

June 2023 Plant of the Month

Creeping Thyme

Thymus praecox ssp. articus

Plant Form: Groundcover, perennial herb

Water Use: Very low, low

Mature Size: 2-3 in. tall x 1.5-2.5 ft. wide

Exposure: Full sun, part shade

Bloom Time: Summer (June – Aug), Fall (Sept)

Native to: Europe

Hardiness: Cold hardy to 10°F

Creeping Thyme is a low evergreen groundcover that fits into small spaces but seems to bring big smiles to everyone passing by. It has a pleasant, spicy fragrance when crushed, and it will tolerate light foot traffic to release its scent. The stems spread out horizontally, taking root to form a flat mat, easily spreading over rocks, ledges, or a dry bank. In summer, this mounding plant produces a bounty of lilac or pink flowers that attract butterflies. This low water-use plant is also low maintenance, needing only slight pruning to maintain shape. Creeping Thyme does best in well-drained soils, and suffers in wet or poorly-drained soils. Perfect in pots, between rocks or stepping stones, draping over walls or banks, as a lawn substitute, or in any small area that needs a touch of magic (try it in a fairy garden).



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Alliance for Water
Awareness and Conservation

For more information on low-water-use gardening,
contact your local water provider or go to

www.mojavewater.org/conservation/awac/

