



PLANT FACT SHEETS
for Rain Gardens/Bioretention Systems

Rutgers Cooperative Extension
Water Resources Program

July 2023

HERBACEOUS PERENNIALS

Amsonia tabernaemontana Eastern blue star



Late Spring/Summer Flower and Foliage



Fall Foliage



Characteristics: herbaceous perennial; deer resistant; self seeds

Appearance:

Height - 2 to 3 ft.

Spread - 2 to 3 ft.

Flower color - blue or purple

Flowering period - March through June

Habitat (Community): borders of streams, open woodlands, moist sandy meadows, and thickets; used in rain gardens and shade gardens

Hydrology:

Indicator Status - facultative

Drought Tolerance - medium

Wildlife benefits: flowers provide a nectar source and the foliage is a larval food for butterflies, also attracts bees, hummingbirds and moths

Distributions: USDA Hardiness Zone 3-9

Aquilegia canadensis Red columbine



Late Summer Flower & Foliage

Characteristics: herbaceous perennial; self seeds; moderately deer resistant

Appearance:

Height - 1 to 3 ft.

Spread – 1 to 2 ft.

Flower Color - red

Flowering Period – April through June

Habitat (Community): rich rocky woods, north-facing slopes, cliffs, ledges, pastures, and roadside banks

Hydrology:

Indicator Status - facultative

Drought Tolerance - high

Wildlife Benefits: flower attracts butterflies, hummingbirds, and moth hawks; seed consumed by finches and buntings

Distribution: East of the Rockies, but not found in Louisiana (USDA hardiness zones 3-8)

Arisaema triphyllum

Jack-in-the-pulpit



Flower^a



Fruit^b

Characteristics: Herbaceous, deer resistant

Appearance:

Height - 1 to 2 ft.

Spread - 1 to 1.5 ft.

Bloom time - April to July

Bloom color - Green, purple, brown

Sun exposure - Part shade or shade

Habitat: Forest, woodland, swamp, or marsh

Hydrology:

Indicator status - Facultative wetland

Wildlife Benefits: Birds and mammals eat the berries of this plant

Distribution: Native to eastern North America, occurring in moist woodlands and thickets from Nova Scotia west to Minnesota and south to southern Florida and Texas

^a Nelson DeBarros, hosted by the USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database

^b http://www.wildflower.org/gallery/result.php?id_image=10042

Asclepias incarnata

Swamp milkweed



Summer Foliage



Summer Flower^a

Characteristics: Herbaceous, perennial, nonpersistent

Appearance:

Height - up to 6 ft.

Flower color - pink to purplish red

Flowering Period - June through August

Habitat (Community): fresh tidal marshes, nontidal marshes, wet meadows, shrub swamps, forested wetlands (clearings), shores and ditches

Hydrology

Indicator Status - Obligate wetland

Salinity - prefers fresh water

Nontidal regime: Irregularly, seasonally, or regularly inundated or saturated. When flooding is regular, only ground saturation is tolerated.

Wildlife Benefits: (**Roots**) food sparingly used for muskrats; (**Nectar**) food for butterflies.

Distribution: Nova Scotia to Manitoba and Utah, south to Florida, Louisiana, and New Mexico (varieties occur across this range)

^a Jennifer Anderson. United States, IA, Scott Co., Davenport, Nahant Marsh. 2002

Asclepias syriaca Common Milkweed



Foliage and Summer/Fall Flower

Characteristics: Persistent, herbaceous perennial, deer resistant, drought tolerant

Appearance:

Height – 3 to 6 ft.

Flower Color – Pink

Flowering Period – June to July

Habitat (Community): Milkweeds It occurs along the banks or flood plains of lakes, ponds, and waterways, in prairies, forest margins, roadsides, and waste places. Common milkweed grows in sandy, clayey, or rocky calcareous soils

Hydrology:

Indicator Status – Upland

Wildlife Benefits: Cover and food (seeds or rhizomes) Milkweed species are attractive to many insect species, including the large milkweed bug, common milkweed bug, red milkweed beetle, blue milkweed beetle, and bees. Accordingly, this is a wonderful horticultural plant for landscaping to attract butterflies (particularly monarchs), whose numbers are declining and migratory routes changing due to lack of appropriate habitat.

Distribution: Northeast west to California and South Dakota

Asclepias tuberosa Butterfly Milkweed



Characteristics: Persistent, herbaceous perennial

Appearance:

Height – 1-2 ft.

Flower Color – Orange

Flowering Period – July to August

Habitat (Community): Milkweeds grow in clumps beside roadways, on abandoned farmlands, and in other open areas throughout the United States. Butterfly milkweed grows on sandy, loamy, or rocky limestone soils of prairies, open woodlands, roadsides, and disturbed areas similar to other milkweed species.

Hydrology:

Indicator Status – Upland

Shade Tolerance – Intolerant

Wildlife Benefits: Cover and food (seeds or rhizomes) Milkweed species are attractive to many insect species, including the large milkweed bug, common milkweed bug, red milkweed beetle, blue milkweed beetle, and bees. Accordingly, this is a wonderful horticultural plant for landscaping to attract butterflies (particularly monarchs), whose numbers are declining and migratory routes changing due to lack of appropriate habitat.

Distribution: Northeast west to California and South Dakota

Baptisia australis

Blue Wild Indigo



Spring/Summer Flower and Foliage ^{a,b}

Characteristics: Herbaceous, Perennial, Deer resistant

Appearance:

Height - 3 to 5 ft.

Flower Color - Blue

Flowering Period – April through August

Habitat (Community): can be found along tree lines, bordering forested riparian areas and in open prairies or native hay meadows. It does not grow well in shaded habitats. It prefers gravelly, sandy or well-drained loamy soils. It withstands prolonged droughts.

Hydrology:

Indicator status – No indicator, drought tolerant

Wildlife Benefits: (Nectar) food for bees and butterflies

Distribution: Nebraska to Texas on the west to the eastern seaboard states. It reaches into Canada in its middle range and New Hampshire is the extreme northeast area.

^a <http://plants.usda.gov>

^b <http://davesgarden.com>

Caltha palustris Marsh Marigold



Spring/Summer Flower and Foliage

Characteristics: Herbaceous, Perennial, Nonpersistent

Appearance:

Height - 8 to 24 in.

Flower Color - Bright yellow

Flowering Period - April into June

Habitat (Community): Shrub swamps, forested wetlands, wet meadows, stream banks, and seeps

Hydrology:

Indicator status - Obligate wetland

Salinity - Fresh water

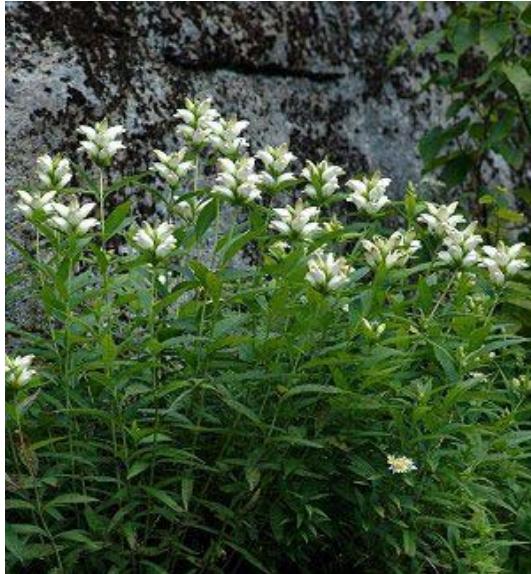
Non-Tidal Regime - Seasonally, regularly or permanent inundated up to 0.5 feet.

Wildlife Benefits: (Seeds) food for upland game birds

Distribution: Labrador to Alaska, south to Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, south Carolina, Tennessee, Iowa, and Nebraska

Chelone glabra

Turtlehead



Summer/Fall Flower & Foliage

Characteristics: herbaceous perennial

Appearance:

Height - 2 to 4 ft.

Spread - 1 to 2 ft.

Flower Color - white

Flowering Period - July through October

Habitat (Community): brushy marshes, stream banks, wet ditches, low meadows, woodlands, and rain gardens

Hydrology:

Indicator Status - obligate

Wildlife Benefits: food for butterflies; host for Baltimore checkerspot caterpillars

Distribution: North America from Newfoundland west to Minnesota, and south to Alabama and Georgia

Coreopsis lanceolata Lanceleaf tickseed



Summer Flower & Foliage

Characteristics: herbaceous perennial, self-seeds

Appearance:

Height - 1 to 2 ft.

Flower Color - yellow

Flowering Period - June through August

Habitat (Community): roadsides, native wildflower gardens, meadows or prairies with well drained soils, drought tolerant

Hydrology:

Indicator Status - facultative upland

Salinity Tolerance - none

Wildlife Benefits: attracts butterflies and is a source of nectar for honey bees and wasps

Distribution: North America from Eastern Canada through Eastern and Midwestern United States

Echinacea purpurea
Purple Coneflower



Summer Foliage



Summer Flowers

Characteristics: Perennial herb

Appearance:

Height – 2-4 ft.

Aerial Spread – 1.5 to 2 ft.

Flower Color – Purplish pink

Flowering Period – June - August

Habitat (Community): Rocky open woods and dry prairies

Hydrology:

Indicator Status – N/A

Salinity – Low salinity tolerance

Non-Tidal Regime – Low tolerance of drought conditions, but will grow in a wide range of soil textures (prefers well-drained, sandy or richer soils). Will not tolerate water logging.

Wildlife Benefits: Excellent nectar species for many butterflies; goldfinches eat seeds from late summer into fall

Distribution: Chiefly in Ozarks and Midwest, from Illinois and southern Iowa to eastern Oklahoma, extreme northeastern Texas, and central Louisiana, east irregularly to southern Michigan, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Georgia, and less commonly to Virginia and North Carolina

Eupatorium coelestinum

Blue mistflower



Flower^a



Flower and foliage^b

Characteristics: Herbaceous

Appearance:

Height - 1 to 2 ft.

Bloom time - July to November

Bloom color - Purple

Sun exposure - Sun to part shade

Habitat: Naturalized prairie or meadow plantings and along roadsides.^c

Hydrology:

Indicator status - Facultative

Wildlife Benefits: Food source for pollinators.

Distribution: Found throughout the eastern and midwest United States.

^a <http://www.pinelandsnursery.com/2015/02/eupatorium-coelestinum-blue-mistflower.html>

^b <http://www.pinelandsnursery.com/2015/02/eupatorium-coelestinum-blue-mistflower.html>

^c https://plants.usda.gov/factsheet/pdf/fs_coco13.pdf

Eupatorium dubium

Little Joe Pye weed



Summer Flower



Summer Flower & Foliage

Characteristics: herbaceous perennial; deer resistant; tolerates clay and wet soils

Appearance:

Height - 3 to 4 ft.

Spread - 2 to 3 ft.

Flower Color - light pink, or lavender

Flowering Period - August through September

Habitat (Community): bogs, meadows, marshes, rain gardens, mass plantings, and shores

Hydrology:

Indicator status - facultative

Wildlife Benefits: attracts butterflies, especially swallowtails and monarchs

Distribution: USDA hardiness zones 3-9

Eupatorium maculatum

Spotted Joe Pye weed



Summer Flower & Foliage

Characteristics: herbaceous perennial; deer resistant; tolerates clay and wet soils

Appearance:

Height - 4 to 6 ft.

Spread - 3 to 4 ft.

Flower Color - pink

Flowering Period - July through September

Habitat (Community): wet meadows, ditches, and pond shores

Hydrology:

Indicator status - facultative wetland

Wildlife Benefits: attracts butterflies

Distribution: USDA hardiness zones 4-8

Eupatorium perfoliatum Common boneset



Late Summer Flower & Foliage

Characteristics: herbaceous perennial

Appearance:

Height - 2 to 4 ft.

