



















Plant (Common Name)	Plant (Scientific Name)	Description	Native	Photos copied from LBJ Wildflower Center website for educational purposes only, not publication. EFR does not own rights to photos. Do not reprint or copy.	Larval host	Pollinators	Wildlife Use	Deer-Resistance
Beautyberry, Purple	Callicarpa americana	American beauty-berry most often grows 3-5 ft. tall and usually just as wide, It can reach 9 ft. in height in favorable soil and moisture conditions. It has long, arching branches and yellow-green fall foliage, but its most striking feature is the clusters of glossy, iridescent-purple fruit (sometimes white) which hug the branches at leaf axils in the fall and winter. Bark light brown on the older wood, reddish brown on younger wood. Bark smooth, with elongate, raised corky areas (lenticels); twigs round to 4 sided, covered with branched hairs visible under a 10x hand lens. Leaves in pairs or in threes, blades half as wide as long and up to 9 inches long, ovate to elliptic, pointed or blunt at the tip and tapered to the base; margins coarsely toothed except toward the base and near the tip, teeth pointed or rounded; lower surface of young leaves covered with branched hairs. Flowers small, pink, in dense clusters at the bases of the leaves, clusters usually not exceeding the leaf petioles. Fruit distinctly colored, rose pink or lavender pink, berrylike, about 1/4 inch long and 3/16 inch wide, in showy clusters, persisting after the leaves have fallen.	VA to AR, s. to FL & e. TX - Found in woods, moist thickets, wet slopes, low rich bottomlands, and at the edges of swamps in the Piney Woods, Post Oak Woods, Blackland woodlands, and coastal woodlands. Moist woods; coastal plains; swamp edges, bottomlands			Birds , Butterflies	seeds and berries are important foods for many species of birds, particularly the Northern Bobwhite.	No
Cedar Sage	Salvia roemeriana	A red-flowered, hirsute, perennial salvia that grows from 1 to 2 feet tall, with rounded, scalloped leaves, Salvia roemeriana is adapted to grow in the shade and leaf mulch of Juniperus species, especially Juniperus ashei (Ashe Juniper). The leaves are normally 1 to 2 inches wide, and flowers are 1 to 1.5 inches long on 2 to 3 inch racemes, appearing from spring through summer. One of several plants that have evolved to grow in the shade and leaf mulch of junipers, Salvia roemeriana makes a fine plant for the well-drained shade garden. Its scalloped, rounded leaves and crimson blooms are as eye-catching in pots as they are against the limestone outcrops of its native habitat.	Native Distribution: From central and west Texas south to Coahuila and Nuevo Leon in Mexico. Native Habitat: In the shade of cedar brakes and oak woods: shaded, rocky, limestone areas. In Texas, mainly on the Edwards Plateau. Evolved to grow in the fine leaf mulch deposited under Ashe Junipers (Juniperus ashei), a.k.a. "cedars", and in the wild is usually only seen under junipers or in areas with juniper mulch.			Butterflies , Hummingbirds	Flowers attract hummingbirds and butterflies	High






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Columbine, Longspur Yellow	Aquilegia longissima	Several stems and basal leaves form a bushy perennial columbine one to three feet tall with handsome, clear yellow flowers that are held relatively erect on long stalks rather than nodding. Leaves are usually divided into three, occasionally into two parts (variety hinckleyana), with leaflets up to four centimeters long, all carried on petioles up to 20 centimeters in length. Petal blades normally range from eight to sixteen centimeters long, but those of variety hinckleyana are only two centimeters long and sixteen millimeters wide. Spurs range from less than four to more than ten centimeters in length, with four to nine centimeters most common.	Native Distribution: Chihuahuan and Sonoran Desert canyon seeps from west Texas, southern New Mexico, southern Utah, and Arizona south into Sonora, Coahuila, and Nuevo Leon. Disjunct population in southern Colorado. Native Habitat: Moist places in sheltered canyons in the Chihuahuan and Sonoran Deserts			Butterflies	Attracts butterflies and bumblebees	
