

Appendix V

Gulf Coastal Prairies and Marshes including the Coastal Bend

Following the lip of the Texas coast, and extending inland about 60 miles, are the Gulf Coastal Prairies and Marshes. This 9,500,000-acre swath of land traces a broad arc along the coast from the Sabine River to Baffin Bay. Elevations range from near sea level to almost 150 feet, while annual average temperatures range from 74° F to 70° F. Soils of the marshy areas include acid sands, sandy loams and clay. Soils of the Gulf Prairies contain more clay than the marsh areas and are very rich in nutrients (Simpson, 1988). The character of the coastline is shaped by the long and continuous confrontation with the sea, wind, and rain. Storms shape this place as a sculptor works clay, creating here and inland, a tapestry of shallow bays, estuaries, salt marshes, dunes and tidal flats. Because of the proximity to the Gulf of Mexico, many plants are highly salt tolerant or halophytic. The Coastal Bend begins at mid-coast near Corpus Christi where the shoreline is edged by Mustang and Padre Islands, described as part of the longest chain of barrier islands in the world. Here, Island dunes are dappled with sea oats, glasswort, beach evening primrose and railroad vine, hardy colonizers of the shifting beach-head sands. Sandy soils of the Coastal Bend also support distinctive chenier woodlands of scrub oaks, yaupon, red-bay, and wax-myrtle. Tallgrass and midgrass prairies, as well as spartina marshes, make up a major portion of the coastal vegetation. Much of the upland areas are dissected with numerous sluggish rivers, bayous, creeks, and sloughs. Between the rivers, extensive open prairies are dominated by little bluestem, Indiangrass and various sedges. At one time, the coastal river bottoms of this area were clothed in woodlands of sugarberry, pecan, elms and coastal live oaks. Few such areas remain today, as most of these prairies are farmed, or absorbed into urban areas. Much of the remaining native sod of the Coastal Prairies has been invaded by exotics such as MaCartney rose and Chinese tallow or native woody species including mesquite, prickly-pear, acacias and scrub oaks (Gould, 1975). Today rich coastal prairie soils are grazed for cattle production or farmed in rice, corn, grain sorghum, and cotton, while the northeastern end of this region is intensively devoted to the oil and petrochemical industries (Winckler, 1982).

Coastal areas are rich in wildlife. Where treeless earth meets endless sky, coastal marshes harbor hundreds of thousands of wintering geese and ducks and provide critical landfall in the spring for neotropical migratory birds. The area is home to important wildlife sanctuaries and refuges -- notably those protecting the endangered Attwater's Prairie-Chicken and the Whooping Crane. In the fall, coastal dunes serve as sentry roosts for northward-bound migrating peregrine falcons, while at any season there are lone willets, mini battalions of sanderlings, and congregations of gulls, terns and black skimmers feeding or loafing near the surf.

TEXAS WILDSCAPES NATIVE PLANT TABLES
BIBLIOGRAPHY - GULF COAST PRAIRIES & MARSHES

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Wildscapes Plant List -- Gulf Prairies and Marshes

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>Acer rubrum</i> v. <i>drummondii</i> Drummond red maple	Aceraceae Maple Family	Tree, large 90' - 100'	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 Texas also Upper Texas Coast.	Sands, loams, and clays. Likes acid soils, but tolerates gumbo 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>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 ovata</i> Shagbark hickory	Juglandaceae Walnut Family	Tree, large 60' - 100'	inconspicuous green m catkins & f spikes on same trees March - June	Hickory, Sept.-Oct.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers rich woodlands, bottoms & slopes, often near streams & swamps	Sands, loams & clays. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X												Tall shade tree with oblong crown & shaggy bark. Slow-growing, but long-lived. Leaves are compound with serrated edges. Next to pecan, this tree has tastiest nuts. Very shade-tolerant when young. Sometimes subject to insect damage. Deciduous.	Game birds such as turkey, bobwhite quail love the nuts as do many kinds of mammals. Several other birds, i.e., jays, woodpeckers & doves will eat the nuts too. Good cover & nesting tree. Good substrate for insectivorous birds.

