematis socialis	A gorgeous small species of non-climbing herbaceous and suckering habit - popping up here and there around the original plant, but without being in any way a nuisance. The foliage is narrow and fresh green. The quite large bell-shaped pale violet flowers are classic viorna type. A very rare plant from the Georgia and Alabama but hardy and easy to grow	£20
Clerodendrum trichotomum fargesii	Masses of fragrant creamy flowers in summer followed by striking blue berries with contrasting wine red calyces in autumn. A deservedly popular hardy shrub or small tree of which there never seems to be enough available. Easy on	£15

	almost any soil in sun.	
Codonopsis pilosula Tangshen	A vigorous climber with pale bells, delicately marked with purple inside	£8
Collinsonia canadensis	An impressive and little-grown lamiaceae from North America - tall, with broad lush leaves - almost indistinguishable from some good forms of <i>Hydrangea arborescens</i> . The amber-yellow flowers top them off nicely in late summer/autumn. Good in dry shade and chalky soils and flowering when little else is. A fully hardy and easy-going woodlander that should be much more widely grown.	£10
Colocasia gaoligongensis	The Southeast Asian taros (<i>Colocasia</i> species) are very popular right now for subtropical plantings, with their huge tropical looking aroid leaves - often dark and beautifully textured. In this case the leaves are up to about 2ft across, a soft matt green and heavily marked black toward the centre. Yellow arum flowers appear in summer. Like many subtropicals (<i>Canna</i> , <i>Dahlia</i> etc), some of them are surviving the winters outdoors in the UK these days but very few are reliably hardy. This is where <i>gaoligongensis</i> comes in as it's reckoned to be the hardiest, and under good conditions (damp and warm in the summer) is a vigorous big exotic herbaceous perennial. It will grow in drier conditions but the leaves will be smaller and also thrives as a marginal in my shallow pond. Overall, remarkably easy - running around on stolons and potentially filling a large area. Grow it with other big vigorous perennials - nothing too small and delicate, in sun or part shade.	£15
Commelina dianthifolia	A very pretty little tuft-forming plant, making a succession of intense gentian-blue flowers through much of the summer and autumn until frosted. Quite hardy but mulch it just to be on the safe side.	£5
Cornus foemina	A close relation of and very similar to the familiar <i>C.alba</i> and <i>sericea</i> but with fruits changing from white to blue	£10
Cornus sericea Kelsey dwarf	A low growing version of this well-known species making thickets of wiry red/maroon stems only about 50cms high. Very easy and adaptable in any moist soil and very useful for stabilising pond edges and ditches	£10
Crambe maritima	Our classic native Sea Kale (seed collected locally, on Shoreham Beach by the way) with phenomenal big waxy wavy pale grey leaves and chunky heads of honey-scented white flowers. The new leaves are purple and can be blanched under an old bucket and then steamed as a vegetable. Easy almost anywhere sunny but definitely looks best planted among pebbles.	£8
Crassula sarcocaulis	A neat little succulent shrub, like a tiny bonsai tree with narrow green leaves and heads of rich pink flowers in summer. Very tough – at least in the south and west of the UK, and especially if kept on the dry side in winter.	£8

Crassula sarcocaulis alba	Exactly the same as the common pink-flowered plant but with – you guessed it – white flowers	£8
Cymophyllus fraserianus	A very unusual North American sedge with broad glossy evergreen foliage up to 12ins long, reminiscent of a bromeliad perhaps, and flowers in dense white spikes – more like an aroid spadix. A choice and slow-growing woodlander, rarely offered. Excellent in dry shade.	£8
Cytisus hirsutus	A small leafy shrub with relatively large fresh yellow flowers and pale green trifoliate leaves along slender arching branches. Suitable for a sunny well-drained site.	£12
Dactylicapnos scandens	A lightly-built but potentially quite large herbaceous climber with the typical light airy foliage of the family, strung with hundreds of golden yellow lockets in summer. Previously included in Dicentra. Sometimes described as short-lived, mine have been going for some years now, going from strength to strength without any special care. It dies back to the roots in autumn and sometimes during hot dry spells too but always comes back. Excellent for clothing spring flowering shrubs or scrambling through other climbers.	£8
Datisca cannabina	An amazing large herbaceous perennial from Crete with luxuriant pinnate fresh green leaves on tall arching stems to 7 or 8 ft. The small green flowers appear in long tassels at the ends. Despite its origin, the natural habitat of Datisca is moist and shaded ravines and stream sides, and they grow well in ordinary soils in the UK.	£8
Davidia involucrata	The famous handkerchief or dove tree. Seedlings from garden in Lower Beeding, Sussex.	£13
Delphinium tricorne	An unaccountably rarely seen small tuberous spring-flowering American woodland species up to about 12ins high but often much shorter, with relatively large purple flowers. An excellent and easy addition to a spring woodland collection with Erythroniums, Trilliums etc.	£8
Desmodium (Ototropis) callianthum	An appealing semi-climbing shrub producing rich mauve pink flowers on slim red stems through much of the summer. The foliage is also rather nice, being trifoliate (ie. clover leaf shape) subtly variegated in two shades of green. An easy going hardy shrub for any soil in sun.	£15
Deutzia crenata nakaiana	A popular creeping dwarf shrub with bell-shaped white flowers in late spring. Easy and hardy	£12
Deutzia hookeriana	I used to think Deutzias were a rather boring group of shrubs but the cognoscenti know different. It's a surprisingly varied genus and many of them are exquisite in flower. Hookeriana is one of the best with almost unbelievably finely-crafted sugar pink flowers in neat, rounded heads in late spring. The overall shape and foliage are also good. Like most Deutzia, and easy adaptable plant.	£16
Dianthus ferrugineus	Shocking intense cherry red flowers appear in tight heads on tall stems above fine grey tussocks of grey leaves in early summer. For dry soils in sun.	£5
Dianthus superbus	Much more informal and grassy than most pinks but with exquisite and quite large pale filigree flowers in late spring/early summer. The ragged and finely marked flowers are worth looking at closely and are heavily fragrant. A superb and rarely seen 'old fashioned' cottage garden plant, not at all garish or artificial looking. I have white and pink	£8

	forms available.	
Dianthus isensis Dancing Geisha	A striking species, slender grey leaves and stems. Flowers in early summer, with 3cm long ragged petals varying from white, through various shades of pink to deep cerise. A lovely front of the border plant for any sunny well-drained site.	£6
Dichorisandra pendula	I don't normally do houseplants but I'm making an exception for this lovely species from Brazil, which is still rare in the trade but easy to grow with ordinary home temperatures, moderate to bright light and the compost kept evenly moist. Humidity doesn't seem to be an issue. It has an exceptionally elegant and graceful habit - somewhat like a willowy ginger, and produces lavender blue flowers all summer. Like most commelinaceae (Tradescantia etc) the individual flowers only last a day but are produced continuously throughout the growing season. The foliage is deep glossy green. A lovely thing - every home should have one.	£20
Dichroa febrifuga	An attractive but tender evergreen woodland shrub with conspicuous heads of pink (or on lime-free soils, blue) star-shaped flowers followed by metallic vivid blue berries - overall very like Hydrangea macrophylla but without the sterile florets. Apparently most of the plants in cultivation are hybrids between the true Dichroa and Hydrangea macrophylla, but none of the Hydrangea's cold tolerance seems to have found its way into the progeny. Strictly speaking should probably be classified in Hydrangea. Usually regarded as tender, these plants were cut to the ground by frost in December 2023 but are growing away in time to flower in late summer/autumn. In colder sites a splendid plant for a cool greenhouse	£16
Dichroa (PAB from Guizhou) Long March	A remarkable recent introduction producing soft lilac flower in summer followed by vivid violet berries. A semi-evergreen, small shrub for sheltered woodland. Much hardier than other more familiar Dichroa species.	£16
Digitalis obscura	A very distinct small, almost shrubby species from Spain with 8-10in spikes of brownish orange glossy flowers over narrow evergreen leaves. Quite charming and generally hardy in the southern portion of the UK, especially in drier areas but worthy of a special place in a sunny raised bed or container.	£8
Dodecatheon austrofrigidum	Similar to D.dentatum, but with more substantial rosettes of leaves, and with pink flowers on taller stems. Although not the most spectacular, I've found this the easiest Dodecatheon to keep in ordinary woodsy garden conditions.	£6
Dodecatheon dentatum	Quite distinct from the well-known pink flowered species – this is a lower growing, more spreading species with white flowers. Best in moist leafy woodland situations.	£6
Drynaria sinica	An Asiatic polypody-like fern with nicely textured pinnate fronds up to about 10ins long, on creeping rhizomes. The new growth is coppery-pink. Unlike most Drynaria this is a hardy species - suitable for woodland gardens, and it does much better than I would have expected in dry shade. In humid circumstances it can be encouraged to grow as an epiphyte on wood or rocks.	£10
Epimedium epsteinii	A choice species with broad white petals and dark maroon red spurs. The new foliage is copper tinted. Needs the usual moist woodsy conditions as other Chinese species.	£7

