

Appendix X

The Post-Oak Savannah

Lying immediately west of the East Texas Piney Woods, the Post Oak Savannah emerges almost imperceptibly, marked by subtle changes in soils and vegetation. Occupying approximately 8,500,000 acres, the area's topography is gently rolling to hilly with elevations ranging from 300 to 800 feet, and rainfall averages from 35 to 45 inches per year from west to east. Annual average temperatures ranges from 65 °F to 70 °F. Soils of the Post Oak Savannah are interesting and complex. They are usually acidic, with sands and sandy loams occurring on the uplands, clay to clay loams on the bottomlands, with a dense clay pan underlying all soil types. Because of this peculiarity, the Post Oak Savannah is sometimes referred to as the "Clay Pan Savannah." Clay pan soils are nearly impervious to water and underlie the surface layers of soil at depths of only a few feet. As a consequence, the moisture available for plant growth is limited making the habitat surprisingly arid at times. One curious exception to the clay pan soils occurs in Bastrop County -- home of the renowned Lost Pines. The Carrizo sands, a sandy inclusion of moist soils, harbor a unique community of loblolly pine, post oak and blackjack oak and is also home to sphagnum bogs with ferns and carnivorous pitcher plants.

The Post Oak Savannah is punctuated by scattered oaks -- mainly post oaks, of course -- and blackjack oaks (Wasowski, 1988). Black hickory may also be locally abundant. Widespread trees of lesser importance include cedar elm, sugarberry, eastern red cedar and common persimmon. Other important species of the region are Southern red oak, sassafras, flowering dogwood, yaupon, and winged elm. Some authorities believe that this region was once predominantly a tall-grass prairie, but that trees, mostly oaks, and brushy shrubs proliferated with the suppression of fires and the conversion of the land to farming and grazing. When fires were frequent, the land was not as it appears today. Historically, wide vistas of tall-grasses -- little bluestem, Indiangrass, switchgrass and a myriad of wildflowers, broken only by the occasional motte of venerable "giants," lent a park-like atmosphere to the landscape. Peat bogs, like the ones found in the Piney Woods, are also found here, mingled amongst stands of flowering dogwood, sassafras, bumelia and yaupon.

Early European settlers were especially attracted to the Post Oak Savannah because it was clearly transitional between woodland and prairies (Wasowski, 1988). Today, the Post Oak Savannah is used largely for improved pasture, with vast acreages seeded to introduced grasses such as Bahia Grass or Bermuda Grass (Simpson, 1988).

Mostly prairie animals with some woodland species abound in the Post Oak Savannah region. The distinctive sandy inclusion of the Lost Pines area also harbors one of the last refuges for the endangered Houston Toad.

The Blackland Prairies

Taking their name from the fertile, dark clay soil, the Blackland Prairies constitute a true prairie ecosystem and have some of the richest, naturally fertile soils in the world. Characterized by gently rolling to nearly level topography, the land is well dissected and marked by rapid surface drainage. Pecan, cedar elm, various oaks, soapberry, honey locust, hackberry and Osage orange dot the landscape, with some mesquite invading from the south. A true tall-grass prairie, the dominant grass is little bluestem. Other important grasses include big bluestem, Indiangrass, eastern gammagrass, switchgrass and sideoats grama. While elevations from 300 to more than 800 feet match those of the Post Oak Savannah, the annual rainfall varies from 30 to 40 inches west to east, and the average annual temperatures range from approximately 66 F to 70 F. Described as "black velvet" when freshly plowed and moistened from a good rain, true blackland soils are deep, dark, calcareous deposits renowned for their high productivity (Wasowski, 1988). Scientists believe the richness of the prairie soils is derived from the abundant invertebrate fauna and fungal flora found in the soils themselves. The Blackland prairies are today almost entirely brought under the plow, with only 5,000 acres of the original 12 million remaining. For this reason, many authorities believe that the Blackland Prairies represent some of the rarest landscapes in Texas.

Like many of the prairie communities comprising the Great Plains of North America, the Blackland Prairies harbor few rare plants or animals. What is so special and unique about this ecosystem today, are the grassland communities themselves.

TEXAS WILDSCAPES NATIVE PLANT TABLES
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TEXAS WILDSAPES NATIVE PLANT TABLES BIBLIOGRAPHY - BLACKLAND PRAIRIES

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Texas WildScapes Plant List -- Post Oak Savannah

SPECIES	FAMILY	HABIT/ HEIGHT	FLOWER	FRUIT	SUN EXPOSURE	HABITAT	SOILS & MOISTURE REGIMES											ORNAMENTAL VALUE	WILDLIFE VALUE			
								1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10					
<i>Betula nigra</i> River birch	Betulaceae - Birch Family	25' - 90' Tree, large	inconspicu-ous catkins, m brown & f green on same tree. Feb. - March	Cones, cylinder- shaped with small winged seeds. April - June	Full sun, Part shade	Occurs in wetlands near creeks, swamps & sloughs	Sands, loams, or clays. Mesic- hydric, poor drainage O.K.	X		X											Attractive ornamental tree with dark red-brown bark peeling off branches in papery sheets. Has graceful silhouette and good yellow fall color. Fast grower but short lived. Doesn't tolerate flooding, but likes moist soils. Does well in Houston. Deciduous.	Several species of small birds including chickadees and finches eat the ripe seeds. Twigs & buds are browsed by white-tailed deer. Beaver, rabbits & squirrels also eat various parts.
<i>Bumelia lanuginosa</i> Woolly-bucket bumelia	Sapotaceae - Sapodilla Family	40' - 80'. Tree, large	White perfect flowers, fragrant. June - July	Berries, blue- black. Sept. - Oct.	Full sun, Part shade	Mostly uplands, sometimes bottomlands, woodlands, edges and fencerows.	Sandy loams, loams, and clays. Tolerates gumbo. Well- drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X			Large shade tree with simple green leaves with white woolly undersurface. Persistent.	Several species of birds feed on the fruit, including cardinals, finches, robins, cedar waxwings, warblers, and vireos. Good cover and nesting tree due to protective thorns. Good substrate for insectivorous birds.
<i>Carya illinoensis</i> Pecan	Juglandaceae - Walnut Family	50' - 60' Tree, large	inconspicu-ous catkins, m & f, yellowish on same tree . March - May	Nut. Sept. - Oct.	Full sun, Part shade	Prefers rich bottomlands	Sands, loams, or clays. Well- drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						Beautiful shade tree with elegant compound leaves. Prefers deep, rich soils but will grow in thinner soils. Sometimes turns yellow in fall. Deciduous.	Sweet edible nuts valuable for all kinds of wildlife, birds and mammals alike including woodpeckers, jays, sparrows, fox squirrel, gray squirrel, opossum, and raccoons. Good substrate for insectivorous birds. Larval host plant for Gray hairstreak.
<i>Carya texana</i> Black hickory	Juglandaceae - Walnut Family	30' - 80' Tree, large	inconspicu-ous catkins, m & f, reddish on same tree. March	Nut. Oct. - Nov.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers dry, sandy uplands or rocky slopes throughout the eastern portion of the state, often associated with Post & Blackjack oaks. West to Gillespie & Bexar counties.	Sands, loams & clays. Well- drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X							This medium to large-sized shade tree is the most wide- ranging hickory in Texas. It occasionally grows to 100' tall, has crooked branches & either a narrow or spreading crown depending on amount of sun. Leaves are compound & alternate. Deciduous.	Texas hickory is a good substrate for insectivorous birds. Excellent cover & nesting tree. Nuts are fairly sweet, but hard to crack. Gamebirds, quail & turkey, eat them from the ground after shells have softened. LHP for Banded hairstreak.

<i>Celtis laevigata</i> Sugarberry	Ulmaceae - Elm Family	40' - 60' Tree, large	inconspicuous, small, greenish. May - June	Berry (drupe), orange-red to purplish-black. July - Aug.	Full sun, part shade	Rocky or alluvial soils along streams, in woodlands & thickets.	Sands, loams, and clays. Prefers rich soils, but will tolerate wide range. Well-drained, mesic to xeric; drought tolerant once established.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Fast-growing shade tree adapted to most soils. Very drought tolerant. Yellow autumn color. Deciduous.	Fruit eaten by bluebirds, robins, cardinals, mockingbirds, cedar waxwings, thrashers, & sparrows. Good nest & cover tree, esp. for neotropical migrants. Larval food plant for Question Mark, Mourning Cloak, Pale Emperor, Snout & Hackberry butterflies.
<i>Fraxinus americana</i> White ash	Oleaceae - Olive Family	60' - 70' Tree, large	inconspicuous m & f flower clusters. April - May	Samara. Aug. - Sept.	Full sun, part shade	Grows in deep, rich moist soils on slopes & stream bottoms in eastern third of Texas.	Sands, loams & clays. Needs moisture, but good drainage.	X	X	X	X	X						Beautiful shade tree with compound leaves turning delicate shades of pink, orange & purple in fall. Trees in open condition have short trunk & round top, in the forest, long trunk & narrow crown. Deciduous.	Excellent cover & nesting tree. Seeds are eaten by several species of birds, i.e., wood duck, bobwhite, sapsuckers, cedar waxwings, finches, cardinals & sparrows. Deer browse leaves. LHP for Mourning cloak, Two-tailed and Tiger swallowtails.
<i>Juglans nigra</i> Black walnut	Ulmaceae - Elm Family	40' - 80' Tree, large	inconspicuous catkins, m & f, yellowish-green. April - May	Walnut. Sept. - Oct.	Full sun, part sun	Deep, rich soils of woodlands	Limestone soils, rich in calcium. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				Shade tree with graceful appearance and fast growth rate. Immune to pests. Deciduous.	Nuts are preferred food of squirrels which disperse seeds. Woodpeckers, jays and gamebirds also like nuts. Good cover and nest tree for birds. Larval host plant of the Banded hairstreak.
<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i> Sweetgum	Hamamelidaceae Witch hazel Family	60' - 100' Tree, large	inconspicuous m & f greenish flowers on same tree. March - May	Capsules arranged in spiny globe. Sept. - Nov.	Full sun, part shade	Grows in low wet areas on acid sands, flooded river bottoms, also in drier upland hills.	Sands, loams & clay loams. Needs moisture, mesic.	X	X	X								Beautiful tall shade tree with symmetrical pyramidal crown and striking star-shaped leaves. Leaves turn gorgeous colors in the fall, from gold to bright scarlet then to deep crimson. Fast growing & long lived. Highly ornamental. Deciduous.	Good protective cover and nesting tree. At least 25 specie of birds feed upon the fruit as do beaver, gray & fox squirrels. Birds include mallards, doves, finches, juncos, sparrows, towhees, chickadees, titmice & siskins.

<i>Quercus muehlenbergii</i> Chinkapin oak	Fagaceae - Beech Family	40' - 60' Tree, large	inconspicuous catkins, m & f, cream to yellowish. March - June	Acorns. Sept. - Oct., every two years	Full sun, part shade	Prefers upland forested areas	Loams, clays & limestone soils. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X				X	Beautiful, fast-growing shade tree. Attractive leaf shape. Bronze autumn color. Deciduous.	Sweet, edible nuts favored by many species of birds & mammals, deer, raccoons, opossums & squirrels. Good nesting and cover tree. Good substrate for insectivorous birds. Larval host plant to Horace's Duskywing.
<i>Quercus shumardii</i> Shumard red oak	Fagaceae - Beech Family	50' - 100' Tree, large	inconspicuous catkins, m & f, greenish. March - May	Acorns. Sept. - Oct., every two years	Full sun, part shade	Prefers moist forest & limestone upper woods	Sands, loams & clays. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X			Gorgeous shade tree with beautiful leaves. Red color in autumn. Fast-growing & disease resistant. Deciduous.	Acorns eaten by a number of birds & mammals. Good cover and nesting tree. Good substrate for insectivorous birds. Larval host plant for a few species of Duskywings.
<i>Quercus stellata</i> Post oak	Fagaceae - Beech Family	40' - 50' Tree, large	inconspicuous catkins, m & f, reddish. March - May	Acorns. Sept. - Nov.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers dryish uplands, also grows in moister areas in East Texas.	Sands, sandy loams, prefers acid soils. Also neutral clays. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Slow-growing oak with maltese-cross leaves. Widespread in TX. Rugged shade tree good in otherwise inhospitable conditions. Dramatic winter silhouettes. Provides dense canopy cover. Dominant in sandy areas in north & east central Texas. Deciduous.	Good nesting & cover tree; fine substrate for insectivorous birds. Turkey & deer relish acorns as do doves, woodpeckers & jays. Smaller birds eat crushed ones that fall on ground. LHP for Northern hairstreak, Horace's & Juvenal's duskywings.
<i>Sapindus drummondii</i> Western soapberry	Sapindaceae - Soapberry family	15' - 50' Tree, large	clusters of small white flowers. May - June	Round, amber, wrinkled berry-like fruit with 1 seed. Sept. - Oct.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers moist soils along streams & fencerows, scattered throughout Texas	Sands, loams & clays, likes limestone soils. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Fine-looking shade tree with dependable yellow fall foliage. Translucent amber fruits have white seeds which are poisonous to us. Moderately fast growing; also tolerates poor sites. Forms thickets but does not live long. Deciduous.	Fruit highly prized by many kinds of birds that are not affected by poison. Bluebirds, robins, cedar waxwings devour them. Small flowers provide nectar to various insects. Good nest & cover tree. Substrate to insectivores. LHP to Soapberry hairstreak.

