HELPFUL CLUES
TO THE MEANINGS OF SPECIFIC PLANT NAMES

Keys To Parts of Plants:

- andrus - stamen
- anthus - flower
- carpus - fruit
- caulis - stem
- florus - flower

- folius - leaf
- lobe - lobe
- pes - foot
- petalus - petal
- podus - foot, stalk

- phyllus - leaf
- rhyzus - root
- sepalus - sepal
- spinus - spine

Keys To Color Designations:

- albus - white
- argenteus - silver
- aureus - golden
- azureus - sky blue
- caeruleus - dark blue
- candidans - white
- candidus - glistening white
- chromus - color
- chryseus - golden yellow

- citinus - lemon yellow
- coccineus - scarlet
- coelestinus - sky blue
- croceus - saffron
- cyanus - blue
- flavua - yellow
- fulvus - tawny
- incurvatus - flesh-toned
- lilac

- luteus - yellow
- niger - black
- purpureus - purple
- roseus - rosy
- ruber - red
- sanguineus - blood red
- violaceus - violet
- virens, viridis - green
- xanthinus - yellow

Keys To Numbers And Quantity In General:
(In compounds with keys which are among those included above)

- 1 - uniflorus, monophyllus
- 2 - biflorus, diphyllus
- 3 - trilobus
- 4 - quadriflorus, tetraphyllus
- 5 - quinqueflorus, pentanthus
- 6 - hexaphyllus
- 7 - heptaphyllus
- 8 - octopetalus
- 9 - enneaphyllus
- 10 - decapetalus

- hetero - various (prefix)
- multi - many (prefix)
- pauci - few (prefix)
- poly - many (prefix)

Keys To Size And Shape (Chiefly as prefixes in compound words):

- alti - tall
- angularis - angular
- angusti - narrow
- brevi - short
- elongatus - elongated
- giganteus - large

- gracilis - slender
- grandi - large
- lati - wide
- longi - long
- macro - large
- maximus - very large

- mega - large
- micro - small
- minimus - very small
- ortho - straight
- parvi - small
- tenui - slender
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Keys (Few Of Many) To Character, Form, Habit, Etc.</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>acuminatus - tapering</td>
<td>filiferus - having threads</td>
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<tr>
<td>acutus - sharp-pointed</td>
<td>flore-pleno - double-flowered</td>
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<tr>
<td>alatus - winged</td>
<td>floridus - flowering</td>
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<tr>
<td>amabilis - lovely</td>
<td>fragilis - fragile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>annus - annual</td>
<td>fruticosus - shrubby,bushy</td>
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<tr>
<td>arborescens - woody, tree-like</td>
<td>pendulus - hanging, weeping</td>
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<tr>
<td>barbatus - barbed, bearded</td>
<td>perennis - perennial</td>
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<tr>
<td>biennis - biennial</td>
<td>pleniflorus - double-flowered</td>
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<tr>
<td>capitatus - headed</td>
<td>plumerus - plumpy, feathery</td>
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<tr>
<td>carnosus - fleshy</td>
<td>praecox - very early</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>coloratus - colored</td>
<td>proeminent - trailing</td>
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<tr>
<td>columnaris - columnar</td>
<td>pumilus - dwarf</td>
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<tr>
<td>communis - common, general</td>
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<tr>
<td>cornutus - horned</td>
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<tr>
<td>crenatus - scallloped</td>
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<tr>
<td>cistatus - crested</td>
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<tr>
<td>cultorum - of cultivated type</td>
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<tr>
<td>cuspidatus - stiff, pointed</td>
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<tr>
<td>deciduus - deciduous</td>
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<tr>
<td>decumbens - bent down</td>
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<tr>
<td>densus - dense</td>
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<tr>
<td>dentatus - toothed</td>
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<tr>
<td>dissectus - deep cut spikes</td>
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<tr>
<td>divaricatus - spreading</td>
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<tr>
<td>erectus - upright</td>
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<tr>
<td>esculentus - edible</td>
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<tr>
<td>eximius - distinguished, unusual</td>
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<tr>
<td>fimbriatus - fringed</td>
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<tr>
<td>fertilis - fruitful</td>
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<td>variegatus – variegated</td>
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Keys To Seasons Of The Year:

aestivalis - summer  hyemalis - winter  autumnalis - autumn
vernalis – spring

Keys Denoting Regions Or Habitats:

(Note: place names such as americanus, germanicus, etc., can be guessed)

aero - of or in air  borealis - northern  riparius - of river
agrarius - of fields  montanus - of mountains  rupestris - rock-loving
agrestis - of fields  occidentalis - western  saxatilis - rock-loving
alpinus - alpine  oceanicus - of the sea  sylvaticus - of woods
aquaticus - aquatic  orientalis - eastern  sylvestris - of woods
australis - southern  terrestris - of earth

Keys To Designations Of Emphasis, Degree, Or Kind:

Prefixes:  Suffixes:
atro-dark  -bundus - abundant  -issimus - very
semper-ever,  -escens - resembling  -oides - like
always  -ferus - bearing  -osus - with, bear
sub-somewhat  -ulus – somewhat
ENGLISH EQUIVALENTS
OF LATIN NAMES OF A FEW SPECIES

aceroides: maple-like
aggregatus: clustered
alatus: winged
albus: white
altus: tall
amabilis: lovely
americanus: American
apetalus: without petals
aphyllus: leafless
arborescens: tree-like
arenarius: sandy places
argentatus: silvery
aromaticus: aromatic
arrectus: erect
articulatus: jointed
ascendens: ascending
atrus: blacken
atropurpureus: dark purple
atrubens: dark red
atrovirens: dark green
aurantiacus: orange-red
aureolus: golden
aureus: golden
azureus: sky-blue
bicolor: two-colored
calcaratus: dark blue
campanulatus: bell-shaped
canadensis: Canadian
cerifolius: wax-leaved
chinensis: to China
chloranthus: green-flowered
chrysanthus: golden-flowered
communis: common
compactus: compact
conifera: cone-bearing
cordatus: heart-shaped
corymbifera: corymb-bearing
crenatus: toothed
dentatus: toothed
elatus: tall
erectus: erect, upright
filicatus: fern like
flavus: yellow
fruitescens: shrubby
grandiflorus: large flowered
horizontalis: horizontal
humilis: dwarf
hybridus: hybrid, mixed
japonicus: of Japan
kewensis: Kew Gardens
letescens: yellowish
marginalis: marginal markings
minimus: smallest
monocus: monoecious
nana: dwarf
niger: black
obtusifolius: blunt leaved
occidentalis: western
panduratus: fiddle shaped
patens: spreading
plumosus: feathery
procumbens: lying on the ground
pubescens: pubescent, downy
pumilus: dwarf
purpureus: purple
pyramidalis: pyramidal
radicans: rooting
repens: creeping
Rex: king
rotundifolius: round leaved
ruber: red
scandens: climbing
semperflorens: over-flowering
serratus: saw-toothed
sinensis: Chinese, of China
speciosus: good looking, showy
sterilis: infertile
sylvestris: of forests
terminalis: at end of stem
tomentosus: matted pubescent
tortilis: twisted
tricolor: three colored
variegatus: variegated
vulgatus: common
deltoides: triangular