

ARKANSAS MILKWEEDS

AND FALL NECTAR PLANTS FOR THE MONARCH BUTTERFLY



ARKANSAS
NATURAL HERITAGE
COMMISSION

Theo Witsell

Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission

**Botanical Research Institute of Texas
(Research Associate)**



Plant to planet.™

MILKWEEDS IN ARKANSAS:

Asclepias – 14

Cynanchum - 1

Funastrum - 1

Gonolobus - 1

Matelea - 3

NOTE: Arkansas distribution in the following maps is based only on herbarium specimens. Species may occur in other counties as well.

Species of State Conservation Concern (rare species tracked by the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission) are designated. If found, please contact ANHC botanist/ecologist Theo Witsell at theo@arkansasheritage.org.

Specific fall nectar plants are examples and other fall-blooming species in these genera may serve equally well.

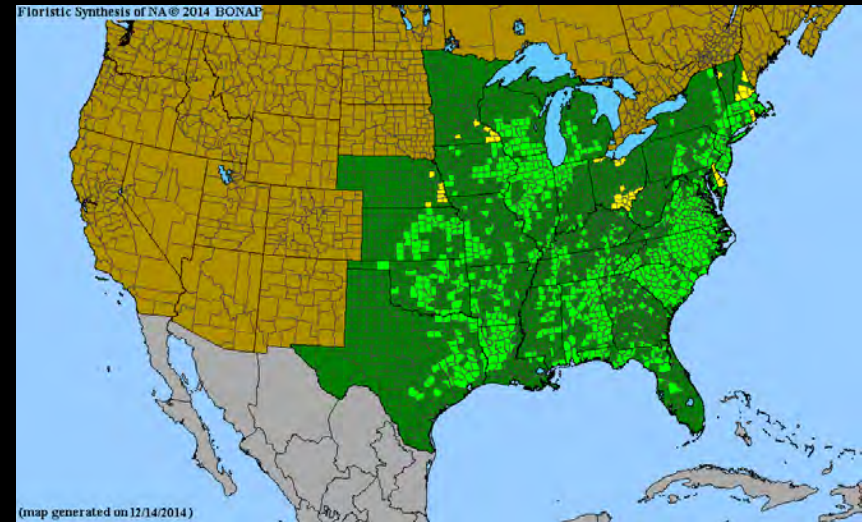
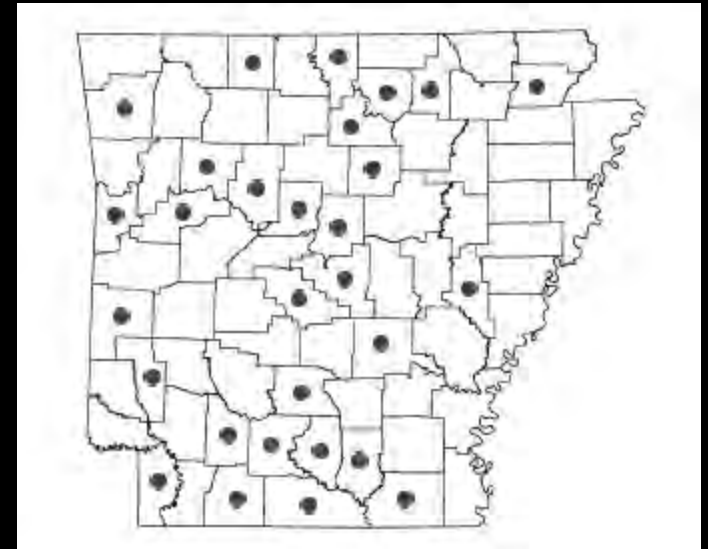
Curly Milkweed (*Asclepias amplexicaulis*)



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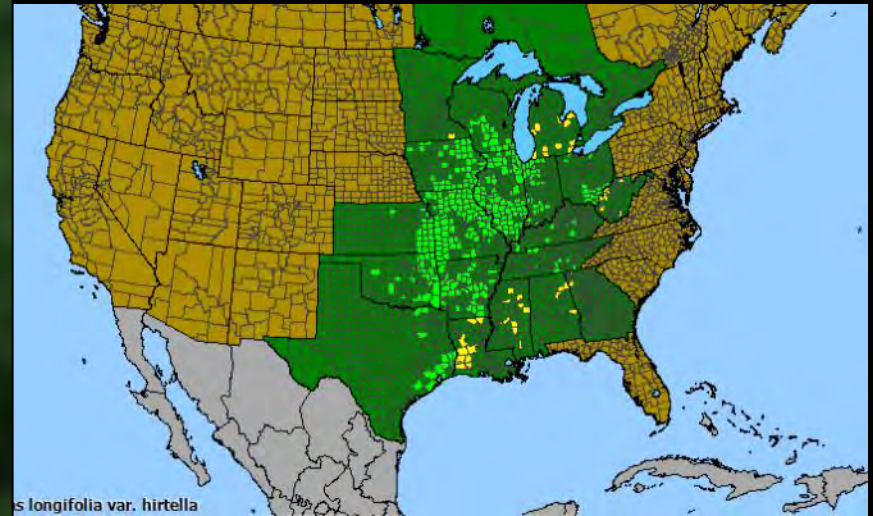
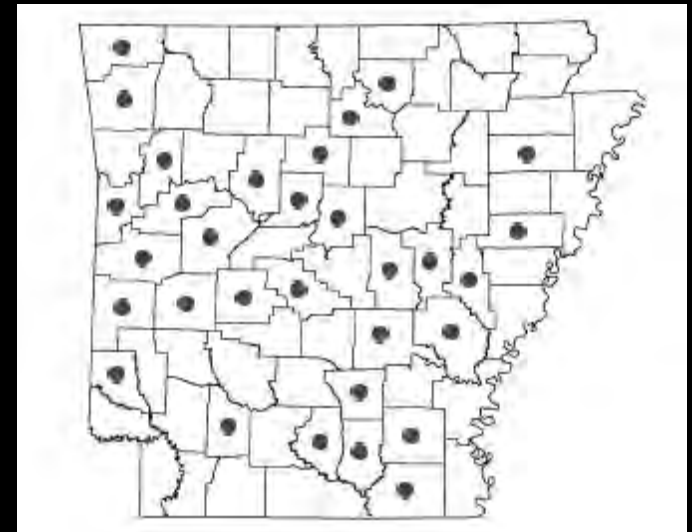


Theo Witsell/ANHC



HABITAT: Dry, sandy or rocky soil in prairies or open woodlands.

Tall Green Milkweed
(*Asclepias hirtella*)

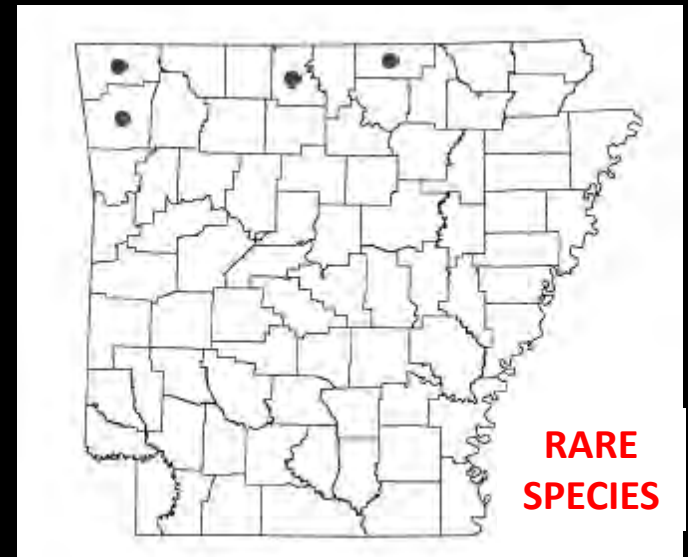


HABITAT: Flat, seasonally-moist prairies, glades, & open flatwoods.

