



NATIVE LANDSCAPE CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

Level 3

Plant Knowledge

Plant Selection Criteria

Recommended Native Plants

- Native to Texas
- Landscape Value
- Available in Nurseries
- Native to Local Ecosystem(s)

Symbol Key

Sun Requirements	Water Requirements
 Shade	 Very Low
 Part Sun	 Low
 Full Sun	 Medium
	 High

Native Landscape Certification Program Level 3 Plant List

Reference Material while watching the Plant Knowledge Presentation

NTX Native Landscape Certification Program Level 3 Plant List												
Common Name Scientific Name	Native Region ¹ Habitat	Height (ft)	Spread (ft)	Light ²	Evergreen/Perennial ³ Seasonal Interest	Color/Feature	Water ⁴ Soil Type	Maintenance	Wildlife ⁵ Comments			
Shade Trees, >20 ft												
Box Elder Boxelder Ash-leaf Maple <i>Acer negundo</i>	BFW Moist woods; stream banks; floodplains.	40'-50'	40'-50'	S	D	Fall Yellow fall foliage.	VL Adaptable; prefers moist.	Prune for shape or to raise canopy. Additional pruning may be required due to wind & ice damage of weak wood	Y	The only maple native to N. Cent. TX. Leaves compounded, unlike other maples. Irregular mounded crown. Red & black Boxelder Bugs feed on seeds; may be nuisance but do no serious damage. Existing trees usually worth keeping (thin out if needed). Attracts birds.		
Bigtooth Maple <i>Acer grandidentatum</i>	T Moist soils of canyons in mountains and plateaus; in woodlands.	40'-50'	20'-30'	S	D	Fall Golden yellow to red fall foliage.	M- H Sandy, loams, clay, calcareous.	Prune for shape or to raise canopy.	Y	Striking fall color. Foliage tips may burn in hot summers; may require extensive watering. Dense shade & surface roots underneath; use low-maintenance groundcovers.		
Drummond Red Maple	B (NE edge)	50'-90'	30'-60'	S - PS	D	Spring, Red orange	M- Acidic	Prune for shape	Y	Attractive fall foliage; in spring, decorative		

Key to Level 3 Plant List

Page 13 of Above Plant List

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Key

Native Region¹

B: Blackland Prairie, E: Eastern Cross Timbers, F: Fort Worth Prairie, W: Western Cross Timbers, T: Texas, but not North Texas

X: Hybrid with native Texas parents

Light²

S: Sun (in full sunlight for 6 hours), PS: Part sun (in sunlight 2-6 hours or lightly shaded all day), SH: Shade (in the sun less than 2 hours per day)

Evergreen³

E: Evergreen, SE: Semi-Evergreen, D: Deciduous, P: Perennial, A: Annual, B: Biennial

Water⁴ Refers to the plant's water needs after establishment. All plants need more water the first 2 years.

VL: Very Low (Water occasionally during very dry conditions, L: Low (Water thoroughly every 3-4 weeks if no rainfall)

M: Medium (Water thoroughly every 2-3 weeks if no rainfall), H: High (Water thoroughly every 5-7 days if no rainfall)

Wildlife⁵

Y: Texas native plants provide greater wildlife value than hybrid, non-native and/or exotic plants.

Flowers, leaves, nuts, seeds, and berries provide food for wildlife including butterflies, insects, birds and/or mammals.

References

City of Austin. 2009. Native and Adapted Landscape Plants: An Earthwise Guide for Central Texas. Fourth Edition. Texas Agrilife Extension: Austin.

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Foraging Texas. Dr. Mark "Merriweather" Vorderbruggen. www.foragingtexas.com

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Linex, Ricky J. 2014. Range Plants of North Central Texas.

Canopy/Shade Trees

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

Box Elder

Acer negundo

Ash-leaf Maple



Collene Sweeney
wildflower.org

- Prefers moist soil
- Yellow fall color
- Red and Black Box Elder bugs feed on seeds, no major damage
- Weak wood prone to wind/ice damage
- Food for birds; larval host for Cecropia Moth



Julie Makin wildflower.org



Melody Lytle wildflower.org

Bigtooth Maple

Acer grandidentatum



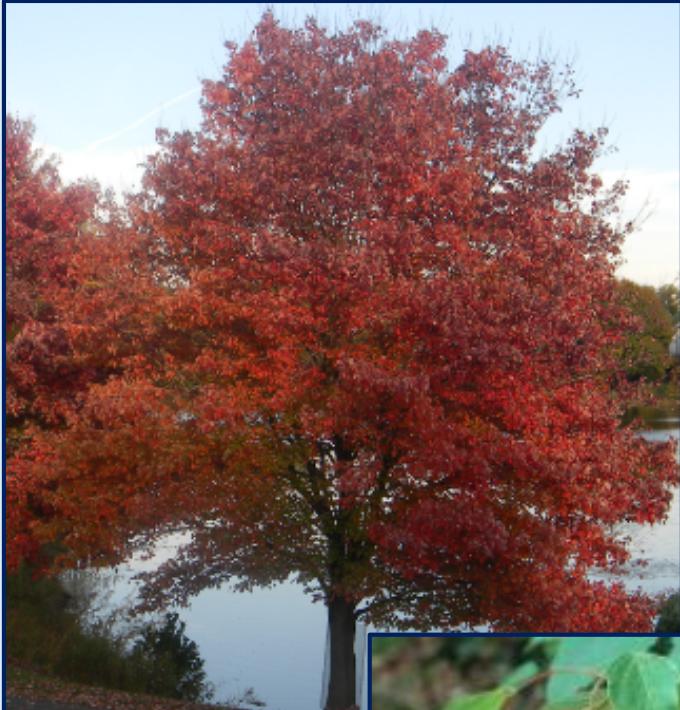
- Striking fall color, golden yellow to red
- Dense shade, surface roots
- Seeds for birds, mammals
- Prune for shape or to raise canopy



