

# Beneficial Beauties: Collection of Pollinator Plants & Deer Repellers

**Pollinators** include more than just butterflies. The following plants may also attract bees, wasps, moths, beetles, and hummingbirds. We've collected **annual**, **tender** (pp. 24-27) & **hardy perennial** (pp. 28-30) plants that thrive under tricky conditions. For more blooms, clip the faded flowers, and fertilize with a gentle 4-6-4 fertilizer, monthly, in the warm season. Plants NOT favored by deer are marked with this symbol.



## ANNUAL & TROPICAL POLLINATORS:

Plants in this section have roots in other climates that enjoy warmer winters. Annuals provide the best shot of color and last only 9 to 12 months. Tender perennials, can live year after year, provided you site them a warm windowsill, indoors, when temps dip below 40°. All summer bloomers play a vital role in entertaining pollinators from May through October, in between times when the hardy natives aren't blooming.

**ANNUALS ARE MARKED; THE REST ARE TENDER PERENNIALS**

### Begonia, Wax Charm

\$ 7.99



*Begonia semperflorens 'Charm'*

AM Sun+2 9 x 9 inches  
Pollinators, Mass Planting, Hanging Basket

Wax begonias attract bees, butterflies, moths, and hummingbirds drawn to the flowers' sweet nectar and bright colors. Creamy yellow, mottled, glossy leaves serve as a backdrop to June-through-fall, soft pink flowers, grown outdoors. Keep the show going inside, under lights, when under 55°.

### Begonia, Wax Double Pink

\$ 7.99

*Begonia semperflorens*

AM Sun+2 9 x 9 inches Mixed Containers, Baskets

Enjoy fully double, fluffy, pink flowers, June through fall, on bright green foliage. It is heat tolerant and does not require deadheading for continued blooming. Plant begonias in a mixed container with parsley and deep purple basil, attractive and useful for people and pollinators.

### Begonia, Wax Double Red

\$ 7.99

*Begonia semperflorens*

AM Sun+2 x 9 inches Containers, Baskets

How about festive, double red, summer through fall blooms in a pot with "Vermillionaire" (Cuphea, Large Firecracker) and bronze fennel, or bright border around your vegetable garden?



### Butterflyweed, Apollo Orange

\$ 5.49

*Asclepias curassavica*

AM/PM Sun 2-1/2 x 2 feet Monarchs!!!

We offer tropical milkweeds because they grow rapidly, tolerate heat and drought, and bloom from May to October, longer than most native species. Fall blooms are important, especially for migrating species like monarchs, as they need nectar sources to fuel their journey south. So, these are for the procrastinating pollinators. Vivid orange blooms over attractive, slender foliage also look great in a vase. Collect the milkweed pods to sow next spring.



### NEW! Bidens, Beedance Painted Orange & Beedance Yellow Improved



*Bidens ferulifolia*

AM/PM Sun 11 x 36 inches Bees & Baskets

The Bidens, Beedance sisters are strong, sturdy, compact, heat resistant bee magnets. "Painted Orange" flashes vibrant bicolor flowers in shades of yellow and orange-red, while "Yellow Improved" features sunny yellow daisies, colors that pollinators just can't resist, spring to October,



### Candy Kisses

\$ 7.99

PM Sun 2 x 1 foot Mixed Containers

This Australian native produces small, brightly colored, variegated, green and white leaves with dark purple stems. Summer long sprays of pink flowers are continuous when deadheaded. From experience, I can tell you, this makes an easy and excellent houseplant.

### Cardinal Vine

\$ 5.49

*Ipomoea sloteri*

AM/PM Sun 10 x 1 feet

Annual Vine

Birds-n-Bees, Climber

From mid summer to fall frost, cardinal red, tubular flowers with white or yellow throats flutter above graceful, airy vines (cousin to Morning Glory) reaching for anything it can grab. It's a dear friend to hummingbirds.

### NEW! Cleome, Magenta

\$ 7.99

*Cleome x'Clio Magenta'*

AM/PM Sun 3 x 2.5 feet

Annual

Butterfly, Cutflower, Containers

Cleome is known as "Spider Flower" for its airy, spider-like blooms. 'Clio Magenta' is a sterile annual, which means vibrant magenta-pink blooms, summer until first fall freeze. You don't have to pick off blooms (deadheading) constantly for more flowers on this drought tolerant bush.

### NEW! Cleome, Rose

\$ 7.99

*Cleome x'Senorita Rosalita'*

AM/PM Sun 3 x 2.5 feet Mixed Pot "Thriller"

Annual

Look forward to all the drought tolerant, easy care, pollinator attracting (bees, butterflies & moths) qualities of a Cleome with lavender-pink flowers. See the tall plant in the adjacent picture.



### Cuphea, Large Firecracker

\$ 7.99

*Cuphea 'Vermillionaire'*

AM/PM Sun

24 x 18 inches

Spring through frost, orange-red, tubular flowers burst, resembling small firecrackers.

It attracts hummingbirds and is tolerant of heat, humidity and a little shade. Puts up with some drought, but performs best with regular moisture and more sun.



### Duranta, Sky Flower

\$ 7.99

*Duranta erecta 'Sapphire Showers'*

AM/PM Sun 3 x 2 feet

Espalier Shrub, Birds

When I say this plant can be in flower nearly year round, with flowers and fruit appearing at the same time, we've witnessed this freakish feat. In late spring, there were cascading clusters of intense violet-blue, tubular flowers with white frilly edges. Winter indoors, its flowers & orange-yellow berries continued. AKA "Pigeon Berry" with berries are solely for the birds.

