

F2234 (July 2024)

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North Dakota Tree Selector

General

Scientific Name: *Potentilla fruticosa*

Family: Rosaceae (Rose)

Hardiness: Zone 2

Leaves: Deciduous

Plant Type: Shrub

Growth

Rate: Slow

Mature Height: <4'

Longevity: Medium

Power Line: Yes

Ornamental

Flowers: White, pink, red or yellow

Fruit: Brown seeds

Fall Color: Green to yellow-brown

Potentilla (Shrubby Cinquefoil)

Description

A very hardy and widely used native shrub in landscape plantings across the state. Popular for its floral display throughout most of the summer season; primary flower colors are yellow and white, but several cultivars show pinkish-red shades. There are several herbaceous forbs that belong to the *Potentilla* genus native to the North Dakota prairie.

Preferences

Light: Full sun for best flower.

Water: Tolerates a wide range of moistures from bogs to drought.

Soil: Adaptable to many soil types. Withstands poor soils.

Comments

Potentilla make excellent landscape plants. Their delicate foliage along with a long bloom time of bright flower colors make them wonderful as shrub borders, in masses and around houses.

There are over 100 cultivars available in a variety of colors and forms. Two yellow-flowered varieties released by NDSU are:

- Dakota Sunspot® – Compact, spreading habit. Flowers 1" wide.
- Dakota Goldrush® *potentilla* – Slightly larger than Dakota Sunspot®, with larger flowers and more late-season blooms.



Credits: North Dakota Tree Selector Website, Manual of Woody Landscape Plants 6th edition.