

Today's Butterfly Gardens



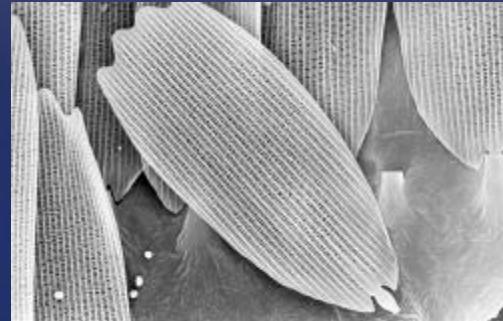
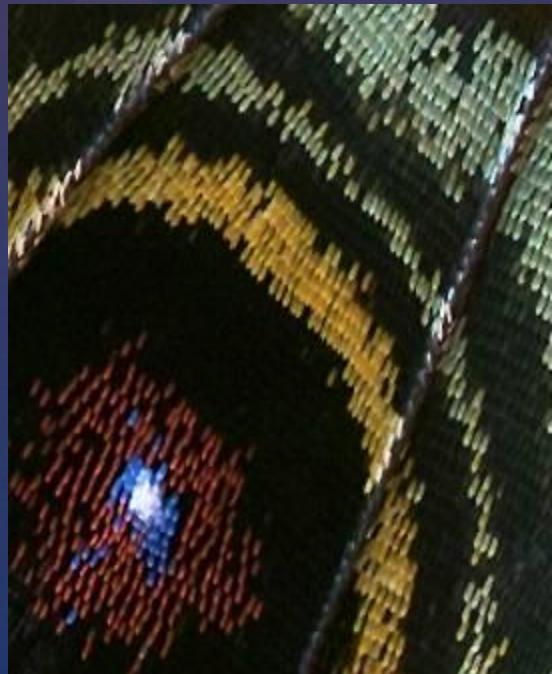
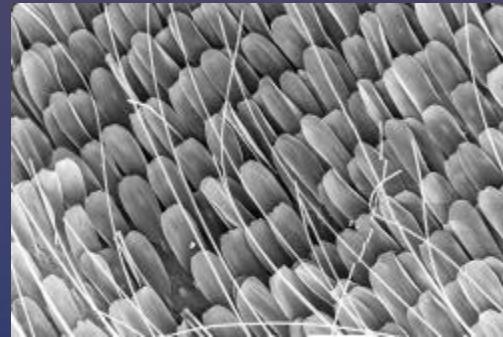
Jaret C. Daniels, Ph.D.



Butterfly Appeal

Butterflies and moths can easily be distinguished from other insects by their wings, which are covered with thousands of tiny overlapping scales, much like shingles on a roof.

Each scale is one color (contains pigments or refracts light), but collectively a butterfly's color pattern is produced by a complex mixture of differently colored scales.













Butterflies can be found everywhere!



They are approachable, easily attracted and easy to observe





Importance of Backyard Habitat





Pollinator Habitat

This area has been planted with pollinator-friendly flowers and is protected from pesticides to provide valuable habitat for bees and other pollinators.

To learn how you can help to bring back the pollinators, please visit www.xerces.org.



The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation

(855) 232-6639 www.xerces.org



Photograph by David Cappaert, Michigan State University, Bugwood.org



This site provides milkweeds, nectar sources, and shelter needed to sustain monarch butterflies as they migrate through North America.

Certified and registered by Monarch Watch as an official Monarch Waystation.

CREATE, CONSERVE, & PROTECT MONARCH HABITATS

WWW.MONARCHWATCH.ORG

Monarch Watch • University of Kansas • Entomology Program • 1200 Sunnyside Ave. • Lawrence, KS 66045-7534

NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION®

Certified
WILDLIFE
Habitat™

This property provides the four basic
habitat elements needed for wildlife
to thrive: food, water, cover,
and places to raise young.



nwf.org

European Honey Bee



Mounting evidence points to substantial losses of pollinators in many regions of the globe, with the strongest evidence coming from Europe and North America.



