

Swamp Milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*)

Milkweed Family

Other Common Names: rose milkweed, pleurisy root, white Indian hemp

Scientific Name: *Asclepias incarnata* L. **Plant Symbol:** ASIN

Distinguishing characteristics: Inflorescences long stalked and with 2-12 per plant, both terminal and in the leaf axis toward the upper end of the stem; flowers pink to pinkish-white; petals reflexed; leaves opposite on the stem, lance-shaped, and with an abrupt or rounded base; leaf stalk short.

Plant Height: 2-6 ft., erect

Blooms/Fruits: June-October

Duration: Perennial, herbaceous (from fibrous rootstock)

Pollinator Value: Larval host plant for the monarch butterfly. Flowers attract butterflies.

Habitat: Wetland habitats: swamps, sloughs, marshes, and edges of ponds.

Note: Swamp milkweed is poisonous if consumed in larger quantities by people and livestock. Sheep are especially susceptible.

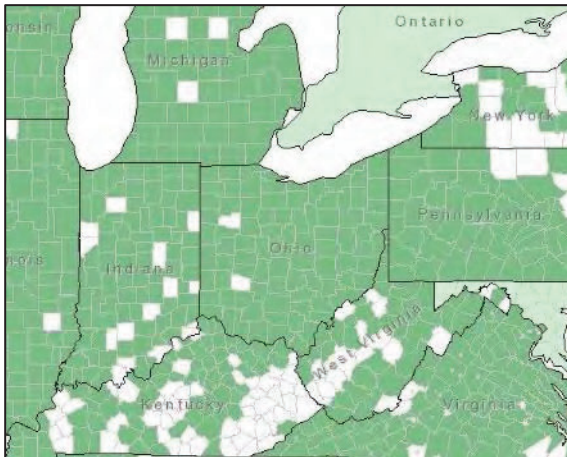




Photo: Jennifer Anderson ©

Full flowering/close-up of blooms



Photo: Joseph Marcus, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center



Photo: Sally and Andy Wasowski, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

Leaf arrangement



Photo: Steve Eggers, USACE

Fruit

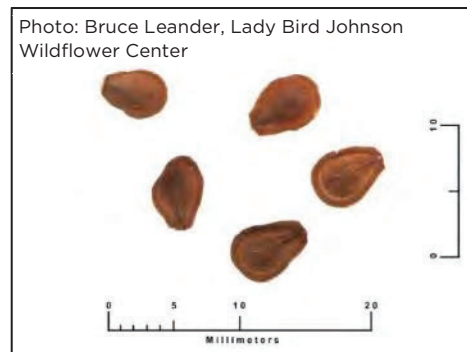


Photo: Bruce Leander, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

Seed