



**Kansas
Native
Plant
Society**

NATIVE PLANTS FOR POLLINATORS

<i>Votes</i>	<i>Common Name</i>	<i>Botanical Name</i>	<i>Host Plant</i>	<i>Soil Type / Sun</i>	<i>Other Info</i>	<i>Votes:</i>	<i>Complimentary Plants</i>
7	Butterfly Milkweed	Asclepias tuberosa Asclepias spp.	Host plant for the Monarch, Queens & a large number of butterflies. Bees, wasps, beetles and Hummingbirds also visit this plant.	Clay soil; yellow variety likes sandy soil; Full Sun	Height: 12-36" Bloom: June-Aug. Colorful & artistic plant.	M. Richter P. Scherich R. Anderson A. Zukoff S. Reimer N. Champlin C. Rhodes	Prairie Phlox & Ohio Spiderwort
6	Coneflower, Purple / Black Sampson	Echinacea angustifolia	Host for Silvery Checkerspot Butterfly. Bumble Bees, Short & Long-tongue Bees, & other butterflies land on this flat-top flower and feed.	Dry soils of open rocky prairies. Full Sun	Height: 6-24" June-July Bloom: Roots chewed for toothache; other parts used for herbal medications.	P. Scherich A. Zukoff S. Reimer N. Champlin A. Mitchell C. Rhodes	Little Bluestem, Beard Tongues, Thimble Anemone, Ohio Spiderwort
6	Purple Prairie Clover	Dalea purpurea	Host to Dogface Sulfur, Striped Blue Butterfly, Mexican Blue, & Reakirts Blue. Attracts polyester bees, honey bees & bumble bees.	Tolerant of most soils. A fine textures plant so plant in mass. Found in dry rocky prairie soils. Also, found in grassland that is not overgrazed. Needs full sun.	Height: 12-36" June-Sept. Provides nitrogen to other plants.	P. Scherich A. Zukoff S. Reimer I. Barnard K. Dahlinger C. Rhodes	Butterfly Milkweed, Fragrant Hyssop, Wild Petunia, Spotted Bee Balm, False Sunflower
5	Bee Balm	Monardia sp. fistulosa, Wild Bergamot punctata, Spotted	Host plant for Hermit Sphinx Moth & Snout Moths. Attracts: Bees, wasps, flies, butterflies (Monarch, Swallowtail, Fritillary), Clearwing and other moths & skippers. One of the best forage plants for bumble bees.	Prairies, pastures, pond areas & rocky soils. Moderately drought tolerant. Foliage can be susceptible to powdery mildew so plant where there is sufficient air circulation and full sun.	Height: 24-60" June-Sept	J. Hansen L. Larson M. Delfelder N. Coombs K. Dahlinger	Black-Eye Susans, Hoary Vervain, Butterfly Milkweed, Fragrant Hyssop, Wild Petunia

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5	Ironweed, Western	<i>Vernonia baldwinii</i>	Larval host for American Painted Lady Butterfly and Tiger Moth	Very suitable plant for a pond, creek, lake edge or rain garden. Does well in most soils, found in disturbed sites.	Height: 36-72" Blooms: July-Sept. Forms colonies in pastures as livestock will not consume it; beautiful when in foliage or blooming, not so much after bloom.	L. Larson J. Hansen A. Zukoff N. Champlin P. Scherich	Spotted Joe Pye Weed, Culver's Root, Common Boneset, Swamp Milkweed
5	Milkweeds, all varieties	<i>Asclepias</i>	Host for the Monarch Butterfly	All soil types		L. Larson J. Hansen P. Scherich N. Coombs S. Reimer	
3	Aster, New England	<i>Symphotrichum novae-angliae</i>	Larval host for the Pearl Crescent Butterfly & Canadian Sonia Moth. Attracts bees, wasps, butterflies, & flies. One of the preferred nectar plants of butterflies and moths in the fall.	Moist stream banks, wet meadows, low areas. Combine with goldenrod species that prefer moist locations. Needs full sun.	Height: 12-72" Bloom: Sept-Oct. Tiny purple rays surround an orange to maroon center. A lovely plant to inspect up close! The most showy fall flower. Male bees are common visitors feeding on nectar while waiting to mate with a female.	M. Richter M. Delfelder N. Coombs	Riddell's Goldenrod, Cup Plant, Bottle Gentian, Common Boneset
3	False Indigo, Blue	<i>Baptisia australis</i>	Larval host for the Clouded Sulphur; Orange Sulphur & other species of butterflies. Queen and worker bumble bees are the primary pollinators of wild indigo flowers. Their size and strength allows them to pry open the flowers to access the nectar. Blister beetles feed on the foliage and weevils feed on the seeds.	Limestone or clay soils; performs best in full sun.	Height: 36-72" Bloom: May-June. Difficult to transplant; once established it is long-lasting due to deep root structure. One of the taller prairie forbs that stands above the grasses in the early spring.	P. Scherich R. Anderson N. Champlin	Smooth Beard Tongue, Golden Alexanders, Ohio Spiderwort, Butterfly Milkweed, Prairie Phlox
3	MO Evening Primrose	<i>Oenothera macrocarpa</i>	Night-flying moths pollinate the flowers which face upward at first and then turn downward after pollination. Moths, Sphinx Moth	Drought tolerant, found on rocky hillsides & disturbed areas. Tolerates lime rich, compacted soils. Needs full sun.	Height: 6-18" Bloom: May-July. Blooms open near sunset & close mid-morning the next day. Huge flowers with unusual shaped pods.	M. Richter R. Anderson C. Rhodes	None noted.

