

Tall Green Milkweed

Asclepias hirtella (Pennell) Woodson

Prairie Milkweed

A stiff, upright tallgrass-prairie milkweed with crowded narrow leaves and dense round clusters of small greenish-white flowers, common on prairie remnants and railroad rights of way through the Midwest.



Mason Brock (Masebrock). Public domain. Wikimedia Commons.

Key facts

Field	Value	Field	Value
Status	Native	Height	2ft-4ft
Flowers	green, white	Bloom	June to August
Light	Full sun	Soil	Dry, Average
USDA zones	4-8	Leaves	alternate, narrow
Sap	Milky latex	Roots	Deep taproot, resents transplanting
Stratification	30 days cold-moist	States	18

How to identify it

- Numerous narrow alternate leaves crowded up a single rigid stem.
- Tight, ball-like clusters of small green-white flowers in the leaf axils.
- Indicator of remnant prairie and old cemetery prairies.

Ecology

Used by monarchs and by a wide range of small prairie bees and wasps.

Growing

Available from prairie seed suppliers; needs lean soil and full sun.

Cautions

Standard milkweed cautions.

Where it grows

Alabama, Arkansas, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Mississippi, Nebraska, Ohio, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas, Wisconsin

More photographs



Eric Hunt. CC BY-SA 4.0. Wikimedia Commons.



Joshua Mayer from Madison, WI, USA. CC BY-SA 2



Joshua Mayer from Madison, WI, USA. CC BY-SA 2

References

- Plants of the World Online: <https://powo.science.kew.org/taxon/urn:lsid:ipni.org:names:21200-2>
- GBIF: <https://www.gbif.org/species/3170338>
- iNaturalist: <https://www.inaturalist.org/taxa/127690>
- BONAP county map: <https://bonap.net/MapGallery/County/Asclepias%20hirtella.png>

<https://milkweedusa.com/species/tall-green-milkweed/>