

NATIVE PLANTS FOR NATIVE BIRDS - SOUTHEASTERN U.S.

Name	Scientific Name	Size (feet)	Food Season	Food type	Caterpillar host	Nest	Shelter	Growing Notes
<b>TREES</b>								
Birches (River, Yellow)	<i>Betula nigra, lutea</i>	80	Spring	seed	***	x		Needs moisture
Black Cherry	<i>Prunus serotina</i>	30-50	Summer	high sugar	*****			freely reseeds, best for natural areas
Dogwoods (Natives)	<i>Cornus alternifolium, amomum, florida</i>	8-25	Fall	high fat	***	x		Fall color
Eastern Red Cedar	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	30-50	Winter	high fat	**	x	x	alternative to Leland Cypress
Hackberry	<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	30-50	Late Summer	high sugar	***	x	x	undervalued street tree
Maples, Sugar, Red, Silver	<i>Acer saccharum, rubrum, saccharinum</i>	50-70	Spring	seed	***			Fall color
Red Mulberry	<i>Morus rubra</i>	30-60	Summer	high sugar	*	x		needs moist soil
Red Oaks	<i>Quercus spp.</i>	60-80	Fall	acorns	****	x	x	Faster growing than white oaks
Serviceberries	<i>Amelanchier spp</i>	20-25	Summer	high sugar	***	x		Early spring flowers, fall color
Wild Crabapples (Southern, Sweet)	<i>Malus angustifolia, coronaria</i>	30-60	Winter	high sugar post freeze	***	x		Hardy natives are not frost tender
Virginia Pine	<i>Pinus virginiana</i>	40	Fall	seed	**	x	x	Grows best in full sun
Washington Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus phaenopyrum</i>	20-30	Winter	high sugar post freeze	*	x	x	Attractive flowers, special value to native bees
White Oak	<i>Quercus alba</i>	80-100	Fall	acorns	*****	x	x	best tree for wildlife - food, shelter, nesting
<b>SHRUBS</b>								
American Beautyberry	<i>Callicarpa americana</i>	5-8	Late Summer	high sugar	**			will bloom and fruit in shade
American Elderberry	<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>	10-16	Summer	high sugar	***			Freely suckering, needs moisture
Blueberry, Highbush	<i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i>	5-8	early summer	high sugar	**	x	x	sun and acidic soil
Chokeberry, Red or Black	<i>Aronia arbutifolia, melanocarpa</i>	3-5	Winter	high sugar post freeze	*		x	colony-forming
Roses (Native)	<i>Rosa carolina, palustris</i>	4	Summer/fall	hips	**			Great for tea
Spicebush	<i>Lindera benzoin</i>	8-12	Fall	high fat	**			Need both male and female plants for berries
Sumac, Smooth, Staghorn, Shining	<i>Rhus glabra, typhina, copallinum</i>	10-18	Winter	high sugar post freeze	**	x		Naturalizing, fall color
Sweetshrub	<i>Calycanthus floridus</i>	shrub	Fall	seed	*		x	Does well in shade, very fragrant
Viburnums (Native)	<i>Viburnum acerifolium, cassinoides, dentatum, nudum, rudifolium, trilobum</i>	4-10	Fall	high fat	**		x	Excellent red fall color
Wax Myrtle	<i>Myrica cerifera</i>	10-20	Fall	high fat	**			needs sun and moist soil
Winterberry	<i>Ilex verticillata</i>	15	Winter	high sugar post freeze	**			Need both male and female plants for berries
<b>VINES</b>								
Coral honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera sempervirens</i>	5-14	Summer	nectar	**	x	x	Long bloom period, will produce berries
Grapes	<i>Vitis sp</i>	8-40	Late Summer	high sugar	**			Muscadine is a grape

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Greenbriar	<i>Smilax rotundifolia</i>	1-8	Fall	high sugar post freeze	*			Prickly vine is best in naturalized areas
Poison Ivy	<i>Rhus radicans</i>	1-20	Winter	high sugar post freeze	**			Yes, this is a native plant!
Virginia Creeper	<i>Parthnocissus quinquefolia</i>	3-50	Fall	high fat	**			Brilliant red fall color; often mistaken for Poison ivy.
<b>PERENNIALS</b>								
Aster spp	<i>Many species</i>	1-8	summer-fall	seed	**			Very large family includes many garden favorites
Black-eyed Susans	<i>Rudbeckia spp.</i>	2-4	summer-fall	seed	*			Easy to grow
Blazing Stars	<i>Liatrus</i>	2-5	summer-fall	seed	*			Many shapes and sizes
Coneflowers, Purple, Pale, Tennessee	<i>Echinacea purpurens, pallida, tennesseensis</i>	2-4	summer-fall	seed insect galls	*			Sunny garden staples
Coreopsis spp	<i>Coreopsis</i>	1-4	summer-fall	seed	*			Many shapes and sizes
Goldenrods	<i>Solidago spp</i>	2-8	fall	seed/insect galls	**			Does not cause hayfever!
Ironweed	<i>Vernonia altissima</i>	4-8	fall	seed	*			Great plant for naturalizing, needs space and moisture
Joe Pye-weed	<i>Eupatorium fistulosum, maculatum</i>	4-8	fall-winter	seed	*			Great plant for naturalizing, needs space and moisture
Prairie Dock, Compass Plant, Rosinweeds	<i>Silphium spp.</i>	3-9	summer-fall	seed	*			Cup plant is used by finches for drinking water
Sunflowers	<i>Helianthus spp</i>	3-10	summer-fall	seed	**			Many species grow in different conditions
<b>GRASSES</b>								
Bluestems	<i>Andropogon spp</i>	2-8	fall	seed	*	x		also important nesting
Switchgrass	<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	3-5	fall	seed	*			many varieties
Witchgrass, Deertongue	<i>Dichanthelium spp.</i>	1-2	summer-fall	seed	*	x		will grow in part-shade
<b>Resources:</b>								
Cornell Lab of Ornithology	<a href="http://www.birds.cornell.edu">www.birds.cornell.edu</a>							
National Wildlife Federation	<a href="http://www.nwf.org/wildlife/wildlife-library/birds.aspx">www.nwf.org/wildlife/wildlife-library/birds.aspx</a>							Caterpillar Host Plant = Number of species
Audubon	<a href="http://www.audubon.org">www.audubon.org</a>							* = 1-99
Gardening for the Birds: How to Create a Bird-Friendly Backyard, George Adams, Timber Press (2013)								
								** = 100-199
								*** = 200-299
								**** = 300-399
								***** = 400-499
								***** = 500-599