

NORTHERN NATIVES EC NURSERY

Plant Guide 2021



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Table of Contents

Lance Leaf Coreopsis (<i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i>)	2
Lavender Hyssop (<i>Agastache foeniculum</i>)	3
Pale Purple Coneflower (<i>Echinacea pallida</i>)	4
Purple Coneflower (<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>)	5
Perennial Lupine (<i>Lupinus perennis</i>)	6
Wild Bergamot (<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>)	7
Spotted Beebalm (<i>Monarda punctata</i>).....	8
Common Milkweed (<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>).....	9
Black Eyed Susan (<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>)	10
Rough Blazingstar (<i>Liatris aspera</i>)	11
New England Aster (<i>Symphyotrichum novae-angliae</i>).....	12
Panicked Aster (<i>Symphyotrichum lanceolatum</i>)	13
Bigleaf Aster (<i>Eurybia macrophylla</i>).....	14
Cut Leaf Coneflower (<i>Rudbeckia laciniata</i>).....	15
American Beachgrass (<i>Ammophila breviligulata</i>)	16
White Turtlehead (<i>Chelone glabra</i>)	17
Blue Vervain (<i>Verbena hastata</i>)	18
Fox Sedge (<i>Carex vulpinoidea</i>)	19
Swamp Milkweed (<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>)	20
Blue Flag Iris (<i>Iris versicolour</i>)	21
Joe Pye Weed (<i>Eutrochium maculatum</i>)	22
Great Blue Lobelia (<i>Lobelia siphilitica</i>).....	23
Allegheny Monkeyflower (<i>Mimulus Ringens</i>)	24



Lance Leaf Coreopsis

Coreopsis lanceolata

Coreopsis lanceolata is useful for pollinator restoration in large urban cities for providing a food source for wildlife as they tend to drink the nectar and/or eat the seed. It requires little maintenance, although deadheading is beneficial. It prefers a sandy, well-drained soil.

- **Low Maintenance**
- **Sandy/Dry Soil**
- **Sun/Shade**
- **Self-Sowing**



Lavender Hyssop

Agastache foeniculum

Anise hyssop is considered one of the premier plants for feeding pollinators. The 1969 edition of the Rodale's Encyclopedia of Organic Gardening claims that one acre planted in anise hyssop can support 100 honeybee hives. Many horticulturists also note that the many flowers of the plant provide forage for bees, butterflies and hummingbirds.

- **Ideal Pollinator**
- **Well Drained Soil**
- **Perennial**
- **Sun/Partial Shade**



Pale Purple Coneflower

Echinacea pallida

Pale Purple Coneflower should be planted in well-drained soil in full to partial sunlight. It blooms in early summer when only a few of the sun loving plants are in bloom and provides nectar for hummingbirds and butterflies, and the leaves provide food for the Ottoe-skipper larva. Once the taproot is established it is extremely drought-tolerant and needs little care.

- **Dry Soil**
- **Sun/Partial Shade**
- **Drought Tolerant**
- **Low Maintenance**



Purple Coneflower

Echinacea purpurea

Purple Coneflower blooms profusely for up to two months in mid to late summer and sometimes will re-bloom in the fall. The showy flowers are a favorite nectar source for butterflies, bees, and a myriad of pollinators, including hummingbirds. Later in summer the large seedheads attract goldfinches and other birds. Easy to grow, Purple Coneflower prefers full to partial sun and medium soil conditions.

- **Late Bloomer**
- **Sun/Partial Shade**
- **Medium Soil**
- **Easy Grower**



Perennial Lupine

Lupinus perennis

Lupinus perennis is used as foodplants by the caterpillars of several butterflies. Among these are the clouded sulphur, eastern tailed blue, gray hairstreak, silvery blue, wild indigo dusky-wing, frosted elfin (*Callophrys irus*), the eastern Persius duskywing (*Erynnis persius persius*), and the rare and endangered Karner blue (*Lycaeides melissa samuelis*), whose caterpillars feed only on the lupine leaves. Lupine requires well-drained soils but will adapt to all dry soil types; sand, loam, gravel and clay.

- **Dry Soil/Sand/Clay**
- **Well-Drained Soil**
- **Sun/Partial Shade**
- **Adaptable**



Wild Bergamot

Monarda fistulosa

Monarda fistulosa, the wild bergamot or bee balm, is a wildflower in the mint family (Lamiaceae) and is widespread and abundant as a native plant in much of North America. This plant, with showy summer-blooming pink to lavender flowers, is often used as a honey plant, medicinal plant, and garden ornamental. As a honey plant, it is popular with a variety of pollinators, including bees, hummingbirds, and lepidoptera. It is a larval host to the hermit sphinx, orange mint moth, and raspberry pyrausta.

