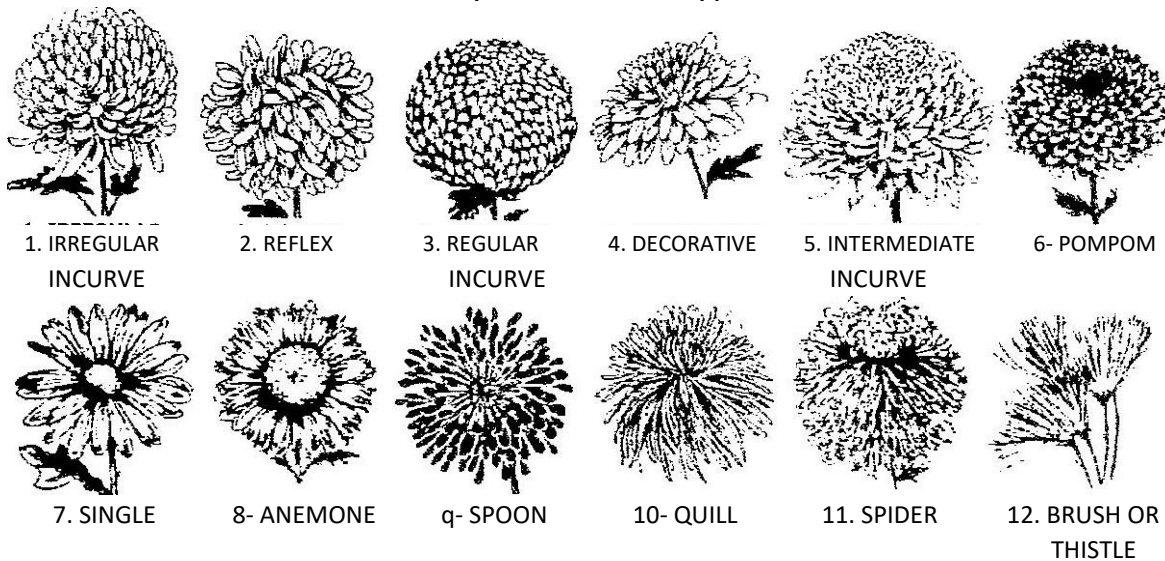


## Chrysanthemum

- Popular fall blooming perennial
- Originally from China where the original plants were wild with a daisy like flower. The wild plants were cultivated in gardens. They were introduced to Japan about A.D. 400.
- There are about 160 species and they come in any color imaginable. The ox-eye daisy is actually a chrysanthemum.
- Chrysanthemum are not browsed by deer.
- Chrysanthemum plants have 4 growth habits – cushion, upright, shrub and wave.
- There are 12 types of Chrysanthemum flowers plus exotics
- Chrysanthemum have been cultivated over 2,500 years. Some are cultivated for the florist industry while others are cultivated for gardens.
- When growing in the garden keep these things in mind:
  1. Chrysanthemum do best when planted in the spring. If planted in the fall mulch well to protect them in the winter.
  2. They do best in full sun.
  3. They need well drained soil and should be watered regularly and deeply
  4. They should be well fertilized but they aren't particular about the kind of fertilizer.
  5. Mums are photoperiodic meaning they bloom in response to shorter days and longer nights. Don't plant near street lights as that will confuse the plants.
  6. Garden mums need to be pinched back during spring and summer to encourage lateral branching and compact plants. Un-pinched plants will bloom and grow more open with fewer flowers. Begin pinching as soon as new shoots are 3" to 4". Remove about ½" to 1" of each stem. Continue pinching new growth each time stems get to 3" to 4". Stop pinching in July. I was taught to stop pinching July 4<sup>th</sup>.
- Potted chrysanthemum plants that have been forced or those so common this time of year can be put in the garden and may come back a year or two.
- Small plants can be ordered from catalogs or online from sources like Bluestone Perennials, White Flower Farm and King's Mums, LLC
- Longwood Gardens has a chrysanthemum exhibit through Nov. 18.

## Chrysanthemum Types



- |              |   |   |
|--------------|---|---|
| 1. Irregular | Largest of mum varieties. Rather Incurve loose, informal appearance, with Anemone center. May need support  | 8. Single-like but more pronounced                                      |
|              | Large lower petals drooping. Needs to be blooms or small flowers. Mid staked. Large blooms. Mid season - season - Oct.  |   |
|              | Oct   |   |
| 2.           | Reflex Large durable flower. Needs to be staked. Large to medium-large ends to florets. Interesting form. blooms. Early season - Sept, Oct  | 9. Spoon A daisy-like flower with spoon-like                            |
|              |   | Large blooms or small flowers. Mid season Oct.                          |
| 3.           | Regular Football mum, a compact flower with like spoon but not  | 10. Quill Tubular florets   |
| Incurve      | 3-5 flowers/plant. Needs to be staked. Large to medium-large blooms. Mid season - Oct   | flattened on the ends. Large blooms or small flowers. Mid season - Oct. |
| 4.           | Decorative A flattened full bloom. A good cut with flower and garden mum. May need thin thread-like florets, tubular support Large to medium-large ends are coiled. Large blooms. Mid blooms. Early and mid season - Sept,season - Oct.. Oct. | 11. Spider Fuji mum - the most exotic,                                  |
| 5.           | Incurving but loose flower form, may  | 12. Brush Unusual, broom-shaped flower.                                 |

Intermediate need support. Large to medium-large or Thistle Does not open flat, excellent filler Incurve blooms. Early and mid season - Sept, for arrangements. Medium-large Oct. blooms. Mid season - Oct .

6. Pompon Mass of small blooms. Small miniature 13. Exotic Varieties that do not conform to button to large ball shaped flower. any one form. Good for cut flowers. Medium-large to small blooms. Mid season - Oct.
7. Single Daisy-like spray, small flower or a few larger blooms. Mid season - Oct.