



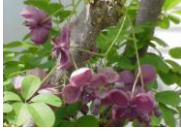




# Some Plants for the Chocolate Theme Garden

By Dorothy Downing, UC Master Gardener

## Plants that Smell or Taste Like Chocolate

	<p>Common Name: <b>Chocolate Flower</b>            Botanical Name: <i>Berlandiera lyrata</i>            Perennial            Zone: 4-10            Sun-Shade: Full and afternoon sun            Bloom Time: Spring and summer            Height: 12 to 36"            Water needs: Moderate</p>		<p>Common Name: <b>Chocolate Snakeroot</b>            Botanical Name: <i>Eupatorium rugosum</i>            Perennial Shrub            Zone: 4-8            Sun-Shade: Full sun to mostly shade            Bloom Time: Fluffy white flowers late summer and early fall            Height: 3'-5'            Water needs: Normal</p>
<p><b>Special Qualities:</b> The flowers really do smell like chocolate! Deer resistant, a night bloomer, the flowers offer up their cocoa scent in the morning and drop their yellow petals each day; native wildflower; drought tolerant; attracts butterflies. Foliage is coarse-textured; thrives in clay soil.</p>		<p><b>Special Qualities:</b> Attracts butterflies, is tolerant of wet and clay soils; leaves are heavily marked with deep brownish red.</p>	
	<p>Common Name: <b>Chocolate Cosmos</b>            Botanical Name: <i>Cosmos atrosanguineus</i>            Perennial from tuberous roots            Zone: 4-9 (dig and store like dahlias in colder areas)            Sun-Shade: Sun            Bloom Time: Mid to late summer and fall            Height: 24-30"            Water needs: Normal; well-drained soil</p>		<p>Common Name: <b>Chocolate Vine or Fiveleaf Akebia</b>            Botanical Name: <i>Akebia quinata</i>            Deciduous vine, evergreen in mild areas            Zone: 2-24            Sun-Shade: Either            Bloom Time: Spring            Height: 15-30'            Water needs: Regular</p> 
<p><b>Special Qualities:</b> Smells like dark chocolate; blossoms are very dark chocolate color and velvet-like; slow to grow in the spring and love the summer heat; attractive with silver foliage plants; native plant.</p>		<p><b>Special Qualities:</b> Clusters of dull purple chocolate scented flowers (some say the scent is more like vanilla) produce an edible fruit. Provide support for climbing. Prune annually to keep from becoming invasive. Recovers rapidly when cut to the ground.</p>	
	<p>Common Name: <b>Chocolate Mint</b>            Botanical Name: <i>Mentha piperita</i>            Perennial Herb            Zone: 1-24            Sun-Shade: Sun to part shade            Bloom Time: Grown for leaves            Height: 18-24"            Water needs: Regular</p>		<p>Common Name: <b>Sharry Baby "Sweet Fragrance" orchid</b>            Botanical Name: <i>Oncidium</i>            House plant            Zone: Indoors here            Sun-Shade: Bright indirect light            Bloom Time: Bears 2-3' spikes of reddish or purplish brown, inch wide blossoms in summer and fall            Height: 2-3'            Water needs: Drench with water weekly</p>
<p><b>Special Qualities:</b> Lovely bronze-green leaves and the fun fragrance of chocolate mixed with peppermint; deer resistant; dries easily.</p>		<p><b>Special Qualities:</b> Distinctive powerful chocolate fragrance (some say the fragrance is more like vanilla).</p>	



This information courtesy of:

University of California Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners of Tulare-Kings Co.










Have a gardening question? The UC Master Gardeners offer free information on gardening.