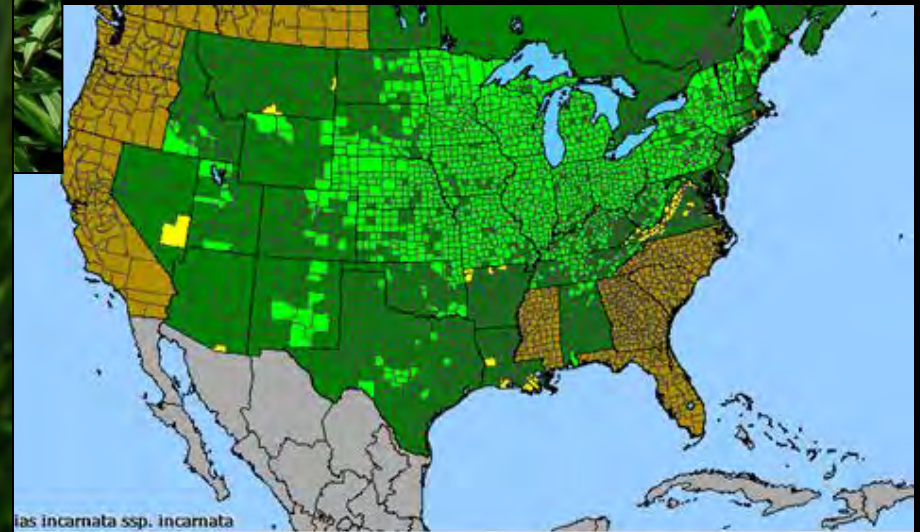
Pink Swamp Milkweed
(*Asclepias incarnata* subsp. *incarnata*)



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**RARE
SPECIES**



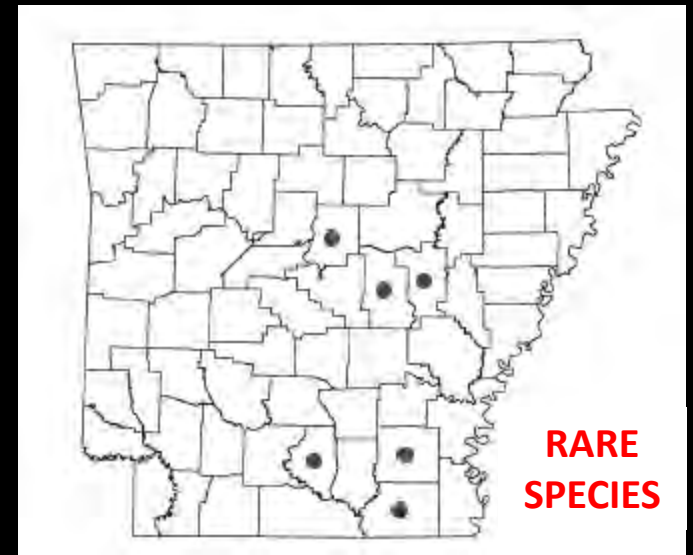
**HABITAT: Wet prairies, stream banks,
marsh edges, ditches, & open, wet
woodlands.**

Savanna Milkweed, Pineland Milkweed (*Asclepias obovata*)

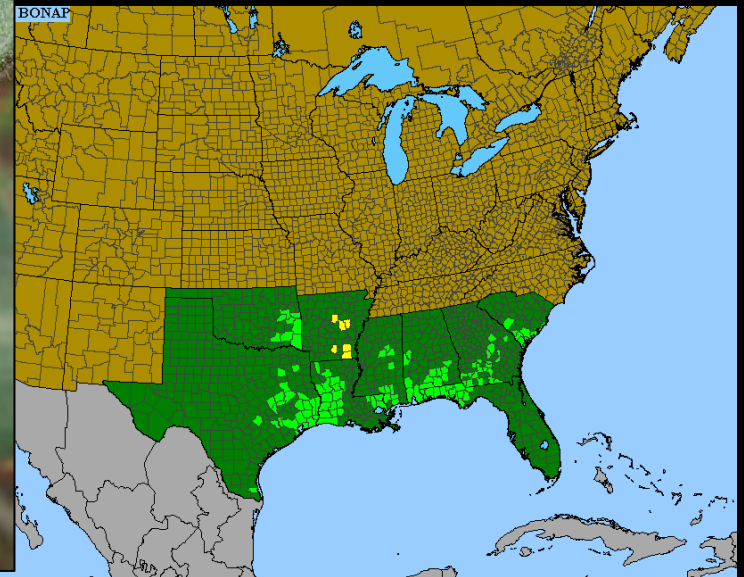


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RARE
SPECIES



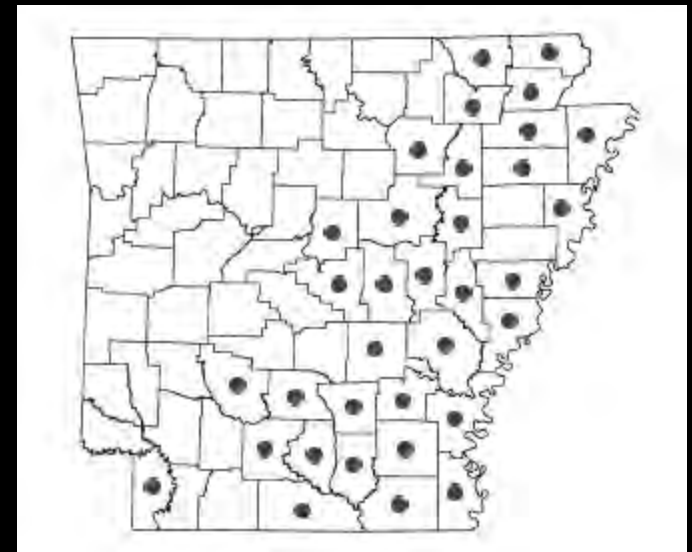
HABITAT: Seasonally-moist prairies & pine savannas.

White Swamp Milkweed (*Asclepias perennis*)

