

Moon Gardens

If you work during the day and the best time to enjoy your garden is at night, consider planting a moon garden. A moon garden is simply a collection of plants that can be enjoyed during the late evening and night hours, especially when the moon is shining. Moon gardens can include flowers that wait until the late afternoon or evening to open and flowers that are more fragrant at night to attract night flying pollinators. Plants with white, cream, yellow, or pale pink flowers, and plants with silvery or gray foliage appear to glow under moonlight. Plant your moon garden in an area where you like to linger after sundown—perhaps near a deck, patio, or water feature. By combining textures, heights, and bloom time, your moon garden will be a dramatic addition to your landscape, day or night. A moon garden is a terrific way to extend the amount of time you can enjoy your garden.

Plants for a moon garden

Plants with gray or silvery foliage

Silver King Artemesia (*Artemesia ludoviciana albula*)

Dusty miller (*Centaurea cineraria* or *Senecio cineraria*)

Lamb's ears (*Stachys byzantina*)

Lavender cotton (*Santolina chamaecyparissus*)

Russian sage (*Perovskia atriplicifolia*)

Snow-in-summer (*Cerastium tomentosum*)



Courtesy Missouri Botanical Garden

Silver King Artemesia



Courtesy Missouri Botanical Garden

Lamb's ears

Plants that open late in the day (all are fragrant)

Angel's trumpet (*Brugmansia candida*)

Evening primrose (*Oenothera speciosa*, *O. caespitosa*, *O. hookeri*, *O. missouriensis*)

Flowering tobacco (*Nicotiana alata* or *N. sylvestris*)

Four o'clocks (*Mirabilis jalapa*), 'Alba' has white flowers

Moonflower (*Ipoemoea alba*)

Night-scented stock (*Matthiola longipetala*, formerly *M. bicornis*)



Courtesy Missouri Botanical Garden
Angel's trumpet



Courtesy Missouri Botanical Garden
Flowering tobacco

Additional plants that are fragrant, especially at night

Carolina jessamine (*Gelsemium sempervirens*)

Clematis

Gardenia jasminoides

Japanese honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*)

Night jessamine (*Cestrum nocturnum*)

Star jasmine (*Trachelospermum jasminoides*)

Summersweet (*Clethra alnifolia*)

Sweet mock orange (*Philadelphus coronarius*)

Tuberose (*Polianthes tuberosa*)

Winter jasmine (*Jasminum polyanthemum*)

Wisteria



Courtesy Missouri Botanical Garden
Sweet mock orange

A sampling of perennials with white flowers

Azalea

Calla lily

Delphinium

Dianthus

Foxglove

Iris

Peony

Rose

Shasta daisy

References

All photos are courtesy Missouri Botanical Garden

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