Drummond Red Maple

Acer rubrum var. drummondii

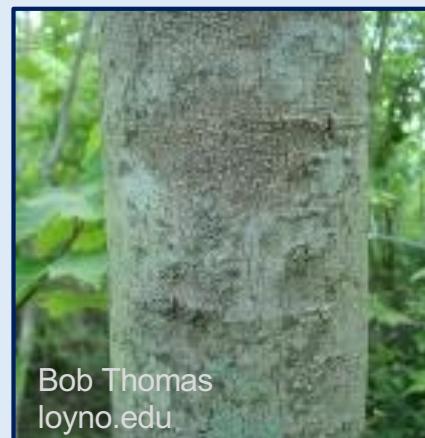
Swamp Maple



sv.wikipedia.org



S & A Wasowski
wildflower.org



Bob Thomas
loyno.edu

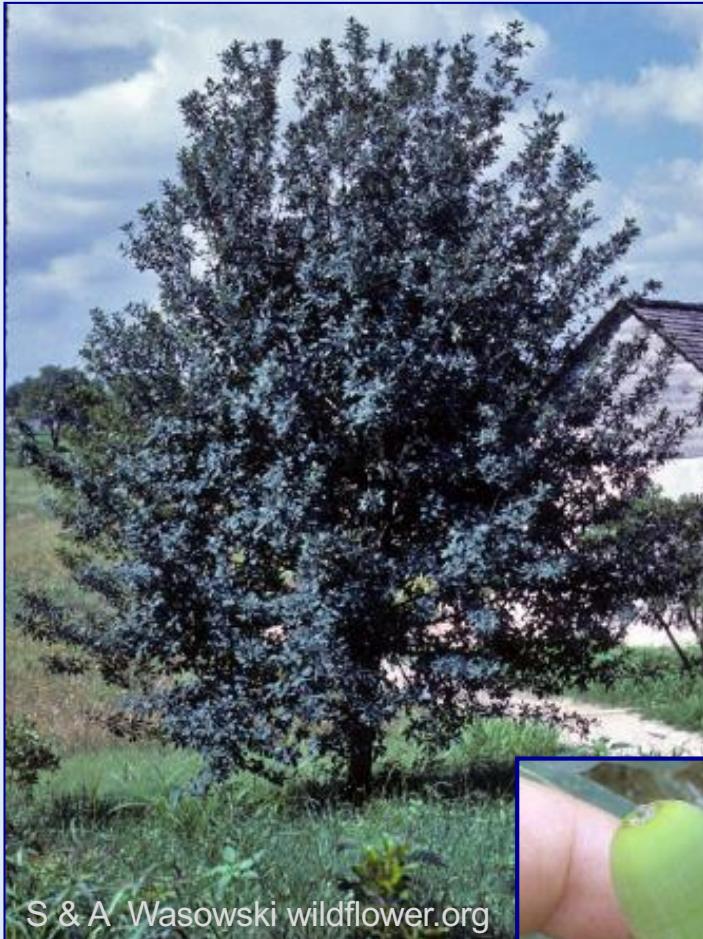


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loyno.edu

Lacey Oak

Quercus laceyi

Texas Blue Oak



- New growth peach colored; fall yellow to golden
- Drought tolerant
- One inch acorns
- Fruit attracts mammals and birds
- Larval host: Gray Hairstreak

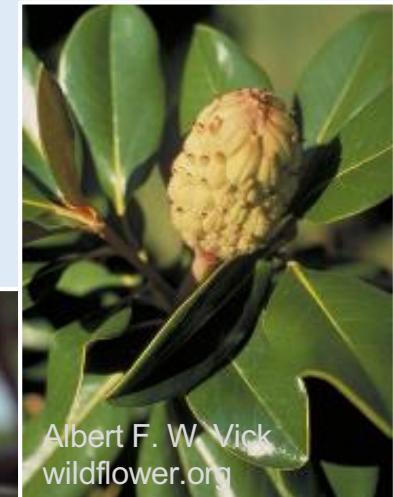


Southern Magnolia

Magnolia grandiflora



- Dense shade, often limbs to ground; may prune to raise canopy
- White fragrant flowers in spring
- Bright green, stiff, evergreen, broad leaves
- Seeds eaten by wildlife



Bald Cypress

Taxodium distichum



Sally & Andy Wasowski wildflower.org

- Feathery leaves; copper fall color
- Fast to medium growth; long lived
- Knees in wet soil
- Birds and mammals eat seeds
- Prune to raise canopy