Spread – 2 ft

Flower Color - white

Flowering Period - August through September

Habitat (Community): floodplain forest, prairies, wetlands, along river/pond edges, bogs, wildflower gardens or roadside ditches

Hydrology:

Indicator Status - facultative wetland

Drought Tolerance - none

Wildlife Benefits: food and habitat for butterflies, bees, moths and the swamp sparrow

Distribution: Eastern North America from Quebec south to Florida and west to Texas and Manitoba (USDA hardiness zones 2-10)

Eupatorium purpureum
Joe Pye Weed



Summer Foliage



Summer Flower

Characteristics: Perennial herb

Appearance:

Height – 3-7 ft.

Spread – 2-4 ft.

Flower Color – Deep pink to mauve, maturing to purple

Flowering Period – July - September

Habitat (Community): Low moist areas, wooded slopes, wet meadows and thickets and stream margins.

Hydrology:

Indicator Status – Facultative

Non-Tidal Regime – Grows well in fertile humus rich, medium moisture soils that do not dry out. Prefers full sun to part shade.

Wildlife Benefits: Flowers are attractive to butterflies. Important source of honey for pollinators.

Distribution: From New Hampshire to Quebec to Minnesota, west to Nebraska and south to Oklahoma, Tennessee and Florida

Eurybia divaricata

White wood aster



Flower^a



Foliage and flower^b

Characteristics:

Appearance:

Height - 2 to 3 ft.

Spread - 2 to 4 ft.

Bloom Color - white

Bloom Period - September through November

Habitat (Community): dry open woods, in clearings, on roadsides, and on the edges of deciduous forests^c

Hydrology:

Indicator status - no wetland indicator

Wildlife Benefits: attracts butterflies

Distribution: USDA Plant Hardiness Zones 3-8

^a https://www.wildflower.org/gallery/result.php?id_image=62199

^b https://www.wildflower.org/gallery/result.php?id_image=58738

^c <http://www.newmoonnursery.com/plant/Aster-divaricatus>

Helenium autumnale
Common Sneezeweed



Summer Foliage

Summer Flowers

Characteristics: Perennial herb

Appearance:

Height – 2-5 ft.

Spread – 2-3 ft.

Flower Color – Yellow with dull yellow/black/brown center

Flowering Period – July-October

Habitat (Community): Moist, open areas along streams & ponds; wet meadows

Hydrology:

Indicator status – Facultative Wetland –, Obligate Wetland

Non-Tidal Regime – Prefers rich, moist soils. Intolerant of dry soils. Do not tolerate heat and humidity well. Needs full sun to partial shade.

Wildlife Benefits: Minor source of food for large mammals (Toxic if eaten in large quantities). Attracts butterflies

Distribution: Quebec to Florida, west to British Columbia and Arizona

Plant Fact Sheet

SMOOTH OXEYE

Heliopsis helianthoides (L.) Sweet

Plant Symbol = HEHE5

Contributed by: Colorado, Kansas and Maryland Plant Materials Programs



Christine Taliga, USDA NRCS Colorado Plant Materials Program

Alternative Names

Common Alternate Names: Early sunflower, Smooth sunflower, False sunflower, Oxeye daisy, Oxeye, Oxeye sunflower, *Heliopsis* sunflower, Sunflower *Heliopsis*.

Uses

Forage: Livestock and deer sometimes graze Smooth oxeye.

Landscape: Smooth oxeye is considered one of the best hardy plants for a wildflower garden border. It performs well in dry (xeric) locations, in poor to average soils, and in full sun to partial shade. Flowering can be extended by removing spent flowers. Staking may be necessary in shady locations.

Pollinators: The ground nesting bee, *Holcopasites heliopsis*, is a specialist pollinator of *Heliopsis helianthoides*. The nectar of *Heliopsis* attracts butterflies and other pollinators. Birds utilize the seed as a food source, and stems provide winter cover for beneficial insects.

Status

Please consult the PLANTS Web site and your State Department of Natural Resources for this plant's current status (e.g., threatened or endangered species, state noxious status, and wetland indicator values).

Description

Heliopsis from the Greek word helios for "sun" and oopsis for "appearance." *Helianthoides* also from the Greek meaning "like *Helianthus*," the sunflower.

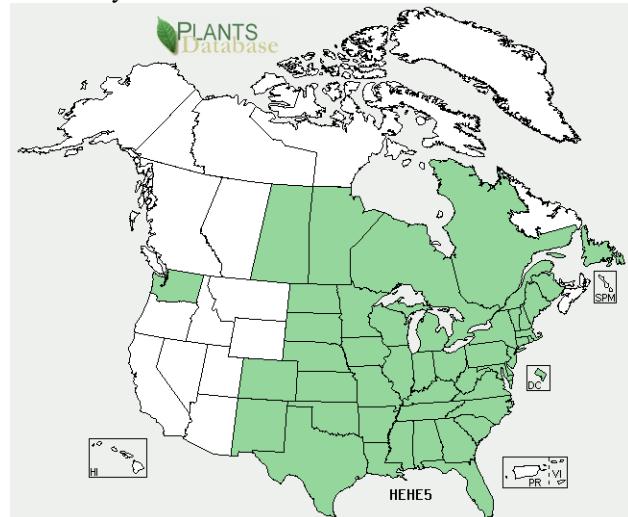
Smooth oxeye is a member of the sunflower family (Asteraceae). It is a vigorous, upright, native, perennial forb growing 3' to 4' in height.

The leaves are oppositely attached to the stem consistently to the top of the plant and have coarsely serrated margins. The toothed leaf blades are oval to triangular or lance-shaped.

The stem is rough to the touch and may contain a single flower head or be branched at the apex into multiple stems with several yellow flowers. The flowers of *Heliopsis* have both orange-yellow center disk and yellow ray flowers. Blooming occurs in summer beginning in July to August and extends for up to two months, making it one of the earliest blooming sunflowers. *Heliopsis* forms clumps 2' to 4' in diameter.

Adaptation

Its native range is widely distributed mainly east of the Rocky Mountains from Ontario to Florida and Mississippi. Smooth oxeye is adapted to full sunlight and dry to moderately moist soil conditions. It can be found growing in prairies, roadsides, and open woods, edge of fields and thickets, and waste areas. This species tolerates some drought and also a wide range of soil types, including nutrient-poor soils. It has proven to perform best in areas receiving >5" of rainfall. Smooth oxeye is not salinity-tolerant.



Smooth oxeye distribution from USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database.

For updated distribution, please consult the Plant Profile page for this species on the PLANTS Web site.



R. Alan Shadow, USDA NRCS Manhattan PMC

Establishment

Seed: *Heliopsis helianthoides* establishes readily from seed when planted in the winter/fall or early in spring (March to April). Germination generally starts four weeks after sowing if soil temperatures remain in the 60 – 70 degree Fahrenheit range. Seeds ripen approximately one month after flowering, however as with many Asters, plants are self sterile. It may be necessary to crack open a few seeds to make sure they are viable.

Cuttings and Divisions: Five to seven node cuttings taken from the top 12 inches of growth in late spring root easily. Cuttings are sometimes reluctant to overwinter. Divide plants in the fall for best results.

Management

During the establishment period weeds should be mowed or spot treated with a herbicide. Plants will produce viable seed the first year of establishment in mid to late August to September. Seeds readily shatter when mature.

Pests and Potential Problems

None known at this time.

Environmental Concerns

There are no environmental concerns or probability of this plant becoming a weed problem in cultivated agricultural systems or pasture lands. Rock (1981) however, indicates

that *Heliopsis* may spread widely and has the tendency to become weedy in landscape settings.

Cultivars, Improved, and Selected Materials (and area of origin)

‘Midas’ was released by the Manhattan, Kansas Plant Materials Center (PMC) in 1984. It is recommended for the more western extent of the native range of this species.

Northern, central and southern Iowa source identified materials were released in the mid and late 1990’s by the Elsberry, Missouri Plant Materials Center.

Prepared by:

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Citation

Taliga, C.E., R.L.Wynia, S.V. Belt. 2012. Plant Fact Sheet for false sunflower (*Heliopsis helianthoides* (L.) Sweet). USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, Denver State Office. Denver CO., 80225-0426.

Published September 2012

Edited: 10Sep2012jld, 10Sep2012cga

For more information about this and other plants, please contact your local NRCS field office or Conservation District <<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/>>, and visit the PLANTS Web site <<http://plants.usda.gov>> or the Plant Materials Program Web site <<http://plant-materials.nrcs.usda.gov>>

Hibiscus moscheutos
Hibiscus or Swamp rosemallow



Summer Flower & Foliage

Characteristics: herbaceous perennial

Appearance:

Height - 3 to 7 ft.

Spread - 3 to 4 ft.

Flower Color - pink, red, or white

Flowering Period - July through September

Habitat (Community): wetlands, detention basins, roadside plantings, stream edges, pond edges, and rain gardens

Hydrology:

Indicator Status - obligate

Wildlife Benefits: food and habitat for caterpillars, bees, birds, and butterflies

Distribution: USDA hardiness zones 5-8

Iris versicolor
Blue flag, Blue water iris



Spring/Summer Flower



Green Summer Foliage

Characteristics: Herbaceous, Perennial, Nonpersistent

Appearance:

Height - 2 to 3 ft.

Flower Color - Blue or violet

Flowering Period - May

Habitat: Swamps, Marshes, and Wet Shores

Hydrology:

Indicator status - Obligate wetland

Salinity - Fresh to moderately brackish

Non-Tidal Regime - Regularly to permanently inundated up to 0.5 feet or saturated

Wildlife Benefits: Food for wildfowl, marsh birds, and persists as cover within a growing season under heavy grazing. Favorite to hummingbirds.

Distribution: Newfoundland to Manitoba, south to Virginia and Minnesota.

Liatriis spicata
Dense blazing star



Summer Flower & Foliage

Characteristics: herbaceous perennial

Appearance:

Height - 3 to 4 ft.

Flower Color - purple

Flowering Period - June through August

Habitat (Community): roadsides, native wildflower gardens, marsh edges, meadows or prairies with well drained soils, drought tolerant

Hydrology:

Indicator Status - facultative

Salinity Tolerance - low

Drought Tolerance - low

Wildlife Benefits: attracts butterflies, bees, and rare moths

Distribution: North America from Eastern Canada through Eastern and Midwestern United States

Lilium superbum
Turk's Cap Lily



Summer Flower



Summer Foliage

Characteristics: Perennial herb

Appearance:

Height – 3-7 feet

Flower Color – Orange to reddish orange, sometimes yellow

Flowering Period – Early July to late August

Habitat (Community): Moist meadows, wet woods including floodplains and coves

Hydrology:

Indicator status – Facultative wetland +

Salinity – Freshwater

Non-Tidal Regime – Requires consistently moist area

Wildlife Benefits: Attracts hummingbirds

Distribution: From Massachusetts and New York to New Hampshire, south to north Alabama and Georgia.

Lobelia cardinalis Cardinal flower



Foliage and Summer/Fall Flower

Characteristics: Herbaceous, Perennial, Nonpersistent

Appearance:

Height - 2 to 4 ft.

Flower Color - Scarlet

Flowering Period - June through September

Habitat (Community): Fresh tidal marshes, non-tidal marshes, wooded swamps, seeps, pond, river, and stream banks

Hydrology:

Indicator status - Facultative wetland

Salinity - Freshwater

Non-Tidal Regime - Regularly to permanent saturated

Wildlife Benefits: Food (**nectar**) for hummingbird, oriole, and butterflies.