Major Pollinators





Pollination Services

- Pollinators provide fundamental ecosystem services that enable plants to produce fruits and seeds.
- Pollinators are necessary for the reproduction of some 75% of the world's flowering plants, including more than 35% of all crop species.

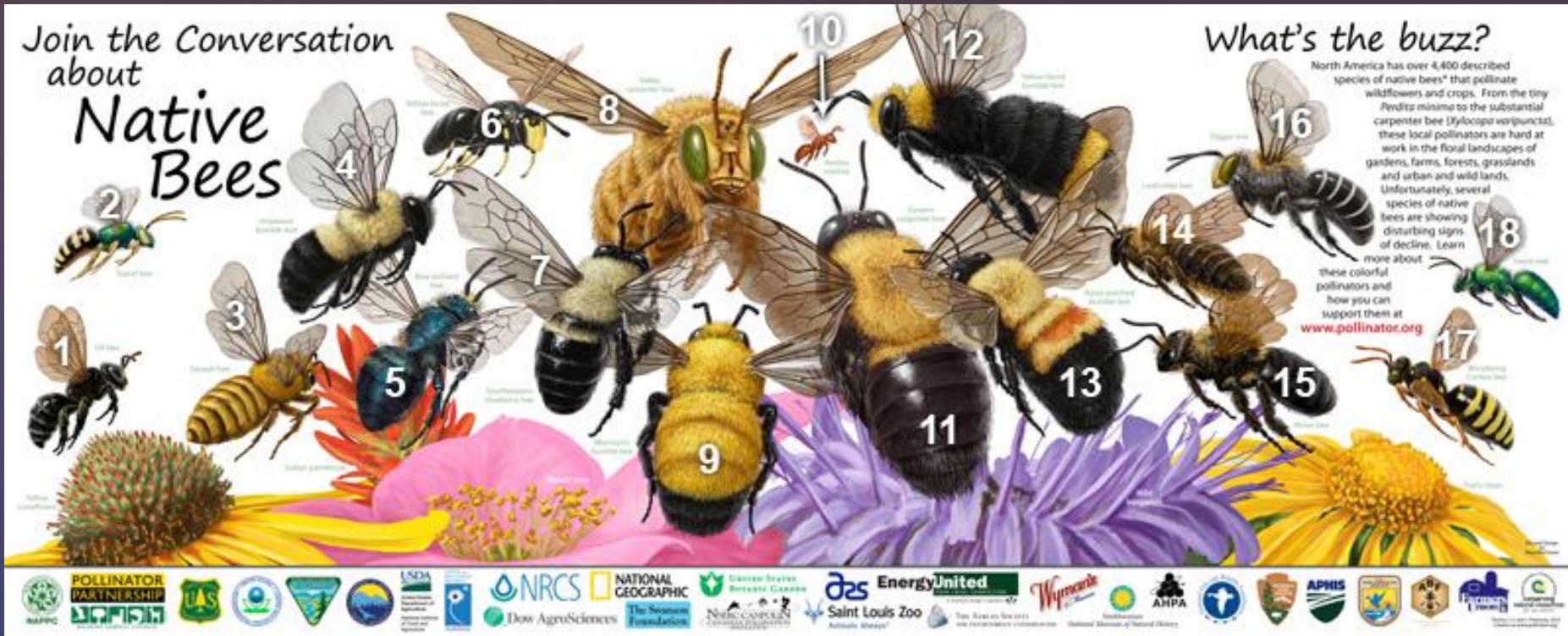


Pollination Services

- Pollinators and the diverse insect communities associated with good pollinator habitat provide food for wildlife - major part of the diet of approximately 25% of all birds, many mammals
- Careful management of landscapes can greatly increase pollinator abundance and diversity