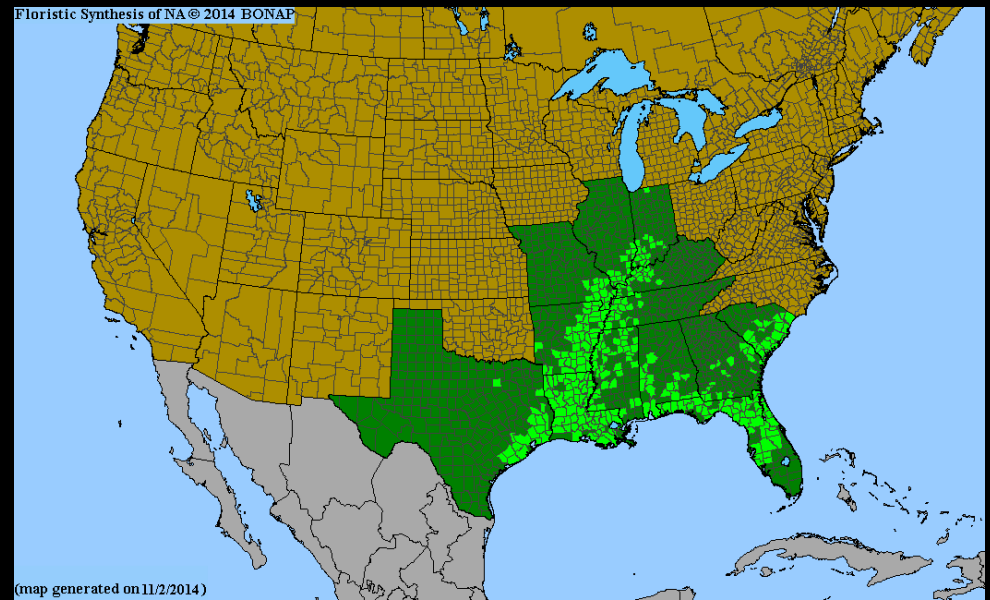


Shirley Denton

southeasternflora.com



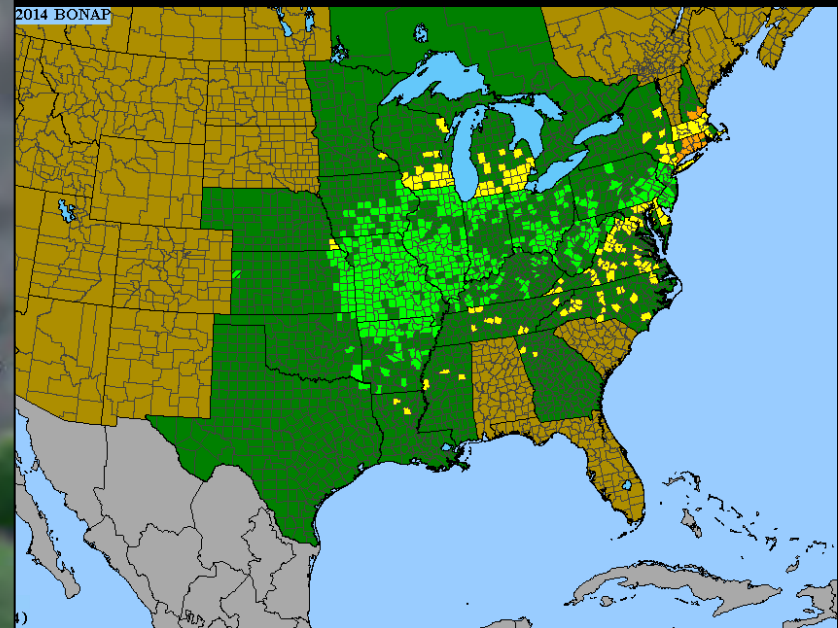
Floristic Synthesis of NA © 2014 BONAP



HABITAT: Swamps, sloughs, bottomland hardwood forests, marshes, ditches, & depressions in wet flatwoods.

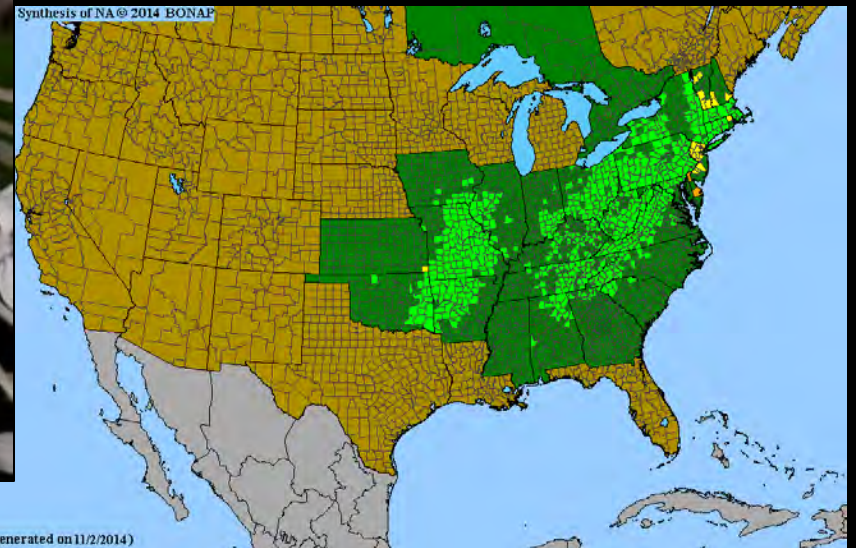
Purple Milkweed
(*Asclepias purpurascens*)

2009 © P, 2008 © Peter M. Dziuk



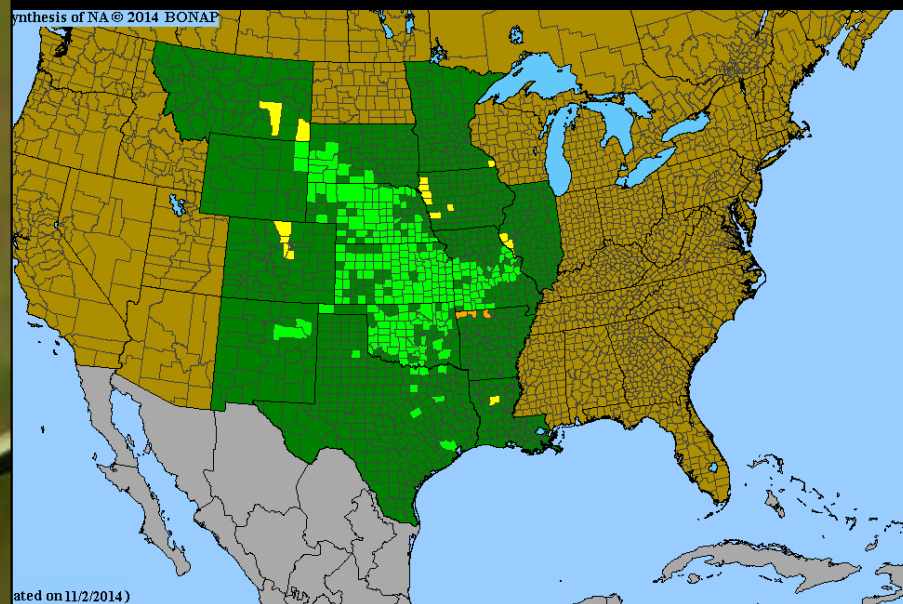
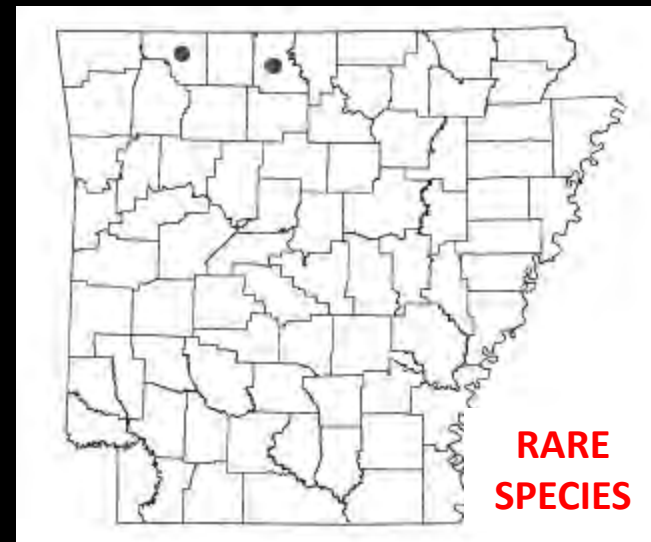
HABITAT: Open, seasonally moist woodlands & prairies.

