

PLANTS UNATTRACTIVE TO BIG GAME

The plants in the following list can be grown in Wyoming and are considered generally of low palatability or attractiveness to big game species. However, under certain conditions, particularly in winter when native foods are unavailable or animals are pushed into residential areas, wildlife may use them to varying degrees depending on the plant species. The presence of attractive non-woody plant species (i.e. grasses, broadleaf annuals or perennials) may lure wildlife which may then, in turn, make incidental use of these listed species.

In addition to having some element of deterrence to big game browsing, many of these species provide food and/or cover to desirable wildlife species, particularly birds.

Information given for each plant species is of a general nature. Plant specialist may be consulted for specific information.

TREES

	GROWTH FORM	SOIL CONDITIONS	MOISTURE CONDITIONS	SHADE TOLERANCE	OTHER
BOXELDER MAPLE (<i>Acer negundo</i>)	13-16 m tree	Well to imperfectly drained, clayey and loamy soils.	Poor drought tolerance.	Relatively shade intolerant.	Boxelder is a good soil stabilizing species and may be used for shade or as a component in shelter belts. This tree's presence may attract the boxelder beetle, an innocuous red and black insect.
SPRUCE (<i>Picea</i> spp.)	Medium to large tree 12 to 21 m high.	Well drained dry soils to poorly drained soils.	Moderately drought tolerant.	High shade tolerance.	Low soil building and erosion control capabilities because they are evergreens. Spruce provide wind protection, screening and color year-round.
PINES (PONDEROSA, PINION, LODGEPOLE, LIMBER (<i>Pinus</i> spp.))	Medium to large tree 15-20 m high.	Grow on a wide range of soil textures from gravelly sands to silty clay loam - grow best on well-drained soils.	Very drought tolerant.	Intolerant of shade.	Low soil building and erosion control capabilities because they are evergreens. Pines provide wind protection, screening and color year-round.

LARCH (<i>Larix</i> spp.)	9-18 m deciduous tree.	Wide range of soil textures.	Poor drought tolerance.	Very low shade tolerance.	
HONEY LOCUST (<i>Gleditsia triacanthus</i>)	Deciduous tree, 10-15 m tall.	Variety of soil textures; tolerant of acid or alkaline conditions.	Moderate drought tolerance.	Low shade tolerance.	Tolerant of temperature extremes - does best with sharply defined winter, hot summers. Good lawn tree, leafs out late and loses dormant early, known to attract bees.
HONEYSUCKLE (<i>Lonicera</i> spp.)	Deciduous shrubs to 3 m high.	Variety of soil textures but does best in rich soils.	Most need average water once established.	Low shade tolerance.	Attractive shrubs with fragrant flowers (used by humming birds) which produce fruit used by seed and fruit-eating birds; can be used as hedge or border plant as well as clump planting.
SMOKE TREE (<i>Cotinus coggygria</i>)	Shrub tree up to 8 m in height.	Poor or rocky soils.	Drought tolerant.	Low shade tolerance.	Attractive urn-shaped growth form; large, loose flower clusters.
RUSSIAN OLIVE (<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>)	Small deciduous tree.	Variety of soil textures.	Moderately drought tolerant.	Low shade tolerance.	Hardy tree that can be clipped as a medium hedge. Effective as windbreak or screen. Berries eaten by birds
HAWTHORNE (<i>Crataegus</i> spp.)	Deciduous tree up to 7 m height.	Most soil textures.	Drought tolerant. Planting on dry sites prevents rank, succulent growth.	Low shade tolerance.	Showy flowers and fruits. Thorny branches. Attract bees and birds.

