



Use of Shrubs in Garden

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These days, organizing landscape projects scientifically is one of the biggest issues in urban planning. One of the primary ways to make residential areas cities, districts, villages, and towns better is through landscaping. The population's culture is reflected in the landscaping scale. According to demographic research, migration from green places is uncommon and people tend to settle there. In European nations like Germany, France, and Italy, gabions are utilized as barriers all over the world. Some of the most important challenges of our day are the expansion of decorative tree and shrub kinds used in landscaping, the search and development of shrub varieties and types that can adapt to the conditions of our nation, and the use of science-based care technologies. The domestic or residential garden, also known in parts of the world as a 'backyard', may be described as an enclosed area of land associated with a domestic dwelling and usually devoted (at least in part) to a lawn, flowers, trees, fruits, vegetables and/or other useful plants. Small scale food production on plots adjacent to human settlements is perhaps the oldest and most enduring form of cultivation. The practice of gardening dates back to ancient times when humans first began sedentary cultivation, with the earliest records of gardens originating from the Middle-East (Campbell, 2019). Nowadays, gardens are typically found in homes all over the world, and their design reflects their purpose, which can be anything from completely decorative to very functional. The "home gardens," which are small-scale agroforestry systems next to residential buildings and have historically been connected to subsistence in low-income areas, are at the utilitarian end of this continuum. At the other extreme are the highly designed modern ornamental gardens that typify affluent residential neighbourhoods. However, most private residential gardens are likely to be intermediate in form, blending ornamental planting with small scale food production, recreational space and parking areas for vehicles, in varying degrees. What all gardens have in common however is that they can be regarded as 'designer ecosystems' (Light *et al.*, 2013) with characteristics that reflect the local environment and the needs, values and interests of individual households. Domestic gardens may not only be a source of sustenance and raw materials but are also areas for recreation and relaxation. The public health benefits of gardens have been well described, in terms of improved mental health and well-being, increased physical activity and a source of healthy homegrown nutrition (Soga *et al.*, 2017). Shrubs are defined as woody or semi woody perennial plants, the branches of which arise from the base of the plant and grow up to a height ranging from 50 cm to 4 m. Shrubs are very important in the garden as flowering shrubs produce beautiful flowers at eye level. They display their varied beauty by way of richly coloured flowers, handsome foliage and their shape. They form the frame work of garden as they are semi-permanent in character.

Characteristics of Shrubs

- ⊕ Lack of a trunk: They branch near the ground, hence do not have a well-defined trunk and rather have many stems.
- ⊕ Broad leave plants: Shrubs are usually as such.
- ⊕ Hardy plants: They grow in all types of soil and are hardy.
- ⊕ Shrubs are seasonal since they generally thrive in a sunny environment.
- ⊕ Also, they are smaller than trees.

Function of Shrubs

- ⊕ Shrubs play a major role in preventing water and soil erosion.
- ⊕ They are a source of fuelwood, lumber, and poles.
- ⊕ They are a source of foodstuffs such as fruits, leaves, tuber shoots, and roots.
- ⊕ Shrubs are also used in the landscapes.
- ⊕ They can be grown as backdrops, garden beds, and in our gardens.

Uses of Shrubs

Because they are more beautiful and offer a range of interest, shrubs are utilized in gardens for decorative purposes. They work well against dust and noise and are evergreen. In any event, bushes are lovely, even in the winter, as some retain their green foliage (such as rhododendron and evergreen arborvitae), while many deciduous shrubs have beautifully shaded or vibrantly colored fruits or nourishing stem and branch frames. The lilac, forsythia, azalea, blooming shadbush, Cotoneaster, and barberry are some of the commonly used shrubs. In a bone-dry, cold climate, trees once in a while flourish, bushes regularly give significant scrounge for natural life and animals and, in addition, wood for neighborhood development and for fuel. Such a variety of bushes is perennial. Tree species might develop as bushes under unfavourable natural conditions, and the refinement in the middle of trees and bushes gets to be one of it and not of entirely characterized botanical qualities.