Epimedium grandiflorum nanum hybrid	Some of you may know that <i>Epimedium grandiflorum nanum</i> is an exquisite miniature form of this popular species where the new foliage is fresh green, less than an inch across, and broadly edged in maroon, and the milky white flowers, despite the tiny size of the plant, are normal size. The whole thing is only a couple of inches tall. Sadly it also has a reputation for being difficult to keep - I've had it and lost it twice. This is why I was so pleased when I came across this at Marchant's Hardy Plants a few years ago. Its a bit bigger than nanum - about 5ins high but more vigorous and easy to keep. In every other respect it seems identical. It is still slow to increase though so I'll only ever have a few small plants to sell.	£8
Epimedium leptorrhizum	Forming a dense, slow- spreading clump close to the ground. This species produces relatively large soft pink flowers just above the foliage. The brownish new growth is a feature too. Totally hardy in a moist woodsy spot.	£7
Epimedium platypetalum	One of a small number of Chinese species lacking the usual spurs (the others that I am aware of are <i>ecalcaratum</i> and <i>campanulatum</i>). In this case the flowers are bright yellow bells. A neat species that spreads slowly to form a dense colony. For moist woodland conditions.	£7
Ercilla volubilis	An unusual Chilean climber related to <i>Phytolacca</i> with small wavy matt evergreen leaves, and clusters of pink scented fluffy inflorescences in spring. Can be trained on a sunny wall or growing through a large shrub or as ground cover. Hardy and adaptable with a bit of shelter	£16
Euonymus fortunei Wolong Ghost	Very different to other forms of <i>fortunei</i> in cultivation – this is a creeping/climbing plant with relatively narrow dark green leaves, the veins picked out in white. Makes an excellent ground cover in dry shade	£8
Euonymus nanus turkestanicus	A creeping evergreen species, quite different to the others with small narrow dark green leaves along wide-spreading stems. The leaves turn rich red brown shades in winter. The flowers, though small, are plentiful and well worth looking out for. Small red spindle berries may follow. Excellent in dry shade but very adaptable.	£12
Euonymus obovatus	Another North American species - this time a low and creeping, with pale greenish pink flowers followed by pink warty capsules opening to reveal orange seeds	£10
Euonymus occidentalis	A modestly sized species with rich red/maroon flowers and good quality deciduous foliage. The fruits are pink capsules with orange seeds. I've been very impressed with the quality of this American species - perfect for mixed woodland plantings.	£16
Euphorbia corollata	A white flowered <i>Euphorbia</i> - who knew? In this case fairly normal looking bushy spurge plants produce increasingly wide branching sprays of small pure white flowers in summer – more like a <i>Gypsophila</i> or a <i>Linum</i> perhaps. This species originates in Eastern North America so should be completely cold hardy. So far it has been easy and vigorous in a sunny spot. Not invasive.	£8
Euphorbia myrsinites Red form	A striking form of this popular pale pangolin-looking trailing evergreen with distinct red tints both to the developing buds and the spent inflorescences. Requires full sun and good drainage but fully hardy. Possibly descendants of an old Washfield's form.	£8

Fascicularia bicolor canaliculata	In the wild it tends toward the epiphytic or lithophytic, growing in rock crevices and in the forks of branches so a raised bed is the obvious place for it. If you have a gnarly old tree I'd definitely give it a go there too - wiring the roots in a fork in the trunk, covering them in moss and giving it some water while it gets established. Try it in the crown of an old Cordyline or on the fibrous trunk of a palm.	£8
Felicia rosulata	Previously known as Aster natalensis, these have proved easy to please in a sunny, well-drained spot, and although said to benefit from a dryish winter (coming from East Africa, this is to be expected) they have so far been better if not too parched. Completely unfazed by the last few winters' onslaught. An easy alpine and should be better known.	£6
Ferula tingitana Cedric Morris	One of the giant fennels, with pale foliage	£8
Fuchsia hatschbachii	Closely related to F.magellanica but, to my mind at least, a much nicer plant with good quality narrow foliage, a graceful willowy habit and slender red flowers, giving a completely different effect. Reputedly about as hardy as magellanica – these came through the winter in their pots in the tunnel totally unscathed.	£8
Fuchsia magellanica Arauco	An absolutely exquisite, possibly naturally occurring, form of this popular shrub - always attracts attention with its finely crafted purple-white and pink flowers and neat dark green foliage. It can make a large shrub in time but, like most Fuchsias, responds well to pruning. This is less drought tolerant than other Fuchsia - not good in small containers and definitely most at home in cool moist conditions. nb. the variety Lady Bacon is very similar and they can be hard to tell apart, but seen together, Arauco is definitely the more refined plant with better colours, and smaller leaves and flowers. I grow both but I would always recommend Arauco. It just has that certain something that even people who don't generally go for Fuchsias can appreciate.	£10
Fuchsia regia 'Cherry'	A bit of an enigma, this one. A wild-collected form with distinctive large red-veined glaucous leaves. The flowers are slender and dusky pink. Given to me by Miriam Jacobs. She told me "Many of us received one like mine at a SIG meeting but don't have the name. Mine came with the number 41-42". She's calling it Cherry until we know more about it.	£14
Fuchsia aff. regia grey leaf	Grown from AGS exchange seed as regia - the overall effect (semi-climbing) and the elegant flowers are typical regia, but the leaves are narrower and often somewhat grey-tinted. Hardy and easy - ideal for adorning early-flowering shrubs that have finished for the summer.	£12
Galega orientalis	I'm not quite sure why anyone grows G.officinalis when they could have this a lovely fresh green plant making upright stems to about 3ft with spikes of really deep rich violet pea flowers at the tips. Easy and accommodating in a wide variety of conditions. It runs about a bit underground but not to the extent that it takes over. I grow it among other largeish perennials and shrubs and it pops up here and there making a lovely contrast. Well worth having, not like those weedy wishy-washy officinalis types. Ugh!	£8
Gasteria batesiana		£6
Genista sagittalis		£8

