

# Harlequin's Gardens

## Fall 2014 Newsletter

[www.HarlequinsGardens.com](http://www.HarlequinsGardens.com) 303-939-9403

**Dear Friends and Fellow Gardeners,  
Welcome to Autumn and to Harlequin's Gardens Fall Plant Sale.**

We are grateful for the kindness of this growing season, with the good rains and cooler weather. Not all states were as lucky as Colorado. We are also grateful for the healing progress of Eve and for the recovery of those hit by last September's flood, though the healing is not over.

Every season has its challenges and its opportunities. Fall in Colorado can turn suddenly into winter before some plants have gone dormant which can cause freeze-drying of plant tissue and die-back. And sunny, dry weather can cause drought stress. But the opportunities of fall are many.

Cooler air means less water loss through the leaves so more water is available for rooting. The soil is still warm so microorganisms flourish and root growth is promoted. The food made by photosynthesis is supporting less flowering and less active growth, so more energy goes naturally to the roots. Plus we usually get more rain in autumn. This is why early fall is an excellent time for planting most plants and for seeding turf and meadows.

Also, because plants store carbohydrates in their roots during fall, this the best time of year to fertilize with organic fertilizers. Chemical fertilizers (like urea) are water soluble and stimulate rapid growth which can freeze before it hardens off. Organic fertilizers feed slowly over months. Research at CSU has shown that fall is the most important time to fertilize turf grass. We carry 2 organic fertilizers that are good for lawns. September is the best time of year to aerate. Follow that with fertilizer and ideally with a quarter inch of compost topdressing. This will thicken up thin lawns and help to prevent fungal diseases.

Nature Cycle Lawn Fertilizer: made from chicken manure, blood meal, feather meal

Alpha One: alfalfa, cottonseed meal, blood meal, sunflower

Lawn Topdressing: composted chicken manure and wood chips

Meadow Grass Seed Mixes: low water, for Mountains, Plains and Very Xeric natural lawns

Perennials, Roses and Trees are also most effectively fertilized in early fall. If soil lacks sufficient nutrition in the fall, plants make fewer flower buds and fruit buds for the following year. Good fall nutrition will also reduce or eliminate diseases the next year, improve establishing success and yield more flowers, fruit and overall growth.

Mile-Hi Rose Feed: with alfalfa and kelp; excellent for Sept. use; promotes repeat flowering & strength

Yum Yum Mix: cottonseed, rock dust, alfalfa, rock phosphate, kelp: perennials, shrubs & xeriscapes

Biosol: fungal mass with many nutrients; certified organic; for lawns, perennials, veggies, shrubs

Tomato & Vegetable Food and Harlequin's Fertility Mix: both great for fall veggie planting

Planters II rock dust and Kelp for micronutrients; Humate to make nutrients available; Dry Fruit

**Organic Fall Veggie Starts**: More people are catching on to planting cool-season greens in the fall. This can be very rewarding & the season can be extended with row cover & mulch 5 kinds of **Kale**, 11 kinds of **Lettuce**, **Arugula**, **Beet Greens**, **3 Spinach**, 5 kinds of **Swiss Chard**, **Broccoli Raab**, **Winter Cress**, **Asian Greens**, 3 kinds of **Bok Choy**, **Shallots** and 4 varieties of **Garlic**.

*These new premium plants cannot be sold at a discounted price*

We also have a great selection of **Botanical Interests Seeds** for cool-season greens

Our **Fall Sale** has graduated discounts that change and increase through September. Our discounts might not dive as rapidly or as deeply as some stores, because we are not dumping the dregs before they crash. **Our plants are still strong and healthy.** We choose our plants carefully, buy from the better suppliers, and we grow thousands of plants organically in nutritious potting mixes that we blend ourselves. We have worked hard to find plants that are **free of bee-killing neonicotinoid pesticides.** We go to great lengths to insure your planting success, and to support your organic methods. **See page 4 for Fall Sale details.**

### **BULBS: (no discount)**

This year we will offer a number of delightful new species and varieties as well as many reliable old favorites. Check our website under Plants/Bulbs for detailed descriptions and photos of this year's selection. Buy bulbs in September, while the selection is best, and hold for planting in October & November.

