

Asclepias verticillata

Whorled Milkweed



Like other milkweed species, Whorled Milkweed is a larval host plant for the Monarch Butterfly. Its small size makes it a great choice for gardeners that want to support Monarch populations, but have limited space. Once established, it is hardy and low-maintenance.

Characteristics	
Height: 1-2 ft	
Spread: 6 in	
Bloom time: July-September	
Perennial	
Attributes	
Thin, needle-like leaves whorled along stem	
Clusters of small white flowers attract bees, butterflies and beneficial wasps	
Pollinia (pollen packets) stick to feet of pollinators, hitchhiking to the next flower	
Larval host plant for the Monarch butterfly	
Leaves contain milky, mildly-toxic latex; unpalatable to most herbivores; Monarch caterpillars are immune to the toxin; they store the ingested toxin, offering protection from predators for the	
Growing and Maintenance	
Soil requirements: Medium-Dry	Native Range Widely distributed through the central and Eastern United States Native to parts of Ohio, common in Northwest Ohio Native to grasslands, can be found along roadsides, in old fields
Light requirements: Sun, Part Sun	
Water requirements: Low-Medium	
Thrives in a wide variety of conditions, including heavy clay and nutrient-poor soils	
Drought tolerant	
Spreads via rhizomes to form colonies	
May be attacked by yellow milkweed aphid; they are unsightly, but rarely kill the plant; do not treat with pesticides, as they will kill Monarch caterpillars	
Developed by Black Swamp Conservancy	