Crossvines	Bignonia capreolata	A climbing, woody vine reaching 50 ft. long with showy, orange-red, trumpet-shaped flowers 2 inches long and 1 1/2 inches across which hang in clusters of two to five. They are sometimes seen high in a tree, as the vine climbs by means of tendrils. Holdfasts (adhesive pads) at the end of its tendrils allow crossvine to cling to stone, bricks and fences without support. Leaves are opposite and bifoliate -- actually trifoliate, but one leaflet being modified into a branched tendril. Leaflets are 4-6 inches long by 1-1/2 inches wide. Persistent, glossy, semi-evergreen leaves change from dark green in summer to reddish-purple in winter.	Native Habitat: Moist, open woods, banks & seeps; 4000-9000 ft.			Butterflies, Hummingbirds	Hummingbirds are attracted to flowers. An early nectar source for butterflies and hummingbirds. Deer browse it in winter.	No
Dwarf Barbadoes Cherry	Malpighia glabra	Barbados Cherry develops into a thick, rounded canopy of fairly delicate foliage . Small pink flowers appear periodically from April to October and are followed about one month later by bright red, tart-tasting, 1-inch fruits which are high in vitamin C.	Native Distribution: From south Texas south through Mexico, Central America, and the Caribbean to South America as far as Peru and Brazil. Native Habitat: Thickets, brushland (matorral), and palm groves		Brown-banded Skipper, White-patched Skipper, Cassius Blue	Birds, butterflies	Nectar-insects, Fruit-birds, Fruit-mammals, Browse.	No





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Flame Acanthus	Anisacanthus quadrifidus var. wrightii	<p>Native from west and south-central Texas into adjacent northern Mexico, <i>Anisacanthus quadrifidus</i> var. <i>wrightii</i> is a spreading, 3 to 5 ft. deciduous shrub with exfoliating bark; red-orange, tubular flowers; and light-green, lanceolate leaves.</p> <p>Its brilliant summer-to-fall blooms, cheerful green foliage, pale bark, and ability to attract hummingbirds have made it increasingly popular in landscapes. Though found in the wild mostly in rocky, calcareous soils, it is adaptable both to the heavy soils of Houston and to the drying, confined conditions of pots. It is drought-tolerant and can survive low temperatures as far north as Dallas, though only the roots will survive the winters there and the whole plant will reemerge each year like a perennial from the ground. Though the attractive branches are somewhat brittle, it takes well to shearing and can make a dense, low hedge. As with other xeric plants within its range, rain will trigger a flush of blooms, covering the plant in fiery orange. Under favorable conditions, it will seed out readily.</p>	<p>Native Distribution: The northernmost variety of its species, <i>Anisacanthus quadrifidus</i> var. <i>wrightii</i> ranges from south-central Texas (the southern Edwards Plateau) and west Texas into northern Mexico. Its species, <i>Anisacanthus quadrifidus</i>, continues south to Oaxaca in southern Mexico.</p> <p>Native Habitat: Rocky banks and floodplains of streams, shrublands (matorral), and grasslands</p>		Janais Patch, Texan Crescentspot	Butterflies, Hummingbirds	Flowers attract hummingbirds and butterflies.	High
Heath Aster	Symphyotrichum ericoides	Flowers small, but organized into larger heads resembling a single, radially symmetrical flower cupped by a ring of green bracts.	TX			Special value to native bees		
Sage, Cherry	Salvia greggii	<p>Autumn sage is a soft, mounding shrub normally 2-3 ft. tall, with small, mintily aromatic green leaves that are evergreen in warmer climates. The flowers are borne on racemes from spring to frost and can be red, pink, purple, orange, or white. Its natural range is from south-central and west Texas south to San Luis Potosi in Mexico, mostly on rocky slopes.</p> <p>A popular landscape plant in the Southwest, Autumn sage is delightful to use as a small, ornamental, flowering shrub in a perennial bed or as a low hedge. Its aromatic foliage quickens the senses and its flowers are sure to draw hummingbirds. The color of its blossoms in the wild is usually red but varies from area to area, with some regions dominated by red-blooming plants, others pink, others orange, others purple, and others white, plus many shades in between. The color range has been further enhanced by breeding, resulting in many cultivars over the years. It is disease and insect free and drought tolerant, and once established, should not be fertilized.</p>	<p>Native Distribution: Central and west Texas south to San Luis Potosi in Mexico</p> <p>Native Habitat: Well-drained, rocky slopes. Usually in rocky soils in central, south, and west Texas.</p>			Butterflies, hummingbirds	Flowers attract bees and hummingbirds.	High