<i>Prosopis glandulosa</i> Honey mesquite	Leguminosae - Legume Family	20' - 30' Tree, small	Showy creamy yellow elongated spike-like racemes. May - Sept.	Legumes in loose clusters. Aug. - Sept.	Full sun, part shade	Tolerates wide range of situations, open fields, edges of woodlands, etc.	Sands, loams & clays. Well-drained, xeric.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Attractive tree with crooked, drooping branches, feathery leaves & rounded crown. Fast growing & often shrubby, forming thickets. Fixes nitrogen in the soil. Deciduous.	Good nectar plant for bees & other insects. Many species of wildlife like quail, bobwhite, doves depend on it for food & shelter from the sun. Squirrels, coyotes, skunks, rabbits & deer eat pods. LHP for Long-tailed skipper & Reickert's blue.
<i>Quercus incana</i> Bluejack oak	Fagaceae - Beech Family	30' - 40' Tree, small	inconspicuous m catkins & f flowers, red to yellowish green. April	Acorns, every second year. Sept. - Nov.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers dry, sandy uplands in timber belt of East & Central Texas.	Sands & sandy loams. Tolerates deep sugar sands. Well-drained, mesic-xeric.	X	X	X								Very striking & decorative small oak tree. Leaves with white hoary undersides. Highly drought tolerant. Very interesting branching pattern. Trees often form dense thickets. Deciduous.	Wildlife feeds on the acorns. The dense thickets that are formed provide excellent cover & nesting sites on otherwise barren sandy habitats.
<i>Quercus sinuata</i> v. <i>breviloba</i> Scaly-bark oak	Fagaceae - Beech Family	12' - 40' Tree, small	inconspicuous m & female catkins, reddish. March	Acorns, every year. Sept.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers open wooded limestone hills at low elevations, also grows in grasslands	Loam, clays. Likes limestone soils. Well-drained, mesic-xeric.		X	X	X			X	X			A shaggy-barked multi-trunked tree which has many growth forms, responding to different habitat & moisture regimes. Can form dense thickets through suckering. Deciduous.	Excellent cover & nesting tree. Good substrate for insectivorous birds. Gamebirds, woodpeckers & jays eat or cache acorns. Also important food source for deer, small mammals & other wildlife. LHP of duskywings & hairstreaks.
<i>Rhamnus caroliniana</i> Carolina buckthorn	Rhamnaceae - Buckthorn Family	12' - 20' Tree, small	inconspicuous, small greenish-yellow flowers. May - June	Drupes, reddish brown. Aug. - Sept.	Full sun, part shade, shade	Prefers moist woods, fence rows, along creeks, heads of draws & canyon slopes.	Sands, loams & clays. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				Very attractive understory tree with pretty leaves and berries. Quite ornamental and adapted to a wide range of sites. Has good fall color & fruits borne over a long time. Deciduous.	When ripe, fruits are devoured by several species of birds, i.e. thrashers, robins, mockingbirds, cardinals, finches, etc. Flowers are good nectar source for bees, butterflies & other insects. Larval host plant for Gray hairstreak.
<i>Rhus copallina</i> Flameleaf sumac	Anacardiaceae Sumac Family	15' - 25' Tree, small	m & f flowers, small greenish white, on separate trees. July - Aug.	Drupes, small red, in clusters, remain after leaves fall. Sept. - Nov.	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade	Prefers fence rows, fields and bottomlands in East & East Central TX. Tolerates rocky areas.	Sands, loams & clays. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X					A small, commonly clump-forming shrub or small tree with elegant compound leaves and showy red fruit clusters. Only trees with f flowers have fruit. Beautiful red color in the fall. Fast growing. Deciduous.	Fruit is eaten by at least 21 species of birds, Flowers attract numerous insects in spring, good nectar source for bees & butterflies. Larval host plant for Red-banded hairstreak.

<i>Rhus lanceolata</i> Lance-leaf sumac	Anacardiaceae Sumac Family	10' - 20' Tree, small	m & f flowers, small greenish white, on separate trees. June	Drupes, small red, in clusters, remain after leaves fall. Sept. - Dec.	Full sun, part shade	Occurs on limestone & in calcareous soils, woodlands & roadside edges, along fencerows. Tolerates disturbed soils.	Sands, sandy loams, neutral clays, likes limestone soils. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X					X	Sometimes thicket-forming small tree with elegant compound leaves and showy red fruit clusters. Only trees with f flowers have fruit. Beautiful red color in the fall. Fast growing with a very attractive shape. Deciduous.	Fruit is eaten by more than 20 species of birds, favored by quail & turkey. Flowers attract numerous insects in spring, good nectar source for bees & butterflies. Leaves browsed by deer. Larval host plant for Red-banded hairstreak.
<i>Acer rubrum v. drummondii</i> Drummond red maple	Aceraceae - Maple Family	90' - 100' Ornamental tree, large	Showy bright red clusters, before leaves. Feb.	Samara with two wings. March - June	Full sun, Part shade	Prefers wet areas on sandy lands, swamps & alluvial forest. Also found on drier ridges throughout Piney woods in East TX.	Sands, loams, and clays. Likes acid soils. Mesic-hydric, poor drainage O.K.	X	X	X						Large shade tree with simple distinctively-shaped leaves which turn red in the fall. Popular ornamental and shade tree, as they are beautiful both spring & fall. Relatively short-lived with shallow root system. Does well in Houston. Deciduous.	Many kinds of birds feed on the winged seeds, i.e. woodpeckers, cardinals, finches, robins, cedar waxwings, warblers, & sparrows, also squirrels & rabbits. Good cover & nesting tree. Good substrate for insectivorous birds. Foliage browsed by deer.
<i>Aesculus glabra v. arguta</i> Texas buckeye	Hippocastanaceae Horse chestnut Family	15' - 40' Ornamental tree or shrub	Showy yellowish-green panicles of tubular flowers. March - May	Capsule, round & leathery. Sept. - Oct.	Part shade, dappled shade, shade	Prefers moist, rich soils in woodlands, along river banks. Prefers northern exposures.	Sands, loams & clays. Well-drained, mesic. Moderate moisture.	X	X	X	X	X				Showy small tree or shrub with rounded crown. Has distinctive flower clusters and attractive pointy palmate leaves. Good understory tree. Deciduous.	The yellowish-green tubular flowers are attractive to insects. Good protective cover shrub. White-tailed deer will not browse the leaves of this tree. Seeds are poisonous, however, and not eaten by wildlife.
<i>Cercis canadensis v. canadensis</i> Eastern redbud	Leguminosae - Legume Family	10' - 40' Ornamental tree	Showy magenta pea-like flowers, before leaves. March	Legumes, brownish-red, in clusters. Sept.	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade	Prefers forested sandy areas, upland woods, woodland edges & along stream banks in Eastern Texas.	Sands, loams & heavy black clays. Well-drained, mesic. Moderate moisture.	X	X	X	X					Highly ornamental and showy small tree with spreading, flat or rounded crown. Good understory tree or accent plant. Fast growing, usually with single trunk. Deciduous.	Beautiful magenta flowers are copious early nectar source for butterflies, moths, bees, etc. Seeds are eaten by a number of species of birds; foliage browsed by white-tailed deer. Larval host plant to Henry's Elfin.

<i>Cornus drummondii</i> Rough-leaf dogwood	Cornaceae - Dogwood Family	10' - 20' Ornamental tree	Showy, creamy-white flower heads. May - August	Drupes, white, globular. Aug. - Oct.	Part shade, dappled shade, shade	Prefers damp woodlands & thickets, occasionally found on dry hills in eastern half of Texas.	Sandy loams, clays; likes limestone soils. Mesic, likes fairly moist soils.	X	X	X								Irregularly branched small spreading tree with smooth gray bark, opposite leaves & creamy-white flowers. Deciduous.	Dogwood flowers are a good nectar source for many species of insects. The white fruit is highly prized & eaten by at least 40 species of birds, including bobwhite, turkey, woodpeckers, doves & several species of songbirds.
<i>Cornus florida</i> Flowering dogwood	Cornaceae - Dogwood Family	25' -40' Ornamental tree	Showy white flowers (bracts). March - May	Berries, red. Aug. - Sept.	Dappled shade, part shade; can tolerate full sun. Very shade tolerant.	Prefers moist woodlands and edges of thickets, also along streams.	Sands, sandy loams, loams, slightly acid soils. Well-drained, mesic.	X		X								Tree with graceful horizontal branches turning up at the tip. Single trunk is short & dark green leaves are opposite, simple, turning various shades of red in the fall. Spectacular in spring, striking in the fall. Good under shade trees. Deciduous.	Twenty-eight species of birds forage on the berries, from large gamebirds to small songbirds. Squirrels & white-tailed deer also favor fruit. Larval host plant for Spring Azure butterfly.
<i>Crataegus marshallii</i> Parsley hawthorn	Rosaceae - Rose Family	10' - 25' Tree, small ornamental	Showy white flowers. March	Red haws. Sept. - Oct.	Full sun, dappled shade, part shade	Prefers sandy woodlands & pastures. Found mostly along fencelines and woodland edges in East Texas.	Sands & sandy loams, acid. Also tolerates calcareous soils. Well-drained, mesic.	X		X								Beautiful blossoms add a touch of ethereal beauty to this understory tree. Usually with several trunks & flaky gray bark revealing an orange layer underneath. Fruits are a shiny bright red color. Deciduous.	Beautiful white blossoms attract nectar lovers. Red haws are gone in a flash as they are highly prized by many species of birds, also by mammals. Large thorns make it a good protective cover & nest tree. Larval host plant of the Gray Hairstreak.
<i>Crataegus reverchonii</i> Reverchon hawthorn	Rosaceae - Rose Family	10' - 25' Tree, small ornamental	Showy white flowers, fragrant. May - August	Pomes, red, roundish & shiny. Sept. - Oct.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers thickets & open woods in north central Texas	Sands, neutral to slightly acid; clays & limestone soils. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X		X							Highly attractive small tree with glistening tan flakey bark with lovely white flowers. Good accent plant. Deciduous.	Fragrant flowers offer copious nectar to bees, butterflies & juicy fruit favored by several species of birds & small mammals. Thorns make this an excellent protective cover & nest tree. Larval host plant of a few hairstreaks.

<i>Crataegus viridis</i> Green hawthorn	Rosaceae - Rose Family	20' - 35' Ornamental tree	Showy, white perfect flowers. March - April	Pome (apple-like fruit) orange or red in color. Sept. - Nov.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers low, wet alluvial woods, also sandy fields in East Texas & Upper Texas Coast.	Sands, loams & clays. Medium to high moisture. Seasonal poor drainage O.K.	X	X	X	X	X						Medium-sized tree forming a broad rounded crown, serrated dark green shiny leaves, with bark that shreds into small scales. Often thornless. Deciduous.	Beautiful white flowers with yellow stamens attract bees & butterflies. Red orange haws disappear quickly, highly prized by several species of birds & mammals. Good cover & nesting tree. Larval host plant for some Hairstreaks.
<i>Ilex opaca</i> American holly	Aquifoliaceae Holly Family	15' -25' Tree, small ornamental	inconspicuous m & f greenish flowers on separate trees. March - April	Berries, red on f tree, persist through winter. Sept. - Dec.	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade, shade	Prefers moist woods; hammocks along streams, upper river bottoms; can tolerate drier soils on hillsides. Found in East Texas west to Wilson Co.	Sands & loams, acidic soils. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X								Slow-growing, long-lived understory leaves with narrow bushy triangular crown and Christmas holly evergreen leaves and brilliant red berries on female trees. This is a handsome ornamental all year round, also useful as a screening plant. Evergreen.	Excellent cover and nesting tree. Red berries are relished by several species of birds. Larval host plant for Henry's Elf.
<i>Prunus mexicana</i> Mexican plum	Rosaceae - Rose Family	15' - 35' Tree, ornamental	Showy, white perfect flowers, fragrant. Feb.-April	Plum, red-purple. Sept. - Oct.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers river or creek bottoms, hardwood slopes & hillsides, & prairies.	Sands, loams & clays. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X					Medium sized, single-trunked ornamental tree with broad crown and satiny silver bark with dark fissures. Excellent accent plant with heavenly fragrance when in bloom. Deciduous.	Early spring clouds of white flowers are wonderful nectar source, attracting bees, butterflies & diurnal moths. Gamebirds, songbirds & several species of mammals feast on the ripe plums. Larval host plant for Tiger swallowtail.
<i>Prunus munsoniana</i> Munson plum	Rosaceae - Rose Family	15' - 25' Ornamental tree	Showy, white perfect flowers, fragrant. March	Plum, red or yellow with white dots. Sept. - Oct.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers limestone ledges & slopes; also grassy thickets.	Sands, loams & clay (esp. those with high limestone content.). Well-drained, mesic.			X	X	X						Thicket-forming ornamental shrub or small round-topped tree with bright lustrous green leaves and smooth thin bark. Deciduous.	Spring flowers with copious nectar attract butterflies, bees & other insects. Plums are relished by several species of birds and small mammals.
<i>Prunus serotina</i> v. <i>serotina</i> Black cherry	Rosaceae - Rose Family	60' - 100' Ornamental tree	Showy racemes of white perfect flowers, fragrant. March - April	Cherries, small purple black, sweet or tart. June - Oct.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers eastern woodlands, thickets, fencerows & areas along roadsides.	Sands, loams & clays. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X							Attractive ornamental with decorative flowers, copious fruits, shiny green leaves & grayish brown horizontally striped bark. Easy to grow. Other varieties available for all regions of Texas except South TX. Deciduous.	Copious fruits are eagerly devoured by a wide variety of wildlife including 33 kinds of birds, raccoons, opossums, squirrels & rabbits. Foliage is not browsed by deer. Larval host plant to some Hairstreak species.

<i>Sambucus canadensis</i> American elderberry	Caprifoliaceae Honeysuckle Family	15' - 30' Ornamental shrub or small tree	Showy white 4-8' flower clusters. June - Sept.	Berries, blue-black. Sept. - Nov.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers wet soils in low places esp. along streams & swamp edges.	Sands, loams & gravelly clays. Mesic-hydric, poor drainage O.K.	X	X	X	X	X							Attractive erect shrub with white flower pompons which prefers moist conditions in alluvial soils. Has attractive pinnate leaves. It loves extra water and will grow fast if well supplied. Can stand a certain amount of drought, though. Persistent.	Flowers are an excellent source of nectar for bees, butterflies, diurnal moths & other insects. Fruits are eaten by several species of birds, including gamebirds & songbirds. Small mammals also relish the ripe fruit. Leaves are browsed by deer.
<i>Ungnadia speciosa</i> Mexican buckeye	Sapindaceae - Soapberry Family	15' - 30' Ornamental shrub or small tree	Showy clusters of pink-magenta flowers cloak branches, before leaves come out. Fragrant. March - May	Capsules (tripartite leathery "buckeyes"), brown-black. Oct. - Nov.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers rocky areas in canyons, slopes & ridges & along fencerows.	Sands, loams & clays. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X						X	Showy, small, shrubby often multi-trunked ornamental with irregular shape. Spectacular pink blossoms in spring. Good understory tree, prefers at least half a day in sun. Has pretty yellow fall color also. Deciduous.	Splasy pink flowers are a good nectar source for bees, butterflies, diurnal moths. Good honey plant. Sweet seeds eaten by a few species of birds and mammals, though poisonous to humans. Larval host plant for Henry's Elfin.
<i>Vaccinium arboreum</i> Farkleberry	Ericaceae - Heath Family	15' - 30' Tree, small ornamental	small drooping, urn-shaped white flowers. May - June	Berries, blue. Sept. - Oct.	Part shade, dappled shade	Prefers open mixed woods, dry sterile hillsides or pimple mounds in bottomland woods. Found in East Texas west to Bastrop & Nueces counties.	Sands & sandy loams. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X									Attractive irregular shrub to small tree with shiny smooth dark green leaves. Good understory tree. Tree had good red fall color fading to deep purple. Persistent to Evergreen.	The small blue berries which ripen in the fall are devoured by several species of resident & wintering birds. Berries also sought after by various small mammals, i.e., squirrels, rabbits, etc. Larval host plant to Henry's elfin & Striped hairstreak.
<i>Viburnum rufidulum</i> Rusty black-haw viburnum	Caprifoliaceae - Honeysuckle Family	20' - 30' Ornamental tree or large shrub	Showy creamy-white clusters of flowers. March - May	Berries, bluish-black (drupes). Sept. - Oct.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers moist soils along streamsides, in open woods & thickets.	Sands, loams & clays, esp. limestone soils. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X					X	Small, single-trunked, ornamental with broad crown. Attractive as understory tree, also beautiful in the open. Leaves very glossy, turning red, mauve or orange in fall. Slow growing, staying shrub size for a long time. Deciduous.	Flowers are good nectar source for bees, butterflies & other insects. Fruits relished by several kinds of birds & small mammals. Robins, cedar waxwings, cardinals, bluebirds & mockingbirds love fruit, as do squirrels, opossum, raccoons & rabbits.

