

COMMON MILKWEED

ASCLEPIAS SYRIACA

PLANT CHARACTERISTICS

 Size

2 - 4' high, 0.75 – 1.0' wide

 Sun/Shade

Full Sun

 Water

Dry to Medium

 Maintenance

Low

 Life Span

Herbaceous Perennial, Zones 3-9

 Description

Asclepias syriaca, also known as Common Milkweed, Butterfly Flower and Silkweed, is an herbaceous perennial grown in full sun that tolerates poor and dry soils with light green, red-veined leaves that are a food source for the Monarch Butterfly Caterpillar. The stems ooze a milky sap if they are cut or bruised. Milkweed blooms June through August with clusters of pink, mauve or white flowers that turn to 2 – 4" long warty seed pods. Once these seed pods ripen, they split open releasing their silky tailed seed to the wind to live again. Milkweed is easily grown from seeds, self-seeds and also spreads rapidly by rhizomes. It is found in open fields and woods and can sometimes be weedy. It is the perfect addition to a pollinator garden as it attracts butterflies and is resistant to deer. Milkweed has no serious insect or disease problems.

Source: [Missouri Botanical Garden](#)



Have questions or need help?
Contact us at GreenHelpLine@gmail.com.

