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LOUISIANA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

LNPS NEWSLETTER



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- To preserve and study native plants and their habitats
- To educate people on the value of native plants and the need to preserve and protect rare and endangered species
- To promote the propagation and use of native plants in the landscape
- To educate people on the relationship between our native flora and wildlife

February LNPS Meeting Postponed

The COVID-19 pandemic has created challenging situations which continue to affect us all. For the safety of our LNPS members and community, the **LNPS annual meeting scheduled for February 5-7, 2021 has been postponed to a later date.** We are tentatively planning a meeting later in 2021. We hope the format of the postponed meeting will be in person, complete with guest speakers, provided it can be conducted safely. In the interim, to help keep our native plant community connected, LNPS is planning at least three small group field trips to be held between Fall 2020 and Summer 2021. The dates, locations, and times of these field trips are to be determined. If you would like to host-lead a field trip please contact LNPS at email lnpsinbox@gmail.com.

Like most organizations, we are doing our best to provide safe and fulfilling opportunities for the LNPS community to share

knowledge and learn about Louisiana native plants. Updates for the field trips and annual meeting will be emailed to you as well as posted to the LNPS web page (<https://www.lnps.org>) when scheduled.

LNPS will continue to put your safety first and follow guidance from local authorities regarding further COVID-19 developments. I want to thank you for your patience during this time as we adapt to this unprecedented situation. I am confident that the upcoming programs LNPS will offer are going to be fulfilling for all native plant enthusiasts. I hope to see you in the field and at the annual meeting (TBD).

*Kindest Regards,
Brian Sean Early
President*

“Terms of Indument”

By John Michael Kelley

Identifying plant species can be hard. Many individuals struggle with it and gain very little traction toward an understanding of the species around them. Why? I am inclined to believe they are unaware of the types of physical distinctions which attract a botanist's eye. Universal Latin names for plants should illustrate that it is easier to understand a botanist's human perception than to understand the complicated facets of every species. Thus, a learner interested in discerning plant species must be familiar with the botanist's carefully constructed vernacular for plant features.

One such feature which can help a beginner to separate plants by name is indument. This is a technical term which refers to the covering of an organism's surfaces, and more frequently a covering composed of hairs. That last statement marks the end of simplicity in botanical descriptions for hair. The remainder of this article is an application of agreed-upon meanings for terms of indument, and I intend for it to assist you

in the rapid identification of a few selected species. Indument is rarely the sole diagnostic character to a species, but instead accompanies other traits to form a combined concept of traits.

Whenever multiple terms describe a trait without a clear distinction, I will list them in parentheses after the word (like this, and this, and this). The term glabrous refers to an absence of hairs, but does not rule out bloom, which refers to a coating or coloration on the surface of a plant. A trichome is a botanical hair.

Absence of Indument



Tradescantia obiensis
(prairiemoon.org)

Spiderworts (*Tradescantia* spp.) often require magnified study of the pubescence on various parts of the plant. One species saves you the headaches: *Tradescantia obiensis* (including *T. paludosa*) is noteworthy for being entirely glabrous (stem, nodes, leaves, sheaths, sepals, petals) except for a small tuft of hair at the tip of its sepals, and often glaucous (with a bluish white bloom). It is typically found in moist roadsides, but occasionally in open, low woods.



Carya illinoensis
(northernpecans.blogspot.com)

The South's beloved Pecan tree (*Carya illinoensis*) is easy to recog-

“Terms of Indument” cont.

nize in the suburban yard. It should be remembered, however, that this is a native species of rich soils along rivers.

In the woods another congener of the Hickory clan might trip you up: Water Hickory (*C. aquatica*). Their leaflet number can overlap at times, and a good way to tell them apart involves indument. The underside of the Pecan’s leaflets will be nearly glabrous (without hairs).



Symphyotrichum tenuifolium
(gobotany.nativeplanttrust.org)

Annual Saltmarsh Aster (*Symphyotrichum tenuifolium*) is often entirely glabrous. Most Asters are pubescent, at least in lines along the stem. Annual Saltmarsh Aster grows along the brackish

coastline in all of the southernmost parishes.