<i>Juniperus ashei</i> Ashe juniper	Cupressaceae Cypress Family	10' - 30' Conifer	inconspicu-ous. Feb.	Cones, flesh & berry-like. Aug. - Sept.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers rocky soils in canyons, ravines, arroyos, rimrock & breaks; on eroded slopes & flats.	Sands, loams & clays likes limestone soils. Well-drained, xeric.	X	X	X	X									Multi- or single-trunked thick evergreen tree with wonderfully shaggy bark. Leaves scale-like, dark green & aromatic. Female plant with large blue fruits. Dominant plant of the hill country. Evergreen.	Bark strips used as nest material by the Golden- cheeked warbler. Blue fruits a winter-time favorite of wildlife: bluebirds, robins, cedar waxwings, cardinals, finches & mammals. Good substrate for insectivorous birds. LHP of Olive & Juniper hairstreak.
<i>Juniperus virginiana</i> Eastern red- cedar	Cupressaceae Cypress Family	30' - 60' Conifer	inconspicu-ous m catkins, f cones, appearing on separate trees. March - May	Cones, berry- like, bluish, sweet & resinous when ripe. Aug. - Dec.	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade	Prefers dry hillsides, old fields, pastures, areas along fence rows.	Sands, loams & clays. Well- drained, mesic. Tolerate dry land.	X	X	X	X							X	X	Evergreen tree of variable shape, with scalelike or appressed leaves. Foliage is dense and aromatic. Often planted as an ornamental. Long-lived and slow-growing. Evergreen.	Dense-foliaged tree is excellent cover and nesting tree. Bluebirds, mockingbirds, robins, cedar waxwings, thrashers, warblers, finches & sparrows relish fruit, esp. in winter. Opossum also eat fruit. Larval host plant to Olive hairstreak.
<i>Pinus taeda</i> Loblolly pine	Pinaceae - Pine Family	60' - 100' Conifer	inconspicu-ous, m & f cones. Feb. - March	Cones, medium- sized, 2-6" long, light reddish brown, often armed with prickles. Sept. - Oct.	Full sun, some shade	Prefers gravelly uplands & bottomlands of East Texas Piney Woods, Gulf Coast Prairies & Marshes & Oak Woods & Prairies, west to Bastrop.	Sands, sandy loams, acid soils preferred; but tolerates many other soil types. Also tolerates poor drainage. Well- drained, mesic but is more drought tolerant than long-leaf.	X	X	X									Fast-growing, medium- coned pine with spreading branches & compact rounded crown. Also fire resistant. Highly drought tolerant. Most common pine in Eastern forests. Has good ornamental potential. Evergreen.	Provides excellent cover & nesting substrate for birds, cavities for woodpeckers. Many birds & mammals eat the seeds exposed as 2- year old cones open, i.e., doves, woodpeckers, chickadees, titmice, sparrows, goldfinch, siskins. LHP of Eastern Pine Elfyn.	

<i>Taxodium distichum</i> Bald cypress	Taxodiaceae Bald Cypress Family	45' - 100' Conifer	inconspicuous 5'-long drooping clusters of m cones. F cones at branch tips. March - April	Cones, wrinkled, rounded, 1- inch in diameter. Sept. - Oct.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers moist soils in swamps, river bottoms, forests along streams.	Sands, loams & clays. Mesic- hydric, seasonal poor drainage O.K.	X	X	X	X	X	X							Large conifer with feathery, deciduous, needle-like leaves. Fast-growing with reliable bronze fall color. Long-lived tree often used as ornamental. Spanish moss (good nesting material) festoons branches. Deciduous.	Excellent cover & nesting tree. Seeds eaten by many different kinds of birds, esp. waterfowl & sandhill cranes. Squirrels, & many other forms of wildlife eat seed cones. Good foraging substrate for insectivorous birds.
<i>Amorpha fruticosa</i> False indigo	Leguminosae - Legume Family	5' - 10' Shrub	Showy purple flower spikes with yellow anthers. April - May	Pods, clustered, small & brown. July - Aug.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers low areas at the water's edge, along streams.	Sands, loams & clays. Mesic, seasonally poor drainage O.K.	X	X	X	X	X								This moisture loving shrub is notable for its beautiful flowers, attractive leaves & airy form. Relatively fast growing. Deciduous.	Flowers are a good nectar source for bees, butterflies & other insects. Leaves are browsed by deer. Larval host plant for Dogface butterfly, Gray hairstreak, Silver-spotted skipper, Hoary edge skipper.
<i>Baccharis halimifolia</i> Baccharis	Asteraceae - Sunflower Family	6' - 8' Shrub	Showy, silvery white flowers, f tree esp. Sept. - Oct.	Achenes. Oct. - Nov.	Full sun	Colonizes disturbed soils. Prefers open sandy places in east, south east & north central Texas.	Sands, & loams, prefers slightly acid soils. Mesic.	X	X	X										Female plants are gorgeous in full bloom which can last until Christmas. Easy to grow, tolerates poor soils. Good erosion control plant especially in disturbed areas. Deciduous.	Flowers are highly attractive to all kinds of insects: bees, butterflies, diurnal moths, etc. A good cover plant. Achenes eaten by seed-eating birds.
<i>Callicarpa americana</i> American beauty-berry	Verbenaceae - Vervain Family	3' - 9' Shrub	Small clusters of white or pink flowers at nodes, May - July	Berries, magenta, in clusters at nodes. Aug. - Nov.	Part shade, dappled shade.	Prefers moist soils of canyons and bottomlands, woods & thickets.	Sands, loams & clays. Likes rich soils. Well- drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X							Open, much branched shrub with showy magenta berries. Has mounding form. Likes to be watered during dry periods. Deciduous.	Fruits are favored by several species of birds, i.e., bobwhite, mockingbirds, cardinals, thrashers, robins, finches & towhees. Raccoons, opossum & gray fox also relish berries.
<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i> Buttonbush	Rubiaceae - Madder Family	5' - 20' Shrub	Showy, creamy white round heads. June - Sept.	Capsule clusters, round & dark brown. Aug. - Nov	Full sun, part shade	Prefers moist soils near swamps, ponds, along streams & stream margins.	Sands, loams, clays. Likes limestone soils. Mesic/hydric. Moderate to high moisture. Seasonally poor drainage O.K.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		Shrub or small tree growing in low areas, often with swollen base. Leaves opposite & whorled. , variously shaped. Bright yellow anthers around white flower balls create a halo effect. Highly ornamental. Suitable for bog or pond area. Deciduous.	Flowers attract hordes of bees, butterflies & other insects. Fruits are highly favored by more than 25 species of birds, including waterfowl, cardinals, finches, sparrows, etc.

<i>Dalea frutescens</i> Black dalea	Leguminosae - Legume Family	1' - 3' Shrub	Showy magenta flowers. Aug. - Sept.	Leguminous pod. Oct. - Nov.	Full sun	Prefers dry limestone hills in brushy vegetation	Sands, loams clays; likes limestone soils. Well-drained, xeric.		X	X	X							Attractive, bonsai-like shrub which is easy to maintain. Serves as a good low understory plant. Deciduous.	Flowers are an excellent nectar source for bees & many other kinds of insects. Good cover for small animals. Leaves are browsed by white-tailed deer & rabbits. Larval host plant of Dogface butterfly.
<i>Forestiera pubescens</i> Elbowbush	Oleaceae - Olive Family	5' - 10' Shrub	Showy yellow bracts appear before leaves, early in spring. Feb.	Berries, bluish-black (drupes). June - Oct.	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade	Prefers open pastures, brushy prairies, woodlands & thickets	Sands, loams, & clays. Well-drained soils, mesic to semi-dry.		X	X	X							Straggling, irregularly shaped shrub. Though not beautiful, this is the first shrub to bloom in spring. Opposite softly fuzzy leaves and blue-black berries. Deciduous.	Yellow flowers appear early in spring providing early nectar source for bees, butterflies & other insects. Berries are eaten by several species of birds & small mammals. Leaves are browsed by white-tailed deer.
<i>Lantana horrida</i> Lantana	Verbenaceae Vervain Family	3' - 6' Shrub	Showy yellow & orange heads made up of tiny florets. May to December (first frost).	Berries, green then dark blue-black. Sept. - Nov.	Full sun, part shade	Occurs in fields, thickets, swamps, rich sandy woods, scrub & gravelly hills.	Sands, loams & clays. Well-drained, mesic-xeric.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				This showy shrub is planted has a long, profuse blooming season. Though not a native of Texas, it is planted almost throughout the state. It loves the hot weather. It's good to prune it back to the ground each winter. Deciduous.	Colorful, long-blooming flowers attract both butterflies and hummingbirds throughout the season. Northern cardinals and other species of birds eat the ripe fruit. Fairly deer resistant. Larval host plant of the Painted Lady.
<i>Lonicera alba</i> Texas honeysuckle	Caprifoliaceae Honeysuckle Family	4' - 10' Shrub	Showy white flowers. April - May	Berries, red. June - July	Full sun, part shade	Prefers rocky slopes, cliffs; also found in sandy soils, cedar brakes in Central, North Central Texas.	Sands, loams, & clays. Likes limestone soils. Well-drained, mesic.		X	X	X						X	This is a beautiful native honeysuckle. Flowers are showy in the spring and the red berries are beautiful while they last. Plant is drought tolerant in the Eastern Cross Timbers. This is not a difficult species to grow. Deciduous.	Flowers attract butterflies, bees & other insects. Translucent red fruits popular with bluebirds, cardinals, finches & sparrows, as well as neotropical migrants. Leaves browsed by white-tailed deer.
<i>Rhus aromatica</i> Fragrant sumac	Anacardiaceae Sumac Family	3' - 8' Shrub	inconspicuous yellow flowers appearing before leaves. Feb. - March	Berries, red. May - June	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade.	Prefers limestone outcrops, rocky slopes, prairies, & mesquite plains.	Sands, loams & clays. Likes limestone soils. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Aromatic shrub with pretty leaves & early flowers. Tends to form thickets & is irregularly branched. Deciduous.	Early flowers provide early nectar source for insects like bees, butterflies & moths. The red berries are one of the earliest summer fruits making it popular with several species of birds & small mammals. Larval host plant to Red-banded hairstreak.

<i>Rhus glabra</i> Smooth sumac	Anacardiaceae Sumac Family	3' - 10' Shrub	Cluster of small white flowers. June - August	Red, velvety berries in clusters. Sept. - Oct.	Full sun, part shade	Occurs on dry sandy hillsides & banks in East Texas to Bryan, Blackland Prairies & Rolling Plains	Sands, loams & clays. Well-drained, mesic-xeric.	X	X	X	X									Thicket-forming shrub or sometimes small tree with lance-shaped compound leaves. Excellent for erosion control & beautiful red fall color. It prefers sand, but does in other soil types. Outside its range it needs more water & lots of sun. Deciduous.	Flowers provide lots of nectar for butterflies & other insects. The fruit is eaten by cottontails, white-tailed deer and nearly 35 species of birds. Wild turkey & bobwhite also love fruits. Larval host plant of some species of Hairstreaks.
<i>Salvia greggii</i> Autumn sage	Lamiaceae - Mint Family	2' - 4' Shrub	Showy magenta red flowers, also comes in white, pink or coral. April - Dec.	Nutlets. June - Dec.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers rocky soils in central, south & west Texas.	Sands, loams & clays. Likes limestone soils, esp. Well-drained, mesic-xeric.			X	X	X							X	Aromatic showy shrub which blooms prolifically spring, summer & fall. Adaptable to other areas of the state where not native. Good as ground cover or hedge. Really needs good drainage. Persistent, almost evergreen.	Abundant flowers provide copious nectar which is attractive to bees & especially hummingbirds. Ruby-throats can't seem to get enough. Provides food over the long hot summer for them when other plants have waned.
<i>Sassafras albidum</i> Sassafras	Lauraceae Laurel Family	15' - 20' Shrub	Showy yellow drooping clusters, before leaves sprout. March - April	Drupes, blue-black, lustrous. Sept.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers sandy woods, old fields, on road cuts & along fence rows in eastern third of Texas.	Sands, loams & clays. Poor, dry upland soils tolerated. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X											Thinly branched, well-shaped aromatic shrub. Quite ornamental with variously shaped leaves. Leaves turn yellow orange & red in fall. Female plants put on better display. Not drought tolerant, good for East Texas only. Deciduous.	Blue black fruits are bobbed up by several species of birds, i.e., king birds, great-crested flycatchers, gray catbirds, brown thrashers, robins, bluebirds, vireos, warblers & sparrows. LHP of Palamedes, Spicebush & Tiger swallowtails.
<i>Symphoricarpos orbiculata</i> Coral-berry	Caprifoliaceae Honeysuckle Family	1 1/2' - 6' Shrub	Showy, many-flowered greenish-white or pink, in terminal spikes. June - August	Drupe, berry-like, pink to coral-red. Sept. - Oct.	Dappled shade, part shade	Prefers woods, thickets & streamside areas in eastern 1/3 of Texas	Sands, loams & clays. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X								Hardy, slender erect thicket-forming shrub with brown shreddy bark & opposite oval-shaped leaves. Great erosion control plant. Highly ornamental. Deciduous.	Excellent cover shrub when bushy. Fruits are eaten by at least 12 species of birds including cardinals, bobwhite, quail, wild turkey bluebirds, robins, mockingbirds, thrashers & cedar waxwings.
<i>Hesperaloe parviflora</i> Red yucca	Agavaceae - Agave Family	Leaves 2-3' Flower stalk 5' Succulent	Showy, coral to salmon pink flowers on tall stalk. May - Nov.	Capsules. Aug. - Dec.	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade	Prefers prairies, rocky slopes & mesquite groves	Sands, loams & clays; likes limestone soils. Xeric, well-drained.		X	X	X	X								Very elegant succulent, used alot in landscapes as an accent plant. Widely adaptable to various soils. Flowers bloom profusely and for a long time. Evergreen.	Ruby-throated and Black-chinned hummingbirds are highly attracted to flowers which provide copious nectar for long periods. White-tailed deer also love to eat the flowers.

