The 2015 Prairie Garden
Grasses & Succulents

Western Canada's Only Gardening Annual

See page iii for sponsor information
The Guest Editorial by Tammy Jensen ......................... vi
An Editorial Note by Richard Denesiuk ....................... vii

Grasses

Grasses and Succulents by Jane Reksten ....................... 1
Why Grow Ornamental Grasses? by Tammy Jensen .......... 7
Hardy But Underused Ornamental Grasses by Sara Williams . . . . 11
Ornamental Grasses, One Year at a Time. An Annual Option!
    by John Moore .................................................. 20
Native Grasses for Your Prairie Garden by June Flanagan . . . 24
Big Bluestem - Provincial Grass of Manitoba
    by Jeannie Gilbert and Elizabeth Punter ................. 32
Time to Cut the Grass by Craig Gillespie .................. 35
Propagation of Grass by Dr. Steven Tannas & Eileen Tannas. . . . . 38
Tame Grass Species Suitable for Low Maintenance Lawns and Turf
    by Dr. Steven Tannas and Kathy Tannas .................. 46
Using Native Grasses as Lawn Replacements
    by Dr. Steven Tannas & Kathy Tannas ..................... 52
A Perennial Affair: Finding Grasses that Love the Cold zones
    by Holly Rupert ................................................. 59
Diseases of Lawn Grasses: Causes, Controls and Prevention
    by Jeannie Gilbert .............................................. 64
Invasive Ornamental Grasses by Craig Gillespie ............. 69
Dogs and Grass – a Veterinarian’s Perspective
    by Ken L. Mould ................................................ 74
Question and Answers: The Gravel Lawn by Anna Thurmayr ... 76
Value of Manitoba Grasses by Juanita Kopp ..................... 81
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Succulents - An Overview</td>
<td>Susanne Olver</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low Maintenance Gardening with Succulents</td>
<td>William Dowie</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Succulent Propagation</td>
<td>Johannes Olwage</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Succulents Have Character</td>
<td>Shea Doherty</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pass the Salt Shaker! Manitoba’s Salt-loving Succulent</td>
<td>Diana Bizecki Robson</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winterizing Tender Succulents</td>
<td>Marilyn N. Dudek</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Living Stones – Little Jewels</td>
<td>Susanne Olver</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wintering and Pest-Control for Succulents</td>
<td>Shea Doherty</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It’s Always Summer in The Peace Garden</td>
<td>Johannes Olwage</td>
<td>114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where Do I Grow Thee Alpine? Show Me the Ways!</td>
<td>Amanda Botincan</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zoned Out? Get over it!</td>
<td>Morgan Webb</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Think Inside the box!</td>
<td>Mick Manfield</td>
<td>131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eat off your Balcony - Gardening without a Garden</td>
<td>Arlene Ortiz (Wheeler)</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do You Know Your Vegetables?</td>
<td>Ieaun Evans</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meadow Voles</td>
<td>Craig Gillespie</td>
<td>143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peonies: Perennial Favorites</td>
<td>Brian Porter</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peonies the Terrible Travelers</td>
<td>Arlene Ortiz (Wheeler)</td>
<td>153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Minnesota Landscape Arboretum – A Garden for All Seasons</td>
<td>Warren Otto</td>
<td>155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children and Plants—a Winning Combination for the Future!</td>
<td>Lyn Kublick</td>
<td>158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mind, Body, Soul and Soil - Horticulture as Therapy</td>
<td>Cheryl Cohan</td>
<td>162</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creating a Hummingbird Garden</td>
<td>Michael Wiens</td>
<td>164</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conifers with a Difference</td>
<td>Sara Williams</td>
<td>167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cut Flowers from the Garden</td>
<td>Lynn M. Collicutt</td>
<td>171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What’s in a Name?</td>
<td>Warren Otto</td>
<td>178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cactus &amp; Succulent Societies</td>
<td>Linda Pearn</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Front cover photo: Fran Wersher - (top to bottom) Imperata cylindrica ‘Red Baron’ blood grass, Graptosedum, Echeveria ‘Perle Von Nurnburg’ and Echeveria ‘Arika’
Twenty years ago I would not have been writing this article, and this book would not be focusing on these two very different groups of plants – ornamental grasses and succulents. But the realities of gardening change, trends in gardening come and go, and different plants gain favour. I believe, however, that the use of grasses and succulents is more than a mere trend, and that 20 years from now we will see their use increase, rather than decrease. I, for one, cannot imagine a perennial border without hardy grasses and succulents, and my annual containers always include both tender and hardy selections. Why? For reasons that have to do with the physical characteristics of these plants, which in turn offer the gardener textural interest, low levels of maintenance, drought tolerance and staggering diversity.

