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BEAUTIFUL
NATIVE PLANTS

FROM THE
HIGH PLAINS, BADLANDS
AND BLACK HILLS

1948



VIOLA MONTANENSIS is a gem for the lover of little violets. A relative of *V. adunca*, its little leaves are distinctly downy when young and harmonize well with its light violet-blue butterflies. At blossom time it is a neat cushion, of the sort that has been aptly termed a "bun." Over it the bebies of blossoms hover, over several weeks.

Culture is easy, in a rather rich loam and much shade, with plentiful or moderate moisture. At Prairie Gem it has sparsely self-sown.

CLAUDE A. BARR

PRAIRIE GEM RANCH
SMITHWICK, S. D.

FOREWORD: Here, there and everywhere even the difficult ones among Great Plains plants are being grown successfully, by simple good fortune when the natural soil of the garden provides aeration and drainage, or by the expedients of artificial screes, sand beds, etc.

A workable scree for general purposes is made up of one part gravel or stone chips, one of sand, one of ordinary soil. To this humus may be added as needed. A leaner, better drained mixture is recommended for Penstemons, an extreme type for Cacti. Sand and gravel facilitate deeper wetting by light rains and provide drainage and aeration during downpours. A further aid in keeping crowns and woolly leaves of certain exacting plants relatively dry is a surfacing of hard stone chips, or fine gravel.

SERVICE: High quality plants only are sent out on your order. We do not substitute without permission. Our packing will please. In addition to culture suggested in this catalog, special advice is offered when it may prove useful, or on request. Every effort will be made to get shipments out when desired and mention of your preferred date will be appreciated.

PRICES include prepaid delivery.

A **SEED LIST** is issued in autumn.

HERBACEOUS PERENNIALS

Achillea lanulosa A pleasant little non-ramping Yarrow with heads of unusual whiteness. Suggests *A. millefolium* but flowers at 6 to 9", travels only an inch or two a year. Clump 35c.

Actinea simplex Wide daisies of brilliant gold, 4 to 8" above narrow silvery hairy rosettes. Fine show, June, occasional later. 35c; 3, 85c.

Agastache anethiodora Anise Hyssop. Delightfully fragrant tall herb, spikes of purple-blue continuously, late June on. Rich soil, shade. 50c; 3, \$1.15.

Anemone caroliniana Prairie Anemone. Brave and dainty and jewel-like, inch and a half wide, white or blue, of 8 to 20 cupped segments. 4 to 10". Summer dormant. Tiny tubers, 3, 50c; doz., \$1.50.

Anemone patens nuttalliana American Pasque. Large six-pointed stars of satiny lavender, March, April. South Dakota's state flower. 40c; 3, \$1.00.

Antennaria Pussy-toes, Ladies' Tobaccos, are among the most valuable evergreen, slow spreading rock garden ground covers.

A. aprica Broad little leaves of silvery olive in inch high evergreen mats, pussy-toe blossoms at 4". Gray-white flowered, 30c; charming soft pink, 40c.

A. campestris Broad leaves of rich soft deep green, underside white, "toes" white or silvery. 35c.

A. microphylla Tiny bluish silvery leaves in charming pattern and texture. "Toes" white furry. 35c.

A. obovata Like a larger *aprica*; gray "toes." 25c.

A. rosea Narrower leaved than *aprica*, with "toes" of rich deep rose. Strikingly lovely, new. 50c.

Arenaria hookeri Bevies of white flowers in June. Tap-rooted, needle leaved cushion of rich deep green, for scree with limestone. 50c; 3, \$1.20.

Artemisia frigida Low feathery, silvery and fragrant cushion Sage. Arching silvery spikes with tiny yellowish bells, in August. 35c; 3, 75c.

Asclepias pumila A diminutive Milkweed. 8" stems closely set with little linear leaves, flowers mid-summer, on. Creamy white, 35c; 3, 50c.

A very rare light pink form, 50c; 3, \$1.00.