## Evolvulus, Blue Daze \$6.99

*Evolvulus glomeratus*

AM/PM Sun 1 x 2 feet Baskets, Bees

From Brazil comes brilliant blue flowers all summer, like a miniature non-vining Morning Glory. In ground, baskets or pots, it forms sprawling foliage mounds. Flowers usually close up at night and on cloudy days. Think about a winter houseplant.



## NEW! Fuchsia, Autumnale \$7.99

*Fuchsia, Autumnale*

AM Sun+2 1 x 1.5 feet Trailing, Hummingbirds, Baskets

Known for its multicolored foliage which changes from gold and green to bronze, orange and purple, protected from harsh afternoon sun. It produces small, slender orange-red and purple flowers throughout the summer. All of this adds up to a lovely, hummingbird basket for your porch.

## NEW! Gomphrena-Cosmic Flare \$7.99

*Gomphrena globosa 'Cosmic Flare'* Annual

AM/PM Sun 18 x 24 inches Cutflower



Raspberry-pink orbs hover over lime green leaves. An all summer cutflower, sure to please even the pickiest gardener, brightens containers and garden borders, especially planted in mass. Enjoy as a cutflower, then dry in a vase for color beyond fall frosts.

## Heliotrope, Fragrant Blue \$7.99

*Heliotropium arborescens*

AM Sun+2 2 x 2 feet Fragrance, Bees

Everyone seems inherently drawn to the flowers, ready to inhale. Old-fashioned heliotrope was known as the "cherry pie plant" for its rich, sweet, dessert fragrance. Yes, it's loaded with purple, long season, bee attracting blooms that you'll remember well after summer's end. On the other hand, deer are not impressed.



## Hibiscus, Rose Queen \$21.99

*Hibiscus rosa-sinensis 'Rose Queen'*

AM Sun+2 4 x 3 feet Beauty



This Australian tropical shrub bears 4 inch, bright red flowers, but its flashiest feature is the exotic, multi-colored, red, green and dark pink foliage that adds year round texture and interest even when the plant is not in flower. Extend that tropical feeling by bring the plant indoors for the winter.

## Hyacinth Vine, Diablo \$5.49

*Lablab purpureus* Annual

AM/PM Sun 9-15 feet vine, NOT edible

A.k.a. "Indian Bean," this vigorous vine pops out purple, butterfly & hummingbird attracting flowers and electric-purple seed pods. It's a great choice for a quick screen on a trellis or a fence, producing leaves, flowers, pods, seeds and roots that were traditionally harvested for food. I really don't recommend that as **WARNING:** dried beans are poisonous. They were only eaten after prolonged boiling and rinsing and boiling. This is easily the most noticed plant in our gardens, for its beauty and how quickly it can fill an 8 foot trellis in one season



## LANTANA \$7.99

Mark & I have walked the Michigan flower field trials for several years. We purposely go on the last day, knowing the fertilizer drip has been turned off that week. In only 4 days, plants start to go down! We choose the plants that are thriving and filled with the most buzz (the bees & butterflies.) LANTANA HAS WON OVERALL EVERY YEAR!

AM/PM Sun size varies Baskets, Containers, Garden Plants



### Lantana, Bandana Cherry Sunrise

*Lantana camara 'Bandana Cherry Sunrise'*

18 x 18 inches



### Lantana, Bandana White

*Lantana camara 'Bandana White'*

18 x 18 inches



### Lantana Hot Blooded Red

*Lantana camara 'Hot Blooded Red'*

18 x 18 inches



### Lantana, Bandana Lemon Zest

*Lantana cam. 'Bandana Lemon Zest'*

18 x 18 inches

Be aware that, according to the Humane Society of America, Lantana leaves may be toxic to your pets. Deer steer clear.



### Lantana, Pink Opal

*Lantana 'Gem Compact Pink Opal'*

8 x 10 inches



## Mexican Heather, \$7.99

*Cuphea x FloriGlory*

AM/PM Sun 12 x 14 inches Bees, Butterflies,

Cuphea FloriGlory, commonly called Mexican Heather, is a compact, award-winning series known for heat tolerance, intense colors and massive flower count from spring to winter, brought indoors. This low maintenance group comes in many colors including:

- Mexican Heather, 'Diana': dark magenta
- Mexican Heather 'Corazon': lavender
- Mexican 'Selena': rose-violet

We place each plant in one category, but, Many cross over like "Mexican Heather" which qualifies as a pollinator, miniature perennial, houseplant or bonsai



## STORY OF THE ELFIN HERB aka "Mexican Heather"

(Originally printed in the Tropical Sun Miniature section, I preserve this as it explains the reason why we started faery gardening: to teach the next generation about plants. Yes, many miniatures are also pollinator plants.)

Years ago Ben asked Mark, "What's the name of that pretty flower?" "Elfin Herb," he told Ben, who responded as any 4 year old would and asked why? "Because," Mark said, "faeries like to use flowers as little hats. Elves, who like to play tricks, run by and snatch the flowers right off the faeries' heads." Months later, Ben still remembered the name.

**NEW! Nemesia, Cherryberry** \$7.99

*Nemesia X 'Escential'*

AM Sun+2 10 x 10 inches Fragrance

These nemesias are full of fragrance. With large flowers, in bold colors, 'Escential' varieties are the most heat tolerant nemesia, in bloom from early spring through autumn provided they get a cooler spot in the garden, void of hot afternoon sun and a drink as needed.

"Cherryberry" comes in deep cherry on the top with a white and yellow bottom lip. "Photo courtesy of PlantHaven International, planthaven.com".



