

# NATIVE LANDSCAPE CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

## Level 2

*Plant Knowledge*

# Symbol Key

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## Sun Requirements



Shade



Part Sun



Full Sun

## Water Requirements



Very Low



Low



Medium



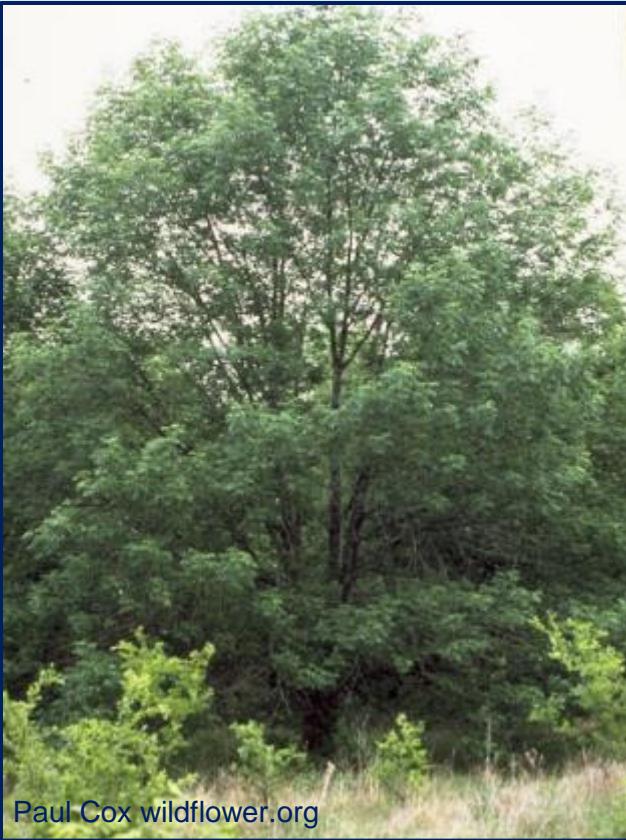
High

# **Canopy/Shade Trees**

Typically grow greater than 25' and  
form a single trunk with greater than 6"  
diameter

# Ash, Texas

*Fraxinus albicans*



- Excellent fall color - yellow, orange, red and purple
- Winged fruit, typically 5 leaflets
- Provides nesting, cover and food for birds
- Larval host: Eastern Tiger Swallowtail



# Ash, White

*Fraxinus americana*

High



Sally and Andy Wasowski wildflower.org

- Excellent fall color – yellow to purple
- Winged fruit, typically 7 leaflets
- Provides nesting, cover and food for birds
- Larval host: Eastern Tiger Swallowtail



Sally and Andy Wasowski wildflower.org

# Cedar, Eastern Red

*Juniperus virginiana*



- Good screen plant
- Plant female for fruit and to avoid pollen allergies
- Typically one main trunk
- Food and nesting material for birds



# Cedar, Mountain

*Juniperus ashei*

Ashe Juniper



- Good screen plant
- Plant female for fruit and to avoid pollen allergies
- Typically several trunks
- Food and nesting material for birds



Joseph A. Marcus wildflower.org

# Elm, American

*Ulmus americana*



- Fall yellow color, toothed leaves
- Fast growing shade tree
- Typically vase shaped, wider than tall
- Seeds important bird food
- Larval host: Question Mark, Eastern Comma, Painted Lady



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# Hackberry

*Celtis laevigata*

Sugarberry  




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wildflower.org

- Can be attractive shade tree
- Fast growing
- Fruit favored by birds
- Larval host: Hackberry Emperor



Carl Fabre wildflower.org

# Mesquite

*Prosopis glandulosa*



Beth Anderson [wildflower.org](http://wildflower.org)



Joseph A. Marcus  
[wildflower.org](http://wildflower.org)

- Bright green compound leaves
- 2" to 3" creamy white blooms
- Long yellow to brown seed pods
- Food for mammals and birds
- Larval host: Reakirt's Blue, Long-tailed Skipper



Sally and Andy Wasowski [wildflower.org](http://wildflower.org)