Aster fendleri Delightful new 10 to 12" aster of rock garden type, non-spreading. Airy inch wide blossoms of pearly blue, September. 50c; 3, \$1.20.

Aster kumleini Prairie Gem, an unequalled selection. Broad 12" high sheet of blue and gold, September. One of the finest native asters. 40c; 3, \$1.00.

Aster kumleini Choice varieties. Dream of Beauty, pink; Blue Lace, silvery blue; to 15". Each, 35c.

Aster meritus Rare, much admired pinkish violet in closely massed corymbs. 8 to 12". Special merit of July flowering. 50c; 3, \$1.10.

Aster ptarmicoides (*Unamia alba*) Long season beauty, beginning July, white rayed, cream centered. 10 to 15". Best with light diet. 35c; 3, 90c.

Aster Black Hills Magnificent tall aster, to 36" or more, florets an inch and a half wide, an unsurpassed blue. Frequent in Black Hills gardens seemingly unknown to the trade. 50c each.

Astragalus gilviflorus (*Orophaca caespitosa*) Low 8 to 9" wide cushion of silver with a snow of stemless pea blossoms, April, May. 35c; 3, 85c.

Astragalus goniatus Fresh lavender bonnets accented with purple, amid green lace leafage, June to August. 4 to 8". May need confining. 40c; 3, \$1.00.

Astragalus missouriensis Brilliant display of magenta-purple peas, June, on a 12 to 20" circle of grayish prostrate stems. 35c; 3, 75c.

Astragalus spatulatus (*Homalobus caespitosus*) One of the beautiful treasures of the rock gardener's world, cushion studded with blue-purple. Each 40c.

Astragalus tridactylicus Red *Orophaca*. A silvery "bun" blossoming into lovely lavender-rose. These taproot kinds need lean limy scree. 50c; 3, \$1.15.

Callirhoe involucrata Poppy Mallow, Wine Cups. Deep glossy cups of intense wine red, long summer season. Trailing stems to 25". 35c; 3, 85c.

Campanula petiolata Western Harebell. Blue-purple or lavender flaring bells in profusion, June and later. 8 to 18". 35c; 3, 85c.

Cerastium strictum Earth hugging mat of vivid deep green, multitudinous white flowers to 8", May to July. Like a larger *C. arvense*. Clump 35c.

Chrysopsis villosa Golden Aster. Massed beauty in richest tone, Aug.-Sept. 12". For best effect shear back to 4" in June. Finest type, 35c; 3, 85c.

Clematis (Viorna) scotti Leather Flower. Glaucous plant with intriguing urns of blue or purple, May, June. Glossy seed plumes. 12". 50c; 3, \$1.25.

Clematis (Atragene) tenuiloba Surprisingly large nodding purple blossoms of distinct form and beauty, May, June. 10". Spreads slowly. Rare. 75c; 3, \$2.00.

Dalea (Parosela) aurea Novel and exotic appearing plant, silvery green and airy light yellow in Prairie Clover effect. 10 to 16". June. 50c.

Dalea enneandra Quite different, white and silver in slender swaying racemes at top of very slender stem, 25" or more. June, August. 35c; 3, 85c.

Dodecatheon vulgare (pauciflorum) As many as 15 darting rose and gold stars to the umbel. This 4 to 10" gem is the most adaptable and easy of the Shooting Stars. 40c; 3, \$1.00; doz., \$2.50.

D. vulgare White Comet Shining white with a ringlet of gold, otherwise as above. New. 75c each.

Echinacea angustifolia Pink Coneflower. Wide rosy rays about a glossy mahogany cone. Strikingly different and beautiful. Foliage to 5", blossoms at 10 to 15". 35c; 3, 85c; doz., \$2.50.

Erigeron asper Inch and a quarter wide daisies, gold centered with a dense shaggy fringe of rich lavender. 9 to 10". Valuable, rare, new. 50c each.

Erigeron caespitosus Fine white and gold inch wide daisies at 4 to 8", June. Unobtrusive beauty. 50c.