Presence of Indument



Carya tomentosa
(nature.mdc.mo.gov)

Mockernut Hickory (*Carya tomentosa*) is the most conspicuously hairy Hickory in our area. The specific epithet describes its leaves and their core support, the rachis. This rachis is decidedly tomentose (covered with soft, often wooly or interwoven hairs) and features simple and branched trichomes. This species also has the largest leaflets of any local hickory.



Luzula echinata
(marylandbiodiversity.com)

The grass-like Rushes (*Juncaceae*) are characterized by stems which are round in cross section and lack well-defined nodes, the flowers very similar to those of Lilies but much reduced. Two genera are found in our area, namely *Juncus* (of wetlands) and *Luzula* (of uplands). The latter is distinct for having leaf margins which are ciliate (fringed with hairs along the margins). In the hardwood uplands, *L. echinata* is commonly seen blooming in mid-March.

“Terms of Indument” cont.



Symphyotrichum tenuifolium
(gobotany.nativeplanttrust.org)

The American Asters (*Symphyotrichum*) are the harbingers of leaf fall and cold snaps in the Northern half of our state. The Asters can be confusing and captivating. Distinguishing features range from "ten-pace" indicators to microscopic traits only observable at peak flower. I glut over this group every year, but at times a great sense of relief is furnished by familiarity with one or a few species. Hairy White Oldfield Aster (*Symphyotrichum pilosum*) fits the bill for me. It truly is pilose (covered with long soft hairs), and the involute phyllaries and white rays add up to an easy ID.

With these species you can begin to train your eye for the pubescent features of plant. For a real kick, I will leave you with a homework assignment: Flip over any member of the Post Oak group (*Quercus stellata*, *similis*, and *margarettae*) and look at the complex arrangement of stellate (with branches radiating out like a star) hairs by which they can be identified.

Other Useful Terms

Antorse/ Retorse - pointing to the tip or base of the plant, respectively.

Hispid - with bristly, stiff, spreading hair.

Puberulent - with short, often inconspicuous hairs.

Canescent - with whitish, hoary hairs

Strigose - with stiff, abruptly bent antorse hairs

Uncinate - hook shaped

Capitate - with a swollen head

Glandular/ Eglandular - with or without small droplets of sticky liquid attached, respectively.

Difficult Genera Often Requiring Attention to Indument

Desmodium,
Carya,
Dichanthelium,
Quercus,
Andropogon,
Sporobolus,
Paspalum,
Carex,
Symphyotrichum,
Tradescantia.

John Michael Kelley is a talented young botanist from Haughton, Louisiana.

Scouting for Plants Along the Mississippi River's Edge

By Caden Muehlner & Lees Hopkins

While the fascination with native plants has transformed gardening and land use trends in other parts of the state and country, many readers may be wondering what's taken us New Orleanians so long to catch on. While there are obviously many factors, we believe that the difficulty of finding healthy wild spaces in the Greater New Orleans area to explore has been a major problem. We are trying to learn about the native plants of the Mississippi delta and Gulf coast

the healthy ecosystems we seek to recreate.

Many spots along the shoreline of the Mississippi River--out of range of maintenance crews--are good places to interact with nature. One spot we've come to cherish is the riverside batture (the alluvial land between a river at low-water stage and a levee) near the Chalmette Battlefield in St. Bernard Parish: a seemingly unpromising slice of land, deeply flooded for five months out of the year, and tucked between the toxic emissions of a sugar factory and oil refinery. It isn't

Parts of this area have been subjected to the mowers (particularly upsetting was the harsh cut of many flowering woolly rosemallows) but enough of it is left alone.