Patsy Chaney
wildflower.org



Joseph A. Marcus
wildflower.org



Marilyn Kircus wildflower.org

Small/Ornamental Trees

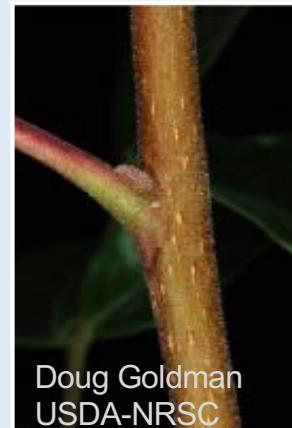
Typically grow 10' to 25'
Single or multi-trunked

Evergreen Sumac

Rhus virens



- White flowers early fall
- Fuzzy orange-red fruit in late fall
- Important green browse in winter
- Fruit and seeds for birds and mammals; nectar source



Texas Persimmon

Diospyros texana



- Slow-growing
- Deciduous or semi-evergreen; interesting bark
- Fruit for birds and small mammals
- Larval host: Gray Hairstreak, Henry's Elfin



Cherry Laurel

Prunus caroliniana



- Drought tolerant if roots shaded
- Glossy dark leaves, black berries; white flowers
- Seeds: birds and mammals
- Prune for shape - shrub or tree form



Texas Mountain Laurel

Sophora secundiflora



- Slow-growing evergreen
- Dark green compound leaves
- Showy flowers with strong grape Kool-Aid fragrance
- All parts of tree toxic
- Nectar for butterflies, hummingbirds

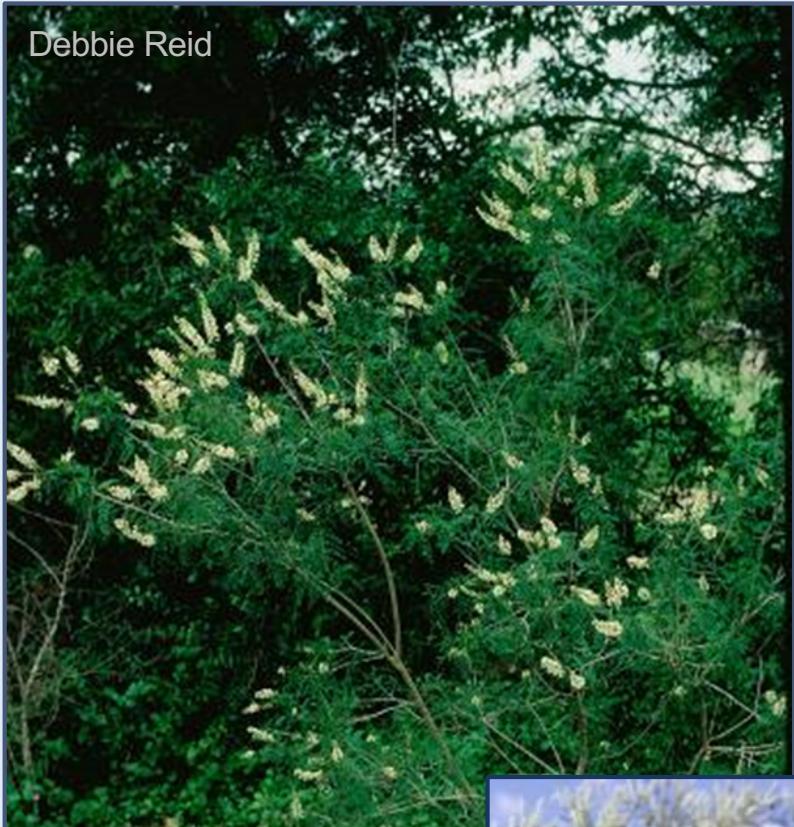


Texas Kidneywood

Eysenhardtia texana



Debbie Reid



S & A Wasowski wildflower.org



dendro.cnre.vt.edu

- Extremely drought tolerant
- Fragrant white flower spikes
- Delicate airy structure
- Larval host: Dogface butterfly
- Prune for shape - shrub or tree

Bruce Leander wildflower.org



Ray Mathews wildflower.org



Questions on Canopy/Shade Trees
or Ornamental Trees?

Enter your questions into the Chat Box

Shrubs

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

Agarita

Mahonia trifoliolata



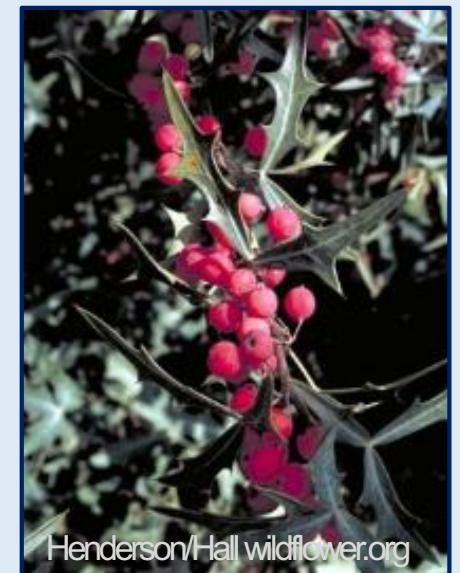
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- Evergreen, prickly leaves, excellent understory
- Fragrant flowers, edible fruit
- Fruit, nesting, cover for birds and small mammals
- Deer browse young leaves



