



Plant Descriptions

Sunny Mix

Meadow Blazingstar *Liatris ligulistylis* Full Sun to Part Sun Medium Wet to Medium Dry 5' tall, space 1-2' apart Bloom time August to September Zone 3-7

This is THE BEST butterfly magnet! Tall vertical plants have purple flowers that bees and hummingbirds also like to use. The seeds in late fall are eaten by Goldfinches. This plant may need to be staked or have other plants next to them for support. Consistent moisture is best but Blazingstar does not like wet feet over winter.

Pale Purple Coneflower *Echinacea pallida* Full Sun to Part Sun Medium to Dry 3-5' tall, space 1' apart Bloom time June to July Zone 4-8

The light purple petals drape down from the center of the flower on sturdy stems. This plant is used by many types of pollinators including hummingbirds when in flower, plus birds eat the seeds in fall. It has a taproot so it is drought tolerant and once established does not like to be moved. Deer resistant.

Smooth Penstemon *Penstemon digitalis* Full Sun to Part Sun Medium to Medium Dry 3-4' tall, space 1' apart Bloom time June to July Zone 4-8

The white tubular flowers of this plant attract long tongued insects, such as Mason Bees, Bumblebees, and Hummingbirds. There are also several kinds of butterflies that like these flowers. A good deer resistant addition to the landscape.

Orange Milkweed *Asclepias tuberosa* Full Sun Medium to Dry 2' tall, space 1' apart Bloom time June to August Zone 3-10

This is a drought tolerant tap rooted plant that makes a nice mounded form. Orange flowers are long lasting and are used not only by Monarchs but other butterflies too. It may be late to emerge so be patient. This milkweed does not have the typical milky sap like others. Deer resistant.

Blue False Indigo *Baptisia australis* Full Sun to Part Sun Medium Wet to Medium 4-5' tall, space 2' apart Bloom time May to July Zone 3-10

A perennial that looks like a shrub, this plant has distinctive leaves, vibrant blue flowers and decorative black seed pods in fall. Indigos have tap roots so plant them where they will not have to be moved. They take a couple of years to establish, growing its root system, so give them some time. Look for the emerging stems that resemble asparagus to help you identify them. Leave room for the wide branching structure that will develop in subsequent years. Deer resistant.

New England Aster *Aster novo-angliae* Full Sun to Part Sun Medium Wet to Medium Dry 5' tall, space 1-2' apart Bloom time August to October Zone 3-8

Lovely purple to lavender blue flowers cover this plant that butterflies and bees depend on in the fall. Deer resistant, it tolerates all but dry soils. As it blooms, the bottom leaves dry up; this is not a disease problem, it is normal. It likes to flop over later in the season but you can cut the plants down by half in mid July to shorten them and avoid this problem.

Little Bluestem *Schizachyrium scoparium* Full Sun to Part Sun Medium to Dry 3' tall, space 2' apart Bloom time July to October Zone 3-9

Little Bluestem is a short prairie grass that forms rigid clumps able to withstand snow. The summer color is a blue-green that turns a lovely brown to crimson in fall with white seed heads. Many insects use this plant and birds eat the seeds in winter. The neat mounded form makes this a useful landscape plant.