Distribution: New Brunswick to Michigan and Minnesota, south to Florida and Texas

Lobelia siphilitica Blue Lobelia



Foliage and Summer/Fall Flower ^a

Characteristics: Herbaceous, Perennial

Appearance:

Height - 1 to 5 ft.

Flower Color - Blue

Flowering Period - July through October

Habitat (Community): Open, wet woods; stream banks; marshes; and meadows^b

Hydrology:

Indicator status - Facultative wetland

Wildlife Benefits: (Nectar) food for hummingbird and honey bees.

Distribution: Maine to Manitoba and Colorado, south to North Carolina and Texas.^c

^a http://plants.usda.gov/java/largeImage?imageID=losi_009_ahp.tif

^b https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=losi

^c https://plants.usda.gov/plantguide/pdf/cs_losi.pdf

Mimulus ringens Monkey Flower



Characteristics: fragrant flowers

Appearance:

Height – up to 3 ft.

Flower Color – Blue

Flowering Period – July to September

Habitat (Community): perennial herb of swamps, streambanks, and wet meadows

Hydrology:

Indicator status - Obligate

Wildlife Benefits: food source for pollinators

Distribution: Native to most of U.S. and Canada.

Monarda didyma

Scarlet bee balm/Oswego tea



Summer Plant



Summer Flower ¹

Characteristics: Perennial herb, aromatic

Appearance:

Height – 3 to 5 ft.

Spread – 2 to 3 ft.

Flower Color – Scarlet, Red

Flowering Period – July through August

Habitat (Community): Moist open woods, thickets, road edges, and stream banks.

Hydrology:

Indicator Status – Facultative Upland

Non-Tidal Regime – Needs humus rich, moist to wet soil. Prefers full sun, but afternoon shade may result in longer flowering times.

Wildlife Benefits: Nectar source for hummingbirds and butterflies.

Distribution: Native to eastern North America and Canada.²

¹ http://plants.usda.gov/java/largeImage?imageID=modi_002_avp.tif

² https://plants.usda.gov/plantguide/pdf/pg_modi.pdf

Monarda fistulosa

Wild bergamot / Bee-balm



Summer Flower



Summer Foliage¹

Characteristics: Perennial herb, aromatic

Appearance:

Height – 2-3 ft.

Flower Color – Pale pink to lavender

Flowering Period – July through September

Habitat (Community): Found in upland woods, dry fields, prairies, thickets, and woodland borders.

Hydrology:

Indicator Status – Upland

Wildlife Benefits: Nectar source for bees, hummingbirds, and butterflies.

Distribution: Quebec to Manitoba and British Columbia south to Georgia, Louisiana, and Arizona.

¹ Patrick J. Alexander, hosted by the USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database

Penstemon digitalis

Foxglove Beardtongue



Summer Flower & Foliage

Characteristics: herbaceous perennial; deer resistant

Appearance:

Height - 3 to 5 ft.

Spread - 18 in.

Flower Color - white or light pink

Flowering Period - May through July

Habitat (Community): wild and perennial gardens, woodland edges, xeriscaping, and naturalized areas

Hydrology:

Indicator Status - facultative

Salinity Tolerance - medium

Drought Tolerance - high

Wildlife Benefits: attracts bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds

Distribution: USDA hardiness zones 3-8

Phlox divaricata
Woodland phlox



Spring Flower & Foliage

Characteristics: herbaceous perennial; fragrant

Appearance:

Height - 12 to 18 in.

Spread - 8 to 12 in.

Flower Color - violet blue

Flowering Period - April through May

Habitat (Community): open woodlands, prairies and along streams; hummingbird and butterfly gardens

Hydrology:

Indicator Status – facultative upland

Wildlife Benefits: attracts butterflies and hummingbirds

Distribution: USDA hardiness zones 3-8

Phlox paniculata
Garden Phlox



Summer Foliage



Summer Flower

Characteristics: Perennial herb

Appearance:

Height – 3-6 ft.

Spread – 2-3 ft.

Flower Color – Pink, purple, violet

Flowering Period – July to September

Habitat (Community): Rich, open woods; thickets; meadows; moist roadsides

Hydrology:

Indicator Status – Facultative Upland

Non-Tidal Regime – Needs full sun. Grows in moderately fertile, medium moisture, well-drained soil, but prefers rich, moist, organic soils. Intolerant of drought.

Wildlife Benefits: Attracts birds, butterflies, and hummingbirds.

Distribution: Southern New York to northern Georgia, west to Illinois, Missouri, and Arkansas

Phlox stolonifera Creeping phlox



Spring Flower & Foliage

Characteristics: herbaceous perennial, fragrant

Appearance:

Height - 6 to 10 in.

Spread - 2 ft.

Flower Color - pink, violet, or milky white

Flowering Period - April through June

Habitat (Community): shade tolerant, found in woodland areas

Hydrology:

Indicator Status - facultative upland

Drought Tolerance - high

Wildlife Benefits: food and habitat for butterflies.

Distribution: USDA hardiness zones 5-8

Physostegia virginiana
Obedient Plant/False Dragonhead



Summer Foliage



Summer Flowers

Characteristics: Perennial herb

Appearance:

Height – 1-4 ft.

Spread – 2-3 ft.

Flower Color – Pink, pale purple, white

Flowering Period – June-August

Habitat (Community): Swamps, damp thickets, wet woods, and moist prairies

Hydrology:

Indicator Status – Facultative +, Obligate Wetland

Non-Tidal Regime – Best grown in moist to wet soils in full sun.

Wildlife Benefits: Attracts hummingbirds

Distribution: Maine and Quebec to Manitoba and North Dakota, south to Florida and northern Mexico

Pycnanthemum virginianum
Mountain Mint/Virginia Mountain-mint



Summer Foliage



Summer Flowers

Characteristics: Herbaceous perennial

Appearance:

Height – 2-3 ft.

Spread – 1-1.5 ft.

Flower Description – White

Flowering Period – July-September

Habitat (Community): Wet prairies; stream edges; moist bluffs, wet meadows, swamps and along ponds.

Hydrology:

Indicator Status – Facultative, Facultative Wetland +

Non-Tidal Regime – Grown in average, medium, well-drained soil in full sun.

Distribution: Maine to North Dakota, south to Georgia and Oklahoma, north to New Brunswick and Ontario

Rudbeckia fulgida Orange coneflower



Summer Flower & Foliage

Characteristics: herbaceous perennial; deer resistant; self seeds

Appearance:

Height - 2 to 3 ft.

Spread - 1 to 2 ft.

Flower Color - yellow orange

Flowering Period - July through September

Habitat (Community): open woods, meadows, and pastures; native or rain gardens

Hydrology:

Indicator Status - facultative upland

Wildlife Benefits: attracts butterflies

Distribution: USDA hardiness zones 3-9

Rudbeckia hirta
Black-Eyed Susan



Summer Foliage



Summer Flower

Characteristics: Annual/short-lived perennial herb

Appearance:

Height – 2-3 ft.

Spread – 1-2 ft.

Flower Color – Golden-yellow to orange rays and dark brown centers

Flowering Period – June-October

Habitat (Community): Prairie, plains, meadows, pastures, savannahs, woodlands edge, and open fields.

Hydrology:

Indicator Status – Facultative Upland

Salinity – Not applicable, prefers freshwater

Non-Tidal Regime – Prefers moist to dry, organically rich well-drained soils in full sun. Tolerates heat, drought and a wide range of soils except poorly-drained wet soils.

Wildlife Benefits: Offers protection and food for several song and game birds. Nectar for bees, butterflies, and other insects.

Distribution: Newfoundland to Florida, west to British Columbia and Mexico

Rudbeckia laciniata

Cutleaf Coneflower



Spring/Summer Flower and Foliage^{a, b}

Characteristics: Herbaceous, Perennial, Drought tolerant

Appearance:

Height - 4 to 6 ft.

Flower Color – Yellow

Flowering Period – July through October

Habitat (Community): can be found in woods, meadows, streambanks, roadside ditches, flood plains and moist soils.

Hydrology:

Indicator status – Facultative wetland^c

Wildlife Benefits: food for honeybees, butterflies, and songbirds^d

Distribution: Lower 48 United States (L48) and Canada

^a <https://plants.usda.gov/core/profile?symbol=rula3#>

^b https://www.wildflower.org/gallery/result.php?id_image=67393

^c <http://www.pinelandsnursery.com/2015/02/rudbeckia-laciniata-cutleaf-coneflower.html>

^d <https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/rudbeckia-laciniata/>

Silphium perfoliatum

Cup-Plant



Form^a



Flower^b

Characteristics: herbaceous; perennial; prefers full sun

Appearance:

Height - 4 to 8'

Spread – 4 to 6'

Flowering Period - July through September

Bloom Color - yellow

Habitat (Community): open woods, meadows, prairies, and thickets

Hydrology:

Indicator status - facultative wetland^c

Wildlife Benefits: native bees, butterflies, skippers, honeybees, beneficial wasps, and flies forage for pollen or nectar; caterpillars feed on the foliage; songbirds eat the seed and drink water from the leaf cups; provide good cover for birds and other wildlife^d

Distribution: USDA hardiness zones 4-8

^a <https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/silphium-perfoliatum/>

^b https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=SIPE2

^c <https://gobotany.nativeplanttrust.org/species/silphium/perfoliatum/>

^d <http://www.newmoonnursery.com/plant/Silphium-perfoliatum>

Smilacina racemosum

False Solomon's Seal or Solomon's Plume



Foliage^a



Spring/Summer Flower



Fall Fruit

Characteristics: Herbaceous

Appearance:

Height - 1 to 2 ft.

Spread - 1 to 3 ft.

Bloom time of flower - April to June

Bloom color - White

Bloom time of fruit - September to November

Fruit color - Speckled brown or purple

Sun exposure - Sun, part shade, or shade

Habitat: found in moist, rich woodlands and woodland edges^b

Hydrology:

Indicator status - Facultative upland

Wildlife Benefits: The flowers are pollinated by small bees, flies, and beetles. The bees collect pollen from the flowers, while flies and beetles feed on pollen. The berries are a favorite of woodland birds. The foliage is browsed occasionally by the White-Tailed Deer.^c

Distribution: Throughout the United States and Canada

^a <https://www.prairiemoon.com/seeds/wildflowers-forbs/smilacina-racemosa-solomons-plume.html>

^b <https://www.prairiemoon.com/seeds/wildflowers-forbs/smilacina-racemosa-solomons-plume.html>

^c http://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/woodland/plants/fs_solomon.htm

Solidago nemoralis Gray Goldenrod



Foliage and Flowers

Characteristics: herbaceous, perennial, semi-persistent

Appearance:

Height - 1 to 2 ft.

Aerial Spread – up to 2 ft.

Flowering Period - August through September

Flower Color - Yellow

Habitat (Community): wildflower meadow, upland edges

Hydrology:

Indicator status - dry

Wildlife Benefits: attracts pollinators

Distribution: Wyoming to New Jersey ^a

Solidago sempervirens
Goldenrod



Characteristics: Persistent, herbaceous perennial

Appearance:

Height – 1-8 ft.

Flower Color – Yellow

Flowering Period – August to November

Habitat (Community): Well-drained soils.

Hydrology:

Indicator Status – Facultative wetland

Salinity Tolerance – High

Shade Tolerance – Intolerant

Distribution: Northeast west to Texas and Michigan

Stokesia laevis Stokes' aster



Summer Flower



Summer Foliage and Flower

Characteristics: herbaceous perennial; deer resistant; self seeds

Appearance:

Height - 1 to 3 ft.