Grasses and succulents as groups are based on different parameters. In the case of grasses the connections are genetic, according to family relationships – all are found in the Grass Family or Poaceae (formerly Gramineae). For the purposes of this article we will also include grass-
like, garden-worthy members of the Sedge Family (Cyperaceae) and the Rush Family (Juncaceae). Succulents, on the other hand, include plants from a diverse number of families. Their groupings are based on physiological characteristics - their ability to store water in their leaves, stems or roots, allowing them to survive periods of drought. How this ability to store water is expressed gives rise to amazing diversity of structure, shape, texture and colour. Using succulents in containers often feels more like decorating than gardening!

### Succulents

The stereotypical succulents are cactus (Cactaceae), and this collection of plants stands alone even within the succulent category. Quintessential desert plants, cactus are characterized by sharp, pointy ‘prickles’. These are in fact modified leaves known botanically as spines. They help deter animals from feeding on the cactus, and in some cases are so dense as to offer shade to the main stem. Also, their greatly reduced surface area, when compared to the much broader leaves of plants such as *rodgersias* or *lilium*, acts to reduce water loss from their surface. The spines are found on swollen, water-holding stems of a variety of shapes depending on the species – consider ball or barrel cactus when compared to the more flattened stems of prickly pear cactus (native to southern Alberta, but also found in Saskatchewan and Manitoba).

In contrast, the group of succulents known as wood lilies includes agaves and yuccas which store water in large succulent root systems. (There are some discrepancies as to the families to which these plants belong, and may be found variously within Agavaceae, Asparagaceae, Liliaceae, either separately, or together.) Both take the form of rosettes with narrow strap-like leaves that radiate out from a compressed stem (in some yuccas this stem is extended vertically into a trunk). Very sharp, hard tips and many sharp teeth along the leaf margins...
Why Grow Ornamental Grasses?

by Tammy Jensen

Tammy has been deeply involved with all aspects of the family-run Jensen’s Nursery in Winnipeg, MB. Tammy’s love of plants, horticultural expertise and business acumen have made her a great asset in contributing to The 2015 Prairie Garden.

Ornamental grasses have grown in popularity over the past 20 years. My father started growing them at our Winnipeg nursery in the early eighties. I asked him at the time, “Why would anyone plant grass in their garden?” He answered, “They look pretty and are easy to grow.” Over 25 years later, I still think back to that conversation and realize how right he was. No longer do I wonder “Why grow grass in your garden?” Now all I can do is list the reasons why to grow grass in your garden!

Beauty & Versatility
Grasses come in many heights, colours and textures. Grass seed heads and foliage add fall and winter interest. Dried grasses look fantastic in indoor dried flower arrangements and can complement a fall front door display. They can also be used as groundcovers, specimen plants, for erosion control, and as a vertical accent.

To make a strong impression, plant a large grouping of one type of grass. Tall grasses such as ‘Karl Foerster’ feather reed grass (Calamagrostis x acutiflora ‘Karl Foerster’) or ‘Adagio’
maiden grass (*Miscanthus sinensis* ‘Adagio’) work well in large groupings. The ‘Karl Foerster’ feather reed grass will remain green long after other grasses have gone dormant. They also can be placed throughout a perennial garden to add height, movement, and a delicate beauty. The seed heads will bloom from late summer till frost and can be left over the winter months to enjoy. They always remind me of the spring to come when winter days seem long and cold.

