

Common Name: Ozark Bluestar Scientific Name: <i>Amsonia illustris</i>	
Habitat:	Zone: 5 - 9 Light: Full to partial sun Soil: Tolerant of most soil conditions
Mature Size:	Height: 2' - 3' Footprint: 1' - 2'
Foliage:	Leaf size: 3" - 6" Color: Bright-green, to yellow in fall Shape: Glossy, narrow leaves, similar to a willow tree
Flower:	Size: 0.5" - 1" Bloom: April, May, June Color: Powder blue Shape: Dense groups of star-shaped flowers
Pollinators:	Hummingbirds, Swallowtail Butterflies, Moths and Bees
Larva Host:	Coral Hairstreak Butterfly (<i>Satyrrium titus</i>), Snowberry Clearwing Moth (<i>Hemaris difinis</i>).

Photo courtesy of Prairie Moon Nursery

Ozark Bluestar Plant Fact:
Early spring nectar source for butterflies and bees.

Common Name: Dense Blazing Star Scientific Name: <i>Liatris spicata</i>	
Habitat:	Zone: 3 - 10 Light: Full to partial sun Soil: Moisture tolerant. Meadows, marsh margins, gardens
Mature Size:	Height: 3' - 5' Footprint: 1' - 2'
Foliage:	Leaf size: 6" - 10" Color: Green to bluish-green Shape: Alternate, grass like leaves, denser at the base
Flower:	Size: 0.5" Blooms: July, August, September Color: Purple Shape: Small, round, fluffy flowers. Stemless, crowded and blossoming in all directions from top of the stem down.
Pollinators:	Monarch Butterflies and Bees visit as a nectar source
Larva Host:	Liatris Flower Moth (<i>Schinia sanguinea</i>), Glorious Flower Moth (<i>Schinia gloriosa</i>), Three lined Flower Moth (<i>Schinia trifascia</i>), Wavy-Lined Emerald (<i>Synchlora aerata</i>), and the Blazing Star Borer Moth (<i>Carmenta anthracipennis</i>).

Dense Blazing Star Plant Fact:
Finches and other songbirds feed on the seedheads in fall.

Common Name: Rattlesnake Master Scientific Name: <i>Eryngium yuccifolium</i>	
Habitat:	Zone: 4 - 9 Light: Prefers full sun Soil: Medium to dry clay, loam, or sand
Mature Size:	Height: 3' - 5' Footprint: 1'
Foliage:	Leaf size: 2' Color: Bluish-green Shape: Coarse, spiky leaves with long, linear, Yucca appearance
Flower:	Size: .5 - 1" Blooms: June, July, August, September Color: Start greenish-white and mature to a blue-green color, or a white or cream color. Shape: Unique, bristly globes
Pollinators:	Small Bees and Moths visit for nectar
Larva Host:	Rattlesnake-master Borer Moth (<i>Papaipema eryngii</i>)



Rattlesnake Master Plant Fact:
Flowers have a honey-like scent attractive to pollinators.

Common Name: Missouri Evening Primrose Scientific Name: <i>Oenothera macrocarpa</i>	
Habitat:	Zone: 5 - 9 Light: Partial Sun, Sun Soil: Dry, loam, sand soil, prairies, borders
Mature Size:	Height: 1' Footprint: 1' - 2'
Foliage:	Leaf size: 4" - 8" Color: Green, dark-green with red tinted stems Shape: Alternate, narrow lance-shaped leaves along hairy stems
Flower:	Size: 6" - 10" Blooms: May, June, July, August Color: Lemon yellow Shape: Showy, 4 petal blooms with x shaped center stigma
Pollinators:	Variety of Bees, Butterflies. Hawk/Sphinx Moths night pollinate
Larva Host:	White Sphinx Moth (<i>Hyles lineata</i>), and Primrose Flower Moths (<i>Schinia spp.</i>)



Evening Primrose Plant Fact:
Flowers bloom in late afternoon and evening. Plant pods contain seeds eaten by wildlife.

Common Name: Prairie Spiderwort Scientific Name: <i>Tradescantia bracteata</i>	
Habitat:	Zone: 3 - 8 Light: Partial Sun, Sun Soil: Well-draining loam, sand, or clay. Meadows, fields, prairies
Mature Size:	Height: 1' - 2' Footprint: 1'
Foliage:	Leaf size: 15" Color: Green, dark-green Shape: Grass like leaves folded lengthwise
Flower:	Size: 1" - 2" Blooms: June, July Color: Violet, purple to blue flowers Shape: 3 oval petals surround a golden center, blooms in groups
Pollinators:	Bumblebees
Larva Host:	Golden Looper Moth (<i>Argyrogramma verruca</i>)



Prairie Spiderwort Plant Fact:
Tradescantia bracteata flower color indicates air quality. When exposed to air pollution, flowers change from blue to purple.

