### SPECIFICATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>STEM</strong></th>
<th>Downy (hairy), from 60 to 200 cm tall.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>FLOWERS</strong></td>
<td>Umbels: red or purplish-pink.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>LEAVES</strong></td>
<td>Narrow, tapered, 4 to 17 cm long, arranged in opposite pairs.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>FRUIT</strong></td>
<td>Long, narrow and smooth follicles, changing colour from green to brownish.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>HABITAT</strong></td>
<td>Wetlands. Also found in swamps, ditches and near streams, rivers and lakes.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>POPULATIONS</strong></td>
<td>Often scattered - does not form dense colonies.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>LOCATIONS</strong></td>
<td>Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Photo: Patrick Alexander, Peganum

*Asclepias incarnata*
**DWARF MILKWEED**  
*Asclepias ovalifolia*

**SPECIFICATIONS**

**STEM**  
Simple (unbranched) and downy, 30 to 60 cm tall.

**FLOWERS**  
Greenish white or pale mauve corolla; orange or yellow corona.

**LEAVES**  
Opposite, oval, with pointy tips, 5 to 8 cm long.

**HABITAT**  
Likes sandy soil, roadsides and dry, sunny conditions.

**LOCATION**  
British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario
**SHOWY MILKWEED**
*Asclepias speciosa*

**SPECIFICATIONS**

**STEM**
45 to 200 cm tall, velvety or pubescent (hairy).

**FLOWERS**
Pale pink, arranged in umbels. The corona hoods are long (9 to 13 mm) and lance-shaped, making the flowers look like stars.

**LEAVES**
Opposite, 10 to 25 cm long, smooth or slightly downy.

**HABITAT**
Well-drained soil, sunny sites, pastures, forest edges, untilled fields, roadsides, ditches.

**LOCATION**
British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba.
**Common Milkweed**

*Asclepias syriaca*

**SPECIFICATIONS**

**STEM**
Downy, usually single, 90 to 120 cm tall. Underground stems.

**FLOWERS**
Pale pink or mauve, arranged in almost spherical umbels.

**LEAVES**
Broad and thick, 10 to 20 cm long, arranged in opposite pairs on the stem and with pubescent undersides.

**FRUIT**
Large spindle-shaped fruit, bumpy, rough and downy.

**HABITAT**
Poor, dry soil, disturbed, sunny sites.

**LOCATION**
Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova-Scotia, Prince Edward Island

Photo: Daphné Laurier Montpetit
WHORLED MILKWEED
Asclepias verticillata

SPECIFICATIONS

STEM
Angled, pubescent (hairy) or glabrous, 40 to 100 cm tall.

FLOWERS
White corona and greenish corolla.

LEAVES
Elongated and narrow, almost threadlike, 5 to 10 cm long. Arranged in groups of 2 to 4, opposite each other on the stem.

FRUIT
Elongated and lance-shaped, 7 to 10 cm long, glabrous or pubescent (hairy).

HABITAT
Dry, infertile soils.

LOCATION
Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario
SPECIFICATIONS

STEM
30 to 90 cm tall, pubescent, green and sometimes purplish.

FLOWERS
Arranged in often downward-facing umbels, pale green sometimes tinged with violet. Unlike other milkweed species, the flowers of this species have no corona hoods.

LEAVES
Arranged in opposite pairs on the stem. Vary in shape depending on the habitat where the plant is found. They may be long and narrow or broader and oval. The leaf edges may sometimes be wavy.

HABITAT
Dry, sandy or rocky soils, but also in wetter sites like marshes.

LOCATION
British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario

Photo: No name, Matta Lavin
BUTTERFLY MILKWEED
Asclepias tuberosa

SPECIFICATIONS

STEM
20 to 60 cm tall.

FLOWERS
Bright orange-yellow, arranged in umbels.

LEAVES
Alternate on the stem (not opposite each other), lance-shaped, 5 to 10 cm long, smooth on top and downy beneath.

HABITAT
Limestone soils, open, rocky, dry sites. Does not tolerate shade.

UNIQUE FEATURE
No milky sap.

LOCATION
Ontario, Quebec

Photo: Brett Whaley, Frank Mayfield