Rattlesnake Master

Eryngium yuccifolium Michaux



Rattlesnake master is a flower native to southeast and south-central American prairie areas. It has foliage reminiscent of a yucca or aloe, although it is in the carrot family, *Apiaceae*. The flowers are more curious than pretty, but the plant does catch the eye in the garden. Eastern North American Indians believed that the plant was efficacious in treating snake bites, but modern research has shown no valid basis for this belief.

Rattlesnake master is extremely easy to grow, preferring warm, sunny locations. It is quite drought-resistant once established. The species is hardy to zone 5.

Propagation:

The seed needs no stratification. Just direct-sow it any time from fall to spring.

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