



Swamp Milkweed

Asclepias incarnata

Plant Description – Native, herb/wildflower, deciduous, perennial

Height: 3 – 5 ft **Width/Spread:** 2 – 3 ft



Leaves

Shape: Lanceolate

Arrangement: Opposite

Margin: Entire/Smooth

Form: Simple

Leaf Description: Long and narrow green, hairless leaves; 2.75-6 inches long and 0.5-1 inch wide; tapering to a point

Flower/Bloom

Flower Color: Light pink/purple, magenta, or red

In Bloom: Jun-Oct

Flower Shape: Stellate (star-shaped)

Flower Description: Individual flowers are 0.25 inches across with 4-5 petals per flower; form clusters up to 2-3 inches wide; crown of flower has 5 parts with a curved horn sticking out above each part



Fruits & Seeds

Spreads via: Seeds and Rhizomes/Tubers/Roots & Shoots

Seed Type: Fruit – Dry seed pod

Months in Seed: Fall

Fruit and Seed Description: Follicle is 3-4 inches long and splits on one side to release brown seeds, each with silky tufts

Ecological Benefits

Food source for Butterflies, Caterpillars (Monarch and Queen), Native bees, and Hummingbirds

Maintenance Notes

Dormant in winter; Plant can spread aggressively; Flowers can be cut for an indoor vase; Plant will likely get aphids which can be left on the plant for ladybugs to eat; To remove unwanted pests, spray the plant with soapy water, or blast the plant with a high-pressure stream of water; Collect seeds in late fall for propagation; Prefers average watering (*water two times per week during the summer and once per week during the rest of the year*)