Shorter grasses can also make a bold statement in large groupings or as a border. ‘Blue Dune’ lyme grass (*Leymus arenarius* ‘Blue Dune’) with its striking silver blue foliage, is excellent for mass planting. It matures at 45–60 cm (18–24 in.) and spreads by rhizomes. For a colourful border to frame your garden, plant ‘Boulder Blue’ fescue grass (*Festuca glauca* ‘Boulder Blue’). It has very bright blue blades that are thicker and stiffer than most fescues. Growing only 20–25 cm (8–12 in.) high, it makes a perfect border in a part shade to sunny location.

Annual grasses in containers can be used to add a brilliant splash of colour. ‘First Knight’ fountain grass (*Pennisetum purpureum* ‘First Knight’) boasts the deepest, darkest, blackest purple of them all. ‘First Knight’ fountain grass will grow full and tall, with the outside blades arching gracefully over the edge of a container. Planted in a large container in full sun, this grass will be the highlight of your yard. For an exotic tropical look, plant ‘King Tut’ (*Cyperus papyrus* ‘King Tut’) in a container around a pool area. This unique heat tolerant sedge grows 1¼–1¾ m (4–6 ft.) high and loves moisture. It is perfect to create drama and impact on either side of a front door or can be nestled around a pond.

To create a stunning container using multiple textures, plant annual and perennial grasses together. Variegated
O
rnamental grasses can fill a number of niches in our landscapes. Depending on the grass, they can be used singly as specimen plants, in perennial or mixed borders, or ground-covers to stabilize a bank or slope, and even as pond plantings.

In terms of general care, many gardeners who have successfully trialed species and cultivars a bit out of the ordinary, recommend purchasing larger plants that they feel are more likely to survive their first winter. Plant, transplant and divide these grasses as early in the growing season as possible. Know their sun, shade and moisture needs and place them accordingly. Cut back in early spring when growth resumes. If you’re unsure of their hardiness, place grasses in a protected location where snow accumulates.

All of the grasses described below have over-wintered in Saskatoon gardens for several years.

---

**Hardy, but Underused Ornamental Grasses**

*by Sara Williams*

*Sara Williams, retired from the University of Saskatchewan, gardens near Saskatoon, SK. She is the author of many gardening books including *Gardening, Naturally: A Chemical Free Handbook For The Prairies* and the newly revised and expanded *Creating the Prairie Xeriscape*. Sara is The Prairie Garden’s regional representative for Saskatchewan*
Spear grass, silver spike grass 
(*Achnatherum calamagrostis*; syn. *Stipa calamagrostis*)
Native to higher elevations of Europe (Mediterranean and Alps), spear grass is clump-forming, dense and tufted. The narrow, grey-green leaves are arching and 50–75 cm (20–30 in.) in height. A cool season grass, it produces large, fluffy silver-green flower stalks up to 100 cm (36 in.) high in summer with the seed heads turning a tawny brown in fall. It’s a bit floppy, but stands up to winter. It’s hardy and a good plant for the perennial border.

Yellow or golden foxtail grass 
This clump-forming, mound-shaped, somewhat tufted grass is native to Eurasia. The foliage varies from bright green with yellow longitudinal stripes to almost solid green or solid yellow, becoming more yellow in full sun. 45 cm (18 in.) in height, it flowers early with small brown bottlebrush type flowers. Some gardeners cut it back so it looks better in mid- to late-summer. Of easy culture, it spreads slowly by rhizomes and does well in sun to partial shade and in a wide range of soils as long as there is even moisture. Propagate by division as the variegation does not come true by seed.