**NEW! Nemesia, Sunberry** \$7.99



*Nemesia X 'Escential'*

AM Sun+2 10 x 10 inches Fragrance, Bees

Known as "Summer Snapdragon" which nails the flower shape or "Cape Jewel," in reference to its South Africa origin, nemesias bring color and airiness to the

garden or patio as their dainty blooms and leaves float about on slender stems. Generous watering during hot spells is the key to continuous blooms.

**NEW! Pentas, Graffiti Series** \$7.99

*Pentas lanceolata* Annual

AM/PM Sun 12 x 12 inches Butterfly, Hummers

Other names like "Star Flower" or "Star Cluster" allude to the tight, dense clusters of star-shaped blooms. This series is particularly compact, sturdy, and heat tolerant, even in gardens that receive 14+ hours of sun.

We are offering the following colors:

FUCHSIA, LAVENDER-PINK, RED VELVET, VIOLET & WHITE



**NEW! Phygelius Colorburst Series** \$7.99



*Phygelius x rectus 'Colorburst Series'*

AM/PM Sun x 12 inches Hummingbirds

A sensational bloomer, "Cape Fuchsia," (shout-out to its South African home), provides warm season color from midsummer into fall. Showy clusters of dangling, tubular, fuchsia-like, flowers are perfect for a hot summer container. Water & deadhead regularly for the best show.

We offer: DEEP RED flowers with burgundy stalks and soft YELLOW flowers over pine-colored foliage.

**Plumbago, Royal Cape** \$7.99

*Plumbago auriculata 'Monott'*

AM/PM Sun 2 x 2 feet



Deer Proof, Flowering Shrub

While it provides erosion control, covers up unsightly utilities, & provides an evergreen backdrop, we enjoy the huge clusters of vivid, deep blue flowers, spring through fall, all over this shrub. Plant under spreading canopies of old trees or add its lush foliage to tropical gardens and around pool areas.

**Portulaca, Rainbow** \$7.99

*Portulaca pilosa 'Hana Misteria'*

AM/PM Sun 3 x 18 inches

Southwest Landscape



This succulent came from a friend and Ohio's treasured plantsman, Bill Hendrix. Performs and blooms spectacularly all summer for bees, butterflies & humans, due to its extraordinary heat & drought tolerance. Keep dry, indoors, over winter, and the show continues.

**SALVIAS \$7.99**

Most sages fall under the ornamental, or in this case, pollinator plant category, and are typically referred to by their scientific name: Salvia. Their tubular flowers are often just the right shape & length for hummingbirds, in particular. All sages listed below are **tender perennials**.

**AM/PM Sun h x w varies Hummingbirds, Containers, Cottage Gardens**

**NEW! Salvia, Bodacious Series** \$7.99

*Salvia X 'Bodacious Series'*

AM/PM Sun h x w varies Hummingbird



Breeders are going for long lasting, intensely colored blooms that bees and other pollinators can enjoy all summer. The Bodacious series checks off all the boxes, thrives in full sun and appreciates consistent moisture. With shades of cobalt blue, hot pink, royal navy blue and deep purple tubular flowers, just put these out, and they (the hummingbirds) will come. We offer these candidates into this most prestigious class:

- HUMMINGBIRD FALLS: a world class trailing salvia for hanging baskets offering a natural alternative to plastic hummingbird feeders with cobalt blue flowers. Anise-scented branches rise vertically at first, then cascade as they should. Figure about 18 inches tall by up to three feet wide.
- JAMMIN' JAZZ: upright approximately 3 x 3 feet shrub with vibrant, hot-pink flowers and chocolate calyxes (the outermost whorl of a flower)
- RHYTHM & BLUES: up to a 3 x 3 feet mound of royal navy blue and black calyxes awaits your in-ground garden or mixed container.
- SMOKEY JAZZ: proudly grows upright, 3 x 3-1/2 feet, with boysenberry (deep purple) blooms and dark, heat-resistant foliage

With strong scents and bitter taste, Salvias are generally deer resistant.



**Salvia, Dancing Flames**

*Salvia vanhouttei 'Dancing Flames'*

20 x 24 inches Hummingbird, Containers, Variegated Thriller

Summer through fall, spikes of scarlet, tubular flowers are the "cherry" atop a mass of yellow SPLASHED foliage. Our most spectacular bed in 2023 was a hummingbird magnet filled with strictly sages- glorious gold and green pineapple Mexican, skyscraper salvias and 'Dancing Flames.'



**Salvia, Mexican All-Purple**

*Salvia leucantha 'All-Purple'*

4 x 5 feet Fresh & Dried Cutflowers

Rises to 4 or 5 feet tall by August, as fuzzy, blue spikes appear. Cut stems back 1/3 in June & July to promote more branching, flowering and compact height. Is an important pollen source for bees and butterflies in the fall. Florists have told us this majestic giant reminds them of lavender on steroids!

**Salvia Skyscraper Pink**

*Salvia x 'Skyscraper Pink'*

20 x 16 inches Bees, Hummers, Cottage Gardens

Soaring 2" long tubular, pink and bronze flowers top this perfect patio pot plant. Better than TV, you have a front row seat to the hummingbirds. These waterwise, heat-tolerant, carefree plants flower from late spring into fall, providing a much-needed late-se food source for pollinators.



## Sanvitalia, Creeping Zinnia \$ 7.99

*Sanvitalia x 'Tsavo'*

AM/PM Sun 8 x 16 inches Hanging Baskets, Mass Plantings

Sunny, golden daisies bring cheer to your hanging baskets, window boxes, or landscape, mid summer to first fall frost. Since Creeping Zinnia is both heat and drought tolerant, it would be an excellent addition to any rock garden or dry, sunny area. Expect low-maintenance (including no deadheading) to stay in continuous bloom from this North American native.

