

photos: Dan Jaffe

SWAMP MILKWEED

Asclepias incarnata

A stunning perennial with dark pink flower buds that open to pale pink; a pollinator magnet and host plant to monarch butterflies.

Benefits for Wildlife

- Host plant for monarch and queen caterpillars
- Nectar source for many adult butterfly species and other pollinators

Host to 10 caterpillar species: (common names) Monarch; Isabella Tiger Moth; Cecropia Silk Moth; Delicate Cycnia; Milkweed Tussock Moth; Lined Ruby Tiger Moth; Striped Garden Caterpillar Moth; Fall Armyworm Moth; Hitched Arches; Stalk Borer

Benefits for People

- Attractive seed pods for late season interest
- If cooked correctly, all parts of the plant are edible
- Deer resistant

Growing Information

Sunlight Full sun

Soil Type Medium to wet soils

Height 4–5' Width 2-3'

Flowering calendar July-August

Natural Habitat

Swamps and wet meadows

