


















Native Pollinator Plants of East Texas and the Western Coastal Plain








Plant Species 	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i> Butterfly Milkweed	<i>Baptisia alba</i> White Wild Indigo	<i>Conoclinium coelestinum</i> Blue Mistflower	<i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i> Lanceleaf Tickseed
   	Perennial	Perennial	Perennial	Perennial
Bloom Color	Orange	White	Blue	Yellow
Bloom Time	May- September	May-June	July - November	April - June
Height	1-2'	3-6'	1-3'	1-3'
Soil Texture	Medium to Coarse	Medium to Coarse	Fine to Coarse	Fine to Medium
Drought Tolerance	High	Medium	Low	Low
Light Requirements	Sun	Sun to Part Shade	Sun to Part Shade	Sun to Part Shade
Fertility	Low	Low	Medium	Medium
Propagation Methods	Seed, Root cuttings	Division, Seed	Cuttings, Division, Seed	Seed
Remarks	Plants can be difficult to establish. Milkweeds are host plants for monarch, queen, and grey hairstreak butterflies. Flowers are a valuable nectar source for many pollinators.	Nectar is particularly valuable for bumblebees and other long-tongued bees. <i>Baptisia</i> are legumes and fix nitrogen in the soil.	Mistflower spreads by rhizomes and should be allowed ample space. It can be used for erosion control on small slopes with consistent soil moisture.	Plants can be short-lived, but self-sow readily. They are especially attractive to butterflies, and seeds are consumed by songbirds.
Additional Species	<i>Asclepias amplexicaulis</i> , <i>A. perennis</i> , <i>A. variegata</i> , <i>A. verticillata</i> , <i>A. viridis</i>	<i>Baptisia bracteata</i> , <i>B. nuttalliana</i> , <i>B. sphaerocarpa</i>	<i>Conoclinium greggii</i> *	<i>Coreopsis grandiflora</i> , <i>C. tinctoria</i>






<i>Echinacea sanguinea</i> Sanguine Coneflower	<i>Erythrina herbacea</i> Coralbean	<i>Eryngium yuccifolium</i> Rattlesnake Master	<i>Eupatorium rotundifolium</i> Roundleaf Thoroughwort	<i>Eutrochium fistulosum</i> Joe-pye Weed
				
Perennial	Perennial	Perennial	Perennial	Perennial
Pink	Red	White	White	Purple
April-June	March-November	May-August	July-October	July-September
2-3'	3-8'	3-5'	1-4'	2-7'
Fine to Coarse	Fine to Coarse	Fine to Coarse	Fine to Coarse	Fine to Medium
Medium	High	Medium	Medium	Low
Sun to Part Shade	Sun to Part Shade	Sun	Sun to Part Shade	Sun to Part Shade
Low	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium
Seed	Seed	Seed	Seed, Cuttings	Seed, Cuttings
<i>Echinacea species</i> were highly valued by American Indians for medicinal purposes.	The bright red flowers of this legume attract hummingbirds. Seeds are poisonous to humans, and care should be taken with children to avoid ingesting the colorful seeds.	This member of the carrot family was used by American Indians in ceremonies involving rattlesnakes, although there is no evidence in its effectiveness against snakebites. The foliage was used to weave baskets and sandals.	Flowers provide an important summer and fall nectar source when few other plants are blooming.	Tall plants can provide needed structure in garden settings. Cutting the main inflorescence after flowering will encourage lateral blooms. Important source of honey.
<i>Echinacea angustifolia</i> *, <i>E. pallida</i> , <i>E. purpurea</i> *	n/a	n/a	<i>Eupatorium perfoliatum</i> , <i>E. serotinum</i>	<i>Eutrochium purpureum</i> *






*Indicates plants do not occur in MLRA 133B but are suited to the region.

