

Species Suitability Guide for Colorado

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Common Name								
Deciduous Shrubs	Mature Height (ft)	Crown Density	Cold Hardiness	Drought Resistance	Alkali Tolerance	Windbreak Suitability	Wildlife Value	Elevational Range (ft)
Buffaloberry	10	Dense	E	G	G	E	G	to 7,500
Caragana	8-12	Dense	E	E	G	E	G	to 9,500
Chokecherry	6-20	Moderate	E	G	G	E	G	to 9,000
Cotoneaster	6-8	Dense	E	G	G	E	G	to 9,500
Coyote willow	10	Dense	E	P	G	P	G	to 9,500
European sage	8	Open	G	G	G	P	F	to 6,000
Four-wing saltbush	3	Moderate	G	E	E	G	G	to 8,500
Golden currant	7	Moderate	G	G	G	G	G	to 8,000
Lilac	8-12	Dense	E	G	G	E	G	to 8,000
Mountain mahogany	6	Dense	G	E	F	F	G	to 9,000
Nanking cherry	8	Moderate	E	G	G	G	G	to 8,000
Native plum	8	Open	E	G	G	E	E	to 8,000
Native willow mix	12	Dense	E	P	G	P	G	to 9,500
New Mexico forestiera	10	Dense	G	E	F	E	G	to 7,500
Red-osier dogwood	8	Open	E	F	F	F	E	to 11,000
Sand cherry	3	Moderate	G	G	G	F	E	to 7,500
Serviceberry	6	Moderate	E	F	F	G	E	to 9,000
Snowberry	3	Open	E	F	F	P	G	to 9,500
Sumac	4	Dense	E	E	E	E	E	to 8,000
Wax currant	7	Moderate	G	G	G	G	F	to 11,500
Woods rose	4	Open	E	G	G	G	E	to 10,000
Deciduous Trees								
Aspen	35-50	Open	E	P	P	P	G	above 6,000
Black locust	40	Open	F	G	F	F	P	to 6,000
Bur oak	75	Moderate	E	E	G	G	E	to 7,000
Golden willow	35	Moderate	E	P	G	G	F	to 8,000
Green ash	35-75	Moderate	E	E	G	E	F	to 6,000
Hackberry	40-60	Moderate	G	G	F	E	G	to 7,000
Honeylocust	35-75	Open	G	G	G	F	P	to 7,500
Hybrid cottonwood	75-100	Moderate	E	P	E	F	F	to 6,500
Lacebark elm	40	Moderate	P	G	G	F	F	to 5,000
Lombardy poplar	40	Moderate	E	P	P	P	P	to 8,000
Narrowleaf cottonwood	50	Moderate	E	F	G	F	F	to 9,500
Peachleaf willow	40	Open	E	P	G	F	G	to 9,500
Siberian elm	40	Moderate	E	E	G	G	F	to 8,000
Evergreens								
Austrian pine	40	Open	F	E	G	G	G	to 7,000
Bristlecone pine	20-40	Open	E	F	G	E	G	to 11,000
Colorado blue spruce	60-100	Dense	E	F	F	G	G	to 9,500
Douglas-fir	70-100	Dense	E	G	F	P	G	6,000 to 9,000
Eastern redcedar	15-20	Dense	E	E	G	E	G	to 7,500
Engelmann spruce	70-90	Dense	E	G	F	G	G	above 8,000
Limber pine	35	Open	E	G	F	F	G	to 11,000
Lodgepole pine	35-70	Open	E	E	G	F	G	above 6,000
Pinon pine	15-30	Dense	E	E	E	G	G	to 7,500
Ponderosa pine	40-100	Moderate	E	E	G	E	G	to 9,000
Rocky Mountain juniper	15-50	Dense	E	E	E	E	G	to 9,000
Scotch pine	40-65	Open	G	G	F	F	G	to 7,000
Subalpine fir	60-100	Moderate	E	P	F	F	F	8,000 to 11,000
White fir	60-100	Dense	E	G	F	F	F	6,000 to 9,000
			E = Excellent	G = Good	F = Fair	P = Poor		