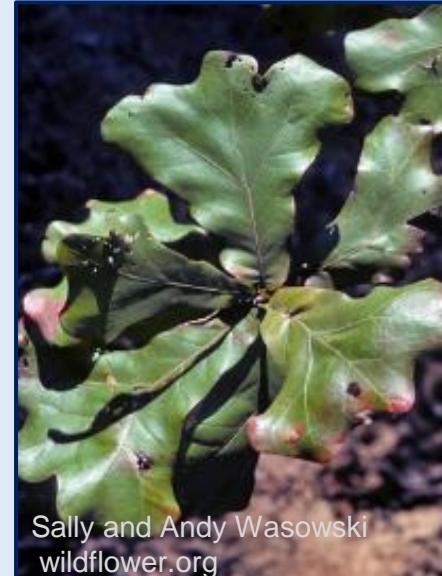
# Oak, Blackjack

*Quercus marilandica*



Unknown NPSOT wildflower.org

- Attractive shade tree
- Large glossy green bell-shaped leaves; black bark
- Slow growing; 1" to 2" acorns
- Larval host: Horace's Duskywing, White-M Hairstreak



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wildflower.org

# Oak, Post

*Quercus stellata*



Edith Bettinger [wildflower.org](http://wildflower.org)

- Most common oak in Texas
- Ultimate drought tolerant tree; slow growing, long lived
- Small to medium acorns, lobed leaves
- Roots sensitive to disturbance
- Larval host: Horace's Duskywing, Northern Hairstreak



Sally and Andy Wasowski  
[wildflower.org](http://wildflower.org)



Norman G. Flagg [wildflower.org](http://wildflower.org)

# **Small/Ornamental Trees**

Typically grow 10' to 25'  
Single or multi-trunked

# Buckeye, Mexican

*Ungnadia speciosa*



Jerry Barrett [wildflower.org](http://wildflower.org)

- Often multi-trunked
- Compound leaves to 12"
- Yellow foliage in fall; pink flowers in spring
- Seeds are 3-lobed capsules; food for birds and mammals
- Larval host: Henry's Elfin



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Norman G. Flagg [wildflower.org](http://wildflower.org)



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[wildflower.org](http://wildflower.org)

# Carolina Buckthorn

*Frangula caroliniana*



- Glossy leaves to 5"
- Fall yellow color; red to black berries
- Can tolerate periodic flooding
- Birds eat ripe berries
- Larval host: Snout butterfly



# Dogwood, Roughleaf

*Cornus drummondii*



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[wildflower.org](http://wildflower.org)



W. D. and Dolphia  
[Bransford wildflower.org](http://Bransford wildflower.org)



R. W. Smith  
[wildflower.org](http://wildflower.org)



Kathy Saucier

# Holly, Possumhaw

*Ilex decidua*



- Striking red berries on bare branches in winter
- Only female plants have berries
- Glossy oval leaves; gray branches
- Tolerate poor drainage
- Berries – mammals and birds



Benny Simpson wildflower.org



Sandra Fountain



Unknown NPSOT  
wildflower.org

# Sumac, Flameleaf

*Rhus lanceolata*



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- Vivid red fall foliage lasting weeks
- Winged stems
- Suckers less if not mowed or grazed
- Berries food for mammals and birds
- Larval host: Red Banded and Banded Hairstreaks



Suzette Severs Rogers



Lee Page wildflower.org

Sally and Andy Wasowski wildflower.org

**Invasive**

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# Sumac, Smooth

*Rhus glabra*



Lynn and Campbell Loughmiller [wildflower.org](http://wildflower.org)



- Vivid red fall foliage lasting weeks
- Suckers less if not mowed or grazed
- Berries for mammals and birds
- Larval host: Red Banded and Banded Hairstreaks



Sally and Andy Wasowski [wildflower.org](http://wildflower.org)

# **Shrubs**

Typically multi-trunked, 3' to 10'  
Woody stems persist through winter

# Buttonbush

*Cephalanthus occidentalis*



Carolyn Fannon [wildflower.org](http://wildflower.org)