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Texas Redbud	Cercis canadensis var. texensis	This <i>Cercis canadensis</i> variety is a large shrub or small tree, 10-20 ft. in height, differing from the more easterly Eastern redbud (<i>Cercis canadensis</i> var. <i>canadensis</i>) in having smaller, more glossy, and usually hairier leaves with wavy edges, more of a tendency to have red seedpods, and a smaller stature. With a natural range extending from the mountains of southern Oklahoma through the limestone spine of central Texas south to northeastern Mexico, it is also more drought-tolerant than Eastern redbud, though less so than the smaller, more western Mexican redbud (<i>Cercis canadensis</i> var. <i>mexicana</i>). Like all <i>Cercis canadensis</i> varieties, its clusters of flowers appear in early spring before the leaves emerge and continue to bloom as the leaves develop. Leaves are heart shaped to kidney shaped, rounded at the tip, slightly wavy on the edges, and glossy, often with some hairiness on the underside. Flowers rose purple, in small clusters along the branches, appearing before the leaves, in March or early April. Fruit a flat, reddish brown pod up to 4 inches long and pointed at the tip. Deciduous leaves turn gold or red in fall. Seedpods are reddish purple and persist into the winter.	Native Distribution: Southern Oklahoma south through central Texas to Nuevo Leon in Mexico Native Habitat: Dry slopes of canyons & foothills below 4500 ft. Edwards Plateau and limestone soils of north central Texas and eastern part of Plains Country.		Henry's Elfin butterfly	Special value to native bees; Butterflies	The nectar is sought after by butterflies, bees, moths, and insects. The leaves are sometimes browsed by deer. The seeds are eaten by granivorous birds.	Moderate
Tropical Sage	Salvia coccinea	Several whorls of red flowers form an interrupted spike on a square stem. This showy southern native is characterized by the loose, widely spaced nature of the flowering spike. It is found in the hot sands of the South. The flamboyant, cultivated member of this group, Scarlet Sage (<i>S. splendens</i>), was introduced from Brazil.	Native Distribution: Coastal; South Carolina to Florida; west to Texas. Native Habitat: In sandy soils in thickets, chaparral, in open woods and edges in east and south Texas.			Butterflies, hummingbirds	Nectar-Hummingbirds, Nectar-Bees, Nectar-insects	High
Yaupon Holly	Ilex vomitoria	Native from southern Virginia south to Florida and west to southeast Oklahoma and central Texas, Yaupon is a picturesque, upright, single- or multi-trunked shrub or small tree, growing 12-45 ft high but usually no higher than 25 ft. Female plants produce prodigious amounts of bright red, persistent berries. The leaves are dark green and small, usually less than 1 1/2 in. long. The pale gray bark is marked with white patches. Yaupon Holly is often grown in residential landscapes and trimmed into hedges, with many cultivars popular: weeping forms, columnar forms, and dwarf forms. The ornamental twigs with shiny evergreen leaves and numerous red berries have been used as holiday decorations and make cheerful accents in the winter landscape. The leaves and twigs contain caffeine, and American Indians used them to prepare a tea, which they drank in large quantities ceremonially and then vomited back up, lending the plant its species name, vomitoria. The vomiting was self-induced or because of other ingredients added; it doesn't actually cause vomiting. Tribes from the interior traveled to the coast in large numbers each spring to partake of this tonic, and it was also a common hospitality drink among many groups. It remained popular as such among southeastern Americans into the 20th century and is still occasionally consumed today, with a flavor resembling another holly drink, the South American yerba mate, from <i>Ilex paraguariensis</i> . Yaupon is slow-growing and tends to get thick and twiggy on the inside, making it ideal for dense hedges but requiring careful pruning to shape it into a tree. You must have both a male and female plant to have berries. Nursery plants are typically female (fruiting) and are propagated by cuttings.	Native Distribution: S.e. VA to FL, w. to AR, s.e. OK, & s.c. TX Native Habitat: Low, maritime woods; hammocks; sandy pinelands; limestone uplands.		Henry's Elfin butterfly	Birds, butterflies	Many species of birds eat the fruit but usually only in late winter after several freezes and thaws. Mammals eat the fruit as well, and the flowers attract insects. Birds employ the dense branches for nesting sites.	Moderate



