

The background is a teal color with a fine, woven texture. It features several faint, white, curved lines that sweep across the frame, creating a sense of movement and depth. The overall aesthetic is clean and modern.

PLANT ZONES

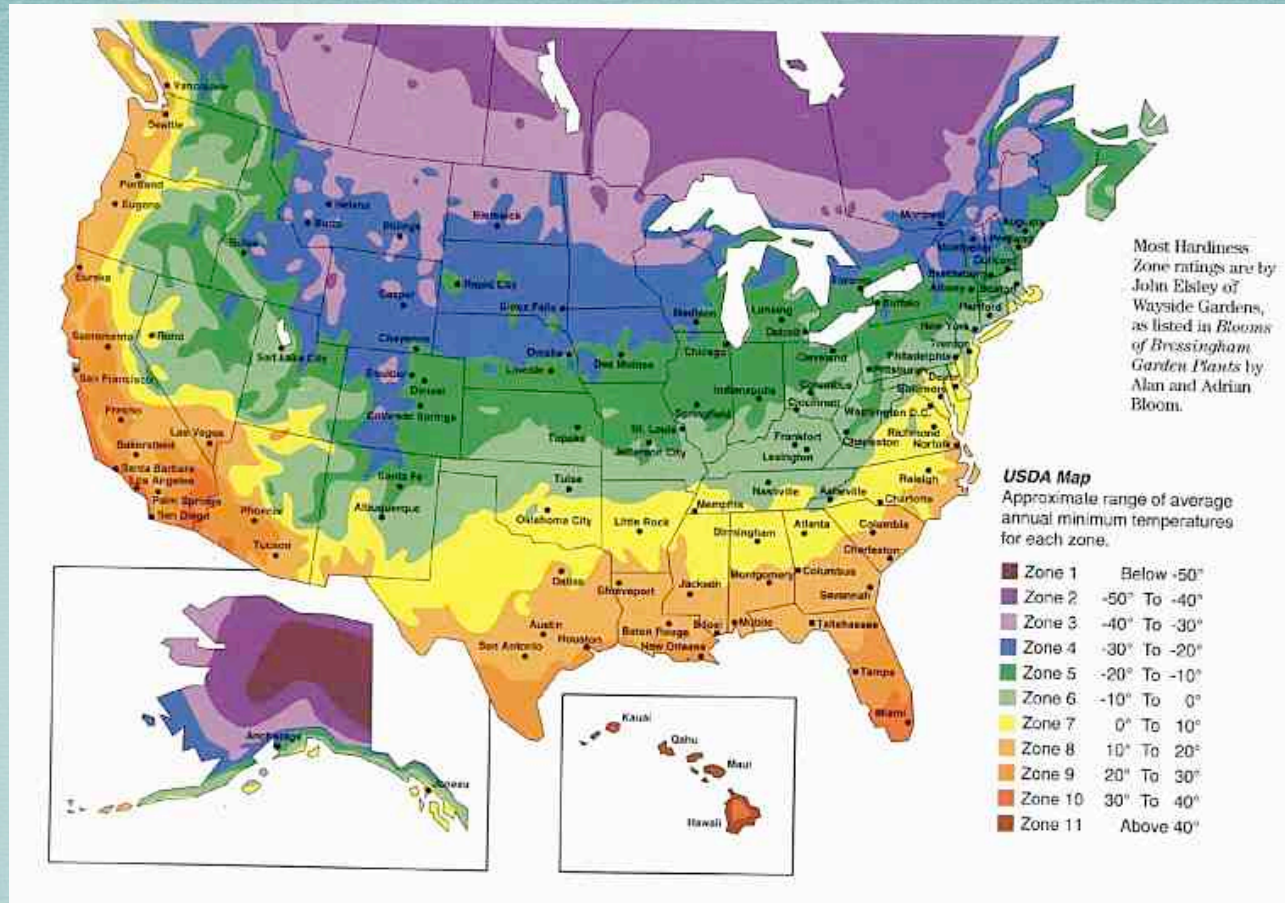
American versus Canadian

What is a plant zone?

- * **A plant zone “Is a geographically defined area in which a specific category of plant life is capable of growing, as defined by climatic conditions, including its ability to withstand the minimum temperatures of the zone”** (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hardiness_zone)

How is a plant zone defined?