Geranium orientalitibeticum	A choice ground-covering species with rosy pink flowers but the main thing is the leaves which are beautifully marbled with lime green. An easy well-behaved small border plant	£6
Geum rivale islandicum		£6
Gladiolus flanaganae	An absolutely astonishing hardy species from near vertical cliffs in the Drakensberg. The plant is only 10ins high but the outsized vivid red flowers are rich red and grow out sideways. Hard to explain – has to be seen.	£7
Glycyrrhiza yunnanensis	A striking tall perennial in the pea family with attractive pinnate leaves and dense heads of violet flowers in summer – like mauve clover heads. The main effect though is in autumn and winter when the russet red stems and bristly seed heads stand over 6ft tall. Completely weather-proof - an excellent feature in the winter border. Very hardy and adaptable.	£8
Habranthus tubispathus texensis	A pretty and resilient species with simple small Amaryllis style flowers at intervals through the summer, golden yellow inside, red out. They have thrived and seeded about in the tunnel for the last five years, unprotected from the cold and subject to my somewhat sporadic watering. I've not tried them outside yet.	£5
Helwingia himalaica	A peculiar evergreen woodland shrub which makes its flowers on the upper surfaces of the leaves (the flower stem is fused to the midrib). This on its own makes it a botanical curio, but it is also a pleasant and intriguing species with dark glossy leaves, maroon tinged when young, and an attractive upright habit. In good years, red berries will appear, also attached to the leaves. An excellent small to medium sized shrub, best in moist woodland. Hardy but better with shelter from too much sun and wind.	£15
Hemiboea subcapitata	I was very excited when I first came across this on Ed Bowen's Opus nursery website. I thought at first it might be some very classy Abelia relative with long white flowers, marked rich red inside over dark green leaves, but it is in fact a member of the gesneriaceae. Now, one does not expect any gesneriads to be hardy easy-going perennials in the UK but this does appear to be the case here. The easiest up until now have probably been Haberlea and Mitraria but this adds to the list and seems if anything, even more adaptable. Unlike many choice woodlanders it doesn't appear to need cool moist conditions to do well and, as I've discovered, puts up with rather hit-and-miss watering rather well. It spreads and bulks up well and quickly here. I don't know yet how much cold it puts up with but it seems hardy at least in Southern England. It dies back to rosettes in winter. Still rare outside specialist collections but destined to be very popular I think.	£10
Hemiboea strigosa	This pink-flowered species is being sold as subcapitata by a few nurseries but is obviously distinct, both in the flower colour and the thinner texture of the foliage. It seems just as easy to grow and may even be hardier, judging by the fact that the overwintering rosettes have remained evergreen.	£10
Heuchera Brownfinch	A change from the endless stream of bedding Heuchera that are so fashionable at the moment – this is very close in appearance to H.cylindrica which is usually available in a form known as Greenfinch. Brownfinch has the same cylindrical flower spikes, but of a rather nice rich red brown, on unusually tall stems. The foliage is attractively silver splashed. Rare in cultivation, but easily grown in sun or part shade. Keep an eye open for vine weevils, which love Heuchera roots.	£8

Hibiscus militaris		£8
Hovenia dulcis	The Raisin Tree - grown traditionally for the fruit which appears on sweet edible stems, this is nevertheless a very attractive small tree with broad heart-shaped leaves, reminiscent of Idesia.	£15
Hydrangea serrata Kiyosumi	A normal lacecap Hydrangea in many ways but with two unusual features - the sterile florets around the edge of the inflorescence are white, edged with pink (but tastefully so), and the new foliage is a rich maroon red. A striking small shrub (about 4ft high) for semi-shade on most soils as long as not too dry (including chalk. Hydrangeas are among those plants often believed to be lime-haters. This is not the case.)	£9
Hypericum balearicum	Another small shrubby species, this time with very unusual aromatic crinkly, fresh green leaves and good size rich golden flowers of an unusually good quality. Needs shelter, sun and good drainage. A perfect dwarf shrub – not nearly widely grown enough.	£6
Hypericum kalmianum	Hypericums can seem a bit ho-hum to most keen gardeners I admit but there are some interesting ones. In this case I think the appeal is in the distinctive low rounded habit and the contrast of the fresh yellow rounded flowers with the neat elliptical sea-green leaves. Like other shrubby Hypericums though, it's easy to please and flowers over a long period in summer. Not at all weedy, and completely hardy.	£8
Impatiens arguta	The most impressive so far of the hardy species with elongate violet flowers all summer. Ideal for not too dry shady situations and thriving outside here through the last few winters, and even on my mum's rather dry chalky soil.	£6
Impatiens flanaganae	Closely related to I.tinctoria, this South African tuberous species produces rich pink flowers in summer	£10
Impatiens omeiana	The very dark green, yellow veined, purple-backed leaves in rosettes are the main feature here, but the amber yellow flowers in late summer and autumn are a pleasant bonus. For moist woodsy soils in part shade. This one runs underground quite widely.	£6
Impatiens puberula HWJK 2063	Another hardy purple flowered species, this time with soft green, somewhat fuzzy foliage. The flowers are chubbier with dark purple lips and a paler 'bag' behind, if you see what I mean. Needs the same conditions as arguta but is more spreading.	£6
Impatiens tinctoria	An old favourite from East Africa and surprisingly hardy given a good pile of straw over the tubers in winter to stop them freezing. Forms a thicket of tall juicy green stems clothed in quite large lush green leaves and topped from late summer until it freezes with heavily fragrant white flowers. The flowers have a very long spur behind, adapted to the long-tongued moths that pollinate them in the wild. Remarkably easy given plenty of moisture and, as I said, a good thick mulch in winter.	£10

Incarvillea Brighton Pride	I requested seeds of "Incarvillea zhongdianensis alba" from the AGS exchange back in 2011. Most of them came up as I.delavayi but one came up with very rich pink flowers, well textured foliage and a bit shorter at 8-10ins tall. At first I thought it was a dark pink form of delavayi (which is itself a good thing as there aren't many cultivars of the species) but now I think it might be a hybrid. At any rate it's a very good colour (it really glows on the nursery at the moment), it seems very tough (other species have been a bit hit and miss for me here) and it comes +/- true from seed so I've been raising as many as I can and this year I'm offering it for sale. I'm calling it Brighton Pride in honour of my home town's spirit of lively diversity	£8
Indigofera kirilowii	A very lovely low-growing shub with fresh green foliage and clear pink flowers in summer. Easy and adaptable	£12
Iris albicans	The true Middle-Eastern species – a bearded Iris with clear white flowers, touched with lemon toward the centre. Grows and flowers freely in a sunny raised bed here under a Ceanothus.	£8
Iris aphylla	A medium sized bearded Iris species from Eastern Europe - an excellent species in the garden, forming compact clumps and always making plenty of rich purple flowers on short stems. Also has excellent new foliage - a feature in itself. Easy in the open garden in a sunny well-drained spot. A good doer, as they say	£8
Iris attica yellow	A soft yellow form of this exquisite miniature bearded Iris. Needs a well-drained soil in full sun with other small plants.	£8
Iris fulva	A legendary Iris (is that too strong a word?) from the deep south of the USA with flowers as close to red as any. This species is cold hardy but does have a reputation for needing more heat than we typically get in the UK. Nevertheless these seedlings have proved quick to flower here and very vigorous. For shallow water in full sun, where the water warms up quickly in spring. Thoroughly recommended.	£8
Iris x fulvala	A very vigorous and adaptable but low-growing species that will thrive in ordinary soil or wetland situations in full sun. The large flowers are rich purple marked with a yellow toward the centre.	£8
Iris graminea	Related to sintenisii - another small European species with nicely shaped violet flowers among narrow grassy leaves. The flowers are plum-scented.	£6
Iris lactea	A finely built Spuria with narrow upright grey leaves and soft mauve or creamy white flowers. I have three forms here grown from SIGNA seed, all as yet unflowered. For open sunny conditions.	£7
Iris lazica	A deservedly popular winter-flowering species related to unguicularis but happiest in woodland conditions. Flowering sometimes as early as November but usually in February/March. Low-growing with violet flowers over broad fresh evergreen foliage	£8
Iris prismatica	A dellightful small American species, with very fine delicate mauve flowers, marked with darker lines. Best in moist conditions in sun or semi shade but will grow in ordinary soils if not too dry	£8
Iris Regal Surprise	A remarkable cross of versicolor and pseudacorus with very striking violet and white flowers in late spring. Sturdy and vigorous but nowhere near as much so as pseudacorus (the common yellow flag) An excellent bog or marginal plant.	£8
Iris sintenisii	Another exquisite dwarf Iris with tufts of erect grey leaves and intensely inky short-stemmed purple and white flowers. Beautiful and easy	£8

