

# Coreopsis trial results



**RATING KEY**

- ★★★★ Excellent
- ★★★ Good
- ★★ Fair
- ★ Poor

**TRIAL PARAMETERS**

Since 2007, the Chicago Botanic Garden has evaluated 89 types of coreopsis in comparative trials. Seven nonhardy coreopsis were trialed as annuals for one season only.

**How long:** A minimum of four years

**Participants:** Cultivars of threadleaf coreopsis (*C. verticillata*), large-flower coreopsis (*C. grandiflora*), and lanceleaf coreopsis (*C. lanceolata*) featured prominently in the trial.

**Zone:** 5b

**Conditions:** Full sun; alkaline, clay-loam, well-drained soil

**Care:** Minimal, allowing the plants to thrive or fail under natural conditions. We observed ornamental traits, monitored the growth and adaptation ability to environmental and soil conditions, and kept a close eye on any disease or pest problems. Winter injury and losses were also recorded.

RATING	COREOPSIS	HEIGHT	WIDTH	FLOWER COLOR	FLOWER SIZE	BLOOM TIME	FLOWER PRODUCTION
★★	C. 'Cosmic Evolution'	18 inches	12 inches	creamy yellow	3 inches	early summer to early fall	fair
★★	C. 'Cosmic Eye'	15 inches	28 inches	bright yellow, purple blotch	1¾ inches	early summer to early fall	excellent
★★★	C. Crème Brulee™ ('Crembru')	14 inches	24 inches	butter yellow	1½ inches	early summer to early fall	excellent
★★★★	C. 'Full Moon'	32 inches	46 inches	bright yellow	2 inches	early summer to early fall	excellent
★★	C. 'Galaxy'	15 inches	32 inches	light yellow	2 inches	early summer to early fall	excellent
★★	C. 'Heaven's Gate'	14 inches	32 inches	light and dark purple	1¾ inches	early summer to early fall	excellent
★★★	C. 'Jethro Tull'	16 inches	19 inches	golden-yellow, fluted rays	2¼ inches	early summer to early fall	excellent
★★	C. 'Lightning Flash'	48 inches	48 inches	bright yellow	1¾ inches	early fall to midfall	good
★★	C. 'Limerock Dream'	12 inches	36 inches	white, purple blotch	1½ inches	midsummer to early fall	excellent
★★	C. 'Mercury Rising'	15 inches	28 inches	purple-red	2¼ inches	midsummer to early fall	good
★★★	C. 'Redshift'	26 inches	28 inches	light yellow, red blotch	2 inches	midsummer to late fall	excellent
★★★★	C. 'Schnittgold'	30 inches	36 inches	golden-yellow	3 inches	midsummer to late fall	excellent
★★★★	C. 'Sienna Sunset'	12 inches	24 inches	orange	1½ inches	midsummer to late fall	excellent
★★★★	C. 'Sonnenkind'	12 inches	20 inches	golden-yellow, red blotch	2 inches	early summer to late summer	excellent
★★★★	C. 'Star Cluster'	20 inches	30 inches	creamy white, purple blotch	1¾ inches	midsummer to late fall	good
★★★★	C. 'Sterntaler'	16 inches	20 inches	golden-red, red blotch	3 inches	early summer to late summer	excellent
★	C. 'Tequila Sunrise'	16 inches	10 inches	golden-yellow, burgundy blotch	2 inches	early summer to late summer	good
★★	<i>C. auriculata</i> 'Zamphir'	14 inches	23 inches	golden-yellow, fluted rays	1¾ inches	early summer to early fall	good
★★★★	<i>C. grandiflora</i> 'Baby Sun'	19 inches	20 inches	golden-yellow, purple blotch	1¾ inches	early summer to late summer	good
★★★★	<i>C. grandiflora</i> Sunny Day™ ('Balcorsunay')	15 inches	20 inches	golden-yellow	2 inches	early summer to late summer	excellent
★★★★	<i>C. grandiflora</i> 'Domino'	21 inches	26 inches	golden-yellow, red blotch	2 inches	early summer to late summer	excellent
★★★★	<i>C. grandiflora</i> 'Early Sunrise'	16 inches	23 inches	golden-yellow, double	2 inches	early summer to early fall	excellent
★★★★	<i>C. grandiflora</i> 'Goldfink'	7 inches	15 inches	golden-yellow	1½ inches	early summer to early fall	good
★★	<i>C. grandiflora</i> 'Mayfield Giant'	29 inches	38 inches	golden-yellow	2½ inches	early summer to late summer	excellent
★★★★	<i>C. grandiflora</i> 'Rotkelchen'	12 inches	16 inches	golden-yellow, red blotch, semi-double	1¾ inches	early summer to late summer	excellent

