- Add lava sand and expanded shale to the soil prior to planting in both heavy clay and sandy soils. Add Redenta's Minerals Plus to improve the mineral content and help your succulents to grow and thrive. Create a berm or raised bed if your soil does not drain well or if your ground level is sunken and water stands there.
- Always plant succulents at the same level in the new container or garden as they were in the container in which you bought them to avoid rotting or decaying.

# **VARIETIES / SUN EXPOSURE**

Most people believe that all succulents need full sun, but this simply is not true. In fact, many varieties of succulents (especially in our intense Texas summers) prefer a little shade. While it is true that all varieties of agaves and cactus can handle full sun—even in Texas—many other succulents are not as heat tolerant. This is especially true of many aloe and haworthia varieties.

**AGAVES** - Prefer full sun and will have a more compact and upright leaf structure in full sun. Can be grown in partial sun.

**CACTI** - All cacti thrive in full sun and have richer color and more blooms.

**ECHEVERIA** - These beautiful flower-like plants prefer morning sun and afternoon shade (or a window sill with good sun is perfect inside).

**SEDUM** - Most sedums will do fine in the full sun. Often in the heat of summer they look a little sad. Some shade from the afternoon sun would be ideal although plants in full sun will bounce back in the fall and spring from any summer sun damage.

**SEMPERVIVUMS** - Most commonly known as Hen and Chicks, these plants thrive in sun or shade, although they are very easy to overwater in a shady location.

ALOES – In Texas, aloe plants do prefer some protection from direct afternoon sun especially to maintain unblemished leaves. Aloes also do very well indoors if kept near a bright window

HAWORTHIAS – These succulents, which look very similar to aloes, are native to South Africa and grow in a temperate and shaded environment and do very well indoors with lower light. If planted outside, avoid midday to afternoon sun or they will burn.

GASTERIA – Similar to haworthias but with a flattened fan-like form, these too are native to South Africa and need shade. Treat the same as haworthia—great plant for indoors.

KALANCHOES – This is a huge family of succulents with varying light requirements. Most of them do well in sun or shade, although some varieties do need protection from direct afternoon sun, like jade, thrysiflora, and beharensis.

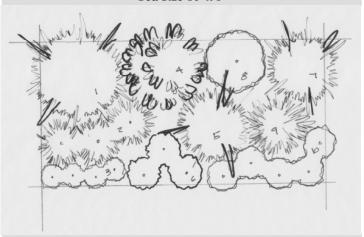
**AEONIUMS** – These are tropicals and DO NOT like the Texas summer heat. They thrive here in spring and fall, but often "melt" in the summer. They make perfect house plants during the hot summer months but do require lots of natural light inside the house.

**EUPHORBIAS** – This is one of the largest families of plants with over 2,000 species ranging from poinsettias to cactus-like plants. Because of their vast range, many of these plants have different light requirements so feel free to ask one of our staff to help you identify your particular plant's needs.

**YUCCAS** – All yuccas here thrive in full sun. While they may grow okay in shade, full sun is preferred.

#### **SUCCULENT GARDEN**

Bed Size 10' x 5'



#### **PLANTS**

- 1. Agave ovatifolia
- 2. Mexican feather grass
- 3. Blue spruce sedum
- 4. Opuntia violacea
- 5. Agave bracteosa 'Calamar'
- 6. Four nerve daisy
- 7. Dasylirion wheeleri
- 8. Yucca 'Brakelights'
- 9. Pennisetum 'Hameln'
- 10. Delosperma cooperi

### **MATERIALS**

- 1 Medium Bag Redenta's Bed Prep
- 9 Bags Compost
- Expanded shale
- 1 Small Bag Earthworm Castings
- 1 qt Bottle Liquid Seaweed
- 1 small bag **Redenta's Mineral Plus**
- 1 small bag Redenta's Lava Sand
- 6 bags decomposed granite

## **COLD HARDINESS**

We do not live in a temperate climate like Southern California where succulents of all varieties thrive and are cold hardy there. Almost all varieties of haworthia, euphorbia, aloe, gasteria, echeveria, kalanchoe, and aeoniums are NOT cold hardy here and need to be brought into a house or greenhouse during our winters. Here is a list of some of our favorite cold hardy varieties that are perennial here in North Texas:

AGAVE Americana

AGAVE Parryii Truncata

AGAVE Medio Picta Alba

AGAVE Geminiflora (hardy to 25 degrees)

AGAVE Marginata

AGAVE Blue Glow

AGAVE Bracteosa 'Calamar'

AGAVE Obscura

AGAVE Ovatifolia

AGAVE Stricta

AGAVE Filifera

AGAVE Neomexicana

AGAVE Schidigera

AGAVE Ocahui

AGAVE Lophantha 'Quadricolor'

DELOSPERMA Cooperi

DASYLIRION Texanum (Texas Sotol)

DASYLIRION Wheeleri (Common Sotol)

FEROCACTUS Wislizeni (Barrel Cactus)

HESPERALOE Parviflora (Red and Yellow Yucca)

HESPERALOE 'Brakelights'

MANFREDA 'Macho Mocha'

OPUNTIA Engelmannii

OPUNTIA E. Linguiformis (Cow's Tongue Prickly Pear)

OPUNTIA Imbricata (Cholla)

OPUNTIA Pilifera

OPUNTIA Violacea

SEDUM Reflexum (Blue Spruce Sedum)

SEDUM 'Autumn Joy'

SEDUM Spurium (Dragon's Blood Sedum)

SEDUM Mexicana

SEMPERVIVUM

YUCCA Gloriosa 'Variegata'

YUCCA Pallida

YUCCA Recurvifolia

YUCCA Rigida

YUCCA Rostrata

YUCCA Rupicola (Twist Leaf Yucca)

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# **SUCCULENTS**

Here in North Texas, as droughts become more frequent, we are becoming more conscious of the water requirements of our plants. Succulents, which include cacti and agaves are a huge group of plants which store water in some or all of their organs guaranteeing a source of water without relying on roots in the ground. Hence, they are very drought resistant and require little care and maintenance. Many are also stunning specimens and often times have a very unique flower. Here are some things to look for when choosing succulents for your home and garden.

- All succulents prefer well-drained soils to avoid root rot that occurs if they stay too moist.
- Use a high-quality cactus and succulent mix like Redenta's Cactus and Succulent Mix to plant in containers.
- Include a small amount of mineral supplements as the majority of succulents prefer a mineral rich soil with calcium, magnesium, etc. *Redenta's Minerals Plus* is the perfect combination of minerals for all succulents. A layer of rock or stones at the bottom of the container is not necessary if you are using the correct soil.
- Avoid breaking up the root systems too much when transplanting succulents. Their root systems are very delicate; destroying them can cause damage to the plant.
- When planting succulents in the ground amend the soil to ensure that it is well-drained.



for the modern gardener

SHOP

**DESIGN** 

CARE

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