



Scientific name: *Mirabilis multiflora*

Common name(s): Colorado/Desert/Showy/Wild Four O'Clock

Family: *Nyctaginaceae* (Four O'Clock)

Native: CO, Southwest

Habitat: Semi-desert, foothills, canyons, Pinyon-Juniper

The Colorado Four O'Clock is showy, long-blooming, and extremely drought tolerant. Abundant magenta flowers open in late afternoon and cater to nocturnal pollinators. Plant as a ground cover, on slopes to control erosion, or trailing over retaining walls. With a large taproot, it requires no supplemental water once established. It may reseed; plants over a year old are difficult to transplant. Deadheading is not necessary; foliage will usually break off in late fall when the plant goes dormant. Deer and rabbit resistant.

Plant type: Perennial

Elevation: to 7500'

USDA Hardiness Zone: 4

Exposure: Full sun, part shade

Soil: Adaptable, including dry clay; do not fertilize

Moisture: Dry, xeric

Flower color: Fuchsia pink

Bloom time: Summer to early fall (hard frost)

Mature size (height x width): 1-2' x 3-6'



Propagation: Sow seeds in situ in the fall or store dry at 40°F. In early March, soak stored seeds in a peroxide soak (1/2 c. tepid water + 1/4 oz. 3% hydrogen peroxide) for 24 hours. Cold stratify in the fridge for 7-8 weeks or sow into cells or small pots, cover to depth and put outside. After the 2 month chilling period, seeds will germinate within 2 weeks.



Wild Ones
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WILD ONES FRONT RANGE CHAPTER