Bees are particularly important pollinators

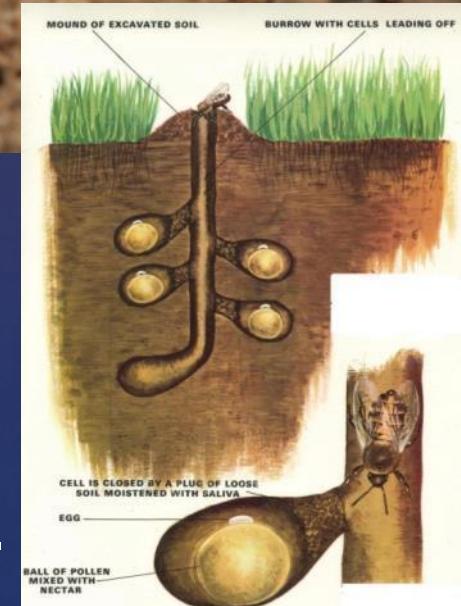


- Collect and transport pollen
- Actively forage in neighboring area around nests
- Exhibit flower constancy

Native Bees



Photo: Ed Spevak



- Most native bees are solitary
- ~70% nest in the ground
- Bumble bees best known social species.

Native Bees



~ 30% nest in hollow plant stems or holes in wood





Brush piles, debris, or artificial nesting materials





GROUND COVERS

Shade

GRASSES

2D

3D

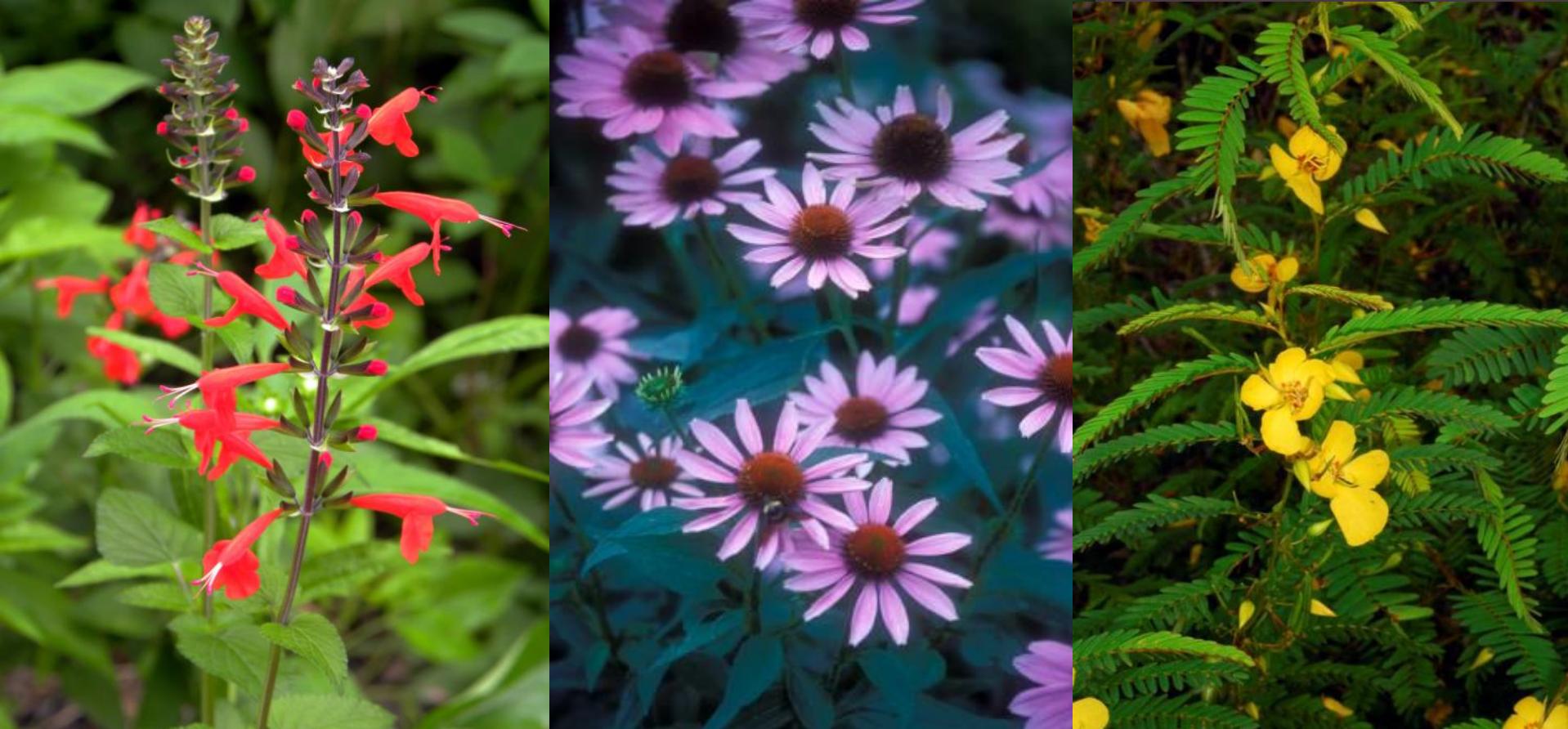
4D











Provide a mix of flower shapes



Provide a mix of flower colors



