

COMMON MILKWEED

Asclepias syriaca L.

Plant Symbol = ASSY

Common milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*) is a perennial herb growing from a deep rhizome.

Height

1.9-6.5 feet

Spread

1 foot

Spacing

12 Inches

Bloom Color

Rose to purple

USDA Hardiness Zone 3-9

Common milkweed grows in sandy, clayey, or rocky calcareous soils.

BUTTERFLY MILKWEED

Asclepias tuberosa L.

Plant Symbol = ASTU

Asclepias tuberosa is a perennial herb with woody rootstocks.

Height

1.5-2 feet

Spread

2 feet

Spacing

12 Inches

Bloom Color

Orange to red or sometimes yellow

USDA Hardiness Zone 3-9

Butterfly milkweed grows on sandy, loamy, or rocky limestone soils.

Planting Instructions

If starting plants in small pots plant 2 to three seeds per pot. The seed is very viable. During the first summer, weed invasive plants and water as needed.

Common milkweed seedlings will usually bloom in their second year.

Butterfly milkweed seedlings will usually bloom in their second year, although will occasionally bloom during the first year.

Management Milkweed is cut in the fall to eliminate dead stalks and stimulate new growth. Cutting causes new growth and it also stimulates flower and seed production.

Note:

- Deer resistant
- Monarch butterflies are specific to milkweed plants. This is the only type of plant on which the eggs are laid and the larvae will feed and mature into a chrysalis.
- **BUTTERFLY MILKWEED USDA Plant Guide Link:** https://plants.usda.gov/plantguide/pdf/cs_astu.pdf
- **COMMON MILKWEED Plant Guide Link:** https://plants.usda.gov/plantguide/pdf/cs_assy.pdf