<i>Opuntia lindheimeri</i> Prickly-pear cactus	Cactaceae - Cactus Family	1' - 5' Succulent	Showy yellow or orange to red flowers. May	Tuna, purplish. Sept. - Oct.	Full sun	Prefers open areas, woodlands, openings, pastures, disturbed & eroded soils O.K.	Sands, loams & clays. Xeric, well-drained.	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Hardy succulent with attractive flowers & juicy rosy-purple fruits. Makes a good barrier plant. Evergreen.	Flowers attract many kinds of insects, especially bees, butterflies, beetles & flies, etc. which are attracted to both nectar & pollen. Fruits & pads are highly sought after by several species of mammals which must brave the guard glochids.	
<i>Yucca angustifolia</i> Narrow-leaf yucca	Agavaceae - Agave Family	1-2' leaves 2'- 6' flower stalk. Succulent	Showy panicles of creamy-white flowers. June - July	Capsules. Sept. - Oct.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers rolling, well-drained grasslands & plains.	Sands, loams & clays. Well-drained, xeric.				X						X	X	Very winter-hardy attractive accent plant, magnificent when in bloom. This plant is the most flower-like of all the yuccas. Leaves are pale green edged with fine, curly white hairs. Tips are armed with healthy spines. Can tolerate shade. Evergreen.	Waxy white flowers emit their fragrance at night attracting moths which pollinate them. Flowers are edible and popular with white-tailed deer. Larval host plant to Yucca giant skipper & Strecker's giant skipper.
<i>Yucca arkansana</i> Thread-leaf yucca	Agavaceae - Agave Family	2' leaves 3'- 6' flower stalk. Succulent	Showy panicles of creamy-white flowers. May - June	Capsules. Aug. - Sept.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers prairies, limestone outcrops & rocky areas	Sands, loams & clays. Well-drained, xeric.	X	X	X	X								Very striking accent plant, magnificent when in bloom. This plant is the most flower-like of all the yuccas. Leaves are pale green edged with fine, curly white hairs. Tips are armed with healthy spines. Can tolerate shade. Evergreen.	Elegant waxy flowers emit their fragrance at night attracting moths which pollinate them. Flowers are edible and popular with white-tailed deer. Larval host plant to Yucca giant skipper.
<i>Ampelopsis arborea</i> Peppervine	Vitaceae - Grape Family	Climber, Vine	inconspicuous greenish-white flowers. June - Aug.	Berries, bluish-purple. Sept. - Oct.	Part shade, dappled shade, shade	Prefers rich woodlands & bottomlands, edges of swamps, fence rows & waste places.	Sands, loams & clays. Mesic, likes soils to be moist.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					This vigorous vine with the beautiful compound dissected leaves which are dark green on top & pale underneath can sometimes be too successful in a small garden. It is very attractive, however, if kept under control. Deciduous.	Bluish-purple berries provide a great source of food for many gamebirds & songbirds alike. Bobwhite, flickers, brown thrashers & hermit thrushes love them. Small mammals also relish them. Excellent browse for white-tailed deer.

<i>Cocculus carolinus</i> Carolina moonseed	Menespermac eae Moonseed Family	Climber to 15' , Vine	inconspicu- ous greenish flowers. July - Aug.	Conspicuous brilliant red berries (drupes). Sept. - Oct.	Full, part shade	Prefers rich moist soils of woods & thickets	Sands, loams & clays. Tolerates gumbo soils of Houston. Well- drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X			Relatively fast growing, slender twining vine that prefers full sun & some kind of support. Leaves are attractively shaped and fruits are highly ornamental. Will grow over shrubs & small trees. Evergreen.	Dense clusters of brilliant red fruit are relished by bluebirds, mockingbirds, cardinals, robins, warblers & sparrows.
<i>Ibervillea lindheimeri</i> Globe-berry	Curcubitacea e - Cucumber Family	Climber, Vine	Small greenish yellow flowers. April - July	Orange to bright red globular fruit. Aug. - Oct.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers dryish soils in open woodlands or thickets, among brush, along fence rows. Tolerates rocky soils.	Sands, loams & clays. Well- drained, mesic- xeric.	X	X	X	X	X	X			Drought-tolerant and salt- tolerant climber with interestingly shaped leaves and decorative colorful fruit. Deciduous.	Many species of birds, both gallinaceous & large song birds eat this fruit when it is ripe. Insects are attracted to the floral nectar
<i>Lonicera sempervirens</i> Coral honeysuckle	Caprifoliacea e Honeysuckle Family	Climber to 40', Vine	Showy orange red tubular flowers in clusters. March - Dec.	Berries, red. April - Jan.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers moist fertile soils of East Texas, woods & thickets	Sands, loams & clays. Mesic- hydric soils; poor drainage O.K.	X	X	X	X	X	X			A beautiful everblooming vine that grows well & is well-behaved. Likes morning sun & afternoon dappled shade. Needs extra water when getting established, but not later. Persistent.	Ruby-throated and Black- chinned hummers are attracted to this vine spring, summer and fall, esp. during migration. Orioles also sip nectar, as do butterflies. Fruit-eating birds relish the succulent red berries in the fall. LHP of Spring Azure.
<i>Maurandya antirrhiniflora</i> Snapdragon vine	Scrophulariac eae Figwort Family	Climber to 3', Vine	Showy purple flowers. March - Sept.	Capsule, red. round. Sept. - Dec.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers limestone hills & bluffs, also dunes, shrubs & boulders.	Sands, loams, clays. Well- drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Elegant, delicate-leafed climber & ground cover. Fast grower; tolerates salt. Looks great in a pot. Leaves have excellent fall color. Perennial.	Fruits are a favorite with many species of birds. Flowers are a good nectar source for many kinds of insects, especially butterflies. Lush clumps provide good cover. Larval host plant of Buckeye.
<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i> Virginia creeper	Vitaceae Grape Family	Climber & ground cover, Vine	inconspicu- ous greenish flowers. May - June	Berries, blue- black. Sept. - Nov.	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade	Prefers rich soils of woodlands & thickets & rocky banks in eastern half of TX.	Sands, loams, clays. Tolerates gumbo soils. Well- drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		Very attractive vine with lush green palmate leaves. Vigorous climber well able to cloak walls, columns, etc. by fastening on to masonry. Also good ground cover. Striking red-orange fall color. Deciduous.	Many species of birds compete for the blue-black berries including woodpeckers, kingbirds, great-crested flycatchers, titmice, cardinals, mockingbirds, bluebirds, warblers & sparrows.

<i>Andropogon gerardi</i> Big blue stem	Poaceae Grass Family	3' - 6', Grass	Flowering spikelets of green to golden-tan in form of turkey foot. Aug. - Nov	Seeds. Sets seed shortly after flowering.	Full sun	Prefers moist soils of meadows & prairies in the eastern 1/2 of state	Sands, loams & clays, acid or calcareous. Moderate moisture, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	This big prairie perennial can be used as meadow grass with wildflowers, pocket tallgrass prairie or garden accent. Adds dramatic component. Needs rich, deep soil with moisture present. Good erosion control. Best placed at bottom of slope. Winter dormancy	Provides good cover & food for many species of wildlife. Grass parts used as nesting & denning material. Larval host plant of Delaware Skipper, Dusted Skipper, Bunchgrass Skipper, Large Wood Nymph, Cobweb, Clouded & Beard grass skippers.
<i>Andropogon glomeratus</i> Bushy bluestem	Poaceae Grass Family	3' - 4' Grass	Flowering spikelets green to buffy gold. Sept. - Nov.	Seeds. Sets seed shortly after flowering.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers low moist sites	Sands, sandy loams, soils can be fairly sterile. Mesic, poor drainage O.K.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Very attractive bunch grass for moist areas. Especially pretty in the fall. Tolerates poor drainage. Warm-season perennial.	Provides food & cover for many species of wild birds & mammals. Culms, leaves are used as nesting & denning material. Larval host plant of several eastern skippers.
<i>Andropogon ternarius</i> Split-beard bluestem	Poaceae Grass Family	1 1/2' - 4' Grass	Flowering spikelets green to silvery gold, Aug. - Nov.	Seeds. Sets seed shortly after flowering.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers open areas & woodland edges, cut over woodland pastures	Sands & sandy loams. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X							This beautiful grass is its most beautiful in the autumn backlit by the sun. A good meadow grass planted with wildflowers. Warm-season perennial.	Provides food & cover for many species of wild birds & mammals. Culms, leaves are used as nesting & denning material. Butterflies use grass as shelter on windy days. Larval host plant of several skippers.
<i>Andropogon virginicus</i> Broomsedge	Poaceae Grass Family	3' - 4' Grass	Flowering spikelets green to yellow gold. Sept. - Nov.	Seeds. Sets seed shortly after flowering.	Part shade, dappled shade	Prefers loose moist soils of oak woods & prairies, also shaded banks along streams	Sands & sandy loams, loams. Mesic.	X	X	X	X								This beautiful grass is its most beautiful in the fall with its perky bushy head that looks like a broom. Takes on a lovely golden color. Warm-season perennial, dies back in winter.	Provides food & cover for many species of wild birds & mammals. Culms, leaves are used as nesting & denning material. Provides fair grazing for wildlife. Butterflies use grass as shelter on windy days. Larval host plant of Zabulon skipper.

<i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i> Sideoats grama	Poaceae Grass Family	2' - 6' Grass	Spikelets, yellowish, arranged down along stem. May - Oct.	Seeds. June - Nov.	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade	Tolerates a variety of open places throughout state. Does well in disturbed areas. Not as common in eastern forests.	Sands, loams & clays, both limestone & igneous soils. Well-drained, mesic-xeric.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Our state grass is a strong perennial and works well as a garden accent. Competes well with short grasses but not tall-grass prairie grasses. Great choice for wildflower meadow garden. Warm-season perennial bunch grass. Dormant in winter.	Provides good grazing for wildlife and an abundance of bird seed for seed-eating birds of several varieties. Food available spring, summer & fall. Grass parts used as nesting & denning material. Larval host plant for Dotted skipper & green skipper.
<i>Bothriochloa barbinodes</i> Cane bluestem	Poaceae Grass Family	3' - 6' Grass	Flowering spikelets from whitish green to silver. April - Aug.	Seeds. May - Oct.	Full sun, a little shade O.K.	Prefers looser soils in the western 2/3rds of the state. Grows in open areas & grasslands.	Sands, sandy loams, loams; likes limy soils. Well-drained, xeric.	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Very attractive accent plant or member of a pocket prairie or field of wildflowers. Perennial bunch grass.	Cane bluestem is an excellent forage grass for wildlife. Leaves are grazed, especially later on in the season. Grass parts used as nesting & denning material. Seeds eaten by granivorous birds & small mammals.
<i>Buchloe dactyloides</i> Buffalograss	Poaceae Grass Family	3" -12" Grass	Flowering spikelets yellowish green. June - Nov. or whenever not dormant.	Seeds. Sets seed shortly after flowering.	Full sun	Prefers open areas in many kinds of soils, short-grass prairies of Central & North Central Texas	Sands, loams & clays. Well-drained, xeric.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	This is a wonderful turf grass. It takes a little longer to establish in caliche soils. Once established, it is very drought tolerant. It turns a soft golden brown when it goes dormant. Perennial - Turf grass.	Buffalograss provides fine nesting & denning materials, especially for lining bird's nests. Seeds of male flowers are eaten by small granivorous birds. Is the larval host plant of the Green skipper.
<i>Chasmanthium latifolium</i> Inland sea-oats	Poaceae Grass Family	2' - 4' Grass	Flowering spikelets green to buffy tan. June - Oct.	Seeds. Sets seed shortly after flowering.	Part shade, dappled shade, full shade	Prefers moist woodland soils, often along creek bottoms & near streambanks.	Sands, loams & clays. Mesic, seasonal poor drainage O.K.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			In moist soils in shaded areas, this beautiful grass makes a solid mat. Big drooping spikelets are especially fetching, esp. when turned to whitish gold in the fall. Great garden accent plant in shady moist areas. Warm season perennial dies back in winter	Serves as excellent forage for wildlife esp. birds & mammals. Many parts of the grass used as nesting & denning material. Larval host plant for Northern pearly eye, Pepper & salt skipper, Bell's roadside skipper & Bronzed roadside skipper.
<i>Chloris cuculata</i> Hooded windmillgrass	Poaceae Grass Family	1' - 1 1/2' Grass	Flowering spikelets yellow green to straw then brown. May - June	Seeds. Aug. - Sept.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers pastures, lawns, parks & vacant lots	Sands, sandy loams of medium to coarse texture, acid to neutral. Mesic.			X		X	X					Attractive octopus-like flowering head. Warm-season perennial.	Hooded windmillgrass provides fairly good forage for wildlife. Seeds are eaten by birds & small mammals. Grass parts used as nesting & denning material.