Aerial Spread - 1 to 3 ft.

Flower Color – white, blue, or purple

Flowering Period – July through September

Habitat (Community): Coastal plains, bogs, pine savannah, and open woodlands; rock gardens

Hydrology:

Indicator status - facultative

Drought tolerance - high

Wildlife Benefits: attracts butterflies

Distribution: USDA hardiness zones 5-9

Symphyotrichum laeve

Smooth Aster



Form

Foliage

Flower^a

Characteristics: herbaceous; perennial; prefers full sun; drought tolerant

Appearance:

Height - 2 to 4'

Spread - 1 to 2'^b

Flowering Period - September through November

Bloom Color - violet blue to purple

Habitat (Community): prairies, rocky glades, dry open woods, roadside banks, and thickets

Hydrology:

Indicator status - upland^c

Wildlife Benefits: host plant for the Pearl Crescent butterfly; attracts bees and butterflies; seeds are food for songbirds and small mammals

Distribution: USDA hardiness zones 3-8

^a <https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/symphyotrichum-laeve/>

^b <http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?kempercode=g420>

^c https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=syla3

Symphyotrichum novae-angliae

New England Aster



Foliage and Summer/Fall Flower

Characteristics: Herbaceous, Perennial, Semi-persistent

Appearance:

Height – 1 to 6 ft

Flower Color – reddish purple

Flowering Period – August to October

Habitat (Community): open, forested seasonal wetlands moist soils and shores

Hydrology:

Indicator status - Facultative wetland (prefers wet conditions)

Salinity – fresh water; less than 0.5 ppt

Non-Tidal Regime – irregularly to seasonally inundated or saturated (up to approximately 25% of the growing season)

Wildlife Benefits: (cover) for many small wild game animals.

Distribution: southwestern Quebec to southern Alberta, south to central Maine, Delaware, Maryland, North Carolina, Alabama, Mississippi, Arizona, Oklahoma, Kansas and Colorado

Sympyotrichum novi-belgii

New York Aster



Foliage and Summer/Fall Flower

Characteristics: Herbaceous, Perennial

Appearance:

Height – 1 to 3 ft

Flower Color – purple

Flowering Period – August to October

Habitat (Community): open, forested seasonal wetlands moist soils and shores

Hydrology:

Indicator status - Facultative wetland

Salinity – Not applicable, prefers freshwater

Non-Tidal Regime – irregularly to seasonally inundated or saturated (up to approximately 25% of the growing season)

Wildlife Benefits: (cover) for many small wild game animals.

Distribution: Maine to southern Maryland and Washington D.C.

Tiarella cordifolia
Foam Flower



¹Loughmiller, Campbell and Lynn. Courtesy of Wildflower.org

Verbena hastata

Blue Vervain



Form

Foliage and Stem

Flowers^a

Characteristics: perennial; herbaceous; prefers full sun or partial shade

Appearance:

Height - 2 to 5'

Spread - 1 to 2.5'

Flowering Period - June through September

Flower Color - purple, blue, lavender

Habitat (Community): wet meadows, wet prairies, depressions^b

Hydrology:

Indicator status - facultative wetland

Wildlife Benefits: seeds eaten by cardinals, sparrows, and juncos; cottontail rabbits eat the foliage, however, most mammals avoid its bitter taste; larval host plant to verbena moth and the common buckeye butterfly; bees collect the nectar and sometimes the pollen; also attracts thread-waisted wasp, bee flies, thick-headed flies, and golden soldier beetle

Distribution: USDA hardiness zones 3-8^c

^a <https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/verbena-hastata/>

^b https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/nrcs142p2_021545.pdf

^c <https://mgnv.org/plants/perennials/vervain/>

Vernonia noveboracensis
New York Ironweed



Summer Foliage



Summer Flowers

Characteristics: Herbaceous perennial

Appearance:

Height – 3-6 ft.

Spread – 3-4 ft.

Flower Color – Purple

Flowering Period – August-September

Habitat (Community): Fields and marshy areas

Hydrology:

Indicator Status – Facultative +, Facultative Wetland +

Non-Tidal Regime – Easily grown in average, medium to wet soils in full sun. Tolerates wide range of soils, but prefers rich, moist, slightly acidic soils.

Wildlife Benefits: Attracts butterflies

Distribution: From Massachusetts to West Virginia and Ohio south to Mississippi and east to Georgia

Veronicastrum virginicum
Culver's Root



Summer Foliage



Summer Flower

Characteristics: Herbaceous perennial

Appearance:

Height – 3-6 ft.

Flower Color – White to pale blue

Flowering Period – May - August

Habitat (Community): Open woods, thickets and moist meadows and prairies

Hydrology:

Indicator status – Facultative Upland

Non-Tidal Regime – Medium to wet, well-drained soil

Wildlife Benefits: Attracts butterflies

Distribution: Vermont to Ontario and Manitoba, south to Georgia and Louisiana

FERNs

Athyrium filix-femina
Lady Fern



¹Peggy A Lopipero Langmo. <https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/athyrium-filix-femina/>

Dryopteris marginalis

Marginal woodland fern



Foliage



Spores^a

Characteristics: Herbaceous, deer resistant, drought tolerant^b

Appearance:

Height - 1 to 2 ft.

Spread - 1 to 3 ft.

Bloom color - Green

Sun exposure - Part shade or full shade

Habitat: Found in rocky woods, rich woodlands, woodland edges, ravines, or bluffs

Hydrology:

Indicator status - Facultative upland

Wildlife Benefits: Provides valuable habitat for small wildlife

Distribution: Newfoundland to Georgia and west to Minnesota and Oklahoma^c

^a <https://nhgardensolutions.wordpress.com/tag/marginal-wood-fern/>

^b <http://www.northcreeknurseries.com/plantName/Dryopteris-marginalis->

^c <http://www.newmoonnursery.com/plant/Dryopteris-marginalis>

Matteuccia struthiopteris Ostrich Fern



Characteristics: tropical-looking northern fern, deciduous leaves

Appearance:

Height – 3 to 4 ft.
Spread- 2 to 3 ft.
Spacing- 18 in.

Habitat (Community): northern fern of damp, shady woods and forests.

Hydrology:

Indicator status - Facultative

Wildlife Benefits: deer resistant

Distribution: Northcentral and Northeast U.S., and Canada.

Onoclea Sensibilis

Sensitive Fern



pinelandsnursery.com



Characteristics: Rhizomatous fern

Appearance:

Height - 12"-18", up to 3'

Bloom Period - June to November

Habitat (Community): native to marshes and wet meadows.

Sun Exposure: Part shade to full shade

Hydrology:

Indicator status - Facultative Wetland

Wildlife Benefits: deer resistant

Distribution: Southeast U.S.

Osmunda cinnamomea
Cinnamon fern



Spring Foliage



Mature spores

Characteristics: Herbaceous, perennial, non-persistent fern.

Appearance:

Height – Up to 5 ft.

Aerial Spread – 2-3 ft.

Fruiting period – Spring (March-May)

Habitat (Community): Forested wetlands, stream banks, seepage slopes, bog edges.

Hydrology:

Indicator Status – Facultative wetland

Salinity – Fresh water; less than .5 ppt.

Non-Tidal Regime – Irregularly, seasonally, regularly, or permanently saturated

Wildlife Benefits: Leaves can be used as food for upland gamebirds and mammals (snowshoe hare, deer)

Distribution: Newfoundland to Minnesota, south to Florida, Texas, and New Mexico

Osmunda regalis Royal Fern



Characteristics: perennial fern

Appearance:

Height – up to 6 ft.

Spread- 2 to 3 ft.

Spacing- 18 in.

Habitat (Community): Grows in marshes, swamps, wet meadows and moist woodlands

Hydrology:

Indicator status - Obligate

Wildlife Benefits: deer resistant

Distribution: Northern and Eastern Canada; Northeastern, Northcentral, Southeastern, and Southcentral U.S.

Polystichum acrostichoides
Christmas Fern



Year Round Foliage

Characteristics: Perennial evergreen fern

Appearance:

Height – 1-2 ft.

Aerial Spread – 1-2 ft.

Habitat (Community): Dry and moist wooded slopes, moist banks and ravines. Rich, rocky woods; stream banks; swamps; thickets

Hydrology:

Indicator Status – Obligate Upland

Non-Tidal Regime – Best grown in organically rich, dry to medium moisture, well-drained soils in part shade to full shade

Wildlife Benefits: Low food source for terrestrial birds

Distribution: Nova Scotia to Wisconsin, south to Florida, Texas, and Mexico

GRASSES, SEDGES, AND RUSHES

Andropogon gerardii
Big Bluestem



Summer Flower



Summer Foliage



Fall/Winter Foliage

Characteristics: Perennial grass

Appearance:

Height – 4-8 ft.
Flower Color – Yellow
Flowering Period – August to November

Habitat (Community): Open woods, prairies, meadows, along riverbanks, and roadsides. Especially abundant in lowland prairies, overflow sites, and sandy areas.

Hydrology:

Indicator Status – Facultative, Facultative Upland
Salinity – Moderately saline tolerant. Not tolerate to high salinity.
Non-Tidal Regime – Easily grown in average, dry to medium, well-drained soils in full sun. Tolerates of a wide range of soils and growing conditions. It is best adapted to moist, sandy or clay loams but also occurs in dry or shallow soils. It can withstand periodic flooding and high water tables.

Wildlife Benefits: Source of nectar for Delaware Skipper and Dusted Skipped. Provides shelter for nesting birds and insects. Songbirds and prairie chickens consume the seeds while white-tailed deer and bison graze vegetative parts.

Distribution: Quebec to Saskatchewan, south to Florida and Arizona

Carex amphibola Creek sedge



Spring/Summer Flower



Spring/Summer/Fall Foliage

Characteristics: perennial grass; erosion stabilizer

Appearance:

Height - 8 to 12 ft.

Spread - 8 to 12 ft.

Flowering Period - March through June

Habitat (Community): woodland, upland or floodplain; used in shade gardens, along wood paths or as a slope stabilizer

Hydrology:

Indicator status - facultative wetland

Wildlife Benefits: attracts butterflies; larval food and host for some skippers

Distribution: USDA hardiness zones 3-9

Carex crinita

Fringed Sedge



a

b

Foliage and Summer/Fall Flower

Characteristics: Evergreen Perennial

Appearance:

Height - 1 to 3 ft.

Spread – 1 to 2 ft.

Flower Color – n/a

Flowering Period – May through June

Habitat (Community): Open, wet meadows; marshes; and water margins^c

Hydrology:

Indicator status - Facultative wetland

Benefits: Erosion control

Distribution: Nova Scotia to Wisconsin, south to North Carolina and Texas.^d

^a <https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?taxonid=279732>

^b <https://mtcubacenter.org/trials/carex-for-the-mid-atlantic-region/carex-crinita-fringed-sedge/>

^c <https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?taxonid=279732>

^d https://plants.usda.gov/plantguide/pdf/cs_losi.pdf

Carex grayi Gray Sedge



Foliage^a



Seed head^b

Characteristics: perennial; prefers full sun to partial shade; deer resistant

Appearance:

Height - 2 to 3'
Flowering Period - May through June
Bloom Color - brown/copper
Fruit Color - brown
Fruiting Period - May to October

Habitat (Community): wet deciduous forests, sandy swamps, wet depressions, shaded seeps, wet prairies, marshes, and margins of creeks and rivers

Hydrology:

Indicator status - facultative

Wildlife Benefits: attracts butterflies, pollinators, and songbirds

Distribution: USDA hardiness zones 5-9

^a <https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/carex-grayi/>

^b <http://www.newmoonnursery.com/plant/Carex-grayi>

Carex laxiculmis

Creeping Sedge



Foliage^a

Characteristics: herbaceous; perennial; groundcover; prefers full shade/partial shade; deer resistant

Appearance:

Height - up to 1'

Flowering Period - April through July

Bloom Color - white/yellow

Habitat (Community): wet forests, stream banks, swamp margins^b

Hydrology:

Indicator status - obligate^c

Distribution: USDA hardiness zones 4-7

^a <https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/carex-laxiculmis-bunny-blue/>

^b <http://www.newmoonnursery.com/plant/Carex-laxiculmis>

^c <https://plants.usda.gov/core/profile?symbol=CACH5>

Carex pensylvanica

Pennsylvania sedge or Oak sedge



Foliage^a



Seed^b



Foliage^c

Characteristics: Herbaceous, Perennial, Deer

Appearance:

Height – 1 to 12 inches

Spread – 12 to 18 inches

Habitat: Upland woods, open wooded bluffs and slopes, clearings in woods, pine barrens, oak savannas, and upland prairies.

