

Yarrow *Achillea spp.*

Plant Description:

Yarrow species are semi-evergreen, herbaceous perennials that have aromatic, feathery or fern-like foliage and display masses of flowers from spring to fall. The flowers may be single or double and come in shades of red, pink, yellow and white. Most species are long-lived, spreading into a mass of fine-textured foliage. Larger plants will either re-seed or spread and may eventually fill an area, making this plant useful as a groundcover.

Mature Size: 1-3 feet tall; 2-3 feet wide

Growth Rate: Moderate

Plant Habit: Upright; Spreading

Plant Spacing: 18 – 24 inches

Ornamental Characteristics & Uses:

Foliage Color: Green or Gray-Green

Flower Color: White, Yellow, Red, Pink

Bloom Time: Spring – Fall

Attracts Wildlife: Butterflies & Other
Beneficial Insects



Uses: Mixed borders, groundcover, cut flowers (fresh or dry arrangements)



Growing Requirements:

Cold Hardiness Zone(s): 3 – 9

Exposure: Full Sun

Water Needs: Low

Soil Tolerances: Prefers well-drained soils; very drought tolerant

Soil pH: Acidic to slightly alkaline

Maintenance: Low

General Care & Growing Tips:

Yarrow plants require well-drained soils and full sun to look their best. They shouldn't need any supplemental irrigation once established and often decline during periods of hot, rainy weather. Some species may require staking.

Common Pests:

No pests or diseases are of major concern.

The white flowering yarrow appears to be the more hardy variety in our North Florida butterfly garden, with evergreen foliage and blooms that attract pollinators, even in the dead of winter!



Reference: Gilman, E. F. and Delvalle, T. (1999). *Achillea spp. Yarrow*. University of Florida. <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/fp011>

Photo Credit: Alicia Lamborn