

# Emerald Goddess Gardens

[emeraldgoddessgardens.com](http://emeraldgoddessgardens.com)

**A Gift from Our Garden**

<b>Botanical Name</b>	Asclepias tuberosa
<b>Common Name</b>	Butterfly Milkweed, Pleurisy Root
<b>Mature Size</b>	1 to 2 ft.
<b>Bloom Color</b>	Orange
<b>Bloom Period</b>	Summer
<b>Bloom Form</b>	Corolla
<b>Water</b>	Moderate
<b>Light</b>	Full Sun to Light Shade
<b>Fragrance</b>	None
<b>Uses</b>	Showy Flowers, Great Butterfly Attractant
<b>Special Features</b>	Butterfly Gardens, Mixed Perennials, Potted
<b>USDA Hardiness</b>	9, 10, 11



Asclepias or Butterfly Milkweed is an upright, open growing flowering perennial native to the American tropics. It is cultivated worldwide for its showy flowers and ability to attract butterflies, especially Monarch and Queen.

Plants grow fast and upright, and generally mature between 3 and 4 feet tall. The narrow, oblong, pointed lance-shaped leaves grow in opposite pairs, spaced out along pale gray green stems filled with a milky sap. Flowers composed of a bright ring of sepals in either yellow, orange, or red and crowned by a gold orange yellow corolla.

Milkweed is easy to grow, will thrive in a wide range of soil types and is quite drought tolerant once well established. Flowers begin to appear in mid to late spring and continue almost year round. It is generally evergreen in Zones 9B, 10, 11. In Zones 9A and 8B, well established plants will generally freeze to the ground and resprout in the spring.

The flowers are attractive to butterflies, especially Monarchs. It's a great choice for butterfly gardens and mixed perennial beds and borders and requires little care or maintenance.

Find live and growing [Milkweed on our website](#) and add even more beauty to your butterfly garden!

For quick answers to your growing or planting questions, just email us at [service@emeraldgoddessgardens.com](mailto:service@emeraldgoddessgardens.com)

If you don't know your USDA Planting Zone, you can check the map on our website site at [emeraldgoddessgardens.com](http://emeraldgoddessgardens.com)

## ***Please accept this gift from our garden:***

- It is sent with our thanks, and in an effort to keep the old tradition of pass-along plants alive.
- We understand that it might not be a plant you like, or even have a spot for. If that should be the case, then please pass it along to a friend. (Along with our contact information, we hope!)
- We change the type of plant that we enclose frequently, so you can anticipate a new surprise with each new order.
- *Enjoy and please come back often!*

The Family and Staff of:

***Emerald Goddess Gardens***

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### **Getting your seeds started:**

Germination times and requirements for seeds can vary greatly, so here are some basic tips for caring for your seeds once they have sprouted and the specifics on convincing Butterfly Milkweed to sprout.

- For best germination rates, cold stratify your seeds by placing them in the refrigerator for 30 days.
- Use a good quality commercial potting media.
- Water regularly to keep the top layer of soil consistently moist, but not soggy.
- Locate so that the plant can receive direct, full spectrum, light for several hours daily, but is protected from hot, direct afternoon sun.
- Be sure the pot can drain and that the bottom of the pot does not sit submerged in water for more than a day
- Once small sprouts begin to emerge, decrease watering so that the top ½” of soil is allowed to dry between watering. If sprouts begin to droop, they are ready to be watered.
- Thin sprouts as they emerge and replant in a new container or dispose of to achieve the desired number of plants in each pot.
- Monitor for signs of disease or insects and treat accordingly
- Protect from freeze and frost
- Allow the new pot to fill with roots before setting out in the landscape in the recommended USDA Zone Range for the plant.

*Gift plants are our courtesy way of saying Thank You and that we appreciate your order, and are not covered by any Warranty that may apply to your paid order. We hope you will enjoy watching your seeds grow into something amazing!*

*\*Image courtesy of CCC*