To talk about the remnant of riparian ecosystem clinging to the batture, it seems necessary to first honor the willows. *Salix nigra* (black willow) and possibly *Salix interior* (sandbar willow) grow throughout. Their narrow leaves quiver in the wind and diffuse the brutal summer sun; their roots stretch and break concrete and hold the soil against the river's flow & swell. In the winter, they seem to grow straight out of the river waves, far out from the water's edge. In summer, the massive, twisting, sculptural clumps of aquatic roots grow from their trunks and limbs give the place a dreamlike feeling- soon this whole narrow, intricate landscape will be sleeping under the Mississippi again.



region from within a centuries-old city- one with a long history of disavowal of its wetland origins. It's surely a challenge, but there are still plant communities, though fragmented, that we can look for; they offer a vision of

obvious how to get there: there are certainly no signs. After admiring the meadow at the historic landmark, you can walk past the plantation and over the levee, through some brush and tall grass, down the piled rubble, to reach a nearly-thriving plant community. A surprising number of flowering herbaceous plants and woody shrubs, along with numerous grasses and sedges, spring up from the silty clay muck in the summer when the river subsides.

In the gaps between willows, and within the sheltered spaces they create, starlike white asters sway, groves of rosemallow lift their crimson centers toward the morning light, wood sage spreads out its carpet of soft leaves, buttonbush's perfect spheres glow in the dappled shade,

Scouting for Plants Along the Mississippi River's Edge *cont.*

By Caden Muehlner & Lees Hopkins

and *Pluchea* clings obstinately to the shoreline, holding up pink-silvery brushes & scenting the river breeze. Sedges, frogfruit and *Mimosa strigillosa* carpet the ground and interweave in the sunny spaces, and false indigo stretches out its gangly limbs, offering vivid flower spikes to jewel-like sweat bees.

At least two species of mallow are thriving here: wooly rosemallow (*Hibiscus lasiocarpus*) and Halberd-leaf rosemallow (*Hibiscus laevis*). Woolies seem to prefer a more exposed position, facing the sun-drenched levee rather than the shady river's edge. They are majestic plants, the oldest

growing to six or even seven feet tall. Beneath the wooly rosemallows are swaths of wood sage (*Teucrium canadense*) which spreads by shallow rhizomes, a much more resilient plant than it looks. It's easy to overlook when not in flower, with inconspicuous and tender grey-green foliage to 18 inches and flower spires to almost three feet. This plant is indigenous throughout much of North America, which isn't surprising considering it's adaptability, rhizomatic growth, and fertile seed.

By the river, groves of halberd-leaf mallows thrive in the shade of the willows and cluster tight along the edge of the water. *Pluchea* seedlings and rosettes of green lichen grow around their feet. *Pluchea* (either *P. camphorata* or *P. odorata*), is a ruderal annual adapted to flooding by producing large amounts of viable seeds, which spread in patches to the water's edge. The flower clusters are mauve, grey, cream and silver, and the leaves have a blue silver iridescence and intoxicating musky scent.

The native plant communities of the Mississippi delta are unique even within the Southeast. Many of the

species available in the trade are North-shore plants more at home in sandy, acidic soil than our mucky clay. Gardeners of New Orleans who hope to mimic natural ecosystems can incorporate these resilient riverside species and cultivate an environment that is uniquely ours. Even tropical-themed courtyards and landscapes can mix them in to support wildlife and create a more specific sense of place. Delta Flora Native Plants hopes to increase appreciation for the tough and adaptable plants that thrive in the small cracks of wilderness left in New Orleans. We have plans to increase propagation of the batture plants mentioned here, in addition to offering regional native plant staples. We have collected seed from many of them, and look forward to bringing these Orleans parish natives back in from the edges so they can gain acceptance and recognition in their home environment.

Lees Hopkins and **Caden Muehlner** operate Delta Flora Native Plant nursery in New Orleans. Founded in 2019, Delta Flora seeks to meet the need for education, inspiration, and plants to support the ecosystems of our area.



Nectar Profusion

“Twelve native nectar plants, twelve plant gardeners, twelve favorite picks and why”

By Linda Auld

There are so many native plants that can be planted to attract a variety of pollinators! I asked twelve of my friends and colleagues who are knowledgeable about growing native plants for their selection suggestions.