Hydrology:

Indicator status – No indicator

Wildlife Benefits: Birds and small mammals feed on the seed. Provides seasonal cover for birds and other woodland wildlife.

Distribution: In the United States plants occur from Maine to North Carolina and west from North Dakota to Arkansas

^a <http://www.pinelandsnursery.com>

^b <http://www.pinelandsnursery.com>

^c <http://www.northcreeknurseries.com>

Carex plantaginea

Seersucker Sedge



Foliage



Flower^a

Characteristics: herbaceous; perennial; groundcover; prefers partial shade to full shade; deer resistant

Appearance:

Height - 6 to 12"

Spread - 10 to 12"

Flowering Period - May through July

Bloom Color - light purple-brown^b

Habitat (Community): woodland slopes, rich deciduous woods, ravines, and wooded mountainous sites^c

Hydrology:

Indicator status - none

Wildlife Benefits: caterpillars of several woodland butterflies feed on the foliage; seeds are a food source for woodland birds including wild turkey

Distribution: USDA hardiness zones 4-8; from Canada to Alabama

^a <https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/carex-plantaginea/>

^b <https://www.northcreeknurseries.com/plantName/Carex-plantaginea->

^c <http://www.newmoonnursery.com/plant/Carex-plantaginea>

Carex stipata

Awl-fruited sedge



Spike^a



Tuft^b

Characteristics: perennial

Appearance:

Height - 1-3 ft.
Leaf Color - green
Bloom Period - June

Habitat (Community): river banks, shores, floodplain forests, wet meadows, and marshes

Hydrology:

Indicator status - obligate

Wildlife Benefits: attract insects and waterfowl; caterpillars will eat the foliage; seeds are eaten by birds such as woodcocks, ducks, and swamp sparrows

Distribution: lower 48 states, Alaska, and Canada^c

^a https://plants.usda.gov/gallery/pubs/cast5_002_pvp.jpg

^b <https://www.prairiemoon.com/carex-stipata-awl-fruited-sedge>

^c https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=CAST5

Carex stricta

Tussock Sedge



a

Foliage and Summer/Fall Flower

Characteristics: Evergreen Perennial

Appearance:

Height - 2 to 5 ft.

Spread – 2 to 3 ft.

Flower Color – n/a

Flowering Period – May through June

Habitat (Community): Acid or neutral swamps; swales; low woods ^b

Hydrology:

Indicator status - OBL Obligate – Hydrophyte - always occurs in wetlands

Wildlife Benefits: Excellent nesting habitat, food for sora rail, tree sparrow, grouse, snipe, seed eating songbirds, larkspurs, redpoll, ruffed grouse chicks, and ducks

Distribution: Arizona to West Virginia, south to North Carolina and Kansas.^c

^a <https://www.pinelandsnursery.com/carex-stricta-tussock-sedge-seed>

^b https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=CAST8

Carex vulpinoidea Fox sedge



Foliage and Flower^{ab}

Characteristics: Herbaceous, Perennial, Nonpersistent

Appearance:

Height - up to 3.5 ft.

Flowering Period - June through August

Habitat (Community): Fresh water marshes, wet meadows

Hydrology:

Indicator status - Obligate wetland

Salinity - Freshwater

Non-Tidal Regime - Seasonally to regularly inundated

Wildlife Benefits: Food for sora rail; swamp, tree sparrows; grouse, snipe, seed eating songbirds, larkspurs, redpoll, ruffed grouse chicks, ducks.

Distribution: Newfoundland to southern British Columbia, Washington, Oregon, south to Florida, west to Rocky Mountains

^a http://plants.usda.gov/java/largeImage?imageID=cavu2_002_avp.tif

^b <http://www.pinelandsnursery.com/2015/02/carex-vulpinoidea-fox-sedge.html>

Chasmanthium latifolium

Northern sea oats



Spring Foliage^a



Summer Foliage^b

Characteristics: Herbaceous, drought tolerant, salt tolerance

Appearance:

Height - 3 to 5 ft.

Spread - 2 to 3 ft.

Habitat: Occurs in rich woods or rocky slopes along streams and on moist bluffs

Hydrology:

Indicator status – Facultative Wetland

Wildlife Benefits: Used as cover in open areas. The seed is a food source for birds and rodents. Butterflies place their eggs on the leaves to use them as hosts.

Distribution: Pennsylvania south through Florida, in the upper mid-west to Wisconsin and south through Iowa Missouri and Kansas. In the south this species ranges from Florida through Arizona.

^a <http://www.northcreeknurseries.com/plantName/Chasmanthium-latifolium>

^b J.S. Peterson, hosted by the USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database

Deshampsia cespitosa

Tufted hairgrass



Spring Foliage^a



Fall Foliage^b

Characteristics: Herbaceous, salt tolerant

Appearance:

Height - 2 to 4 ft.

Spread - 1 to 2 ft.

Habitat: Coastal terraces, upper tidal marshes, seasonally wet prairies, moist subalpine mountain meadows, open forests, and alpine areas above timberline

Hydrology:

Indicator status - Facultative Wetland

Wildlife Benefits: Cover and food for small mammals, upland game birds, songbirds, and waterfowl depending on wildlife species and location. Larval food plant for several butterflies.

Distribution: As one of the most widely distributed grasses on earth, tufted hairgrass is found in many arctic and temperate regions. It occurs from sea level to 14,000 ft. in the mountains.^c

^a <http://www.northcreeknurseries.com/plantName/Deshampsia-cepitoso>

^b <http://www.northcreeknurseries.com/plantName/Deshampsia-cepitoso>

^c https://plants.usda.gov/factsheet/pdf/fs_dece.pdf

Elymus virginicus Virginia wild rye



Summer Bloom



Summer Foliage

Characteristics: herbaceous perennial; shade tolerant

Appearance:

Height - 3 to 5 ft.

Bloom Color - green or tan

Flowering Period - August

Habitat (Community): commonly found open grasslands, prairies, woodlands near flood plains, moist sites such as wet prairies, margins of wetlands, ditches, and riparian areas; great for soil stabilization

Hydrology:

Indicator Status - facultative wetland

Salinity Tolerance - none

Drought Tolerance - medium

Wildlife Benefits: Canadian geese will graze young foliage; nutritious feed for deer; birds and small mammals also forage for the seed and utilize the plant fibers for nesting material ; attracts butterflies and songbirds

Distribution: USDA hardiness zones 2-9

Eragrostis spectabilis

Purple lovegrass



Summer Foliage and Seed^a



Mid-Summer Seed ^b

Characteristics: Herbaceous, deer resistant, drought tolerant, prefers sun to part shade

Appearance:

Height - 1 to 2 ft.

Spread - 2 to 3 ft.

Flower Color - Purple

Flowering Period – July to August

Habitat: Commonly in sandy, rocky, or open ground in dry prairies, upland savannas, flatwoods, sandhills, limestone glades, abandoned fields, sandy or gravelly railroad and roadside right-of-ways.

Hydrology:

Indicator status - Upland

Wildlife Benefits: Songbirds eat the seeds. Attracts butterflies and other pollinators.

Distribution: Maine to South Dakota south to Florida, Texas, Arizona and Mexico

^a <https://www.prairiemoon.com/eragrostis-spectabilis-purple-love-grass-prairie-moon-nursery.html>

^b <https://www.prairiemoon.com/seeds/grasses-sedges-rushes/eragrostis-spectabilis-purple-love-grass.html>

Juncus effusus Soft rush



Foliage and Flowers

Characteristics: Herbaceous, Perennial, Persistent

Appearance:

Height - Up to 3.5 ft.

Flowering Period - July through September

Habitat (Community): Fresh tidal marshes, non-tidal marshes, shrub swamps, wet meadows, and ditches

Hydrology:

Indicator status - Facultative wetland

Salinity - Freshwater

Non-Tidal Regime - Regularly to permanently inundated

Wildlife Benefits: Food for wildfowl, upland game birds, marsh birds, songbirds, and waterfowl; spawning grounds for rock bass, bluegills, and others

Distribution: Throughout the United States

Panicum virgatum

Switchgrass



Foliage^{ab}

Characteristics: Herbaceous, Perennial, Persistent

Appearance:

Height - Up to 6'

Flowering Period - August through November

Bloom Color - Green to Brown

Habitat (Community): fresh and brackish tidal marshes non-tidal marshes wet meadows open woods, prairies, dunes

Hydrology:

Indicator status – Facultative (prefers moderate conditions)

Salinity – Fresh to brackish water; up to approximately 10 ppt

Tidal – above mean high water to upland

Non-Tidal Regime – irregularly to seasonally inundated or saturated (up to approximately 25% of the growing season)

Wildlife Benefits: Food for teals, wigeon, black duck, snow goose, snipes, ground dove, bobwhite, wild turkey, red-winged blackbird, cowbird, blue grosbeak, longspurs, sparrows (tree, savannah, Lincoln etc.), white-footed mouse, muskrat, rabbit and deer.

Distribution: Quebec to Saskatchewan, south to Florida, Texas, and Arizona

^a <http://www.pinelandsnursery.com/2015/02/panicum-virgatum-switchgrass.html>

^b Jeff McMillian, hosted by the USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database

Schizachyrium scoparium

Little Bluestem



Summer Foliage



Autumn Foliage

Characteristics: herbaceous perennial

Appearance:

Height - 36 to 40 in.

Spread - 15 to 30 in.

Flower Color - yellow

Flowering Period - August through October

Habitat (Community): prairies, meadows, rock gardens, and mass plantings

Hydrology:

Indicator Status - facultative upland

Salinity Tolerance - none

Drought Tolerance - moderate

Wildlife Benefits: grazed by livestock, deer and elk; seeds are eaten by song birds and upland gamebirds; provides habitat or ground birds and small mammals; the dusky skipper butterfly caterpillars overwinter in tube tents above the base of the clumps

Distribution: USDA hardiness zones 3-9

Sorghastrum nutans
Indiangrass



Characteristics: Native, perennial, warm-season grass

Appearance:

Height – 3-5 ft.

Flower Color – Golden brown

Flowering Period – June to September

Habitat (Community): Deep, well-drained floodplain soils. However, it is highly tolerant of poorly to excessively well-drained soils, acid to alkaline conditions, and textures ranging from sand to clay.