Include both larval host plants
and adult nectar sources





Provide flowers throughout the
growing season



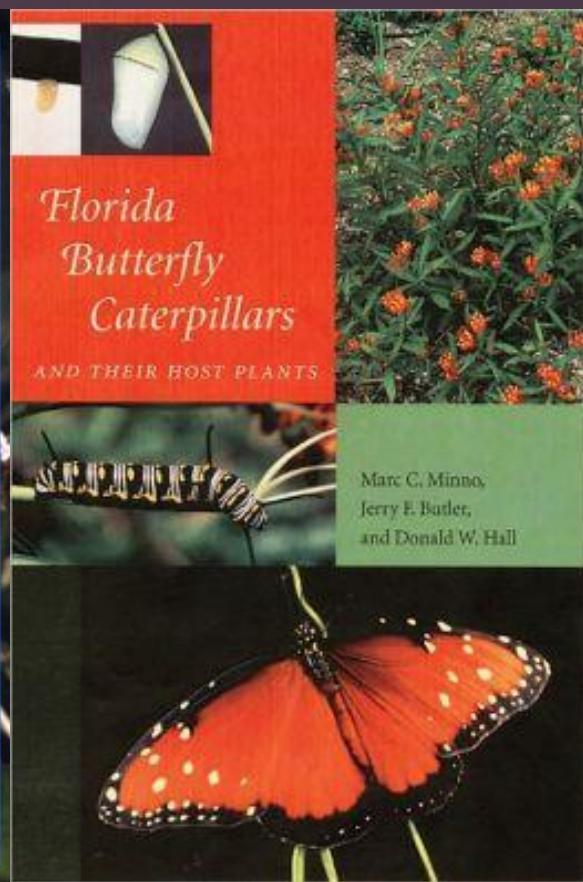
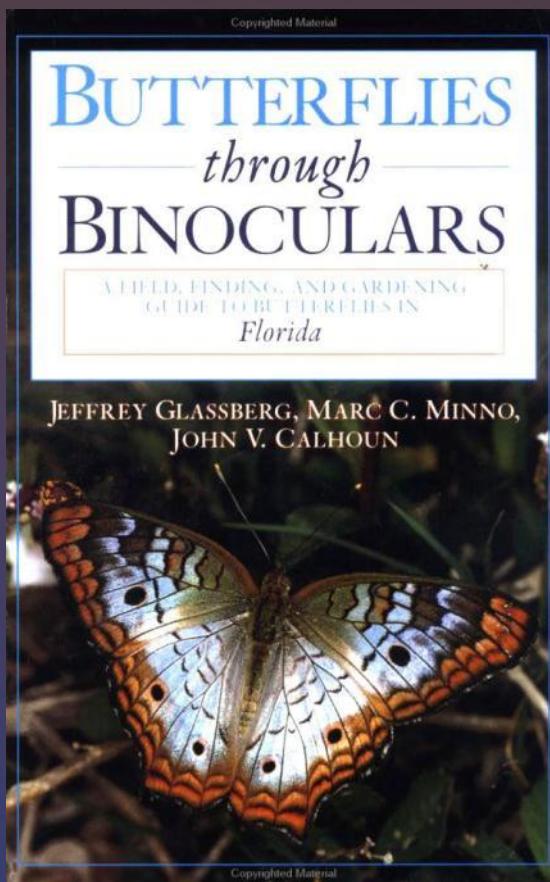
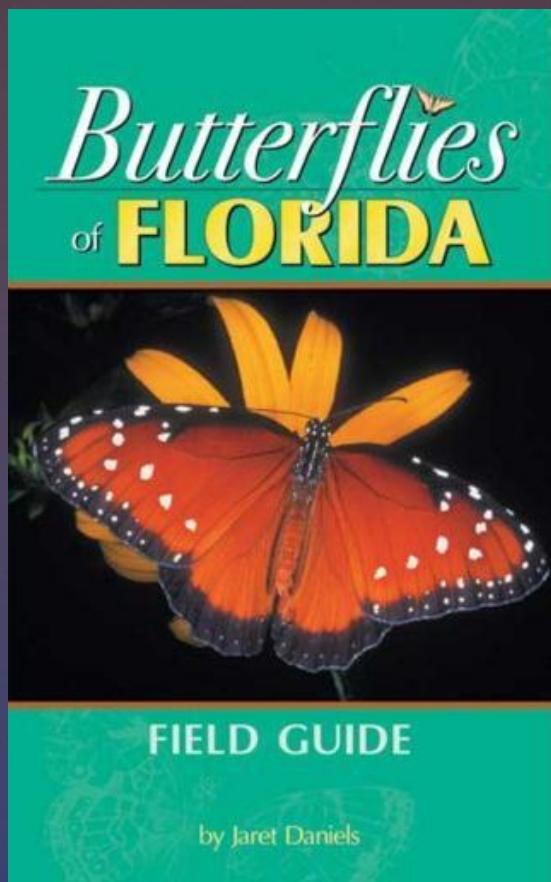
Create horizontal & vertical diversity



Plant in groupings



Choose the right plant for each location



Learn to ID the Butterflies in Your Yard

Requirements



- Provide Food
- Provide Water
- Create Cover
- Provide Nesting Sites
- Limit Pesticides

FIREBUSH

Hamelia patens

(Rubiaceae)

Summer –Fall
Woody Shrub





PURPLE PASSIONFLOWER

Passiflora incarnata
(Passifloraceae)

YELLOW PASSIONFLOWER

Passiflora lutea
(Passifloraceae)

CORKYSTEM PASSIONFLOWER

Passiflora suberosa
(Passifloraceae)





Passiflora 'Lady Margaret'



NARROWLEAF SUNFLOWER
Helianthus angustifolius

(Asteraceae)

Fall – Herbaceous Perennial



SPARKLEBERRY

Vaccinium arboreum
(Ericaceae)



CLIMBING ASTER

Symphyotrichum carolinianum

(Asteraceae)

Fall – Herbaceous perennial vine



PARTRIDGE PEA

Chamaecrista fasciculata
(Fabaceae)





Extrafloral Nectaries





TRUMPET HONEYSUCKLE

Lonicera sempervirens

(Caprifoliaceae)

Spring –Fall
Evergreen Vine





GIANT HYSSOP

Agastache 'Blue Fortune'

(Lamiaceae)