- **Medicinal Uses**
- **Heat Tolerant**
- **Sun/Partial Shade**
- **Varied Soil**



Spotted Beebalm

Monarda punctata

Monarda punctata is a herbaceous plant in the mint family, Lamiaceae, that is native to eastern Canada, the eastern United States and northeastern Mexico. Common names include spotted beebalm and horsemint. *Monarda punctata* attracts pollinators in great numbers, especially wasps. Among the wasps that it brings to the garden are beneficial predatory wasps that control grubs, pest caterpillars, and other harmful insects. This species is indigenous to sandy prairies and savannas, sand dunes around the Great Lakes and sandy fields. Plants occur in disturbed or high quality sandy habitats.

- **Sunny Areas**
- **Dry/Sandy Soil**
- **Medicinal Uses**



Common Milkweed

Asclepias syriaca

Common Milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*) is the plant most people think of when they hear the word “milkweed.” This milkweed thrives in almost any well-drained soil, and produces a profusion of lavender to pink flowers in midsummer. The sweet scented flowers attract and benefit a large variety of pollinators.

- **Sunny Areas**
- **Monarch Butterfly Larval Host**
- **Well-Drained Soil**



Black Eyed Susan

Rudbeckia hirta

Rudbeckia hirta is easily cultivated in sunny sites with moist, average or dry soils. Plants tolerate part sun, heat, controlled burns, sand or clay. This species is considered to be among the most drought tolerant *Rudbeckia* species. Plants are fairly pest resistant except for occasional mild bouts of powdery mildew. Blossoms attract native bees, pollinating flies, beneficial wasps and butterflies. Caterpillars of Silvery Checkerspot Butterflies forage on the foliage and the seeds are consumed by goldfinches.

- **Various Soils**
- **Sunny Areas**
- **Drought Tolerant**
- **Self-Sowing**



Rough Blazingstar

Liatris aspera

The *Liatris* genus has its share of "pollinator magnets," and there's one that thrives in just about any soil type. *Liatris aspera* is perfect for medium to dry, well-drained soils. The button-like flowers are attractive to butterflies: Swallowtails, Monarch, Sulphurs, Hairstreaks, Fritillaries, Painted Lady, and Red Admiral as well as a variety of pollinators.

- **Varied Soil**
- **Sandy/Rocky Soil**
- **Sunny Areas**
- **Drought Tolerant**
- **Late Blooming**



New England Aster

Symphotrichum novae-angliae

New England Aster is a late bloomer like most Asters. Maturing to 5' tall, it is rich with purple flowers with orange-yellow centers from late summer to October. Popular with pollinators, it thrives in full sun or light shade in all but the driest soils.

- **Full Sun**
- **Wet/Medium Soil**
- **Late Bloomer**
- **Aggressive**



Panicked Aster

Symphotrichum lanceolatum

Panicked Aster grows from a rhizome with fibrous roots and forms colonies in moist low areas that can be in open woods or full sun if the soil is moist. It attracts butterflies, moths, and bees. This is a common tall grass prairie plant.

- **Sun/Partial Shade**
- **Moist Soil**
- **Perennial**
- **Mid-Late Summer**



Bigleaf Aster

Eurybia macrophylla

Bigleaf Aster grows from a creeping rhizomatous root system whose offshoots will form dense colonies of the plant. It grows best in partial sun in well-drained soil of wet-mesic to dry conditions.

- **Moist or Dry Soil**
- **Sun/Shade**
- **Ground Cover**
- **Medium Water Use**



Cut Leaf Coneflower

Rudbeckia laciniata

Rudbeckia laciniata thrives in part sun and moist soil. Plants tolerate wet soils, seasonal flooding, heat and humidity. This species is not very drought tolerant. It may survive in sunny well drained sites but leaves are usually wilted with brown edges. Plants are also used as pollinator food sources. This wildflower offers showy blooms and provides erosion control. It is useful in bioswales and rain gardens.

- **Low Water Use**
- **Sun/Shade**
- **Creeping**
- **Acidic Soil**



American Beachgrass

Ammophila breviligulata

Ammophila breviligulata (American beachgrass or American marram grass) is a species of grass native to eastern North America, where it grows on sand dunes along the Atlantic Ocean and Great Lakes coasts. Beachgrass thrives under conditions of shifting sand, sand burial, and high winds; it is a dune-building grass that builds the first line of sand dunes along the coast.

- **Full Sunlight**
- **Dry, Sandy Soil**
- **Attracts Birds**
- **Erosion Control**




White Turtlehead

Chelone glabra

Chelone glabra is indigenous to eastern North America. Plants range from Manitoba to Mississippi and east from Newfoundland and Labrador to Georgia. Plants occur in margins of sandy or non-sandy wetlands, including swamps, wet open woods, sedge meadows, wet prairies, seeps, marshes and shorelines of ponds or creeks. Floral displays begin in late summer and continue into autumn. The dense terminal flower spikes are white to pale pink. They are quite showy and are a valuable late season nectar source.