Erigeron flagellaris Whiplash Daisy. Bountiful little white and gold blossoms in long season. Ground cover with runners. Clump, 35c; 100 plants, \$2.50.

Erigeron nematophyllus Upstanding white and gold jewels of May and June, inch wide, crowded, 4" above a green cushion. Sunny scree. 50c; 3, \$1.20.

Erigeron Prairie Gem Like flagellaris but more dainty, less invasive, greener and lobed leaved. 50c.

Evolvulus nuttallianus Quaint half-inch lavender morning glories in a silky gray bushlet to 8 or 10". Distinctly not on the pest order. 35c; 3, 75c.

Gaillardia aristata Native wild Gaillardia with admirable balance of foliage and stem and maroon and gold in the blossom. 12". June. New. 50c each.

Gutierrezia sarothrae Golden Dome. Countless fine stems and leaves of vivid green in a hemisphere, turning to glowing gold in September. 12". 35c.

Hedeoma camporum Perennial Pennyroyal. Trim 8" rounded bushlet, flushed with pink lavender mint blossoms, June on. Fine fragrance. 40c; 3, \$1.00.

Iris missouriensis Slender upright foliage, graceful blossoms of silvery blue, to 18", June. 40c.

Lathyrus incanus Sand Pea. Purple-rose banners, pink to white wings, large blossoms in clusters of two to seven, May. 4 to 10". Stem and leaf glaucous, downy. **L. ornatus**, the same except glabrous, often brighter in banner. These are spreaders worth controlling. Either 40c; 3, \$1.00.

Lesquerella spatulata Bladder-Pod. A gem one must see, dainty, festive in brightest yellow crucifer blossoms, May, June. 4", spread 10". Beautiful gray-green rosettes. Scree with lime. 35c; 3, 80c.

Leucocrinum montanum Sand Lily. Stemless little lilies, waxy white, gold stamened, fragrant, in bountiful succession from a tuft of grassy leaves, April, May. Cover crown 2". 35c; 3, 90c; doz., \$3.00.

Liatris intermedia Handsome dwarf Blazing Star, a 16" L. squarrosa. Fine purple, August. 40c; 3, \$1.00.

Liatris ligulistylis Blazing Star. Lovely, showy, clear purple inch wide heads, 10 to 30 in a spike, 18" or higher, July. 40c; 3, \$1.00.

Liatris punctata Dwarf Gayfeather. Fine transparent purple in dense fluffy spikes, 8 to 14", August. Foliage low. Sun, dry lean soil. 35c; 3, 85c.

Lithophragma parviflora Woodland Star. Slashed stars of white in capitate raceme, 4" in May, to 12" in June. Rich soil. Tiny tubers, 3, 50c; doz., \$1.60.

Lithospermum linearifolium Fringed Puccoon. Soft glowing yellow ruffled trumpets, May, 6 to 12". Free blooming, charming. 35c; 3, 90c.

Malvastrum coccineum Flame Mallow. Arresting salmon-scarlet in short dense spires, to 10". Long season. Leaves deeply cut, grayish. 40c; 3, 90c.

Mertensia lanceolata Prairie Bluebell. As thrilling as the first bluebird come April clusters of bloom at 3", then more lavish blossoming to late June. Never above 10". Summer dormant. 40c; 3, \$1.00.

Nothocalais cuspidata Rich textured 2" wide golden blossoms, April, May, from a ground cluster of wavy, white margined leaves. 40c; 3, 90c.

Oenothera brachycarpa Magnificent soft yellow Evening Primroses, 4" wide, from a cluster of silky green leaves at the ground, open evening to morning. Spreads slowly from root. 50c each.

Oenothera caespitosa Gumbo Lily. Great, snowy, fragrant Evening Primroses upon the ground, in a patch of glossy lanceolate leaves. Open all day, May. August. Scree recommended. 35c; 3, 75c.

Oenothera lavandulaefolia Rich yellow blossoms, freely, June to frost. 2" wide, open most of day. 4 to 6". Highly rated. 50c; 3, \$1.20.