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Mealy blue Sage	Salvia farinacea	This 2-3 ft. upright or sprawling perennial, usually forms a mound as wide as the plant is tall. Mealy sage is named for the mealy-white (sometimes purple) appearance of the sepals, which are covered with felted hairs. The blue flowers are 5-lobed and 2-lipped, 2/3-3/4 inch long, with 2 stamens and 1 pistil. They have the usual sage fragrance. The long, narrow leaves grow in clusters, out of which grow the flower stems. The leaves may or may not have teeth. Dark-blue to white, tubular flowers are densely congested in whorls along the upper stems, creating a 3-9 in. spike. Gray-green, lance-shaped leaves are numerous, especially in the lower portion of the plant.	Native Distribution: C. & w. TX & NM Native Habitat: Prairie, Plains, Meadows, Pastures, Savannas, Woodlands' edge, Opening, Dry calcareous substrates			Special value to native bees	Nectar-Hummingbirds, Nectar-Bees	High
Virginia Creepers	Parthenocissus quinquefolia	A woody, deciduous vine, Virginia Creeper can be high-climbing or trailing, 3-40 ft.; the structure on which it climbs is the limiting factor. Virginia Creeper climbs by means of tendrils with disks that fasten onto bark or rock. Its leaves, with 5 leaflets, occasionally 3 or 7, radiating from the tip of the petiole, coarsely toothed, with a pointed tip, and tapered to the base, up to 6 inches long. Leaves provide early fall color, turning brilliant mauve, red and purple. Inconspicuous flowers small, greenish, in clusters, appearing in spring. Fruit bluish, about 1/4 inch in diameter. In years past, children learned a rhyme to help distinguish Virginia Creeper from the somewhat similar-looking and highly toxic Poison Ivy (Toxicodendron radicans): "Leaves of three, let it be; Leaves of five, let it thrive." Poison Ivy leaflets are normally in groups of three, while those of Virginia Creeper are in groups of five. The berries of Virginia Creeper can be harmful if ingested, however, and the rest of the plant contains raphides, which irritate the skin of some people. Virginia Creeper can be used as a climbing vine or ground cover, its leaves carpeting any surface in luxuriant green before turning brilliant colors in the fall. Its tendrils end in adhesive-like tips, giving this vine the ability to cement itself to walls and therefore need no support. The presence of adhesive tips instead of penetrating rootlets also means it doesn't damage buildings the way some vines do. It is one of the earliest vines to color in the fall. A vigorous grower, it tolerates most soils and climatic conditions.	Native Distribution: Quebec and Ontario south to FL, w. to s.e. MN & TX, south to Guatemala. Zones 5 to 11. Native Habitat: Chaparral & brush country, open woodlands, shaded woods, streamsides, riverbanks Warning: POISONOUS PARTS: Berries. Highly Toxic, May be Fatal if Eaten! Symptoms include nausea, abdominal pain, bloody vomiting and diarrhea, dilated pupils, headache, sweating, weak pulse, drowsiness, twitching of face. Toxic Principle: Oxalic acid and possibly others. (Poisonous Plants of N.C.) Also, the plant's tissues contain raphides, which can irritate the skin of some people. It is less likely to irritate, and usually, though not always, less irritating than Poison Ivy (Toxicodendron radicans), which it somewhat resembles and with which it is often confused.		Abbott's Sphinx Moth (Sphecodina abbottii), Pandora Sphinx Moth (Eumorpha pandorus), Virginia Creeper Sphinx Moth (Darapsa myron), White-lined Sphinx Moth (Hyles lineata)	Fruit-birds, through the winter, inc. chickadees, nuthatches, mockingbirds, catbirds, finches, flycatchers, tanagers, swallows, vireos, warblers, woodpeckers, and thrushes. A larval host for several species of sphinx moths.	Moderate	