## Sensitive Plant \$6.99

*Mimosa pudica*

AM Sun+2 1 x 2 feet Curiosity Plant

Known for its reactive, folding, fern-like foliage, it actually produces fluffy lavender flowers too. Its evolutionary trick of closing up, startles predators and reduces water loss. Be sure not to tickle it to death! In addition, the leaves also droop in response to darkness and reopen with daylight.

## NEW! Simpson's Stopper \$11.49

*Myrcianthes fragrans 'Geode'*

AM Sun+3 5 x 3 feet  Bonsai, Fragrant, Bird Food

Deep, lustrous green leaves release a soft nutmeg-citrus aroma when crushed. Delicate white blooms cluster in fragrant sprays, drawing butterflies, bees, and pollinators throughout spring. Known as "Twin Berry" for its orange-red berries that emerge in pairs, mid-late summer, a treat for the birds. Tolerance of salt and drought are added bonuses.

## NEW! Star Flower, Glowing Violet \$7.99



*Isotoma axillaris 'Fizz N Pop'*

AM/PM Sun 8 x 12 inches Patio Pots & Pollinators

This is the size of the flowers, nectar-rich for all all kinds of beneficial insects and pollinators, from summer to fall. Surprisingly ready for heat and sun especially with a drink now and then.

We offer: GLOWING VIOLET & PRETTY N PINK

## Sweet Potato Vines \$6.99

*Ipomoea batatas*

Annual

PM Sun 3 x 3 feet BIG Baskets, Garden Spillers

Sun or shade, heat or humidity, hanging baskets or luscious groundcover, these bright green and deep purple ornamental varieties are not picky. Grown in the sun, the colors are brighter and they need more water. In the shade they may green up a bit, but aren't as thirsty. In 2026 we just have the heart-shaped, purple sweet potato vines.

## NEW! Verbena, Homestead \$7.99

*Verbena canadensis*

AM/PM Sun 6 x 2-3 feet Butterfly, Groundcover

When this vigorous groundcover has spread up to three feet by fall, take cuttings of it and start all over again next year. It's worth it! Ideal for baskets or gardens, it thrives in full sun rewarding us with flower cluster....say it with me- "from spring to fall frost." Cut back spent flowers and get a fresh batch. We offer: HOMESTEAD PURPLE: velvety purple flowers (pictured right)

HOT PINK: Spreads about 2 feet so baskets are just fine for this one.

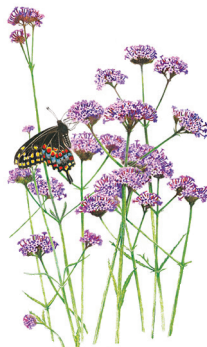
## Verbena, Vanity \$5.49

*Verbena bonariensis*

Annual

AM/PM Sun 2.5 x 2 feet Butterfly

This airy, free-spirited verbena is more compact. Wiry, slender stems culminate in vivid violet-purple flower clusters that entice beneficial insects and hummingbirds. Ideally suited to borders in smaller gardens and containers on a sunny patio. It's a self-sowing annual, which happens to be fine with us. Use bark or other mulch where you don't want it to produce a bunch of babies next spring.



## BUTTERFLIES NEED HOST & NECTAR PLANTS

Butterflies lay their eggs on plants, referred to as host plants. When the caterpillar hatches from its egg, it will feed on its host plant. Some butterflies use only one kind of plant as a host, whereas others use several or many different species.

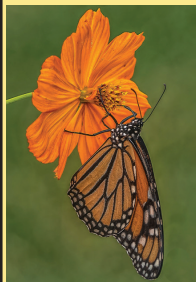
### FAVORITE CATERPILLAR HOST PLANTS INCLUDE:



- herbs like asclepias (butterfly or milkweeds), baptisia, citrus, dill, echinacea, fennel, hops, nasturtiums, parsley, rue and verbena
- flowers such as aster, black-eyed susan
- grasses like little bluestem and orchard grass
- shrubs such as spicebush
- vines such as passion flower and pipevine
- trees like elm, dogwood, pawpaw, prickly ash, sassafras, sweet bay, magnolia, and willow

Adult butterflies feed on flower nectar and are not as picky about nectar plants as they are host plants. Butterflies are attracted to solid masses of color, flower fragrance, and flower shape.

### BUTTERFLIES NEED THE NECTAR FROM:



- herbs such as bee balms, butterfly bush, butterflyweed, catnip, chives, echinacea, mint, lavender, oregano, sage, verbena and thyme
- flowers like aster, black-eyed susan, liatris, cardinal flower, coreopsis, cosmos, lantana Mexican sunflowers, petunia, sunflower, violets, sedum and zinnia
- shrubs like butterfly bush
- vines such as passion flower
- trees like chaste tree & flowering dogwood

### 5 STEPS TO PLANTING FOR POLLINATORS

1. Include a wide range of plants from different parts of the world.
2. Use plants from the northern, more than the southern hemisphere.
3. Pack in lots of flowering plants.
4. Observe which plants attract pollinators and plant more of them.
5. Select plants for all seasons.

### EXCELLENT REFERENCES:

gardenswithwings.com prairiemoon.com OSU Extension  
americanmeadows.com prairienursery.com Holden Arboretum  
www.rhs.org.uk/wildlife/native-and-non-native-plants-for-pollinators



2 year old Ben on "Homestead Purple Verbena" is now 30

Ben has put his business & winemaking degrees to the test, opening up a wine tasting room spring 2024. I will always keep this photo and the one of his brother, on the back cover. Our 26 year old Josh is back in town with a travelling job. With enough dreams to last a lifetime, nothing is in his way!