Kris Kirkwood



Henderson/Hall wildflower.org

Black Dalea

Dalea frutescens



Ray Mathews wildflower.org



- Extremely drought tolerant
- Great companion to Blackfoot Daisy
- Excellent in mass plantings
- Fall magenta flower spikes
- Browse, seeds, nectar for wildlife

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wildflower.org



Sotol

Dasylirion wheeleri

Desert Spoon



- Evergreen blue-green shrub
- Blooms late spring and early summer; greenish white to yellow
- Toothed leaves hazard for passers by
- Drought tolerant; rots in heavy soils
- Attracts hummingbirds and insects



Joseph A. Marcus wildflower.org

Wax Myrtle

Morella cerifera

Southern Bayberry, Candleberry



- Aromatic, gray-green leaves
- Excellent understory; great screen plant; poor drainage okay
- Pale blue berries on females
- Fall fruit for 40 bird species
- Nectar and larval host: Henry's Elfin, Red-banded Hairstreak



dendro.cnre.vt.edu

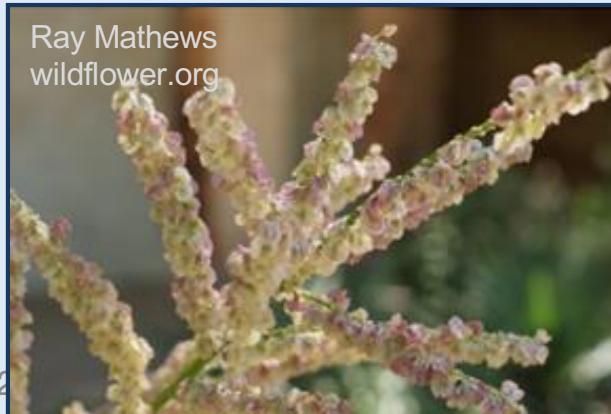
Lindheimer's Nolina

Nolina lindheimeriana

Ribbon Grass, Devil's Shoestring



- Fountain-like form; showy papery seed capsules
- Spikes of whitish flowers above plant in spring
- Good accent plant; heat/drought tolerant
- Butterfly larval host
- Separate individual offshoots from large clumps of mature plants in the winter



Texas Nolina

Nolina texana

Beargrass; Sacahuista



Joseph A. Marcus wildflower.org

- Ribbon-like evergreen foliage; fountain-like form
- Spikes of whitish flowers on short stalks
- Good accent plant; drought tolerant
- Separate individual offshoots from large clumps of mature plants in the winter
- Butterfly larval host



Sally and Andy Wasowski wildflower.org



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wildflower.org

Skunkbush Sumac

Rhus aromatica



*Rhus
aromatica*

Fragrant Sumac



- Sandy, gravelly, other well-drained
- Red fruit on female plants
- Reddish/orange fall foliage
- Excellent food and habitat for birds and mammals
- Prune for shape if desired



*Rhus
trilobata*



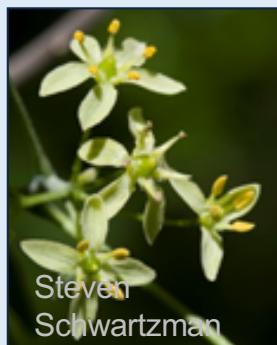
Hoptree

Ptelea trifoliata

Wafer Ash



- Seeds showy clusters of wafers
- Valuable nectar for pollinators
- Larval host: Eastern Tiger and Giant Swallowtails
- Prune for shape, if desired



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

Chile Pequin

Capsicum annuum



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- Tiny white flowers
- Hot edible peppers; summer green; fall red
- Attracts pollinators; food for birds
- Trim near to ground in late winter, before spring growth



Carolyn Fannon wildflower.org



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American Basketflower

Centaurea americana



Ray Mathews wildflower.org

- Annual, easily cultivated
- Showy pink/cream center; early summer; bud resembles woven basket
- Related to thistles but not prickly
- Attracts pollinators; birds eat seeds
- Leave spent blooms to form seeds