Plant Common Name: Side-oats Grama Scientific Name: <i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i>	
Habitat:	Zone: 3 - 9 Light: Full, or partial sun Soil: Medium to dry loam and sand soil.
Mature Size:	Height: 2' - 3' Footprint: 1' - 2'
Foliage:	Leaf size: 15" Color: Bluish-green Shape: Compact, long, thin, grass like leaves
Flower:	Size: Small, minute florets Blooms: August, September Color: Orange-red, or reddish-purple, fading to tan as they dry Shape: Tiny flower spikes and bracts hang from one side of the stem. Oat-like appearance.
Pollinators:	Visited by Skippers and small Bees, wind pollinated
Larva Host:	Green Skipper (<i>Hesperia viridis</i>), Dotted Skipper (<i>Hesperia attalus</i>), Oslar's Roadside Skipper <i>Amblyscirtes oslari</i>), Elissa Roadside-Skipper (<i>Amblyscirtes elissa</i>), Morrison's Skipper (<i>Stinga morrisoni</i>). Veined Ctenucha Moth (<i>Ctenucha venosa</i>).



Side-oats Grama Plant Fact:
Dense foliage provides cover and nesting sites for birds and insects.

Common Name: Sullivant's Milkweed Scientific Name: <i>Asclepias sullivantii</i>	
Habitat:	Zone: 3 - 7 Light: Full sun Soil: Medium to wet soils. Prairies, Meadows, water edges, marshland borders.
Mature Size:	Height: 3' - 4' Footprint: 1' creeping moderately by rhizome and seed
Foliage:	Leaf size: 2.5" - 6" Color: Green to bright green with pink tinted veins Shape: Opposite, broad oval leaves. Smooth stem, leaf and seedpods help distinguish this plant from Common Milkweed.
Flower:	Size: Individual flowers about .5", groups 2" - 3" across Blooms: June, July, August Color: Light to dark pink flowers. Similar to Common Milkweed in appearance, with slightly smaller flowers. Shape: Layered, structural, clusters. 5 lower petals hang below 5 cylindrical petals.
Pollinators:	Hummingbirds, a variety of Bees and Butterflies
Larva Host:	Queen Butterfly (<i>Danaus gilippus</i>), Milkweed Tussock Moth (<i>Euchaetes egle</i>). Important nectar and larval host plant for Monarch Butterfly (<i>Danaus plexippus</i>).
Care:	If planted together, Sullivant's Milkweed can hybridize and grow traits of Common Milkweed from pollen deposits.



Photo courtesy of Prairie Moon Nursery

Sullivant's Milkweed Plant Fact:
Adult female butterflies lay eggs on the underside of the leaves in mid-summer.

Planting Your Plants

When you bring your plants home, water your plants if they are dry. Plant right away. If you are unable to plant right away, place plants in a shaded area, away from direct sun and wind.

1. Double check your planting site matches the light and habitat preference listed above for your plant.
2. Prepare planting site, ex: removing lawn grass, or brush.
3. Dig a hole the depth of the container, and two times as wide.
4. Hold around the base of the plant, tip and squeeze the container to remove, planting it in the dug hole.
5. Fill in the soil that was removed, packing the soil around the plant to provide stability without over-compacting. This creates a slight depression around the plant. This will help water flow to the roots, encouraging root growth.
6. For easy identification, stick the plant label from the container in the soil by the plant.
7. Water thoroughly to soak the plant roots.
8. Cover the soil around the plant with mulch such as shredded dry leaves, straw, or similar fine textured material to deter weed germination and help the plant maintain moisture to keep from drying out.
9. If you are likely to have hungry critters visiting your yard, like bunnies and deer, place protective barriers around your plant until it is established.

Everyone's site has its own conditions that will affect how much and how often you water while plants establish. For example, sandy soil dries out quickly and heavier clay soils hold water longer. How much sun, wind, and rain are all factors at play. As your new plants acclimate, monitor and water generously during the growing season.

Plant Layout Example

Common and <i>Scientific Name</i>	Quantity	Height (ft)	Spacing apart (ft)
Ozark Bluestar, <i>Amsonia illustris</i>	3	2' - 3'	1' - 2'
Dense Blazing Star, <i>Liatris spicata</i>	2	3' - 5'	1' - 2'
Rattlesnake Master, <i>Eryngium yuccifolium</i>	2	3' - 5'	1'
Missouri Evening Primrose, <i>Oenothera macrocarpa</i>	3	1'	1' - 2'
Prairie Spiderwort, <i>Tradescantia bracteata</i>	3	1' - 2'	1'
Side-Oats Grama, <i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i>	3	2' - 3'	1' - 2'
Sullivant's Milkweed, <i>Asclepias sullivantii</i>	2	3' - 4'	1'