<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>Fagus grandifolia</i> American beech	Fagaceae - Beech Family	Tree, large 80' - 100'	inconspicuous m & f flowers on same tree April - May	Nut, Sept.-Nov.	Full sun, part shade	Grows in deep, rich, fertile soils along streams & woodlands of Piney woods region.	Sandy loams, alluvial soils. Well-drained, mesic.	X										Handsome shade tree with beautiful shiny green leaves and smooth gray bark. Leaves turn copper gold in the fall. Deciduous.	Excellent cover & nesting tree. Prickly burrs contain sweet nuts relished by several kinds of game & songbirds, i.e. woodpeckers, titmice, nuthatches, jays & sparrows. Also eaten by raccoon, beaver, opossum & fox. Deer eat nuts & browse leaves.
<i>Fraxinus americana</i> White ash	Oleaceae - Olive Family	Tree, large 60' - 70'	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>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				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>Liquidamber styraciflua</i> Sweetgum	Hamamelidaceae Witch hazel Family	Tree, large 60' - 100'	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, juncoes, sparrows, towhees, chickadees, titmice & siskins.
<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i> Black gum	Nyssaceae - Tupelo Family	Tree, large 80' - 100'	inconspicuous m & f greenish flowers, sometimes on same or different trees. April - June	Drupes, blue-black, Sept.-Oct.	Full sun, part shade	Rich bottomland soils in East TX. Piney Woods, along streams and creek bottoms, or moist open woods in sandy soils.	Sands, sandy loams, and clays. Likes acid soils. Mesic-hydric. Likes moisture. Poor drainage O.K.	X	X	X											Tall shade tree with short, crooked branches & narrow, flat-topped crown. Has gorgeous, early red fall color. Does well in gumbo. Good tree for Houston area. Deciduous.	Dark fruits provide an early source of food for a variety of birds & mammals. Favored by bluebirds, catbirds, mockingbirds, robins, summer tanagers & finches. Good substrate for insectivorous birds. Foliage browsed by deer. Bees attracted to flowers.
<i>Quercus falcata</i> Southern red oak	Fagaceae - Beech Family	Tree, large 60' - 70'	inconspicuous m & f downy catkins, on the same tree March - May	Acorns, rounded with shallow cup, ripening every fall, Sept.-Oct.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers upland sites in the forests of East Texas.	Sands, to sandy loams. Likes acid soils. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X											Large shade tree with open, round-topped crown & stout branches. Deeply lobed leaves are attractive & produce showy red autumn color. Fast growing & long-lived. Does not like clay soils. Deciduous.	Small acorns are eaten by several species of birds, woodpeckers, jays, game birds, etc. Deer, fox & squirrels also relish them. Good cover & nesting tree & good substrate for insectivorous birds. LHP of Banded hairstreak & White M hairstreak.
<i>Quercus michauxii</i> Swamp chestnut oak	Fagaceae - Beech Family	Tree, large 60' - 80'	inconspicuous greenish m & f catkins April - May	Acorns, Sept.-Oct.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers moist woods associated with major rivers & streams in East Texas.	Sands, loams & clays; likes acid soils. Mesic-hydric.	X	X												Attractive shade tree with simple shallowly toothed leaves, woolly on the bottom. This long-lived tree prefers moist soils. Grows well in Houston; tolerates gumbo soils. Deciduous.	Acorns are sought after by many species of wildlife esp. wild turkey, quail, mourning dove, woodpeckers & jays. Good cover & nesting tree & good substrate for insectivorous birds. LHP of Juvenal's & Horace's duskywing, Northern & White M hairstreaks.