Jamesia americana compact form Larimer Co., CO, 8000ft,	A close relative of the Deutzias from western USA. The flowers are exactly like one of the nicer white Deutzias (not scabra) but the foliage is more like a Viburnum of the Wayfaring Tree fraternity (V.lantana). A pleasing small shrub for any ordinary soil, neither too wet nor too dry, in sun or semi shade. Unaccountably rare.	£12
Jasminum fruticans	A lovely small shrub with fresh yellow (unscented) flowers in summer and neat little pinnate leaves. Makes a twiggy bush not more than three feet high here. Easy in any sunny spot in the garden where it won't be overwhelmed by boisterous neighbours. I have no idea why this is not very popular indeed.	£8
Kalimeris incisa Edo Murasaki	A rather choice compact aster relative with flowers that remind me of Anemone blanda - with rich violet rays and yellow centres. The foliage is lush and deep green and the whole plant is of modest size without being a blobby dwarf. Not fussy about soil or aspect as long as extremes are avoided, and flowering through the summer - usually June to autumn (but it started in March this year!)	£8
Klasea bulgarica	A wonderful tall Centaurea-type plant growing to well over head height with glossy serrated leaves and clear white flower heads. Fabulous among low-growing plants in full sun on any well-drained soil	£9
Kniphofia brachystachya	A small species – only about 50cm tall, producing dense spikes of honey yellow/orange flowers from dark buds and which turn black when spent. Very striking. Came through the recent cold spells in their pots in the open without trouble.	£8
Lathyrus aureus	Reminiscent of L.vernus in that it doesn't climb but bigger and producing flowers of an unusual soft orange colour. For any good soil but especially nice in light woodland.	£6
Lathyrus laevigatus	Yet another member of the transsylvanicus group	£7
Lathyrus transsylvanicus	Very like aureus but generally more impressive and elegant - with larger and more striking spikes of orange flowers. Distinctly different	£7
Leucosceptrum canum	A remarkable Buddleja-like shrub from the foothills of the Himalayas, where it is quite common and widespread. The foliage is very pale and the flowers, which are produced very late in the year, are slender creamy white bottlebrushes. The combination is rather striking and unusual. Not really tried outside here yet so not sure how hardy it is or whether it will flower on one-year old stems if the older stems are cut back. We'll have to see won't we.	£12
Leucosceptrum stellipilum formosanum RWJ 9907	Mauve pink bottle-brushes and fresh pale green foliage. A lush leafy herbaceous perennial related to Elscholtzia, Agastache and Rostrinucula and with the same late flowering season. Possibly best in sheltered woodland to avoid hot sun and early frosts which can damage the display. Otherwise easy and adaptable.	£8
Lilium Rosemary North	A brilliant adaptable lily here, producing plenty of amber coloured nodding recurved flowers, sprinkled with brown toward the centre, on 3ft stems every year without any help at all.	£8
Lindelofia anchusoides	Rarely offered Cynoglossum-like plant with intense azure flowers over dense clumps of leaves. Hardy and easy in a sunny well-drained place	£8

Linnaea (Abelia) sp. from Peter Catt	A new introduction as far as I can tell from the well-known plant breeder and collector – this is a very special shrub, wild collected I believe, with very shiny and attractively textured leaves and vigorous growth. The flowers are a warm pinkish cream – almost white and with rich yellow markings inside and appear in large quantities all summer. This species seems to have an unusual low arching habit, so would be ideal for a bank or raised bed or perhaps a large pot. It's certainly choice enough to be worthy of a prominent place on the patio Hardiness has not been well tested but seems good so far. Probably the best new plant I grow.	£16
Linnaea (Abelia) umbellata	An extremely rarely offered hardy species related to mosanensis and triflora. The flowers are jasmine-like rosy white tubes backed with maroon sepals and the leaves are relatively broad and dark green. I've not been growing it long enough to know what it does long term but it looks promising. Cuttings given to me by Peter Catt	£16
Linnaea (Dipelta) ventricosa	A gorgeous and very choice member of the Abelia group with flowers that are glossy pink outside and white with orange markings inside. A tall upright deciduous shrub, as easily grown on chalk as on acid soil, in sun or part shade. Beginning to flower in late winter, the main display is in mid to late spring. Attractive deciduous leaves and peeling papery bark. Fully hardy. Rare, I think, only because it's slow to propagate. This has lately, along with Abelia and Kolkwitzia, been transferred to Linnaea, for reasons I can explain if anyone's interested.	£18
Lithodora hispidula versicolor	A dense sub-shrub from the eastern Mediterranean, with dark green foliage and tubular flowers that change from pale pink to sky blue in spring. Has suffered not at all in the recent freeze, unlike many things, and grows happily in dry chalky soils in full sun here at the nursery. Highly recommended, and unavailable elsewhere.	£8
Lobelia laxiflora angustifolia	A spreading perennial with fresh narrow foliage topped in summer with tubular orange and yellow flowers. Hardy here, this might suffer in a very cold year but otherwise a reliable border perennial. This has a reputation for running but I've not found it excessive.	£7
Lobelia siphilitica Blue form	A good blue form of this excellent North American species from Kevin Hughes. The flowers remind me of Penstemon and are a lovely clear colour without a touch of mauve. The foliage is fresh green. This is an upright fully hardy perennial happy in any moist soil in sun or part shade. Not at all weedy or coarse.	£6
Lonicera chaetocarpa	An unusual and distinctive shrub with rich green fuzzy foliage and large, pale, soft green calyces, holding pale yellow flowers within. The flowers are followed by pairs of orange fruits and the calyces turn to pale parchment. Hardy, slow-growing, characterful, and of modest size. Oddly appealing.	£16
Lonicera crassifolia	A lovely little evergreen creeping (not climbing) honeysuckle for ground cover or rockery with small shiny round leaves and clusters of creamy gold honeysuckle flowers, slightly tinted pink. Possibly too vigorous for a trough but hardly rampageous.	£8
Lonicera myrtillus	A very different species with small, rounded leaves and rosy white urn-shaped flowers - almost like some sort of ericaceous shrub (hence the name). Compact and easily pleased	£10
Lonicera syringantha	A medium-sized shrubby species with heavily fragrant rosy-pink trumpet-shaped flowers in spring. The foliage is neat and grey-green. Easy and adaptable – one of the best fragrant shrubs.	£16
Maclura pomifera	The Osage Orange tree. A north American member of the mulberry family producing large yellow (sadly inedible) wrinkly fruits.	£16