Hydrology:

Indicator Status – Upland (prefers dry conditions)

Salinity Tolerance – Medium

Shade Tolerance – Intolerant

Wildlife Benefits: Cover and food (seeds or rhizomes) for deer

Distribution: Northeast west to Texas and North Dakota

Sporobolus heterolepis

Prairie Dropseed



Form^a



Seedhead^b

Characteristics: grass; perennial; fragrant flowers; prefers full sun; salt tolerant; deer resistant^c; drought tolerant

Appearance:

Height - 2 to 3'

Spread - 2 to 3'^d

Flowering Period - July through October

Bloom Color - yellow, green, brown, pink

Habitat (Community): found in prairies, glades, open ground, and along railroads

Hydrology:

Indicator status - upland

Wildlife Benefits: larval food for Leonard's skipper, several grasshoppers, and leafhoppers species; seeds are eaten by sparrows and other songbirds; bison and cattle forage the foliage; voles and small rodents nest in the tufts of grass and rootstock

Distribution: USDA hardiness zones 3-9

^a <https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/FullImageDisplay.aspx?documentid=5512>

^b https://www.wildflower.org/gallery/result.php?id_image=43975

^c <https://www.northcreeknurseries.com/plantName/Sporobolus-heterolepis->

^d <https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/sporobolus-heterolepis/>

SHRUBS

Andromeda polifolia Bog Rosemary



Summer Foliage and Flowers

Characteristics: Perennial shrub

Appearance:

Height – 1 to 2 ft.

Aerial Spread - 2 to 6 ft.

Flower Color - White

Flowering Period – May through July

Fruit Color - Brown

Fruiting Period – Late June to early September

Habitat (Community): Bogs, rarely on wet heaths

Hydrology:

Indicator status - Obligate Wetland

Wildlife Benefits: (Cover) for songbirds, waterfowl and upland gamebirds

Distribution: Maine to the Southern New Jersey, From New Jersey westward to Minnesota, it can also be found in Washington and Idaho.

Aronia arbutifolia Red chokeberry



Summer Foliage



Fall Fruit

Characteristics: Broad-leaved, deciduous shrub

Appearance:

Height - 6 to 12 ft.

Aerial Spread - 3 to 6 ft.

Flower Color - White

Flowering Period - Mid through late May

Fruit Color - Red

Fruiting Period - Early September through mid December

Habitat (Community): Forested seasonal wetlands, swamps, low wood shrub bogs, sometimes in upland soils, swamp and bog edges, clearings, moist soils especially along streams

Hydrology:

Indicator status - Facultative wetland

Salinity - Resistant, tolerates infrequent flooding by water containing some salt

Non-Tidal Regime - Irregularly to seasonally inundated or saturated

Wildlife Benefits: (Fruit) food for bobwhite, brown thrasher, cedar waxwing, and eastern meadowlark. Also serves as emergency food in winter for many species.

Distribution: Nova Scotia to Michigan south to New England, Florida, and Texas

Aronia melanocarpa Black chokeberry



Green Summer Foliage



Winter Stalks



Fall Fruit



Spring Flower

Characteristics: Broad-leaved, deciduous shrub

Appearance:

Height - 3 to 6 ft.

Aerial Spread - 3 to 6 ft

Flower Color - White

Flowering Period - Early through mid May

Fruit Color - Black

Fruiting Period - Early September through late November

Habitat (Community): Swamp and bog edges, clearings, moist soils especially along streams

Hydrology:

Indicator status - Facultative wetland

Salinity - Resistant, tolerates infrequent flooding by water containing some salt

Non-Tidal Regime - Irregularly to seasonally inundated or saturated

Wildlife Benefits: (Fruit) is food for black-capped chickadee, bobwhite, gray catbird brown thrasher, cedar waxwing, eastern meadowlark, ruffed grouse, large and small mammals.

Distribution: Newfoundland to northwestern Ontario and Minnesota, south to Nova Scotia, New England South Carolina, and Tennessee

Cephalanthus occidentalis

Buttonbush



Summer Flower



Green Summer Foliage



Winter Stalks

Characteristics: Broad-leaved, deciduous shrub

Appearance:

Height - 6 to 12 ft.

Aerial Spread - 12 to 20 ft.

Flower Description - White flowers in dense clusters

Flowering Period - Late July through August

Habitat (Community): Fresh tidal marshes, non-tidal marshes, shrub swamps, forested wetlands, and borders of streams, lake, and ponds

Hydrology:

Indicator status - Obligate wetland

Salinity - Resistant, tolerates infrequent flooding by water containing some salt

Non-Tidal Regime - Irregularly to permanent inundated up to 3.0 feet or saturated

Wildlife Benefits: (**Nutlet**) food for ducks; (**Nectar**) food for ruby-throated hummingbird; (**Cover and Nesting**) for Virginia rail, red-winged blackbird.

Distribution: New Brunswick and Quebec to Minnesota, south through New England to Florida

Clethra alnifolia Sweet Pepperbush/ Summersweet



Spring Foliage



Summer Foliage



Fall Fruit

Characteristics: Broad-leaved, deciduous shrub

Appearance:

Height – 6-12 ft.

Aerial Spread – 3 to 6 ft.

Flower Color – White

Flowering Period – Early July through mid-August

Fruit Color – Brown

Fruiting Period – Early September persisting through February

Habitat (Community): Tidal and nontidal forested wetlands, shrub swamps, sandy woods, and coastal river floodplains

Hydrology:

Indicator status – Facultative wetland

Salinity – Resistant; tolerates infrequent flooding by water containing some salt

Non-Tidal Regime – Seasonally to regularly inundated or saturated

Wildlife Benefits: Provides food and cover for songbirds, shorebirds, waterfowl, upland gamebirds, and small mammals.

Distribution: Southern Maine, south to Florida and eastern Texas

Cornus amomum

Silky Dogwood



Leaves^a



Plant and Flower^{bc}



Fall Fruit

Characteristics: Broad-leaved, deciduous shrub

Appearance:

Height - 6 to 12 ft.

Aerial Spread - 6 to 12 ft.

Flower Color - Yellowish white

Flowering Period - May through July

Fruit Color - Blue

Fruiting Period - Early through late August

Habitat (Community): Forested seasonal wetlands, shrub wetlands, and stream and pond banks

Hydrology:

Indicator status - Facultative wetland

Salinity - Freshwater

Non-Tidal Regime - Irregularly to seasonally inundated or saturated

Wildlife Benefits: (Fruit, Twigs, and Leaves) food for wild turkey, ruffed grouse, bobwhite, ring-necked pheasant, common flicker, red-headed, downy, and pileated woodpeckers, eastern kingbird, brown thrasher, American robin, wood thrush, eastern bluebird, cedar waxwing, and purple finch; **(Preferred Nesting, Cover, and Food)** for gray cat bird; **(Nesting and Cover)** for American goldfinch.

Distribution: Quebec to Ontario and southern Illinois, south to South Carolina and Alabama

^a http://plants.usda.gov/java/largeImage?imageID=coam2_003_avp.tif

^b <http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/FullImageDisplay.aspx?documentid=18832>

^c https://www.wildflower.org/gallery/result.php?id_image=58645

Cornus racemosa

Graystem dogwood



Summer Foliage



Fall Foliage



Spring/Summer Flowers



Summer/Fall Fruit

Characteristics: Broad-leaved, deciduous shrub

Appearance:

Height - 6 to 12 ft.

Aerial Spread - 6 to 12 ft.

Flower Color - White

Flowering Period - Late May through mid June

Fruit Color - White

Fruiting Period - Early August through late September

Habitat: Forested wetlands, shrub wetlands, and stream borders

Hydrology:

Indicator status - Facultative wetland

Salinity - Freshwater

Non-Tidal Regime - Irregularly to seasonally inundated or saturated

Wildlife Benefits: (**Fruit**) food for ruffed grouse, bobwhite, wild turkey, pheasant, common flicker, eastern bluebird, cedar waxwing, and waterfowl; (**Cover**) for American woodcock.

Distribution: Central Maine to southern Ontario and Minnesota, south to New England, Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia, Kentucky, Missouri, and Oklahoma

Cornus sericea

Red-osier Dogwood aka Red-twigs Dogwood



Summer Flower & Foliage



Fall Fruit



Winter Stalks

Characteristics: Broad-leaved, deciduous shrub

Appearance:

- Height** - 6 to 12 ft.
- Aerial Spread** - 6 to 12 ft.
- Flower Color** - White
- Flowering Period** - Late May through June
- Fruit Color** - White
- Fruiting Period** - September

Habitat (Community): Forested seasonal wetlands, shrub wetlands, and stream banks

Hydrology:

- Indicator status** - Facultative wetland
- Salinity** - Freshwater
- Non-Tidal Regime** - Irregularly to seasonally inundated or saturated

Wildlife Benefits:

Food for eastern kingbird, brown thrasher, ring-necked pheasant, white-tailed deer, and other hooved browsers, wild turkey, beaver, ruffed and sharp-tailed grouse, bobwhite, cottontail rabbit, snowshoe hare, woodchuck, raccoon, moose. **Cover and Nesting** for the American goldfinch

Distribution: Newfoundland, and southern Labrador to Yukon Territory, south to Nova Scotia, New England, West Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Iowa, Nebraska, New Mexico, Arizona, and California

Hamamelis Virginiana

Witchhazel



Flower¹



Form



Foliage

Characteristics: shrub, perennial

Appearance:

Height -20 to 30 feet

Spread - 15 to 20 ft.

Flower Color - Yellow

Flowering Period - September through December

Habitat (Community): dry to moist deciduous forests

Sun Exposure: Part shade to full shade

Hydrology:

Indicator status - Facultative

Wildlife Benefits: Attracts song birds

Distribution: temperate deciduous forests of North America, native to much of Eastern U.S.

¹<http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-M1HzsrJ1ZW8/VOeHQTeunsI/AAAAAAAABJw/mRThND-eGNM/s1600/branches%2Bwith%2Bleaves.JPG>

Hydrangea quercifolia Oakleaf Hydrangea



Characteristics: Deciduous shrub

Appearance:

Height - 6 to 8 ft.

Spacing - 4 to 6 ft.

Flower Color - White, and as they age they turn pinkish

Flowering Period - Early May through August

Sun Exposure: Sun to Partial Shade

Habitat (Community): mixed hardwood forests, along streams and on forested hillsides

Ilex glabra Inkberry



Foliage and Fall Fruit



June Foliage and Flower

Characteristics: Broad-leaved, evergreen shrub

Appearance:

Height - 6 to 8 ft.

Aerial Spread - 6 to 12 ft.

Flower Color - Greenish to white

Flowering Period - Early May through late June

Fruit Color - Black

Fruiting Period - Late September to lat Mach

Habitat: Forested seasonal wetlands, shrub swamp and sandy woods

Hydrology:

Indicator status - Facultative wetland

Salinity - Resistant, tolerates infrequent flooding by water containing some salt

Non-Tidal Regime - Seasonally inundated or saturated

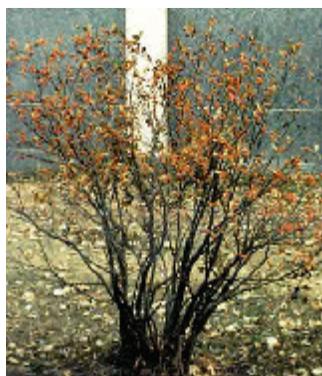
Wildlife Benefits: (**Fruit**) is food for wild turkey, bobwhite, common flicker, hermit thrush, eastern bluebird, cedar waxwing, rufous-sided towhee, waterfowl; (**Food, Cover, and Nesting**) for mockingbird and American robin.

Distribution: Nova Scotia to Florida and Louisiana along coastal plain

Ilex verticillata Common winterberry



Summer Foliage



Fall Foliage



Fall/Winter Fruit



Summer Flower

Characteristics: Broad-leaved, deciduous shrub

Appearance:

Height - 6 to 12 ft.

Aerial Spread - 6 to 12 ft.