Four-leaf Milkweed (*Asclepias quadrifolia*)



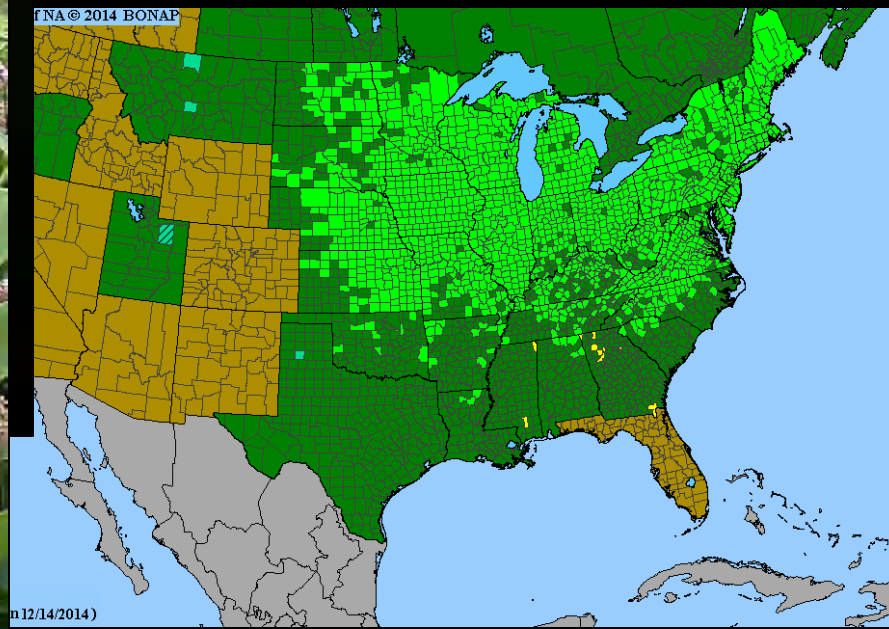
HABITAT: Dry to mesic upland woodlands, often on acid soils.

Narrow-leaf Milkweed
(Asclepias stenophylla)



**HABITAT: Calcareous (dolomite) glades
and dry prairies. Historic in Arkansas.**

Common Milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*)

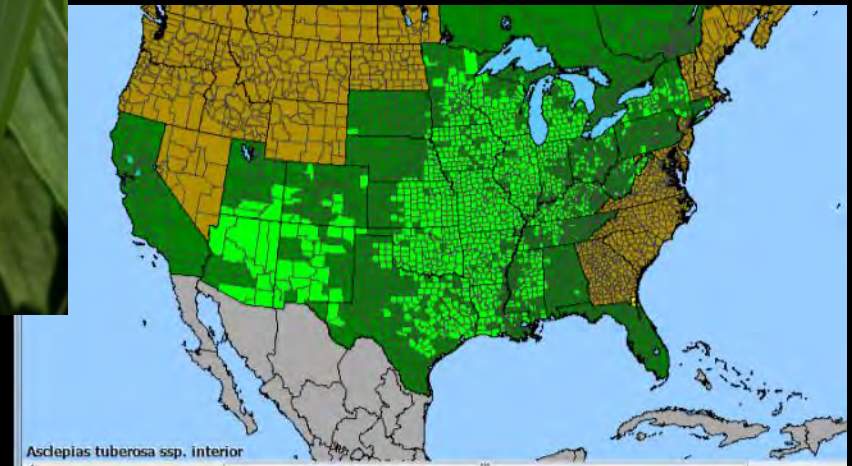
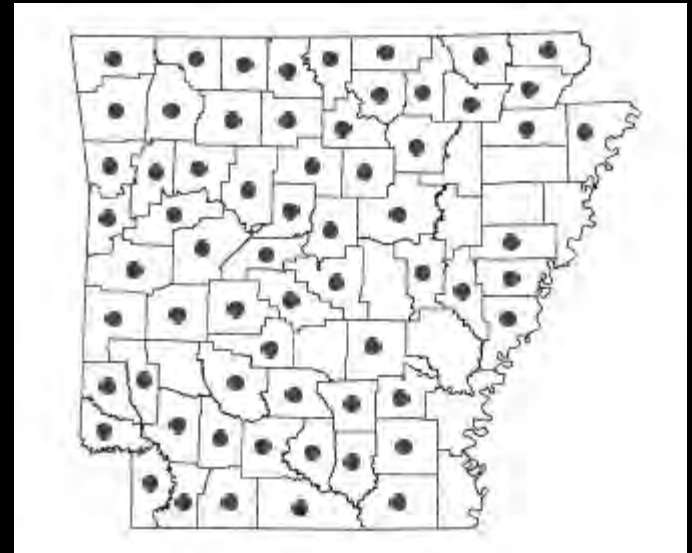


HABITAT: Fields, roadsides, disturbed prairies, and other open habitats.

Butterfly Milkweed
(*Asclepias tuberosa* subsp. *interior*)



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HABITAT: Open woodlands, glades, prairies, roadsides, fields, and other open habitats on well-drained soils.

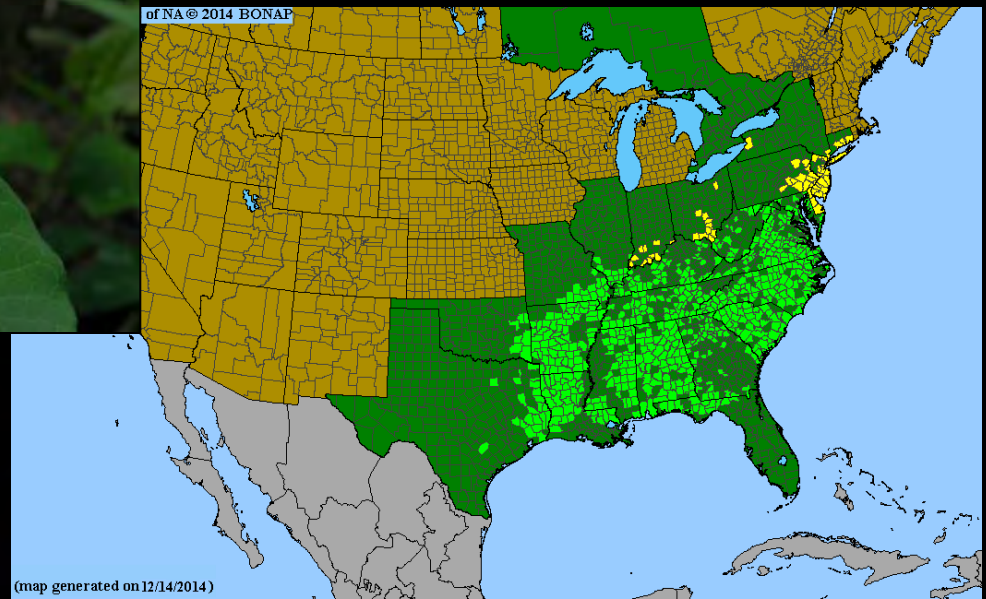
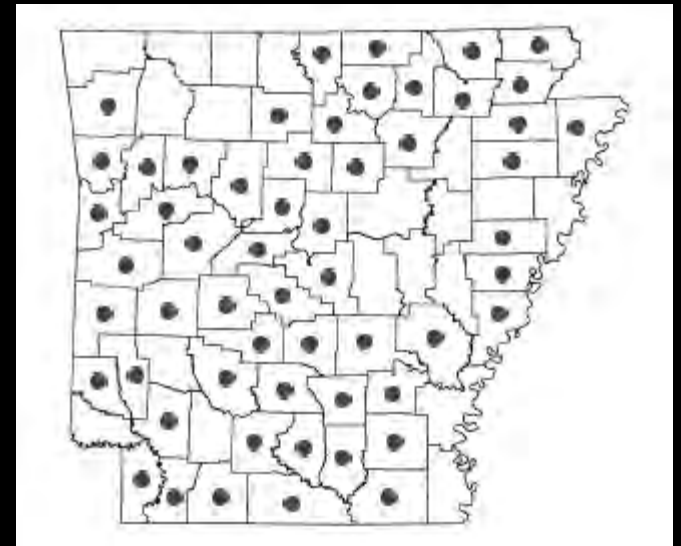
Tropical Milkweed
(Asclepias curassavica)

NOT NATIVE



Justin Lebar

White Milkweed, Red-ring Milkweed (*Asclepias variegata*)