<i>Elymus canadensis</i> Canada wildrye	Poaceae Grass Family	3' - 5' Grass	Flowering spikelets green turning gold, with long awns. March - June	Seeds. May - Sept.	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade	Prefers shaded sites along fence rows, woods borders & moist ravines throughout state. Absent in southern part of South TX.	Sands, loams & clays. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	This tufted grass with attractive seed heads does best in shady areas with adequate moisture. Cool-season tufted perennial.	Provides good early food for many species of birds & small mammals that eat grain. Grass parts, leaves, stems, & spikelets used as nesting & denning material. Larval host plant for Zabulon skipper.
<i>Eriochloa sericea</i> Texas cupgrass	Poaceae Grass Family	3' - 4' Grass	Flowering spikelets green turning yellowish. March - August	Seeds. April - Nov.	Full sun, some shade O.K.	Prefers prairies & grassy openings in scrub woodlands	Sands, loams & clays; likes limestone soils. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Texas cupgrass can be used as a meadow grass with wildflowers or as a pocket prairie grass. Perennial.	Texas cupgrass provides good cover & excellent forage for many species of wildlife. Grass parts are used as nesting & denning material by birds & small mammals.
<i>Muhlenbergia lindheimeri</i> Big muhly	Poaceae Grass Family	2' - 5' Grass	Flowering spikelets silvery green to golden tan. July - Aug.	Seeds. Sept. - Nov.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers limestone uplands near streams	Calcareous clays & limestone soils. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	This is a highly attractive bunch grass. Serves as a striking accent plant in any garden. Plant sports silvery golden plumes in the fall. Warm-season perennial.	Big muhly is a good forage grass for wildlife. Birds readily eat the ripe seeds. Grass parts are used for nesting & denning material.
<i>Muhlenbergia reverchonii</i> Seep muhly	Poaceae Grass Family	1' 3' Grass	Flowering spikelets green to golden tan. Aug. - Nov	Seeds. Sept. - Dec.	Full sun, a little shade O.K.	Prefers rocky soils with limestone base often in seep areas.	Calcareous soils, clays, limestone based soils. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	This is a very attractive delicate-headed grass with curly-cue leaves bunched at the base. Warm-season perennial.	Seep muhly offers fair forage for small seed-eating birds. Leaves are used as nesting & denning material.
<i>Panicum virgatum</i> Switchgrass	Poaceae Grass Family	3' - 6' Grass	Flowering spikelets green turning rich gold. Aug. - Sept.	Seeds. Oct. - Nov.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers seasonally moist, open areas throughout Texas.	Sands, loams & clays. Moist. Seasonal poor drainage O.K.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Gorgeous tall-grass can be used as dramatic accent plant. Turns deep, rich golden color in fall. Has airy, filigreed seedhead. Can also be used in small pocket prairie. Does great in Houston, loves the extra water. Warm-season perennial bunch grass.	Provides fair grazing for wildlife, seeds sought after by seed-eating birds. Excellent sparrow food in winter. Provides good protective cover and nesting & denning material. Good place for butterflies to get out of the wind. LHP for Delaware skipper.
<i>Paspalum plicatulum</i> Brownseed paspale	Poaceae Grass Family	3' - 5' Grass	Flowering spikelets green turning dark brown. May - July	Seeds. June - Nov.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers open oak woodlands	Sands, & sandy loams. Mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	This bunch grass sets seed throughout much of the year. Warm-season perennial.	Seeds provide fairly good forage for wildlife, both grazers & seed-eating birds. Parts of the grass are used as nesting & denning material.

<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i> Little bluestem	Poaceae Grass Family	2' - 5' Grass	Flowering spikelets bluegreen to silvery gold. Aug. - Dec.	Seeds. Sept. - Dec.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers woods openings, rocky slopes of pastures & rangeland, along forest borders and prairies throughout Texas.	Sands, loams & clays. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Most wide-ranging bunchgrass, a dominant of the tallgrass prairie. Tolerant of a wide variety of moisture & drought. Little bluestem is a symphony of beautiful color changes through the year from blue-green to coppery gold. Perennial. Winter dormancy.	Provides fairly good grazing for wildlife. Good cover grass, grass parts provide denning & nesting material for birds & mammals. Larval host plant for Dusted skipper, Delaware skipper, Dixie skipper, Cross-line skipper & Cobweb skipper.
<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i> Indiangrass	Poaceae Grass Family	3' - 8' Grass	Flowering spikelets a deep yellow. Oct. - Nov.	Seeds. Nov. - Dec.	Full sun, some shade O.K.	Prefers moist rich soils of tall-grass prairies of central & coastal TX	Sands, loams & clays. Likes calcareous soils. Likes moisture, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				This gorgeous grass was major component of tallgrass prairie. Striking accent plant or member of pocket tallgrass prairie. Does well in a naturally moist rich swale area. Warm-season perennial bunch grass. Dormant in winter.	Fairly good grazing for wildlife when green. Seed-eating birds and small mammals eat ripe seeds. Stems, leaves used as nesting & denning material. Provides excellent protective cover for wildlife. Larval host plant of Pepper-and-salt skipper.
<i>Sporobolus asper</i> Tall dropseed	Poaceae Grass Family	3' - 5' Grass	Flowering spikelets light green to straw, in contracted panicles. Aug. - Oct.	Seeds, Sept. - Dec.	Full sun, some shade O.K.	Prefers open, rocky prairie sites, open meadows & woods	Sands, loams, clays; likes limestone soils. Mesic, tolerates dry soils.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			There are many varieties of this species that are adapted to the various soils. Warm-season perennial.	Provides good forage for seed-eating mammals & birds, also fair grazing for larger mammals. Grass parts used as nesting & denning material.
<i>Tridens flavus</i> Purple-top grass	Poaceae Grass Family	2' - 4' Grass	Flowering spikelets yellow to purplish. June - Aug.	Seeds. Aug. - Nov	Part shade, dappled shade	Prefers shade of open woods or along roadways throughout the state	Sands, sandy loams, clays. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		Tall, slender bunch grass with elegant purplish seed head. Very graceful appearance. Warm-season perennial.	Purple-top grass provides fairly good grazing & forage for wildlife. Parts of the grass are used for nesting & denning material. Larval host plant for Cross-line skipper, Large wood nymph, Little Glassywing & Broad-winged skipper.
<i>Triplasis purpurea</i> Purple triplasis	Poaceae Grass Family	2' - 3' Grass	Flowering spikelets greenish-tan to purplish. June - Sept.	Seeds. Aug. - Nov	Full sun	Prefers open areas of loose sands	Sands, sandy loams. Well-drained, xeric.	X	X	X	X	x	X	X	X			This diminutive attractive grass with the small purplish seed head prefers sandy areas. Warm-season perennial.	Purple triplasis provides fairly good grazing & seed crop for granivorous birds & other kinds of wildlife.

<i>Tripsacum dactyloides</i> Eastern gammagrass	Poaceae Grass Family	3' - 8' Grass	Flowering spikelets yellow & cornlike. July.-Sept.	Seeds. April - Nov.	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade	Prefers low moist grassland sites in eastern portion of state.	Sands, loams & clays. Mesi c, likes extra moisture. Seasonal poor drainage O.K.	X	X	X	X	X				Forms very dense clump useful for buffer or areas of separation. Likes more shade & moisture than most grasses. Also dramatic accent plant. Can be grown in pure stands as pasture grass. Warm-season perennial bunch grass.	Good protective cover for small birds & mammals. Grass parts provide nesting & denning material. Provides very good forage for wildlife. Larval host plant to the Bunchgrass skipper.
<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i> Butterfly-weed	Asclepiadaceae Milkweed Family	1' - 2' Wildflower	Showy orange complex flowers. April - Sept.	Follicle with comose seeds. June - Nov.	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade	Prefers prairies, meadows, open woods & thickets in Eastern Texas & west to Hill Country.	Sands, loams, clays & limestone soils. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X				With its splashy orange, complex flowers, this is our most striking milkweed. It is very drought-tolerant once it is established and lives for a very long time. Has a big taproot. Perennial.	This milkweed is a larval host plant for Milkweed butterflies such as the Monarch and the Queen. The female lays her eggs on the stems & leaves of the plant. Caterpillars feed on the milky sap sequestering the secondary compounds making them poisonous.
<i>Callirhoe involucrata</i> Winecup	Malvaceae Mallow Family	6" - 12" Wildflower	Showy deep magenta to wine-red flowers. March - May	Capsules. May - July	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade	Prefers open woods, prairies, meadows & fields	Sands, loams, clays or gravelly soils, either calcareous or acid-based. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Beautiful wine-colored wildflowers that can grace any wildflower meadow garden. These plants tend to sprawl & have trailing stems. Even clambering over small shrubs. Respond to extra watering by blooming for a much longer of period of time. Perennial.	Winecup is visited by bees which gather pollen from the flowers.
<i>Camassia scilloides</i> Wild hyacinth	Liliaceae - Lily Family	6" - 2' Wildflower	Showy lavender flowers on 6-inch spikes, fragrant. March - May	Capsule, three-valved with roundish black shiny seeds. March - May	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade	Prefers sandy or rocky soils in meadows, fields prairies & open woods from Central Texas northward, also Edwards Plateau.	Sands, loams, clays & limestone soils. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X				Delicate lavender spikes do best on a gentle slope where there is good drainage. Does well in shady areas especially where the soils are drier. Perennial.	Bees & butterflies are attracted by the fragrant flowers & forage avidly for nectar.
<i>Delphinium carolinianum</i> Prairie larkspur	Ranunculaceae Buttercup Family	1 1/2' - 3' Wildflower	Showy blue to white spurred flowers on 6-inch spikes. April - May	Follicle with numerous brown seeds. June - July	Full sun, part shade	Prefers open woods, fields, meadows & prairies, also grows along roadsides of Northeast Texas & the Edwards Plateau	Sands, loams, clays; tolerates calcareous or acid soils. Well-drained, mesic.	X		X	X	X	X			Attractive wildflowers for a pocket prairie or meadow garden. This species come in various color varieties from white to pale blue to dark blue. Perennial.	Prairie largespur attracts several varieties of insects that forage on the nectar. Bees are especially fond of these flowers.

<i>Erythrina herbacea</i> Coralbean	Leguminosae - Legume Family	6' - 15' Wildflower, shrub in S. Texas	Showy coral red tubular flowers. May - Dec.	Pods with poisonous red seeds. Oct. to Dec.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers sandy woods on coastal plain, but will grow elsewhere.	sands, loams & clays. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X							Striking shrubby wildflower dies back in winter like a perennial in all areas but south Texas. Flamboyant summer flowers are highly ornamental. Seeds are also attractive, though extremely poisonous. Perennial.	Elegant tubular flowers have copious nectar & are highly attractive to the Ruby-throated hummingbird. Seeds, though highly appealing visually, are poisonous and not eaten by wildlife.
<i>Eupatorium serotinum</i> Late boneset	Asteraceae - Sunflower Family	2' - 5' Wildflower	Showy off-white flower heads. Sept. - Nov.	Achenes. Nov. - Jan.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers open places, woodland edges, near ponds.	Sands, loams & clays. Likes moisture, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X							This late blooming shrub with opposite leaves and much-branched, flat-topped terminal flower clusters often forms colonies. Deciduous/Persistent.	Masses of off-white flowers is an excellent nectar source for migrating monarch butterflies & other late foraging insects. Plants provide good protection for butterflies on windy days. Many species of sparrows & finches eat the ripe achenes in winter.
<i>Helianthus maximiliani</i> Maximilian sunflower	Asteraceae Sunflower Family	4' - 6' Wildflower	Showy bright yellow flowers. Aug. - Oct.	Achenes. Nov. - Dec.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers seasonally moist ditches & depressions in grasslands, prairies & meadows in Edwards Plateau, North & South East Texas.	Sands, loams, clays & limestone-based soils. Well-drained, xeric; tolerates seasonally poor drainage.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	With its bright yellow flowers, Maximilian sunflower is gorgeous in the fall. Does very well growing among native grasses in a pocket prairie. Occurs in colonies on both dry & moist ground. Perennial.	Maximilian sunflower provides copious nectar to butterflies & bees in the fall.
<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i> Cardinal flower	Campanulaceae Campanula Family	6" - 6' Wildflower	Showy red tubular flowers, fragrant. May - Oct.	Capsules with seeds. June - Nov.	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade	Prefers moist soils in open places along streams, meadows & along roadsides; also about ponds & springs, & near swamps where the shade is not too dense.	Sands, loams, clays & limestone based soils. Moist soils, poor drainage O.K.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Cardinal flower cannot be equalled for sheer visual impact, planted in dense stands in a shady part of the garden. In peak bloom they create an incredible spectacle. Bright scarlet flowers are clustered on racemes as long as 18". Perennial.	Cardinal flower is a premiere hummingbird plant and will not fail to draw in any Ruby-throats passing through your area.
<i>Malvaviscus drummondii</i> Turk's cap	Malvaceae - Mallow Family	4' - 9' Wildflower, shrub in South TX	Showy red flowers. May - Nov.	Berry-like fruit, red, flattened. Aug. - Sept.	Part shade, dappled shade, shade	Prefers moist woodlands, wood margins, streamsides, river edges in shady conditions. Low grounds.	Sands, loams & clays. Likes limestone soils, tolerates gumbo. Hydric-mesic, likes moisture.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					A good ornamental for shady situations. Forms colonies in shady spots. Serves as good ground cover. Best pruned back after 2 years. Deciduous.	Attractive red flowers are very popular with hummingbirds. Butterflies, diurnal moths & other insects are also attracted to the flowers. The bland fruit is eaten by several species of birds & small mammals.