Oenothera serrulata Unparalleled display of inch wide gems of bright yellow, May, August, open all day. Compact bushlet, to 10". 35c; 3, 75c.

Oe. serrulata, large flowered, seed only. Pkt. 50c.

Oenothera speciosa "So altogether engaging that one is tolerant of its colonizing," said Mrs. Wilder. Day blooming, fragrant, white. 12". 35c; 3, 65c.

Oxytropis lamberti Purple Locō. Rich spectacular plumes of pea florets, red-purple to blue, light to dark, to 12", June. Low silvery foliage. 35c; 3, 75c.

Penstemon Society recommendation: For moist climates use 2 parts gravel or stone chips, 1 of sand, 1 soil.

P. albidus Erect, to 10 or 15", large flowered, white. June blossoming. 35c; 3, 85c.

P. alpinus Fine blue, dark glossy leaved, much like glaber but only 12" tall. 40c each.

P. angustifolius Most adorable Plains species, melting deep azure with a harmonizing thread of soft pink at the throat. Plant glaucous. 35c; 3, 85c.

P. crandalli Evergreen creeper making broad mats, covered with upturned bells of blue, June. Light shade and moderate dryness. Clump 60c; 3, \$1.50.

P. c. procumbens Evergreen creeper, tiny leaves broader, brighter, flowers smaller, bluer. 60c.

P. eriantherus Very lovely warm lavender with prominent tongue of gold. June, 8 to 12". Needs some clay and lime, no richness. 35c; 3, 85c.

P. glaber Fine dark blue, to 18" or more, June, July, repeating if cut back. 35c; 3, 90c.

P. gracilis A light and graceful smaller flowered kind in amethyst. 12", June, July. 30c; 3, 75c.

P. grandiflorus The stately Shell-leaf. Cool deep lavender and gray-green. 30". June. 35c; 3, 90c.

P. haydeni Blow-out Penstemon. Large milky-bluish fragrant blossoms. Gray-green plant of distinct character, 12 to 20". July. New. 75c each.

Petalostemon oligophyllus Airy, pleasing Prairie Clover with blobs of gold-dusted white. 35c; 3, 85c.

Petalostemon purpureus Circlets of orange dotted purple-red on deep green cones, June, July. 15". Easy in scree or sand. 35c; 3, 85c.

Petalostemon villosus Plump cones of soft silvery rose and silvery green velvet, lovely and decorative. July, Sept. 12". Same culture. 40c; 3, \$1.00.

Phloxes of the Great Plains delight in scree with a bit of richness. Andicola and Little Cheyenne will succeed in any well drained lean soil. Keep cool until established, give half shade first summer.

P. alyssifolia Bounty of soft lavender pink inch wide fragrant blossoms, May, June. Leaves lanceolate edged white. 3 to 5". Slow mat former. 35c; 3, 80c.

A charming creamy albino alyssifolia, 40c; 3, 95c.

P. andicola Large full lobed Phlox of the high prairies, forming colonies or mats. 4". White, 35c; 3, 70c. Select blue-lavender, 45c; 3, \$1.00.

Select extra large white, 45c; 3, \$1.00.

P. hoodi Mossy green, snowed over with lovely little blossoms, April, May. Very slow spreading, finally making wide mats. 35c; 3, 90c.

P. longifolia Handsome upright species, to 6", cluster flowered, May. Leaves dark green, linear. New brilliant carmine, 75c each.

P. Little Cheyenne (hoodi X andicola) Most perfect little florets imaginable, shining white with the usual speck of gold. May. 50c; 3, \$1.00.

Potentilla divisa Astounding beauty in sunlit yellow from a tuft of silvered deep-cut leaves, early May. 3", with a spread of 10". 50c; 3, \$1.35.

Psoralea esculenta Pomme Blanche, Bread-root, Indian Turnip. Lupine-like leaves, short spikes of soft blue-purple peas. 8 to 10". 50c; 3, \$1.20.

Senecio purshianus Rock plant of all-season gray 2" foliage, displaying in June airy light gold blossoms at 8 or 9". 35c; 3, 85c.

