



Landscape Plants for the Arizona Desert

Spring Color Combinations

Spring is typically our most colorful time in the landscape. Get creative in your desert garden and try these plant combinations for a striking landscape display.

- **Mexican Gold Poppy** (*Eschscholzia californica ssp. mexicana*) & **Arizona Lupine** (*Lupinus arizonicus*)
The golden yellow-orange flowers of Mexican Gold Poppy mixed with the brilliant blue flowers of Arizona Lupine form an outstanding Arizona wildflower combination. Sow seeds for this combination in the fall along with other spring flowering wildflowers.
- **Mexican Gold Poppy** (*Eschscholzia californica ssp. mexicana*) & **Desert Bluebells** (*Phacelia campanularia*)
The orange-yellow flowers of Mexican Gold Poppy provide striking contrast to the blue iridescent flowers of California or Desert Bluebells for yet another spring wildflower combination.
- **Aloe 'Blue Elf'** (*Aloe* hybrid) & **Angelita Daisy** (*Hymenoxys acaulis*)
Aloe 'Blue Elf' is a ground-covering, blue-green aloe with colorful salmon spikes that attract hummingbirds. It contrasts well with the bright green foliage of the Angelita Daisy and its sunny, yellow flowers.
- **Baja Fairy Duster** (*Calliandra californica*) & **Desert Marigold** (*Baileya multiradiata*)
The deep green foliage and intense red flowers of Baja Fairy Duster contrast well with the gray foliage and yellow flowers of Desert Marigold.
- **Ocotillo** (*Fouquieria splendens*) & **Purple Prickly Pear** (*Opuntia santa-rita*)
The background accent of ocotillo, with its deep green foliage and masses of red, hummingbird-attracting flowers, is in marked contrast to the grayish-purple pads and brilliant yellow flowers of Purple Prickly Pears.
- **Mescal Bean** (*Sophora secundiflora*) & **Desert Marigold** (*Baileya multiradiata*)
The deep green foliage and purple flowers of the shrubby to treelike Mescal Bean lend dramatic contrast to the gray foliage and yellow flowers of Desert Marigold.
- **Red Hesperaloe** (*Hesperaloe parviflora*) & **Yellow Lantana** (*Lantana camara*)
The red flowers of Red Hesperaloe form a great background accent to the masses of yellow flowers of the butterfly-attracting Yellow Lantana from late spring through early summer.
- **Red & Yellow Hesperaloe** (*Hesperaloe parviflora*)
The striking red, flowering spikes of the traditional Hesperaloe can be combined with the yellow-flowering variety for an outstanding landscape combination that attracts hummingbirds.
- **Palo Brea** (*Cercidium praecox*) & **Chaparral Sage** (*Salvia clevelandii*)
The lime-green foliage and trunk and yellow flowers of Palo Brea contrast with the gray foliage and purple flowers of the hummingbird-attracting Chaparral Sage.
- **Octopus Agave** (*Agave vilmoriniana*) & **Bougainvillea** (*Bougainvillea cvs.*)
The brilliant yellow, flowering spikes of Octopus Agave set against a background of the red flowers of Bougainvillea form a unique spring combination.
- **Paper Flower** (*Psilotrophe cooperi*) & **Goodding Verbena** (*Verbena gooddingii*)
An Arizona native plant combination is the gray foliage and yellow flowers of shrubby Paper Flower contrasting with the deep green foliage and purple flowers of ground-covering Goodding Verbena.