Spring – Fall
Herbaceous Perennial





LANCELEAF COREOPSIS
Coreopsis lanceolata
(Asteraceae)

Spring-Summer Perennial







COASTAL SWEETPEPPERBUSH

Clethra alnifolia
(Clethraceae)

Summer - Deciduous shrub





Hercules Club

(*Zanthoxylum clava-herculis*)

Spring – Woody Tree





GLOSSY ABELIA

Abelia x grandiflora
(Caprifoliaceae)

Spring-Fall
Evergreen Shrub

Abelia chinensis



GOLDENMANE TICKSEED
(Coreopsis basalis)
(Asteraceae)







SNOW SQUARESTEM

Melanthera nivea
(Asteraceae)

Spring – Fall
Herbaceous Perennial





REDBUD

Cercis canadensis
(Fabaceae)

Spring – Deciduous Tree





BUTTERFLYWEED

Asclepias tuberosa

(Asclepiadaceae)

Spring - Herbaceous
Perennial





PINK SWAMP MILKWEED

Asclepias incarnata

(Asclepiadaceae)

Spring – Fall
Herbaceous Perennial

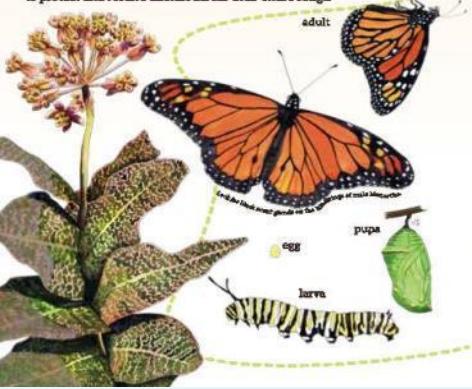


Monarch Butterflies

are one of our most beloved animals — an insect that makes an amazing annual migration.

During spring and summer, monarch butterflies found throughout the U.S. and southern Canada fly to the hill slopes of the central Mexican mountains. In the fall, adults of the eastern population migrate to Mexico, flying up to 3,000 miles. In the western U.S., monarchs migrate to scattered groves along the coast of California. The following spring, these butterflies leave their overwintering sites and fly northward in search of host plants on which to lay their eggs. Female monarchs lay eggs on milkweeds and a few other plants in the dogbane family. As monarchs spread across North America, several generations of butterflies are produced. In Florida, some non-migratory individuals remain and breed year-round.

Sadly, population monitoring at overwintering sites in Mexico and California has documented a steady decline. Monarchs are threatened by loss and degradation of habitat, natural disease and predation, adverse weather and the ongoing decline of native milkweeds. Because of monarch's migratory lifecycle, effective conservation strategies need to protect and restore habitat across their entire range.



Butterfly Larvae & Host Plants



Florida Museum of Natural History
UF UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
SAMPL
THE XERXES SOCIETY FOR INSECTIVORE CONSERVATION

This educational resource was developed by the Florida Museum of Natural History in cooperation with the Xerces Society for Insect Conservation (xerces.org) and Butterfly Conservation Initiative (butterflypsys.org). Funding was provided by the F.A.G. Schwarz Family Foundation, Florida Bicentennial Foundation and the McGraw Center for Leadership and Biodiversity. Support research, education and conservation projects by purchasing a Save Wild Florida Specialty License Plate.



Milkweeds

Asclepias tuberosa Butterflyweed

Habitat dry soils: open woods, fields, roadsides

Larval host plant, adult nectar source. Plants and seeds are available from limited vendors.



Asclepias incarnata Swamp milkweed

Habitat moist to wet soils: swamps, wet woods, roadside ditches, pond margins

Larval host plant, adult nectar source. Plants and seeds available from several vendors.

Asclepias perennis Aquatic milkweed

Habitat moist to wet soils: swamps, wet meadows, roadside ditches

Larval host plant, adult nectar source. Plants and seeds available from limited vendors.