- **Sandy/Non-Sandy**
- **Moist Soil**
- **Late Bloomer**

A close-up photograph of several upright stems of Blue Vervain. The stems are covered in small, light purple to blue flowers arranged in dense, elongated spikes. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green, suggesting foliage.

Blue Vervain

Verbena hastata

Verbena hastata ranges through most of the contiguous United States and into the southern Canadian provinces. This species is indigenous to moist meadows, floodplain prairies, open bottom-land woods, moist thickets, edges of rivers, creeks, ponds, sloughs and ditches, disturbed pastures and fence rows. Plants adapt to disturbed wetlands or moist higher quality habitats. Plants are an outstanding choice for pollinator food plots. Verbena hastata has showy blooms and is appropriate for native plant gardens, rain gardens, and stormwater management projects.

- **Moist Soil**
- **Sun/Shade**
- **Medicinal Uses**



Fox Sedge

Carex vulpinoidea

Carex vulpinoidea is a robust perennial sedge with dense tufts of soft grassy leaves. The delicate arching foliage is shiny, narrow, arching and often evergreen. Plants are indigenous to openings in floodplain forests, sedge meadows, wet prairies, swamps, marshes, seasonally flooded sites adjacent to ponds, creeks and rivers, seeps, disturbed or degraded wetlands, wet fields and ditches. *Carex vulpinoidea* is valuable for wetland restoration and erosion control in bioswales and drainage ditches. Its ability to populate disturbed places makes this sedge a good choice to colonize wetland mitigation sites. Plants can be used to hold ground on various shorelines and are useful in wet meadows and rain gardens.

- **Moist/Wet Soil**
- **Erosion Control**
- **Sunny Areas**

A close-up photograph of a Swamp Milkweed flower cluster. The flowers are a vibrant pink color with white centers, arranged in a dense, rounded cluster. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green, suggesting foliage.

Swamp Milkweed

Asclepias incarnata

This elegant plant is upright with slender willow like leaves. In summer plants are topped by rounded pink or rose colored flower clusters which attract flocks of butterflies. Plants thrive in sunny sites with moist or saturated soils. *Asclepias incarnata* is a wise choice for a rain garden or a Wet Meadow. Plants are also used as a butterfly nectar plant, and are host plants for the endangered Monarch Butterfly.

- **Moist Soil**
- **Monarch Butterfly Larval Host**
- **Sun/Partial Shade**



Blue Flag Iris

Iris versicolour

Iris versicolor is a vigorous perennial that forms small colonies from a network of underground rhizomes. Plants produce clumps of distinctive narrow pointed leaves. In spring, foliage is topped by lovely blue irises. This unique wildflower sparkles in sunny moist or wet sites. Iris versicolor is an excellent choice for a rain garden or native wetland buffer. Small Groups or Masses of plants can provide Attractive Foliage, showy Spring Flowers, Cut Flowers and Erosion Control to wet sunny sites.

- **Spring Blooming**
- **Sunny Areas**
- **Moist/Wet Soil**
- **Erosion Control**

A photograph of a Joe Pye Weed plant in full bloom. The plant features several tall, reddish-brown stems topped with large, rounded clusters of small, pinkish-purple flowers. The foliage consists of large, green, lance-shaped leaves. The background is slightly blurred, showing more greenery and a hint of a garden setting.

Joe Pye Weed

Eutrochium maculatum

Eupatorium maculatum is a large clumping perennial that injects architectural interest into the late summer landscape. This robust wildflower has multiples of sturdy stems with whorls of bold attractive foliage. In mid-summer, plants are topped with a frothy crown of rounded mauve-pink flower clusters. This species thrives in sunny moist sites where it is frequented by fluttering butterflies. Eupatorium maculatum is perfect for a native plant garden or moist meadow. Plants are also used as pollinator nectar plants.

- **Late Blooming**
- **Sunny Areas**
- **Moist Soil**



Great Blue Lobelia

Lobelia siphilitica

Lobelia siphilitica is a clump forming perennial wildflower with toothed lance shaped leaves. The blooms entice bees, hummingbirds and butterflies. Plants prosper in filtered shade with moist soils or in wetter sunny sites. This species is often used as an accent for a rain garden.

- **Sun/Shade**
- **Moist/Wet Soil**
- **Perennial**



Allegheny Monkeyflower

Mimulus Ringens

Mimulus ringens is a multi-stemmed bushy perennial wildflower. The square light green stems are clothed in pairs of clasping lance shaped leaves. In summer, blue-purple flowers are displayed in the upper leaf axils. The blooms are asymmetrical with 2 lips and are reminiscent of garden snapdragons. Hummingbirds and various insect pollinators visit the blooms in wetlands or sunny moist or wet gardens. Plants are also used as Butterfly Host Plants and to attract hummingbirds to Wildlife Gardens.

- **Moist/Wet Soil**
- **Sunny Areas**
- **Attracts Butterflies**