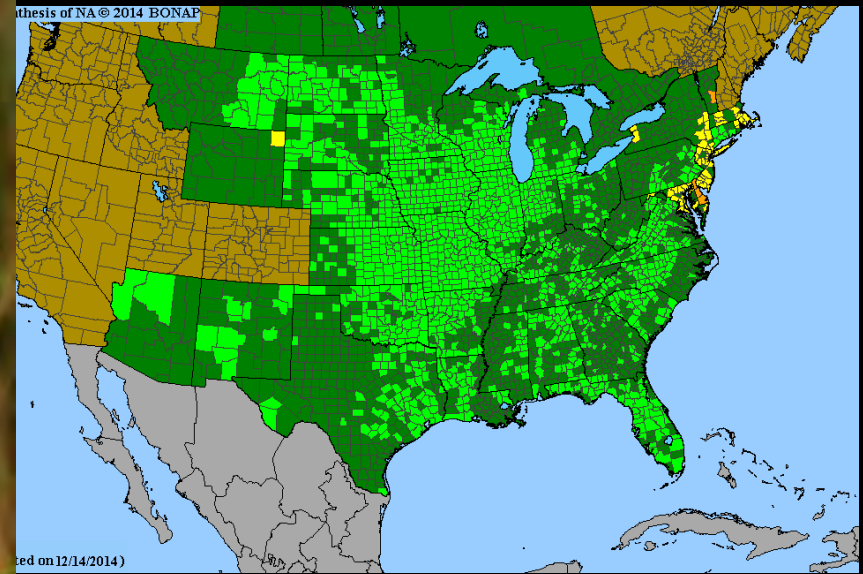


HABITAT: Open woodlands & forest edges; well-drained soils.

Whorled Milkweed, Horsetail Milkweed
(*Asclepias verticillata*)



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HABITAT: Well-drained, sandy or rocky soil in prairies, glades, & open woodlands.

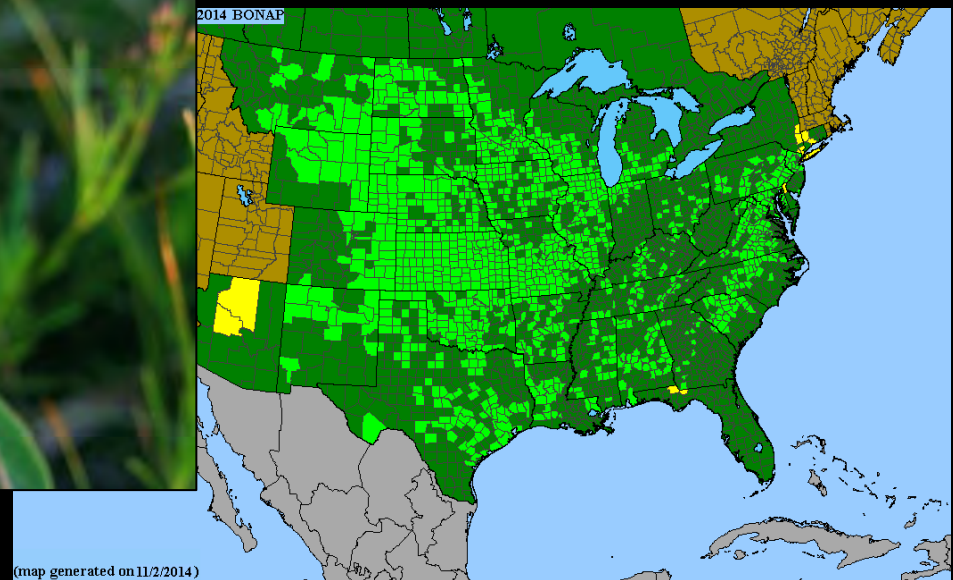
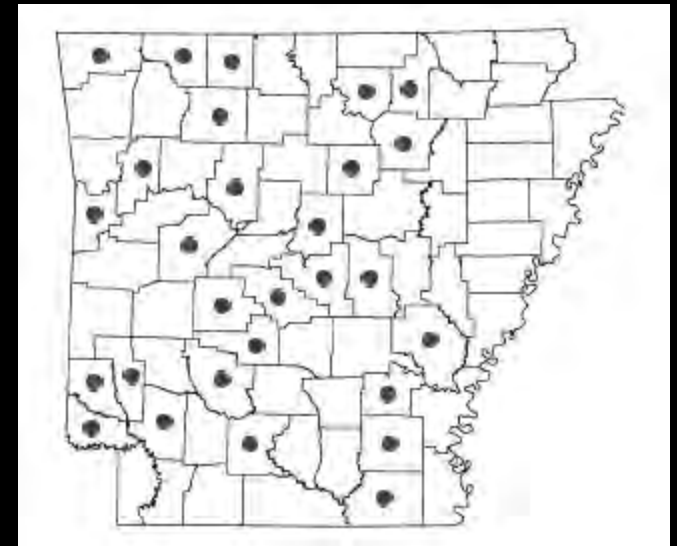
Green-flowered Milkweed; Comet Milkweed (*Asclepias viridiflora*)



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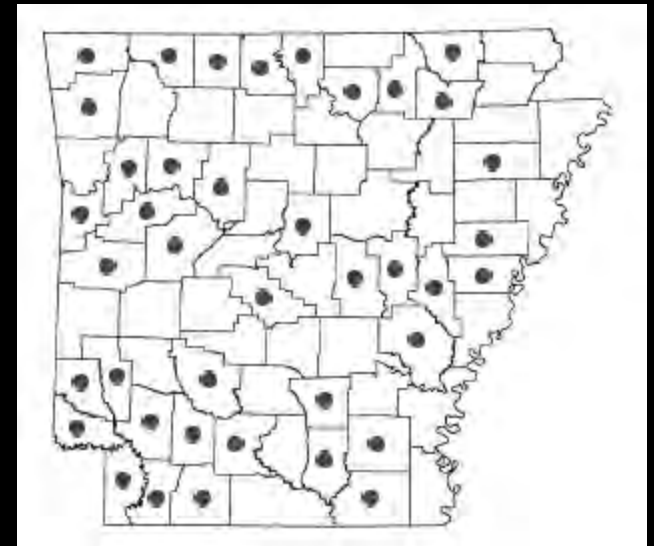


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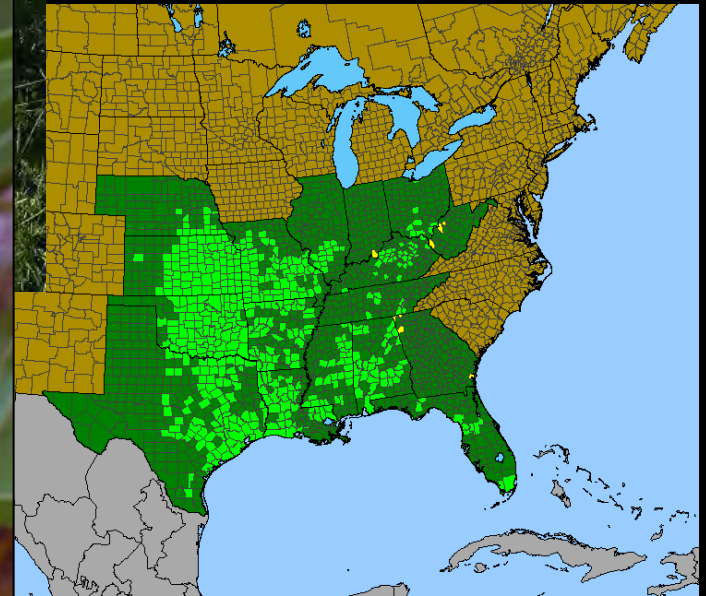


HABITAT: Dry, sandy or rocky soil in prairies, glades, & open woodlands. Usually restricted to high quality sites.