Alford, Mac H., Ph.D., - Professor and Curator of the Herbarium, School of Biological, Environmental, and Earth Sciences @ University of Southern Mississippi:

I have two favorites on this list (*Rudbeckia laciniata* and *Helianthus angustifolius*). I'm going to vote for....*Helianthus angustifolius* (narrowleaf sunflower)--I like it because it's messy and surprising! If you plant it tightly among other tall wildflowers (blazing stars, Joe Pye weeds, ironweed, hibiscus), it too will grow tall and pile all over the other plants, but in such a subtle way, since its leaves are so narrow and widely spaced out. Then, when it comes into flower, which is usually later than many other species, it really bursts onto the scene with its many sunflower heads. So, it can go from almost invisible to being the primary show in a short time. Best yet, it's quite tough once established and can even be pruned.

Allen, Charles - Allen Acres Bed & Breakfast - speaker, author of 'Louisiana Wildflower Guide':

Helianthus mollis; easy to grow, rhizomatous and thus spreads, leaves are blue green and thus attractive.

Barnes, Anne - LA Master Gardener, first Louisiana Certified Habitat Program garden in New Orleans area:

I admit it is hard to decide but I think I'll have to go with *Dracopis amplexicaulis*. It's a plant I've known and admired all my life. It filled the field next to my home when I was a child. As an adult I acquired it from a neighbor who acquired his from his mother. It's a most cheerful bloom, makes a great cut flowers over its long bloom period, attracts lots of pollinators, and then feeds the birds. And it repeats itself the next year with no work from me. It's even easy to pull the extras. A perfect plant in my opinion.

Fontenot, Bill—Ecological consultant, speaker, landscape planner, author 'Native Gardening in the South':

Echinacea purpurea...longevity of bloom season, soil/light adaptability, diversity of pollinators, modest re-seeder.

Mayronne, John - landscape architect:

Rudbeckia fulgida Goldstrum, (it can bloom twice some years) or *Helianthus mollis* as I think they bloom longer.

Miley, Betty - Maypop Hill Nursery-speaker, author of 'Putting Nature First on Your Southern Land':

Unfair! Like picking your favorite kid. Like, who doesn't love Echinacea? *Rudbeckia hirta* is indispensable. etc. I guess *Helianthus angustifolius*. It's too tall, can be floppy, but. It's so doggoned cheerful and tough and dependable.

Seidenberg, Charlotte - Naturalist, author of 'The New Orleans Garden: Gardening in the Gulf South'

Helianthus angustifolius is my favorite. Perennial profusion! It's starting to bloom now. Long bloom season and attracts tons of insects. It's a little invasive, but so what. Masses of the flowers make such a dramatic statement. Very easy to grow. I have the gold and mellow yellow. The contrast between the intense golden and the light yellow is beautiful. John Mayronne found one last year that was almost white. All 3 shades in one bed would be really gorgeous. I love *Dracopis amplexicaulis*, too, but it's an annual. I bought a plant at LNPS, put it in a wet spot in my prairie. We'll see if it comes up and blooms. Early spring profusion would be nice.

Tallamy, Doug - Professor University of Delaware, speaker, author of 'Bringing Nature Home':

I pick any of the *helianthus* species because that genus hosts so many specialist bees. They can only rear their young on the pollen of *Helianthus*.

Nectar Profusion cont.

“Twelve native nectar plants, twelve plant gardeners, twelve favorite picks and why”

By Linda Auld

**Taylor, Emily - Dixieland-
scape Co. 1120 Erato St
NOLA:**

It's tough to pick a favorite native nectar plant when I'm not in the garden. They are all my favorite when I'm in the landscape and a butterfly lands on a bloom right in front of me. Echinacea is one of my favorite flowers to photograph. Bees will settle on the purple coneflower and take their sweet time extracting nectar from each individual floret. It's fascinating to watch.

