

# Weekly Wild Wednesday

February 9, 2022

*What a Week of "Spring Planning Opportunities!"*



My Garden Butterfly Milkweed  
photo taken at night

Brings a host of butterflies to your yard -- but not deer. A tough perennial, it bursts forth with clusters of orange flowers in summer. Heat and drought resistant. Depend on it to look good, even with little care.



## Loess Hills Wild Ones: Spring 2022 Plant Sale

Feb 13, 2022 02:00 PM

Central Time (US and Canada)

We'll share information about the species available for purchase through our spring plant sale. Native plants purchased through this sale **MUST** be picked up in Sioux City, Iowa. Sale details will be available at our website when they are finalized, and we plan to send information directly to registrants prior to and/or after the program.

By registering for this program, you consent to be contacted by Wild Ones and/or your local Wild Ones chapter.

Meeting Registration

Sunday, February 13<sup>th</sup> starting at 2PM our own Dianne will be launching 2022 "Meet the Plants!" Whether you purchase plants locally from Loess Hills Wild Ones this Spring, or grow or find your own, you are sure to learn something while enjoying the gorgeous photos in the presentation!

[Click either photo to register for "Meet the Plants!!"](#)

And NEXT on our opportunities to learn locally (below) is a Zoom Presentation from the Ada Hayden Herbarium, February 20<sup>th</sup> 2PM! [Register HERE for "Iowa's Flora!"](#)



Ada Hayden, in "College Pasture," Ames, Iowa.  
(Source: Iowa State University Department of Botany)

## WOODBURY COUNTY CONSERVATION FOUNDATION EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2022

2:00 P.M. WEBINAR VIA ZOOM

## "IOWA'S FLORA ~ NATURAL & CULTURAL HISTORY"

A PRESENTATION BY DEBORAH Q. LEWIS, CURATOR  
ADA HAYDEN HERBARIUM AT IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

REGISTER AT: [HTTPS://BIT.LY/WCCF2022](https://bit.ly/WCCF2022)



many people report seeing American plums flower but not fruit. This is either from frost damage or a lack of pollination. They flower early, just before apples here, so in some years the crop is lost from a late frost. Pollination is tricky in the wild. Some stands look like several trees, but they are really one tree with many root suckers around it. There need to be at least two different trees close by for pollination to occur.



Best smelling flowers ever- American plum

**Propagation:** I grow A. plum from seed, others might have experience with cuttings or digging up root suckers. Growing them from seed is not hard but there are a few important things to keep

**We received some Wild Plum seeds from Dianne, passed on from Mark, and went down a Rabbit Hole! There are many, many ways to start Plum seeds, and Twisted Tree has several detailed ways for you to find YOUR style!**

**These trees and many others are also available from the [Iowa State Forestry](#) as bare root trees if starting seeds is not YOUR style!**

are easily controlled by mowing the grass around grafted trees. The rootstocks are vigorous, precocious, and adaptable to a wide variety of soil conditions.

American plums have been crossed with Japanese plums to create many outstanding varieties that are commercially available. The most famous of these is the Toka plum.



Sprouted American plum seeds



Smith, R.W.

## *Prunus americana*

*Prunus americana* Marshall

American Plum, Wild Plum

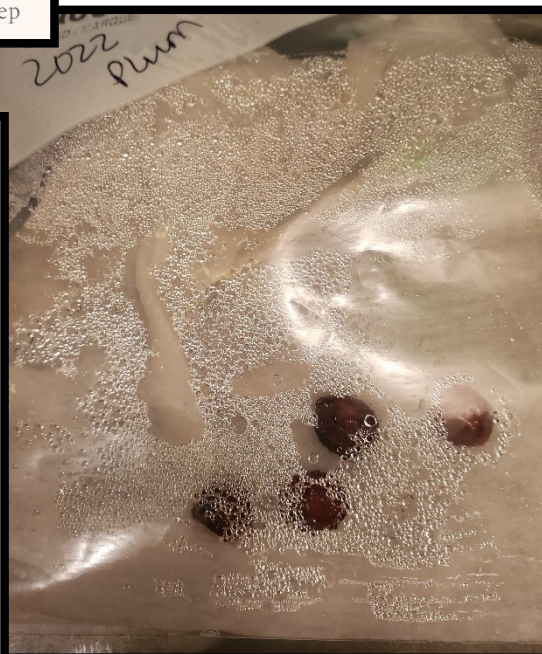
[Rosaceae](#) (Rose Family)

Synonym(s):

USDA Symbol: [pram](#)

USDA Native Status: [L48 \(N\)](#), [CAN \(N\)](#)

A thicket-forming [shrub](#) or small [tree](#) with short trunk, many spreading branches, broad crown, showy large white flowers, and red plums. American plum is a small, understory tree to 35



**←At the “Wild Mess In Progress” We are trying two ways, the stratification method in the refrigerator, and the ‘bucket method’ outdoors outlined in the Twisted Tree article linked to the photos!**


**Finger’s crossed!**


...s will eat them if they have access. Plum have a small almond like kernel beneath shell. Many small critters will do anything to eat them. I store my plum seeds by burying buckets in the ground. I make small holes in the bucket to allow drainage and fill the bucket with a mix of damp sand and seed.