31

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Angel Trumpet

Datura wrightii

Datura, Jimsonweed

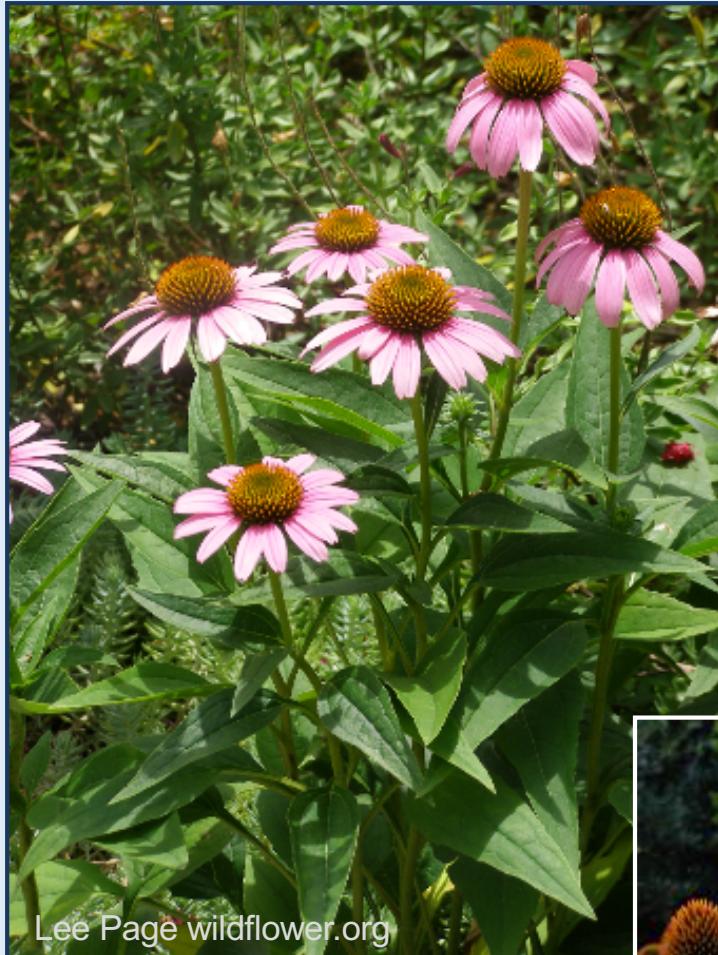


- Fragrant white trumpet shaped flowers
- Open in evening; spring through fall
- Large tuberous roots; sometimes short lived; annual in colder climates
- Attracts bees, sphinx moths



Purple Coneflower

Echinacea purpurea



33

- Native in NE Texas but widely available
- Long-lasting blooms; pink or purple
- Blooms spring through early fall; showy seed head
- Nectar for butterflies and hummingbirds
- Thin, transplant in spring; prune to new growth in late winter



Texas Bluebells

Eustoma exaltatum

Showy Prairie Gentian



Norman G. Flagg wildflower.org

- Annual, biennial, or short lived perennial; allow to reseed
- Flowers usually purple; can be blue, pink, white, yellow
- Blooms summer through early fall; nectar source



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Texas Bluebonnet

Lupinus texensis



- State flower; 1 of 6 *Lupinus* species
- Annual, blooms in spring; blue and white; fragrant pea-like
- Nectar for pollinators
- Larval host: Hairstreak and Elfin
- Do not mow until seeds have fully developed



Barbara's Buttons

Marshallia caespitosa



- Fragrant flowers in 1 ½" balls
- White may be tinged pink or lavender
- Blooms spring through early summer
- Nectar for pollinators; seed for Bluebirds
- Leave seed heads for wildlife



Horsemint

Monarda citriodora

Lemon Mint
  



- Unusual stacked whorls of lavender/pink/white flowers
- Blooms spring and summer
- Lemon scent when crushed; self sows
- Attracts butterflies and hummingbirds
- Seed heads for wildlife or collect for potpourri



Missouri Evening Primrose

Oenothera macrocarpa ssp. *Macrocarpa*

Fluttermill



- Showy 4" bright yellow flowers
- Blooms spring through summer
- Open in afternoon, close in morning
- Pollinated by Sphinx Moths
- Attracts hummingbirds



