

Whorled Milkweed (*Asclepias verticillata*)

Milkweed Family

Other Common Names: horsetail milkweed

Scientific Name: *Asclepias verticillata* L. **Plant Symbol:** ASVE

Distinguishing characteristics: Leaves very linear/narrow and whorled along the stem. Flower clusters in loose roundish clusters, white to greenish-white sometimes with a purple tinge; petals reflexed but with upturned tips; stems solitary or few from the root mass.

Plant Height: 1-3 ft., erect

Blooms/Fruits: May–September

Duration: Perennial, herbaceous

Pollinator Value: Larval host plant for the monarch butterfly. Provides nectar in the summer and early fall. Flowers attract butterflies.

Habitat: Upland prairies, savannahs, pastures, roadsides, and open upland forests.

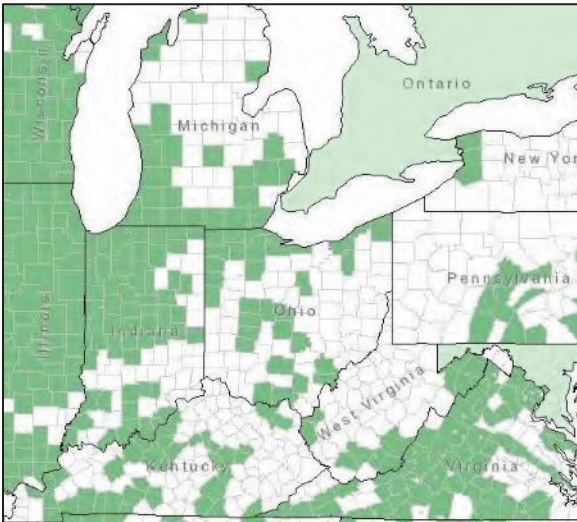


Photo: Beth Anderson, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center



Photo: Beth Anderson, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

Full flowering/close-up of blooms



Photo: Janice Lynn, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center



Photo: Edith Bettinger, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

Stem and leaf arrangement



Photo: Carolyn Fannon, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

Multiple inflorescences



Photo: Carolyn Fannon, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

Fruit (left) and mature fruit with seed (right)



Photo: Janice Lynn, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center