Metaplexis japonica	Similar to Watakaka (or Dregea) sinensis with similar foliage and flowers, but in this case with pinkish mauve flowers. A hardy herbaceous climber, flowering periodically through the summer.	£8
Mitella breweri	A prolific little Heuchera relative with cute crinkly rich green leaves and tiny spikes of fresh green-yellow flowers. Seeds about freely in shade but never a problem. I love it	£5
Molopospermum peloponnesiacum	A very good-looking medium sized umbellifer with jagged cut glossy green foliage and fresh pale yellow umbells turning lime green - a very nice contrast. Absolutely not "yet another bloody hogweed" and not even slightly coarse or invasive. Although southern European in origin this plant is best kept not too hot or dry.	£10
Monocostus uniflorus	One of a very small number of houseplants I sell - because it's easy to grow but rare in cultivation. Costus are in tropical family of ginger relatives with conspicuously spiralling stems with the leaves radiating outwards. Most are too large for the home, but this is a compact, clump-forming species from Africa up to about 12ins high, and it produces relatively large ruffled lemon yellow flowers sporadically through the season. It needs medium light, normal room-temperatures (18-25C), with some humidity but is otherwise easy to grow. I grow it in a west-facing window among other plants, and mist them regularly.	£18
Moraea huttonii	Stupendous tall Iris with beautifully crafted yellow 'flags' on rigid upright stems well above the narrow strappy green leaves (easily hidden among other perennials). For open sites on fertile moist soils ideally but very tough. Basically, they'll grow anywhere Agapanthus or Kniphofia succeed.	£8
Moraea vegeta	A small South African bulb only a few inches high, with Iris type flowers of an unusual soft cocoa colour with a bright yellow centre. I give it a dry summer and protect it in winter, but this is a dependable, easy species and might well grow in a sheltered, sunny, well-drained place outside.	£6
Notocactus (Parodia) magnificus	I have a few babies of this magnificent cool-growing species ready to go in 3in pots. Mature plants are more or less spherical, up to 10ins across, sea green with dense bands of straw-coloured prickles along the ridges. Lemon-yellow flowers are produced regularly. Not hardy, but doesn't need much heat - just frost free, and dry in winter.	£6
Ornithogalum reverchonii	A choice species from Spain and Morocco with pure white flowers and long grey leaves. More demanding than most European species – needing excellent drainage and some protection from the worst of the weather. Not at all weedy	£8
Paeonia rockii unflowered seedlings	Parents have good single flowers and may be white or pink with dark blotches at the centre. Excellent foliage, as you'd expect	£12
Paeonia Cherry Pannacotta	This was given to me as a small bit of tuber about 30 years ago - I forget who from - and it has been with me ever since. I know nothing more about its origins but it's been a wonderful strong grower wherever I've had it, forming a dense, rounded clump. Unless someone can come up with a better suggestion I'm going to call it Cherry Pannacotta Many single rounded creamy flowers, edged in pink. The foliage is very glaucous grey green (a bit like mlokosewitschii - a possible parent - but the leaflets are narrower), and strongly tinted purple in spring. Does not set seeds. Substantial roots, probably big enough to flower, in 3l pots.	£25

Parsonsia heterophylla	One of those beguiling NZ plants that, in juvenile form, tries to look dead, with narrow, brownish leaves on black stems (think Pseudopanax crassifolius, but climbing). If it is allowed to develop into the adult form the leaves will be dark green and oval and scented white flowers will appear in summer. Hardy with shelter, or a good cool greenhouse plant.	£15
Penthorum sedoides	An unusual N.American perennial, mostly seen as a marginal/aquatic but adaptable to other situations. Leafy stems to about 10ins high, with creamy flowers in late summer. The main attraction is when the plants turn vivid golds, oranges and reds in autumn.	£8
Perovskia Filigran	A choicer plant than the P.atriplicifolia cultivars we normally see and probably a form or hybrid of P.abrotanoides, which is less easy to grow in moist mild climates. The silver foliage is very finely cut, the stems are white and the flowers are intense blue. I've not yet worked out how to get the best from it but a very dry site with maximum exposure is probably the key. Very cold hardy.	£8
Persicaria filiformis	I've always been impressed with the fresh, almost luminous green lustre of the leaves of this species with the black chevron and coppery tints, reminiscent of the tropical Calatheas and Marantas. Red flowers are produced in slender tails in summer and early autumn. Not invasive but may seed about here and there. For moist conditions in sun or semi shade. For a long time this was sold as a form of the American species, P.virginiana, but apparently it's Chinese.	£8
Persicaria filiformis Guizhou Bronze PAB 9127	A rather gorgeous form of the species with less conspicuous black markings but the leaves have a wonderful brassy tint and the whole plant is more luxuriant.	£8
Bistorta (Persicaria) tenuicaulis	A choice little woodlander – very unlike any of the other common species - slowly spreading to make a colony of stocky little plants with small silvery green leaves and in spring, short spikes of pure white flowers. For moist but well-drained woodsy soil in shade. Never even slightly weedy. In fact, keep an eye on it or it might get lost.	£6
Persicaria virginiana Compton's form	This American species is not that often offered, possibly because the flowers are quite small bright red filaments and appear in Autumn. A magnificent foliage plant though - as good as many of the tropical Calatheas and Marantas (prayer plants). The leaf surface has a real lustre - richly coloured and with an odd black chevron - I know not why.	£8
Petagnia saniculifolia	A peculiar little woodland umbellifer from Italy - related to Aстранtia and Sanicula with pale flower heads and green bracts. Subtle but pretty	£6
Philadelphus aff. delavayi	I can't even remember where I got the cuttings of this one. It's clearly one of the delavayi calvescens types with their strongly textured foliage and contrasting dark calyx (remarkable how much difference that makes to the look of the flower) but in this case the flowers are unusually elegant with pure white filaments. The fragrance is just as good. This is an easy adaptable, medium sized arching shrub for sun or semi shade.	£12

Phlomis 'angustifolia' Toob	A very striking Phlomis with the edges of the grey leaves turned up to reveal the white undersides, giving a very smart two-tone effect, especially in winter. The flowers are a clear bright yellow. This has proved hardy and easy in a sunny well-drained spot. Originally obtained as P.angustifolia, it seems this name is a synonym of P.fruticosa. It's not clear if it's a form of fruticosa or another species but it's a much nicer plant. Nick Macer gave it the varietal name 'Toob' because of the 'toobular' shape of the leaves.	£12
Phlomis samia	A very unusual species grown for its smoky suede brown flowers. These are born in whorls on upright stems like other Phlomis, but this is a hardy herbaceous perennial dying down to a leafy rosette in winter rather than a shrub. There are a few other herbaceous Phlomis, including the more familiar russeliana and cashmeriana but despite the less colourful flowers I like this one best. Tough and adaptable.	£12
Piper aff. kadsura	The nearest we come to a hardy pepper plant. In all respects typical of the genus – a climber with nicely veined heart-shaped matt green leathery leaves to about 3ins across. I've not seen it flower but I assume they will be the normal pale tail-like inflorescences. Originally from Japan. Borderline hardy here at the nursery but we are rather exposed and dry. I'd try it in a milder, moister area, in woodland or a cool greenhouse. It went unscathed in my 'frost-free' greenhouse in December 2022 when many other supposedly hardier plants froze to death.	£15
Plectranthus excisus	A succession of violet labiate flowers in long slanting racemes in late summer and autumn. The foliage is unusual in shape with dark purple tints. Very adaptable and fully hardy here	£8
Primula veris x elatior	A neat small Primula with short stems, tight foliage, and the yellow flowers have relatively narrow petals in umbels on short stems. Easy and floriferous. From Kevin Hughes.	£6
Primula Lady Greer	A really very cute old cultivar with neat, rounded leaves and umbels of pale yellow flowers. Gradually makes a colony but hasn't seeded about. Easy and long-lived in moist shade.	£6
Prunus prostrata		£12
Pycnanthemum muticum	Another North American that certainly deserves to be better known. Forms colonies of upright stems with fresh green rounded leaves ultimately developing an almost Euphorbia-like inflorescence of tiny white flowers subtended by silvery white bracts. At this stage the whole plant has a pale silvery sheen. Not invasive. Has a lovely fresh peppermint fragrance too and can be used in the same way. Any soil.	£8
Rabdosia longitubus	Despite the indecision over the name, a splendid, if understated perennial, with clear blue flowers over a long period from late summer onwards. The flowers really glow in the low autumn light like tiny gas flames. Any soil in sun or semi shade. Easy but may not emerge until May or June. (Aka Isodon longitubus or Plectranthus longitubus)	£8
Ranunculus alpestris	A true alpine with rounded deep green leaves and good white flowers. Much easier than many alpine Ranunculus – even here in Sussex where most suffer from the relatively hot dry climate. An easy hardy plant for raised beds among rocks.	£6
Ranunculus auricomus	A local form of this small charming non-invasive buttercup. Best in moist woodland	£6