<i>Aralia spinosa</i> Devil's walking-stick	Araliaceae - Ginseng Family	Tree, small 12' - 30'	Showy, large 1-foot clusters of small yellowish white flowers July.- Aug.	Drupes, wine-red to black & juicy with a single seed, Sept.-Oct	Part shade, dappled shade, shade	Prefers rich moist soils along streams, woods & thickets, moist bottomlands of East Texas and Upper Texas Coast. Grows in Houston.	Sandy loams, loams. Mesic, likes moist soils.	X	X											Highly unusual understory tree with incredible twice pinnate leaves up to 4-feet long. Leaf stalks armed with small spines. Gorgeous bronze red & yellow fall color. Fast-growing, but rather short lived. Ornamental possibilities. Bizarre. Deciduous.	Flowers attract many insects, bees & butterflies, etc. Fruits are relished by many species of birds 7 the leaves are browsed by deer. Definitely a conversation piece.
<i>Asimina triloba</i> Common paw paw	Annonaceae - Custard Apple Family	Tree, small 20' - 30'	Exotic maroon fleshy flowers April - May	Paw paw, Sept.-Oct	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade	Prefers deep rich soils of bottomlands & creek valleys in deep East & northeast Texas.	Sands, sandy loams, loams & clays. Mesic-hydric soils; prefers moist situations.	X	X	X										Tropical-looking understory tree with large aromatic leaves. Leaves turn rich butter yellow in the fall. Prefers moist situations protected from the wind. Deciduous.	The luscious fruit is eaten by several kinds of wildlife, both birds & mammals. Fruits rarely stay on the tree long enough to get ripe. Larval host plant of the Zebra swallowtail.
<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i> American hornbeam (Blue beech)	Betulaceae - Birch Family	Tree, small 15' - 30'	inconspicuous m & female catkins on same tree March - May	Nutlets, in clusters, Sept.-Oct	Part shade, dappled shade, shade	Prefers rich bottomlands, often along steams in moist woods.	Sands, loams & clays. Well-drained, mesic-hydric soils.	X	X	X										Airy, graceful understory tree with simple, alternate leaves & jaunty fruits. Notable for its beautiful trunk which is smooth & sinewy. Very shade tolerant. Though it likes moisture, it doesn't tolerate flooding. Slow-growing & short-lived. Deciduous.	Nutlets are eaten by squirrels & other small mammals. Birds such as cardinals & finches also savor them. Larval host plant of Striped hairstreak, Red-spotted purple & Tiger swallowtail.
<i>Cyrilla racemiflora</i> Titi	Cyrillaceae Cyrilla Family	Tree, small 10' - 30'	Showy racemes of yellowish white flowers, fragrant. May	Capsules, egg-shaped with one to several small hard seeds August - Sept.	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade	Prefers wetland areas, swamps & bottomlands of Piney Woods & Gulf Coast Prairies & Marshes. Also occurs on sandy ridges.	Sands, sandy loams, loams, acid soils preferred. Tolerates gumbo. Hydric, poor drainage O.K.	X	X											Highly attractive almost evergreen tree which can form thickets. Great around shallow ponds & bog areas. Smooth cinnamon colored trunk with interesting flowers. Leaves reddish yellow in the fall. Persistent to evergreen.	Bees are highly attracted to the fragrant flowers. Fruits turn a mellow yellowish brown when ripe & seeds are eaten by small mammals & a few species of birds.
<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>Ilex vomitoria</i> Yaupon	Aquifoliaceae Holly Family	Tree, small 15' - 25'	inconspicuous m & f creamy white flowers on separate trees. April	Drupes, (berry-like fruits) red on f tree Sept. - Dec.	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade, shade	Prefers low woods, hammocks & sandy pinelands along streams, East Texas Piney Woods, Gulf Coast, eastern Edwards Plateau and Oak Woods & Prairies.	Sands, loams & clays. Well- drained, mesic. Seasonal poor drainage O.K.	X	X	X				X	X						Good understory tree or accent tree with a "branchy" appearance. Female trees have red berries held over winter, very ornamental. Shiny dark evergreen leaves attractive. Adaptable, grows in sun or shade, dry or moist soils of various types. Evergreen.	Fruits are eaten by several species of birds, bobwhite, doves, robins, cedar waxwings, bluebirds, jays & mockingbirds. Squirrels, opossum, rabbits & fox eat berries too. Flower nectar & pollen attract many insects. Good nest tree. LHP of Henry's Elfin.
<i>Morus rubra</i> Red mulberry	Moraceae Fig Family	Tree, small 35' - 40'	inconspicuous m & f greenish flowers March - June	Mulberry (syncarp of aggregated red-black drupelets) April - Aug.	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade	Prefers rich soils along streams, creek bottoms & moist woodlands	Sands, loams & clays. Well- drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Handsome understory tree with polymorphic leaves, reddish black fruit and broad spreading crown. Deciduous.	Red mulberries are the prime source of spring fruit for neotropical migrant birds. 21 species devour them as soon as they ripen as do squirrels, raccoons, opossums & skunks. Larval host plant for Mourning Cloak.
<i>Myrica cerifera</i> Wax myrtle	Myricaceae - Wax myrtle Family	Tree, small 6' - 12'	inconspicuous whitish flowers March - April	Berries, globose, waxy Nov. - Dec.	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade	Prefers moist or dry soils of piney woods & hardwoods. Woodlands & grasslands in East Texas, Gulf Coast Prairies & Marshes.	Sands, loams & clays. Mesic, poor drainage O.K. can tolerate drier substrate.	X	X	X											Softly shaped, low- growing evergreen shrub or small tree. Is fast growing & has aromatic leaves & distinctive waxy pale bluish berries. If left unpruned, it is naturally shrubby looking. Tolerates poor drainage. Evergreen.	Dense growth provides excellent cover & nesting sites. Over 40 species of birds eat the waxy berries, cedar waxwings, robins, cardinals, mockingbirds, warblers, towhees, & sparrows. Eaten by bobwhite, quail & turkey, too. LHP for Red-banded hairstreak.
<i>Prunus caroliniana</i> Cherry-laurel	Rosaceae - Rose Family	Tree, small 20' - 30'	Showy creamy white elongated spike-like racemes March - April	Berries, blue-black August - Sept.	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade	Prefers well- drained, deep moist bottomland soils in fields, woodlands & creek bottoms.	Sands, loams & clay loams. Well- drained, mesic.	X	X												Attractive tree with shiny green simple evergreen leaves with finely serrated edges. Fast- growing, but somewhat short-lived; is easy to train into a hedge or can grow to handsome shade tree. Evergreen.	Good nectar plant for bees & other insects in the spring. Birds love the black berries which persist throughout the winter. Sometimes the berries ferment making robins, cedar waxwings tipsy. Larval host plant for a few species of butterflies.