- Multi-trunked; crooked or twisted
- White to light pink globe flowers in summer
- Does well in wet soil
- Seed heads persist through winter
- Seeds attract 25 bird species



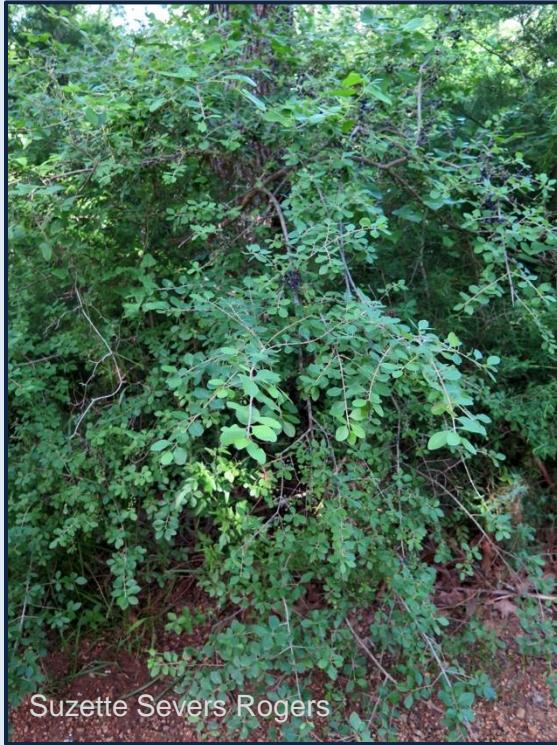
Joseph A. Marcus [wildflower.org](http://wildflower.org)



Sally and Andy Wasowski  
[wildflower.org](http://wildflower.org)

# Elbow Bush

*Forestiera pubescens*



Suzette Severs Rogers



Suzette Severs Rogers

- Inconspicuous flowers; early nectar source
- Typically branches at right angles; downward arching
- Small oval leaves turn chartreuse in fall
- Berries for mammals and birds
- Larval host: Hairstreaks



Melody Lytle wildflower.org



Lee Page wildflower.org

# Fragrant White Mistflower

*Ageratina havanensis*



- Very fragrant white clusters of flowers in fall
- Does best if severely cut back in winter
- Tolerates any soil
- Attracts moths, butterflies and hummingbirds



# Pavonia

*Pavonia lasiopetala*

Rock Rose



- Showy rose colored flowers spring to fall
- Cut back each year for bushy growth
- Prune to shape and promote new growth
- Attracts butterflies, moths and hummingbirds



# Prickly Pear

*Opuntia engelmannii* var. *lindheimeri*



Joseph A. Marcus wildflower.org

- Pads up to 1' long
- Blooms spring to summer
- Yellow flowers; orange variety available
- Pads, fruit and seeds eaten by mammals and birds



Joseph A. Marcus wildflower.org



Joseph A. Marcus wildflower.org

# Texas Sage

*Leucophyllum frutescens*



- Easy to grow; requires good drainage
- Gray oval leaves
- Pink to lavender flowers
- Larval host: Theona Checkerspot, Calleta Silkmoth



# Yucca, Pale

*Yucca pallida*



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[wildflower.org](http://wildflower.org)

- Pale blue leaves, yellow edges
- White flowers on tall stalks; summer
- Requires well drained soil
- Larval host: Yucca Giant Skipper
- American Indians used for food, fiber soap and medicine



Joseph A. Marcus [wildflower.org](http://wildflower.org)

# Flowering Plants

*Perennials:* have a life-cycle of more than 2 years; may be herbaceous or woody-stemmed

*Biennials:* grow vegetatively 1st year, flowers and fruits 2nd year before dying

*Annuals:* live only one growing season

# Coreopsis, Lanceleaf

*Coreopsis lanceolata*



- Yellow flowers spring to summer
- Grows in small clumps but forms extensive colonies
- Attracts butterflies



# Engelmann's Daisy

*Engelmannia peristenia*

Cut-leaf Daisy



- Yellow flowers spring to summer
- Flowers open late afternoon
- Toothed leaves
- Long taproot; transplant in winter
- Attracts birds