<i>Nemastylis geminiflora</i> Prairie celestial	Iridaceae Iris Family	5" - 10" Wildflower	Showy lavender-blue to white flowers. March - May	Capsules with angular brown seeds. March - May	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade	Prefers clay & limestone soils from South to North Central Texas, including the Edwards Plateau.	Sands, clays, especially limestone soils. Well-drained, mesic.		X	X	X	X							Prairie celestials are an ethereally beautiful flower that will grace any wildflower meadow garden. They grow well in grassy areas & are often found in colonies. Perennial.	Bees of various kinds are attracted to the flowers.
<i>Salvia coccinea</i> Scarlet sage	Lamiaceae Mint Family	2' - 4" Wildflower	Showy red tubular flowers. May - Dec.	Calyx with nutlets. June - Dec.	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade	Prefers sandy soils in thickets, chaparral, on edges of open woods from East to South Texas.	Sands, loams, clays & caliche-type soils. Mesic, seasonal poor drainage O.K.	X	X	X	X	X	X						Scarlet sage can thrive in any part of the state. It is not very cold-hardy, however. Oddly, it looks better if planted in dry, shady areas with poor soil. In rich soils with lots of water it gets very tall, coarse & slightly unattractive. Perennial.	Scarlet sage is another excellent hummingbird plant & will draw in the hummingbirds of your area, including any migrants passing through in spring & fall. Bees & other insects are also attracted to the nectar, despite the red flower color.
<i>Solidago canadensis</i> Giant goldenrod	Asteraceae - Sunflower Family	2' - 7" Wildflower	Showy yellow flowers in pyramidal heads. Sept. - Nov.	Achenes. Oct. - Nov.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers open fields, meadows, prairies & moist soils near streams	Sands, loams & clays, also caliche-type soils. Mesic, poor drainage O.K.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			Goldenrod is spectacular in the autumn. Its large pyramidal flower clusters infuse golden color into wildflower meadows. Perennial.	Bees & butterflies gather pollen from goldenrod in the fall.
<i>Castilleja indivisa</i> Indian paintbrush	Scrophulariaceae Figwort Family	6" - 12" Wildflower	Showy orange to red bracts. March - May	Capsules with seeds. May - July	Full sun, a little shade O.K.	Prefers fields, meadows, prairies & roadside areas in Eastern portion of the state including the Coastal plains	Sands, loams & clays. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X						Indian paintbrush is an excellent choice for a pocket prairie or meadow garden. Grows very well when planted with native grasses. Looks great when interspersed among masses of bluebonnets & showy evening primrose. Annual.	Insects of several varieties are attracted to the small flowers. Hummingbirds will also feed from them, attracted to the red-orange bracts that surround them. Larval host plant of the Buckeye.
<i>Coreopsis tinctoria</i> Golden wave	Asteraceae Sunflower Family	1' - 4" Wildflower	Showy yellow daisy-like flowers with brown centers. March - June or later depending on rain.	Achenes. May - Aug.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers seasonally moist soils in the eastern portion of the state, but grows throughout.	Sands, loams, clays; either calcareous or acid. Mesic, seasonal poor drainage O.K.	X	X	X	X	X	X						Great profusions of this golden yellow flower blanket roadsides & meadows, like undulating waves of a golden ocean. Annual.	Golden wave attracts a wide variety of insects, especially bees & butterflies who sip nectar from the disk flowers. Ripe achenes are sought after by many species of seed-eating birds, especially the Painted Bunting.

<i>Eustoma grandiflora</i> Texas bluebells	Gentianaceae Gentian Family	1' - 2' Wildflower	Showy blue-purple flowers. June - Oct.	Capsule with seeds. Aug. - Nov.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers damp prairies, pond edges, open fields & banks along streams throughout much of Texas	Sands, loams & clays. Mesic, seasonal poor drainage O.K.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Texas Bluebell, otherwise known as Bluebell Gentian is a showy wildflower that responds favorably to good soils, extra water & a little fertilizer. Leaves are pale greenish blue & very attractive also. Annual.	Texas bluebell is very attractive to several kinds of insects, especially bees & butterflies.
<i>Gaillardia pulchella</i> Indian blanket	Asteraceae Sunflower	1' Wildflower	Showy yellow & red daisy-like flowers. March - Oct.	Achenes. May - Nov.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers open grassy areas, prairies, meadows, also disturbed areas in a variety of soils	Sands, loams & clays. Well-drained, mesic-xeric.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	This is a marvelously easy wildflower to grow & it comes in various coloration patters from mainly yellow to mostly reddish. Blooms most of the season from spring to late fall & provides lots of color to a wildflower meadow. Annual.	Indian blanket attracts bees, butterflies & several other varieties of small insects who forage on the nectar. Ripe seed heads are favorites with many species of seed-eating passerines like the Painted Bunting.
<i>Ipomopsis rubra</i> Standing cypress	Polemoniaceae Phlox Family	2' - 6' Wildflower	Showy red-orange tubular flowers. May - June	Seeds elongate, swelling when wet. July - Aug.	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade	Prefers rocky or sandy ground in fields or along edges of woods in Edwards Plateau, Cross Timbers, Oak Woods & Prairies & East Texas. Also Piney Woods	Sands, loams & gravelly soils. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	With splashy red-orange flowers & elegantly divided threadlike leaves, standing cypress is a spectacular plant. It does not flower the first year seeds are planted but forms a low attractive basal rosette. Biennial.	Standing cypress is a wonderful hummingbird plant. Exerted yellow anthers & red tubular flowers attract any hummer in the area. Hummer's heads get yellow with pollen as they zip from flower to flower.
<i>Lupinus texensis</i> Texas bluebonnet	Leguminosae Legume Family	8" - 16" Wildflower	Showy blue and white pea-like flowers in racemes, fragrant. March - May	Legume. May - July	Full sun, a little shade O.K.	Prefers open fields, meadows & prairies, also roadside areas throughout much of the state from Corpus Christi to Abilene.	Sands, loams, clays & limestone soils; really likes calcareous soils. Well-drained, mesic-xeric.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Our state flower, this Texas endemic cloaks meadows, prairies & roadsides come spring in an ocean of blue. An incredible sight that dazzles all newcomers to the state. Takes a little work to get established and depend on the fall rains. Annual.	Bluebonnets are attended by bees & other insects who forage on the nectar & pollinate the plants. Plants let the bees know a particular flower has been pollinated by turning from white to dark red at the center of the banner. LHP of hairstreaks & elfins.
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i> Brown-eyed Susan	Asteraceae Sunflower Family	1' - 2' Wildflower	Showy yellow ray flowers with dark brown centers. May - Sept.	Achenes. July - Nov.	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade	Prefers open prairies, grasslands & woodland meadows in the eastern two-thirds of the state.	Sands, loams & clays. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Black-eyed Susans provide a lush splash of color in your meadow garden or pocket prairie. It does especially well if the rains are good or with a little extra watering. It will grow well in both partially shady areas & the sun. Annual.	Bees, butterflies & many other kinds of insects forage for nectar from these flowers all summer. In the fall when the flowers have good to seed, numerous seed-eating birds forage on the ripe achenes.

WildScapes Plant List -- Blackland Prairie

SPECIES	FAMILY	HABIT / HEIGHT	FLOWER	FRUIT	SUN EXPOSURE	HABITAT	SOILS & MOISTURE REGIME	VEGETATION ZONE										ORNAMENTAL VALUE	WILDLIFE VALUE
								1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
<i>Bumelia lanuginosa</i> Woolly-bucket bumelia	Sapotaceae - Sapodilla Family	Tree, large 40' - 80'	White perfect flowers, fragrant June - July	Berries, blue-black Sept. - Oct.	Full sun, Part shade	Mostly uplands, sometimes bottomlands, woodlands, edges and fencerows.	Sandy loams, loams, and clays. Tolerates gumbo. Well-drained, mesic..	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Large shade tree with simple green leaves with white woolly undersurface. Persistent.	Several species of birds feed on the fruit, including cardinals, finches, robins, cedar waxwings, warblers, and vireos. Good cover and nesting tree due to protective thorns. Good substrate for insectivorous birds.
<i>Carya illinoensis</i> Pecan	Juglandaceae - Walnut Family	Tree, large 50' - 60'	inconspicuous catkins, m & f, yellowish on same tree. March - May	Nut Sept. - Oct.	Full sun, Part shade	Prefers rich bottomlands	Sands, loams, or clays. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Beautiful shade tree with elegant compound leaves. Prefers deep, rich soils but will grow in thinner soils. Sometimes turns yellow in fall. Deciduous.	Sweet edible nuts valuable for all kinds of wildlife, birds and mammals alike including woodpeckers, jays, sparrows, fox squirrel, gray squirrel, opossum, and raccoons. Good substrate for insectivorous birds. Larval host plant for Gray hairstreak.
<i>Celtis laevigata</i> Sugarberry	Ulmaceae - Elm Family	Tree, large 40' - 60'	inconspicuous, small, greenish. May - June	Berry (drupe), orange-red to purplish-black. July-Aug.	Full sun, part shade	Rocky or alluvial soils along streams, in woodlands & thickets.	Sands, loams, and clays. Prefers rich soils, but will tolerate wide range. Well-drained, mesic to xeric; drought tolerant once established.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Fast-growing shade tree adapted to most soils. Very drought tolerant. Yellow autumn color. Deciduous.	Fruit eaten by bluebirds, robins, cardinals, mockingbirds, cedar waxwings, thrashers, & sparrows. Good nest & cover tree, esp. for neotropical migrants. Larval food plant for Question Mark, Mourning Cloak, Pale Emperor, Snout & Hackberry butterflies.
<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i> Green ash	Oleaceae - Olive Family	Tree, large 30' -80'	inconspicuous m & f yellowish catkins & spikes. April - May	Samara Sept. - Oct.	Full sun, part shade	Alluvial woods & swamps along rivers & streams, swales & depressions in prairies	Acid sands, sandy loams & heavy limestone clays. Needs moisture; poor drainage O.K.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Fairly fast-growing & long-lived shade tree. Brilliant yellow autumn color. Deciduous.	Excellent cover and nesting tree. Cardinals, finches, red-winged blackbirds relish fruit. Foliage browsed by cottontails and white-tailed deer. Larval host plant for Two-tailed tiger swallowtail and Tiger swallow-tail.

<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i> Common Honeylocust	Leguminosae - Legume Family	Tree, large 50' - 100'	inconspicuous m & f perfect or imperfect flowers. May - June	Legume Sept. - Oct.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers rich deep soils of Eastern 1/3 of Texas.	Loams & clay, Needs moisture, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			Heavily thorned tree with pretty leaves. Deciduous.	Good protective cover and nesting tree. Sweet pulp of young pods eaten by deer, fox & gray squirrels, rabbits and deer. Bees & butterflies attracted to nectar. Good honey tree. Larval host plant for Silver-spotted skipper.
<i>Juglans nigra</i> Black walnut	Ulmaceae - Elm Family	Tree, large 40' - 80'	inconspicuous catkins, m & f, yellowish-green. April - May	Walnut Sept. - Oct.	Full sun, part sun	Deep, rich soils of woodlands	Limestone soils, rich in calcium. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			Shade tree with graceful appearance and fast growth rate. Immune to pests. Deciduous.	Nuts are preferred food of squirrels which disperse seeds. Woodpeckers, jays and gamebirds also like nuts. Good cover and nest tree for birds. Larval host plant of the Banded hairstreak.
<i>Platanus occidentalis</i> Sycamore	Platanaceae - Sycamore Family	Tree, large 100' - 150'	inconspicuous m & f globose heads reddish, greenish. April - May	Round seed head Sept. - Oct.	Full sun, part shade	Rich bottomland soils along streams and creek bottoms	Sands, sandy loams, and clays. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			Majestic shade tree. Fast-growing with pretty leaves and bark. Deciduous.	Globose fruit with seeds eaten by a variety of birds and mammals, including muskrat. Goldfinches, purple & house finches are especially fond of fruit. Good substrate for insectivorous birds.
<i>Populus deltoides</i> Eastern cottonwood	Salicaceae - Willow Family	Tree, large 40' - 100'	inconspicuous m & f catkins red & brown. March - June	Brown f capsules with cottony seeds May - June	Full sun, part shade	Rich bottomland soils along streams	Sands, loams, and clays. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			Very large shade tree with fluttery green leaves. Fast-growing with excellent fall color. Easy to establish. Deciduous.	Foliage, bark, seeds & leaves important to wildlife esp. deer & rabbits. Seeds eaten by many birds, esp. grosbeaks & cardinals. Cottony seeds used to line nests. Larval host plant for Mourning Cloak, Red-spotted Purple, Viceroy & Tiger Swallowtail.
<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i> Bur oak	Fagaceae - Beech Family	Tree, large 60' - 80'	inconspicuous m & f catkins, red & greenish. March - April	Acorns Sept. - Oct.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers moist forests along streams & in fallow fields	Sands, loams, and clays. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X				Very graceful shade tree, widely adaptive, fast-growing for an oak. Attractive leaves, unusual acorn, drought resistant & long-lived. Deciduous.	Important source of food for several species of birds, woodpeckers, jays, game birds. Also sought after by mammals, white-tailed deer, squirrels & raccoons. Good substrate for insectivorous birds. Larval host plant for Sleepy & Juvenal's Duskywing.

<i>Quercus muehlenbergii</i> Chinkapin oak	Fagaceae - Beech Family	Tree, large 40' - 60'	inconspicuous catkins, m & f, cream to yellowish. March - June	Acorns Sept. - Oct., every 2 years	Full sun, part shade	Prefers upland forested areas	Loams, clays & limestone soils. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X				X	Beautiful, fast-growing shade tree. Attractive leaf shape. Bronze autumn color. Deciduous.	Sweet, edible nuts favored by many species of birds & mammals, deer, raccoons, opossums & squirrels. Good nesting and cover tree. Good substrate for insectivorous birds. Larval host plant to Horace's Duskywing.
<i>Quercus shumardii</i> Shumard red oak	Fagaceae - Beech Family	Tree, large 50' - 100'	inconspicuous catkins, m & f, greenish. March - May	Acorns Sept. - Oct., every 2 years	Full sun, part shade	Prefers moist forest & limestone upper woods	Sands, loams & clays. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X			Gorgeous shade tree with beautiful leaves. Red color in autumn. Fast-growing & disease resistant. Deciduous.	Acorns eaten by a number of birds & mammals. Good cover and nesting tree. Good substrate for insectivorous birds. Larval host plant for a few species of Duskywings.
<i>Ulmus americana</i> American elm	Ulmaceae Elm Family	Tree, large 40' - 80'	inconspicuous red to green flowers. Feb. - April	Samara March - June	Full sun, part shade	Prefers rich soils along streams & lowland areas	Sands, loams & clays. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Excellent shade tree turning yellow gold in autumn. Fast growing & handsome shape. Long-lived. Larval host plant to Comma, Question Mark, Mourning Cloak & Painted Lady. Deciduous.	Seeds & buds eaten by gamebirds, woodpeckers, chickadees, robins, vireos, sparrows, orioles & finches. Good cover & nest tree with plenty of insects for insectivorous birds. Deer browse leaves; squirrels, foxes & rabbits eat seeds & buds.
<i>Ulmus crassifolia</i> Cedar elm	Ulmaceae - Elm Family	Tree, large 30' - 60'	inconspicuous greenish flowers. July.-Sept.	Samara Aug. - Oct.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers woodlands, ravines & open slopes	Sands, loams & clays. Seasonal poor drainage O.K.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Good shade tree, each with a unique shape. Fast growing & long lived. Excellent yellow fall color. LHP for Mourning Cloak & Question Mark. Deciduous.	Seeds & buds eaten by gamebirds, woodpeckers, chickadees, finches, sparrows & warblers. Good nesting and cover tree with lots of insects for insectivorous birds. Deer browse leaves; squirrels, foxes & rabbits eat seeds & buds.
<i>Diospyros virginiana</i> Common persimmon	Ebenaceae - Ebony Family	Tree, small 30' - 40'	inconspicuous, m & f greenish yellow flowers on separate tree, fragrant. April - June	Berry (persimmon) August - Feb.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers dryish woods, old fields & clearings, ditch banks in East Texas. Also mud bottomlands.	Sands, loams & clays. Thrives on almost any kind of soil. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X		X	Good understory tree or accent tree with drooping branches & conical crown. Good erosion control plant. Deciduous.	Fruit eaten by 16 species of birds, also by skunks, raccoons, opossums gray & fox squirrels. Leaves browsed by deer.

