



Flowering Shrubs: Potentilla

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Potentilla Blooms Spring till Fall

(Shrubby Cinquefoil, golden hardhack)

Potentilla fruticosa is a hardy, deciduous shrub that grows up to 3 feet tall and 3-4 feet wide. They are native to cool temperate and subarctic regions of the northern hemisphere. Potentilla is a member of the rose family, and is also a relative of the strawberry!

Its hardiness zones are 2 to 8. It is a beautiful ornamental shrub that is often seen in shopping malls because of its easy care requirements. The Potentilla plant forms a mound of gray-green leaves and is covered with blooms that last from spring to fall.

It is a slow grower and is a perfect plant for landscapes, shrub borders, rock gardens and rock

walls. The flowers are buttercup shaped with 5 petals. The most popular colours are white, yellow, pink and tangerine. Potentilla plants attract butterflies and native bees.

Varieties to Plant

There are many varieties to grow, but the most popular are Abbotswood (white), Goldfinger (yellow), Princess (pink), Tangerine (orange) and Yellow Gem (yellow).

Preferred Conditions

Potentilla are extremely easy care plants that prefers full sun to part shade, well drained average soil with a pH between 6.8 and 7.2. They are drought tolerant. Compost should be applied in late spring, but do not over fertilize.

Care and Pruning

Prune lightly in the spring to shape plant and encourage flowers. Older plants can be pruned up to a third and you should cut out the old wood.

Cultivating is done best by soft wood cuttings and seeding.

Problems you Might Encounter

Problems are few but potentilla may develop powdery mildew, rust, or fungal leaf spot. They can be attacked by aphids, or spider mites.

Learn more about Potentilla [here>](#)