SHRUBS

	GROWTH FORM	SOIL CONDITIONS	MOISTURE CONDITIONS	SHADE TOLERANCE	OTHER
YELLOW DRYAD, MOUNTAIN AVENS (<i>Crataegus</i> spp.)	Forms continuous mats with basal leaves. Flower stalks up to 25 cm high and extensive root system.	Coarse gravelly soils.	Well adapted to dry conditions.	Extremely shade intolerant.	Leaf fall increases soil organic matter and moisture capacity of soil. Extensive root system contributes to soil erosion.
WHITE DRYAD (<i>Dryas hookeriana</i>)	Dwarf evergreen shrub forming dense mats.	Rocky infertile soils in exposed, moderately well-drained sites.	Drought intolerant.	Shade intolerant.	Nitrogen fixing and colonizing abilities of this species make it good for soil building erosion control.
COMMON JUNIPER (<i>Juniperus communis</i>)	Prostrate shrub.	Wide range of soil textures, but most common on coarse textured soils.	Relatively tolerant of low soil moisture.	Low shade tolerance.	Slow growing but makes good evergreen ground cover, particularly on poor soils.
SHRUBBY CINQUEFOIL (<i>Potentilla fruticosa</i>)	Long lived deciduous shrub 0.3-1 m high.	Wide soil condition tolerance - good growth on sandy and loamy soils.	Moderate to good drought tolerance.	Prefers open sites but will grown under light shade.	Lightly browsed by wild ungulates. Produces yellow flowers.
RASPBERRY (<i>Rubus</i> spp.)	Deciduous bush shrub 0.6 to 2.0 m high.	Poorly, imperfectly and well-drained soils with textures from sandy loam to silty clay loam.	Wild raspberries are tolerant to droughty soils; domestic strains are less tolerant.	Low shade tolerance.	Some use by wildlife, but thorns prevent excessive use. Forms thickets and has rapid cover rate.
BUFFALOBERRY (<i>Shepherdia</i>)	Deciduous shrub 0.6 to 2 m tall.	Coarse textured (silt loam to sandy loam) well to moderately well drained soils.	Moderate drought tolerance.	Moderate shade tolerance.	Generally not browsed but will regrow successfully from heavy pruning. Good soil building and erosion control capabilities. A nitrogen fixer which forms dense thickets.

WHITE SPIREA (<i>Spiraea lucida</i>)	Low deciduous shrub 0.3 to 1.0 m high.	Prefers moist, moderately well- drained, loam soils.	Sole tolerance to drought.	Does best on open to semi-shaded sites.	Sometimes lightly browsed, but re- sprouts easily. Extensive rhizome system makes it good for soil building and erosion control.
CREEPING MAHONIA (<i>Mahonia repens</i>)	Low shrub (less than 1 m tall) with spreading habit.	Does well in poor soils.	Drought tolerant.	Sun or partial shade preferable.	Berries eaten by birds. Will control erosion. Good ground cover.
LILAC (<i>Syringa</i> spp.)	Deciduous shrub up to 3 m tall.	Variety of soil textures. Does best in alkaline soils.	Moderate drought tolerance.	Low shade tolerance.	Attractive flowers. Dense foliage. Excellent ornamental for screening, wind nesting and cover.
ENGLISH IVY (<i>Hedera helix</i>)	Evergreen woody vines.	Does best with rich soils.	Low drought tolerance.	Good shade tolerance but does well in sun.	Good ground cover or vertical cover. Good soil building and erosion control capabilities.
OREGON GRAPE (<i>Mahonia aquifolium</i>)	Erect evergreen shrub up to 2.5 m in height.	Variety of soil textures but does best in rich soils.	Moderately drought tolerant.	Shade tolerant.	Berries are eaten by birds. Easily grown. Good looking all year.
SILVERBERRY (<i>Laeanus commutata</i>)	Deciduous shrub to 4 m in height.	Variety of soil textures.	Moderate drought tolerance.	Low shade tolerance.	Berries are good bird food.
SUMMER LILAC (<i>Buddleia davidii</i>)	Deciduous or semi- evergreen shrub 1-3 m high.	Variety of well-drained soil types.	Moderately drought tolerant. Grows best with regular watering.	Low shade tolerance.	Vigorous growth. Flowers in dense clusters.
COTONEASTER (<i>Cotoneaster</i> spp.)	Medium to tall shrub.	Wide range of soil textures.	Somewhat drought tolerant.	Low shade tolerance.	Vigorous growth. Needs little maintenance. Small flowers which develop into berries. Good erosion control and soil building capabilities. Hedges & cover.