

Wild Bergamot (*Monarda fistulosa*)

Mint Family

Other Common Names: beebalm

Scientific Name: *Monarda fistulosa* L.

Plant Symbol: MOFI

Distinguishing characteristics: Flowers in tight ball-like clusters terminating the branches, strongly 2-lipped with the upper lip erect and the lower lip downturned, pale to dark lavender, but rarely white; leaves opposite, variable from lance-shaped to widely lance-shaped, the undersurface has small, clear spots (punctae) that are visible when holding the leaf up to the light; stems are square and with backwards-pointed hairs on the upper half of the stem.

Plant Height: 1.5–4 ft., erect

Blooms/Fruits: May–September

Duration: Perennial, herbaceous (with slender, creeping rhizomes)

Pollinator Value: This flower is highly attractive to long-tongued bees and butterflies.

Habitat: Dry open woods, fields, wet meadows and ditches, and at the edges of woods and marshes; calcareous or acidic soils.

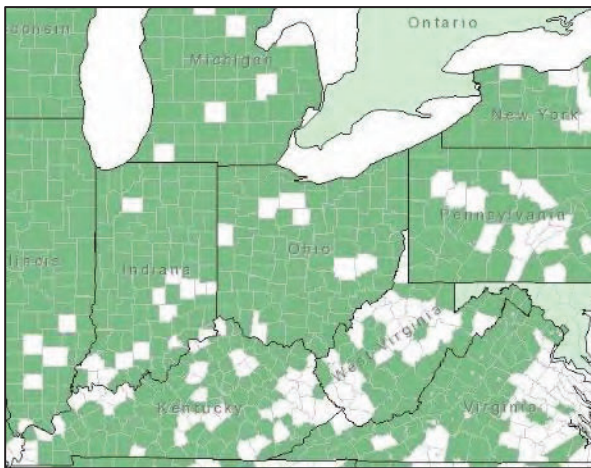




Photo: Alan Cressler, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center



Photo: Eric Beckers, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center



Photo: Thomas Muller, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center



Photo: Sandy Smith, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

Flower bud

Full flowering/close-up of blooms



Photo: W.D. and Dolphia Bransford, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

Foliage/leaf arrangement