- * Over a period of time minimum and in some cases maximum temperature data is collected
- * This data is transposed onto a map where regions of similar temperatures (zones) begin to appear
- * Usually does not include microclimates (+or -)



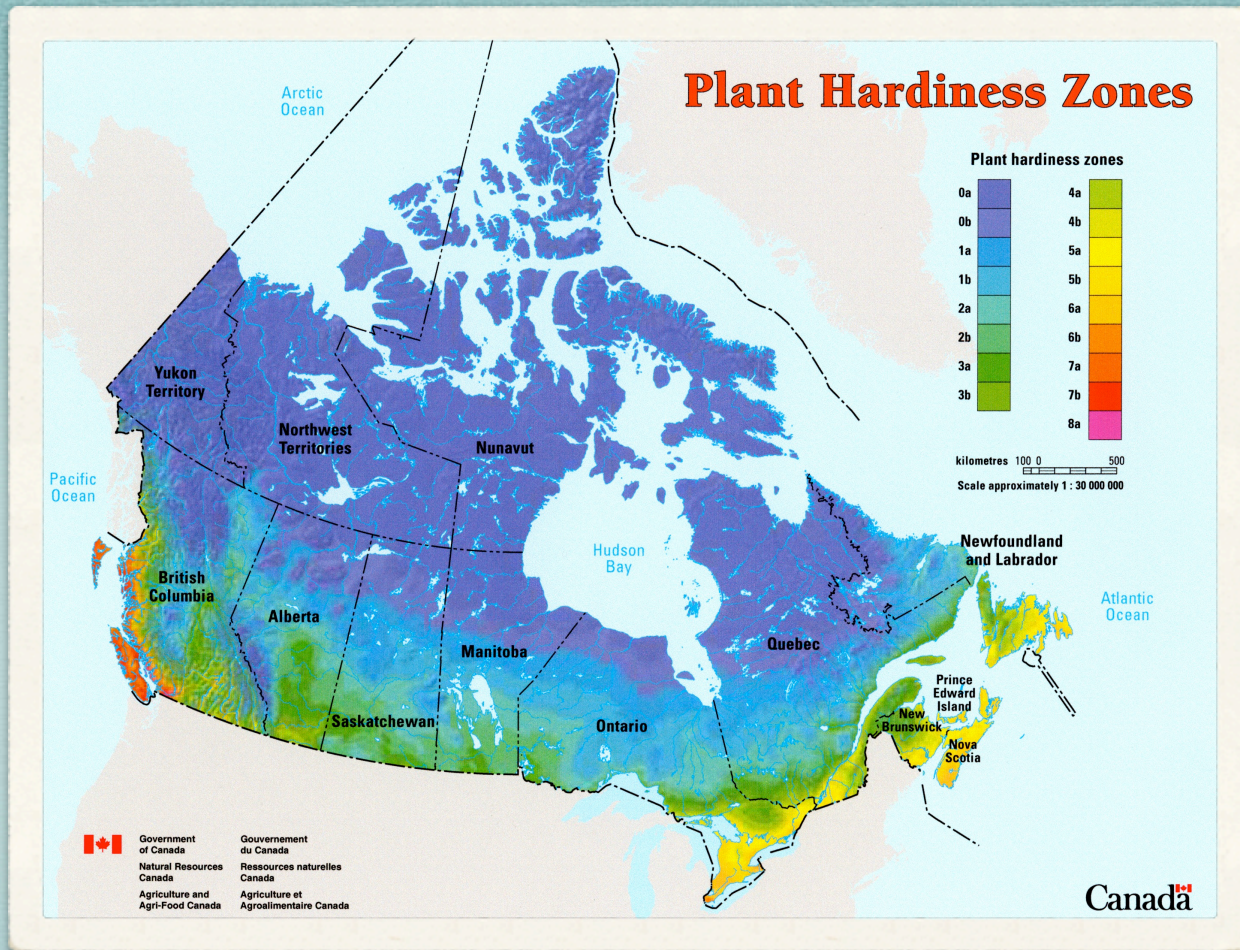
American plant zones

Usually the most popular method of determining plant zones.

The American Plant Zones

- * usually more accurate since data sets are more detailed
- * common in reference material since most publications are developed for a North American market
- * qualified in reports and discussion by using the acronym *USDA Zone _____