# Gayfeather

*Liatris punctata var mucronata*

Blazing Star



- Lavender to white flowers in fall
- Prefers well-drained soil
- Best in dry soil
- Great fall nectar source



# Phlox, Prairie

*Phlox pilosa*



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- Pale pink to lavender flowers in early spring
- Very fragrant
- Dormant in heat of summer
- Attracts long-tongued bees, butterflies and skippers



Sandra Fountain

# Prairie Spiderwort

*Tradescantia occidentalis*



- Blue-magenta flowers in spring
- Flowers open in morning and shrivel in afternoon
- Dormant in summer
- Nice in garden or wildflower meadow



# Prairie Verbena

*Glandularia bipinnatifida* var. *bipinnatifida*



- Low growing; fine cut leaves
- Ball shaped lavender flower heads
- Short-lived perennial but reseeds
- Attracts birds and butterflies



# Red Columbine

*Aquilegia canadensis*



Delmar Cain



- Dainty, understory plant
- Red and yellow tubular flower
- Attracts hummingbirds and butterflies
- Native to Edwards Plateau



Delmar Cain

# Sage, Scarlet

*Salvia coccinea*



- Spikes of showy red tubular blooms spring to fall
- Poor drainage and shade okay
- Nectar for native bees, hummingbirds, and butterflies
- Reseeds annually



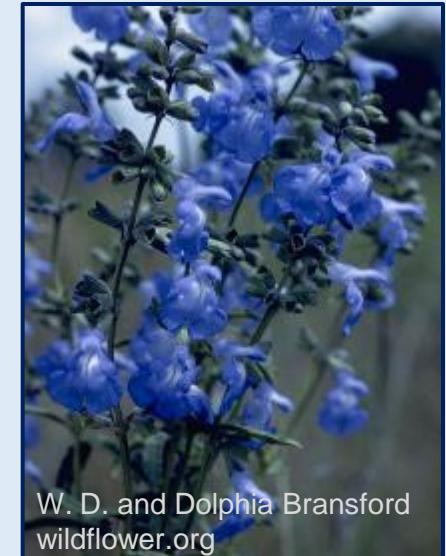
# Sage, Sky Blue

*Salvia azurea*

Azure Sage, Pitcher Sage



- Two-lipped blue flowers
- Blooms most in fall
- Tall and delicate; square stems
- Cut back in mid-summer to keep from sprawling
- Attracts pollinators



# Sunflower, Maximilian

*Helianthus maximiliani*



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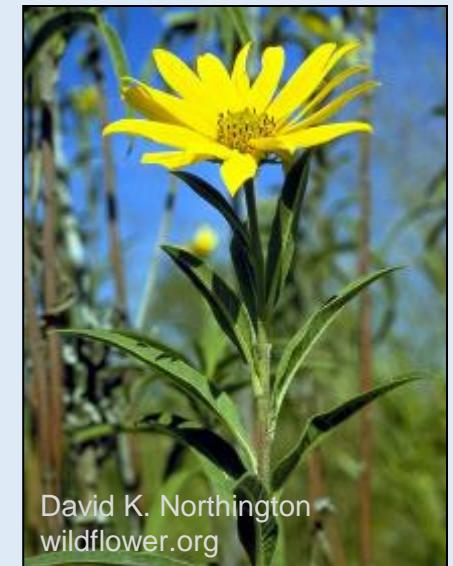
- Numerous yellow flowers
- Looks nice in back of garden
- Grows taller with more moisture
- Attracts pollinators and birds



David K. Northington  
wildflower.org



Wildflower Center Staff



David K. Northington  
wildflower.org

# White Gaura

*Oenothera lindheimeri*



- Perennial
- Prefers moist soils
- Tall, airy, “see-through” plant
- Blooms late spring through summer
- White flowers turn pink with age



Donald Ewers

# Winecup

*Callirhoe involucrata*



- Sprawling plant great for filling in between plants
- White or purple flowers in spring and early summer
- Dormant in heat of summer
- Larval host: Gray Hairstreak