## HARDY PERENNIAL POLLINATOR SECTION:

These varieties (pages 28-30) are hardy to Ohio and should remain outdoors all year. A monthly dose of slow release (4-6-4) fertilizer, deadheading spent flowers, and an annual dressing of compost in early spring is about all they need to come back year after year.

### NEW! Achillea New Vintage Red \$11.49

*Achillea millefolium 'Balvinred'* PP#25618

AM/PM Sun 2 x 1 feet Butterfly, No Deer, Cutflower

Old-fashioned flower gets an update with longer blooming, bright red flowers, late spring through summer or even fall. Elegant and compact, it does not draw the attention of rabbits or deer, but it caught our eyes as a drought tolerant, cutflower for front door gardens. Cutting the flowerheads, regularly encourages more bouquets.

### AGASTACHE, KUDOS SERIES \$11.49

Bred to be compact and thick with flowers, this series of super hardy agastaches are nearly impervious to Downy Mildew. Their sweet fragrances and range of bright colors attract pollinating insects.

All grow well here even during our hot, humid summer weather.

AM/PM Sun h x w varies Fragrant, Drought, No Deer

### Agastache, Kudos Series™ \$11.49

*Agastache sp.*

AM/PM Sun h x w varies Fragrant, Anti-deer, Water-wise

Bred to be compact and thick with flowers, this series of super hardy agastaches are nearly impervious to Downy Mildew. Their sweet fragrances and range of bright colors attract pollinating insects. All grow well here even during our hot, humid summer weather. Here are a few stars:



#### NEW! Agastache Kudos Ambrosia

*Agastache x 'Kudos Ambrosia'*

18 x 18 inches Hummingbirds, Bees, No Deer

Fragrant, coconut, peach and rose-pink flowers bloom like annuals but these are hardy perennials, given well draining soil to overwinter successfully. Cut back to 4" tall early spring

#### Agastache, Kudos Red

*Agastache x 'Kudos Red'*

12 x 24 inches Hummingbird Magnets, Containers

Glowing red-orange, nectar-laden trumpets "climb up" branching stems to form lush spires above the fragrant foliage. It is ideal for early summer to October bold color, reblooming many times, especially when deadheaded.

#### NEW! Agastache Morello

*Agastache x 'Kudos Morello'*

3 x 2 feet Hummingbirds, Sun

All of these agastaches are "Hummingbird Mint" for a reason. Dramatic, burgundy-rose, tubular flowers lure hummers over dark green, mint-scented foliage.



#### Allium, Blue Eddy

\$11.49

*Allium senescens 'Blue Eddy'*

AM/PM Sun 8 x 12 inches BEES & more BEES!

This was named for its attractive, pinwheel rosettes of blue-gray-green foliage which resemble "small swirling eddies of water." From late summer into early fall, clusters of light lilac pink flowers stand atop leafless stems like lollipops. Adored by butterflies and honeybees but not deer and rabbits.

### Amsonia a.k.a. Blue Star \$21.99/gallon

*Amsonia 'Blue Ice'*

AM Sun+3 15 x 15 inches Not a deer favorite



Clusters of star-shaped, deep lavender-blue flowers float above glossy, willow-like leaves, roughly May to mid June, on this vase-shaped perennial. Sun from morning until mid afternoon is best for fall foliage (shimmering gold), longer lasting spring flowers, and no floppiness from too much shade. This American native requires minimal care and is deer resistant.

### Baptisia

*Baptisia australis*

3 x 3 feet Edible Flowers, Native Gardens

True blue June flowers form on this, among the oldest known, perennial. We pop the juicy flowers in our mouths for a fresh pea fix, though one individual I know, way over indulged in the buds and ended up with a minor belly ache. Bold, contrasting foliage turns purple after a freeze. Also, baptisia is a nitrogen fixing plant—that's free fertilizer!



### Bee Balm, Jacob Cline \$11.49

*Monarda didyma 'Jacob Cline'*

AM Sun+2 2.5 x 2 feet Teas, Medicinal

Choose this for its true RED flowers, extra mildew resistance, vigor and funky beauty. They attract every hummingbird, butterfly and bee with flowers that impart a minty, citrus flavor to hot or iced teas.

### Butterflybush, Little Rock Stars \$17.49/5" pot

*Buddleja davidii*

AM/PM Sun 2 x 2 feet Pot Hardy

These little rockstars look like a floral bouquet from early summer to fall, with continuous color until the first fall frost. Spring prune, about six inches above the ground. Deer and rabbits are not fans, but we and the pollinator community dig'em. Comes in violet-blue, intensely pink or dark, reddish-pink flowers.



## DETOURING DEER

Realizing that a deer is feasting on your flowers is a devastating feeling. Scarecrows, bars of soap, cans on strings and even motion activated sprinklers may work well until deer get used to them.

The easiest way to keep deer away is to plant deer-resistant flowers. Typically, these are often strong in fragrance or taste with a coarse or fuzzy texture. In some cases, they are plants that are toxic to deer.

However, deer-resistant does not mean deer won't ever damage your flowers—if they are hungry enough, they will eat almost any kind of vegetation in your landscape.

Many of the pollinator perennials listed here are not among deer's favorites, so they're well worth a try.





## THE MONARCH TRINITY:

Chrysalis, caterpillar and butterfly on milkweed and salvia.