Anacacho Orchid	Bauhinia lunarioides	Native only to a few canyons in western central Texas and in adjacent northeastern Mexico, Anacacho orchid tree is a 6-12 ft., single- or multi-trunked shrub or small tree with small, light green, deeply cleft leaves. Delicate white to pale pink, orchid-like flowers with extended stamens appear prolifically in clusters. Fruit is a flattened pod. Anacacho orchid tree makes a gorgeous display with its silvery gray bark and fragrant white flowers that resemble orchids. It is a relatively rapid-growing tree after its first year when placed in a favorable location, but should be planted on the south side of buildings in areas with harsh winters. The nectar attracts butterflies and bees.	Native Distribution: C. TX to n.e. Mex. Native Habitat: Canyons & arroyos in limestone hills. Known only from canyons and arroyos in limestone hills in Kinney, Presidio, and Gillespie or Llano counties. Well-drained sand, loam, limestone.			Butterflies, bees		High

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Texas Star Hibiscus	Hibiscus coccineus	The palmately divided leaves of this 4-7 ft. rose-mallow are palmately cut and shiny. The flowers are deep-scarlet and over 6 in. in width. A large plant with big, showy, crimson flowers in upper leaf axils. This very showy species, typical of the mallow family, is sometimes cultivated. It is certainly one of the loveliest of our native flowers.	Native Distribution: FL to MS Native Habitat: Swamp, marshes & ditches of the coastal plain					
Turk's Cap	Malvaviscus arboreus var. drummondii	This spreading shrub, often as broad as high, grows 2-3 ft., sometimes reaching 9 ft. Bright-red, pendant, hibiscus-like flowers never fully open, their petals overlapping to form a loose tube with the staminal column protruding, said to resemble a Turkish turban, hence its most common name, Turk's Cap. Especially useful in shady situations.	Native Distribution: Central Texas east to Florida and Cuba, north to Arkansas and South Carolina, south through Mexico to the Yucatan and Chiapas. Other varieties of the species continue south through Central America to South America. Native Habitat: Found along streams, on the edges of woods, and on wooded limestone slopes and ledges.				Nectar-hummingbirds, Nectar-butterflies, Nectar-moths, Nectar-insects, Fruit-birds, Fruit-mammals	Moderate
Standing Red Cypress	Ipomopsis rubra	The stiff, unbranched, 2-4 ft. stem of this sparsely leaved biennial can reach 6 ft. Showy, red, tubular flowers, widely flaring at the rim, are marked with orange or yellowish spots inside. Flowers are arranged in a thick spike, opening from the tip of the stem downward.	Dry, sandy or rocky fields; open woods. Central and east Texas. Well-drained sand, loam, or limestone.				Standing cypress attracts hummingbirds. Nectar-Hummingbirds	High , Moderate
Bur Oak	Quercus macrocarpa	Bur oak is a large, deciduous tree with a very wide, open crown. Usually wider than tall, the tree can exceed 100 ft. in height and width. The massive trunk supports heavy, horizontal limbs and rough, deep-ridged bark. Leaves up to 9 inches long with a central midrib from which branch veins lead into rounded lobes. Lobes separated by deep sinuses reaching, in some cases, to within 1/2 inch of the midrib. Lobes beyond the midpoint of the blade wavy margined and longer and broader than those toward the base. Acorns large, up to 1 1/2 inches broad with 1/4 to more than 1/2 of the acorn enclosed in the cup. Cup with coarse scales and a fringed margin.	Prairies; open woods; sandy ridges; stream edges. Widely distributed and capable of withstanding a wide range of harsh conditions (one of the most drought resistant oaks) throughout eastern North America; usually found on limestone or calcareous clay.		Edwards' Hairstreak, Horace's Duskywing butterfly	Butterflies	Attracts songbirds, ground birds and mammals. Substrate-insectivorous birds, Fruit-birds, Fruit-mammals, Fruit-rodents, Fruit-deer.	No

