



Boltonia, *Boltonia asteroides*



Common sneezeweed, *Helenium autumnale*



False Indigo, *Baptisia australis*



Goatsbeard, *Aruncus dioicus*



Joe-Pye weed, *Eupatorium purpureum*



Plume poppy, *Macleaya cordata*



Queen of the prairie, *Filipendula rubra*



Russian sage, *Perovskia atriplicifolia*



White Mugwort *Artemesia lactiflora*

Flowers That Tower

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Tall perennial plants in your flower beds can bring a sense of drama to your landscape. If you have the space, consider a few of these giants.

Boltonia 'Boltonia asteroides'—This plant has showy, white, aster-like flowers in late summer. It will get 5 to 7 feet tall and may need staking. Thrives in any garden soil and spreads rapidly in moist conditions. Boltonia prefers full sun.

Common sneezeweed or False sunflower 'Helenium autumnale'—This plant has showy yellow flowers in late summer. It will get 3 to 6 feet tall. Very adaptable, but prefers moist soil and full sun.

False Indigo 'Baptisia australis'—This plant grows 3 to 5 feet tall and forms large clumps. Blue flowers bloom in spring. It prefers full sun to part shade.

Goatsbeard 'Aruncus dioicus'—Stately perennial that produces creamy-white plumes of blossoms in early summer. Will grow in sun to part shade. It reaches heights of 4 to 6 feet.

Joe-Pye weed 'Eupatorium purpureum'—Very showy plant with purple flower clusters in the fall. It will get 4 to 7 feet tall. Prefers moist soil and full sun to part shade.

Plume poppy 'Macleaya cordata'—Handsome, large perennial that grows 5 to 10 feet. Does best in rich, well-drained soil and full sun. Blossoms are creamy-white plumes that reach nearly a foot in length. Warning! This plant spreads vigorously.

Queen-of-the-prairie 'Filipendula rubra'—This plant is very tall and wind tolerant. Reaches heights of 6 to 8 feet tall. The flowers are large, 6 to 9 inch, in pink clusters. Prefers moist-wet conditions and full sun to part shade.

Russian sage 'Perovskia atriplicifolia'—This sage has aromatic gray-green leaves and pale blue flowers in the summer. It prefers well-drained soil and full sun. Russian sage will grow to be 3 to 5 feet tall.

White Mugwort 'Artemesia lactiflora'—The creamy-white flowers appear in late summer. Very attractive foliage reaches 4 to 6 feet tall. This plant grows in full sun or part shade.

Broadleaf Herbicide Damage to Garden Plants

Numerous plants can be affected by broadleaf herbicide damage. Tomato, potato, grape and redbud are very sensitive. Leaves on affected plants are cupped, thickened or leathery and develop an uncharacteristic fan shape. Severely distorted leaves often have a mosaic pattern of light and dark green areas. Leaf stems or petioles are twisted in a curly-Q fashion and the lower stem of tomatoes may develop small, light colored bumps. Gardeners often mistake these symptoms for a virus infection, but damage is almost always caused by exposure to broadleaf herbicides. To determine whether herbicide damage is to blame, look at surrounding herbicide-sensitive plants such as potato, pepper, grape and redbud to see if they also show twisting or distortion. Virus diseases usually affect one or two plants and certainly would not be causing the damage to the diversity of plants mentioned above at the same time. Furthermore, virus diseases rarely cause the curly-Q twisting of the new growth.



Redbud with 2,4-D injury.

Plant growth-regulating herbicides are commonly used in home lawns early in the season to control dandelions and other broadleaf weeds. If misapplied and accidentally sprayed on sensitive plants, they cause severe injury or even plant death. Unfortunately, these plants do not have to be sprayed directly with herbicides to cause damage. Some broadleaf herbicides such as 2,4-D are volatile, especially during hot weather and may drift across

the yard or even from adjacent yards in concentrations sufficient to cause injury. Therefore, you do not necessarily have to be using broadleaf herbicides in your yard to suffer damage. To reduce the chances of herbicide injury, avoid applying them near the vegetable garden. Apply the products during calm mornings and cool temperatures. Cover and protect sensitive plants if you must use herbicides.

Source: Kansas State Extension

Garden Guide THINGS TO DO THIS MONTH By Mary Jane Frogge, UNL Extension Associate

Every weed that produces seed means more trouble next year. Control weeds before they go to seed.

Remove old vegetable plants which have stopped producing to eliminate a shelter for insects and disease organisms.

Hand pick bagworms from your evergreen and deciduous trees.

Check deciduous trees for fall webworm. Use a broom or rake to get them out of small trees.

Check on water needs of hanging baskets daily in the summer. Wind and sun dry them much more quickly than other containers.

Clean up fallen rose and peony leaves. They can harbor disease and insect pests over the winter if allowed to remain on the ground.

Mound soil over the lateral or brace roots of corn stalks for extra support against strong winds.

Pick summer squash and zucchini every day or two to keep the plants producing.

Water the garden early in the day so plants can absorb the moisture before the hot sun dries the soil. Early watering also insures that the foliage dries before night. Wet foliage at night increases susceptibility to fungus diseases.

Many herbs self-sow if the flowers are not removed. Dill produce seeds that fall around the parent plant and come up as volunteers the following spring.

To reduce the number of pests on your fruit tree for the coming year, pick up and destroy all fallen fruit.

Bt (*Bacillus thuringiensis*) is used by many gardeners to protect cole crops from chewing caterpillars.

White flies are attracted to yellow, so use yellow sticky boards to reduce their populations.

Do not add weeds with mature seed heads to the compost pile. Many weed seeds can remain viable and germinate next year when the compost is used.