Courtesy of gardenia.net/guide/fascinating-butterfly-facts

### FASCINATING BUTTERFLY FACTS:

- some butterfly feed on tree sap, rotting fruit and even animal dung
- butterflies taste with their feet, smell with antennae and see UV light
- some species work with ants who protect their larva in return for food
- they angle their wings for max. sun; requiring body temp of 85° to fly
- they use the sun's position and biological clocks for precise navigation
- butterfly' fossils indicate they've been around for 200 million years!

### 🦋 BUTTERFLYWEED or MILKWEED 🦋

The milky sap in the following plants inspires the common name for this family & controversy over safety. Mark thinks pets are often smart enough to stay away or couldn't eat enough to be ill.

AM/PM Sun Size varies Monarch Butterfly, Anti-Deer



#### Butterflyweed 'Ice Ballet'

\$6.99

*Asclepias incarnata 'Ice Ballet'*

3 x 1 feet

Monarch Butterfly, Native, Prairies

Native to wet meadows and swamps, it still grows very well in draining soils. The foliage emerges slowly each spring. Its deep tap roots prefer not to be disturbed once established. Mildly fragrant white flowers are followed by lovely, four inch seed pods.

#### Butterflyweed / Pleurisy Root

\$6.99

*Asclepias tuberosa*

1-2 x 1 feet

Old-time Medicinal, Dry & Native Gardens

Give yourself and Monarchs a bright orange, hardy, medicinal perennial. Despite some major safety concerns, the root of the pleurisy plant has been used medicinally for many years, beginning with Native Americans. Like all tap-rooted perennials, it's best to leave it in place once established.

#### Butterflyweed 'Cinderella'

\$6.99

*Asclepias incarnata 'Cinderella or Carmine Rose'*



3 x 1 feet

Monarch Butterfly, Moist Soils

True milkweed can be downright invasive so we lean toward these vanilla scented, carmine rose-colored flowers as our butterfly sirens. Native Americans used its roots for healing baths. *Asclepias incarnata* varieties prefer moist, wet, but draining soils and tolerant clay.

#### Catmint, Creeping

\$5.49

*Nepeta mussini (faassenii)*

PM Sun

1 x 2 feet

Ornamental, Bees, Rock Garden

So hardy, so easy to maintain! Small, white-gray, fine toothed leaves form a natural mound covered with blue flowers in June and occasionally fall. Although stronger and more pleasantly fragrant than common catnip, it doesn't attract the neighborhood cats (or deer), so it remains untouched. Mass several together in rock gardens for oceans of soft blue.

#### Catmint, Kitten Around

\$7.99

*Nepeta x 'Kitten Around'*

AM/PM Sun

6 x 12 inches

Bees, Ornamental, Waterwise

Unlike kittens, this is a well-behaved, fast-growing, low-maintenance gem. Bright blue-purple flowers tempt pollinators, May through September. Catnip, its herbal cousin on page 6, is what we use for tea while this is sheer beauty, which may or may not attract felines.

### 🦋 ECHINACEA \$5.49 🦋

Some echinacea come in crazy, bright colors. These blooming hybrids are bred for long lasting beauty. If you are looking for reliable, native heirlooms for medicine, stick with these.

AM/PM Sun Size varies Ornamental, Medicinal, Seed=Finch food



#### Echinacea, Paradox

*Echinacea paradoxa var. paradoxa*

3 x 2 feet

Medicinal, Seeds are Bird Food

Drooping yellow to orange-yellow petals and very large, coppery-brown to chocolate-brown central cones look best mid-June to mid-July.



#### Echinacea, Pastel Purple

*Echinacea pallida*

2 - 4 x 2 feet

Medicinal, Seeds are Bird Food

Pale, pink, droopy narrow flower petals, leaves and roots are medicinally potent. The Greek word *echinos* means hedgehog or sea urchin describing their spiny center cones which holds the finches favorite seeds.

#### Echinacea, Purple Coneflower

*Echinacea purpurea*

2 - 3 x 2 feet

Medicinal, Prairie Plant

This native, multi-talented, natural beauty is the quintessential herb and our company's logo! We have made this cold and flu preventing tincture since our sons were toddlers..



#### ECHINACEA TINCTURE

Extract immunity powers of these four natives by filling a mason jar with chopped leaves, flowers OR roots. Fill and cover contents with 1/5th 80 proof vodka, gin or rum. Put lid on. Infuse 4- 8 weeks.

#### Echinacea, Tennessee

*Echinacea tennesseensis*

3-4 x 2 feet

Medicinal, Water-wise, Native Gardens

Compared to other echinaceas, blooms are petite with upright, darker purple petals. Protect this slower grower native from aggressive growers.



#### NEW! Gaillardia, Spintop Red Sky

\$17.49 *Gaillardia aristata 'Spintop Mariachi Red Sky'*

AM/PM Sun 14 x 16 inches Cutflower

A fiesta of frilly petals, bright red with yellow, toothy tips, spring to fall form tidy mounds.

The large mature flowers actually push out

even more petals as they thrive in the sun and heat.

Gaillardia may attract pollinators, but deer walk on by,

as these aren't on their usual menu.



#### Lamb's Ear, Flower Free

\$7.99

*Stachys byzantina 'Helen von Stein'*

AM/PM Sun

10 x 18 inches

Lady Beetle Home, Tussie-Mussie

Mark has resurrected this lady beetle's preferred overwintering home, thanks to its abundance of soft, woolly, over-sized, silver-gray leaves, larger than standard "Lamb's Ear." Few to no flowers means that it stays tidy as opposed to taking over your yard. It works in sensory gardens & as a weed suppressing groundcover. Ticks the tongues of deer, so they steer clear.



