

Asclepias tuberosa
Butterfly Milkweed



Characteristics: Persistent, herbaceous perennial

Appearance:

Height – 1-2 ft.

Flower Color – Orange

Flowering Period – July to August

Habitat (Community): Milkweeds grow in clumps beside roadways, on abandoned farmlands, and in other open areas throughout the United States. Butterfly milkweed grows on sandy, loamy, or rocky limestone soils of prairies, open woodlands, roadsides, and disturbed areas similar to other milkweed species.

Hydrology:

Indicator Status – Upland

Shade Tolerance – Intolerant

Wildlife Benefits: Cover and food (seeds or rhizomes) Milkweed species are attractive to many insect species, including the large milkweed bug, common milkweed bug, red milkweed beetle, blue milkweed beetle, and bees. Accordingly, this is a wonderful horticultural plant for landscaping to attract butterflies (particularly monarchs), whose numbers are declining and migratory routes changing due to lack of appropriate habitat.

Distribution: Northeast west to California and South Dakota