Sideranthus spinulosus Massed inch wide asters in brilliant gold, Sept., Oct. Dense low type, 6". Fine textured frosty foliage. Hot, dry spot. 35c; 3, 85c.

Solidago glaberrima Dwarf selection of the Smooth Goldenrod with charming broad based, nodding tipped panicles, August. 12". Moderate traveler. 35c.

Solidago mollis Very attractive, bearing billowy heads at 4 to 12", September. Slow traveler. 35c.

Solidago pulcherrima September beauty in groups of plump tapering rods, 16". Non-spreading. 50c.

Talinum parviflorum Little Sunbright. Airy rosy blossoms every summer afternoon, to 7", from a 2" tuft of succulent leaves. Tiny thick roots, 3, 50c.

Thalictrum venulosum Especially good faintly bluish foliage masses, to 8", for all-summer effect. Bronzy bloom to 15 or 18". 35c; 3, 85c.

Thermopsis rhombifolia Dwarf Golden Pea. Broad packed racemes of glowing medium yellow, May. 8 to 12". Unusual, beautiful colonizer. 40c; 3, \$1.00.

Townsendia exscapa Easter Daisy. Tuffet of narrow silvery evergreen leaves, incredibly wide glowing pink daisies, all under 2" of height. April, May. For dryest leanest scree. 40c; 3, \$1.00.

Townsendia sericea More dwarf and ashy, one of the very first of the Plains' responses to spring. White or delicate pink, early April. 40c each.

Tradescantia bracteata Rainbow Spiderwort. Blues and purples, bright rose, many others. Bloom begins at 4" in June, continues to 10" in late summer. Each 35c; mixed colors 3, 60c; doz., \$2.00.

Sky blue, white, Appleblossom pink, each 50c.

Verbena bipinnatifida Continuous bloom in bright blue-lilac, May to October. Low, trailing, hardy but avoid winter set at the crowns. 35c; 3, 75c.

Viola adunca A smiling little old man in deep blue. Often blooms in autumn. Part shade. 35c; 3, 75c.

Viola montanensis First offering. One of the most winning little violets we have seen. See cover description. 75c each.

Viola nuttalli The violet of brilliant gold of the dry sunny plains. Heavy producer, April through May, 2 to 6". Sun or light shade. 35c; 3, 85c.

Viola pedatifida Showy blossoms of sky blue carried above deeply incised leaves. Stemless. Any soil, light shade or sun. 35c; 3, 85c.

Viola rugulosa White with violet pencilings, 6 to 12". Spreads by short stolons. Shade. Clump 35c.

Yucca glauca White edged, bayonet-like evergreen leaves, to 20". Spike or panicle of pendant creamy bells, 36 to 40", June, July. 50c; 3, \$1.20.

BULBS FOR FALL PLANTING

Allium cernuum Nodding Onion. Umbels of light shell pink, July, to 16". 3, 35c; doz., 75c.

Allium textile Broad upright umbels of green ribbed white stars, at 8", May. Dormant in summer. Alliums may be moved in spring. 3, 25c; doz., 50c.

Brodiaea douglasi Ample umbels of waxy blue-lavender, to 20", June, on slender scape from basal leaves of green. 3, 35c; doz., 85c.

Calochortus gunnisoni Gunnison Mariposa. Very lovely white chalice with clusters of greenish hairs at base. July, 16". Grassy leaves. 3, 35c; doz., \$1.00.

Calochortus nuttalli Sego Lily, Mariposa Tulip. Sun reflecting white with gold and maroon marks, June. 12". Glaucous plant. 3, 35c; doz., \$1.00.

Lilium umbellatum True species. Orange-red, to 4" wide, June, July. 1 to 3 upright cups at 10 to 18". 4" deep, rich soil, cool position, drainage. Blooming size 35c; 3, 85c; one inch bulbs, 50c.

Zygadenus gramineus False Camas. Massed creamy stars in a haze of golden stamens, erect spires, 8 to 16", June. Grassy leaves. 3, 35c; doz., 85c.