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3	Partridge Pea, Showy	<i>Chamaecrista fasciculata</i>	Host plant for Sulphur Butterflies.	Open woods, waste ground & roadsides. Found in sandy or rock soils. Full sun.	Height: 4-48" Bloom: July-Sept. The leaves are touch-sensitive and will fold when disturbed.	L. Larson R. Anderson N. Coombs	None noted.
3	Phlox, Blue (Woodland)	<i>Phlox divaricata</i>	Larva host for Checkerspot & Pearl Crescents. Early nectar source for moths, bees and butterflies.	Requires part-shade and moist, open woods.	Height: 6-20" Bloom: Apr-May	L. Larson N. Champlin A. Mitchell	None noted.
2	Aster	<i>Symphotrichum</i> sp.				J. Hansen L. Larson	
2	Aster, Aromatic	<i>Symphotrichum oblongifolium</i>	Attracts bees in late fall. Hosts to various checkerspot and crescents.	Dry, rocky or sandy open sites, often on hillsides.	Often found with Silky Aster.	S. Reimer N. Champlin	
2	Beardtongue, White	<i>Penstemon albidus</i>	Attracts native bees.	Open prairies, hillsides or sandy and gravelly soils. Full to part sun.	Bloom: May-July	A. Zukoff K. Dahlinger	
2	Black-eyed Susan	<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	Several species of butterflies & insects.	Disturbed prairies, roadsides, sun or partial shade.	Bloom: May-Sept. Drought tolerant, deer resistant.	P. Scherich N. Coombs	
2	Boneset, Tall	<i>Eupatorium altissimum</i>	Attracts many insects.	Dry, open areas, old fields, roadsides and disturbed sites.	Bloom: Aug-Oct	L. Larson I. Barnard	
2	Clammy-Weed	<i>Polanisia dodecandra</i>	Bees, Hummingbirds, flies & Butterflies.	Bluffs, disturbed areas, sandy or rocky soils.	Bloom: June-Sept	M. Delfelder N. Coombs	
2	Cup Plant / Rosinweed	<i>Silphium perfoliatum</i>	Attracts bees, butterflies, wasps and flies. Also attracts Katydid, the wasps prey on the Katydid.	Found in low, moist sites, stream banks; full sun to full shade.	Bloom: July-Sept. Will grow 6' tall with clasping leaves on a square stem that holds water for birds and insects. Can become invasive, just pull out unwanted plants. Dried stems can be bundled for insect housing.	A. Mitchell K. Dahlinger	
2	Gayfeather / Blazing Star	<i>Liatris punctata</i>	Butterflies	Dry prairies.	Bloom: Aug-Sept. Common plant found on all parts of the prairie.	M. Richter N. Champlin	
2	Gayfeather, Tall / Button Blazing Star	<i>Liatris aspera</i>	Attracts short & long-tongued bees. Host to Bleeding Flower Moth.	Dry, open, rocky or sandy prairies.	Bloom: Aug-Sept	S. Reimer A. Mitchell	

