

## ANNUALS

Annuals are the group of plants which complete their life cycle in one season or one year.

1. **Summer annuals:-** These plants grow luxuriantly and produce flowers under high temperature. They have the ability to survive extremely high temperatures of North Indian Plains.  
e.g.- Zinnia, Kochia, Portulaca, Tithonia, Gaillardia, Gomphrena, Sunflower, *Cosmos sulphureus* etc.
2. **Rainy Season Annuals:-** These annuals are grown in rainy season and can withstand heavy rains, and high humidity in atmosphere than other annuals. E.g.- balsam, Cock's comb, Amaranthus etc.
3. **Winter Season Annuals:-** Most of the winter annuals have been introduced by Britishers in India. These annuals are able to tolerate comparatively low temperature and hence, and are comfortably grown in winter season and bloom best during the season. They bring a riot colour in gardens.
  - (i) **Bedding purpose:-** Dahlia, Marigold, Phlox, Pansy, Carnation, Sweet William, Sweet Sultan, Petunia, Candytuft, Portulaca etc.
  - (ii) **For fragrant flowers:-** Carnation, Sweet Pea, Sweet sultan, sweet alyssum etc.
  - (iii) **For cut flower:-** Antirrhinum, Sweet William, Carnation etc.
  - (iv) **For loose flowers:-** Marigold, Annual chrysanthemum, Aster etc.
  - (v) **For hanging basket:-** daisy, Portulaca, Verbena, Phlox etc.
  - (vi) **For shady situations:-** Salvia, Cineraria etc.
  - (vii) **For rock garden:-** Ice plant, Nasturtium, Verbena, Phlox, Gamolepis etc.
  - (viii) **For screening purpose:-** Holly hock and Sweet pea etc.
  - (ix) **For pots:-** Carnation, Antirrhinum, Aster, Petunia etc.
  - (x) **For dry flowers:-** Statice, Helichrysum, Acroclium, Nigella, Lady's Lace etc.

**Raising of Nursery:** Seeds are sown in pots, boxes and on raised nursery beds depending upon the quantity of seeds to be sown. These nursery beds are 10-15 cm above the ground. Length is kept 2-3 meter Width is kept about 1m which facilitates the operations of weeding, watering and thinning. At first, FYM is incorporated in soil @ 10-15 kg/m<sup>2</sup>. Soil can be sterilized by Formalin 2%.

**Preparation of Land and transplanting of Seedling:** Before laying out the plan, land should be well prepared by digging or ploughing and mixing 5kg well rotten FYM 10g each of N, P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, K<sub>2</sub>O per sq. m (40 g CAN, 16g SSP, 16g MOP). Before transplanting light irrigation should be given. Tall annuals @ 30-40 cm distance, Medium annuals @ 15-20 distance, Dwarf annuals @ 10-15 cm distance should be planted.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Family	Colour	Purpose
Paper Flower (Everlasting flower)	<i>Acroclium roseum</i>	Compositae	Pink, White	Interior decoration
Floss Flower	<i>Ageratum houstonianum</i>	Comositae	Blue, White, Pink	Bedding Purpose
Hollyhock	<i>Althaea rosea</i>	Malvaceae	Pink, Yellow ,Red	Screening, border
Snapdragon	<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	Scrophulariaceae	Pink, Rose, Mauve	Bedding ,Pot growing
Pot marigold	<i>Calendula officinalis</i>	Compositae	Yellow, Orange	Bedding, Pot growing
Aster	<i>Callistephus chinensis</i>	Compositae	White, Pink, Blue	Bedding, Pot growing
Corn flower	<i>Centaurea cyanus</i>	Compositae	White, Pink, Blue	Bedding purpose
Sweet Sultan	<i>Centaurea moschata</i>	Compositae	Mauve, Yellow	Scented cut flower
Cosmos	<i>Cosmos bipinnatus</i>	Compositae	Pink, Yellow	-----
Dahlia	<i>Dahlia variabilis</i>	Compositae	Yellow, Red, White	Bedding, Pot growing
Larkspur	<i>Delphinium hybridum</i>	Ranunculaceae	Pink, Yellow, Violet	Bedding, Pot growing
Sweet William	<i>Dianthus barbatus</i>	Caryophyllaceae	Pink	Bedding, Scented flower
Carnation	<i>Dianthus caryophyllus</i>	Caryophyllaceae	Pink, Yellow, Red	Long vase life, scented
African daisy	<i>Dimorphotheca auriantiaca</i>	Compositae	White	Bedding, Pot growing
Straw flower	<i>Helichrysum bracteatum</i>	Compositae	Yellow	Bedding and good cut flower
Candytuft(Hyacinth Flower)	<i>Iberis amar</i>	Cruciferae	White, Pink	Pots and edging
Sweet Pea	<i>Lathyrus odoratus</i>	Leguminoceae	Pink, Orange, Blue	Screening, border
Statice	<i>Limonium sinuatum</i>	Plumbaginaceae	Pink	Drought resistance
Love in mist	<i>Nigella demascena</i>	Ranunculaceae	Blue, Purple, White	Good dry flower
Blanket Flower	<i>Gaillardia pulchella</i>	Compositae	Yellow, Brown, Scarlet, Orange	Perennial cut flower
Summer Cypress (Burning Bush)	<i>Kochia scoparia</i>	Chenopodiaceae	Green, Red	Foliage beauty
Zinnia	<i>Zinnia elegans</i>	Compositae	White, Pink, Red	Hardy, Long duration
Balsam	<i>Impatiens balsamina</i>	Balsaminaceae	Red, Pink, Orange	Short duration
Sadabahar	<i>Vinca rosea</i>	Apocyanaceae	Purple, White	Throughout Year
Sunflower	<i>Helianthus annus</i>	Compositae	Yellow, Orange	
Amaranthus (love lies bleeding)	<i>Amaranthus caudatus</i>	Amaranthaceae	Pink & White	In pots for indoor decoration.
Parrot's Bill	<i>Clanthus dampieri</i>	Leguminoceae	Dark scarlet	Pot culture
Swan river daisy	<i>Branchycome Iberidifolia</i>	Compositae	White	Dwarf, rockery, Pot, Bedding
Monkey flower	<i>Mimulus tigrinus</i>	Scrophulariaceae	Yellow, Pink, Red	Pot and Bedding
Globe amaranth	<i>Gomphrena globosa</i>	Amaranthaceae	Purple, Pink, Rose	Medium or Dwarf
Sun plant	<i>Portulaca grandiflora</i>	Portulacaceae	Orange, Lavender	Hanging basket
Tick seed (pusa Tara)	<i>Coreopsis tinctoria</i>	Compositae	Yellow	Bedding, Paths
Baby's Breath	<i>Gysophilla elegans</i>	Caryophyllaceae	White, Pink	Bouquete
Helichrysum	<i>Helichrysum bracteatum</i>	Compositae	Yellow	Rock garden, Bedding