<i>Rhamnus caroliniana</i> Carolina buckthorn	Rhamnaceae - Buckthorn Family	Tree, small 12' - 20'	inconspicuous, small greenish-yellow flowers May - June	Drupes, reddish brown August - 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							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	Tree, small 15' - 25'	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>Vaccinium arboreum</i> Farkleberry	Ericaceae - Heath Family	Tree, small 15' - 30'	small drooping, run-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>Aesculus pavia</i> Red buckeye	Hippocastanaceae Horse chestnut Family	Tree, ornamental 10' - 35'	Showy red/yellow tubular flowers in clusters. March	Capsule, round & leathery Sept.	Part shade, dappled shade, shade	Prefers moist soils in forests, along streams, thickets & rocky hills	Sands, loams & clays. Well-drained, mesic. Moderate moisture.	X	X	X	X			X	X					Showy small tree or shrub with rounded crown, distinctive flower clusters and attractive palmate leaves. Blooms very early; loses leaves early. Good understory tree. Deciduous, early.	The scarlet tubular flowers are visited by hummingbirds. Butterflies are also attracted to the nectar. Seeds are poisonous, however, and not eaten by wildlife.
<i>Cercis canadensis</i> <i>v.</i> <i>canadensis</i> Eastern redbud	Leguminosae - Legume Family	Tree, ornamental 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	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>Chionanthus virginica</i> Fringe Tree	Oleaceae - Olive Family	Tree, ornamental 15' - 20'	Showy white flowers in loose hanging clusters with subtle fragrance. April	Drupes, dark blue, in grape-like clusters August - Sept.	Full sun, partial shade, dappled shade	Prefers moist woods & thickets throughout Piney Woods of East Texas west to Brazos County.	Sands, loams & clays, prefers acid soils. Well- drained, mesic.	X	X												Highly ornamental tree which is breathtaking when in bloom. Males plants have more spectacular flowers. Leaves are dark green & glossy and turn yellow in the autumn. Deciduous.	Flowers are excellent nectar source for butterflies, moths, & bees. Fruit is relished by many species of birds including woodpeckers, bluejays, mockingbirds and cardinals.
<i>Cornus florida</i> Flowering dogwood	Cornaceae - Dogwood Family	Tree, ornamental 25' - 40'	Showy white flowers (bracts) March - May	Berries, red August - 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												Medium-sized tree with graceful horizontal branches turning up at the tip. 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	Tree, ornamental 10' - 25'	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 viridis</i> Green hawthorn	Rosaceae - Rose Family	Tree, ornamental 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>Ilex opaca</i> American holly	Aquifoliaceae Holly Family	Tree, ornamental 15' - 25'	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., Gulf Coast Prairies, Oak Woodlands & Prairies.	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: robins, cedar waxwings, thrashers, towhees, etc. Small mammals also eat berries as winter food. LHP for Henry's Elf.
<i>Ilex verticillata</i> Common winterberry	Aquifoliaceae Holly Family	Tree, ornamental 15' - 25'	inconspicuous m & f greenish flowers on separate trees April - June	Berries, red on f tree, persist through winter Sept. - Oct. ripens.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers wet woods; hammocks along streams, swamps, pond margins, river banks. Found in East Texas, & Upper Texas Coast.	Sandy loams & clays. Mesic-hydric, seasonal poor drainage O.K.	X	X												This ornamental holly is most beautiful early Nov. on through the winter when bright red berries cover the limbs, hence its name. Tolerates wet soils. Grows in gumbo; good for Houston. Deciduous.	Excellent cover and nesting tree. Flowers attract several kinds of insects. Red berries are relished by several species of birds. Good food source for them in the winter. Larval host plant for Henry's Elf.
<i>Magnolia virginiana</i> Sweet bay	Magnoliaceae Magnolia Family	Tree, ornamental 20' - 50'	Showy white flowers, fragrant April - July	Capsules, reddish, woody & cone-like with bright red flattened seeds August - Sept.	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade	Prefers moist soils of swaps & baygall woodlands.	Sands, sandy loams & loams, acid soils preferred. Mesic-hydric, poor drainage O.K.	X	X												Semi-evergreen ornamental tree with leaves bright & glossy green on top & silky white underneath. Beautiful, fragrant flowers very showy. Other plantings can grow underneath. Tolerates Houston gumbo. Persistent to almost evergreen.	Moths & beetles are attracted to the lemon-scented flowers.
<i>Prunus caroliniana</i> Cherry-laurel	Rosaceae - Rose Family	Tree, ornamental 20' - 30'	Showy creamy white elongated spike-like racemes March - April	Berries, blue-black August - Sept.	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade	Prefers well-drained, deep moist bottomland soils in fields, woodlands & creek bottoms.	Sands, loams & clay loams. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X												Attractive tree with shiny green simple evergreen leaves with finely serrated edges. Fast-growing, but somewhat short-lived; is easy to train into a hedge or can grow to handsome shade tree. Evergreen.	Good nectar plant for bees & other insects in the spring. Birds love the black berries which persist throughout the winter. Sometimes the berries ferment making robins, cedar waxwings tipsy. Larval host plant for a few species of butterflies.

