



## Yarrow “Moonshine” (*Achillea millefolium*)

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Yarrow was introduced to America from Europe in colonial times. Today, it can be found naturalizing in fields and along roadsides. With a wide variety of colors, it makes excellent cut or dried arrangements. Not suitable for borders because of its weedy look. Best in cottage garden or rock garden but could be used as a flowering ground cover in sunny areas with little foot traffic. While “Moonshine” is lemon-yellow, other cultivars cover a range of colors: pinks, reds, creams, yellows and bicolor pastels.

The genus name *Achillea*, refers to Achilles, hero of the Trojan Wars in Greek mythology. Because of its blood coagulating properties, he used the plant medicinally to stop the blood flow and heal the wounds of soldiers. Ancient Druids used yarrow to divine seasonal weather and ancient Chinese used the stems to foretell the future.

Type	Herbaceous perennial
Hardiness Zone	3 - 9
Sun	Full sun
Bloom Time	June to September
Height	1' - 2'
Spread	9" - 12"
Tolerance	Drought, dry soil, salt
Attracts	Butterflies and bees
Additional Features	Resistant to deer, seldom severe damage

### Soil and Site Recommendations

- Drainage: well-drained soil, occasionally wet
- Soil pH: neutral, 6.0-8.0
- Type: loam, sandy or high organic matter

### Planting Recommendations

- Type: direct seed, division or nursery plant
- When to plant: Spring
- Depth of planting: seed on top of soil, don't cover as seeds need light to germinate
- Mulching: not necessary



- Spacing: 12” - 24”
- Spread: spreads aggressively by rhizomes and self-seeding

### **Maintenance**

- Watering: dry to medium
- Fertilization: unnecessary
- Pinching/Deadheading: deadhead spent flowers to lateral buds, mow with blade at 4” in naturalized area or lawn
- Annual maintenance: divide every 2-3 years to maintain health and vigorous growth

### **Common Problems**

Disease: Botrytis, stem rot, powdery mildew and rust

Insects: Not a problem

### **Resources**

<https://www.ag.ndsu.edu>

[www.missouribotanicalgarden.org](http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org)

<https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu>

<http://www.gardening.cornell.edu>

Questions or problems: “What’s wrong with my plant” for information on garden pests and diseases:

<http://apps.extension.umn.edu/garden/diagnose/plant/>

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