## Mountain Mint

\$11.49 /4" pot

*Pycnanthemum muticum*

AM/PM Sun 2 x 2 feet Teas, Native American Medicinal

Native to Eastern North America, it typically grows in grassy open places, meadows, fields, and woodlands, but not in the mountains. Named "Perennial Plant of the Year 2025" for its mid to late summer, pale pink, nectar-rich blooms; silvery, spearmint-scented foliage for mild teas; deer resistance and ease in naturalizing. Stop unwanted spreading of clumps with a simple slice around the roots, with a shovel, in the spring. Used to treat fevers, colds, stomach aches, and more.

All plants on this page are considered deer resistant.



## NEW! Rudbeckia Dakota Flame \$17.49

*Rudbeckia hirta 'Dakota Flame'*



AM/PM Sun 18 x 20 inches  
Bees, Butterflies, Birds, No Deer, Cutflower  
Mounds covered in golden yellow blooms with dark chocolate centers, early summer through fall is just the beginning. Not only do Rudbeckias tolerate drought but also clay soil.

### SAGES vs. SALVIAS

Sages are the common name for the genus *Salvia*, so these terms are often interchanged. We decided to refer to the ornamental ones as *Salvia* and the edible or medicinal herbs as sages (on page 17). All are lovely, attract pollinators and appreciate a good haircut after flowers are spent. This applies to the following salvias:

AM/PM Sun Size varies Monarch Butterfly, Anti-Deer



## Salvia, Silver Clary

\$5.49

*Salvia sclarea*

AM/PM Sun 3 x 1.5 feet Biennial Perennial Aromatherapy, Dry & Sunny Bed

In classic biennial fashion, it typically grows a low lying (silver) rosette of leaves in its first year, blooms with tall (pink to purple) flower spikes alongside upright (silver-grey) stalks in the second year and then dies, however it frequently self-seeds giving the impression of a long-lived perennial.

## Salvia, Silver Velvet

\$5.49

*Salvia argentea*

AM/PM Sun 3 x 1.5 feet Biennial Perennial Ornamental, Dry & Sunny Bed

Silver sage is prized for rosettes of super soft, furry, silver leaves, often compared to "Lambs Ear." It produces 2 to 3 feet, candelabra spikes of bluish-white flowers, arranged in whorls around the stems. It is a drought-tolerant plant, native to the Mediterranean basin, specifically southern Europe and northern Africa. Position it where folks can brush the foliage and watch the hummingbird show.



## NEW! Scabiosa, Nova Dew Drops \$17.49

*Scabiosa NOVA® 'Dew Drops'*



AM/PM Sun 6 x 12 inches  
No Deer, Cut Flower, Bees, Butterflies, Hummers  
"Dew Drops" are a compact "Pincushion Flower" hosting two inch lavender blooms in abundance from late spring to fall. Prefers a spot in a raised bed as wet winters are one of the few things that stop them from coming back.

## Spigelia, Ragin Cajun

\$24.99/gallon

*Spigelia marilandica 'Ragin Cajun'*

AM Sun+2 2 x 2 feet Native American Medicinal



Yellow centers above orange-red flowers stand erect from early June to late July, like hands signaling the hummingbirds and butterflies. Grows in sun or shade, in the wild among woodlands and along stream banks throughout the Eastern U.S. Often called "Indian Pink" and its potent roots are a traditional remedy for intestinal parasites.

## Valerian, Garden Pink

\$5.49

*Valerian officinalis 'BLBP19'*

AM Sun+2 32 x 18 inches Medicinal, Butterfly

Though these roots, high in essential oils and STINKY!, are used as a relaxing, nerve tonic tea, its super power are the pinkish-white umbels, towering over fern-like foliage, that flag down butterflies and moths. To use medicinally, allow the plant at least two years of growth before harvesting SOME of its roots. Can be used fresh (after a good scrubbing) or dried.



### OUR DEEP DARK SECRET: WE WELCOME NATIVES AND HYBRIDS!

Soulful reflection, intense research and practicality have landed me here. No doubt native plants are the ideal. Studies confirm that the pollinators prefer natives over hybrids while favoring diversity.

Indeed, diversity is key. We plant over 500 varieties of edibles and ornamentals, frequently indulging in companion planting. Exotic and hybrid varieties are for support, often extending the blooming season or filling in gaps when native plants are not abundantly blooming.

As horticulturists, land caretakers and business folk, WE WANT THE PUBLIC TO PLANT POLLINATOR CROPS. Though the notion of "wildflowers equals weed patch" isn't necessarily true, your individual tastes, neighborhood regulations, or space constraints may dictate a compromise of native and non-natives. If adding a few flamboyant hybrids inspire you to plant a butterfly garden, then our common goal is achieved. I encourage you to add more natives each year. Be sure to check out invasive species lists. We can all agree on that issue.

Here is a terrific website to help in your research. <https://www.rhs.org.uk/science/conservation-biodiversity/plants-for-bugs>

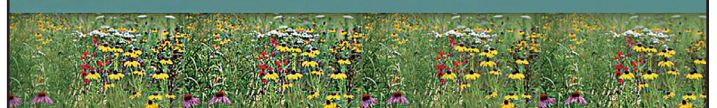
### NATIVES in HARMONY

If you are determined to go all native, I applaud you. Gale Martin is the most knowledgeable native plantswoman I have ever encountered which is why we host her here, the first Saturday in June. She brings her abundance and knowledge each year to Mulberry Creek.