Ranunculus calandrinoides	Ranunculus is an amazingly varied genus and I have a bit of a thing for them. This is one of the species found in the Western Mediterranean region with glaucous elliptical leaves, almost like a small Hosta, and gorgeous white flowers, slightly pink tinged. This species (from the Atlas Mountains of Morocco) is winter green and winter flowering and although cold hardy, is not generally recommended for outdoors. Word has it though that it will grow in dry shade, perhaps peeking out from under a myrtle or bay into the low winter sunlight. Perfectly easy in a pot in an unheated greenhouse, kept dry in summer but well-watered and fed when in growth.	£8
Ranunculus gramineus	An attractive Mediterranean spring-flowering buttercup with very narrow grey leaves and slender stems of typical golden flowers. Best in dry sunny sites, dying down in summer.	£6
Ranunculus malessanus	A miniature species from Southern Spain with glossy dark green palmate leaves - tinted black when young, red stems, and substantial fresh yellow flowers. It has tuberous Ficaria-type roots but without any invasive tendencies. It appears in spring, flowers, and disappears again, and is therefore ideal for combining with other small Mediterranean bulbous and tuberous plants. An extremely neat and satisfying little buttercup for troughs and raised beds.	£6
Ranunculus platanifolius	A very easy and adaptable, and frankly just very lovely white flowering buttercup. Fresh and easy, and did I say lovely? Suitable for any retentive soil in sun or semi shade. Not even slightly invasive.	£6
Retama sphaerocarpa	Very like R.monosperma but with delicate yellow flowers on grey stems. I think Retamas have a grace and elegance that most brooms lack and are well worth wider planting	£12
Rhamnus imeretina	A remarkable large-leaved species with fresh green, nicely corrugated foliage on thick twigs. Pale yellow flowers appear in spring. A broad, lush shrub of a special quality. Ok here on my rather dry soil but the leaves don't get as big as they would on moist soils with more shelter.	£21
Rhamnus ludovici-salvatoris	A terrific dense twiggy shrub endemic to the Balearic Islands, very little known in the UK. These are from seed collected on Ibiza and are remarkably variable but generally have small, rounded leaves, some more or less spikey (like a tiny holly), some more or less glaucous, some turning glossy green with age. The stems are deep red. The flowers will be yellow and clustered close to the stems among the foliage, and the fruits that follow will be dark red. For sun and free drainage and so far quite undamaged outside at the nursery.	£9
Ribes aureum gracillimum	The western counterpart of the popular (but rather coarse) R.odoratum, with much the same bright yellow, fragrant flowers. However, this species is smaller, and in all respects more attractively put together. The buds are often tinged red. Should also be another good hardy species for drier, sunnier sites but probably more adaptable than cereum.	£12
Ribes cereum	An attractive Californian species with profuse palest rosy-white flowers in spring among small greyish leaves on a compact gnarly shrub. An ideal species for Mediterranean style gardens growing among other sun loving drought-tolerant species.	£12
Ribes laurifolium Amy Doncaster	Another winter flowering shrub and one of my favourites. Nothing like the blackcurrants to which it is related, this is a low, gnarly, rather picturesque evergreen, producing dangling trails of pale greenish yellow flowers from red bracts in earliest spring. Easy-going but probably best with some shade from deciduous trees and shrubs. Grow Cyclamen and	£15

	Scillas through it. This is a male form – recognisable by its more rounded open flowers and more rounded inflorescences	
Ribes laurifolium female	In the female form the flowers are individually less wide-open but are subtended by more conspicuous bracts, and form very attractive, dense clusters. In no way inferior to the male. Black berries are occasionally produced	£15
Ribes malvaceum	A pink flowered currant similar to, but in my opinion, better than the (possibly too) widely grown sanguineum. This one has dangling racemes of pink flowers and broader leaves. Edible fruits	£12
Ribes nevadense	A compact species with dense oval heads of rich pink flowers. A very nice species that should be better known.	£12
Rostrinucula dependens	My sources tell me this might actually be R. sinensis, but either way, this is definitely turning out to be one of my favourite plants. The arching habit, elegant 6in blackish sea green foliage and pale bloomy stems and leaf undersides are a feature all summer. Exquisitely sculpted 3-4 inch pearly white 'catkins' sprout mauve/pink filaments in Autumn. The whole thing has a most unusual pale/dark effect - restrained but very classy and unlike anything else. To 4ft tall. Easy in any sunny well-drained site.	£12
Rubus acuminatus	An evergreen species with leathery laurel-like foliage and very finely formed bell-shaped white flowers. The Rubus equivalent of Ribes laurifolium. A low arching shrub - not at all invasive and completely hardy here. Best in moist semi shade but quite adaptable. A remarkable plant.	£16
Rubus iranaeus	A lovely creeping/semi climbing species with broad fresh green reniform leaves. Not too vigorous here but best given space to move about	£16
Rubus Rushbrook Red Leaf	Deeply textured and felted palmate leaves start out quite distinctly red and turn rich green. This one is somewhere between a sprawling ground cover and a climber and is one of those that might need a certain amount of space and/or cutting back. Another of Barry Clarke's babies.	£12
Ruellia strepens	There are a number of hardy Ruellia from the eastern USA – all with showy mauve flowers on bushy plants. This one seems particularly good with rich violet funnel-shaped flower and fresh green foliage. Seems very adaptable (unfazed by December 2023) and easy to grow. Should be much better known.	£8
Sagittaria graminea	A small aquatic with linear submerged leaves but without the arrow-head shaped emergent leaves of some other Sagittaria. The 3-petalled white flowers appear on short stems above the water in summer. Hardy and suitable for shallow ponds. Spreads in muddy soil by runners.	£6
Salix bockii	A very unusual willow for its summer/autumn flowering - the catkins are creamy white up to 2ins long on long slender branches covered in small oval grey green leaves. Frankly it looks nothing like a willow, but is an adaptable small to medium shrub suitable for any not-too-dry soils in sun or semi shade.	£10
Salix gracilistyla melanostachys	A wacky willow for you, this time grown for its bituminous black catkins in early spring which sprout pale yellow anthers and have red highlights. Potentially a large shrub but responds well to quite hard pruning immediately after flowering.	£16

Salix gracilistyla Mt.Aso	Maybe the idea of a pink flowered willow sounds a bit kitsch but I promise you this one carries it off very tastefully indeed. This is a naturally occurring form of gracilistyla (not chaenomeloides as was originally thought) and can be quite a substantial shrub in time, very much like its relative the black willow (melanostachys) but with greyish twigs and leaves. An easy and adaptable willow in any retentive soil in sun or part shade	£21
Salix magnifica	Originally mistaken (out of flower) for a Magnolia - this species has broad lustrous oval hairless leaves and thick stems - completely different to what we normally think of as a willow. This is the female form and the catkins are long and slender. A remarkable shrub for a retentive soil	£16
Salix myrtilloides Pink Tassels	Forms a low, gnarly shrublet, probably covering a sizeable area eventually, but not to the extent of smothering other things. So far very adaptable and not bothered by drought but probably better on a moist gritty 'alpine' sort of soil, in a raised bed or rock garden.	£8
Salix subopposita	A low-growing but vigorous shrub grown for the masses of yellow tinged catkins in early spring. An excellent ground-cover for heavy and sodden soils	£10
Salvia reptans	Very different – this is a tall bushy species with very narrow, almost grassy green leaves, giving a very light fresh effect in the garden among grasses or grey leaved shrubs. The flowers are exquisite – small but plentiful and of intense cobalt blue on fine stems above the foliage. For open dry sunny sites, but quite cold hardy.	£7
Sanguisorba applanata	Not flowered here yet for some reason but an excellent foliage plant, reminiscent of a low spreading Melianthus or a giant Acaena. The flowers should be white bottle brushes, but are not the main reason for growing this plant. Suitable for any moist fertile soil in sun.	£6
Saruma henryi	A peculiar relative of the Asarums in that it has more conventional yellow flowers in spring. The emerging foliage is soft suede and dark tinged and a feature in its own right. The mature foliage reminds me a bit of Brunnera. An adaptable woodland or border plant.	£8
Saxifraga aff. hirsuta	Not totally sure about the identity of this plant. It closely resembles the Irish endemic S.hirsuta, which is very like the familiar London Pride types but with matt green, somewhat fuzzy foliage and sprays of small white flowers. What is unusual in this form, and which I don't see mentioned in any references to hirsuta is the wine-red undersides to the leaves which are a subtle but distinct enhancement.	£6
Scopolia carniolica	Glossy dark maroon bells, pale inside, appear with the young foliage in early spring. A woodlander	£8
Flueggea suffruticosa (Securinega ramiflora)	More of a curio really than a thing of great beauty perhaps - this is a broad, eventually weeping deciduous shrub with small, rounded leaves and clusters of small yellow flowers along the wiry stems. Extremely hardy and adaptable.	£10
Senna hebecarpa	Big exotic looking herbaceous relatives of the tropical Sennas – these American species occur as far north as the Great Lakes so should be very hardy indeed. The foliage is wonderfully luxuriant and the yellow flowers, while individually small, give a good show in the latter part of the summer. For moist rich soils in full sun.	£10

