

Grasses

Bermuda

Common Bermuda is preferred, not hybrid. **Timothy Hay** Phleum pretense.

Ground cover White clover, Trifolium repens

Trees

Elm, Ulmus spp. and Mulberry, Morus, spp. Offer young leaves only

Plants to grow for tortoises

Perennial ornamentals

Primrose, *Oenothera*, species including: Mexican Evening Primrose, O. berlandieri Somewhat invasive, surround with several feet of dry soil.

Yellow Creeping Primrose O. stubbei Somewhat invasive, surround with several feet of dry soil (native of NM/AZ). White Evening Primrose, O. pallida Tufted Evening Primrose, O. caespitosa Fragrant white flowers, reseeds readily. Ivy Geranium, Pelargonium pelatum Has a trailing habit if within reach of tortoises. Gazania, Gazania spp. Somewhat spreading, large, daisy-like

flowers, various colors

Hollyhock, Alcea rosea. Leaves and flowers

Good "weeds"

Dandelion, Taraxacum officinale. Important food plant, especially for hatchlings.

Filaree or Heron's Bill, Erodium cicutarium. Germinates in winter, feathery leaves, tiny purple flowers.

Spurge, Euphorbia spp. Appears in lawns in summer then disappears.

Vines

Hall's Honeysuckle (Set base of trellis away from wall to make a shady place) Grape, Vitis spp. Offer young leaves only, no fruit. Thompson Seedless preferred Morning Glory, Ipomoea spp. Perennial vine. Large dark purple flowers, not in full sun Virginia Creeper, Parthenocissus quinquefolia.

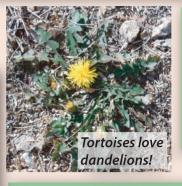
Toxic plants (see also online)

Rhubarb, Rheum rhabarbarum. Leaves Tomato, Lycopersicon spp. Only the leaves and plant are toxic

Chinaberry Tree, Melia azederach umbracalifera. Leaves and fruit must be kept off irrigated grass

Oleander, Nerium oleander. Leaves and flowers. Tortoises often ignore what falls.

TG#21: 05/14



Annuals

Petunia, Petunia hybrida Nasturtium, Tropaeolum spp. Plant from seed. Pansy, Viola spp. Portulaca (Moss Rose), Portulaca grandiflora

Shrubs

Desert Willow, Chilopsis linearis. Tall open shrub, low branching, purple flowers spring through fall. Rose, Rosa spp. Leaves and flowers.

Hibiscus, Hibiscus spp. Usually needs protection in winter. Large pot on patio usually works.

Yellow Bells or Trumpets, Stenolobium (or Tecoma) stans.

Broad-leaf variety. Not a vine. Many large flowers, spring and summer, attracts hummingbirds.

Spineless Cactus, Opuntia ficus-indica. Offer new pads, only; flowers, fruit--prickly pears.

Globe Mallow, Sphaeralcea spp. Native species with spikes of coral-colored flowers in early spring.

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