<i>Prunus mexicana</i> Mexican plum	Rosaceae - Rose Family	Tree, ornamental 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>Pyrus arbutifolia</i> Red chokecherry	Rosaceae - Rose Family	Tree, ornamental, small 8' - 12'	Showy, white to pink flowers March - May	Pome, Sept.-Oct	Full sun, part shade	Prefers wet woods & swamps of East Texas, Upper Texas Coast.	Sands, loams & clays. Mesic-hydric, seasonal poor drainage O.K.	X	X								Ornamental shrub to small tree with good fall color, turning bright red. Flowers are also quite showy in the spring. Deciduous.	The fruit is a highly valuable wildlife food in the fall & winter & is eaten by at least 13 species of birds including quail, pheasant, turkey, robins & cedar waxwings. Beautiful flowers attract several varieties of insects: bees, butterflies & moths.
<i>Styrax americana</i> Big-leaf snowbell	Styracaceae - Styrax Family	Tree, ornamental 12' - 15'	Showy, elegantly shaped white flowers May - June	Drupes, round & pea-sized, Sept.-Oct	Part shade, dappled shade	Prefers moist soils of the Big Thicket, in moist woods & river bottoms.	Sands, sandy loams, prefers acid soils. Mesic-hydric, poor drainage O.K.	X									Beautiful small white flowering ornamental tree, similar to Two-winged Silver-bell. Does well in Houston. Deciduous.	White flowers attract many kinds of insects, especially bees & butterflies. Fruit is especially favored by the wood duck. Also eaten by other species of birds.
<i>Symplocos tinctoria</i> Sweetleaf	Symplocaceae - Sweetleaf Family	Tree, ornamental 30' - 50'	Showy clusters of yellow flowers, fragrant Feb. to May	Drupes, blue-gray to orange brown, Sept.-Oct	Full sun, part shade	Prefers low moist grounds of river bottoms & bay flats.	Sands & sandy loams, acid soils preferred. Mesic-hydric, poor drainage O.K.	X	X								Semi-evergreen small tree with slender upright branches & beautiful bright yellow flower clusters. Leaves are thick, leathery & lustrous. Persistent to evergreen.	Flowers attract many different kinds of insects. The leaves are sweet & greedily eaten by several herbivorous species of wildlife. Seeds from the fruit are eaten by Eastern phoebe & many other species of birds. Larval host plant of King's hairstreak.
<i>Viburnum rufidulum</i> Rusty black-haw viburnum	Caprifoliaceae - Honeysuckle Family	Tree, ornamental, also a 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 streambanks, 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 silicicola</i> Southern red-cedar	Cupressaceae Cypress Family	Conifer 20' - 30'	inconspicuous m & f cones March - May	Cones, berry-like, bluish, small Aug. - Dec.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers areas near water with shallow water table, mostly near the coast.	Clays, acidic soils preferred. Mesic, seasonal poor drainage O.K.	X											Small evergreen tree with slender pendulous branches & usually single trunk. Fairly handsome with ornamental qualities, having scalelike or appressed leaves. Foliage is dense, cones are small & berry-like. Evergreen.	Dense-foliaged tree is excellent cover and nesting tree. Bluebirds, mockingbirds, robins, cedar waxwings, thrashers, warblers, finches & sparrows relish fruit, esp. in winter. Small mammals also eat fruit. LHP of Olive hairstreak.
<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. Tolerates 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 echinata</i> Short-leaf pine	Pinaceae - Pine Family	Conifer 80' - 100'	inconspicuous, m & f cones Feb. to March	Cones, mature in fall, persist on branches, Sept.-Oct	Full sun, intolerant of shade	Prefers well- drained slopes, hills & flat woodlands, old fields & upland woods in East Texas	Sands, loams, clays. Tolerates a variety of soils, but prefers acid. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X										Small-coned pine, relatively fast growing, makes a good ornamental. Will reliably sprout from the base. 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 Elfin.
<i>Pinus taeda</i> Loblolly pine	Pinaceae - Pine Family	Conifer 60' - 100'	inconspicuous, m & f cones Feb. to 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. 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 Elfin.