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Purple Coneflower	Echinacea purpurea (L.) Moench	A popular perennial with smooth, 2-4 ft. stems and long-lasting, lavender flowers. Rough, scattered leaves that become small toward the top of the stem. Flowers occur singly atop the stems and have domed, purplish-brown, spiny centers and drooping, lavender rays. An attractive perennial with purple (rarely white), drooping rays surrounding a spiny, brownish central disc.	Well-drained limestone, sand, clay, loam. Rocky, open woods; thickets; prairies. Echinacea is a suitable addition to a prairie garden and attractive in flower arrangements. It is a popular perennial with smooth stems and long-lasting, lavender flowers. Rough, scattered leaves that become small toward the top of the stem. Flowers occur singly atop the stems and have domed, purplish-brown, spiny centers and drooping, lavender rays. Purple coneflower can become very aggressive.			Special Value to Native Bees	Echinacea spp. attract butterflies and hummingbirds.	No
Texas Kidneywood	Eysenhardtia texana	Texas kidneywood is an unarmed, much-branched shrub, 3-10 ft. tall, with an open, airy structure and gland-dotted, aromatic, resinous leaves and flowers. Its spikes of white flowers are fragrant, as are the deciduous, finely divided leaves. Leaves up to 3-1/2 inches long, consisting of a central axis and as many as 40 small leaflets, each from about 1/4 - 1/2 inch long, pungent when crushed. Flowers white, small, with a delicate fragrance, arranged in spikes up to 4-1/2 inches long at the ends of branchlets, appearing intermittently from May to October, especially after rains. Fruit a pod about 3/8 inch long, often with a threadlike tip. Seed pods are somewhat persistent. Leaves and leaflets vary considerably in size, from plant to plant and sometimes on the same plant. Leaflets may vary from under 1/4 inch long on branches in full sun, to more than 1/2 inch long in shaded situations. (PERS.OBS) This tree and its relative, the more westerly E. orthocarpa, were once used in remedies for kidney and bladder ailments, hence the name.	Central and south TX, n. to Bell, San Saba, Crockett & Brewster Cos. & s. to central Mex.	 	Dogface butterfly	Butterflies	Flowers attract bees and butterflies. It is very palatable and is readily grazed by white tailed deer and goats.	No.
Fall Obedient Plant	Physostegia virginiana ssp. praemorsa	Erect, 1-4 feet tall, with no branches in the upper part. Leaves are opposite, 1 1/8-2 3/4 inches long and 1/2 inch wide or less. The larger leaves are on the lower part of the stem. The upper ones are sharply toothed. There are many large, showy flowers on the upper portion of the stems. Flowers are 1 1/4 inches long, pinkish lavender, spotted with rose-purple. The 2-lipped blossom has 4 stamens and is inflated at the throat.	Near lakes or ponds, Stream, river banks					
Pigeonberry	Rivina humilis	Pigeonberry is a perennial herb usually 1-3 feet tall that grows beneath trees and shrubs. The flowers are about 1/4 inch across, white to pink, growing on the last 2-3 inches of the stems. The fruits are numerous, red and almost translucent, often appearing on the lower part of the stem while the upper part is still blooming. They are a choice food for many kinds of birds. The leaves are 1-3 inches long and wavy on the edges	Native Distribution: Southern North America from Florida to Arizona, north to Oklahoma and Arkansas, south through Central America and the Caribbean to tropical South America. Native Habitat: In moist or alluvial soils in partial shade. Also in hilly chaparral.				Fruit - birds	Moderate

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Desert Willow	Chilopsis linearis	<p>Desert-willow is a 15-40 ft., slender-twigged, small tree or large shrub, often with leaning, twisting trunk and open, spreading crown. Leaves are deciduous, willow-like, light green, both opposite and alternate, 4-12 inches long and 1/3 inch wide. The blossom is funnel-shaped, 1-1 1/2 inches long, spreading at the opening into 5 ruffled, petal-like lobes. The flower is dark pink or purple, often with white or yellow and purple streaks within the throat. The catalpa-like flowers are borne in terminal racemes. By early autumn, the violet-scented flowers, which appear after summer rains, are replaced by slender seedpods, 6-10 inches long, which remain dangling from the branches and serve to identify the tree after the flowers are gone.