Asclepias verticillata Whorled milkweed

Habitat dry to moist soils: open woods, shaded roadside

Larval host plant, adult nectar source. Plants and seeds not currently available.



Asclepias humistrata Pineswoods milkweed

Habitat dry soils: sandhills, pinelands, dry, sandy woods

Larval host plant, adult nectar source. Plants and seeds not currently available.



Monarchs & Milkweeds

Ask for native milkweeds at your local retail garden center! Be sure to ask for plants that have not been treated with pesticides, which may make them toxic to monarchs and other insects.

In addition to providing a food source for monarch larvae, the showy flowers of milkweeds offer abundant, high quality nectar to pollinators including bees, butterflies and hummingbirds.

Identifying agriculture, development of rural lands and the use of mowing and herbicides to control vegetation have all reduced milkweeds in the landscape. As a result, the North American Monarch Conservation Plan recommends planting native milkweed species to restore breeding habitat.

Milkweeds are named for their milky latex, which contains alkaloids and cardiac, central nervous, diuretic and plants unavailable to most animals. Milkweeds have fleshy fruits that split when mature, releasing seeds. Each milkweed seed is attached to tiny hairs, known as pappus, silk, or floss, that aid in wind dispersal.

The non-native Dogbane or Scarlet milkweed, *Asclepias speciosa*, is by far the most widely available species in the Southeast. While this plant readily supports growing monarch larvae, scientists are concerned that it has negative impacts on monarchs. To avoid the potential risks associated with tropical milkweed, native milkweeds should be grown whenever possible.

While native milkweeds are crucial for monarchs, few commercial sources of plants and seeds currently exist in the Southeast. The Florida Museum of Natural History, the Xerxes Society for Invertebrate Conservation, Butterfly Conservation Initiative and the Monarch Joint Venture are working to produce reliable sources of native milkweed. Inventory is expected to increase steadily over the next several years, to meet demand for home gardens and habitat restoration projects across the region.



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Design and Illustration by Dale Johnson
Photography by Janet Daniels, Peg Urban, Katherine Edmon

Native Plant & Service Directory

Restoring La Florida, our Land of Flowers



Bring back
the natives!

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sustainable site
features native
wildflower
meadows
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POLLINATOR FRIENDLY LANDSCAPES

BY JARET C. DANIELS, Ph.D.

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POLLINATORS ARE CRITICAL to our environmental and economic well-being. By conservative estimates, 80% of the earth's flowering plants rely on animal pollinators, primarily insects (such as bees, ants, flies, beetles, and wasps), to ensure reproduction. This includes the vast majority of the fruit, vegetable and seed crops that humans consume, as well as many other plants that provide fiber, animal forage, medicine and fuel. Beyond the direct economic value to humans, insect pollination provides essential maintenance of the structure and function of a wide range of natural communities. It sustains native and introduced plants that control erosion, provides food and other resources for game and non-game wildlife, increases property values, and enhances the aesthetic, recreational, and cultural aspects of human activity.

Alarmingly, managed and wild insect pollinators have suffered declines in recent years, prompting calls for proactive strategies to help bolster their populations and minimize disruption of the valuable service they provide. Continued declines could adversely affect agricultural systems, result in increased vulnerability of some plant species to extinction, and increase overall ecosystem disruption. Habitat degradation and loss are leading factors driving the downward trend of pollinator populations. While much recent attention has been placed on alternative management approaches in agricultural systems, it is clear

TOP: Our magnificent Southern Magnolia, *Magnolia grandiflora*, evolved before bees and relies on beetles for pollination. Southern Magnolia does not produce a true nectar, but its fragrant sugary secretions attract bees. Here, honeybees wander about the flower, loading up on the abundant pollen to provide them with protein, fats, vitamins and minerals.

ABOVE: Native Halictid bee nectaring on the tiny pink flowers of American Beautyberry, *Callicarpa americana*, a shrub better known to most of us for its striking magenta-colored fruit.