Today on Gardening in a Minute: reading plant labels.

Purchasing the right plant for your landscape means more than just liking the looks of a plant. Take the time to read a plant’s label to make sure it’s suited to your landscape.

A label often includes information like the plant’s Latin and common names, mature size, and flowering time.

It can indicate whether the plant performs best in acidic, alkaline, or neutral soil. You may also be able to read about its light and moisture requirements.

Pay particular attention to the part of the label that tells you the plant’s mature size. Even so-called dwarf varieties of certain plants can get very large. Knowing how tall and wide a plant will get when it’s fully grown is essential for proper site selection.

For more information about plant labels, contact your county Extension office or visit Gardening in a Minute dot com.

Gardening in a Minute is a production of the University of Florida’s Center for Landscape Conservation and Ecology, IFAS Extension, and WUFT-FM.