Green Milkweed, Spider Milkweed
(*Asclepias viridis*)

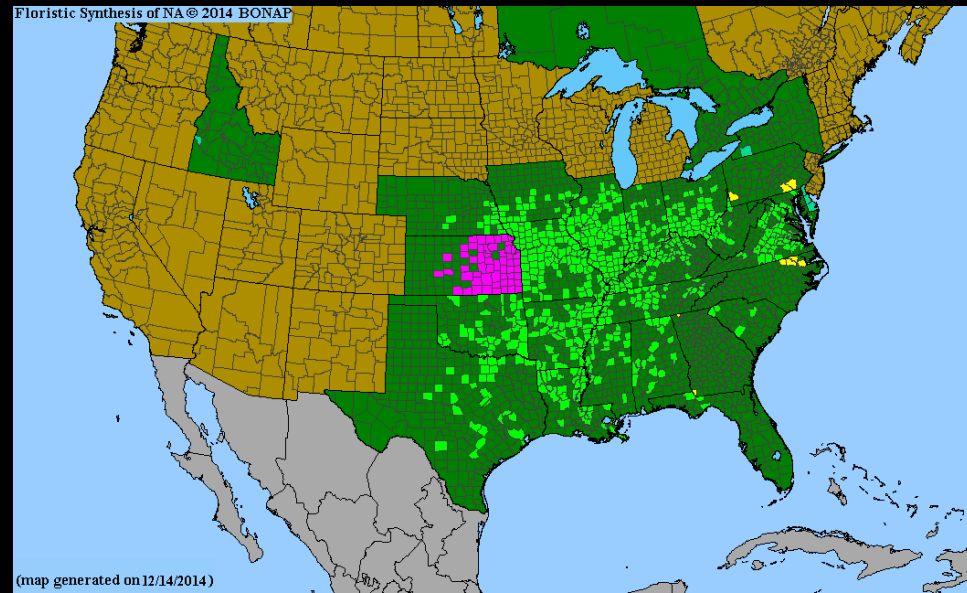


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HABITAT: Seasonally-moist prairies, glades, and other open habitats.

Sandvine Milkweed, Honeyvine Milkweed (*Cynanchum laeve*)

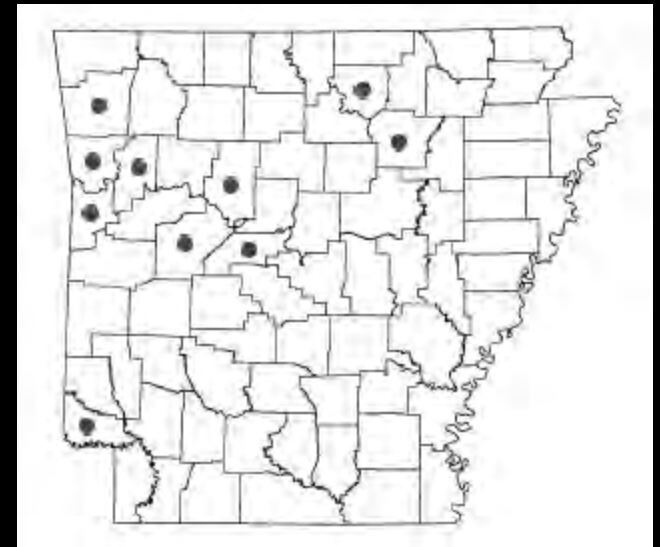


HABITAT: Stream banks, sand & gravel bars, disturbed areas, old fields, etc. Weedy.

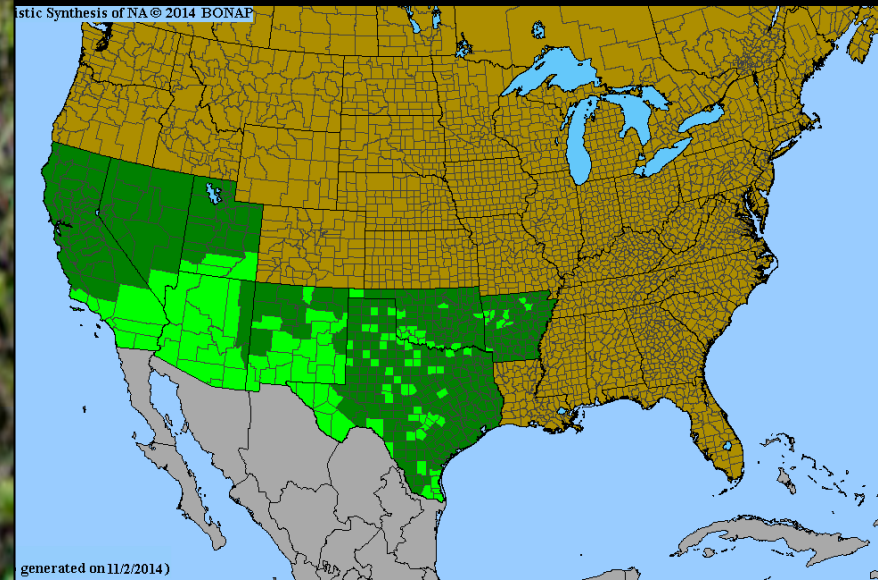
Climbing-milkweed, Twinevine
(*Funastrum cynanchoides* subsp. *cynanchoides*)



Max Licher

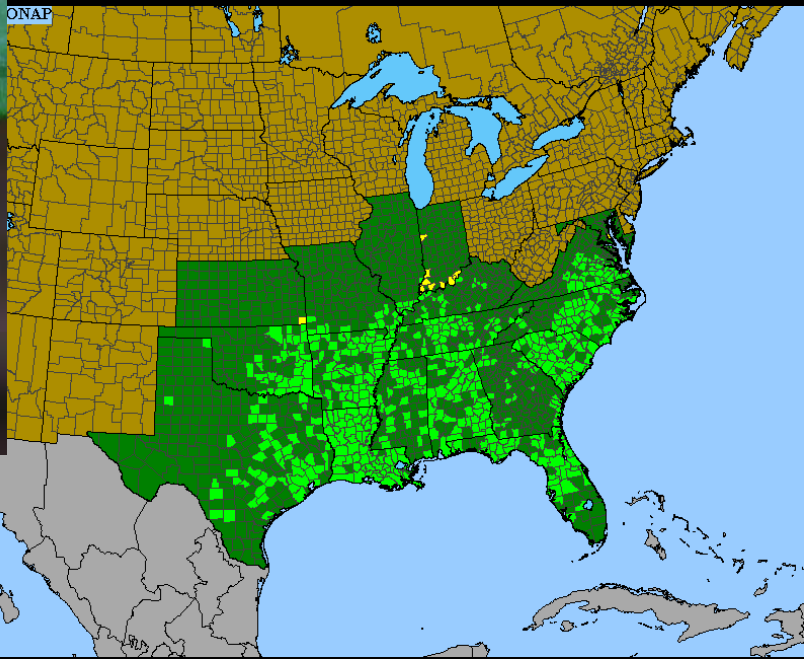
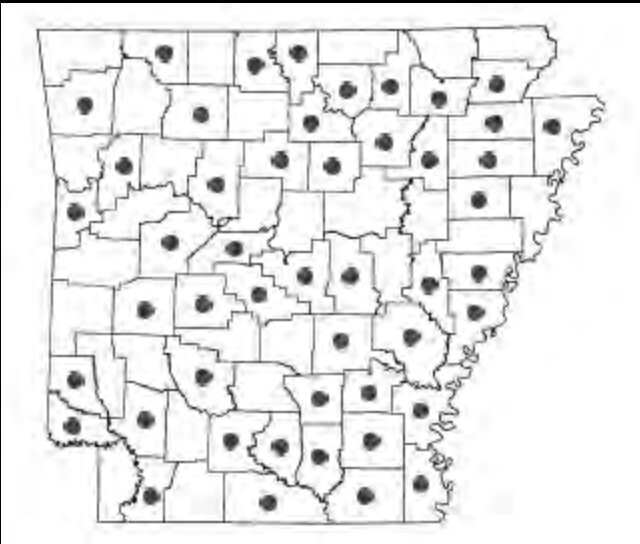


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HABITAT: Stream banks, sand & gravel bars, disturbed areas, old fields, etc.
Weedy.