FOR GARDENS IN HALF SHADE and moderately rich soil, well drained: *Achillea lanulosa*, *Agastache anethiodora*, *Allium cernuum*, *Anemone patens*, *Antennarias campestris*, *microphylla* and *rosea*, *Asters meritus* and *ptarmicoides*, *Campanula petiolata*, *Cerastium strictum*, *Clematis tenuiloba*, *Dodecatheon vulgare*, *Erigerons asper* and *caespitosus*, *Gaillardia aristata*, *Iris missouriensis*, *Liatris Ligulistylis*, *Lilium umbellatum*, *Lithophragma parviflora*, *Penstemons crandalli*, *c. procumbens* and

gracilis, Phloxes alyssifolia and hoodi, Thalictrum venulosum, all violets except nuttalli. With adequate moisture, however, much sun is equally agreeable to these shade tolerant kinds.

COLD CLIMATE CACTI

Coryphantha vivipara Ball, to 3" or more, showy carmine flowers, June. 30c; 3, 75c.

Echinocereus viridiflorus Broad cylinder, 3 to 4" tall; bright colored spines, glossy green yellow blossoms, June. 35c; 3, 90c.

Neobesseya missouriensis Ball, to 2" or more, blossoms of yellow or pale orange, May. 30c; 3, 75c.

Opuntia fragilis Brittle Cactus. A pygmy prickly pear, with surprisingly large yellow blossoms, centered red, June, 35c; 3, 90c.

O. imbricata Tree Cactus. Ribbed cylindrical sections, tree-like habit, attracting instant attention. Carmine flowers, July. A few branched specimens, 7" or more, 60c each; rooted cuttings, July, 35c; 3, 85c.

O. polyacantha Many spined prickly pear. 4" or larger pads, 4" silken yellow blooms. 30c; 3, 75c.

O. humifusa Pads 4 to 6", spines fewer; largest silken yellow flowers with red filaments, late June. Ripe "pears" dark red, showy. 30c; 3, 75c.

Culture: The above will bear 30 degrees or more below zero out of doors, but must prepare for it by drying and shriveling in advance of winter. An ample depth of 9 parts gravel and coarse sand to one part good loam, has been found to produce lavish bloom and to provide the essential winter dryness.

SHRUBS

Amporpha canescens Lead Plant. Low, gray velvety effect, with orange dotted purple fingers of blossom, June, July. Usually 12 to 25" tall. 75c; 3, \$1.65.

Artemisia cana Rather stiffly erect gray sage, 2 to 3 feet. Leaves lance-linear, 1½". 60c; 3, \$1.50.

Artemisia filifolia Sand Sage. Handsome, silvery, fragrant, many branched, 2 to 3 feet, 50c; 3, \$1.35.

Artemisia tridentata Sagebrush. Blue-silvered, tiny three-tipped leaves, erect bushy plant. Nice fragrance. Local form, to 30". 75c; 3, \$1.65.

Atriplex canescens Salt Bush. Gray-green in branch and leaf, a broad densely branched bush, to 24". Conspicuous gray-green seed bracts. 60c; 3, \$1.35.

Cercocarpus montanus Mountain Mahogany. Little toothed leaves slightly grayish, blossoms interesting, seed plumes silvery, silky, reflecting light. Pleasing alone or grouped. Upright, to 8 feet. \$1.00; 3, \$2.40.

Chrysothamnus graveolens Rabbit Brush. Bright green, fine textured bush to 3 feet or so, every upper branch carrying a head of goldenrod-like bloom in September. Striking effect. 65c; 3, \$1.65.

Eurotia lanata Winter Fat. 1 to 2-foot gray Sagey appearing plant, holding its leaves well into winter and adding white seed tufts in fall. 50c; 3, \$1.35.

Rose J. W. Fargo A double wild rose of about 40 petals, beautifully formed. "Wholly delightful wild pink rose" (Mrs. Henry). Blossoms in clusters over many weeks, mainly July. 12 to 20". \$1.00 each.