Plant Species 	<i>Glandularia canadensis</i> Rose Mock Vervain	<i>Helianthus angustifolius</i> Swamp Sunflower	<i>Hibiscus moscheutos</i> Crimsoyed Rosemallow	<i>Liatris pycnostachya</i> Prairie Blazing Star
		 <p style="font-size: small;">Photo Credit: Mike Hartman</p>		
Duration	Perennial	Perennial	Perennial	Perennial
Bloom Color	Pink	Yellow	White to pink	Purple
Bloom Time	February-September	July-October	June - August	July-September
Height	10"	1-3'	3-7'	3-6'
Soil Texture	Medium to Coarse	Medium to Coarse	Fine	Fine to Coarse
Drought Tolerance	Medium	Medium	Low	Medium
Light Requirements	Sun to Part Shade	Sun	Sun	Sun
Fertility	Medium	Low	Medium	Medium
Propagation Methods	Seed, Cuttings	Seed, Division, Cuttings	Seed, Cuttings	Seed
Remarks	Flowers are an important nectar source for early emerging pollinators including swallowtail butterflies.	Flowers offer an important late season nectar source for migrating monarchs. Foliage is host to several butterfly species, and seeds are prized by songbirds.	Flowers attract hummingbirds in addition to insect pollinators. Plants are hosts to several butterfly and moth species.	Excellent cut flower. In addition to many insect pollinators, hummingbirds will visit the flowers for nectar.
Additional Species	<i>Glandularia bipinnatifida</i> *	<i>Helianthus hirsutus</i> , <i>H. mollis</i>	<i>Hibiscus aculeatus</i> *, <i>H. coccineus</i> *, <i>H. laevis</i>	<i>Liatris acidota</i> , <i>L. aspera</i> , <i>L. elegans</i> , <i>L. punctata</i> var. <i>murcronata</i> , <i>L. squarrosa</i>

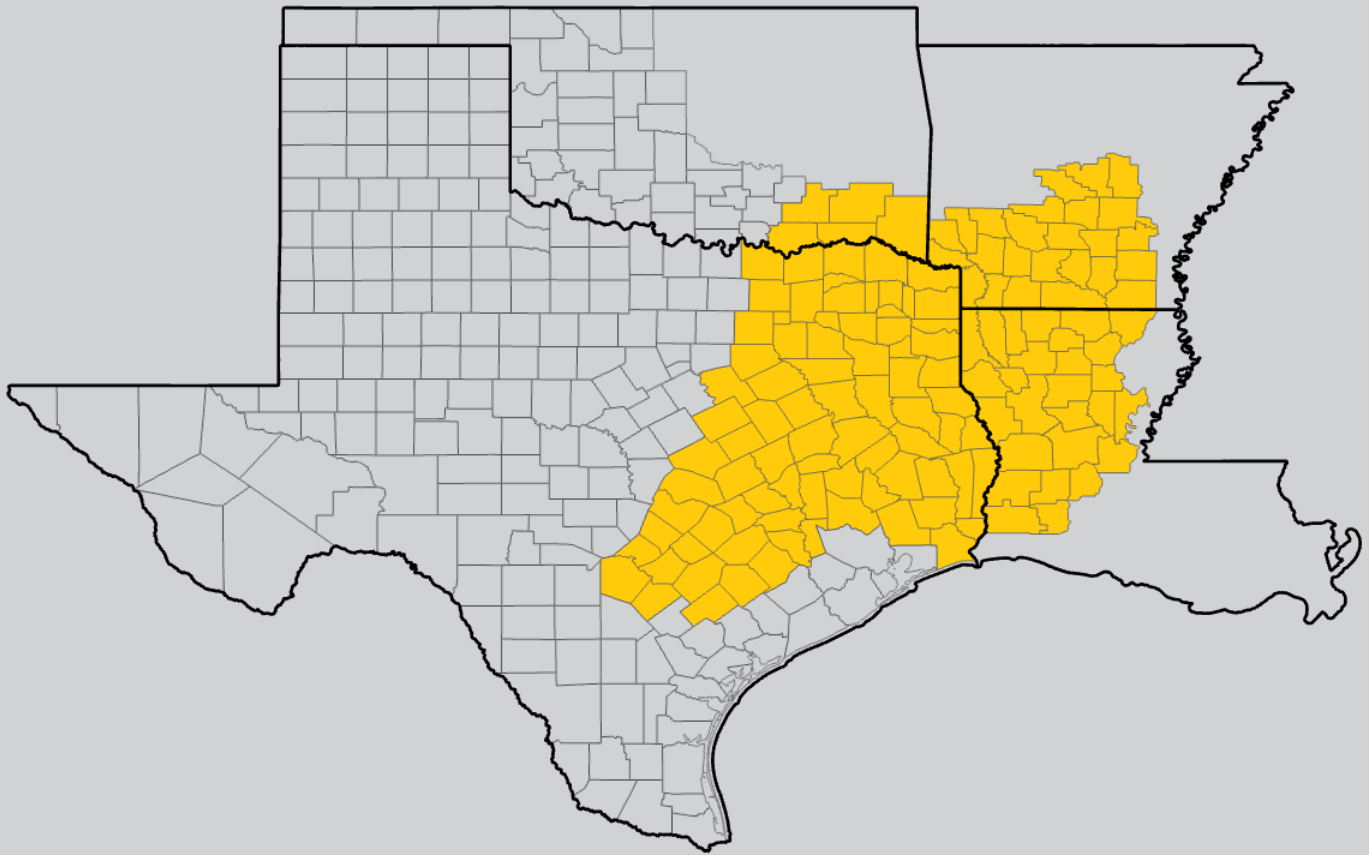
<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i> Cardinal Flower	<i>Monarda punctata</i> Spotted Beebalm	<i>Passiflora incarnata</i> Maypop	<i>Penstemon digitalis</i> Foxglove Beardtongue	<i>Phlox pilosa</i> Prairie Phlox
				