# Grasses and Sedges

Grasses: plants with jointed stems,  
slender sheathing leaves, and  
flowers in spikelets

Sedges: grasslike plants with triangular stems

# Blue Grama

*Bouteloua gracilis*



Sally and Andy Wasowski wildflower.org

- Great meadow grass
- Seed heads have eyelash shape and blue cast
- Often mixed with buffalograss for better turf coverage
- Larval host: many Skippers



Elinor Crank wildflower.org

# Canada Wild Rye

*Elymus canadensis*



Kathy Saucier

- Seed heads nod when ripened
- Cool season short lived perennial
- Goes dormant in summer
- Nice transition between lawn and woodland
- Food for mammals and birds



Kathryn E. Bolin  
[wildflower.org](http://wildflower.org)



Sam C. Strickland  
[wildflower.org](http://wildflower.org)

# Gramma, Side Oats

*Bouteloua curtipendula*



- Dangling oat-like seeds on sides of stems
- Bunch grass or sod-forming
- State grass of Texas
- Seeds food for birds
- Larval host: Green Skipper, Dotted Skipper

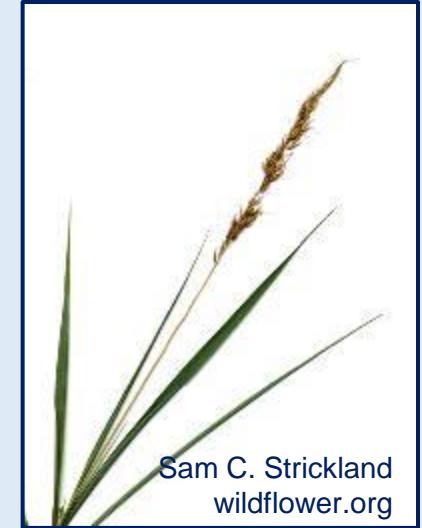


# Indiangrass

*Sorghastrum nutans*



- Yellow flowers and blue-green blades
- Nice garden accent plant
- One of the “big four” prairie grasses
- Larval host: Pepper-and-Salt Skipper



# Sedge, Cedar

*Carex planostachys*



Sally and Andy Wasowski wildflower.org

- Good grass-like groundcover for shade
- Spreads by seed and vegetatively
- Great combined with Golden Groundsel, White Avens and Wood Violets



Kathy Lyles

# Sedge, Cherokee

*Carex cherokeensis*



- Clumping sedge
- Coarser texture and taller than most sedges
- Attractive seed stalks in late spring



