

Horticulture

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Plant pH Preferences

Due to variations in soil and climate authors do not always agree about the pH preferences of crops, but the following is a range that should be acceptable.

Ornamentals and Houseplants

<u>pH 4.5</u>		<u>pH 5.5 – 6.75</u>	
Anemone	Iris kaempferi	Begonia	Clarkia
Autumn Gentians	Mecanopsis	Chrysanthemum	Cineraria
Gentian		Flame nettle (Coleus)	Fuchsia
		Gloxinia (Sinningia)	Grasses (Agrostis sp)
		Lupin	Marigold (Tagetes)
		Mother in law tongue (Sanseveria)	
		Pansy (Viola)	Poinsettia (Euphorbia)
		Sanseveria	
		Slipperwort (Calceolaria)	Violet (Viola)
<u>pH 4.5 – 5.5</u>		<u>pH 5.5 – 7.5</u>	
Aspidistra	Orchid (most)	Cosmos (Cosmea)	
Azalea	Pachysandra terminalis	Indian shot (Canna)	
Camelia	Parlour palm (Aspidistra)	Nasturium (Tropaeolum)	
Columnea			
<u>pH 5.5</u>		<u>pH 6.0</u>	
Auricaria	Pitcher plant (Nepenthes)	Campanula	Clivia
Cactus (most)	Primrose (Primula)	Crassula	Fittonia
Crassula	Urn plant (Aechmea)	Grevillia	Gynura
Norfolk Island pine (Auricaria)		Hoya (wax flower)	
<u>pH 5.5 – 6.0</u>		Michelmas daisy (Aster)	
Amaryllis	Anthurium	Neomarcia	Plumbago
Bilbergia	Butterfly flower (Schizanthus)	Poor man's orchid (Schizanthus)	
Calliopsis (Coreopsis)	Christmas cactus (Zygocactus)	Primula	Purslane (Portulaca)
Cissus	Clary (Salvia)	Rose (Rosa)	
Clerodendron	Creeping fig (Ficus pumilla)	Shrimp plant (Dredgerella)	
Croton	Dracaena	Snakeskin plant (Fittonia)	
Dumb cane (Difffenbachia)		Swainsonia	Tuberose
Flamingo flower (Anthurium)		Waterlily (Nymphaea)	
Gardenia	Iresine		
Kangaroo vine (Cissus)			
Maranta	Monstera		
Pandanus	Pepperomia		
Philodendron	Phlox		
Pick a back (Ptolmeia)			
Prayer plant (Maranta)			
Rubber plant (Ficus)			
Silk oak (Grevillia)			
Swiss cheese plant (Monstera)			
Tradescantia	Zebrina		
		<u>pH 6.0 – 6.5</u>	
		Alyssum	

Ornamentals and Houseplants - continued

pH 6.0 – 6.75

African violet (St Paulia)	
Baby's breath (Gypsophia)	
Bird of paradise (Strelitzia)	
Bougainvillea	Burning bush (Kochia)
Busy lizzie (Impatiens)	Calendula
Candytuft (Iberis)	Carnation (Dianthus)
Coleus	Columbine (Aquilegia)
Coral bells (Heuchera)	Cyclamen
Daffodil (Narcissus)	Dahlia
Delphinium	
Easter lily (Zantedeschia)	Gladiolus
Hollyhock (Althea)	Narcissus
Primrose (Primula)	
Red hot poker (Kniphophia)	
Salvia	Scabious
Snapdragon (Antirrhinum)	
Spring gentian (Gentiana verna)	
Stock (Mathiola)	Sunflower (Helianthus)
Tobacco (Nicotiana)	Tulip
Viola	Wallflower
Zinnia	

pH 6.0 – 7.5

Ageratum	Avens (Geum)
Feverfew (Chrysanth)	Impatiens
Iris	
Ladys slipper orchid (Cypripedium & Paphiopedulum)	
Lillies (Lilium)	Lobelia
Petunia	Verbena

pH 6.75

Aster	
Bachelor's buttons (Ranunculus)	
Bearded Iris	
Bleeding heart (Dicentra)	
Cockscombe (Celosia)	
Coconut palm (Cocos)	
Daisy (Bellus)	Euphorbia
Foxglove (Digitalis)	Freesia
Gerbra	Godetia
Larkspur (Delphinium)	Marigold (Calendula)
Oleander (Nerium)	Orange (Citrus)
Polemonium (Jacobs Ladder)	Portulaca
Pyrethrum	Spurge (Euphorbia)

pH 6.75 - 7.5

Annual Phlox	Asparagus fern
Bluebell (Scilla)	Cherry pie (Heliotrope)
Crocus	Day lily (Hemerocalis)
Fern, maidenhair (Adiantum)	Flax (Linum)
Forget me not (Myosotis)	
Geranium (Pelargonium)	
Hyacinth	
Iceland poppy (Papaver)	
Lily madonna (Lilium candidum)	
Love lies bleeding	Morning glory (Ipomea)
Oxalis	Pelargonium
Pepper (Capsicum)	Peony
Pink (Dianthus)	Poppy (Papaver)
Snowdrop (Galanthus)	
Star of Bethlehem (Campanula)	
Sweet pea (Lathyrus)	
Sweet William (Dianthus)	