Tulare: (559) 684-3325 & (559) 684-3326






Hanford: (559) 852-2736



## Plants That Have Chocolate Flowers or Foliage

	<p>Common Name: <b>Toffee Twist Sedge</b>            Botanical Name: <i>Carex flagellifera</i>            Perennial; cool season grass            Zone: 7-10            Sun-Shade: Sun or partial sun in hottest areas            Bloom Time: Grown for fall color foliage            Height: 18-24"  <b>Water needs:</b> Normal but tolerates both wet and dry</p>		<p>Common Name: <b>Chocolate Sundae</b>            Botanical Name: <i>Dahlia</i>            Perennial from tuberous root            Zone: 1-24            Sun-Shade: Sun to part sun            Bloom Time: Summer to late fall            Height: 12-16"            Water needs: Regular</p>
<p><b>Special Qualities:</b> Grass-like clumping plant with reddish brown leaves.</p>		<p><b>Special Qualities:</b> Blooms with dark, velvety petals as rich as melted chocolate, and a frothy honeycomb centre. Low-growing (12-16") and compact. 'Chocolate Sundae' is the first ever near-black dahlia. Lift the tubers and store over winter in colder areas.</p>	
	<p>Common Name: <b>Frosted Chocolate Viola</b>            Botanical Name: <i>Viola x wittrockiana</i>            Perennial, but treated as annual            Zone: All            Sun-Shade: Sun or bright shade            Bloom Time: Winter - Spring            Height: 6-10"            Water needs: Regular</p>		<p>Common Name: <b>Tiger Eyes Viola</b>            Botanical Name: <i>Viola williamsii</i>            Perennial, but treated as annual            Zone: 5-9            Sun-Shade: Full sun to part shade            Bloom Time: Winter - spring            Height: 4-6"            Water needs: Moist, well-drained</p>
<p><b>Special Qualities:</b> This strain is closely related to most commonly planted strains such as Crystal Bowl, Delta, Imperial Hybrids, and Majestic Giants.</p>		<p><b>Special Qualities:</b> Fragrant! Early bloomer. Compact and free-blooming.</p>	
	<p>Common Name: <b>Royal Purple Smoke Bush</b>            Botanical Name: <i>Cotinus coggynia</i>            Deciduous shrub or tree            Zone: 2-24            Sun-Shade: Full sun to partial shade. Purple color is best in full sun.            Bloom Time: Late spring until late summer            Height: 4-6"            Water needs: Moist, well-drained</p>		<p>Common Name: <b>Pineapple Lily</b>            Botanical Name: <i>Eucomis comosa 'Oakburst'</i>            Perennial bulb            Zone: 7-10            Sun-Shade: Full sun            Bloom Time: Summer            Height: 24"; flower stalk to 36"            Water needs: Medium</p>
<p><b>Special Qualities:</b> Panicles of small, insignificant flowers that give the shrub a smoke-like appearance. Keep watering and fertilizing to a minimum, for best fall color. Pruning determines whether it is a tree or a shrub.</p>		<p><b>Special Qualities:</b> Pineapple-like array of pinkish-white flowers in late summer.</p>	
	<p>Common Name: <b>Sweet Hot Chocolate Daylily</b>            Botanical Name: <i>Hemerocallis</i>            Perennial from tuberous root            Zone: 1-24            Sun-Shade: Full sun            Bloom Time: Mid spring to summer            Height: 24"; flower stalk to 36"            Water needs: Medium, drought tolerant</p>		<p>Common Name: <b>Chocolate Plant, Chocolate Soldiers</b>            Botanical Name: <i>Pseuderanthemum alatum</i>            Perennial, annuals in zone 7            Zone: 8-11            Sun-Shade: Partial to full shade            Bloom Time: Small purple flowers early summer to fall            Height: 1-3'            Water needs: Regular</p> 
<p><b>Special Qualities:</b> Large bloom to 3". Flowers last only one day, but there are lots of them. Attracts hummingbirds and butterflies.</p>		<p><b>Special Qualities:</b> The more sun it receives, the darker chocolate color it will have. This low growing groundcover has broad coppery-brown leaves with silver patches along the midrib and tiny silver dots clustered along the veins.</p>	

## Plants That Have Chocolate in Their Names

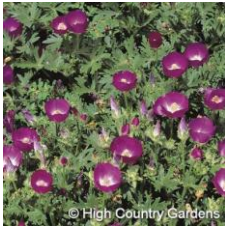







	<p>Common Name: <b>Chocolate Chip Bugleweed</b>            Botanical Name: <i>Ajuga reptans</i>            Perennial            Zone: 4-11            Sun-Shade: Sun or partial shade            Bloom Time: Late spring and early summer            Height: 3-6"            Water needs: Normal; drought tolerant</p>		<p>Common Name: <b>Dark Chocolate Coleus</b>            Botanical Name: <i>Coleus x hybridus (Solenostemon scutellarioides)</i>            Perennials grown as Annuals            Zone: Any            Sun-Shade: Full sun to part shade            Bloom Time: Dark burgundy, grown for foliage            Height: 12-14"            Water needs: Regular, especially in the sun</p>
<p><b>Special Qualities:</b> Deer resistant; heat tolerant Unusual, spreading miniature chocolate chip-sized foliage with shimmering lacy blue flowers. A true dwarf variety. Slow spreading groundcover</p>		<p><b>Special Qualities:</b> Heat tolerant, leaves have scalloped edges, foliage looks even darker when grown in partial shade</p>	
	<p>Common Name: <b>Chocolate Mint Coleus</b>            Botanical Name: <i>Coleus x hybridus (Solenostemon scutellarioides)</i>            Perennials grown as Annuals            Zone: Any            Sun-Shade: Shade, part shade            Bloom Time: Grown for foliage            Height: 10-12"            Water needs: Regular</p>		<p>Common Name: <b>Chocolate Star</b>            Botanical Name: <i>Corydalis quantmeyerana</i>            Perennial            Zone: 5-8            Sun-Shade: Partial shade            Bloom Time: White to pinkish flowers midsummer            Height: 12-16"            Water needs: Normal</p>
<p><b>Special Qualities:</b> Heat tolerant; brown leaves are scalloped in green</p>		<p><b>Special Qualities:</b> Corydalis grows best in moist, well-drained soils that are alkaline; tolerates dry soil; rabbit resistant; seeds freely; chocolate colored foliage in spring turns green in the summer</p>	
	<p>Common Name: <b>Streamer Chocolate Sweet Pea</b>            Botanical Name: <i>Lathyrus odoratus</i>            Annual            Zone: 7-10 plant in the fall            Sun-Shade: Full sun            Bloom Time: Blooms are colored a rich russet-chocolate and boldly streaked with white in early spring            Height: 5-6'            Water needs: Regular</p>		
<p><b>Special Qualities:</b> Trailing sweet pea reaches 5-6' high; very fragrant 2" flower</p>			