Joseph A. Marcus wildflower.org

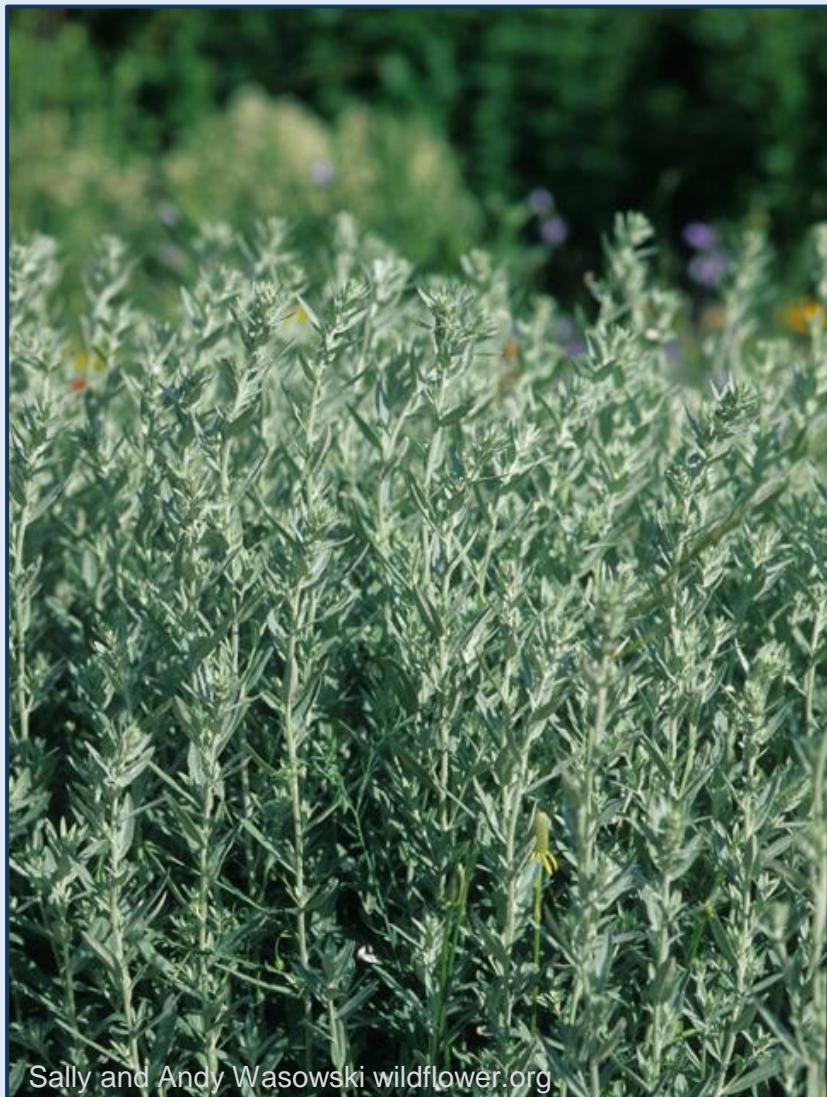
# **Groundcovers**

Low-growing or trailing  
perennials, vines, or shrubs

# Artemisia, Louisiana

*Artemisia ludoviciana*

White Sage



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- Silvery fragrant foliage; small yellow flowers
- Erect, shrub-like; can be mowed
- Will grow in undernourished soils; leggy in fertile and moist soils
- Spreads by rhizomes
- Nesting material for native bees



Melody Lytle wildflower.org

# Avens, White

*Geum canadense*



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- Mow-able evergreen groundcover
- Will grow in undernourished soils
- White flowers in spring
- Short lived, allow reseeding
- Seasonal flooding okay
- Attracts butterflies



R. W. Smith wildflower.org



Janice Lynn wildflower.org

# Pigeon Berry

*Rivina humilis*



- Blooms white to pale pink spring through fall
- Bears scarlet fruit and flowers simultaneously
- Water during drought months
- Fruit is loved by birds



# Sage, Lyreleaf

*Salvia lyrata*



- Pale blue flowers on tall stalks in spring
- Attractive purple streaking in leaves
- Tolerates drought, overwatering, mowing and walking
- Evergreen groundcover
- Attracts hummingbirds and butterflies



# Violet, Wood

*Viola missouriensis*



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- White, purple or lavender flowers in spring
- May go dormant in drought
- Colonizes via rhizomes
- Prefers well drained woodland soils



Sally and Andy Wasowski wildflower.org



Janice Lynn wildflower.org

# Vines

Plants with a growth habit of trailing or climbing stems or runners

# Clematis, Pitcher

*Clematis pitcheri* var. *pitcheri*

Purple Clematis



Sally and Andy Wasowski  
[wildflower.org](http://wildflower.org)



Kim Yarbrough [wildflower.org](http://wildflower.org)



Norman G. Flagg [wildflower.org](http://wildflower.org)

- Long lasting nodding purple blooms spring and summer
- Climbs by twining petioles
- Cannot tolerate poor drainage
- Birds eats seeds

# Climbing Prairie Rose

*Rosa setigera*



Sally and Andy Wasowski wildflower.org



Joseph A. Marcus wildflower.org



R. W. Smith wildflower.org

- Pink 2" flowers in late spring
- Needs a location where it can ramble and climb
- Needs air circulation
- 3 to 5 leaflets; thorns
- Many birds relish the showy red fruit

# Passion Flower

*Passiflora incarnata*

Passion Vine



R. W. Smith wildflower.org

- Exotic purple flowers lasting a day
- 3 lobed leaves; climbs by tendrils
- Larval host: Gulf Fritillary, Zebra Longwing, Crimson-patch Longwing, Red-banded Hairstreak, Julia Butterfly, Mexican Butterfly



