

## Search Help

### Use PLANTS Searches to Find Plants

On the left side of every page, PLANTS has a basic search and several advanced searches. Each search produces a list of name matches with links to PLANTS Profiles.

In the basic search and many of the advanced searches, there is a text box in which you can type all or part of a Scientific Name, Common Name, Symbol, or Family Name. Click inside the box below the text box to choose what you want to search. Then, depending on what you chose, what you type in the text box matches any part of a Scientific Name, Common Name, Symbol, or Family, whether capitalized or not.

**For example**, find the Basic Search at the upper left of a page. Click the box below the text box—by default it says “Scientific Name.” In the list that appears, click the line that says, “Common Name”. Next, type “hood” in the text box above and click the “Go” button with your mouse or press “Enter” on your keyboard. This search returns a list of plants with common names such as “Arizona monkshood,” “longhood milkweed” and “Mt. Hood bugbane”. To search for two strings of text separated by an unknown number of characters, use the wildcard “%”. For example, typing “blue%hood” in a Common Name search returns a list of plants with common names “southern blue monkshood,” “northern blue monkshood,” and “twining bluehood.”

When PLANTS return the results of your search, filters appear on the left side of the page. Using these, you may filter results by State/Province, Nativity Status, Growth Habit, Rarity Status, or Wetland Region, and whether the plants have Images, Fact Sheets/Plant Guides, or Characteristics.

- **Basic Search**
  - Find matching Scientific Names, Common Names, Symbols, or Family Names.
- **State Search**
  - Find matching Scientific Names, Common Names, Symbols, or Family Names.
  - Filter by state and province distribution for plants in the PLANTS Floristic Area.
- **Group Search**
  - Download lists of plants by informal group. Groups are Green Algae, Red Algae, Lichens, Mosses, Hornworts, Liverworts, Whisk-ferns, Lycopods, Quillworts, Ferns, Gymnosperms, Dicots, and Monocots.
- **Duration Search**
  - Download lists of plants by duration. Duration is Annual, Biennial, or Perennial.
- **Growth Habit Search**
  - Download lists of plants by growth habit. Growth habits are Forb/herb, Graminoid, Lichenous, Nonvascular, Subshrub, Shrub, Tree, and Vine.
- **Rarity Search**
  - Find matching Scientific Names, Common Names, Symbols, or Family Names with a rarity status.
  - Filter by Global, Federal, or State rarity status.

- **Noxious/Invasive Search**
  - Find matching Scientific Names, Common Names, Symbols, or Family Names with noxious or invasive status.
  - Filter by State invasive status or by Federal or State noxious status.
- **Wetland Search**
  - Find matching Scientific Names, Common Names, Symbols, or Family Names with wetland status.
  - Filter by Federal wetland region.
- **Image Search**
  - Find matching Scientific Names, Common Names, Symbols, or Family Names with images.
  - Filter by image location, copyright status, and whether the image is a photograph or line drawing.
- **Fact Sheets/Plant Guides**
  - Download a list of plants that have Fact Sheets or Plant Guides.
- **Characteristics**
  - Download a list of plants that have Conservation Plant Characteristics.