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2	Goldenrod, Showy	<i>Solidago speciosa</i>	Bees, solitary wasps and beetles.	Dry, sandy or rocky soils. Grows in full sun to part shade.	Bloom: Aug-Oct	S. Reimer N. Champlin
2	Lead Plant	<i>Amorpha canescens</i>	Dogface Sulfur, Gray Hairstreak, other butterflies, bees, & various beetles.	Dry prairies, ungrazed prairies as livestock love it.	Bloom: June-Aug. Blooms over a long period of time.	P. Scherich N. Champlin
2	Milkweed, Common	<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>	Monarch & a large number of butterflies & insects.	Found in open disturbed sites or waste areas.	Bloom: June-Aug.	R. Anderson C. Rhodes
2	Milkweed, Swamp	<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	Monarch & a large number of butterflies & insects. Nectar source for Tarantula Hawk Wasps.	Wet areas; lake & pond edges and marshy swamps.	Bloom: June-Sept	M. Delfelder A. Zukoff
2	Rattlesnake Master	<i>Aryngium yuccifolium</i>	Attracts bees & bumble bees.	Moist meadows, wet or dry prairies.	Bloom: June-Sept	I. Barnard A. Mitchell
2	Sunflowers	<i>Helianthus</i>	Attracts a diversity of insects, including pollinator beetles.	Low moisture soil, grows in full sun	Bloom: July-Sept.	L. Larson S. Reimer
2	White Prickly Poppy	<i>Argemone polyanthemus</i>	Bees, butterflies, beetles & Cochineal (scale insect).	Best in sandy soil. Found in disturbed soils & roadsides.	Bloom: June-Sept. Great big floppy petals. Hard to find without insects crawling in it; pigment derived from the Cochineal insects which were used by the British to dye their coats red (thus the name Red Coats).	M. Richter P. Scherich
1	Aster, Smooth Blue	<i>Symphyotrichum laeve</i>	Bees, wasps, butterflies, flies	Dry open areas.	Bloom: Sept-Oct	I. Barnard
1	Beardtongue	<i>Penstemon</i> sp.			Bloom: May-July	J. Hansen
1	Beardtongue, Cobaea	<i>Penstemon cobaea</i>	Dotted Checkerspot Butterfly & other insects.	Dry rocky prairies, hillsides and gypsum or limestone soils.	Showy flowers in May-June.	P. Scherich
1	Bee Balm / Wild Bergamot	<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	Attracts Bumble Bees and other insects.	Rocky prairies, pastures & roadsides.	Bloom: June-Aug	S. Reimer
1	Black-eyed Susan	<i>Rudbeckia</i> ap.			Bloom: May-Sept.	J. Hansen
1	Black-eyed Susan	<i>Rudbeckia missouriensis</i>	Several species of butterflies & insects.	Disturbed prairies, roadsides, sun or partial shade.	Bloom: June-Aug.	C. Rhodes