**Timmerman, Anna Elizabeth -
Assistant Extension Agent-
Horticulture LSU AgCenter-
Greater NO Area Jefferson,
Orleans, St. Bernard, St.
Charles, & Plaquemines Par-
ishes, LA Landscape Horticul-
turalist, Certified Nursery &
Landscape Professional
(CNLP) :**

Helianthus angustifolius is one of the most cheerful wildflowers in my pollinator garden during the fall season. It blooms until frost, and in those years we do not get a freeze, it provides color and pollen all winter long in New Orleans. I'm sure it is a welcome source of pollen and nectar for insects during the cooler weather. The height of *H. angustifolius* makes it easy to work into existing flowerbeds, it makes a colorful, airy backdrop to any of the

cool season annual flowers most gardeners would be familiar with. It returns reliably each fall and seeds are very easy to collect and share. I love sharing natives with others and encouraging them to be celebrated in our gardens. I have not observed any major pest or disease issues on this flower also, making it a good choice for beginners and native connoisseurs alike!

**Vidrine, Malcolm - Speaker, au-
thor, *The Cajun Prairie*
(www.cajunprairiegarden.wordpress.com):**

I like them all--great for pollinators. My favorite is *Rudbeckia subtomentosa*. It is:

1. lightly scented
2. blooms for 3 months--fantastic companion plants for *Liatris spicata* & *L. pycnostachya*
3. builds a fantastic root system and soil (biosequester of carbon) (anti-climate-changer)
4. can be cut to a desired height and still blooms
5. roots with ease from cuttings
6. seeds are superviable
7. a long-lived perennial that blooms the first year from seed
8. fantastic food for pollinators
9. native to my area and thrives here and common in my yard.

**Webb, Rick - Louisiana Growers-
Speaker:**

Sorry don't do a favorite. Have grown and like 8 of those. Mixes are what we suggest.

Last but not least, **BugLady's personal pick** is Cutleaf coneflower, *Rudbeckia laciniata*. The large leaves are very attractive all year long, and then these tall stalks burst into bright buttery yellow flowers that bloom after most of the other coneflower species have finished. My plants grew as tall as I am! The flowers command your attention when you are strolling through your garden. They make me smile!

Nectar Profusion cont.

“Twelve native nectar plants, twelve plant gardeners, twelve favorite picks and why”

By Linda Auld



Perennial Coneflower
Rudbeckia fulgida



Black-eyed Susan
Rudbeckia hirta



Cutleaf Coneflower
Rudbeckia laciniata



The Giant Coneflower
Rudbeckia maxima



Sweet Coneflower
Rudbeckia subtomentosa



Brown-eyed Susan
Rudbeckia triloba



Purple Coneflower
Echinacea purpurea



Clasping Coneflower
Dracopis amplexicaulis



Common Bitterweed
Hymenoxys odorata



Swamp Sunflower
Helianthus angustifolius



Maxmillian Sunflower
Helianthus maximiliani



Ashy or Downy Sunflower
Helianthus mollis

Finding a Way into the World of Bog Bowls

By John Morton

Maybe your gardening interest has taken you out West to see a fen – a freshwater wetland. But the fen's cousin, the bog, will

blooming varieties: orchids, insectivorous species, mosses, sedges, rushes, and grasses.

Rayless Goldenrod
Tickseed, Lance-leaved Tickseed
Venus Fly Trap
Thread-leaved Sundew
Fork-leaved Sundew

Plantain

Pipewort, Hard Heads, Hat pin

Bog Button

Lance-leaved Violet

“Dwarf” Yellow-eyed Grass

Iris-leaved Yellow-eyed Grass

Liatris Butterwort

Yellow Pitcher Plant

White Top Pitcher Plant

White Top x Parrot

Parrot x Minor

Purple Pitcher Plant, Saddleback,

Spike Moss

Sphagnum Moss

“Dwarf” Yellow-eyed Grass

The basics for raising bog species outdoors in containers is obtained from

Peter D'Amato's book [The Savage Garden](#), from online articles, and often from local seminars. Our patio receives a half day of full sun and has been successful. Elevated granite paving stone pedestals set randomly in the adjacent landscape, provide more space for pots. Since bog species prefer chemical-free water, spots had to be found for three sixty-gallon cisterns for rainwater.