</p> <p>Named for its resemblance to willows, this popular ornamental tree is actually related to catalpa trees, Yellowbells (<i>Tecoma stans</i>), and Trumpet vine (<i>Campsis radicans</i>). Its exotic-looking blooms, rapid growth, drought tolerance, and ease of maintenance have made it a sought-after plant within its range, which in nature is from south-central Texas south to Nuevo Leon and Zacatecas in Mexico and west all the way to southern California and Baja California. Adapted to desert washes, it does best with just enough water to keep it blooming and healthily green through the warm months. Many cultivars have been selected, with varying flower colors, leaf sizes, and amounts of seed pods.</p>	<p>Native Distribution: South-central Texas south to Nuevo Leon and Zacatecas, west to southern California and Baja California. Native Habitat: Ditches, ravines, depressions, streams, river banks, arroyos, swales, and washes in desert areas</p>		White-winged moth	Birds , Butterflies , Hummingbirds	Nectar-hummingbirds, Nectar-insects, Seeds-granivorous birds	Moderate
Agarita	Mahonia trifoliolata	<p>This 3-6 ft. evergreen shrub, can reach 10 ft. in favorable conditions. The rigid, spreading branches often form thickets. Gray-green to blue-gray, trifoliate, holly-like leaves are alternate, 2-4 inches long, divided into three leaflets which have 3-7 lobes ending in sharp spines. Wood bright yellow. Flowers numerous, yellow, up to 1/2 inch wide with 6 petals and 6 sepals, which are similar, forming a cup shape around the stamens and pistils. Flowers appearing in February and March, their fragrance often filling the air where they are plentiful. Fruit a red berry, edible appearing from May to July.</p> <p>Roots furnished a yellow dye used by early pioneers.</p>	<p>Native Distribution: Coastal s. TX through Trans-Pecos to s. AZ & n. Mex.</p> <p>Native Habitat: Hills; open woods; rocky slopes & cliffs, thickets and open woods from coastal South Texas northwest to the Trans-Pecos. Well-drained loam, clay, caliche, limestone.</p>			Birds	Songbirds eat fruits. Quail and small mammals use the plant for cover. Considered a good honey source. The lustrous red fruit, is a pea-sized berry that is used in making jelly and wine.	High
Purple Prairie Verbena	Glandularia bipinnatifida	<p>Gently rounded clusters of bilaterally symmetrical pink, lavender, or purple flowers bloom atop stems with highly divided leaves. The Spanish name, Moradilla, comes from morado ("purple") and means "little purple one." This plant often forms brilliant displays of pink or light purple, covering acres of ground. It is a variable complex, with some plants tall and pink-flowered, others more matted and with lavender or purple flowers; the two forms are usually found in separate areas. The genus <i>Glandularia</i> is closely related to <i>Verbena</i>, differing conspicuously in its round-topped clusters of showy flowers; in some references, this species is listed as <i>Verbena ambrosifolia</i>.</p> <p>This species is a member of the verbena family (family Verbenaceae), which includes about 75 genera and 3,000 species of herbs, shrubs, and trees, mostly of tropical and warm temperate regions. Among them, teak is a highly prized furniture wood, and Vervain, Lantana, Lippia or Frog Fruit are grown as ornamentals.</p>	<p>Native Distribution: South Dakota south through Oklahoma, Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas through Mexico to Nicaragua, east through Arkansas and Louisiana to Alabama.</p> <p>Native Habitat: Common in open grassy areas. Widespread throughout most of the state of Texas. Well-drained sand, loam, clay, caliche, limestone.</p>	 		Birds, bees, butterflies	Birds, nectar source	High

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Scarlet Penstemon	Penstemon labrosus	Cupped, pale blue-green leaves surround the erect, reddish, 2-6 ft. stems of scarlet beardtongue. Scarlet, tubular, unevenly 5-lobed flowers in stalked clusters, rise in pairs from upper leaf axils. This is considered a valuable hummingbird flower.	Native Distribution: E. TX & adjacent parts of OK, AR & LA Native Habitat: Woodlands' edge, Opening, Prairie, Plains, Meadows, Pastures, Savannas			Special Value to Native Bees	A valuable hummingbird flower. Nectar-hummingbirds	
Four-nerve Daisy	Tetraneuris scaposa	Four-nerve daisy is a low, upright, silvery perennial to 1 ft., or more, from a woody base. The solitary stem is much-branched at the base forming a clump. The solitary flower heads occur at the end of silky, leafless stalks. The tip of each yellow ray flower is three-toothed. Four dark purple veins are visible on both sides of the ray. Disc flowers are also yellow. Long, narrow, silvery-green leaves are crowded mostly toward the base.	Native Distribution: Colorado and Nebraska south through Texas and New Mexico to northeastern Mexico as far south as Zacatecas Native Habitat: Dry plains; rocky hillsides. Widespread over Texas.				Nectar source	High