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1	Bladderpod	<i>Physaria gordonii</i>	Bees, butterflies and host for various whites/sulphurs.	Sandy or gravelly disturbed areas.	Bloom: Mar-June. Extremely early bloomer, easily reseeds itself making an attractive spreading groundcover.	A. Zukoff	
1	Blue Flax	<i>Linum perenne</i>	Several species of butterflies & insects.	Grows best in sunny to light shade; average garden soil; dry conditions.	Bloom: May-Aug.	C. Rhodes	
1	Boltonia, False Aster	<i>Boltonia asteroides</i>	Attracts many insects.	Stream banks, margins of ponds & lakes, bottomland prairies.	Bloom: Aug-Oct	I. Barnard	
1	Brown-eyed Susan	<i>Rudbeckia triloba</i>	Attracts many insects.	Disturbed prairies, roadsides, sun or partial shade.	Bloom: Aug-Oct	C. Rhodes	
1	Bur Marigold / Tickseed Sunflower	<i>Bidens aristosa</i>	Bees, flies, butterflies, Gray Hairstreak	Moist prairies, damp lowlands	Bloom: July-Sept	N. Coombs	
1	Clematis, Fremont's	<i>Clematis fremontii</i>	Attracts bees, especially bumble bees and wasps.	Rocky prairie hillsides, full to part sun.	Bloom: Apr. Blooms mid-spring to early summer, some blooms again in September.	A. Mitchell	
1	Compass Plant	<i>Silphium laciniatum</i>	Long-tongue bees	Clay soil	Bloom: July-Sept. Lots of large yellow composite flowers. A mature plant may bloom for a month and may live for 100 years. The leaves orient North & South.	M. Richter	
1	Coneflower, Pale Purple	<i>Echinacea pallida</i>	Bees & butterflies.	Dry, open rocky sites.	Roote was chewed as a cold remedy.	I. Barnard	
1	Coneflowers	<i>Echinacea</i>	All species, host for Silvery Checkerspot Butterfly.	Dry soils of open rocky prairies.	Bloom: June-Aug.	L. Larson	
1	Coreopsis, Plains	<i>Coreopsis tinctoria</i>	Bees, butterflies & other insects.	Damp area of pastures, meadows, etc. with full sunlight.	Bloom: June-Sept. Was used for a source of yellow & red dyes.	P. Scherich	
1	Corydalis, Large-Bracted / Fumewort	<i>Corydalis curvisiliqua</i>	native, solitary bees	Open areas, prairies, hillsides & sandy soils.	Bloom: Apr-June	A. Zukoff	
1	Cut-Leaved Coneflower	<i>Rudbeckia laciniata</i>		Stream and river banks, margins of ponds, moist soils.	Bloom: July-Sept	I. Barnard	
1	False Indigo, Cream	<i>Baptisia bracteata</i>	Various skippers, sulphurs & moths.	Sandy or rocky prairies.	Bloom: Apr-May	A. Mitchell	
1	Gayfeather	<i>Liatris</i>				L. Larson	

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1	Gayfeather / Prairie Blazing Star	<i>Liatris pycnostachya</i>	Butterflies	Open moist prairies, low areas.	Thickspike	I. Barnard
1	Golden Alexanders	<i>Zizia aurea</i>	Black Swallowtail Butterflies	Moist prairies, ditches & along streams.	Bloom: May-June	M. Delfelder
1	Goldenrod	<i>Solidago</i> sp.	Many types of insects.		Bloom: July-Oct.	J. Hansen
1	Goldenrod	<i>Solidago canadensis</i>	Many types of insects.	Sunny areas; average garden soil, medium to dry	Bloom: Aug-Oct	C. Rhodes
1	Goldenrod, Downy	<i>Solidago petiolaris</i>	A late bloomer that attracts hundreds of Monarch Butterflies, bees and wasps in early fall.	Open rocky woodlands; sandy or limestone sites.	Bloom: Aug-Oct	K. Dahlinger
1	Helenium	<i>Helenium autumnale</i>	Fall nectar source.	Common in low spots.	Bloom:	R. Anderson
1	Helenium autumnale	Sneezeweed	Many types of insects.	Waste areas, prairies and overgrazed pastures.	Bloom: Aug-Oct	I. Barnard
1	Indian Blanket Flower	<i>Gaillardia pulchella</i>	Many types of insects including the endangered <i>Hesperia dactotae</i> (Dakota Skipper)	Dry upland areas.	Bloom: May-Sept. A beautiful flower that is a painter's dream.	M. Richter
1	Indian Blanket Flower / Prairie Gaillardia	<i>Gaillardia aestivalis</i>	Attracts a variety of insects.	Dry rocky or sandy prairies.	Bloom: July-Aug	A. Zukoff
1	Ironweed	<i>Vernonia</i> sp.				L. Larson
1	Little Bluestem	<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	Host for various skippers, wood nymph & wood satyr. Blooms attract bees.	Found in all parts of Kansas. Full to part sun.	Bloom: July-Sept.	A. Mitchell
1	Milkweed, Broad-Leaf	<i>Asclepias latifolia</i>	Monarch & a large number of butterflies & insects.	Gravelly soil in mixed & short grass prairies.	Bloom: July-Sept. Drought tolerant, hard to find a blooming plant without many insects crawling on them.	P. Scherich
1	Milkweed, Whorled	<i>Asclepias verticillata</i>	Bees, butterflies, wasps & flies.	Dry prairies, most abundant on chalk or limestone soils.	Bloom: June-Sept	A. Mitchell
1	New Jersey Tea	<i>Ceanothus herbaceus</i>	Attracts many varieties of insects.	Open, prairie hillsides, limestone outcrops, rocky or sandy soils.	Drought tolerant. Used as a substitute for black tea during the American Revolution & Civil War.	I. Barnard
1	Prairie Parsley	<i>Polytaenia nuttallii</i>	Black Swallowtail Butterflies	Open Prairie	Bloom: May-June	R. Anderson
1	Purple Poppy Mallow	<i>Callirhoe involucrata</i>	Attracts many varieties of insects.	Grows best in sunny areas; average garden soil and dry conditions	Bloom: June-July	C. Rhodes
1	Salvia / Sage	<i>Salvia</i> sp.			Bloom: July-Oct.	J. Hansen