Joseph A. Marcus wildflower.org



Peggy Romfh wildflower.org

# Invasive Plants

Non-native plants invade wildlife  
habitat and outcompete native plants  
Do not plant

# Invasive Plants\*

**Thrive and spread aggressively outside of their native range and cause environmental or economic harm**

- Almost always are introduced (non-native) species
- Succeed due to favorable conditions and lack of competition, predators, or diseases
- Decrease natural biodiversity
- Costly to prevent, monitor and control

**Found in the TEXASINVASIVES.ORG database which includes plants from:**

- Federal Noxious Weed List
- TDA Noxious Plant List
- TPWD Prohibited Exotic Species
- U.S. Invasive Plant Atlas

\*Texas Department of Agriculture required disclaimer: “*This (NLCP Invasives) plant list is only a recommendation and has no legal effect in the state of Texas. It is lawful to sell, distribute, import, or possess a plant on this list unless the Texas Department of Agriculture labels the plant as noxious or invasive on the department’s plant list.*”

# Bastard Cabbage

*Rapistrum rugosum*

Wild Mustard

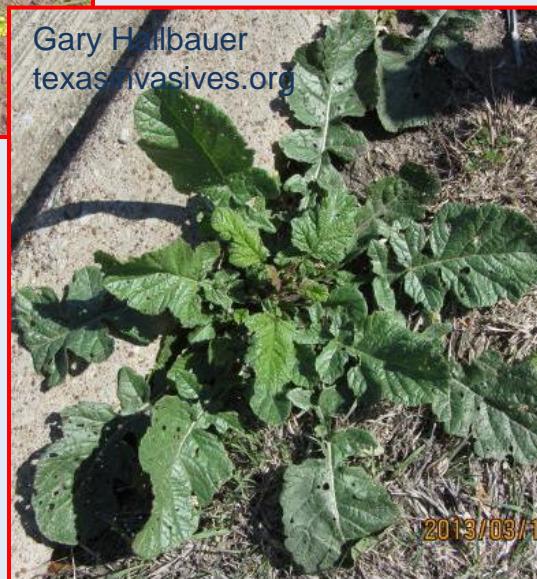
Invasive



R. J. Taylor  
[texasinvasives.org](http://texasinvasives.org)



Keri McNew  
[texasinvasives.org](http://texasinvasives.org)



Gary Hallbauer  
[texasinvasives.org](http://texasinvasives.org)



2013/03/13



Pedro Tenorio-Lezama  
[discoverlife.org](http://discoverlife.org)

- Native to Mediterranean region
- Small yellow flowers on stems rising above rosette
- Spreads by seed
- Pull plant including taproot or at least mow before plant seeds
- Resistant to herbicide

# Bermudagrass

*Cynodon dactylon*

Invasive



- Native to Africa
- Windmill-like seedhead; stolons
- Spread by stolons, rhizomes, seeds
- Pull by hand (small areas), solarize, use selective herbicide

# Bush Honeysuckle

*Lonicera maackii*



Chuck Bargeron invasive.org

UGA1237034

Amur Honeysuckle

**Invasive**

- Native to Asia
- Cream colored flowers turning to red berries
- Spread by seeds
- Pull seedlings by hand; cut larger bushes and paint stumps with selective herbicide



Annemarie Smith invasive.org

5403445

# Chinese Tallow

*Triadica sebifera*

Invasive



Deedy Wright



James Miller USDA Forest Service

- Native to China and Japan
- Yellow flowers, white seeds
- Spread by birds
- Pull seedlings by hand
- Dig up or cut trunk and paint stumps with selective herbicide



Chris Evans bugwood.org



James Miller USDA Forest Service

UGA0016234

UGA1264074

# Pincushions

*Scabiosa atropurpurea*

Invasive



Ann Fuller [texasinvasives.org](http://texasinvasives.org)

- Native to Europe
- Small purple flower on green rosette
- Spread by seed
- Mow during flowering



Kathy Saucier

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