Drummond Phlox

Phlox drummondii

Annual Phlox

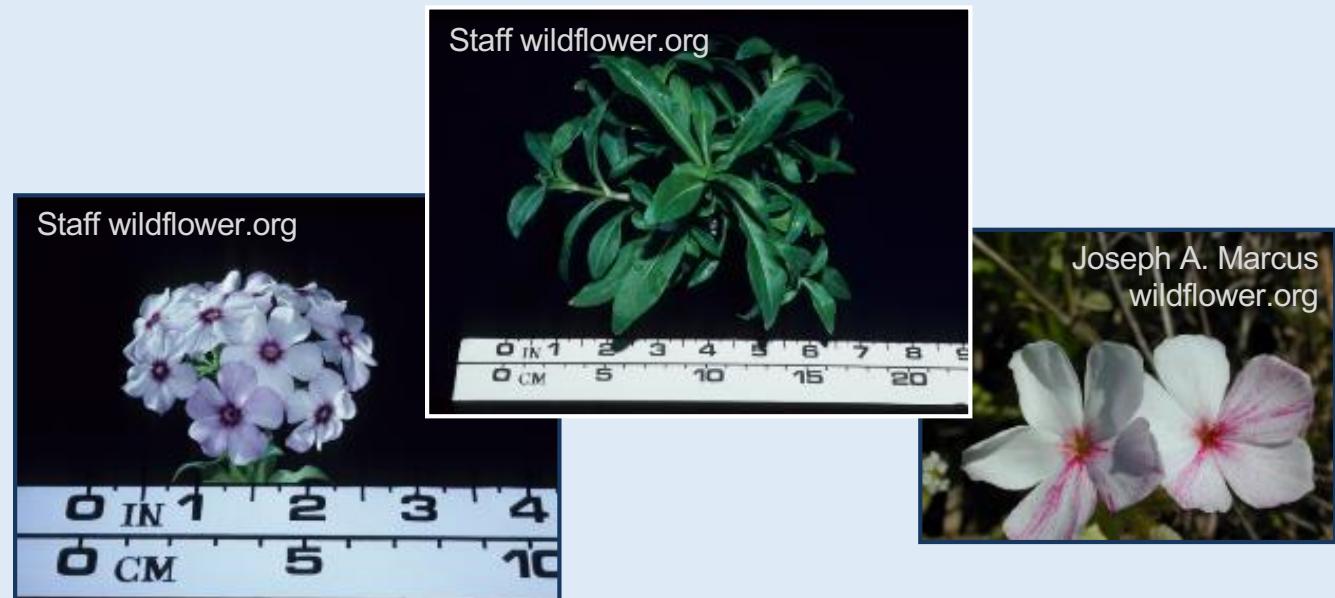


Harry Cliffe
wildflower.org



39

- Annual; allow to reseed
- Showy fragrant flowers spring through early summer
- Blooms white, peach, lavender, pink purple, red; often with “eye” in center
- Good to fill spaces among plants
- Attracts hummingbirds and butterflies



Staff wildflower.org

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Fall Obedient Plant

Physostegia virginiana

False Dragonhead



- Pink/purple, flowers in spikes; blooms late summer until frost
- Less water in shade
- Colonizes by rhizomes; contain to prevent spreading; pull up by roots
- Nectar, hummingbirds and butterflies
- Thin, divide, transplant in spring; prune to new growth in late winter



Stefan Bloodworth
wildflower.org



Sandra Fountain

Mexican Hat

Ratibida columnifera



Benny Simpson wildflower.org

- Dry soil to prevent excessive weak growth
- Showy flowers summer through early fall, winter rosette
- Yellow, or dark red with yellow
- Attracts pollinators and birds; deer browse
- Cut back in fall or late winter



W.D. and Dolphia Bransford
wildflower.org



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Wild Petunia

Ruellia nudiflora



- Violet or lavender blooms spring through early fall
- Nectar source and butterfly larval host
- Spreads by rhizomes; can be aggressive
- Cut back after each flush of blooms to keep compact and blooming



Sandra Fountain



Heart-leaf Skullcap

Scutellaria ovata



- Blue violet blooms in spring; gray green winter foliage
- Dormant in hottest months
- Colonizes from roots and seeds
- Nectar source for hummingbirds and butterflies
- Thin, divide, transplant in winter



Frostweed

Verbesina virginica



- Longitudinal flanges on stems; exude water that freezes 1st frost
- White flowers in the fall
- Colonizes via roots and seeds
- Flowers attract pollinators
- Prune to new growth in late winter



Questions on Shrubs
or Flowering Plants?

Enter your questions into the Chat Box

Grasses and Sedges

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

Sedges: grasslike plants with triangular
stems

Big Bluestem

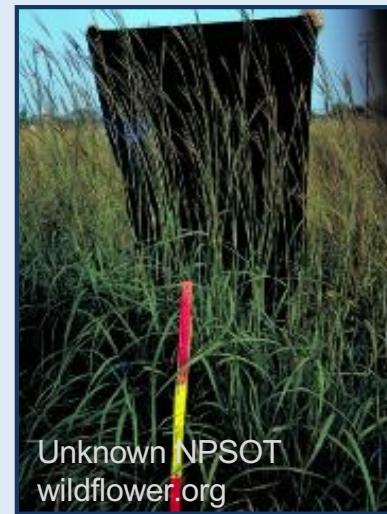
Andropogon gerardii



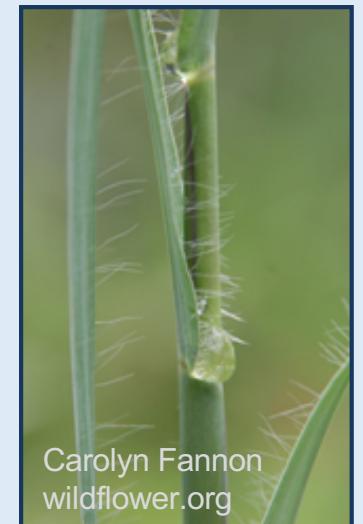
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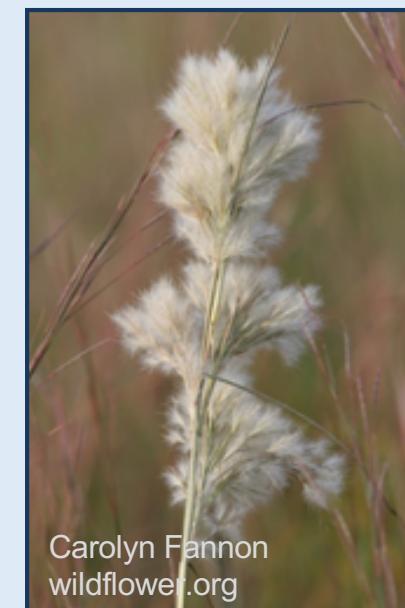
Carolyn Fannon
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Bushy Bluestem

Andropogon glomeratus



- Poor drainage okay; good erosion control
- Cover, seeds, nesting sites
- Occasionally browsed by deer
- Fall color, salmon/orange
- Rake and/or cut to 6" in late winter