Coralberry	Symphoricarpos orbiculatus	This small, mound-shaped, deciduous shrub with shredding bark on older wood and brown to purplish branchlets covered with short hairs visible under a 10x hand lens, usually grows to 4 ft. but can reach 6 ft. Its smooth, dull green leaves are opposite and roughly oval, tapering about equally to tip and base, up to 2 inches long but often less than 1 inch, with smooth, turned down margins and a rounded or broadly pointed tip. The greenish-white flower clusters are not as showy as the clusters of coral-pink to purple fruit up to 1/4 inch in diameter which remain on the plant through winter. Particularly common in Post Oak (Quercus stellata) woods, Coralberry forms extensive colonies and spreads by rooting at the nodes where it touches the ground. A good choice for a woodland garden.	Native Distribution: Eastern US from New York south to eastern Texas, west to South Dakota and Colorado. Native Habitat: Shaded woods, thickets, open woodlands, streambanks, river banks. Common in Post Oak woodlands (Quercus stellata).			Special Value to Native Bees	Songbirds, ground birds, small mammals, and browsers use this plant for food, cover, and nesting sites.	Moderate
Invasives:								

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Thistle, Musk	Carduus nutans L.	<p>Musk thistles (<i>Carduus nutans</i>) are biennial thistles. Populations in North America exhibit almost continuous variation in characteristics such as hairiness, leaf size, spine length, flower stalk diameter, width and shape of bracts, and corolla length. In general, Musk thistles have large (1.5-3.5 in), showy pink-purple flowers on long (1.5-6 ft), multi-branched and spiny stems. The dark green leaves are coarsely bipinnately lobed, with a smooth waxy surface, and a white to yellowish sharp spine at the tip. Seeds are yellowish-brown or straw-colored with plumose bristles. Flower heads will bow to a 90o angle from the stem when mature, which is how it received its other common name, nodding thistle.</p> <p>ECOLOGICAL THREAT <i>Carduus nutans</i> is a highly competitive plant and that can replace much of the native vegetation in pastures and disturbed areas. Because musk thistle is unpalatable to wildlife and livestock, selective grazing leads to severe decline of native meadows and grasslands as grazing animals focus their foraging on other plants. While other plants are being grazed, musk thistle is able to grow and prosper, giving it a competitive advantage and making it a major pest for grazing operations.</p>						
Thistle, Bull	CIRSIIUM VULGARE	<p>Bull thistle is a biennial, and sometimes annual or monocarpic perennial, forb. In the juvenile phase, individual bull thistle plants form a single rosette with a taproot up to 28 inches (70 cm) long. Rosettes may develop up to 3.3 feet (1 m) in diameter. The taproot does not spread, but develops several smaller lateral roots. Stems have spiny wings and grow 1 to 6.6 feet (0.3 to 2 m) tall, with many spreading branches, and sometimes a single stem. Bull thistle stem leaves are more or less lance-shaped and 3 to 12 inches (7.6-30 cm) long, prickly hairy on the top and very hairy underneath. Lobes on leaves are tipped with stout spines. Bull thistle flowerheads are 1.5 to 2 inches (3.8 to 5 cm) in diameter, 1 to 2 inches (2.5-5 cm) long, usually solitary, and more or less clustered at the ends of shoots and branches. Flowers are subtended by narrow, spine-tipped bracts. Bull thistle fruits are achenes, 1/16th-inch (0.15 cm) long, with a long, hairy plume that is easily detached.</p> <p>Native Lookalikes: Currently no information available here yet, or there are no native Texas species that could be confused with Bull thistle.</p> <p>Ecological Threat: Bull thistle is a problem in pastures because it competes with and decreases desirable forage and has no significant nutritive value for livestock. Sharp spines deter livestock, and presumably wildlife, from grazing. It is regarded as a serious pest in protected areas and parks such as Yosemite, Yellowstone, Teton and Glacier National Parks.</p>	