

Great Wildflowers for Birds

Numbers next to species correspond to photos inside.



FLORIDA
WILDFLOWER
FOUNDATION

Attracting Birds with Florida's Native Wildflowers

Common name	Scientific name	Light	Color of bloom	Bloom season	Soil moisture	Region	Value to birds
Wild columbine ¹	<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>					N	Nectar
Beggarticks ²	<i>Bidens</i> spp.					N C S	Insects, seeds
Crossvine ³	<i>Bignonia capreolata</i>					N C S	Nectar
American beautyberry	<i>Callicarpa americana</i>					N C S	Fruit
Trumpet creeper	<i>Campsis radicans</i>					N C S	Nectar
Thistle ⁴	<i>Cirsium</i> spp.					N C S	Seeds
Mistflower ⁵	<i>Conoclinium coelestinum</i>					N C S	Seeds
Tickseed (cover image)	<i>Coreopsis</i> spp.					N C	Insects, nectar
Purple coneflower ⁶	<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>					N C	Insects
Coralbean	<i>Erythrina herbacea</i>					N C S	Nectar
Blanketflower ⁷	<i>Gaillardia pulchella</i>					N C S	Seeds
Firebush	<i>Hamelia patens</i>					C S	Nectar, fruit
Sneezeweed ⁸	<i>Helenium</i> spp.					N C S	Insects, nectar
Sunflower ⁹	<i>Helianthus</i> spp.					N C S	Insects, seeds
Standing cypress ¹⁰	<i>Ipomopsis rubra</i>					N C	Nectar
Blazing star ¹¹	<i>Liatris</i> spp.					N C S	Insects
Cardinalflower ¹²	<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>					N C	Nectar
Coral honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera sempervirens</i>					N C S	Nectar
Dotted horsemint ¹³	<i>Monarda punctata</i>					N C S	Insects, seeds
Beardtongue ¹⁴	<i>Penstemon</i> spp.					N C S	Insects
Black-eyed Susan ¹⁵	<i>Rudbeckia</i> spp.					N C S	Insects, seeds
Tropical sage	<i>Salvia coccinea</i>					N C S	Insects, seeds, nectar
Lyreleaf sage ¹⁶	<i>Salvia lyrata</i>					N C S	Insects, seeds
Little false bluestem	<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>					N C S	Seeds
Skullcap ¹⁷	<i>Scutellaria</i> spp.					N C	Seeds
Goldenrod ¹⁸	<i>Solidago</i> spp.					N C	Insects
Indian pink	<i>Spigelia marlandica</i>					N	Insects
Stokes' aster	<i>Stokesia laevis</i>					N C	Insects
Germander	<i>Teucrium canadense</i>					N C S	Seeds
Eastern gamagrass	<i>Tripsacum dactyloides</i>					N C S	Insects, seeds
Frostweed ¹⁹	<i>Verbesina virginica</i>					N C	Seeds
Ironweed	<i>Vernonia</i> spp.					N C S	Nectar

TAKE ACTION
Add wildflowers to your
landscape now to help
birds thrive!



For more information on plant selection, flower bloom and growing tips, visit www.FlaWildflowers.org/planting.

For information on birds, visit www.FL.Audubon.org.



Wildflowers for Nectar

Hummingbirds gather nectar from wildflowers with tubular flowers. Many flowers produce fruit that other birds will eat.

- Coral honeysuckle (*Lonicera sempervirens*)
- Wild columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*)
- Firebush (*Hamelia patens*)
- Cardinalflower (*Lobelia cardinalis*)
- Beardtongue (*Penstemon* species)
- Trumpet creeper (*Campsis radicans*)
- Crossvine (*Bignonia capreolata*)
- Standing cypress (*Ipomopsis rubra*)

Gardening tips

- Choose a diversity of wildflowers that bloom across the seasons.
- Include species of various heights.
- Cluster wildflowers in groups of 3 or more of each species.
- Leave space in your plantings for growth and movement.
- Include native trees such as oaks, black cherry, maples and pines that provide insects. Remember: Decomposing leaf litter used as mulch is also a source for insects.
- Add a birdbath to complete your bird sanctuary.

Wildflowers for Seeds

Sparrows, warblers, finches, nuthatches, titmice, chickadees, cardinals and indigo buntings feed on seeds, as well as larger birds like thrashers, redwing blackbirds, bobwhites, doves, mockingbirds, catbirds and grosbeaks. After wildflowers have bloomed, leave seedheads on the plants for birds. Other flowerheads may shatter, scattering seeds on the ground that attract smaller birds, such as finches.

- Coneflowers (*Echinacea purpurea* and *Rudbeckia* species)
- Eastern gamagrass (*Tripsacum dactyloides*)
- Little false bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*)
- Ironweed (*Vernonia* species)
- Tickseed (*Coreopsis* species)
- Beggarticks (*Bidens* species)
- Blanketflower (*Gaillardia pulchella*)
- Sunflowers (*Helianthus* species)
- Sage (*Salvia* species)
- Thistle (*Cirsium* species)
- Mistflower (*Conoclinium coelestinum*)

Wildflowers for Insects and Caterpillars

Most birds feed insects to their chicks, and many insects visit wildflowers for nectar and pollen. Insect-eating birds include goldfinches, chickadees, titmice, cardinals, grosbeaks, wood warblers, blue jays, sparrows, thrashers, nuthatches, crows and mockingbirds.

Some great Florida wildflowers to plant for attracting insects are:

- Dotted horsemint (*Monarda punctata*)
- Blazing star (*Liatris* species)
- Goldenrod (*Solidago* species)
- Black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia* species)
- Frostweed (*Verbesina virginica*)
- Skullcap (*Scutellaria* species)
- Sneezeweed (*Helenium* species)
- Stokes' aster (*Stokesia laevis*)
- Sage (*Salvia* species)
- Germander (*Teucrium canadense*)

Photos by Eleanor Dietrich, Dara Dobson, Mary Keim, Bob Peterson and Peg Urban. Cover photo by Christina Evans.

Numbers correspond to species information on back of brochure.

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