Hepatica -accompanying plants in the garden

I am often asked what companion plants can be planted with the hepatica. To answer this is not always easy, because it always depends on what the individual plant lover has a garden - type. Some prefer the natural, near-natural garden, while others want to show off their plant collection. I would like to try on the basis of two extreme garden types to show a plant composition.

Adiantum imbricatum

The natural garden:

In this case, you can look at the natural sites in our forests and you get an idea of what is possible with planting in this area. You should be generous with plants here, that is, no single specimens but always in groups with at least 5-10 pieces of plants. Only in the case of shrubs and larger woody plants, you can plan with individual plants, or you have a park available. For interplanting, Anemone nemerosa and A. ranunculoides are suitable, as well as Omphalodes verna (but these in moderation). Corydalis cava, Primula veris and P. elatior as well as Helleborus niger and H. foetidus also complete the area. In nature we also find Viola riviniana and Viola reichenbachiana as well as Viola odorata together with Hepatica. If we then look at the slightly taller perennials, there are Lathyrus vernus, Pulmonaria officinalis and Polygonatum odoratum. Deschampsia cespitosa and Festuca purpurea as well as Carex montana are the native partners as grasses. Among ferns we often find Athyrium, Dryopteris, Polypodium and Phyllitis as companions. One can also enrich the plantings in the grove with Daphne mezereum, Corylus avellana and Alnus incana. I think that it is impossible to list all the plants that are possible, but a small overview of the possibilities is given.

Anemone nemerosa `Tinnys`

Viola odorata

Helleborus

Corydalis cava Alba

The rarity garden

Here I think in particular of the plant collectors who treat themselves to individual, quite expensive hepatica to plant them as a single piece among their special plant treasures. I think that it has its justification to combine there also appropriate perennials. These do not always have to have the claim in nature to be the neighbors. One can easily combine plants from the Himalayas and Japan with North Americans as well as species originating from the European area. As such I imagine that Trillium species can be placed with Arisaema species, Kiringishoma coreana, Glaucidium palmatum and Corydalis flexosa as background. Likewise, Deinanthe coerulea, Rodgersia species, Helleborus orientale hybrids with Anemone blanda and A. trifolia, and varieties of A. nemerosa should have merit. Smaller plants that can be placed a little closer to Hepatica could be Isopyrum thalictroides, Anemonella thalictroides in cultivars, Oxalis acetosella and Haquetica epipactis 'Thor' with its yellow-white leaves and flowers. Here, too, there are countless possibilities to match the plants so that each species has its justification.

Adonis dahurica

Anemonelle thalictroides

Uvularia grandiflora

Arisaema sikukianum

Trillium grandiflorum `Plenum`

Cypripedium fasciolatum

Haquetica epipactis `Thor`

Synthyris stellata

Thalictrum kiusianum

The ideal Garden?

Do not be seduced by this headline. It is intended more for reflection than for a solution! For me it is an "ideal garden" when the plants feel comfortable in their places and thrive. We as plant - and garden lovers can determine the combinations ourselves. One should adhere to some rules of the game, which the plants set up. These are their demands on soil conditions! Their needs for light and water! That with the plant needs still subtleties occur, we know as garden owners only to the enough. We have to do here with living beings, because what else are plants not!
I hope you got some ideas. It would be a pleasure for me to chat with you about successful experiments..

Corydalis flexuosa `China Blue`

Isophyrum thalictroides

Omphalodes cappadocica

Cyclame coum

Helleborus thibetanus

Trillium kurabayashi