Karl Foerster feather reed grass 
(*Calamagrostis x acutiflora* ‘Karl Foerster’)
“One of the most popular ornamental grasses worldwide” – Drake
In my opinion, this is the best grass for prairie gardens: reliably hardy, well behaved, big and beautiful, and with all-season landscape value. You can’t ask for more! A natural hybrid of *C. epigejos* and *C. arundinacea*; selected by and named after German nurseryman, Karl Foerster, it is sterile, so unwanted seedlings are never a problem. A clumping grass, in spring and summer the foliage is bright green and grows to a height of about 100 cm (40
When one hears the term ornamental grasses, thoughts of magnificent 2.5 m (8 ft.) tall pampas grass or giant Chinese silver grass lining perfectly manicured gardens and parks are evoked. Likewise, when ornamental grasses are searched on the internet, images of these beauties easily fill your computer screen - and they are spectacular! But true pampas grass will only survive in a zone 8 or higher, and I live in a marginal zone 3 and that makes growing it here a little challenging, to say the least. For those of us who do not live in milder climes, we have to search out other grasses that will grow for us, and that are easy and fun to grow!

Fortunately, grasses are not limited to milder climates. Grasses are the most hardy, most abundant plant on earth. Finding grasses to grow should not be hard to do. However, using grasses as ornamentals, which can for some, be an about face to what we generally think as gardening. We may feel that grasses are normally shorter, broad-leafed, flowering plants in organized rows, usually lining sidewalks or buildings. However, grasses make spaces
look and feel more natural; they add height, bringing your eye up off the ground, and stirring up motion in the slightest of breezes, create rustling sounds that invites nature into your world. Birds are attracted to grasses as a natural food source, shelter and for nesting material. You will also be drawn to grasses to impulsively run your hands through the stalks and seed heads; they are resilient and strong enough to be handled without harming them. Stems can be cut and displayed green or dried without deterring their growth. Grasses will also stand through the winter, extending your visual enjoyment through the non-gardening months! Birds will thank you too, for leaving your grasses standing out through the winter as they will harvest the seed for a winter feast.

Ornamental grasses are not just limited to perennial varieties either. While I enjoy perennial grasses, there are many annual options as well. The beauty of annuals is that gardeners living in severe climates such as ours can enjoy a wide variety of grasses even if only for the duration of one growing season. Annual grasses provide a high degree of versatility that is quite exciting as there are many different sizes, shapes and colours from which to choose. Considering the cost and work involved in landscaping, people may tend to be a little tentative about taking on such projects. However, annual grasses can offer an inexpensive test, knowing that you have to replant them next spring anyway. Annual grasses start, and grow quickly, producing dramatic changes in your space over a relatively short period of time. For instance, Sudan grass (*Sorghum bicolor* var. *sudanense*), grows up to 2.5 m (8 ft.) tall in a single season. Use it as a garden centrepiece, a living privacy wall, or a jungle hideout for your kids. Sudan grass, as its name implies, likes very hot locations, like that spot on the south side of your patio that gets a lot of sun and heat in the summer. It will also thrive through long periods of drought without your needing to water it!

Annual grasses can withstand adverse weather, due to their long
This shallow container is comprised of a variegated Agave with *Echeveria globulosa* in the foreground surrounded by the trailing plants of the blueish *Senecio radicans* or fish hook succulent and a *Graptopetalum x Sedum* hybrid which has sprawling stems of red-edged fleshy petals that terminate in rosettes.
The 2015 Prairie Garden
Succulents are plants with thick, fleshy leaves, roots or stems. They are amazingly adapted forms of life, evolved to survive in very adverse environmental conditions. When succulents are mentioned, cacti and sedums come to mind most readily. However, there are at least 34 plant families in which some members fall under this category having thick, fleshy leaves, roots or stems. All members of the cactus family are succulents, although the *Pereskias* with their long, climbing stems, leathery leaves and very nasty spines seem to be a link to other non-succulent plants.