**DEEP DISCOUNT AREA:** Opens **Sept. 1** Plants for rock-bottom prices. Many customers been thrilled with how quickly they grow and look beautiful. This area will contain perennials, roses, shrubs and trees. For example: 2 1/2" pots only **\$1.25**; 1 gallon beautiful John Davis Canadian Rose reg. \$22 now **\$15**; vibrant shrub rose The Gift, only **\$15**; evergreen Euonymus vines reg \$19 now **\$11**; Heritage Irises #1 for \$7, Ft. Laramie Strawberry, **Hen & Chicks** from Mikl's Mother's Bonanza **Special \$1**

And before we lose you in the fall sale details, **we want to be sure you see the announcement for our incomparable [Holiday Gift Market](#), when we will be offering locally-made artisan goods & products. You will want to [print off a copy of the invitation 'postcard' as a reminder, and because it is also your entry form for a drawing for three \\$100 Harlequin's Gift Certificates!](#) One entry per customer, please. Here's the link: [Printable Postcard](#)**

**Here is a taste of some of the great plants available at our Fall Sale**

**NATIVES:** Native plants are adapted to dramatic ups and downs of weather and drought. They support local pollinators & birds and help create a successful western landscape.

**Golden Dome-Gutierrezia-** a local native subshrub forming a 12"-16" dome of vivid green thin stems that bloom a rich yellow. Very drought tolerant. Similar to Dwarf Rabbitbrush, but smaller. Use as a specimen, in a meadow or hell-strip. Shear after bloom

**Many-Flowered Puccoon-Lithospermum multiflorum-**you won't find this Boulder Co. native at other nurseries, 10"x10" mound with soft yellow bells; likes well-drained soil and is showier in part shade, even dry shade. Slow to develop but tough; from local seed

**Pitcher Sage-Salvia azurea:** stunning blue flowers in summer on 6' plants, lax growth is better with a buddy like big rabbitbrush which blooms yellow at the same time. Xeric

**Wild Grape-**powerful, cold-hardy grape that quickly covers anything, flowers are not showy but smell very grapey; the small fruits make a great pie and are excellent food for wildlife

**Hackberry Tree:** the fastest-growing hardwood tree and most drought tolerant; very adaptable (moist is fine); grows to 50'; good for hot, windy western exposure to make shade from the late afternoon sun; attractive bark, strong branching, good replacement for ash

**Plus: Pussytoes, Penstemons, Compass Plant, Gaillardia, Aster, Goldenrod, etc.**

**VINES: Aunt Dee Wisteria-** every year 10" purple racemes of fragrant pea-like blooms

**Honeysuckles:** fragrant Hall's, Red Major Wheeler, Yellow John Clayton, Goldflame etc.

**Wintercreeper Vines-Euonymus fortunei:** we love them because they are all tough, evergreen, water-thrifty, and can fulfill many functions.

**Purpleleaf Wintercreeper-E. coloratus:** deep, glossy green leaves turn purple in winter; groundcover, shrub or vine.

**E. Minima:** small leaves, the most delicate; for a trellis in part to deep shade, to 10'

**E. Vegeta:** strong vine 20' evergreen screen; orange berries in the fall; very cold hardy; to 2

**And many Clematis:** Betty Corning, Nelly Moser, Princess Diana, Native & **Trumpet Vines**

**HERBS:** Spearmint, Mountain Mint, And many other herbs, nearly all grown organically.

**SHADE PLANTS:** Bergenia- tough evergreen with red-pink flowers, English Ivy, Hardy Geraniums, Campanulas, Waldstenia-strawberry leaves& yellow flowers,Boxwood, Mahonia

**ORNAMENTAL GRASSES:** **Giant Sacaton-7'**; **Blue Grama**, **Indian Grass**, **Shenandoah Switch Grass**, **'Undaunted' Muhlenbergia reverchonii**, **Sideoats Grama**, etc.

**ROSES:** Our proven, sustainable own-root roses will be **20% off during the Members Sale** and **10% off** for the entire month of September. **A huge selection of premium plants**

**TREES:** many varieties, container grown have complete root systems and are easy to plant: **Mt. Ash** with white flowers and red berries-not affected by Emerald Ash Borer, Crab Apples, Hawthornes, Aspens, Chokecherry, Buffaloberry, Mayday Tree, Rocky Mt. Juniper

**Shrubs:** both native and non-native, some in #2 pots are Harlequin-Grown in nutrient-rich soil mix with worm compost and mycorrhizae; economical and premium quality:

**Cotoneasters:** **Peking** with red/orange fall color, **Sungari** and **Szechuan** with white flowers and red berries; **Fritsch Spirea** with white flowers and red fall color, **Clematis Mongolian Gold** 4' with golden bell flowers; **Viburnum lantana**-big, tough & beautiful.