Setaria palmifolia	A large and dramatic grass with strikingly ribbed leaves and forming a tussock to about 2ft high and twice that across. The flowers are relatively modest millet-like sprays but the overall effect is very lush and exotic. Usually considered a tender species for subtropical bedding but I've had it for years in open borders both on heavy clay soil and the better drained soil at the nursery, mulched with straw in winter. It usually gets heavily bitten back in winter but there's always been plenty of root for it to come back strongly in spring. This is the Highland Pitpit or broad-leaved bristlegrass of PNG, where the seeds and new shoots are eaten.	£8
Silene asterias	A lovely little Bulgarian species unlike any of the other Silene in cultivation that I'm aware of. This has tiny flowers massed into thrift-like heads well above the rosettes of fresh green leaves. An easy and adaptable species suitable for any moisture retentive soil but is particularly useful for wet sites where something smaller is required.	£7
Silene regia	An amazing tall upright N.American species with big, intense red flowers over a long period. Hardy and long-lived.	£6
Silene zawadskii	If you have ever admired the fresh white blooms of the white campion but wished it wasn't quite so weedy this might be the answer. This 'alpine' version is very neat and adaptable with the pure white flowers held on slender stems over smart glossy green rosettes. A very nice contrast. Any well-drained soil in sun.	£5
Silphium laciniatum	An amazing big perennial with shiny (but somewhat bristly) rich green lobed leaves almost like some sort of giant polypody up to 2ft long. The golden Helianthus-type flowers, produced on stout stems in summer, are pleasant but it's the foliage that really counts. Easy and hardy and totally non-spreading. Worth giving it plenty of space though to get the full effect	£9
Silphium simpsonii	A smaller species with simple green leaves and golden flowers	£8
Sinningia tubiflora	A South American Gesneriaceae making rosettes of soft grey leaves and tall slender stems of intensely fragrant tubular milky white flowers. Dies down to a tuber in winter. These will survive sub zero temperatures if kept dry	£8
Sophora flavescens	A herbaceous species from China with pale yellow, somewhat monk's-hood like flowers on slender stems over elegant pinnate foliage. A cool airy alternative to Baptisia and Thermopsis. Fully hardy.	£8
Spiraea densiflora splendens	The Spiraeas are a another group that is unfairly ignored due to a few nondescript but all too common representatives, but S.splendens is a neat little shrub with small rounded pale sea green leaves and vivid pink flowers. Very pretty indeed, and easy too, given sun and free drainage. Thanks to Dennis Carvalho once again, for the seed.	£9
Spiraea hayatana	A pleasing medium-sized species with strongly red tinged new growth and heads of white flowers, tinged pink at the centre in June. Like most Spiraea it is easy and hardy.	£12
Stachys discolor	A very beautiful species a bit like officinalis but larger in all parts and with flowers of palest yellow on compact greyish bushes. Hard to explain but this plant has a real refinement compared to many of its coarser relatives and is not even slightly weedy. Easy and adaptable in the border. A real charmer.	£7

Strobilanthes angustifrons	A deciduous shrub almost unknown in cultivation it seems. The flowers are of a rich glossy purple with a pale creamy throat. Very distinct. Flowers freely at the same time as other hardy Strobilanthes, in autumn. Largely untried but it's proved fully hardy here on the nursery and there has been a good-sized specimen in the walled garden at Wakehurst for some time now. Should be much better known.	£16
Strobilanthes penstemonoides dalhausiana	An impressive robust bushy perennial making plenty of fresh violet flowers from late summer until frost. One of the very best late flowering hardy perennials for a wide range of situations, including dry shade.	£12
Sutherlandia (Lessertia) montana	An old favourite this – I always have a few available. Fully cold hardy around here but never happy in the ground, even in raised beds – I know not why. A lovely thing in a pot though. Produces large rich red pea flowers among silvery pinnate leaves in late winter/early spring, followed by papery pink bladder pods. I always collect seeds but my stock plants have been long-lived in sun in a gritty compost, overwintered in the tunnel. Semi dormant in late spring/early summer. Comes back into growth after midsummer.	£12
Syringa tomentella yunnanensis	Attractive large ribbed foliage and sprays of tubular pink flowers in spring. Too big to post	£25
Talbotia elegans	A bit of an obscurity this one - this is a member of the southern hemisphere family, the velloziaceae, and is probably the hardest of them. They are particularly known for being among those plants that look dead during the dry season but miraculously revive when the rains come. (Sometimes included in the genus Xerophyta, meaning 'dry plant'.) This is a dense, tussock-forming plant with rather fibrous leaves – green above, purple under. Pretty white flowers appear on fine hair-like stems in summer. Probably best in an unheated greenhouse, but I've not tried it outside. Although it will take low temperatures it should probably be kept dry in winter. The leaves will look dead but will revive in spring so don't cut them off unless they get really tatty. For well-drained soil in sun.	£6
Talinum calycinum	A terrific little hardy succulent from the southern USA with vivid pink flowers on slender stems above neat tussocks of narrow green leaves. Needs full sun and dry soils. Dies down to the roots in winter when it should be kept on the dry side. Fully frost hardy.	£6
Tinantia pringlei	Completely hardy through the last few winters here in Sussex, and in fact inclined to turn up in unexpected places around the garden.	£6
Titanotrichum oldhamii	Classic gesneriaceae - sturdy basal rosette of fleshy crinkly leaves and stems of foxglove like flowers emerging from the centre. The flowers are a very striking bright yellow, deep red inside, and the leaves are purple on the reverse. Not well tried outdoors in the UK, but the main problem overwintering temperate gesneriads usually is not the cold so much as keeping them dry in winter, This doesn't seem to be a problem in this case. Titanotrichum is best in a moist woodsy soil, and it is imperative that it does not dry out in summer, or else the flower buds will turn to tiny tubers (gemmae). A solid and vigorous woodland perennial as long as it has enough water	£10
Tradescantia ohiensis	A tall vigorous species with big clear blue flowers over a long period in summer. Extremely adaptable	£7