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1	Snow-on-the-Mountain	Euphorbia marginata		Most abundant in limestone soils.	Bloom: June-Oct.	J. Hansen
1	Spiderwort	Tradescantia sp.			Bloom: May-Aug.	J. Hansen
1	Spiderwort, Ohio / Common Spiderwort	Tradescantia ohiensis	Attracts bees & bumble bees.	Tolerates a wide range of soil types.	Bloom: May-Aug.	S. Reimer
1	Sunflower, Maximillian	Helianthus maximiliani	Native bees	Tolerant of a wide range of soil types.	Bloom: Aug-Sept. Needs good moisture to grow 8'.	M. Richter
1	Thistle, Tall	Cirsium altissimum	Attracts butterflies.	Tolerates a wide range of soil types.	Bloom: Aug-Sept	S. Reimer
1	Verbena, Rose	Glandularia canadensis	Attracts many insects.	Rocky prairie hillsides, well-drained sites with sparse vegetation.	Bloom: May-June	N. Champlin
1	Verbena, Woolly	Verbena stricta	Bees, butterflies, wasps & flies.	Dry soils, well drained to heavy clay soils, prefers full sun.	Bloom: June-Sept	A. Mitchell
1	Viola	Viola sp.	Fritillaries	Prairies and open woodlands.	Bloom: Mar-Apr	N. Coombs
1	Violet, Prairie	Viola pedatifida	Host of the Regal Fritillary	Prairies and open woodlands.	Bloom: Apr-May	R. Anderson
1	Western Yarrow	Achillea millefolium	Many insects.	Dry open areas.	Bloom: June-Sept. Sturdy vigorous plant found on hill sides and dry areas. Easily spotted on the prairie with flat-topped white blossoms.	M. Richter
1	Wild Senna, Maryland Senna	Senna marilandica		Prairie ravines, thickets, dry gravelly soils	Bloom: July-Sept.	J. Hansen
1	Yucca / Soapweed / Adam's Needle	Yucca glauca	Yucca Moth	Dry, rocky or sandy uplands & slopes.	Bloom: May-June	R. Anderson
	Goldenrod, Rigid	Solidago rigida	Many types of insects.	Dry open prairies, rocky or sandy sites.	Bloom: Aug-Oct	A. Zukoff

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Common Name	Botanical	Host Plant	Soil Type	Other Info	Votes:	
Black Cherry Tree	Prunus serotina	Attractive to caterpillars.	Well-drained soil in full sun to part shade.	Bloom: Apr-May	N. Coombs N. Champlin	
Bladdernut	Staphylea trifolia	Host to Zebra Swallowtail Butterflies	Moist woods, along streams; understory tree.	Bloom: Mar-Apr	R. Anderson	
Buttonbush	Cephalanthus occidentalis	All butterflies love this plant.	Prefers wet soils; along stream banks.	Bloom: July-Aug. The flowers are a good source of honey.	L. Larson R. Anderson	
Pawpaw / Indian Banana	Asimina triloba	Host to Zebra Swallowtail Butterflies	Shaded woods, stream banks; an understory tree; prefers rich soils.	Bloom: Mar-Apr	R. Anderson N. Coombs N. Champlin	
Spicebush	Lindera benzoin	Swallowtail Butterflies	Likes moist soils along streams and river banks.	Bloom: Apr	R. Anderson	