<i>Cercis canadensis</i> v. <i>canadensis</i> Eastern redbud	Leguminosae - Legume Family	Ornamental tree 10' - 40'	Showy magenta pea-like flowers, before leaves. March	Legumes, brownish-red, in clusters. Sept.	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade	Prefers forested sandy areas, upland woods, woodland edges & and along stream banks in Eastern Texas.	Sands, loams & heavy black clays. Well-drained, mesic. Moderate moisture.	X	X	X									Highly ornamental and showy small tree with spreading, flat or rounded crown. Good understory tree or accent plant. Fast growing, usually with single trunk. Deciduous.	Beautiful magenta flowers are copious early nectar source for butterflies, moths, bees, etc. Seeds are eaten by a number of species of birds; foliage browsed by white-tailed deer. Larval host plant to Henry's Elfin.
<i>Crataegus crusgalli</i> Cockspur hawthorn	Rosaceae - Rose Family	Ornamental tree 10' - 25'	Showy, white perfect flowers. May - June	Pome (apple-like fruit) dull red in color Oct. - Nov.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers limestone bluffs, hilltops, woods & thickets & fence rows in East Texas	Sands, loams & clays. Well-drained, mesic; moderate moisture; will tolerate dry conditions.	X	X	X	X	X							Most widespread hawthorn with strongly horizontal branches, large thorns & beautiful flowers in the spring. Has shiny leathery leaves and reddish-brown fissured bark. Deciduous.	Good protective cover and nesting tree. Flowers provide abundant nectar. Fruits are highly sought after by many species of birds & mammals including skunks, squirrels and fox. Larval host plant for some Hairstreak butterflies.
<i>Crataegus viridis</i> Green hawthorn	Rosaceae - Rose Family	Ornamental tree 20' - 35'	Showy, white perfect flowers. March - April	Pome (apple-like fruit) orange or red in color Sept. - Nov.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers low, wet alluvial woods, also sandy fields in East Texas & Upper Texas Coast.	Sands, loams & clays. Medium to high moisture. Seasonal poor drainage O.K.	X	X	X	X	X	X						Medium-sized tree forming a broad rounded crown, serrated dark green shiny leaves, with bark that shreds into small scales. Often thornless. Deciduous.	Beautiful white flowers with yellow stamens attract bees & butterflies. Red orange haws disappear quickly, highly prized by several species of birds & mammals. Good cover & nesting tree. Larval host plant for some Hairstreaks.
<i>Prunus mexicana</i> Mexican plum	Rosaceae - Rose Family	Ornamental tree 15' - 35'	Showy, white perfect flowers, fragrant. Feb.-April	Plum, red-purple Sept. - Oct.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers river or creek bottoms, hardwood slopes & hillsides, & prairies.	Sands, loams & clays. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X						Medium sized, single-trunked ornamental tree with broad crown and satiny silver bark with dark fissures. Excellent accent plant with heavenly fragrance when in bloom. Deciduous.	Early spring clouds of white flowers are wonderful nectar source, attracting bees, butterflies & diurnal moths. Gamebirds, songbirds & several species of mammals feast on the ripe plums. Larval host plant for Tiger swallowtail.
<i>Prunus munsoniana</i> Munson plum	Rosaceae - Rose Family	Ornamental tree 15' - 25'	Showy, white perfect flowers, fragrant. March	Plum, red or yellow with white dots Sept. - Oct.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers limestone ledges & slopes; also grassy thickets.	Sands, loams & clay (esp. those with high limestone content.). Well-drained, mesic.			X	X	X							Thicket-forming ornamental shrub or small round-topped tree with bright lustrous green leaves and smooth thin bark. Deciduous.	Spring flowers with copious nectar attract butterflies, bees & other insects. Plums are relished by several species of birds and small mammals.

<i>Prunus serotina</i> v. <i>serotina</i> Black cherry	Rosaceae - Rose Family	Ornamental tree 60' - 100'	Showy racemes of white perfect flowers, fragrant. March - April	Cherries, small purple black, sweet or tart. June - Oct.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers eastern woodlands, thickets, fencerows & areas along roadsides.	Sands, loams & clays. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X									Attractive ornamental with decorative flowers, copious fruits, shiny green leaves & grayish brown horizontally striped bark. Easy to grow. Other varieties available for all regions of Texas except South TX. Deciduous.	Copious fruits are eagerly devoured by a wide variety of wildlife including 33 kinds of birds, raccoons, opossums, squirrels & rabbits. Foliage is not browsed by deer. Larval host plant to some Hairstreak species.
<i>Sambucus canadensis</i> American elderberry	Caprifoliaceae Honeysuckle Family	Ornamental shrub or small tree 15' - 30'	Showy white 4-8' flower clusters. June - Sept.	Berries, blue-black Sept. - Nov.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers wet soils in low places esp. along streams & swamp edges.	Sands, loams & gravelly clays. Hydric-mesic. Tolerates poor drainage.	X	X	X	X	X	X						Attractive erect shrub with white flower pompoms which prefers moist conditions in alluvial soils. Has attractive pinnate leaves. It loves extra water and will grow fast if well supplied. Can stand a certain amount of drought, though. Persistent.	Flowers are an excellent source of nectar for bees, butterflies, diurnal moths & other insects. Fruits are eaten by several species of birds, including gamebirds & songbirds. Small mammals also relish the ripe fruit. Leaves are browsed by deer.
<i>Ungnadia speciosa</i> Mexican buckeye	Sapindaceae - Soapberry Family	Ornamental tree or large shrub 15' - 30'	Showy clusters of pink-magenta flowers cloak branches, before leaves come out. Fragrant. March - May	Capsules (tripartite leathery "buckeyes"), brown-black Oct. - Nov.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers rocky areas in canyons, slopes & ridges & along fencerows.	Sands, loams & clays. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	Showy, small, shrubby often multi-trunked ornamental with irregular shape. Spectacular pink blossoms in spring. Good understory tree, prefers at least half a day in sun. Has pretty yellow fall color also. Deciduous.	Splashy pink flowers are a good nectar source for bees, butterflies, diurnal moths. Good honey plant. Sweet seeds eaten by a few species of birds and mammals, though poisonous to humans. Larval host plant for Henry's Elfin.	
<i>Viburnum rufidulum</i> Rusty blackhaw <i>viburnum</i>	Caprifoliaceae - Honeysuckle Family	Ornamental tree or large shrub 20 - 30'	Showy creamy-white clusters of flowers. March - May	Berries, bluish-black (drupes). Sept. - Oct.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers moist soils along streamsides, in open woods & thickets.	Sands, loams & clays, esp. limestone soils. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	Small, single-trunked, ornamental with broad crown. Attractive as understory tree, also beautiful in the open. Leaves very glossy, turning red, mauve or orange in fall. Slow growing, staying shrub size for a long time. Deciduous.	Flowers are good nectar source for bees, butterflies & other insects. Fruits relished by several kinds of birds & small mammals. Robins, cedar waxwings, cardinals, bluebirds & mockingbirds love fruit, as do squirrels, opossum, raccoons & rabbits.	

<i>Juniperus virginiana</i> Eastern red-cedar	Cupressaceae Cypress Family	Conifer 30' - 60'	inconspicuous m catkins, f cones, appearing on separate trees. March - May	Cones, berry-like, bluish, sweet & resinous when ripe Aug. - Dec.	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade	Prefers dry hillsides, old fields, pastures, areas along fence rows.	Sands, loams & clays. Well-drained, mesic. Tolerate dry land.	X	X	X	X			X	X	Evergreen tree of variable shape, with scalelike or appressed leaves. Foliage is dense and aromatic. Often planted as an ornamental. Long-lived and slow-growing. Evergreen.	Dense-foliaged tree is excellent cover and nesting tree. Bluebirds, mockingbirds, robins, cedar waxwings, thrashers, warblers, finches & sparrows relish fruit, esp. in winter. Opossum also eat fruit. Larval host plant to Olive hairstreak.
<i>Taxodium distichum</i> Bald cypress	Taxodiaceae Bald Cypress Family	Conifer 45' - 100'	inconspicuous 5'-long drooping clusters of m cones. F cones at branch tips. March - April	Cones, wrinkled, rounded, 1-inch in diameter. Sept. - Oct.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers moist soils in swamps, river bottoms, forests along streams.	Sands, loams & clays. Hydric - mesic. Seasonal poor drainage O.K.	X	X	X	X	X	X			Large conifer with feathery, deciduous, needle-like leaves. Fast-growing with reliable bronze fall color. Long-lived tree often used as ornamental. Spanish moss (good nesting material) festoons branches. Deciduous.	Excellent cover & nesting tree. Seeds eaten by many different kinds of birds, esp. waterfowl & sandhill cranes. Squirrels, & many other forms of wildlife eat seed cones. Good foraging substrate for insectivorous birds.
<i>Amorpha fruticosa</i> False indigo	Leguminosae - Legume Family	Shrub 5' - 10'	Showy purple flower spikes with yellow anthers. April - May	Pods, clustered, small & brown. July-Aug.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers low areas at the water's edge, along streams.	Sands, loams & clays. Mesic, seasonally poor drainage O.K.	X	X	X	X	X				This moisture loving shrub is notable for its beautiful flowers, attractive leaves & airy form. Relatively fast growing. Deciduous.	Flowers are a good nectar source for bees, butterflies & other insects. Leaves are browsed by deer. Larval host plant for Dogface butterfly, Gray hairstreak, Silver-spotted skipper, Hoary edge skipper.
<i>Callicarpa americana</i> American beautyberry	Verbenaceae - Vervain Family	Shrub 3' - 9'	Small clusters of white or pink flowers at nodes. May - July	Berries, magenta, in clusters at nodes Aug. - Nov.	Part shade, dappled shade.	Prefers moist soils of canyons and bottomlands, woods & thickets.	Sands, loams & clays. Likes rich soils. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X			Open, much branched shrub with showy magenta berries. Has mounding form. Likes to be watered during dry periods. Deciduous.	Fruits are favored by several species of birds, i.e., bobwhite, mockingbirds, cardinals, thrashers, robins, finches & towhees. Raccoons, opossum & gray fox also relish berries.
<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i> Buttonbush	Rubiaceae - Madder Family	Shrub 5' - 20'	Showy, creamy white round heads. June - Sept.	Capsule clusters, round & dark brown Aug. - Nov.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers moist soils near swamps, ponds, along streams & stream margins.	Sands, loams, clays. Likes limestone soils. Mesic/hydric. Moderate to high moisture. Seasonally poor drainage O.K.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Shrub or small tree growing in low areas, often with swollen base. Leaves opposite & whorled. , variously shaped. Bright yellow anthers around white flower balls create a halo effect. Highly ornamental. Suitable for bog or pond area. Deciduous.	Flowers attract hordes of bees, butterflies & other insects. Fruits are highly favored by more than 25 species of birds, including waterfowl, cardinals, finches, sparrows, etc.

<i>Elymus canadensis</i> Canada wildrye	Poaceae Grass Family	Grass 3' - 5'	Flowering spikelets green turning gold, with long awns. March - June	Seeds May - Sept.	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade	Prefers shaded sites along fence rows, woods borders & moist ravines throughout state. Absent in southern part of South TX.	Sands, loams & clays. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	This tufted grass with attractive seed heads does best in shady areas with adequate moisture. Cool-season tufted perennial.	Provides good early food for many species of birds & small mammals that eat grain. Grass parts, leaves, stems, & spikelets used as nesting & denning material. Larval host plant for Zabulon skipper.
<i>Muhlenbergia lindheimeri</i> Big muhly	Poaceae Grass Family	Grass 2' - 5'	Flowering spikelets silvery green to golden tan. July - Aug.	Seeds Sept. - Nov.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers limestone uplands near streams	Calcareous clays & limestone soils. Well-drained, mesic.				X	X	X						This is a highly attractive bunch grass. Serves as a striking accent plant in any garden. Plant sports silvery golden plumes in the fall. Warm-season perennial.	Big muhly is a good forage grass for wildlife. Birds readily eat the ripe seeds. Grass parts are used for nesting & denning material.
<i>Panicum virgatum</i> Switchgrass	Poaceae Grass Family	Grass 3' - 6'	Flowering spikelets green turning rich gold. Aug. - Sept.	Seeds Oct. - Nov.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers seasonally moist, open areas throughout Texas.	Sands, loams & clays. Moist. Seasonal poor drainage O.K.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Gorgeous tall-grass can be used as dramatic accent plant. Turns deep, rich golden color in fall. Has airy, filigreed seedhead. Can also be used in small pocket prairie. Does great in Houston, loves the extra water. Warm-season perennial bunch grass.	Provides fair grazing for wildlife, seeds sought after by seed-eating birds. Excellent sparrow food in winter. Provides good protective cover and nesting & denning material. Good place for butterflies to get out of the wind. LHP for Delaware skipper.
<i>Paspalum floridanum</i> Florida paspalum	Poaceae Grass Family	Grass 3' - 6'	Flowering spikelets green, arranged in two rows. Aug. - Nov.	Seeds Sept. - Dec.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers grasslands, open woodlands & cutover woodlands in eastern Texas.	Sands, loams & clays. Moist. Seasonal poor drainage O.K.	X	X	X	X	X							Perennial with interesting green flower head. Warm-season perennial.	Provides fair forage for wildlife. Parts of plants used for nesting & denning material.
<i>Poa arachnifera</i> Texas bluegrass	Poaceae Grass Family	Grass 1' - 2'	Flowering spikelets bluish-green to mauve. April - May	Seeds May	Full sun, part shade	Grows in prairies and openings of woods	Sands, loams & clays. mesic	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	This is an absolutely beautiful grass, in both color & shape of flower head. Two color forms are blue-green and copper mauve. Cool-season perennial.	Provides fair grazing for wildlife & seeds for sparrows & other granivorous birds & small mammals. Grass parts used as nesting & denning material.
<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i> Indiangrass	Poaceae Grass Family	Grass 3' - 8'	Flowering spikelets a deep yellow. Oct. - Nov.	Seeds Nov. - Dec.	Full sun, some shade O.K.	Prefers moist rich soils of tall-grass prairies of central & coastal TX	Sands, loams & clays. Likes calcareous soils. Mesic, likes moisture.	X	X	X	X	X							This gorgeous grass was major component of tallgrass prairie. Striking accent plant or member of pocket tallgrass prairie. Does well in a naturally moist rich swale area. Warm-season perennial bunch grass. Dormant in winter.	Fairly good grazing for wildlife when green. Seed-eating birds and small mammals eat ripe seeds. Stems, leaves used as nesting & denning material. Provides excellent protective cover for wildlife. Larval host plant of Pepper-and-salt skipper.