**HUNDREDS OF PERENNIALS:** like Mrs. Bradshaw Geum, 'Harlequin's Silver' Germander, Reiter Thyme, **Stiff Goldenrod**, Sedum populifolium, **Tuscan Honeymoon Dianthus**, Russian Sage, **Anthemis marshalliana**, Lamiastrum 'Herman's Pride', **Ruella humulis**, Yellow Columbine, **Hymenoxys scaposa**, Firecracker Penstemon etc.

**Winter-hardy Cacti:** Mt. Ball, **Snow Leopard Cholla**, **Lloyd's Hedgehog-orange**, **Claret Cup-red-orange**, **Fendler's Hedgehog-purple**, **Pincushion Ball-** deep pink & prickly pears

Excellent selection of **Fruit Trees and Berry Bushes (no discount but great value)**

6 kinds of **Grapes**, 4 kinds of **Currants**, **Gooseberries**, **Thornless Blackberries**, **Serviceberries**, **Apples**, **Cherries**, **Plums**, **Purple Raspberries & Strawberries**

**ACANTHOLIMONS:** AT LAST, Prickly domes, pink flowers, prefers dry, rare (no discount)

**Corn Gluten Meal-9%** nitrogen winterizer for lawns that also acts as a **Non-toxic pre-emergent herbicide**, suppressing the germination of weed seeds. Apply in Sept/October and again in late February/March for significant weed control.

**Newsletters by Email: Please choose to receive our newsletters by email.** Go to our website @ [www.harlequinsgardens.com](http://www.harlequinsgardens.com) and click on **Subscribe**, or leave your information at the front desk at Harlequin's Gardens.

**Special Event September 6: don't miss the 2014 Taste of Tomato:** festival & tasting (see [www.HarlequinsGardens.com](http://www.HarlequinsGardens.com) for complete information)

## **BIG NEWS!**

For a variety of reasons, we have decided to implement a system for **accepting credit and debit cards**. We expect to have our system up and running very soon.

**Open:** Daily 9-5 and Thursday 9-6 ; **October: daily 9-5**

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CLOSED FOR THE SEASON: OCT 31 **Reopening Nov. 28** for our **Holiday Market**

**FALL SALE: We cannot offer our plants at deeper discounts, because our neonic-**

**free plants are hard to find and our Harlequin-grown plants are premium quality.**

(You pay more for plants grown in poor soil with chemicals that struggle, die and/or poison our Earth)

**MEMBERS SALE: Monday, August 25 thru August 31:** for your special support, you are rewarded with first pick: **20% off all plants** and **25% off books (Membership is still \$20)**

**FALL SALE begins for everybody: Monday, Sept 1 thru 7:** **20% off** most plants except veggies, berries and fruit trees. **10% off Roses, books & 10% off soil products in big bags.** The **Deep Discount** section will be opened with perennials, roses, shrubs and trees.

**September 8 thru 14** enjoy **25% off perennials, shrubs & trees.** And **10% off Roses and books, AND 20% off soil products in big bags and Compost Tea**

**Sept. 15 thru 21** take **25% off perennials, shrubs and trees; 10% off Roses and books;** and **30% off soil products** in big bags; AND **Compost Tea: buy one, get one FREE**

**Sept. 22 thru 28** take **30% off perennials, shrubs and trees,** and **30% off soil products** in big bags, **10% off Roses and Books;** **Compost Tea-buy one, get one FREE**

**Sept.29 thru Oct. 30 there will be a **30% discount off perennials and shrubs and trees.** And **30% off soil products** in big bags, **30% of Compost Tea; 10% off books.****

**NEW WINTER HOURS - HOLIDAY GIFT MARKET NEW**

**Opens Green Friday Nov. 28-Dec. 21 every Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday 10-5**

**Offering:** exceptional local artisan goods, Eve's gluten-free shortbread cookies, Engrid's jams & preserves, local specialty foods, herbal body-care products, garden sculpture, jewelry, scarves, gift certificates, books, gardening tools, planting calendars, gloves, Mikl's Aftershave, illuminated magnifiers, and other great gifts. **Door-prize drawings daily !!!**