

The Evening Garden

Often the daytime garden is given all the consideration but the evening garden can also be one of beauty, fragrance and interest to you and your guests. Following are some recommendations for foliage and blooms in the evening garden.

Foliage in the Evening Garden

(Note: some are perennial, some are annual)

Parker County's Zone is 7B

Licorice Plant (*Helichrysum petiolare*) - Silver- gray foliage; perennial; zones 7 - 10 depending on species and variety, full sun

Master Gardener Note: I have helichrysum plant in a pot. It is basically a pot plant here since it is not winter hardy in Zone 7. It has gray leaves and does not bloom. I use it as interest in large pots as filler. It is very drought tolerant.

Note: the licorice plant is the silver-gray foliage plant in the foreground of the picture

Photo courtesy of Parker County Master Gardener

'Helen von Stein'
Lamb's Ear (*Stachys byzantina*) - Silver-gray, wooly, large leaves; perennial; zones 4 – 8, full sun



Dusty Miller (*Centaurea gymnocarpa*) - Silver-gray, 36-inch tall, upright foliage; annual except in zones 7 – 9; full sun

Lavender (*Lavandula angustifolia*) - Light gray foliage; fresh scent; perennial; zones 5 – 8; full sun

Variegated Ribbon Grass (*Phalaris*) - White and green variegated foliage with pink blush; perennial; zones 4 – 11; full sun to partial shade

'Silver Queen' Artemisia (*Artemisia ludoviciana*) - Silver-gray foliage; fresh scent; perennial; zones 4 – 9; full sun

'Margarita' Sweet Potato Vine (*Ipomea batatas*) - Chartreuse foliage; annual vine/groundcover; zones 9 – 11; full sun

Blooms for an Evening Garden

(Note: some are perennial and some are annual)

Flowering Tobacco (*Nicotiana alata*) - Small, white, tubular blooms that open at dusk emitting a strong, jasmine like fragrance; short lived perennials grown as an annual; zones 10 – 11; full sun

Moonflower (*Ipomoea alba*) - Large, white blooms on vining plant with heart shaped leaves; lightly perfumed; blooms only at night; annual; zones 9 – 11; full sun



Angel's Trumpet

Angel's Trumpet (*Brugmansia*) - Large trumpets hang down from this fast growing tropical plant; highly fragrant; white, peach or yellow blooms; zones 9 -11; morning sun and afternoon shade

Four O'Clocks (*Mirabilis jalapa*) - Fragrant medium sized flowers; true to its name blooms open late afternoon; annual; zones 8 – 11; full sun to partial shade

'Casa Blanca' Oriental Lily - Big, beautiful, pure white blooms; sweet fragrance; perennial bulb; zones 4 - 8

Gardenia (*Gardenia augusta*) - The queen of the fragrant garden; white blooms; strong fragrance; shrub; zones 8 - 10



Night blooming jasmine

'Night Blooming Jasmine' (*Cestrum nocturnum*) - The fragrance is infamous for intensity after dusk. A tender perennial that is not hardy in our area so it has to have winter protection, zones 9-11, full to partial sun.

Other suggestions from a Parker County Master Gardener:

More plants for the evening garden are (these each in white):

Lantana, iris, daylilies (such as 'Joan Senior'), zinnias, Shasta daisies (such as the short 'Snow Lady' and 'Becky' for the taller Shasta daisy), salvia greggii, skullcap, gaura, mock orange, Virginia sweetspire, bridal wreath spiraea

Some have a combination of colors such as: White and green caladiums, white and bronze begonias, Aztec grass (Aztec grass looks a great deal like green and white variegated liriopse.

Note about Aztec grass from Parker County Master Gardener - I have a friend in Lufkin who has it in her garden as a border...it has mostly white blades with a small amount of green blades and it's stunning.)



Bridal Wreath Spiraea

Photo from *the real dirt a gardening handbook for Parker County*

There are also some of gray color that work well such as gray cotoneaster

Trees such as blue Atlas cedar and Arizona cypress also have that grayish foliage.

There are other white plants such as:
'Miss Bateman' clematis, 'Henryii'
clematis, and 'Sweet Autumn' clematis.



Autumn Clematis

Photo from *the real dirt a gardening handbook for Parker County*