Perennial	Perennial	Perennial	Perennial	Perennial
Red	Yellow with showy purple bracts	Purple	White	Pink
July- October	April-June	April-September	April-May	March-April
3-4'	1-2'	12-24'	2-4'	1-1.5'
Medium	Medium to Coarse	Fine to Coarse	Fine to Coarse	Medium to Coarse
Low	High	Medium	High	Medium
Sun to Part Shade	Sun	Sun to Part Shade	Sun to Part Shade	Sun to Part Shade
Medium	Low	Low	Medium	Low
Seed, Division	Seed, Cuttings	Seed, Cuttings	Seed, Division	Seed, Cuttings, Division
Cardinal flowers depend on hummingbirds for pollination, and bloom time coincides with the fall migration of the ruby-throated hummingbird in the southeastern U.S.	Historically, plants were used medicinally for horses and humans. Fragrant foliage is unpalatable to deer and rabbits.	This vine is a host plant for the gulf fritillary and variegated fritillary butterflies. Fruit is edible and prized by wildlife.	Valuable nectar source for native bees in addition to many other pollinators, including hummingbirds.	Fragrant flowers make good cut flowers and are attractive to hummingbirds in addition to insect pollinators.
<i>Lobelia puberula</i> blooms in summer with blue flowers.	<i>Monarda fistulosa</i> , <i>M. lindheimeri</i>	<i>Passiflora lutea</i>	<i>Penstemon laxiflorus</i> , <i>P. tenuis</i> *	<i>Phlox divaricata</i> , <i>P. paniculata</i> *

*Indicates plants do not occur in MLRA 133B but are suited to the region.

Plant Species	<i>Physostegia virginiana</i> Fall Obedient Plant	<i>Pycnanthemum tenuifolium</i> Narrowleaf Mountain Mint	<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i> Black-eyed Susan	<i>Salvia lyrata</i> Lyreleaf Sage
	 <p><small>Photo Credit: Dr. Jared Barnes</small></p>			
Duration	Perennial	Perennial	Biennial	Perennial
Bloom Color	White, Pink, Purple	White	Yellow	Blue
Bloom Time	August - October	June-July	April-July	March-April
Height	3-5'	1'	1-2'	1'
Soil Texture	Fine	Medium to Coarse	Fine to Coarse	Fine to Coarse
Drought Tolerance	Low	Medium	High	Medium
Light Requirements	Sun	Sun to Part Shade	Sun	Part Shade
Fertility	Medium	Low	Low	Low
Propagation Methods	Seed, Cuttings, Division	Seed, Cuttings	Seed	Seed
Remarks	Plants spread by rhizomes and can become aggressive without occasional maintenance.	All parts of the plant have a minty aroma and dried leaves can be used to make tea	Rudbeckia hirta is short-lived but reseeds readily. Seeds of all species are eaten by song-birds.	Blooms are an important nectar source for early emerging pollinators.
Additional Species	<i>Physostegia digitalis</i> , <i>P. intermedia</i> , <i>P. pulchella</i>	<i>Pycnanthemum albescens</i> , <i>P. muticum</i>	<i>Rudbeckia grandiflora</i> , <i>R. maxima</i>	<i>Salvia azurea</i> blooms in fall on tall stems