Trillium ludovicianum aka freemannii	I have a few pieces to spare of this very rarely offered plant. There's some confusion about the name but either way it's a lovely species. I've found it easy to grow in a leafy shady spot and unfazed by summer drought.	Prices on request
Tropaeolum polyphyllum	A bit of a classic this – long trailing stems with perfectly arranged grey palmate leaves along them, and golden yellow nasturtium flowers at intervals. This is a tuberous species that appears in spring, grows, flowers, and disappears in summer. The tubers go very deep and need a very well-drained sunny site, but given that, very hardy in the UK.	£8
Ugni molinae PAB1347	This is the plant originally circulated as U.candollei (which is another species) – it's a taller and more open than the more common forms and is perhaps less hardy. Provide shelter and/or grow among other shrubs. Very choice. Thanks to Gary Firth for this.	£15
Viburnum atrocyaneum (aka calvum)	A good solid evergreen shrub with small glossy leaves, rosy white flowers and blue/black fruits. The new growth, buds and old leaves have distinct wine purple tints giving it a very distinctive look. Adaptable and not too big. Large plants	£20
Viburnum cinnamomifolium	A taller, tree-like version of the common (and unfairly despised) V.davidii. Both species have among the very best evergreen foliage of any hardy shrub, and are well worth growing even without the flowers, which are the usual small rosy white, or the berries, which are intense blue with red stems. You will need male and female plants to get fruits but davidii will pollinate cinnamomifolium apparently.	£15
Viburnum cylindricum	An evergreen species grown for the unusual greyish cast to the foliage and panicles of creamy flowers in summer. Bloomy black fruits. A rare large shrub – excellent on chalk.	£16
Viburnum obovatum	Almost never available in the UK, this is a very distinct species from the SE USA with tiny blunt rounded leaves on very fine stems. The new shoots are red/purple tinted and being semi-evergreen, it also colours up a bit in autumn. Small creamy white flowers are produced in dense clusters in spring and the berries are blue/black. Can make a large shrub but easily controlled. Not entirely hardy in the UK so a sheltered site is recommended, not too dry.	£16
Viola douglasii	An extremely choice species from California with rich golden flowers, black at the centre, and with deep red reverses to the petals. The foliage is finely cut. In the wild this is a species of open grasslands and needs sun and free drainage. Thus far on the nursery they've been easy to grow and have made slow but steady progress.	£7
Viola pinnata	Pretty purple violet flowers produced in profusion among a clump of most un-violet-like fingered foliage. This is a European alpine species, almost never seen in cultivation to my knowledge, but which seems very happy indeed here in our sunny raised bed.	£5
Weigela coraeensis	A rarely seen Weigela whose flowers open white and turn through dusky pink to wine red. It sounds like it could be garish but isn't. Extremely easy and adaptable, the only problem might be that it is a very vigorous species. The leaves are lush fresh green and up to 5ins long. Luckily it responds well to hard pruning immediately after flowering.	£24
Weigela middendoriana	An interesting alternative to the commoner Weigelas in cultivation, having soft yellow flowers in early summer developing orange markings inside. More compact than the others too at about 6ft x 6ft and may be pruned quite hard after flowering. Any situation except very dry, very wet or very shady.	£22

Weigela sp. TCM 12-852	An unknown species from Tom Mitchell. Early flowering with unusually broad fresh green leaves and large rounded masses of soft rosy flowers from red buds. Rather choice. I like it a lot	£22
Wulfenia baldaccii	A lovely and understated alpine with rosettes of broad, fresh green leaves and one-sided spikes of rich violet flowers. Best in a sunny spot – not too dry	£6
Wyethia angustifolia	Narrow Leaf Mule’s Ears. In this species the leaves are plain green and about 2ins wide. The flowers are golden yellow on short leafless stems just above the foliage. Easy and hardy here so far.	£8
X Chitalpa tashkentensis	A hybrid between Catalpa and Chilopsis. Most of us know what a Catalpa looks like, but Chilopsis is less familiar - it's a willowy looking shrub (known locally in the south-western USA as Desert Willow) with masses of pink Catalpa type flowers in summer among narrow leaves and is very lovely. Unfortunately Chilopsis does not grow well in the UK, probably because of the unpredictable damp climate. The hybrid though (created in the botanical gardens in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, hence the name) is an excellent and adaptable substitute, making a large shrub or small tree, flowering freely in late summer. Any well-drained soil in sun.	£14
Zanthoxylum simulans	A pepper tree of medium-sized with the usual spiky stems, pinnate foliage and reddish fruits. I can’t comment on their edibility. The whole plant is aromatic. Hardy and easy to grow	£14
Zingiber mioga Crûg's Zing BSWJ4379	An excellent form of this hardy ginger which produces orchid like blossoms directly from the ground in spring and then the standard upright leafy stems afterwards. Crûg's Zing differs from other mioga commonly in cultivation in that the flowers are pink instead of creamy yellow. This is a genuinely hardy species (or at least, as hardy as any of the Hedychiums or Roscoejas) needing nothing more than perhaps a bit of mulch to stop the roots freezing. It does not need a dry winter. The new shoots can be harvested as a vegetable.	£8

VISITING THE NURSERY

The nursery is open to customers most Saturdays and Sundays, March to September, from mid-morning until dusk, and I am more than happy to meet you at other times by arrangement. Either way it is best to phone or email ahead to avoid disappointment.

ACCESS

The ground is somewhat uneven but there are no steps. There is no customer toilet

BUYING YOUR PLANTS

On line I can accept payments by Paypal, international bank transfer, cheque (with a not-to exceed amount written across the lines in case not everything you order is available, and payable to Steve Law) with card details of course.

I regret I can't take card payments at the nursery. I used to have a card reader but could never get a signal.

I recommend phoning ahead if you want me to put things by for you for when you arrive.

Please enquire about availability before ordering. Some plants are only available in very small numbers.

Although I am more than happy to discuss your choices and give advice, I would strongly recommend having a good look at the information and photos here on the website before coming, and making a list of the things that interest you.

Post and packaging

Within the UK (including Scottish Highlands and islands, Northern Ireland and other UK islands) delivery charges are as follows:

p&p	Order value between -
£6.00	£3.00 £10.00
£11.00	£10.01 £105.00
£18.00	£105.01 £140.00
£30.00	£140.01 £210.00
£60.00	£210.01 and above

Deliveries to other parts of the EU are perfectly possible but can be very expensive. Please contact me before ordering.

I am entirely open to other options concerning the best way to get your plants to you, and if you live locally I might well be able to deliver in person. Please feel free to contact me.

Time of dispatch

Please note - as yet we are far from Amazonian in our speed of dispatch. I have no staff and still have a day job so please allow three weeks or so from time of ordering to receiving your plant. If you need your plants at a specific time - if they are a gift for example, or you are planning to be away, please let me know.

Unlike many nurseries, I am prepared to send plants out at any time of year. Plants in full growth in summer often travel remarkably well if they are properly packed in a large box and don't overheat. Foliage and even flowers spring back and plants establish quickly given the correct planting and after-care. Be aware that some plants though have very brittle stems (members of the poppy family for instance) and might suffer more than others.

On the other hand, buying plants in the winter (the traditional time to sell plants) can be something of a lucky dip, especially with plants that go completely underground. We've all had the experience of buying an apparently lifeless pot in winter and in the spring discovering it is indeed completely lifeless.

Generally I prefer to send plants out as they begin growth in the spring or are dying back in the late summer-autumn period.

Please let me know if you want the plants to arrive by or at a particular time.

On arrival

On arrival, it is best to unpack your plants immediately and give them some water, especially in hot weather. I sometimes find it best not to plant them immediately but to stand them somewhere sheltered from excess heat, cold and wind for at least a day or two to adjust. If conditions are not right for planting immediately or if it is inconvenient it may make sense to pot plants on temporarily until you get around to them, rather than leave them in the containers they arrived in.

Plant sizes

Some nurseries I know send out what are little more than seedlings or rooted cuttings among their consignments which, realistically, need growing on in the nursery for another season before they can be expected to survive in the open. I am happy to send out immature plants at reduced prices to customers who enjoy growing things on but as a rule I send only mature plants or strong young plants that can go into the ground more-or-less immediately.

Mistakes and problems

For my part I will endeavour to make sure that the plants I send are strong and healthy and correctly identified. I cannot guarantee that plants will have no evidence of 'wildlife' on them at all but in the unlikely event that a plant is not the one you ordered, has been seriously damaged in transit, is infested, desiccated, rotted off or otherwise moribund, do not hesitate to contact me as soon as possible to arrange a replacement or refund.

With consignments sent abroad, I can't accept responsibility if the customs men decide to get whimsical with your package. I'll fill out any paperwork required but after that it's out of my hands. They seem to be a law unto themselves. That said, I've had no problems yet, touch wood...

Availability

Some varieties are available only in small quantities so contact me first to avoid being disappointed. If you see anything that especially interests you in the Blog or in the Gallery Flickr photaset that is not listed please don't hesitate to ask about future availability. I might not be able to reserve plants individually long term but depending on how busy I get, I may be able to alert you if something you've asked about becomes available.