Flower Color - Greenish to white

Flowering Period - Early through late June

Fruit Color - red to orange

Fruiting Period - Late August persisting through February

Habitat (Community): Fresh tidal swamps, shrub swamps, and forested wetlands

Hydrology:

Indicator status - Facultative wetland

Salinity - Freshwater

Non-Tidal Regime - Irregularly to seasonally inundated or saturated

Wildlife Benefits: Important for emergency food in winter; (**Berries, other**) food for mockingbird, gray catbird, brown thrasher, black duck, bobwhite, common flicker, American crow, American robin, cedar waxwing, cottontail rabbit, raccoon, squirrel, an eastern bluebird; (**Food, Cover, and Nesting**) for veery, and red-winged blackbird.

Distribution: Newfoundland to Minnesota, south to Georgia and Mississippi

Itea virginica

Virginia Sweetspire



Summer Foliage and Flowers



Fall Foliage^a

Characteristics: Broad-leaved, deciduous shrub

Appearance:

Height - 6 to 12 ft.

Aerial Spread - 6 to 12 ft.

Flower Color - White (in tassel-like spikes)

Flowering Period - Late June through late July

Fruit Color - Brown

Fruiting Period - late August, persisting through late March

Habitat (Community): Forested wetlands, shrub swamps and stream banks

Hydrology:

Indicator status - Obligate wetland

Salinity - resistant; tolerates infrequent flooding by water containing some salt

Non-Tidal Regime - Seasonally, regularly, or permanently inundated up to 0.5 ft. or saturated (approximately 13 to 100% of the growing season)

Wildlife Benefits: (Seeds) waterbirds, songbirds, gamebirds, small mammals

Distribution: southern New Jersey, south to Florida and Louisiana (along Coastal Plain), Mississippi Valley, north to Illinois

^a <http://www.pinelandsnursery.com/2015/02/itea-virginica-virginia-sweetspire.html>

Kalmia latifolia Mountain laurel



Late Spring/Summer Flower



Foliage

Characteristics: shrub, perennial; deer resistant; fragrant; all parts of the plant are poisonous

Appearance:

Height - 6 to 20 ft.

Spread - 5 to 12 ft.

Flower Color - pink, red and white

Flowering Period - May through July

Habitat (Community): hardwood forests, pine forest, pine barren and plains; used in mass plantings and hedge covers

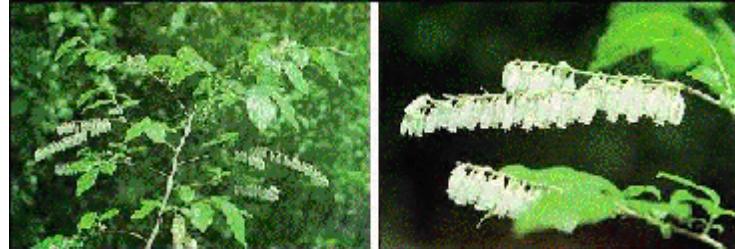
Hydrology:

Indicator status - facultative upland

Wildlife Benefits: attracts bees, butterflies, hummingbirds, and moths

Distribution: USDA hardiness zones 4-9

Leucothoe racemosa Fetterbush



Summer Foliage and Flowers

Characteristics: Broad-leaved, deciduous shrub

Appearance:

Height - Up to 13 ft.

Flower Color - White

Flowering Period - May to June

Habitat (Community): Shrub swamps, forested wetlands, moist acid woods

Hydrology:

Indicator status - Facultative wetland

Salinity - Fresh water

Non-Tidal Regime - Seasonally to regularly inundated or saturated

Wildlife Benefits: (Fruit) food for white-tailed deer

Distribution: Massachusetts and southeastern New York to eastern Pennsylvania, south to Florida and Louisiana

Lindera benzoin Spicebush



Spring Flower



Late Summer Foliage and Fruit



Fall Foliage

Characteristics: perennial shrub; fragrant

Appearance:

Height - 6 to 12 ft.

Spread - 6 to 12 ft.

Flower Color - yellow

Flowering Period - March through April

Fruit Color - scarlet

Fruiting Period - August through October

Habitat (Community): forested wetlands, low woods, swamp margins, and stream sides

Hydrology:

Indicator status - facultative wetland

Wildlife Benefits: birds, deer, rabbits, raccoons, and opossums browse the leaves and eat the fruit; larval host for the Spicebush Swallowtail and Eastern Swallowtail

Distribution: USDA hardiness zones 4-9

Myrica pensylvanica Northern Bayberry



Foliage and Fall Fruit

Characteristics: Broad-leaved, deciduous shrub

Appearance:

Height - 6 to 12 ft.

Aerial Spread - 6 to 12 ft.

Flower Color - Green

Flowering Period – late March through early or mid-April

Fruit Color – white or gray

Fruiting Period – early September, persisting through late May

Habitat: tidal fresh and brackish marshes and swamps nontidal marshes and swamps sand flats and dunes

Hydrology:

Indicator status - Facultative

Salinity – fresh to brackish water; up to approximately 20 ppt

Tidal - above mean high water to upland

Non-Tidal Regime – irregularly to seasonally inundated or saturated (up to approximately 25% of the growing season)

Wildlife Benefits: (**food**) eastern meadowlark, white-eyed vireo, yellow-rumped warbler, tree swallow, red-winged blackbird; (**winter food**) many songbirds, waterfowl, shorebirds, and marshbirds; (**cover**) many species

Distribution: Newfoundland, south to North Carolina (mainly Coastal Plain)

Rhododendron viscosum

Swamp azalea



Summer Foliage and Flowers^a

Characteristics: Broad-leaved, deciduous shrub

Appearance:

Height - 6 to 12 ft.

Aerial Spread - 6 to 12 ft.

Flower Color - White (pink bud)

Flowering Period - Early to mid July

Fruit Color and Description - Hairy brown capsules

Fruiting Period - Early August persisting to late March

Habitat (Community): Non-tidal swamp edges, forested wetlands

Hydrology:

Indicator status - Obligate wetland

Salinity - Fresh water

Non-Tidal Regime - Seasonally to regularly inundated or saturated

Wildlife Benefits: (Food) for waterfowl and small mammals

Distribution: Maine to Ohio, south to Florida

^a http://plants.usda.gov/java/largeImage?imageID=rhvig_001_ahp.tif

Rhus aromatica

Fragrant Sumac



Fruit

Flower

Summer Foliage

Fall Foliage^a

Characteristics: herbaceous; perennial; rabbit resistant; prefers full sun to partial shade

Appearance:

Height – 2 to 6'

Spread - up to 10'

Flowering Period - March through May

Flower Color - gold/yellow

Fruiting Period - June through August

Fruit Color - red/burgundy

Habitat (Community): open rocky woodlands, valley bottoms, lower rocky slopes, and roadsides^b

Hydrology:

Indicator status - upland

Wildlife Benefits: fruit is an important winter food for birds, including turkey, ruffed grouse, robins, and flickers, and for various small mammals (e.g., raccoon, opossum, chipmunk); thickets of fragrant sumac provide cover for many species of birds and small mammals; attracts bees, butterflies, moths, small mammals, and songbirds

Distribution: USDA hardiness zones 3-9

^a <https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/rhus-aromatica/>

^b <https://plants.usda.gov/core/profile?symbol=rhar4>

Rosa carolina

Carolina Rose



Foliage



Flower^a

Characteristics: perennial; deciduous shrub; fragrant and edible flowers; prefers full sun to partial shade

Appearance:

Height - 1 to 5'^b

Spread - 5 to 10'^c

Flowering Period - May through June

Bloom Color - pink

Fruiting Period - August through October

Fruit Color - red/burgundy

Habitat (Community): typically found in glades, open woods, prairies, along roads and railroads, and in wet soils along streams, swamps, and low areas

Hydrology:

Indicator status - facultative upland^d

Wildlife Benefits: attracts butterflies, pollinators, small mammals, and songbirds

Distribution: USDA hardiness zones 4-9

^a <https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/rosa-carolina/>

^b https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=roca4

^c <https://pinelandsalliance.org/plant/rosa-carolina/>

^d <https://plants.usda.gov/core/profile?symbol=roca4>

Sambucus canadensis Elderberry or American elder



Summer Fruit



Summer Flower



Foliage

Characteristics: broad-leaved, deciduous shrub; new growth can be fatal to livestock

Appearance:

Height - 6 to 12 ft.

Aerial Spread - 6 to 12 ft.

Flower Color - white in flat-topped clusters

Flowering Period - late June through mid July

Fruit Color - purple to black berries

Fruiting Period - July through late September

Habitat (Community): fresh tidal marshes, non tidal marshes, swamps, wet meadows, old fields, and moist woods

Hydrology:

Indicator status - facultative wetland

Salinity - resistant; tolerates infrequent flooding by water containing some salt

Non-Tidal Regime - irregularly to seasonally inundated or saturated

Wildlife Benefits: **(Fruit)** food for mourning dove, yellow-bellied sapsucker, eastern king bird, American robin, starling, blue jay; **(Food, Fruit, and/or Cover)** for red-bellied and redheaded woodpecker, wood and hermit thrushes, eastern bluebird, cedar waxwing, wild turkey, ring-necked pheasant, common flicker, brown thrasher, common grackle, and cardinal. **(Food, Cover, and Nesting)** Mockingbird and gray catbird

Distribution: Nova Scotia to Manitoba and South Dakota, south to Florida and Texas

Spiraea latifolia

Meadowsweet



Flower^a



Foliage^b

Characteristics: perennial, shrub

Appearance:

Height - 3 to 6 ft.

Bloom Color - pink or white

Bloom Period - July to September

Leaf Color - green

Fall Leaf Color - golden yellow

Habitat (Community): wild on wet prairies, wet river bottom prairies, and open ground along streams or lakes

Hydrology:

Indicator status – facultative wetland

Wildlife Benefits: attracts birds; food source of native bees; attracts predatory or parasitoid insects that prey upon pest insects^c

Distribution: USDA Plant Hardiness Zones 3-7^d

^a https://plants.usda.gov/gallery/pubs/spall_001_php.jpg

^b https://www.wildflower.org/gallery/result.php?id_image=59336

^c https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=SPALL

^d <http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?taxonid=286372>

Spiraea tomentosa

Steeplebush



Flower^a



Foliage and flower^b

Characteristics: shrub

Appearance:

Height - 2 to 4 ft.

Spread - 3 to 5 ft.

Bloom Color - pink or purple/lavender

Bloom Period - July through September

Fall Color - yellow to red

Habitat (Community): wet meadows, wet pastures, boggy areas, marshes, fields, roadsides, and lake margins

Hydrology:

Indicator status - facultative wetland

Wildlife Benefits: food source of pollinators; attracts birds, moths, and butterflies^{cd}

Distribution: USDA Plant Hardiness Zone 3-8

^a https://www.wildflower.org/gallery/result.php?id_image=32225

^b <https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/spiraea-tomentosa/>

^c <http://www.pinelandsnursery.com/2015/02/spiraea-latifolia-meadowsweet.html>

^d https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=SPTO2

Vaccinium corymbosum

Highbush Blueberry



Spring/Summer Foliage, Flower & Fruit

Characteristics: herbaceous perennial

Appearance:

Height - 6 to 10 ft.

Spread - 1.5 to 3 ft.

