

Community Gardens Capture Team

Milkweed Plants (in 1 ½ in pots)

Gray duct tape-Swamp Milkweed

Brown duct tape- Butterfly Weed

Swamp Milkweed

(Asclepias incarnata)



Growing and Maintenance Tips: Swamp milkweed, true to its name, prefers consistently moist soil, but performs admirably in average, well-drained gardens as well. Full sun is best and some shade is tolerated, though blooming time and color may suffer. Height-2-4 feet. Spread 2-3 feet. Bloom time- July to August

Butterfly Weed

(Asclepias tuberosa)



Growing and Maintenance Tips: Best located in a sunny dry spot, but will tolerate average to moist garden soil as well. Does not like to be moved. Height- 1-3 feet. Spread 1-1 ½ feet. Bloom May-September.

Milkweed seed will germinate upon shifting to 70 degrees after 90 days of moist cold stratification at 40 degrees. These seeds were planted January 20, 2016 and kept outside all winter, so late April would be end of the 90 day cold period. Weather needs to warm to about 70 degrees before seedlings will appear. Thin plants if many germinate. Plants may be kept outdoors in a protected place until planting time. Plant when seedlings are 3-6 inches tall. Water thoroughly but make sure water drains.

Common milkweed is in seed pods. It has not been cold stratified. Seeds may germinate if planted this spring but most will do better if planted in the fall and go through winter in the ground. Take seeds out of the pod and plant close to the surface so that they get some light. Cover with about 1/8"- ¼" of light soil. Water and make sure water drains.

Caution about milkweed:

The milky sap from the Asclepias plant is toxic if ingested (eaten or swallowed). If you have young children, babies, or animals that like to put plants in their mouths, be sure that you keep an eye on them when they are around it. The milky sap is EXTREMELY dangerous if it gets in your eye. Keep hands away from your eyes.

Bonus (in 2 ½ in square pots)

False Blue Indigo (Baptisia australis)



Type: Native Herbaceous perennial
Native Range: Eastern United States
Height: 3-4 feet
Spread: 3-4 feet
Bloom Time: May to June
Bloom Description: Indigo blue
Sun: Full sun to part shade
Water: Dry to medium
Maintenance: Low
Suggested Use: Naturalize
Flower: Showy
Attracts: Butterflies
Fruit: Showy
Tolerate: Rabbit, Drought, Erosion, Clay Soil, Dry Soil, Shallow-Rocky Soil, Deer