<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. 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	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, seasonal 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 beauty-berry	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>Castanea pumila</i> Allegheny chinquapin	Fagaceae - Beech Family	Shrub, large 15' - 30'	Showy white m catkins in clusters, f flowers inconspicuous on same tree, fragrant March - June	Spike-like burs with nuts August - Sept.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers open woodlands & thickets in East Texas & Upper Texas Coast. Occurs on dryish, upland sandy soils.	Sands, sandy loams. Well-drained, mesic-xeric.	X	X												A large deciduous spreading shrub or small tree with simple, shiny green leaves with white hairy underside. Leaves are attractively scalloped on edges. Bark in distinctively furrowed. Mildly resistant to Chestnut blight. Deciduous.	Fragrant flowers attract a wide variety of insects. Catkins are also eaten by birds. Nuts are delicious & sweet & highly sought after by several species of gamebirds, woodpeckers & jays, as well as small mammals.
<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	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>Euonymus americanus</i> Strawberry Bush	Celastraceae Strawberry Bush Family	Shrub 4' - 6'	Small greenish purple flowers May - June	Capsule containing red fruits Sept. - Nov.	Part shade, dappled shade, shade	Prefers muddy moist soils along streams & woods.	Sands, sandy loams, clays & gumbos. Mesic-hydric, likes moisture. Poor drainage, O.K.	X	X											Airy understory shrub with bright red fruits held for a long time through the fall. It prefers the shade and tolerates poor drainage. Drier areas are O.K., if it stays in the shade. Good for Houston. Deciduous.	Several species of birds favor the red fruits, including Eastern bluebirds, mockingbirds, thrashers, sparrows & warblers. Small terrestrial mammals such as rabbits, squirrels & raccoons also enjoy eating the fruit.
<i>Itea virginica</i> Virginia sweetspire	Saxifragaceae Saxifrage Family	Shrub 4' - 6'	Showy white flowers in terminal raceme April - June	Capsule, two-parted with dark brown seeds, Sept.-Oct	Part shade, dappled shade	Prefers rich soils along swamps & streamsides.	Sands, loams, & clays, acid soils preferred. Hydric, poor drainage O.K.	X	X											Attractive understory shrub that does well in moist situations. Excellent erosion control. Flowers are showy, drooping white spires, & the leaves turn bright red in the fall. It is tolerant of poor drainage. Need lots of water in the summer. Deciduous.	The flowers are an excellent nectar source for various kinds of insects. Shrub provides good cover for small animals.
<i>Lantana horrida</i> Lantana	Verbenaceae Vervain Family	Shrub 3' - 6'	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 to 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>Leucothoe racemosa</i> Sweetbells Leucothoe (Fetter-bush)	Ericaceae Heath Family	Shrub 3' - 12'	Showy racemes of pinkish urn-shaped flowers, all facing downward April - June	Capsules with wingless seeds August - Sept.	Full sun	Prefers moist thickets & swamp forests, sunny lakeshores in East Texas, Upper Texas Coast.	Sands, sandy loams, loams & clays, acid soils preferred. Mesic-hydric.	X	X											Widely branching, erect shrub with racemes of pinkish white urn-shaped flowers. Leaves are simple, elliptic with finely toothed margins. Good understory tree for low woods & acid swamps. Quite ornamental. Persistent.	This attractive shrub is NOT browsed by white-tailed deer.

<i>Myrica cerifera</i> Wax myrtle	Myricaceae - Wax myrtle Family	Shrub 6' - 12'	inconspic- uous whitish flowers March - April	Berries, globose, waxy Nov. - Dec.	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade	Prefers moist or dry soils of piney woods & hardwoods. Woodlands & grasslands in East Texas.	Sands, loams & clays. Mesic, poor drainage O.K. can tolerate drier substrate.	X	X	X																						Softly shaped, low- growing evergreen shrub. Is fast growing & has aromatic leaves & distinctive waxy pale bluish berries. If left unpruned, it is naturally shrubby looking. Tolerates poor drainage. Evergreen.	Dense growth provides excellent cover & nesting sites. Over 40 species of birds eat the waxy berries, cedar waxwings, robins, cardinals, mockingbirds, warblers, towhees, & sparrows. Eaten by bobwhite, quail & turkey, too. LHP for Red-banded hairstreak.
<i>Sabal minor</i> Dwarf palmetto	Palmae Palm Family	Shrub 3' - 5'	Small, whitish flowers with yellow anthers on stalk (Spadix) May - June	Drupes, black, in drooping clusters, Sept.-Oct	Full sun, part sun, dappled shade, shade	Prefers lowland swamps, river terraces & floodplains.	Sands, loams & clays. Mesic- hydric, poor drainage O.K.	X	X	X											X											Highly dramatic accent plant for shady, moist location. Fairly drought resistant once it is established. Evergreen.	Excellent cover & nesting plant for small birds. Affords protection all year round. Flowers significant source of honey. Fruits eaten by several species of birds & small mammals.
<i>Sambucus canadensis</i> American elderberry	Caprifoliacea e Honeysuckle Family	Shrub 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. Mesic-hydric, poor drainage O.K.	X	X	X	X	X									X											Attractive erect shrub or small tree with white flower pompoms, preferring moist conditions in alluvial soils. Attractive pinnate leaves. It loves extra water & will grow fast if well supplied. Rather drought-tolerant. Ornamental qualities. 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>Symphoricar pus orbiculata</i> Coral-berry	Caprifoliacea e Honeysuckle Family	Shrub 1.5' - 6'	Showy, many- flowered greenish- white or pink, in terminal spikes June - Aug.	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									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>Viburnum acerifolium</i> Maple-leaf viburnum (Arrow- wood)	Caprifoliacea e Honeysuckle Family	Shrub 2' - 6'	Showy small white flowers in flattened cymes. April - May	Drupes, red to purplish black, persistent Aug. - Oct.	Part shade, dappled shade	Prefers moist woods & thickets of East Texas	Sands, loams & clays. Likes acid soils. Well- drained, mesic.	X		X																						Thicket-forming shrubs with erect or ascending branches and attractive maple-like leaves. Quite ornamental with attractive flowers & fruits. Has excellent fall color of crimson to dark purple. Deciduous.	Flowers are popular with nectar-loving insects such as bees & butterflies. Fruits are relished by several species of birds. Foliage is browsed by white-tailed deer.