				double			
**	<i>C. grandiflora</i> 'Sunburst'	31 inches	40 inches	golden-yellow, extra rays	2½ inches	early summer to late summer	excellent
***	<i>C. grandiflora</i> 'Sunray'	22 inches	30 inches	golden-yellow, red blotch, double	2½ inches	early summer to early fall	excellent
**	<i>C. grandiflora</i> 'Tetra-Giants'	35 inches	50 inches	golden-yellow	3 inches	early summer to early fall	excellent
***	<i>C. lanceolata</i> 'Little Sundial'	8 inches	16 inches	golden-yellow, red blotch	1¾ inches	early summer to late summer	good
***	<i>C. lanceolata</i> 'Walter'	24 inches	32 inches	golden-yellow, red blotch, semi-double	1¾ inches	early summer to late summer	excellent
***	<i>C. major</i>	40 inches	32 inches	bright yellow	1½ inches	early summer to late summer	good
***	<i>C. palmata</i>	30 inches	46 inches	golden-yellow	1½ inches	early summer to late summer	excellent
***	<i>C. pubescens</i> 'Sunshine Superman'	21 inches	34 inches	golden-yellow	2 inches	early summer to early fall	excellent
*	<i>C. rosea</i> 'Dreamcatcher'	13 inches	12 inches	purple, darker blotch	1¾ inches	midsummer to early fall	excellent
***	<i>C. tripteris</i>	93 inches	63 inches	lemon yellow	1¾ inches	midsummer to late fall	excellent
***	<i>C. tripteris</i> 'Flower Tower'	95 inches	50 inches	yellow	2¼ inches	midsummer to late fall	excellent
***	<i>C. tripteris</i> 'Gold Standard'	68 inches	48 inches	yellow	2 inches	midsummer to late fall	excellent
**	<i>C. verticillata</i> 'Golden Dream'	10 inches	12 inches	golden-yellow	1 inch	midsummer to late fall	good
***	<i>C. verticillata</i> 'Golden Gain'	24 inches	24 inches	golden-yellow	2 inches	early summer to early fall	excellent
***	<i>C. verticillata</i> 'Golden Shower'	24 inches	36 inches	golden-yellow	2 inches	early summer to early fall	excellent
***	<i>C. verticillata</i> 'Moonbeam'	12 inches	27 inches	light yellow	1¾ inches	early summer to early fall	excellent
***	<i>C. verticillata</i> 'Moonray'	15 inches	30 inches	pale yellow	1½ inches	midsummer to late fall	excellent
***	<i>C. verticillata</i> 'Route 66'	24 inches	40 inches	yellow and red	2 inches	midsummer to late fall	excellent
***	<i>C. verticillata</i> 'Sunbeam'	14 inches	30 inches	bright yellow	1½ inches	midsummer to late fall	excellent
***	<i>C. verticillata</i> 'Sweet Marmalade'	16 inches	32 inches	light orange, yellow	1½ inches	midsummer to late fall	excellent
***	<i>C. verticillata</i> 'Zagreb'	16 inches	32 inches	golden-yellow	1¾ inches	early summer to early fall	excellent
**	<i>C.</i> 'Cherry Pie'	8 inches	12 inches	red	1 inch	early summer to early fall	fair
***	<i>C.</i> 'Lemon Punch'	10 inches	12 inches	yellow, orange overtones	1 inch	early summer to early fall	good
****	<i>C.</i> 'Limerock Ruby'	22 inches	30 inches	ruby red	1¾ inches	midsummer to late fall	excellent
****	<i>C.</i> 'Little Penny'	7 inches	11 inches	rusty orange	5⁄8 inches	midsummer to late fall	excellent
****	<i>C.</i> 'Mango Punch'	10 inches	10 inches	burnt orange, yellow undertones	1¾ inches	midsummer to late fall	excellent
****	<i>C.</i> 'Pineapple Pie'	8 inches	14 inches	deep yellow, red blotch	1¾ inches	midsummer to late fall	excellent
****	<i>C.</i> 'Pumpkin Pie'	8 inches	8 inches	coppery orange, red blotch	1¾ inches	early summer to early fall	excellent
****	<i>C.</i> 'Rum Punch'	11 inches	11 inches	dull red	1¾ inches	midsummer to late fall	excellent

**SOURCES**  
**Bluestone Perennials;** Madison, OH; 800-852-5243; bluestoneperennials.com  
**Garden Crossings;** Zealand, MI; 616-875-6355; gardencrossings.com  
**Plant Delights Nursery;** Raleigh, NC; 919-772-4794; plantdelights.com

Nonhardy cultivars grown as annuals for one summer