Anglepod
(*Gonolobus suberosus*)



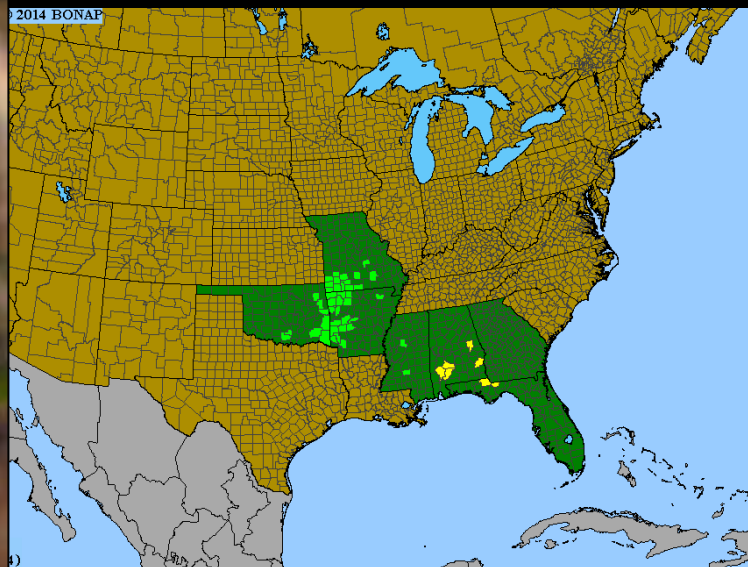
(map generated on 12/14/2014)

HABITAT: Stream banks, riparian forests, open woodlands.

Baldwyn's Milk-vine, Climbing-milkweed
(*Matelea baldwyniana*)

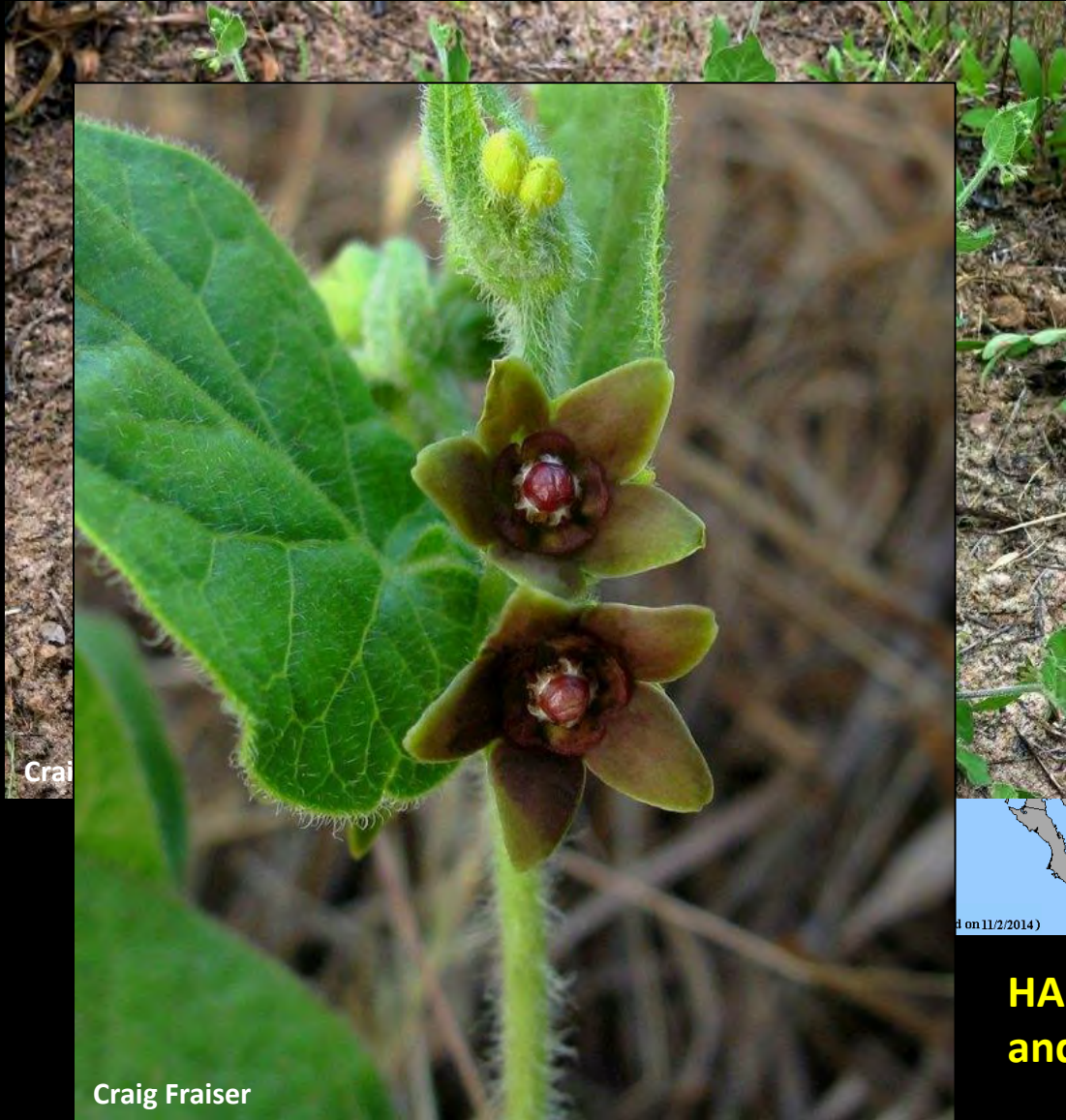


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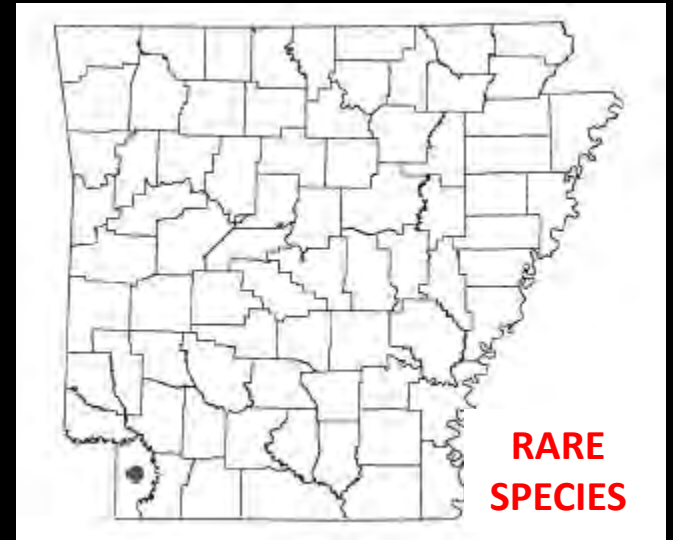
HABITAT: Calcareous glades, prairies, & open woodlands, often in rocky soil with exposed dolomite, limestone, or shale.