<i>Yucca treculeana</i> Spanish dagger	Agavaceae - Agave Family	Succulent 5' - 15'	Showy, white & waxy flowers on tall flower stalk, fragrant at night Feb.-April	Capsules, Sept.-Oct	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade	Prefers tall chaparral or brushland	Sands, loams, & clays. Well-drained, mesic.	X						X	X					Dramatic accent plant with lush tropical-looking flowers. Hard to transplant old ones. Evergreen.	Moths pollinate fragrant white flowers by night. Good nesting shrub, well- protected. Flowers eaten by many specie of mammals. Larval host plant for Strecker's giant skipper, Ursine giant skipper & Yucca giant skipper.
<i>Aristolochia tomentosa</i> Pipevine	Aristolochiaceae Pipevine Family	Vine, weak climber	Showy, purple & yellow, amazingly shaped flower April - June	Capsules with many seeds Aug.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers moist bottomland woods, also along rivers	Sandy loams, loams & clays. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X									Vine with very unusual flower with ascending spreading habit. Plant is good ground cover. Deciduous.	The leaves and stems of this vine are used as a larval host plant for the Pipevine swallowtail.
<i>Bignonia capreolata</i> Cross-vine	Bignoniaceae Catalpa Family	Vine, climber to 50'	Showy, tubular flowers, red on outside, yellow on inside March - April	Capsule with winged seeds August - Sept.	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade, shade	Prefers cool moist soils of woodlands, pinelands, also creek bottoms.	Sands, loams & clays. Moderate to high moisture. Seasonal poor drainage O.K.	X	X	X	X									Beautiful flowering vine clinging to bricks, stones & fences as well as other shrubs & trees. Profuse flowers when in bloom. Tolerates pollution well. Persistent.	Striking orange & yellow tubular flowers are highly attractive to butterflies and especially the Ruby- throated hummingbird. Bloom time coincides with migration when other sources of nectar are scarce, helping this little mite on the way.
<i>Campsis radicans</i> Trumpet- creeper	Bignoniaceae Catalpa Family	Vine, climber "to the sky"	Showy orange tubular flowers in dense clusters June - Sept.	Capsule with winged seeds Sept. - Nov.	Full sun, part shade	Tolerates a variety of soils throughout Eastern half of Texas	Sands, loams & clays. Mesic; moderate moisture; poor drainage O.K.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						Striking vine adapted to nearly every soil type. Excellent for hiding ugly structures. Sometimes can do too well & needs to be cut back. Persistent.	This is premier plant to attract hummingbirds. Both Ruby-throat and Black-chinned hummers are highly fond of it. Copious nectar sustains these beauties. The plant is also an excellent nectar source for the larger butterflies.
<i>Clematis crispa</i> Blue jasmine	Ranunculaceae Buttercup Family	Vine, climber to 10'	Showy lavender bell-shaped flowers with flared edges March - June	Achenes August - Sept.	Part shade, dappled shade	Prefers moist soils in low woods.	Sands, loams & clays. Will tolerate gumbo. Mesic-hydric, poor drainage O.K.	X	X	X	X									Very elegant flowers. Works well on a lattice but does not climb high. Can sprawl over low structures such as planter boxes or patio pots. Deciduous.	Lavender blue flowers attract many kinds of insects including butterflies. Several species of birds eat the ripe achenes.

<i>Cocculus carolinus</i> Carolina moonseed	Menespermaeae Moonseed Family	Vine, climber to 15'	inconspicuous 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>Gelsemium sempervirens</i> Carolina jessamine	Loganaceae Logania Family	Vine, climber to 50'	Showy yellow tubular flowers in clusters, fragrant January - April	Capsule, flattened, elliptic with numerous dull brown narrowly winged seeds, Sept.-Oct.	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade	Prefers woodlands in East Texas.	Sands, sandy loams, loams, clays. Mesic.	X	X	X							Highly ornamental climbing vine with opposite leaves and gorgeous yellow flowers. Sometimes forms rich carpets on the ground. Parts of this plant are poisonous. Often planted in areas where it is not native. Used as a screen or to cover walls. Evergreen.	Cascades of yellow flowers attract myriads of insects. Provides good cover and hiding places for small birds. Seeds are eaten by the bobwhite quail and leaves are eaten by the marsh rabbit.
<i>Lonicera sempervirens</i> Coral honeysuckle	Caprifoliaceae Honeysuckle Family	Vine, climber to 40'	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, poor drainage O.K.	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>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i> Virginia creeper	Vitaceae Grape Family	Vine, climber and ground cover	inconspicuous 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				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>Passiflora incarnata</i> May-pop	Passifloraceae Passionflower Family	Vine, climber to 6' and ground cover	Showy Pink-purple flower April - Sept.	Ovoid fruit with seeds. June - Oct.	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade	Grows in old fields, along roadsides & streams & woodland edges in Eastern 1/3 of TX.	Sands, loams & clays. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X	X					This healthy climber is graced with an unbelievable intricate & eye-catching flower. It uses its tendrils for climbing & is often found sprawling over the ground, thus serving as excellent ground cover. Dormant in winter.	These beautiful vines are larval food plants for the Zebra long-wing, Gulf Fritillary & Julia butterflies. Several species of birds dine on the ripened fruits.

