

General Growing Conditions

Note: Many plants will grow in a variety of light and moisture conditions. They'll be the most robust in their preferred conditions, but may grow well in conditions a bit beyond their optimal conditions. The conditions noted below are a combination of recommendations from LBJ Wildflower Center (www.wildflower.org), Don Leopold's book *Native Plants for the Northeast*, and others. They may or may not address your own yard's constellation of conditions. For example, some plants may indeed grow well in dry soil, but only if they're not in the sun. Observe how well they grow in your own garden's conditions.

The deer-resistance values have been taken from a variety of sources; they may or may not correspond to your own deer's tastes or your conditions.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Size (in ft)	Light	Moisture	Deer Resist	Notes
<i>Actaea racemosa</i> (Syn: <i>Cimicifuga racemosa</i>)	Black cohosh	3-6	PS-Sh	Mes-M-D	M-H	
<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	Swamp milkweed	3-4	S-PSh	M-W	H	
<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>	Common milkweed	3-5	S-PSh	M-D		Will not flower as much in PSh, but leaves will still provide monarch food
<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	Butterfly milkweed	1½-2	S	D-M/WD	H	Grows well in sandy, gravelly soil
<i>Chelone glabra</i>	White turtlehead	2-3	S-Sh	M-W	O	Also host for Baltimore Checkerspot
<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>	Pagoda dogwood	20-35	PSh-Sh	M		Tolerant of poor soils
<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	Eastern purple coneflower	2-3	S-PSh	D-M	O	Reseeds
<i>Eupatorium perfoliatum</i>	Common boneset	3-5	S-Sh	Mes-M-W		
<i>Eutrochium maculatum</i> (Syn: <i>Eupatorium maculatum</i>)	Spotted joe-pye weed	3-6	S-PS	Mes-M-W		Can be cut back in June to create a shorter, bushier plant
<i>Heliopsis helianthoides</i>	Smooth oxeye	3-5	S-PS	M-D	O	
<i>Liatris spicata</i>	Dense blazing star	2-3	S-PS	D-M-W	H	
<i>Monarda didyma</i>	Oswego tea	2-4	S-PSh	M-W-D	M-H	
<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	Wild bergamot	2-4	S-PSh	D-M-W	H	
<i>Quercus rubra</i>	Red oak	75-100	S-PSh	D-M/WD		
<i>Rubus odoratus</i>	Purple flowering raspberry	3-6H x 6-12W	S-Sh	M-D	O	Spreads underground; just pull or cut back stems beyond the space you allot
<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	Little bluestem	1½-3	S-PSh	D-M/WD	H	
<i>Symphotrichum novae-angliae</i> (Syn: <i>Aster novae-angliae</i>)	New England aster	3-6	S-PSh	Mes-M-D	M	
<i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i>	Culver's root	2-6	S-PSh	Mes-M-W		

KEY: Light: S=Sun; PS=Part-sun; PSh=Part shade; Sh=Shade
 Moisture: Mes=Moderate; M=Moist; WD=Well-drained; W=Wet
 Deer Resistance: M=Moderate; H=High; O=Occasional

General Growing Conditions - 2018 Birdy Dozen

Note: Many plants will grow in a variety of light and moisture conditions. They will be most robust in their preferred conditions, but may grow well in sub-optimal conditions. The conditions below are a combination of recommendations from LBJ Wildflower Center (www.wildflower.org), Don Leopold's book *Native Plants for the Northeast*, US Fish & Wildlife Service's Native Plants for Wildlife Habitat and Conservation Landscaping and others. They may not address your own yard's conditions.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Size (ft)	Blooms	Light	Soil	Notes
<i>Agastache foeniculum</i>	Anise hyssop, Blue giant hyssop	2-4	Jul-Aug, purple spikes	S-Sh	M	Fragrant flower spikes attract hummingbirds and many pollinators, esp. bumblebees
<i>Aronia melanocarpa</i> (Syn: <i>Photinia melanocarpa</i> , <i>Pyrus melanocarpa</i>)	Black chokeberry	5-6 Spread 3-5	Apr-May, white or pink-tinged. Fruit: Sep-Nov black berry	S-PS	D-M-W	Provides late winter food for birds. Twiggy growth provides cover. Can be pruned as a hedge, fall color crimson red. Wet to dry sites.
<i>Aster divaricatus</i> (Syn: <i>Eurybia divericata</i>)	White wood aster	0.5-3	Jul-Oct white	PS-Sh	D-M	White flowers with rose centers in autumn; can form ground cover; attracts butterflies
<i>Betula lenta</i>	Sweet birch, Black birch	50-75, spread 35-50	Apr-May, yellow green Fruit: Aug-Nov conelike	S-PS	D-M	Fall color golden yellow; prefers moist sites but tolerates dry; colonizes open or disturbed areas
<i>Cornus amomum</i>	Silky dogwood	6-10 Spread 6-9	May-Jun white Fruit: Aug blue berry	PS	M-W	Hardy. Abundant fruit important for migrating songbirds. Dense stems provide cover.
<i>Ilex verticillata</i>	Winterberry, Common winterberry	6-10 Spread 4-5	Jun-Jul greenish white Fruit: Aug-Feb red berry	S-Sh	M-W	Abundant berries provide winter bird food; berries on female plant, need male plant to pollinate; cultivar is OK
<i>Liatris spicata</i>	Blazing star, Dense gayfeather, Spiked or Dense blazing star	1-6.5	Jul-Aug rose-purple or white	S-PS	D-M	Nectar plant for hummingbirds, bees and butterflies. Moist meadows, open areas, drought tolerant
<i>Lonicera sempervirens</i>	Coral honeysuckle, Honeysuckle vine, Trumpet honeysuckle	Spread 6-12	Apr-Oct coral to red with yellow Fruit Aug-Mar red berry	S-PS	D-M	Semi-evergreen vine, flowers intermittently until frost; flowers and fruit present together, transplants well
<i>Rudbeckia laciniata</i>	Cutleaf, Green-head or Tall coneflower	3-10	Jul-Sept yellow Fruit = capsule	S-PS	M-W	Tall. Very attractive to goldfinches. Floodplains, streambanks, fields
<i>Sambucus canadensis</i> (Syn: <i>Sambucus nigra ssp. canadensis</i>)	American black elderberry, Common elder	5-8 Spread 5-8	Jun-Jul white Fruit: Aug-Sept purple-black berry	S-Sh	D-M-W	Berries eaten by 48 species of birds. Fast growth, tolerates heavy clay; twiggy habit provides critical cover.
<i>Solidago caesia</i>	Bluestem goldenrod, Wreath goldenrod	1-3.5	Aug-Oct yellow	S-Sh	D-M	Stems bluish or purplish, rich deciduous woods
<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	Indiangrass	2.5-8	Aug-Sept	Full Sun	D-M	Tall clump of grass with beautiful seed head; dry slopes, prairies, borders of woods

Key: **Light:** **S** = Sun, at least 6 hours/day direct sun in growing season
 PS = Part Sun **PSH** = Part Shade
 Sh = Shade, less than 3 hours direct sun/day, or filtered light
 Soil: **D** = Dry, water does not remain after a rain **M** = Moist, soil is damp, may be occasionally saturated
 W = Wet, soil is saturated for much of the growing season, except in droughts