Trees and Shrubs

pH 4.5

Bilberry (*Vaccinium*)
 Chilean pernettya (*Pernettya*)
 Flame of the forest (*Pieris*)
 Hydrangea (Blue) *Ledum*
 London season (*Zenobia*) *Phyllodoce*
 Pin oak (*Quercus palustris*) – tree
 Sweet gum (*Liquidamber*) - tree

pH 4-5 – 5.25

Azalea *Camelia*
 Rhododendron

pH 4-5 – 6.0

Heather (*Erica*) *Magnolia* - tree

pH 5.25

Conifers (most) - tree *Pine (Pinus)* - tree

pH 5.25 – 6.0

American Laurel (*Kalmia*) *Arucaria* - tree
 Birch (*Betula*) – tree *Boronia*
 Californian lilac (*Ceanothus*) *Cinquefoil (Potentilla)*
 Dogwood (*Cornus*) *Hemlock (Tsuga)* - tree
 Leucothoe
 Leptospermium (Tea tree) *Photina*
 Rosemary (*Rosmarinus*) *Snowbells (Stryax)*
 Strawberry tree (*Arbutus*) – tree
 Sweet fern (*Comptonia*)
 Wintergreen (*Gaultheria*)

pH 5.25 – 6.75

Holly (*Ilex*) - tree

pH 5.25 – 7.5

Crab (*Malus*) - tree

pH 6.0

Balsam fir (*Abies*) - tree
 Juniper (*Juniperus*) - tree
 Monkey puzzle (*Auricularia*) – tree

pH 6.0 – 6.75

Almond (*Prunus*) – tree *Antler tree (Rhus)* - tree
 Apple (*Malus*) - tree *Ash (Fraxinus)* - tree
 Fuchsia
 Hawthorn (*Cretagus*) - tree *Hydrangea (Pink)*
 Lavender (*Lavendula*)
 Passion flower (*Passiflora*)
 Pear (*Pyrus*) - tree *Plum (Prunus)* – tree
 Privet (*Ligustrum*) *Quince (Chaenomeles)*
 Rose (*Rosa*) *Yew (Taxus)*

pH 6.0 – 7.5

Clematis
 Currant, flowering (*Ribes*)
 Daphne *Eucalyptus* - tree
 Forsythia *Grape vine (Vitis)*
 Jasmine (*Jasminum*)
 Laurel (*Prunus laurocerasus*)
 Lilac (*Syringa*) - tree *Mezeron (Daphne)*
 Mulberry (*Morus*) - tree *Poplar (populus)* – tree
 Rock rose (*Cistus*) *Senecio*
 Stags horn (*Rhus*) - tree *Veronica (Hebe)*
 Vine (*Vitis*) *Willow (Salix)* - tree
 Witch hazel (*Hamamelis mollis*)

pH 6.75

Box (*Buxus*)
 Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga*) - tree
 Genista *Hibiscus*
 Rose of Sharon (*Hypericum*)

pH 6.75 – 7.5

Abele (Populus alba) – tree *Acacia* - tree
 Adam's needle (*Yucca*)
 Arbor vitae (*Thuja*) – tree *Barberry (Berberis)*
 Blackcurrant (*Ribes*)
 Boston Ivy (*Parthenocissus*)
 Bridal wreath (*Spirea arguta*)
 Butterfly bush (*Buddleia*) *Cherry (Prunus)* – tree
 Cotoneaster *Deutzia*
 Diervilla (*Wygelia*) *Escallonia*
 Euonymus *Firethorn (Pyracantha)*
 Golden bells (*Forsythia*)
 Golden Rain (*Laburnum*) – tree
 Guelder rose (*Viburnum*) *Honeysuckle (Lonicera)*
 Hydrangea (white) *Ivy (Hedera)*
 Japonica (*Caesalpina*) *Jews mallow (Kerria)*
 Maple (*Acer*) – tree
 Mock orange (*Philadelphus*) *Myrtle (Myrtus)*
 Peach (*Pumus persica*) *Rose mallow (Hibiscus)*
 Spanish gorse (*Genista*) *Spirea*
 St. John's wort (*Hypericum*)
 White poplar (*Populus alba*) – tree
 Wisteria

Vegetables, Fruit, Herbs, and Food Plants

pH 4-5 – 5.25

Bilberry Cranberry

pH 5.25 – 6.0

Blackberry Chicory
Gooseberry Pineapple
Potato Rosemary
Sage Strawberry

pH 5.25 – 6.75

Apples Rhubarb

pH 6.0

Aubergine Eggplant
Rye

pH 6.0 – 6.75

Almond	Bean, broad
Bean, climbing	Bean, runner
Brussels sprouts	Carrots
Climbing bean	Courgette
Endive	Kale
Lemon	Lentil
Marrow	Olives
Parsley	Pear
Pumpkin	Raspberry
Shallots	Soyabean
Squash	Swede
Thyme	Watermelon

pH 6.0 – 7.5

Bean, French	Broccoli
Cabbage	Capsicum
Cauliflower	Celery
Cherries	Chives
Corn	Cucumber
Currants	Garlic
Horseradish	Lettuce
Mulberry	Mustard
Onions	Parsnip
Peach	Peas
Peppers	Plum
Radish	Sweet corn
Tomato	Turnips

pH 6.75

Bean, lima	Cantaloupe, melon
Kohl rabi	Orange
Quince	Salsify
Scorzonera	Swiss chard

pH 6.75 - 7.5

Alfalfa	Artichoke, Jerusalem
Asparagus	Avacado
Barley	Beet, sugar
Beetroot	Grape vine
Leek	Mushroom
Pecan	Spinach
Watercress	