

Hostas in the Landscape

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These hardy herbaceous perennials add an array of leaf colors, size and texture to the landscape. There are over 2,500 different cultivars available for gardeners to choose from. K-State Research and Extension has a list of 65 suggested cultivars to try in your landscape (see back page). Hostas naturally grow in Japan, China and Korea. They were first grown in the U.S. in the middle 1800s.



Soil Preparation

The suggested soil is well drained, has a slightly acidic pH, and is enriched with nutrients and organic matter. Consider loosening the soil in your planting area to a depth of 12 inches and blending in 6 inches of organic matter prior to planting.

Shade/Sun Requirements

Hostas grow best with morning sun and afternoon shade. In general, the blue-leafed hostas require shade, while the gold, yellow and white leafed hostas can tolerate more sun. Fragrant hostas grow best with 5-6 hours of daily sun for blossom development.

Planting

Place the crown of the Hosta where the leaves and roots meet at ground level. Water the plants well following planting.

Fertilizer

A granular, slow release, high in nitrogen product is suggested applied as new growth starts in the spring.

Water

A minimum of an inch of water each week is recommended and can come from rain or irrigation. Brown edges to the leaves indicate that the Hosta got too dry. Mulching will benefit in holding moisture for the Hostas.

Flowers

Spikes of lavender to white, lily-like flowers in the summer. Some are fragrant and quite showy.

Note: Deer and other wildlife are attracted to Hostas as a food source. Repellants, fencing and netting have been used successfully to prevent damage.

Hosta Additions to the Prairie Bloom List



Cultivar	
A Many-spondored Thing	Regal Splendor
Abiqua Drinking Gourd	Revolution
Abiqua Moonbeam	Robert Frost
Abiqua Recluse	Sagae
Big Mama	Salute
Blue Umbrellas	Samuel Blue
Bressingham Blue	Satisfaction
Christmas Tree	Sea Lotus Leaf
Clausa Stolonifera	Shade Fanfare
Diana Remembered	Sieboldiana
Dorset Blue	So Sweet
Embroidery	Squash Casserole
Fragrant Blue	Stained Glass
Fragrant Bouquet	Striptease
Fried Bananas	Sum and Substance
Gold Drop	Sweet Home Chicago
Gold Edger	Ventricosa
Gold Regal	Venusta
Golden Tiara	Veronica Lake
Grand Tiara	Wheaton Blue
Green Pie Crust	Yingeri
Hadspen Blue	
Halcyon	
Harvest Dandy	
Heart and Soul	
Hillbilly Blues	
Invincible	
Iron Gate Delight	
Krossa Regal	
Last Dance	
Lemon Lime	
Mama Mia	
Moonlight Sonata	
Night Before Christmas	
Old Glory	
Olive Bailey Langdon	
Pacific Blue Edger	
Paradigm	
Park's Prize	
Patriot	
Paul's Glory	
Pizazz	
Potomac Pride	
Radiant Edger	