probably be closer and more familiar. Natural bogs exist in Slidell and can be seen at the Crosby Arboretum near Picayune. Bogs also exist in Tangipahoa, Washington and St. Tammany Parishes as well as many in west central Louisiana and east Texas. From Louisiana, these unique wetlands spread eastward to Virginia and Florida and are home to various

Especially for the native plant gardener, using containers to create bog gardens can be tempting and will be productive. If you are expanding your plant inventory, or short on space, or want some new biology; containers are a fine option. Our garden has fourteen small containers on a patio, which has increased plant diversity thirty percent. Our latest bog bowl inventory includes the following:

Finding a Way into the World of Bog Bowls *cont.*

By John Morton

Experts suggest a variety of imaginative container suggestions, each type providing an assortment of solutions for your specific yard. Terra cotta and ceramic bowls were found to be durable, movable, attractive, practical, and available. Finding containers 8 inches deep at a reasonable cost can be a challenge, but 6" pots will substitute. Many of our bowls were bought in the fall, when stores were clearing their garden shelves for Christmas displays. Most containers have provision for drainage, which can be left open or easily plugged. Our project has experimented with both. Terra cotta pots can be painted with waterproofing on the interior which prevents evaporation.

After finding sources that carried bale-size amounts of bog sphagnum moss and clean sand, the collection of plants can begin. At the Crosby Arboretum bog species can be seen in their natural setting, in each season, and they often sell plants. Start looking for plant sources early, and do not overlook the opportunity to absorb valued advice while shopping.

Once your new plants are es-

tablished, change is continuous, and close observation is important and fun. The reward of setting your wine glass aside and saving a honey bee from a pitcher plant without hurting either participant can be priceless. Action that can benefit your project:

The sphagnum potting material assists in maintaining a moist environment in the container but be ready to add water when a dry spell lasts more than a week.

A damp container is heaven for windblown seeds. Volunteers will drop in especially from neighboring plants or from the sil arriving in a new plant. Some are welcome and some need to be removed promptly.

In nature most bog species are dormant in winter and resist our cold weather, but they are now growing in captivity. Consider pot size and weight before you buy and decide how you might protect or move them to safety during a hard freeze or storm.

When purchasing plants, try to obtain three or more of each species. Your container will be a new environment, so extra plants can change the odds for success.

Observe, research, label, and record climate and growth changes frequently.

Watch, learn, and record how critters interact with the carnivorous and other bog plants. Be prepared for a child's fascination with Flytraps and the contents inside the hungry "pitcher".

Next for the established container project will be developing propagation efforts and improving species identification.

Recommended seasonal plant sales in the area are at the Crosby Arboretum; Hilltop Arboretum, Baton Rouge; Briarwood Nature Center in Saline, La; and City Park, New Orleans. Additional suggestions upon request.

John Morton is a member of the Native Plant Initiative and has developed his native plant garden and bog plant collection in Old Metairie for the past twenty-six years.

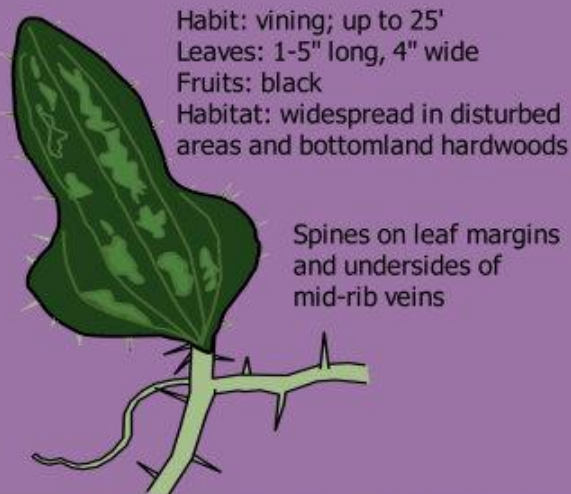
Ouch! Meet the Greenbriars

A Guide to Smilax in Louisiana

The Greenbriars are a group of climbing, flowering native plants in the genus *Smilax*. Most people know these as the woody, thorny vines that tend to leave you bleeding on a hike or invade your gardens, leaving a large tuber in the ground. The plants are fed on by deer and rabbits and the berries are eaten by many species of birds. In the spring, the shoots of young plants can be harvested as an edible wild foragable and historically, the tubrous rhizomes have been used as seasonings (sarsaparilla).

