

NATIVE PLANTS FOR POLLINATORS & BENEFICIAL INSECTS: Southeast



LEFT—Native bees visiting *Echinacea purpurea*. RIGHT—Skippers on *Conoclinium coelestinum*.

Plant Selection

These plants are attractive to a diversity of pollinators, providing pollen and nectar to bees, butterflies, flies, beetles, wasps, and moths. Some plants provide additional resources as caterpillar host plants or nesting sites and nesting materials for above-ground nesting bees. Many support specialist bees that require pollen from specific plants to survive and supplement beneficial insects that can help control pests of ornamental and crop plants. These plants are native to this region—determine if a species is native in your area at plants.usda.gov—and can be used to create or enhance pollinator habitat across rural and urban landscapes.

When purchasing plants, let your local garden center or nursery know you want plant material free of pesticides that may harm pollinators.

Resources

- ⇒ Pollinator Conservation Resource Center: xerces.org/pollinator-resource-center
- ⇒ Bring Back The Pollinators: BringBackthePollinators.org
- ⇒ Reducing Pesticide Use & Impacts: xerces.org/pesticides

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	BLOOM	LIFE	FORM	SUN	SOIL	ADDITIONAL DETAILS ⓘ
<i>Asclepias perennis</i> ★	Aquatic milkweed	JUN–NOV	P			M–W	
<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i> ★	Butterfly milkweed	JUN–AUG	P			D–M	
<i>Asclepias variegata</i>	Redring milkweed	MAR–AUG	P			D–M	
<i>Baptisia alba</i>	White wild indigo	MAR–AUG	P			D–M	
<i>Bidens aristosa</i>	Bearded beggarticks	JUN–NOV	A			M–W	
<i>Carphephorus odoratissimus</i>	Vanillaleaf	JUN–NOV	P			M–W	
<i>Ceanothus americanus</i>	New Jersey tea	MAR–MAY	P			D	
<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i> ★	Buttonbush	JUN–AUG	P			M–W	
<i>Chamaecrista fasciculata</i> ★	Partridge pea	JUN–NOV	A			D–M	
<i>Cirsium altissimum</i> ★	Tall thistle	JUN–NOV	B / P			D–M	
<i>Clethra alnifolia</i>	Sweet pepperbush	JUN–AUG	P			M–W	
<i>Conoclinium coelestinum</i>	Blue mistflower	JUN–NOV	P			M–W	

KEY	LIFE: Annual	SOIL: Dry	★ Staff favorite	FORM: Forb Sedge Vine Cactus Shrub Grass Tree	SUN: Full sun Partial sun Full shade	ADD'L: Larval host (butterfly, moth)	DETAILS: Supports specialist bee Attracts beneficial insects	Bumblebee plant Nesting site	Nesting materials Nest thatch Deer resistant
	Biennial	Moist							
	Perennial	Wet							

Native Plants for Pollinators & Beneficial Insects: Southeast *continued*

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	BLOOM	LIFE	FORM	SUN	SOIL	ADDITIONAL DETAILS ①
<i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i>	Lanceleaf coreopsis	MAR–AUG	P			D–M	
<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>★	Purple coneflower	MAR–AUG	P			D–M	
<i>Eryngium yuccifolium</i>	Rattlesnake master	JUN–AUG	P			D–W	
<i>Euthamia graminifolia</i>	Flat-top goldentop	JUN–NOV	P			D–M	
<i>Eutrochium fistulosum</i>	Joe Pye weed	JUN–AUG	P			M–W	
<i>Gaillardia pulchella</i>	Indian blanket	MAR–AUG	A / B / P			D–M	
<i>Helianthus angustifolius</i>	Swamp sunflower	JUN–NOV	P			D–M	
<i>Hibiscus moscheutos</i>	Eastern rosemallow	JUN–AUG	A / P			W	
<i>Ilex verticillata</i>	Winterberry	MAR–AUG	P			D–W	
<i>Itea virginica</i>★	Virginia sweetspire	MAR–MAY	P			M–W	
<i>Liatis spicata</i>	Dense gayfeather	JUN–AUG	P			M–W	
<i>Lonicera sempervirens</i>	Coral honeysuckle	MAR–NOV	P			D–M	
<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>★	Wild bergamot	JUN–AUG	P			D–M	
<i>Monarda punctata</i>	Spotted beebalm	MAR–AUG	A / P			D–M	
<i>Opuntia humifusa</i>	Devil's tongue	JUN–AUG	P			D	
<i>Passiflora incarnata</i>	Purple passionflower	JUN–NOV	P			D–M	
<i>Penstemon digitalis</i>	Smooth beardtongue	MAR–MAY	P			D–M	
<i>Phlox divaricata</i>	Wild blue phlox	MAR–MAY	P			D–M	
<i>Phlox pilosa</i>	Prairie phlox	MAR–MAY	P			D–M	
<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>	Ninebark	MAR–AUG	P			M	
<i>Prunus angustifolia</i>	Chickasaw plum	MAR–MAY	P			D	
<i>Pycnanthemum tenuifolium</i>★	Narrowleaf mountainmint	JUN–AUG	P			M	
<i>Rhododendron canescens</i>	Mountain azalea	MAR–MAY	P			M–W	
<i>Rhus aromatica</i>	Fragrant sumac	MAR–AUG	P			D	
<i>Rosa carolina</i>	Carolina rose	JUN–AUG	P			M	
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	Black-eyed Susan	JUN–AUG	A / B / P			M	
<i>Salvia azurea</i>	Blue sage	SEP–NOV	P			D–M	
<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	Little bluestem	JUN–AUG	P			D–M	
<i>Silphium asteriscus</i>	Starry rosinweed	JUN–AUG	P			D–M	
<i>Solidago rugosa</i>	Wrinkleleaf goldenrod	JUN–NOV	P			D–M	
<i>Solidago sempervirens</i>	Seaside goldenrod	JUN–NOV	P			D	
<i>Symphotrichum laeve</i>	Smooth blue aster	JUN–NOV	P			D–M	
<i>Symphotrichum lateriflorum</i>	Calico aster	JUN–NOV	P			D	
<i>Tradescantia ohiensis</i>	Ohio spiderwort	MAR–AUG	P			M	
<i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i>	Highbush blueberry	MAR–MAY	P			M	
<i>Verbesina virginica</i>★	Frostweed	JUN–NOV	B / P			M–W	
<i>Vernonia gigantea</i>	Giant ironweed	JUN–NOV	P			D–M	
<i>Zizia aurea</i>	Golden Alexanders	MAR–AUG	P			D–W	

KEY	LIFE: Annual	SOIL: Dry	★ Staff favorite	FORM: Forb	Sedge	Vine	SUN: Full sun	ADD'L. DETAILS: Larval host (butterfly, moth)	Supports specialist bee	Bumblebee plant	Nest thatch
	Biennial	Moist		Cactus	Shrub	Partial sun	Attracts beneficial insects		Nest site	Deer resistant	
	Perennial	Wet		Grass	Tree	Full shade					

Acknowledgments

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