To survive the dry environments in which they live, they have thick leathery and often waxy leaves, or none at all. Their stomata (breathing holes) are deeply set on the underside of their leaves, which open at night, unlike their mesophytic (moisture loving) counter-parts, which open during the day and are situated on the top of their leaves. There are other differences, but it would take too long to discuss them all here.

Many succulents, particularly cacti, have no leaves at all, or only rudimentary ones. Often they are armed with spines or bristles (which are highly modified leaves), or have a bitter sap to protect them from being eaten. Others have most of their body buried under ground or are camouflaged. They usually have a shallow root system to catch whatever rainfall there is.

Succulents do not attract us with a lush canopy of leaves. It is their interesting form that makes them catch the eye of the collector. Strangely
formed stems, ribbed or gnarled bodies, that are adaptations to their environment, make them stand out from ‘ordinary’ plants. Living stones for instance, are often half buried in the soil, some even have ‘windows’ on top of their two leaves to let in light. Others in this group mimic the stones surrounding them, grey on grey, brown on brown, so that they would be hard to find. When growing them in a pot, it is fun to surround them with similar looking stones — the visitor might be puzzled to find a pot just filled with stones.

These plants do everything to protect themselves against hungry herbivores, except, when they flower. Many succulents have bright, showy flowers to attract their pollinators. Often cacti have large, very fragrant, but short-lived blossoms to attract insects and birds during the short time they are open. This is an adaptation to the short growing season they have in desert conditions. In some years, there might not be any rainfall so the plant has to flower and produce seeds in the shortest time possible, and be able to survive a long time without any water. The most famous example of this is, perhaps, the “Queen of the Night” cactus (Selenicereus ssp.) which opens its huge, heavily scented blossoms for one night only. By morning the spectacular flower limply hangs down, never to open again.

Some succulents, on the other hand, have fairly insignificant flowers (some members of the milkweed family and lily families for instance) or some unpleasant smelling and brownish ones (as in carrion flowers (Stapelia ssp.) which attract flies).

However, the succulent aficionado does not grow these plants for its flowers, pretty though they might be, but for their form, shape and their amazing adaptation to a harsh, dry environment. From tiny ‘living stones’ through hairy ‘old man’s beard’, to some big opuntias, to the lovely rosettes of the echeverias or the portulacas with their many-coloured flowers, there is a great variety of succulents for the collector.

Due to the great diversity of succulents, coming from all corners of the world, it is impossible to describe

Prickly pear (Opuntia fragilis)
Few other plant groups provide as much fun and reward in propagation as succulents. The feature that makes them so remarkable - their succulence - is the same thing that makes their propagation so easy. The ability to store copious amounts of moisture in their tissues, whether stem or leaf, allows them to survive even when severed. Literally, you can break off a piece, forget about it for a while and plant it later when you have a chance and it will be fine. Even though succulents can be grown from seed, most succulents are propagated vegetatively. This article will discuss various approaches to the vegetative propagation of succulents and hopefully inspire the reader to propagate a wide array of these plants.

Before we discuss propagation, let us discuss soil. The growing medium used to root and grow succulents is often overly-complicated. The vast majority of commercially available succulents will grow and thrive in an average peat-based nursery mix. It is not essential to buy special cactus mix, river sand or pea gravel and perlite, but good drainage does help if the grower has a heavy hand with the watering can. Always remember that these plants need to be dry at times so they can ‘breathe’. The frequency of watering is more important than the type of growing medium. For example, if you were to grow succulents in an extremely porous medium, you would have to water much more frequently.
For those who consider adding drainage to the regular mix of peat moss and perlite, I recommend addition of some aged pine bark. This contributes greatly to drainage, is light in weight and readily available. Be sure that the bark is aged or it will strip the soil of nutrients. Where watering is concerned, the best advice is to avoid watering on a schedule. Forget about succulents once in a while and they will perform much better than when pampered regularly. They are low-maintenance plants.