<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i> Little bluestem	Poaceae Grass Family	Grass 2' - 5'	Flowering spikelets bluegreen to silvery gold. Aug. - Dec.	Seeds Sept. - Dec.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers woods openings, rocky slopes of pastures & rangeland, along forest borders and prairies throughout Texas.	Sands, loams & clays, Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Wide-ranging bunchgrass, a dominant of the tallgrass prairie. Tolerant of wide variety of moisture & drought. A symphony of beautiful color changes through the year from blue-green to coppery gold in the fall. Warm-season perennial. Dormant in winter.	Provides fairly good grazing for wildlife. Good cover grass, grass parts provide denning & nesting material for birds & mammals. Larval host plant for Dusted skipper, Delaware skipper, Dixie skipper, Cross-line skipper & Cobweb skipper.
<i>Tripsacum dactyloides</i> Eastern gammagrass	Poaceae Grass Family	Grass 3' - 8'	Flowering spikelets yellow & cornlike. July - Sept.	Seeds April - Nov.	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade	Prefers low moist grassland sites in eastern portion of state.	Sands, loams & clays. Mesic, likes extra moisture. Seasonal poor drainage O.K.	X	X	X	X	X	X					Forms very dense clump useful for buffer or areas of separation. Likes more shade & moisture than most grasses. Also dramatic accent plant. Can be grown in pure stands as pasture grass. Warm-season perennial bunch grass.	Good protective cover for small birds & mammals. Grass parts provide nesting & denning material. Provides very good forage for wildlife. Larval host plant to the Bunchgrass skipper.
<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i> Wild columbine	Ranunculaceae Buttercup Family	Wildflower 1' - 3'	Showy red & yellow tubular flowers. March - May	Follicle with seeds May - July	Part shade, dappled shade, full shade	Prefers moist, shaded canyons growing in & around rock of cliff faces & boulders.	Sands & loams; likes limestone based soils. Well drained mesic, likes extra moisture.	X	X	X	X	X						A hill country native that grows well in gardens where the soils are rich in organic matter & well-drained. Likes shade & extra moisture. Perennial.	Wild columbine is a wonderful hummingbird plant. Flowers also attract other varieties of insects.
<i>Aster ericoides</i> Heath aster	Asteraceae Sunflower Family	Wildflower 4" - 30"	Showy pale bluish-white flowers. Oct. - Nov.	Achenes Nov. - Dec	Full sun, part shade	Prefers open situations throughout much of north central & southeast Texas, including the Plains country & parts of East, South & West Texas	Sands, loams & clays. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	This profusely blooming fall aster grows into a much-branched erect or reclining or arching plant. The numerous flowers provide an extravagant fall show. Narrowly lanceolate leaves are attractively elegant. Perennial.	Heath aster provides abundant fall nectar for bees, butterflies & other insects foraging in the late fall. Many seed-eating birds dine on the ripe achenes. Its shrubby aspect provides good cover for small sparrows & finches. LHP of Pearly crescentspot.
<i>Echinacea purpurea</i> Purple coneflower	Asteraceae Sunflower Family	Wildflower 1' - 2'	Showy pink to purple-rose flowers. April - May	Achenes June - Aug.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers rocky open woods & thickets in extreme north east Texas, but grows well in blackland prairie.	Sands, loams & clays. Well-drained, mesic.-xeric.	X	X	X								This showy coneflower has several close relatives that freely hybridize with one another. Colors range from pink to white to a rose-purple. The flower stays attractive for a long time. Perennial.	Purple coneflowers provide copious nectar to bees & butterflies in your garden. Ripe achenes are eaten by small seed-eating birds.

<i>Erythrina herbacea</i> Coralbean	Leguminosae - Legume Family	Wildflower (Shrub in South TX) 6' - 15'	Showy coral red tubular flowers. May - Dec.	Pods with poisonous red seeds Oct. to Dec.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers sandy woods on coastal plain, but will grow elsewhere.	sands, loams & clays. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X									Striking shrubby wildflower dies back in winter like a perennial in all areas but south Texas. Flamboyant summer flowers are highly ornamental. Seeds are also attractive, though extremely poisonous. Perennial.	Elegant tubular flowers have copious nectar & are highly attractive to the Ruby-throated hummingbird. Seeds, though highly appealing visually, are poisonous and not eaten by wildlife.
<i>Eupatorium serotinum</i> Late boneset	Asteraceae - Sunflower Family	Wildflower 2' - 5'	Showy off-white flower heads. Sept. - Nov.	Achenes Nov. - Jan.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers open places, woodland edges, near ponds.	Sands, loams & clays. Mesic, likes moisture.	X	X	X	X	X								This late blooming shrubby wildflower with opposite leaves and much-branched, flat-topped terminal flower clusters, often forms colonies. Perennial.	Masses of off-white flowers is an excellent nectar source for migrating monarch butterflies & other late foraging insects. Plants provide good protection for butterflies on windy days. Many species of sparrows & finches eat the ripe achenes in winter.
<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i> Cardinal flower	Campanulaceae Campanula Family	Wildflower 6" - 6'	Showy red tubular flowers, fragrant. May - Oct.	Capsules with seeds June - Nov.	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade	Prefers moist soils in open places along streams, meadows & along roadsides; also about ponds & springs, & near swamps where the shade is not too dense.	Sands, loams, clays & limestone based soils. Moist soils, poor drainage O.K.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Cardinal flower cannot be equalled for sheer visual impact, planted in dense stands in a shady part of the garden. In peak bloom they create an incredible spectacle. Bright scarlet flowers are clustered on racemes as long as 18". Perennial.	Cardinal flower is a premiere hummingbird plant and will not fail to draw in any Ruby-throats passing through your area.
<i>Malvaviscus drummondii</i> Turk's cap	Malvaceae - Mallow Family	Wildflower, shrub in South TX 4' - 9'	Showy red flowers. May - Nov.	Berry-like fruit, red, flattened August - Sept.	Part shade, dappled shade, shade	Prefers moist woodlands, wood margins, streamsides, river edges in shady conditions. Low grounds.	Sands, loams & clays. Likes limestone soils, tolerates gumbo. Hydric-mesic, likes moisture.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					A good ornamental for shady situations. Forms colonies in shady spots. Serves as good ground cover. Best pruned back after 2 years. Perennial.	Attractive red flowers are very popular with hummingbirds. Butterflies, diurnal moths & other insects are also attracted to the flowers. The bland fruit is eaten by several species of birds & small mammals.
<i>Penstemon cobaea</i> Giant foxglove	Scrophulariaceae Figwort Family	Wildflower 1' - 2 1/2'	Showy large tubular pale violet flowers with nectar guides. April - May	Capsules with seeds June - July	Full sun, part shade	Prefers open areas, meadows, prairies, pastures & roadside areas	Sands, loams, clays & limestone outcrops. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X			X	X	X				Giant foxglove is, as its name implies, our largest-flowered penstemon. In full boom, gorgeous flowers open, covering two thirds of the flower stalk. This is a beautiful choice for a wildflower meadow or pocket prairie. Loves limestone soils. Perennial.	Giant foxglove is highly attractive to bees, especially the larger varieties such as bumblebees and carpenter bees who eagerly forage for the nectar & the pollen. Larval host plant of the Dotted checkerspot.	

<i>Salvia coccinea</i> Scarlet sage	Lamiaceae - Mint Family	Wildflower 2' - 4'	Showy red tubular flowers. May - Dec.	Calyx with nutlets June - Dec.	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade	Prefers sandy soils in thickets, chaparral, on edges of open woods from East to South Texas.	Sands, loams, clays & caliche-type soils. Mesic, seasonal poor drainage O.K.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				Scarlet sage can thrive in any part of the state. It is not very cold-hardy, however. Oddly, it looks better if planted in dry, shady areas with poor soil. In rich soils with lots of water it gets very tall, coarse & slightly unattractive. Perennial.	Scarlet sage is another excellent hummingbird plant & will draw in the hummingbirds of your area, including any migrants passing through in spring & fall. Bees & other insects are also attracted to the nectar, despite the red flower color.
<i>Viguiera dentata</i> Golden-eye	Asteraceae Sunflower Family	Wildflower 3' - 6'	Showy yellow daisy-like flowers. Oct.	Achenes Nov.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers dry caliche soils of the Texas Hill Country & chalky cuestas of North Central Texas, Blackland Prairies & to a less extent in the Trans-Pecos.	Sands, loams, clays & limestone soils. Well-drained, mesic.			X	X	X				X		This open busy perennial thrives at sunny edges of woods & tends to grow in large colonies. Extremely drought-tolerant, it can be absolutely magnificent in full bloom. Perennial.	Golden-eye provides a great deal of nectar to bees & butterflies foraging in the fall. Ripe achenes are relished by several species of small seed-eating birds. Also provides good protective cover. Larval host plant of the Bordered patch butterfly.
<i>Castilleja indivisa</i> Indian paintbrush	Scrophulariaceae Figwort Family	Wildflower 6" - 12"	Showy orange to red bracts. March - May	Capsules with seeds May - July	Full sun, a little shade O.K.	Prefers fields, meadows, prairies & roadside areas in Eastern portion of the state including the Coastal plains	Sands, loams & clays. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				Indian paintbrush is an excellent choice for a pocket prairie or meadow garden. Grows very well when planted with native grasses. Looks great when interspersed among masses of bluebonnets & showy evening primrose. Annual.	Insects of several varieties are attracted to the small flowers. Hummingbirds will also feed from them, attracted to the red-orange bracts that surround them. Larval host plant of the Buckeye.
<i>Chamaecrista fasciculata</i> Partridge pea	Leguminosae Legume Family	Wildflower 6" - 12"	Showy yellow flowers. June - Oct.	Legume with seeds Aug. - Nov.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers sandy soils in old fields, open woodlands & pastures in Eastern half of the state & coastal plains	Sands, loams & clays. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X					Partridge pea offers bright yellow splashes of color from June to October. Flowers open early in the morning, often closing up later in the day. Good border plant. Also does well in unattended natural areas. Annual.	Partridge pea attracts bees, butterflies and ants. Ripe seeds are eaten by a number of species of gamebirds as well as songbirds. Larval host plant for Cloudless giant sulphur, Orange sulphur & Sleepy orange butterflies.

<i>Coreopsis tinctoria</i> Golden wave	Asteraceae Sunflower Family	Wildflower 1' - 4'	Showy yellow daisy-like flowers with brown centers. March - June or later depending on rains	Achenes May - Aug.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers seasonally moist soils in the eastern portion of the state, but grows throughout.	Sands, loams, clays; either calcareous or acid. Mesic, seasonal poor drainage O.K.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			Great profusions of this golden yellow flower blanket roadsides & meadows, like undulating waves of a golden ocean. Annual.	Golden wave attracts a wide variety of insects, especially bees & butterflies who sip nectar from the disk flowers. Ripe achenes are sought after by many species of seed-eating birds, especially the Painted Bunting.
<i>Eustoma grandiflora</i> Texas bluebells	Gentianaceae - Gentian Family	Wildflower 1' - 2'	Showy blue-purple flowers. June - Oct.	Capsule with seeds Aug. - Nov.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers damp prairies, pond edges, open fields & banks along streams throughout much of Texas	Sands, loams & clays. Mesic, seasonal poor drainage O.K.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			Texas Bluebell, otherwise known as Bluebell Gentian is a showy wildflower that responds favorably to good soils, extra water & a little fertilizer. Leaves are pale greenish blue & very attractive also. Annual.	Texas bluebell is very attractive to several kinds of insects, especially bees & butterflies.
<i>Lupinus texensis</i> Texas bluebonnet	Leguminosae Legume Family	Wildflower 8" - 16"	Showy blue and white pea-like flowers in racemes, fragrant. March - May	Legume May - July	Full sun, a little shade O.K.	Prefers open fields, meadows & prairies, also roadside areas throughout much of the state from Corpus Christi to Abilene.	Sands, loams, clays & limestone soils; really likes calcareous soils. Well-drained, mesic to xeric.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			Our state flower, this Texas endemic cloaks meadows, prairies & roadsides come spring in an ocean of blue. An incredible sight that dazzles all newcomers to the state. Bluebonnets take a little work to get established and depend on the fall rains. Annual.	Bluebonnets are attended by bees & other insects who forage on the nectar & pollinate the plants. Plants let the bees know a particular flower has been pollinated by turning from white to dark red at the center of the banner. LHP of hairstreaks & elfins.
<i>Phlox drummondii</i> Drummond phlox	Polemoniaceae Phlox Family	Wildflower 6" - 20"	Showy red or magenta flowers about 1 inch across. March - June	Seeds 1 to several May - Aug.	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade	Prefers grasslands & open meadows & woodlands in neutral to acid soils	Sands, sandy loams, acid to neutral. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X				Drummond phlox has five recognized subspecies, each of which is highly attractive in a garden. The plant is very easy to grow and provides splashes of beautiful red to magenta to pink spring color depending on the subspecies you purchase. Annual.	Drummond phlox attracts myriads of insects in the spring that forage for nectar.
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i> Brown-eyed Susan	Asteraceae Sunflower Family	Wildflower 1' - 2'	Showy yellow ray flowers with dark brown centers, May - Sept.	Achenes July - Nov.	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade	Prefers open prairies, grasslands & woodland meadows in the eastern two-thirds of the state.	Sands, loams & clays. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			Black-eyed Susans provide a lush splash of color in your meadow garden or pocket prairie. It does especially well if the rains are good or with a little extra watering. It will grow well in both partially shady areas & the sun. Annual.	Bees, butterflies & many other kinds of insects forage for nectar from these flowers all summer. In the fall when the flowers have good to seed, numerous seed-eating birds forage on the ripe achenes.