Table 1: Description of various shrub species

Botanical Name	Family	Colour of the flowers
<i>Acalypha hispida</i>	Euphorbiaceae	Long drooping spikes of crimson red flowers and the foliage is copper coloured and variegated.
<i>Adenium obesum</i>	Apocynaceae	Succulent stem and flowers is funnel shaped. Slow growing plant ideal for pots.
<i>Allamanda grandiflora</i>	Apocynaceae	Yellow funnel shaped flowers
<i>Artobotrys odoratissimus</i>	Annonaceae	Scented flowers, green and turn to yellow on ripening
<i>Aralia</i>	Araliaceae	Quite hardy plants and can be grown in plains.
<i>Barleria cristata</i>	Acanthaceae	Flowers are pink, violet, yellow in colours
<i>Beloperone guttata</i>	Acanthaceae	Terracotta red orderly arranged showy bracts
<i>Bauhinia tomentosa</i>	Caesalpiniaceae	Sulphur yellow in colour
<i>Caesalpinia pulcherrima</i>	Leguminosae	Bushy shrub with few scattered prickles. Shrub gives orange scarlet flowers.
<i>Camellia japonica</i>	Theaceae	Double flowers with white, rose or pink colour
<i>Cestrum nocturnum</i>	Solanaceae	Scented flowers at night
<i>Cestrum diurnum</i>	Solanaceae	Evergreen plants, bears white flowers during day time
<i>Clerodendron inerme</i>	Verbenaceae	White flowers
<i>Cassia alata</i>	Leguminoase	Yellow flowers during winter

<i>Crossandra</i>	Acanthaceae	Hardy suitable for shrubbery with yellow or pale lilac or brick red or orange flowers
<i>Cuphea jorullensis</i>	Lythraceae	Much branched shrub with yellow tipped scarlet minute flowers
<i>Dombeya spectabilis</i>	Sterculiaceae	Cream/deep pink flowers
<i>Duranta plumieri</i>	Verbenaceae	Blue flowers
<i>Eranthemum bicolor</i>	Acanthaceae	Plants with colourful foliage and grows well in shady and semi shady areas
<i>Hamelia patens</i>	Rubiaceae	Orange red flowers
<i>Hibiscus rosasinensis</i>	Malvaceae	Mostly red in colour, yellow, pink and orange colours also available
<i>Hibiscus mutabilis</i>		Flowers fade from pink to crimson
<i>Holmskioldia sanguinea</i>	Verbenaceae	Peculiar orange red flowers
<i>Hydrangea</i>	Saxifragaceae	Flowers borne in round heads of white, pink or blue. Bears large terminal trusses of flowers in white, yellow, pink, orange, scarlet and orange scarlet colour.
<i>Ixora</i>	Rubiaceae	
<i>Lantana camera</i>	Verbenaceae	Common weed but can be grown as shrubbery along paths and roads
<i>Lawsonia inermis</i>	Lythraceae	Bears white scented flowers followed by profused bearing of berries
<i>Nerium oleander</i>	Apocynaceae	Single or double in rosy pink colour
<i>Nerium</i>	Apocynaceae	Bushy shrub with cane like stems. Bears sweet scented flowers and are white, pink deep red and cream in colour.
<i>Pentas cornea</i>	Rubiaceae	Red, pink or violet colour
<i>Poinsettia pulcherrima</i>	Euphorbiaceae	Red or orange colour
<i>Tecoma stans</i>	Bignoniaceae	Yellow colour flowers
<i>Thevetia nereifolia</i>	Apocynaceae	Yellow colour flowers
<i>Tabernamontana coronaria</i>	Apocynaceae	White colour flowers
<i>Tephrosia candida</i>	Leguminosae	White or reddish pea shaped flowers
<i>Thunbergia erecta</i>	Acanthaceae	Dark blue flowers

Conclusion

Until recently, woody plants were not generally regarded as significant invasive alien species. Nonetheless, thousands of tree and shrub species have been transported throughout the globe. In India, shrubs are an essential component of gardens, agroforestry, and other land use strategies. More research is required to measure the goods and services provided by shrub components since this stratum in traditional agroforestry systems is crucial for both ecological and the economy.

References

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