<p><i>Silphium radula</i> Roughstem Rosinweed</p>	<p><i>Solidago odora</i> Anise-scented Goldenrod</p>	<p><i>Symphyotrichum lateriflorum</i> Calico Aster</p>	<p><i>Verbesina virginica</i> Frostweed</p>	<p><i>Vernonia texana</i> Texas Ironweed</p>
				
Perennial	Perennial	Perennial	Perennial, Biennial	Perennial
Yellow	Yellow	White	White	Purple
July-October	September-October	September-November	September-October	June-August
3-4'	1-3'	2-3'	3-6'	2-3'
Coarse	Medium - Coarse	Fine - Coarse	Medium-Coarse	Medium-Coarse
High	High	Medium	Medium	High
Sun to Part Shade	Sun to Part Shade	Sun to Part Shade	Sun to Part Shade	Sun to Part Shade
Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
Seed	Seed, Cuttings	Seed, Cuttings	Seed	Seed, Cuttings
<p>Hollow stems are used for nest cavities by solitary bees.</p>	<p>Anise-scented foliage can be used in teas and was used as an herbal medicine in the past.</p>	<p>Late season blooms are an important nectar source for pollinators.</p>	<p>Flowers are attractive to a wide variety of pollinators. Stems form ice ribbons after the first hard freeze.</p>	<p>Ironweed can reseed aggressively. Deadheading will limit seed spread.</p>
<p><i>Silphium asteriscus</i>, <i>S. laciniatum</i></p>	<p><i>Solidago nitida</i>, <i>S. petiolaris</i>, <i>S. rugosa</i></p>	<p><i>Symphyotrichum dumosum</i>, <i>S. oblongifolium</i>*, <i>S. patens</i>, <i>S. praelatum</i>, <i>Eurybia hemispherica</i></p>	<p><i>Verbesina helianthoides</i></p>	<p><i>Vernonia missurica</i></p>

*Indicates plants do not occur in MLRA 133B but are adaptable to the region.



Helping People Help the Land

Pollinators come in many forms including bees, birds, bats, butterflies, birds, beetles, wasps, and flies. According to the North American Pollinator Protection Campaign, possible declines in the health and population of pollinators pose a significant threat to the integrity of biodiversity, to global food webs, and to human health.

Pollinators are responsible for pollinating three fourths of the world's flowering plants which in turn provide critical ecosystem services for humans including: clean air, soil stabilization, carbon sequestration, and support of wildlife as habitat and forage. Pollinators are also responsible for plants that provide oils, fiber, and other raw materials, and play a crucial role in producing nearly one out of every three bites of food humans consume. (Sources: www.pollinator.org, www.xerces.org) The Natural Resources Conservation Service's Plant Materials Program develops regionally appropriate plants that show promise for meeting identified conservation needs to help solve natural resource challenges including pollinator declines.

Increasing native plant diversity in urban and rural landscapes can have an important impact on pollinator health and populations. Plants featured in this publication are pollinator friendly plants common to east Texas and western Louisiana and are commercially available as seeds or plants. Choose plants that bloom in different seasons with flowers of varying shapes and colors for maximum benefit.

More Information

For additional information about these conservation plants contact the East Texas Plant Materials Center or your local NRCS field office for assistance with selecting wildflower seeds for conservation plantings.