### NATIVE PLANT SATURDAY IS JUNE 6th

Here's her site: [www.nativesinharmony.com](http://www.nativesinharmony.com)

NATIVES IN HARMONY  
PROMOTING NATURAL NATIVE LANDSCAPING





## Cutflowers & Table Toppers \$5.49

Many of these cutflowers are POLLENLESS. They last longer in the garden and in the vase, are less likely to cause allergic reactions, and don't leave stains on clothing or table linens. While pollenless flowers lack the protein pollen provides, they can still attract pollinators by producing nectar, which serves as an energy food source. Still, pollen is important for bees, particularly for feeding their larvae, which is why we offer these companions to mix in with other pollen producing plants.



### NEW! Celosia, Flamingo Purple

*Celosia spicata* Annual  
AM/PM Sun 30 x 18 inches Cut/Dried Flowers

Produce a bounty of dramatic burgundy and green foliage with feathery, 3" bi-color magenta plumes, mid summer to fall frost. Adds a tropical vertical element to bouquets, cut fresh or dried.

### NEW! Coleus, Wizard Mosaic

*Solenostemon cv* Annual  
AM Sun+2 14 x 12 inches Shade Garden

Admittedly, this one likes some attention, but isn't snipping off spent flowers & fertilizing once or twice a month a fun part of gardening? The chartreuse and burgundy foliage is worth it.



### NEW! Millet, Purple Majesty

*Pennisetum glaucum* Annual  
AM/PM Sun 5 x 1 foot For the Birds

It just so happens that the best purple color develops in high light and it thrives in full sun! Consider this 5 ft., deep purple grass harboring foot high plumes for bouquets, bird food or both

### NEW! Millet, Red Jewel

*Setaria italica* Annual  
AM/PM Sun 4 x 2 feet Bird food, Fresh or Dried Flower

These ornamental grasses are popular fresh or dried in arrangements. Fast growing dark red, burgundy foliage and reddish-brown, foot tall seed head plumes seem to spring up overnight, mid-summer to fall. Leave some for the birds as the seed heads provide a rich, welcome snack for fall

### NEW! Snapdragon, Madame Butterfly Red

*Antirrhinum majus* Annual  
AM/PM Sun 30 x 16 inches Bumblebee:

Vibrant red towers of deep crimson, double, frilly florets are fragrant AND a edible garnish for salads, desserts and drinks, mid-spring through fall. Need sun but prefer moderate heat. Considered one of the finest cutflowers available.



### Snapdragon, Potomac Appleblossom

*Antirrhinum majus* Annual  
AM/PM Sun 3 x 1 foot Bouquets

Snapdragons have come a long way since I grew them for 4-H. Bred for optimal performance under long days, high light levels, and warm temperatures, pollinators will be satisfied, from late spring to late summer granted temps don't rise above 80° often. Try before adding as a garnish to salads & desserts.

### Snapdragon, Potomac Lavender

*Antirrhinum majus* Annual  
AM/PM Sun 3 x 1 foot Kids' Gardens, Elegant Bouquets

Ruffles of soft lavender blooms delight children late spring through fall, perfect for garden beds, borders, and stunning floral arrangements. Known for its strong stems and vibrant color, this variety thrives in full sun. Gently pinch the flowers to make them open and close like a dragon's mouth.

### Sunflower, Gold Rush

*Helianthus annuus* Annual  
AM/PM Sun 5 x 2-1/2 feet 4 Sisters Native American Garden

Imagine the typical cheery sunflower without the sneezing or mess. Five inch pollenless flowers, with slightly rounded, golden petals and a big, deep chocolate central disk top each five foot plant. Single stem sunflowers can make a beautiful and reliable display in the garden, but please note that they will only provide one bloom from each stem/plant.

### Sunflower, Procut Red

*Helianthus annuus* Annual  
AM/PM Sun 5-1/2 x 2-1/2 feet

Rich, deep burgundy petals with a brown disk spanning five inches across, top each single stem. This is a professional grade, pollenless cutflower to be enjoyed from mid-summer to early fall.



### Sunflower, Strawberry Blonde

*Helianthus annuus* Annual  
AM/PM Sun 5-1/2 x 2 feet Cutflower, Soil de-toxifier

Flowers have burgundy and sometimes pink petals with lemony tips and dark centers on top and at the tip of each 20 inch, strong, side stem. Strawberry blonde is day-length neutral, meaning they can flower regardless of the length of daylight compared to traditional sunflowers which may not bloom as well in shorter day periods. These bloom summer to fall!



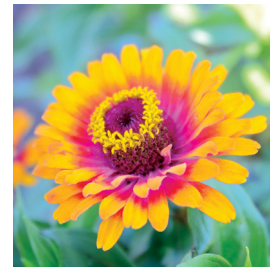
All on this page are deer resistant (except sunflowers) and pollinator friendly



### Zinnia, Zowie Yellow Flame \$ 5.49

*Zinnia elegans* Annual  
AM/PM Sun 28 x 26 inches

WOWIE! Three inch flowers have iridescent magenta centers, circled in yellow, surrounded by large petals that transition from fuchsia to apricot to flaming yellow on the outer edge. Enjoy several bouquets from June to October



### MORE FLOWERS & FOLIAGE

Along with the classic cutflowers on this page, plenty of herbs provide color, texture, fragrance and flavor in a vase. Add meaning by creating tussie-mussies, our modern-day, hand-held Hallmark bouquets.

Here are a few flower and foliage suggestions for tussie-mussies and beyond: basil, calendula, cardamon, chamomile, curry, dill, eucalyptus, fennel, shell ginger, lavender, parsley, rosemary, sage, scented geranium, and thyme.