Flower Color - white

Flowering Period - March through June

Fruiting Period - May through October

Habitat (Community): marshes, swamps, lakes, floodplains, beach dunes, rocky hillsides, residential landscaping and rain gardens

Hydrology:

Indicator Status - facultative wetland

Wildlife Benefits: food for game birds, song birds, and mammals

Distribution: USDA hardiness zones 3-8

Viburnum acerifolium

Mapleleaf Viburnum



Form and Flower Summer



Foliage and Fruit Fall^a

Characteristics: perennial; deciduous shrub; prefers partial shade

Appearance:

Height - 4 to 6'
Spread - 2 to 6'
Flowering Period - May through August
Flower Color - white
Fruiting Period - July through October
Fruit Color – black/blue

Habitat (Community): hillsides and ravine slopes, upland beech-maple forests of the Northeast and Midwest, and deciduous woods along the Gulf Coastal Plain

Hydrology:

Indicator status - upland

Wildlife Benefits: fruits are eaten by mammals, game birds, and many species of songbirds; provides good nesting and escape cover for birds and small mammals^b

Distribution: USDA hardiness zones 4-8

^a <https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/viburnum-acerifolium/>

^b <https://plants.usda.gov/home/plantProfile?symbol=VIAC>

Viburnum dentatum

Arrowwood Viburnum



Fall Fruit



Summer Flower



Summer Foliage

Characteristics: Broad-leaved, deciduous shrub

Appearance:

Height - 3 to 10 ft.

Aerial Spread - up to 8 ft.

Flower Color - White in flat-topped clusters

Flowering Period - Late May through early June

Fruit Color - Blue to black berries

Fruiting Period - Early September through late November

Habitat (Community): Fresh tidal marshes, non-tidal marshes, shrub swamps, forested wetlands, moist woods

Hydrology:

Indicator status – Facultative wetland

Salinity - Resistant; tolerates infrequent flooding by water containing some salt

Non-Tidal Regime - Seasonally inundated or saturated

Wildlife Benefits: (**Fruit**) food for common flicker, eastern phoebe, brown thrasher, American robin, eastern bluebird, white and red-eyed vireos, and pileated woodpecker; (**Food, Cover, and Nesting**) for ruffed grouse, brown thrasher, and gray catbird.

Distribution: Southeastern Massachusetts, south to Florida and Texas, west to Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Tennessee

Viburnum lentago
Nannyberry



Spring Flower



Summer Foliage



Fall Fruit

Characteristics: Broad-leaved, deciduous shrub

Appearance:

Height – 20 to 35 ft.

Aerial Spread – 10 to 35 ft.

Flower Color – White, in flat-topped clusters

Flowering Period – Mid-through late May

Fruit Description – Yellow or red, ripening to black

Fruiting Period – Early September through early December

Habitat (Community): Forested seasonal wetlands, stream and swamp edges

Hydrology:

Indicator Status - Facultative

Salinity – Fresh water; less than .5 ppt

Non-Tidal Regime – Seasonally inundated or saturated

Wildlife Benefits: **Food (Fruit)** for common flicker, American robin, eastern bluebird, cedar waxwing, rose-breasted grosbeak, purple finch, pileated woodpecker, grouse, wild turkey, rabbit, chipmunk, squirrel.

Food (Fruit) and cover for ruffed grouse, bobwhite, ring-necked pheasant, hermit thrush

Food (Fruit, twigs, foliage, bark) for deer and beaver.

Food, cover, and nesting for gray catbird.

Distribution: Western Quebec to Manitoba, south to Georgia and Mississippi

Viburnum nudum

Possumhaw Viburnum



Form Summer



Foliage Fall^a

Characteristics: perennial; deciduous shrub; fragrant flowers; prefers full sun or partial shade

Appearance:

Height - 5 to 12'

Spread - 5 to 12'

Flowering Period - April through May

Flower Color - cream/tan, white

Fruiting Period - September through October

Fruit Color - light pink to deep pink to blue to purplish-black

Habitat (Community): bogs, blackwater floodplains, seepages

Hydrology:

Indicator status - obligate^b

Wildlife Benefits: potential host plant for the Spring Azure butterfly and hummingbird clearwing moths; fruits are eaten by songbirds, grouse, wild turkeys, and squirrel; twigs and leaves are browsed by white-tailed deer

Distribution: USDA hardiness zones 5-9

^a <https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/viburnum-nudum/>

^b <https://plants.usda.gov/home/plantProfile?symbol=vinu>

Viburnum trilobum

Cranberry viburnum



Fall Foliage^a



Berry



Flower

Characteristics: Herbaceous, Perennial, Nonpersistent

Appearance:

Height – 6 to 12 feet

Flower Color - White

Flowering Period - May to July

Fruit Color - Red

Fruiting Period - August to September

Habitat: wet woods, along streams, and on moist wooded hillsides, requires moist but well-drained sites

Hydrology:

Indicator status – Facultative wetland

Wildlife Benefits: Fruit is a winter food for ruffed grouse, pheasants, and songbirds. Flowers provide nectar for butterflies and other pollinators.

Distribution: Maine to Pennsylvania and West Virginia, northwestward to Washington

^a <http://www.pinelandsnursery.com/2015/02/viburnum-trilobum-cranberry-viburnum.html> (for all images)

TREES

Amelanchier canadensis Serviceberry



Summer Foliage



Fall Foliage



Summer Fruit



Spring Flower

Characteristics: Broad-leaved, deciduous tree

Appearance:

Height - 35 to 50 ft.

Aerial Spread - 35 to 50 ft.

Flower Color - White

Flowering Period - Mid through late April

Fruit Color - Dark purple to black

Fruiting Period - Mid June through mid July

Habitat (Community): Shrub swamps, forested wetlands

Hydrology:

Indicator status - Facultative wetland

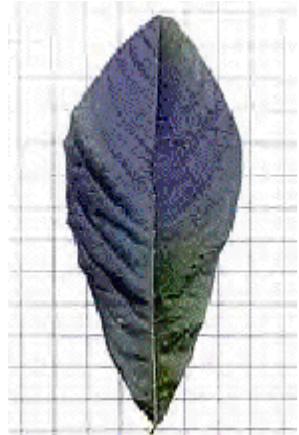
Salinity - Resistant; tolerates infrequent flooding by water containing some salt

Non-Tidal Regime - Irregularly to seasonally inundated or saturated

Wildlife Benefits: (**Fruit**) food for ruffed grouse; hairy, downy, and red headed woodpeckers; tufted titmouse, red-winged blackbird, eastern bluebird, cedar waxwing, mourning dove, common flicker, eastern phoebe, blue jay, brown thrasher, red-eyed vireo, American redstart, northern oriole, scarlet tanager, cardinal, rose-breasted grosbeak, northern junco, and song sparrow; (**Cover and Nesting**) for eastern kingbird, American robin' wood, hermit, and Swainson's thrushes

Distribution: Newfoundland to Mississippi on Coastal Plain

Asimina triloba Common Pawpaw



Summer Foliage



Spring Flower

Characteristics: Broad-leaved, deciduous tree

Appearance:

Height - Up to 30 ft.

Aerial Spread - 40 ft.

Flower Color - Green to brown with purple outer petals

Flowering Period - Early Spring

Fruit Color and Description - Brownish; cylindrical; slightly curved; edible soft yellowish pulp

Fruiting Period - Spring and Summer

Habitat (Community): Moist soils especially in flood plains

Hydrology:

Indicator status - Facultative wetland

Salinity - Fresh water

Wildlife Benefits: Pawpaw is the northernmost New World representative of a chiefly tropical family. The wild fruit was once harvested, but the supply has now decreased greatly due to the clearing of forests. The small crop is generally consumed only by wildlife, such as opossums, squirrels, raccoons, and birds. Attempts have been made to cultivate the Pawpaw as a fruit tree. First recorded by the DeSoto expedition in the Lower Mississippi Valley in 1541.

Distribution: Southern Ontario and western New York, south to northwest Florida, west to east Texas and north to southeast Nebraska

Betula nigra

River birch



Summer Foliage



Exfoliating Bark



Summer Fruit



Spring Flower

Characteristics: Broad-leaved, deciduous tree

Appearance:

Height - 50 to 75 ft.

Aerial Spread - 35 to 50 ft.

Flower Color - Light green to yellow green

Flowering Period - Late April through early May

Fruit Color - Light green

Fruiting Period - June through early August

Habitat (Community): Stream banks, floodplain forest, forested wetlands

Hydrology:

Indicator status - Facultative wetland

Salinity - Resistant; tolerates infrequent flooding by water containing some salt

Non-Tidal Regime - Irregularly to seasonally inundated or saturated

Wildlife Benefits: (Seeds) food for ruffed grouse, redpoll, pine siskin.

Distribution: New Hampshire to Minnesota, south to Florida, and Texas

^a <http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/FullImageDisplay.aspx?documentid=10669>

Cercis canadensis

Eastern redbud



Summer Foliage



Spring Flowers



Fall Fruit/Seed

Characteristics: Broad-leaved, deciduous tree

Appearance:

Height - Up to 40 ft.

Aerial Spread - Up to 20 ft.

Flower Color - Purplish-pink

Flowering Period - Spring

Fruit/Seed Color - Brown

Fruiting Period - Fall

Habitat (Community): Moist soils of valleys and slopes and in hardwood forests

Hydrology:

Indicator status - Facultative wetland; upland

Salinity - Freshwater

Non-tidal Regime - Dry to Moist Soils

Wildlife Benefits: (Flowers) food for a variety of butterflies; seeds are eaten by a variety of birds and mammals. The flowers can be eaten by humans as a salad, or fried.

Distribution: New Jersey south to central Florida, west to Texas, and north to Nebraska

Cornus florida Flowering dogwood



Foliage



Spring Flowers



Fall Fruit

Characteristics: Broad-leaved, deciduous tree

Appearance:

Height - Up to 30 ft.

Aerial Spread - Up to 15 ft.

Flower Color - White

Flowering Period - April to June

Fruit Color - Red

Fruiting Period - September to October

Habitat (Community): Both moist and dry soils of valleys and uplands in understory of hardwood forests; also in old fields and along roadsides

Hydrology:

Indicator status - Facultative wetland

Salinity - Freshwater

Non-Tidal Regime - Dry to moist soils

Wildlife Benefits: **(Fruit, Twigs, and Leaves)** food for wild turkey, ruffed grouse, bobwhite, ring-necked pheasant, common flicker; red-headed and pileated woodpeckers, eastern king bird, brown thrasher, American robin, wood thrush, eastern blue bird, cedar waxwing, and purple finch; **(Cover and Food)** for wood duck, American woodcock, and song sparrow; **(Preferred Nesting, Cover, and Food)** for gray catbird; **(Nesting and Cover)** for American goldfinch.

Distribution: Southern Ontario to Southeast Maine, south to Florida and west to Texas

Magnolia virginiana

Sweetbay magnolia



Spring Flower^a

Summer Foliage^b

Fall Fruit^c

Characteristics: Broad-leaved, deciduous shrub

Appearance:

Height - 12 to 20 ft.

Aerial Spread - 12 to 20 ft.

Flower Color - White

Flowering Period - Late May through mid June

Fruit Color - Pink to red

Fruiting Period - Mid September through late October

Habitat (Community): Forested wetlands, seeps, stream and pond borders, moist sandy woods

Hydrology:

Indicator status - Facultative wetland

Salinity - Resistant; tolerates infrequent flooding by water containing some salt

Non-Tidal Regime - Irregularly to seasonally inundated or saturated

Wildlife Benefits: (Seeds) food for rufous-sided towhee, red-eyed vireo, blue jay, and gray squirrel.

Distribution: Southern New York, south Florida and Texas along Coastal Plain

^a https://plants.usda.gov/gallery/pubs/mavi2_004.php.jpg

^b http://plants.usda.gov/java/largeImage?imageID=mavi2_003_ahp.jpg

^c http://plants.usda.gov/java/largeImage?imageID=mavi2_012_avp.jpg