**Division of offsets**
Many succulents multiply profusely, forming offsets in abundance. Hence the name “hen-and-chicks” applied to sprawling members of both *Echeveria* and *Sempervivum* species. Great candidates for division are succulents with a clustering, compact growth habit such as some varieties of *Echeveria*, *Sedum*, *Aloe*, *Haworthia*, *Sansevieria* and many cacti.

Division of the root ball is done preferably just before the start of the growing period, usually in late winter when grown indoors in Manitoba. During dormancy the plant is less affected by disturbance of its roots. However, division can be done successfully at any time of the year. It is important to water the root ball before attempting division. Watering will reduce the amount of root damage by making it easier to loosen the growing medium from the roots and to separate roots from each other. After division, you should be left with a miniature plant complete with roots, stem and leaves. If the result is only a collection of some of the aforementioned parts, place them in some soil and see what happens!

**Leaf cuttings**
Due to the outstanding ability of succulents to store water, their cuttings are generally much more adept at surviving than those of most other plants. When trying to decide whether to take stem or leaf cuttings, it is best to look at the type of leaf. In general, succulents which have thick leaves that store a lot of water stand the best chance of being propagated from a single leaf. This is a generalization and not all leaves that root develop into plants. Many rooted leaves will remain just that, rooted leaves.
I come from a family of traditional English Gardeners; my Dad had an allotment, my Granddad was an accomplished gardener who grew apricots and grapes in his greenhouse and my Uncle was a head gardener for a large estate in Suffolk. Gardening is in my blood and I even managed to garden when I was in the British Army. My married quarter garden was always the best on the estate!

I moved to Manitoba in 1999 after emigrating to Canada from the UK. I was ecstatic that we had a two-acre yard in St Andrews that could be landscaped, that I could actually plant trees and know that I could watch them grow and not be planting for someone else’s benefit and I could finally grow my own fruits, salads and vegetables.

My first attempt at a vegetable garden failed, I broke the handles off two spades trying to double dig the Manitoba clay soil so affectionately referred to as “Red River gumbo”, I amended the soil every year with farmyard manure from a friend’s dairy farm but it was a never-ending struggle. Even with a Rototiller it became a laborious task.
To solve these problems, I built raised beds using railway ties and filled them with a mixture of soil and cow manure. These raised beds were about 45 m (150 ft.) away from the nearest water supply and were filled with every sort of fruit, vegetables and salads. The first year went OK but subsequent years I spent more time weeding than I did planting! This is when I learnt never to trust a three- or four-way mix of topsoil!

As an avid gardener I was looking for a way of increasing my pleasure of vegetable gardening without most of the labour involved. While researching the Internet I came across the “Square Foot Gardening Method” and the catchy phrase “No weeding, No Thinning, No digging, No kidding”! From this point on I was hooked and I have never used a Rototiller since that day!

Square foot Gardening has ten basic principles:

1) Layout
Think in Squares not Rows. Ideally the garden should be close to the house so that you can keep an eye on it and should be near a water supply. The garden should get a minimum of eight hours of sun a day and not “puddle” with water after a heavy rainfall. This is a tough thing to do for an experienced row gardener but you can grow the same amount of produce in only 20% of the space of a row garden.

2) Boxes
Maximum 1.2 m (4 ft.) wide and only 15 cm (6 in.) deep. The average human reach is .6 m (2 ft.) so you can reach into the centre of the box from all four sides if it is 1.2 m (4 ft.) wide. You can make the boxes as long as you like but remember no wider than 1.2 m (4 ft.)! I make my boxes from 2x6 by 8 ft. cedar. You can use a less expensive lumber but you will need to treat it with a food-
Peonies are back! New colours, garden sturdiness and even rain resistance are helping to bring peonies back into popularity again.