Sandhill Milkvine
(*Matelea cynanchoides*)

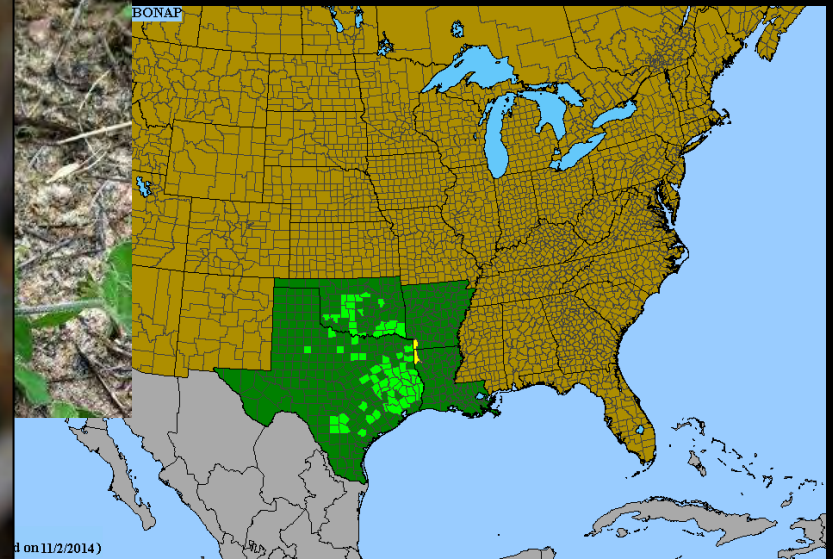


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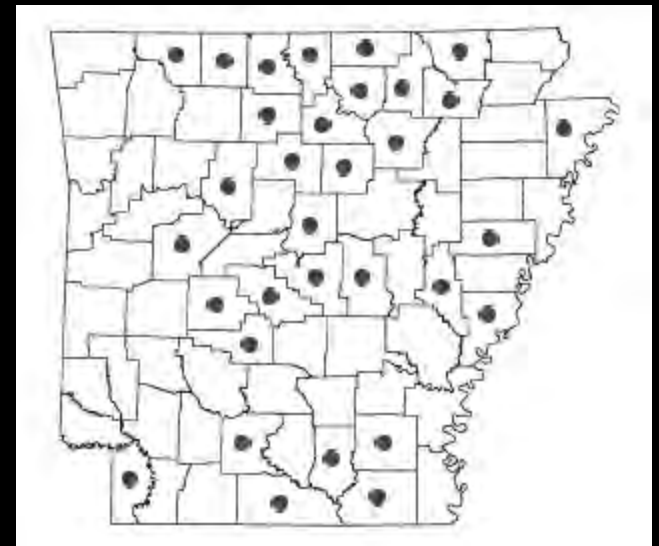


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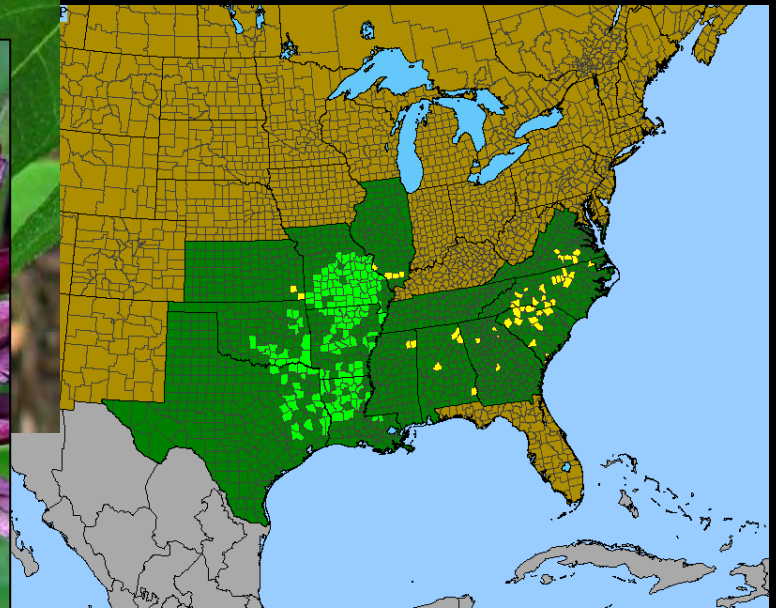


**HABITAT: High quality sand barrens
and sandhill woodlands.**

Purple Milkvine, Climbing-milkweed
(*Matelea decipiens*)



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HABITAT: Open woodlands & glades.

Indian Hemp
(*Apocynum cannabinum*)

NOT A MILKWEED



Cristopher Bailey



Cristopher Bailey

FALL NECTAR PLANTS

MONARCH (DANAUS
PLEXIPPUS) AND
FIRED. CRAIG RUDOLPH, C
Wildlife Habitat a
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ABSTRACT. Monarchs (*Danaus plexippus*) undertake an annual migration to overwinter in the southern United States. In the eastern United States, prescribed fire, and the resulting changes in nectar resources, are important for ecological relationships between monarchs and their environment. This study compares monarch migration and nectar resource availability in a prescribed fire area to a non-fire area. Monarchs were observed feeding on nectar resources in both areas from September to October. In the fire area, monarchs fed on a wider variety of plant species, and nectar resources were more abundant. The study suggests that prescribed fire may have a positive effect on monarch migration and nectar resource availability.

Additional key words: In

The eastern North American monarch butterfly, *Danaus plexippus*, is one of the most remarkable migratory butterflies in the world (Urquhart 1976, Brower 1995). In the fall, most individuals of this species migrate to the southern United States and Mexico from extremely restricted sites in the

TABLE 1. List of nectar plants, inclusive nectaring dates by plant species, and number of nectaring observations for monarchs (*Danaus plexippus*) in the Ouachita Mountains, Arkansas during 1999-2005.

Plant Species	Dates	# Observations
<i>Bidens aristosa</i>	9/7-10/5	1890
<i>Eupatorium serotinum</i>	8/20-10/5	164
<i>Solidago</i> spp.	8/1-10/5	101
<i>Vernonia baldwinii</i>	6/30-10/2	93
<i>Cunila origanoides</i>	9/9-10/2	69
<i>Solidago petiolaris</i>	9/27-10/2	60
<i>Liatris elegans</i>	7/2-10/4	44
<i>Helianthus amarum</i>	7/2-10/2	40
<i>Aster</i> spp.	9/8-10/5	39
<i>Aster ericoides</i>	9/27-10/4	28
<i>Aster anomalus</i>	9/27-10/2	22
<i>Senecio obovatus</i>	4/5-4/23	21
<i>Solidago rugosa</i>	10/1-10/5	19
<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	5/17-8/2	14
<i>Polygonum pennsylvanicum</i>	10/2-10/5	13
<i>Eupatorium</i> spp.	8/20-10/5	10
35 other species		74

RESOURCES AND
ASD. RONALD E. THILL
College of Forestry

ber and October on their nectar resources to fuel their migration. Monarchs fed on a variety of plant species, and nectar resources were more abundant in the fire area. Communities with major implications for monarch migration following thinning and prescribed fire are nectar resources and the early 1900s has substan-

ly 20th century (Foti & Brower 1995). The harvest of these pine trees has been altered using prescribed fire or remain as snags. These trees have been subjected to fire and have been removed (Bukenhofer and

Beggar-ticks, Tickseed Sunflower
(*Bidens aristosa*)



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Beggar-ticks, Tickseed Sunflower
(*Bidens aristosa*)



Meredith York

Late Boneset
(*Eupatorium serotinum*)



Boneset
(*Eupatorium perfoliatum*)



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Tall Goldenrod
(*Solidago altissima*)



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Rough Goldenrod
(*Solidago radula*)



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Fragrant Goldenrod, Licorice Goldenrod
(*Solidago odorata*)



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Stiff Goldenrod
(*Solidago rigida*)



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Missouri Ironweed
(*Vernonia missurica*)



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Elegant Blazing-star
(*Liatris elegans*)



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Appalachian Blazing-star
(*Liatris squarrulosa*)



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Rough Blazing-star
(Liatris aspera)



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Bitterweed, Sneezeweed
(*Helenium amarum*)



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Autumn Sneezeweed
(Helenium autumnale)



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Aster
(*Symphyotrichum* spp.)



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Smartweed
(*Persicaria* spp.)



Kenneth Lawless