Texas Sedge

Carex texensis



Joseph A. Marcus
wildflower.org

- Tallest in moist sandy soils
- Colonizes by rhizomes
- Seeds, habitat for wildlife
- Optional mow; only on high setting



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Seep Muhly

Muhlenbergia reverchonii



- Great in moist areas; seeps
- Seeds and wildlife habitat
- Delicate masses of white to pink blooms in fall
- Rake and/or cut to 6" in late winter



Switchgrass

Panicum virgatum



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- Cover, seeds, nesting sites
- Rust colored winter accent
- Larval host: Delaware and Dotted Skippers
- Rake and/or cut to 6" in late winter



Eastern Gamagrass

Tripsacum dactyloides



Beth Anderson wildflower.org

52

- Cover, seeds, nesting sites
- Large stately grass; high quality forage
- Blooms spring to early summer
- Larval host: Bunchgrass Skipper
- Rake and/or cut to 6" in late winter



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Groundcovers

Low-growing or trailing
perennials, vines, or shrubs

Yarrow

Achillea millefolium

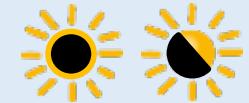


- White flower clusters in spring
- May go dormant in summer
- Lacy fern like foliage; colonizes by rhizomes and seeds
- Special value to native bees
- Dead-head to reduce seeding or for appearance



Wood Fern

Thelypteris kunthii



- Gracefully arching stems
- Colonizes by rhizomes; poor drainage okay
- Good foundation plant; moist soil
- Habitat for beneficial insects
- Cut off dead fronds by late winter



Lee Page wildflower.org



Alan Cressler wildflower.org

Vines

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

Woolly Dutchman's Pipe

Common Dutchman's Pipe
Aristolochia tomentosa

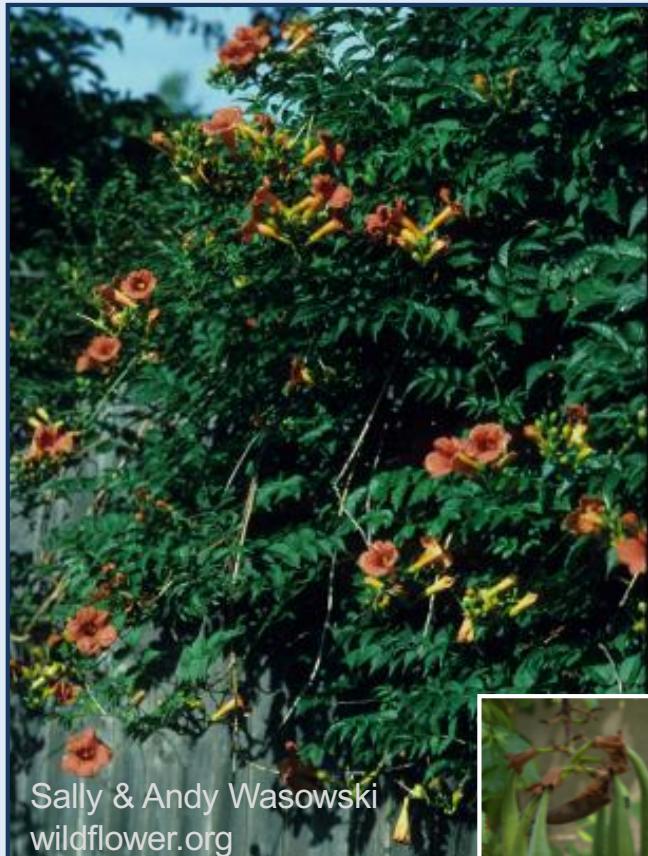


- Spring flowers resemble a Dutch pipe
- Train on trellis, post, or fence
- Larval host: Pipevine Swallowtail



Trumpet Creeper

Campsis radicans



- Red, orange, yellow flowers throughout summer
- Aggressive climber, can damage homes
- Attracts hummingbirds
- Larval host: Plebian Sphinx
- Prune and/or mow to control suckers