In the spring, the seeds will most likely be sprouting. Plant them about a half inch deep and cover with a thin mulch. Sometimes plums will enter a double dormancy and not sprout until the following spring. This can be frustrating and is somewhat mysterious. Planting seeds from a cold environment into a warm soil too quickly




There are so MANY wonderful upcoming opportunities, and past learning experiences to share!  
 Why do we plant Native plants? Reasons below! Opportunities to learn? Click links!  
 Thanks Dawn, for letting us come over to the Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center to watch the Heather  
 Holmes Bumblebee Webinar from Ohio State University!  
 And mark your calendars --or sign up--- for the various upcoming activities!  
 Links on each photo!





Featuring Neil Diboll  
 Wild Ones Lifetime  
 Honorary Director & Prairie Ecologist  
 at Prairie Nursery



**Register Now!**

**Genetic Diversity and Plant Preservation FREE Webinar**  
 Feb. 16th | 6 p.m. CT

Join us for "Wild Ones Presents  
 'Genetic Diversity & Plant Preservation'  
 a webinar with Neil Diboll  
 Wednesday, February 16th at 6 p.m. CT

**HURRY, registration closes  
 Sunday, Feb. 13th at 11:59 p.m. CT!**

This webinar will discuss plant genetic diversity and the role it plays in our gardens, landscapes, and natural areas. The divergence between the goals of horticulture and ecology create a conundrum for the modern gardener, especially those committed to the preservation of plant species and the organisms that depend upon them for survival.

**About the Speaker**  
 Neil Diboll is a Wild Ones Lifetime Honorary Director and Prairie Ecologist. Neil is a pioneer in the native plant industry and recognized internationally as an expert in native plant ecology. Neil has dedicated his life to the propagation of native plants, promoting their benefits and furthering their use and in restoration projects.

**Register Now!**

## Seed Sharing and Seed Law

Mar 15, 2022 10:00 AM  
 Eastern Time (US and Canada)  
 Webinar ID 970 4156 1431

Dr. David Francis with the Ohio State University Department of Horticulture  
 Seed Sharing and Seed Law

David's session will include: seed borne disease, seed law, propagation to ensure plant identity, and updates on sharing and saving.

This webinar will be recorded and shared on the Bee Lab website:  
<https://u.osu.edu/beelab/courses/>

## INHF Winter Work Day near Stone State Park

Wednesday, February 16, 12:00 - 2:00 pm

## Winter Work Day Wednesday, Feb. 16 | 12 p.m. - 2 p.m. Lebrede/Rose Property | Sioux City

Join Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation for a winter work day in the Loess Hills. We'll spend a couple hours at the Lebrede/Rose property removing unwanted brush to help the property's native prairie thrive. Please arrive early to park and check-in.

## Looking Ahead Siouxland Garden Show

Looking ahead in 2022 remember to mark your calendar for the Siouxland Garden Show! The event is returning to the in-person format you have all come to enjoy. Two full days of learning and shopping with some of the best lawn and garden speakers around and vendors galore!

The Siouxland Garden Show is Back In Bloom on April 1 and 2. For more information be sure to head to [siouxlandgardenshow.org](http://siouxlandgardenshow.org).



**Back In Bloom!**

**April 1-2, 2022**  
 Marriott Conference Center  
 South Sioux City, NE  
[www.siouxlandgardenshow.org](http://www.siouxlandgardenshow.org)

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY  
 Extension and Outreach  
 Woodbury County

**N** EXTENSION  
Native Plants

**Check out more!**





# ALMANAC

Saturday, January 29, 2022

HOME

## Why More Gardeners Are Growing Native Plants



This butterfly didn't seem to mind being photographed. It stayed for several pictures.

**Photo Credit:** Barbara C Richardson

## Native plant list and native landscaping tips

By Robin Sweetser  
 April 21, 2021









**Common Native Bees**  
 of the Eastern United States



**POLLINATORS**  
 of Native Plants

*Wishing you a week filled with  
"Spring Planning Opportunities!"*



Map underwritten by [plantinseeds.org](http://plantinseeds.org)