* USDA-United States Department of Agriculture



Canadian Plant Zones

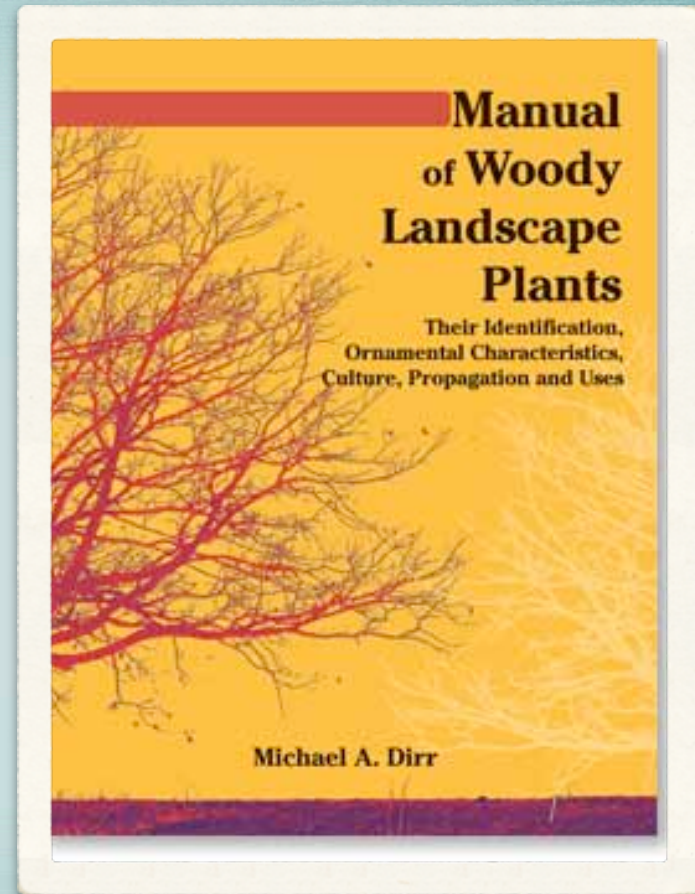
Only used in Canada eh!

The Canadian Zone Map

- * <https://glfc.cfsnet.nfis.org/mapserver/laasmapper.phtml?LAYERS=2511,2700,2701,4240,2057&title=61-90> (an interactive Canadian Zone Map)
- * Not as detailed as the USDA zone map since it was collected from fewer data sets.
- * Current edition released in 2010
- * qualified in reports and discussion by stating Canadian Plant Hardiness Zone_____.

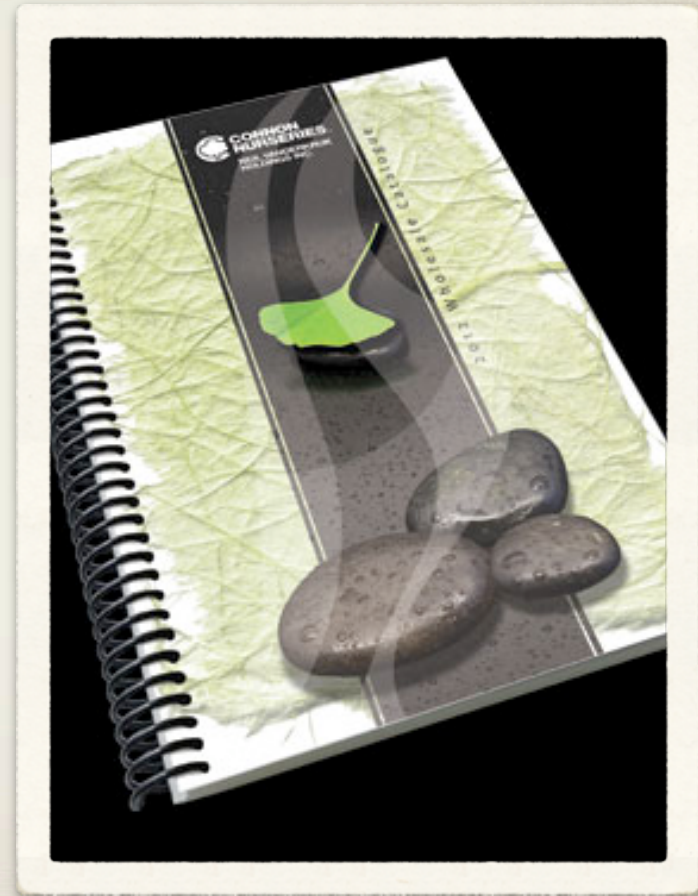
Where zones are used!

Michael Dirr's Manual of
Woody Landscape Plants,
sixth edition, uses the
USDA zone on all plant
species



Where zones are used!

- * Connon Nurseries
NVK Holdings Inc., in
their well done trade
catalogue uses
Canadian Plant Zones



Microclimates

- * “A **microclimate** is a local atmospheric zone where the climate differs from the surrounding area.” (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Microclimate>)
- * a microclimate can be warmer (+) or cooler (-) than the local atmospheric zone
- * microclimates can be advantageous to horticulturists allowing us to culture plants that we would not typically be able to grow.



Agapanthus africanus

USDA rated zone 7b, growing in 6a

Points to ponder

- * How can we develop microclimates?
- * What can be do culturally to encourage out of zone plants to survive?
- * Are zones infallible?