Peonies were relatively unknown in Canada at the beginning of the 20th century. Following testing at experimental farms across Canada, they quickly demonstrated their hardiness and suitability to the Canadian climate, including the harsh prairie environment. Prairie gardeners soon learned that peonies were much easier to grow than roses, with larger flowers, and thus peonies eventually earned the nickname of “Rose of the North”. Nurseries on the prairies were quick to expand their listings of peonies, and by the 1920s, dozens, if not hundreds, of cultivars, were made available. Peony shows in Manitoba sprang up, exhibiting a thousand or more blossoms, and drawing huge crowds. These shows also spread into Saskatchewan by the late 1930s, which underlined their ability to tol-
erate the droughts of that era. World War II, unfortunately, brought peony shows on the prairies to an end, and the propagation of peonies began to dwindle to the point where many nurseries carried only a few token cultivars of pink, red and white. By the 1960s and 70s, it was common for local nurseries to sell peonies only by colour, rather than by cultivar name.

The loss of interest in peonies was also due to a couple of other factors. First of all, although peony blooms are among the largest and showiest of perennial flowers, the peony season is relatively short – although many other perennials and flowering shrubs have the same fault. Secondly, the vast majority of peonies bred in the 19th and early 20th century were selected for cut flower use. Florists marketed huge quantities of peonies and thus peony propagation catered to them. Little thought was given to the sturdiness of the plants in the garden, as buds were cut before they opened. Home gardeners, however, wanted peonies for garden decoration as well as for cut flowers. The need for staking of the plants put a damper on their enthusiasm for this flower.

Today, although some large growers cater to the cut-flower industry, many of the peony breeders are selecting for suitability as garden specimens. More and more nurseries are carrying cultivars that make good landscaping plants. The American Peony Society, which has existed for over a century,
The 2015 Prairie Garden $17.95
DISCOUNT PRICES ON VOLUME ORDERS – ANY COMBINATION OF EDITIONS

5-9 copies . . . . . . . . 25% DISCOUNT PLUS Shipping
10-24 copies . . . . . 30% DISCOUNT PLUS Shipping
25-49 copies . . . . . . 35% DISCOUNT PLUS Shipping
50 or more copies . . . . 40% DISCOUNT PLUS Shipping

Contact Dawn: 204-388-5340; or e-mail: sales@prairiegarden.ca
for additional information or to get an estimate on shipping.

Add my name to the STANDING ORDER LIST in order that I may receive a copy of
The Prairie Garden every year starting with the 2016 issue. I will send my remittance upon
receipt of each issue. Standing Orders receive a $1 discount.
(Do not check the box below if your name is already on the Standing Order List)

Postage and handling charges apply on all orders

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># of books</th>
<th>All Can</th>
<th>MB</th>
<th>SK</th>
<th>AB</th>
<th>BC</th>
<th>ON</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>$4.50</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 (mailed separately)</td>
<td>$9.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-4</td>
<td>$12.15</td>
<td>$12.15</td>
<td>$12.15</td>
<td>$12.15</td>
<td>$12.15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td>$12.75</td>
<td>$15.50</td>
<td>$17.85</td>
<td>$15.50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-6</td>
<td>$12.75</td>
<td>$12.75</td>
<td>$15.50</td>
<td>$17.85</td>
<td>$15.50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1West of Thunder Bay. 2East of Thunder Bay  US 1 book: $9.55 (CDN).  Prices subject to change if postal rates change.

For destinations and quantities not listed, please, email: sales@prairiegarden.ca with details of your order; we will quote a price.

Name
Add to Standing Order List
Address
City  Prov/State  P.C./Zip
Phone  E-mail
Qty Year / Issue Price Ea # Books Price

Total # books

All prices in Canadian dollars
Please enclose a cheque or money order payable to “The Prairie Garden”

Sub-total
Minus ___% discount
Shipping
Total less discount
Sponsors of The Prairie Garden
See page iii for contact details
The 2015 Prairie Garden: Grasses & Succulents

Grasses & succulents

See page iii for sponsor information