## Sources and Resources for Chocolate Plants

[Sunset Western Garden Book](#)  
[www.chocolateflowerfarms.com](http://www.chocolateflowerfarms.com)  
[www.Parkseed.com](http://www.Parkseed.com)  
[www.highcountrygardens.com](http://www.highcountrygardens.com)  
[www.theknockoutrose.com](http://www.theknockoutrose.com)  
[www.whiteflowerfarm.com](http://www.whiteflowerfarm.com)  
[www.taunton.com/finegardening/PlantGuide](http://www.taunton.com/finegardening/PlantGuide)  
[www.Provenwinners.com](http://www.Provenwinners.com)  
[www.gardencrossings.com](http://www.gardencrossings.com)



## Companions Plants That Make Chocolate Plants "Pop"

	<p>Common Name: <b>Poppy Mallow, Wine Cups</b>            Botanical Name: <i>Callirhoe involucrata</i>            Perennial            Zone: 7-14            Sun-Shade: Sun            Bloom Time: Summer            Height: 5" x 24-30" wide            Water needs: Little to moderate; drought tolerant</p>		<p>Common Name: <b>Dwarf Sundrops</b>            Botanical Name: <i>Calylophus serrulatus</i>            Perennial            Zone: 4-9            Sun-Shade: Full and afternoon sun            Bloom Time: Late spring through summer            Height: 12-16"            Water needs: Little to moderate, drought tolerant</p>
<p><b>Special Qualities:</b> Low spreading stems makes this plant useful on slopes and over retaining walls; grows in any soil type including clay; gently reseeds itself and slowly spreads</p>		<p><b>Special Qualities:</b> Native plant, heavy bloomer. Shear in late spring to promote blooming and to keep plant tidy.</p>	
	<p>Common Name: <b>Rustic Orange™ Coleus</b>            Botanical Name: <i>Coleus x hybridus (Solenostemon scutellarioides)</i>            Annual            Zone: Annual except in zones 10-11, hardy to 35°            Sun-Shade: Either            Bloom Time: Grown for foliage, may bloom mid to late summer            Height: 12-16"            Water needs: normal</p>		<p>Common Name: <b>Lamb's Ear "Silky Fleece"</b>            Botanical Name: <i>Stachys byzantina</i>            Perennial            Zone: 1-24            Sun-Shade: Full sun to light shade            Bloom Time: Late spring and summer            Height: To 1.5'            Water needs: Moderate</p>
<p><b>Special Qualities:</b> Deer resistant, heat tolerant, attracts hummingbirds.</p>		<p><b>Special Qualities:</b> Woolly white leaves. Plants spread freely by surface runners. Not all Lamb's Ears bloom. Good under open shade such as found under oak trees. Frost may damage foliage but recovery is strong.</p>	
	<p>Common Name: <b>Lime Rickey Coral Bells</b>            Botanical Name: <i>Heuchera 'Lime Rickey'</i>            Perennial            Zone: 4-9            Sun-Shade: Shade to part shade (protect from afternoon sun)            Bloom Time: Dainty white flowers in early summer            Height: 18"            Water needs: Average; drought tolerant</p> 		<p>Common Name: <b>Yellow Knock Out Rose</b>            Botanical Name: <i>Rosa</i>            Perennial            Zone: 5-9            Sun-Shade: Sun            Bloom Time: Late spring until the first killing frost            Height: 4'            Water needs: Regular</p>
<p><b>Special Qualities:</b> In spring, ruffled foliage starts out chartreuse and gradually turns to lime-green by early summer; attracts butterflies and hummingbirds, deer resistant. Color will vary depending on the time of year and other cultural conditions.</p>		<p><b>Special Qualities:</b> 3" flowers are extremely fragrant. They open a golden yellow and gradually fade to a soft cream. Blooms first year. Fall foliage turns stunning burgundy-violet and is capped with orange-red hips for winter interest! Heat tolerant and disease resistant.</p>	
	<p>Common Name: <b>Dolce® Creme Brulee Coral Bells</b>            Botanical Name: <i>Heuchera</i>            Perennial            Zone: 4-9            Sun-Shade: Partial shade to shade            Bloom Time: Pink flowers            Height: 8-16"            Water needs: Normal/Drought Tolerant</p>	<p><b>Special Qualities:</b> Grown for foliage. Brown sugar highlights transform the foliage with cold temperatures.</p>	