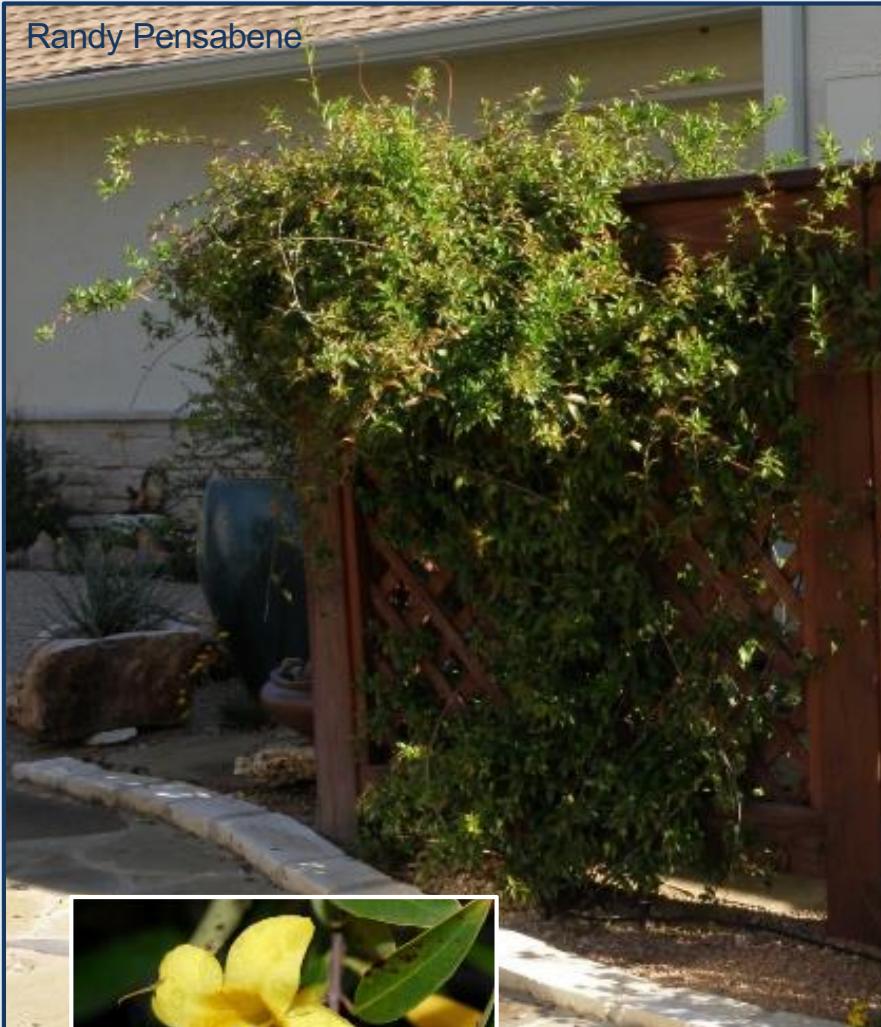


Carolina Jessamine

Gelsemium sempervirens



Randy Pensabene



59

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- Evergreen to semi-evergreen
- Yellow fragrant flowers early spring
- Attracts hummingbirds and butterflies
- Train on trellis, arbor, wall, or fence



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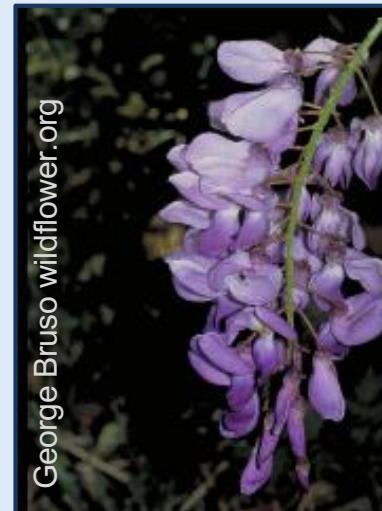
Texas Wisteria

Wisteria frutescens



Ray Mathews wildflower.org

- Blooms late spring early summer
- Twining woody vine; train on sturdy structure
- Showy fragrant flowers; white, pink, blue, or lavender
- Prune to shape in winter
- Larval host: Skipper



George Brusso wildflower.org



Joseph A. Marcus wildflower.org

Questions on Grasses,
Sedges, Ground Covers
or Vines?

Enter your questions into
the Chat Box

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.*”

King Ranch Bluestem

Bothriochloa ischaemum

KR Bluestem

Invasive



- Native to central and east Asia
- “Turkey foot” seed head; hairs on blade just above collar
- Aggressively spreads by seeds
- Dig up; burn or use selective herbicide during growth phase



Chinaberry Tree

Melia azedarach

Invasive



Deedy Wright

- Native to India
- Lavender flowers, numerous opaque yellow berries
- Spread by birds
- Pull seedlings by hand
- Dig up or cut trunk and paint stumps with selective herbicide



Joel King
texasinvasives.org



David Todd
texasinvasives.org

Stephen Bishop
texasinvasives.org

Giant Reed

Arundo donax

Invasive



Justin Bush texasinvasives.org

- Native to Mediterranean region
- Hollow stem; large bushy seedhead
- Spread by seed and rhizomes
- Mechanical control will result in re-sprouting if root fragments are left in soil
- Prescribed burning may be effective after flowering; selective herbicide may be applied



Mark Staerkel texasinvasives.org



Cliff Tyllick texasinvasives.org

Bamboo

Phyllostachys aurea

Invasive



Michael Murphrey texasinvasives.org

- Native to China or Japan
- Evergreen
- Spreads by rhizomes; aggressive
- Cut min 3' deep barrier to contain
- Dig up; mow frequently or spray with selective herbicide



Sarah Spitler texasinvasives.org



Chuck Bargeron bugwood.org

UGA1237038

Chinese Wisteria

Wisteria sinensis

Invasive



Stella Barrow
texasinvasives.org

- Native to China
- Purple fragrant flower on aggressive woody vine
- Colonizes by stolons and seeds
- Dig up or cut vines and paint stumps with selective herbicide



Liang Lu texasinvasives.org



Dawnelle Mahone
texasinvasives.org

Questions on Invasives or Any Other Plants?

**Enter your questions into the Chat
Box**

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