<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i> <i>v. littoralis</i> Little bluestem	Poaceae Grass Family	Grass 2' - 5'	Flowering spikelets blue-green to silvery gold August - 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. A symphony of beautiful color changes through the year from blue-green to coppery gold in the fall. Warm-season perennial bunch grass.	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>Setaria geniculata</i> Knotroot bristlegrass	Poaceae Grass Family	Grass 2' - 3'	Flowering spikelets a greenish yellow. December	Seeds Dec.	Full sun, part shade	Prefers moist areas along streams & ditches & lake borders	Sands, loams & clays.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	This perky grass is the most widespread species of bristlegrass. Does well in a naturally moist rich swale area. Bunch grass. Flowers year-round.	Fairly good grazing for wildlife when green. Seed-eating birds and small mammals eat ripe seeds, especially the Painted Bunting. Stems, leaves 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>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>Coreopsis lanceolata</i> Lance-leaf coreopsis	Asteraceae Sunflower Family	Wildflower 8" - 48"	Ray flowers splashy yellow, disk flowers deep yellow March - May	Achene, black, flattened & winged May - July	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade	Prefers open flat woods & fields in East & South East Texas.	Sands, clays & loams. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X								Lance-leaf coreopsis is a very showy wildflower that grow very easily & provides a wonderful splash of color for the garden. It is widely found in cultivation. Perennial.	Growing in healthy clumps, these flowers provide abundant nectar for butterflies & bees. Ripe seed heads are eaten by several species of granivorous birds.

<i>Erythrina herbacea</i> Coralbean	Leguminosae - Legume Family	Wildflower 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>Herbertia lahue</i> Herbertia	Iridaceae Iris Family	Wildflower 4' - 12'	Showy purple flowers March - May	Capsules with seeds May - July	Full sun, part shade	Prefers open grasslands & meadows	Sands, loams & clays. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X				X							Pretty, delicately colored flowers growing from a roundish bulb usually forming large colonies. When in large numbers if forms areas of solid blue. Perennial.	Bees are attracted to these delicate lavender flowers.
<i>Hymenocallis lirioides</i> Spider lily	Amaryllidaceae Amaryllis Family	Wildflower 1' - 2'	Showy white flowers with long narrow petal-like segments, fragrant May - July	Capsule, tripartite July - Sept.	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade	Prefers periodically inundated bottomlands, marshes, along stream banks or in ditches in various soils	Sands, loams & clays, acid or calcareous. Poor drainage O.K. Even tolerates standing water.	X	X	X										Very striking white flower, each blossom about 7" across. Flowers are very fragrant. Flowers often grow in clumps. Very good plant for a bog garden. Grows well in Houston gumbo. Perennial.	Several varieties of insects are attracted to these very fragrant flowers.
<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>Malvastrum drummondii</i> Turk's cap	Malvaceae - Mallow Family	Wildflower 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						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 tenuis</i> Gulf Coast penstemon	Scrophulariaceae Figwort Family	Wildflower 1' - 2'	Showy pale pink to purple flowers March - May	Capsules, ovoid with numerous seeds May - July	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade	Prefers poorly drained soils of the Gulf Prairies & Marshes.	Sands, loams & clays. Poor drainage O.K.	X	X											This penstemon does well on gumbo soils of the Houston area. Creates masses of beautiful color in the spring which may last for several weeks. They respond to extra watering in the summer to prolong bloom time. Perennial.	A wide array of insects are attracted to the flowers, including bees & syrphid flies.	
<i>Physostegia intermedia</i> False dragon-head	Lamiaceae - Mint Family	Wildflower 4' - 5'	Showy pink to pale purple flowers April - June	Schizocarp with 4 nutlets June - Aug.	Full sun, part shade, dappled shade	Prefers moist to wet areas, growing along aquatic ditches, in swamps, marshes & bottomlands in East & southeast Texas.	Sands, loams & clays. Poor drainage O.K.	X	X				X							False dragon-head prefers damp areas and does very well in a water garden. They are highly showy when in bloom. Perennial.	False dragon-head attracts a wide assortment of insects, especially bees.	
<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>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>Gaillardia pulchella</i> Indian blanket	Asteraceae Sunflower	Wildflower 1'	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>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-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. Bluebonnets take a little work to get established and depend on 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>Phacelia patuliflora</i> Purple phacelia	Hydrophyllaceae Waterleaf Family	Wildflower 10" - 12"	Showy purple & white flowers Feb. to May	Capsule with seeds May - July	Full sun, part shade	Prefers sandy soils in fields, prairies, openings & edges of woods, also along stream banks in Southeast, South Central and Coastal Texas.	Sands & sandy loams. Well-drained, mesic.	X	X	X	X								This attractive low growing wildflower grows in clumps. Flower color varies from lavender to purplish-violet. They are an attractive addition to any garden. Annual.	Bees & butterflies are highly attracted to these flowers.
<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	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.