In Louisiana, there are 10 species of *Smilax* and identifying some species can be tough. Leaf size, shape, and color can be quite variable within one species. This guide breaks down some common and distinguishing features within each species found in Louisiana.

Saw Greenbriar *Smilax bona-nox*



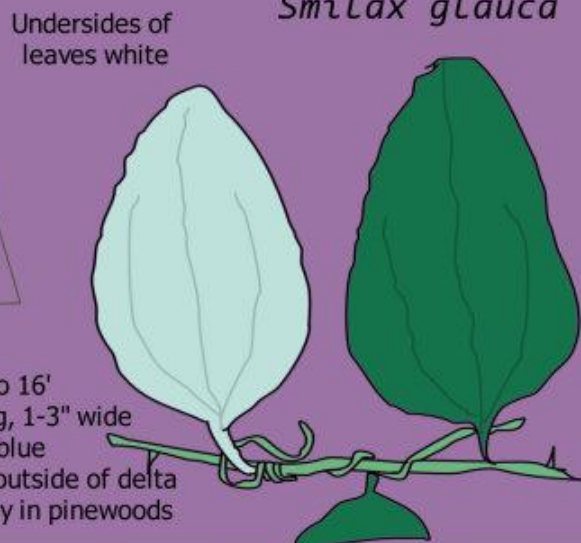
Earleaf Greenbriar *Smilax auriculata*



Bristly Greenbriar *Smilax hispida*



Cat Greenbriar *Smilax glauca*



Sarsaparilla Vine*Smilax pumila*

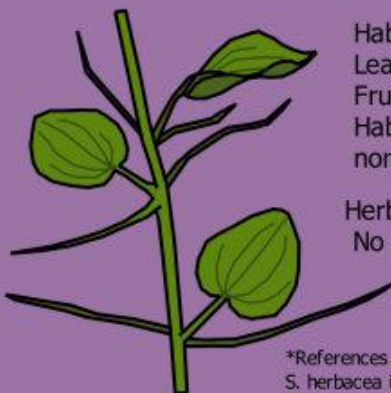
Stems and undersides of leaves fuzzy. Few to no prickles.

Habit: Low-growing, 3'
Leaves: 2-4" long, 1.5-3" wide
Fruits: orange, pointed
Habitat: well drained, shady, pine woods

Lance-leaf Greenbriar*Smilax smallii*

Leaves taper gradually to tip, often mottled.
Few to no prickles.

Habit: high-climbing vine
Leaves: 2-5" long, 0.75-2" wide
Fruits: dull red to reddish brown
Habitat: well drained soils, especially pine woods

Blue Ridge Carrier Flower*Smilax lasioneura*

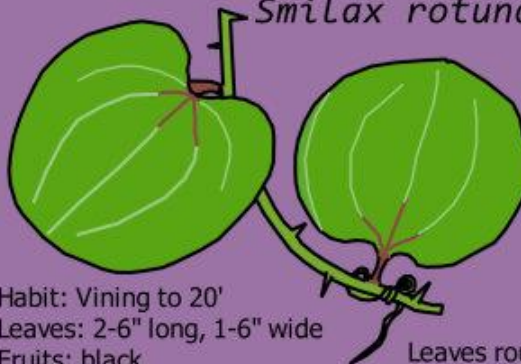
Habit: erect branching herb
Leaves: up to 3.5" long, 2.5" wide
Fruits: blue to black
Habitat: dry to moist areas in northern parishes

Herbaceous.
No prickles.

*References mixed whether *S. lasioneura* or *S. herbacea* is present in Louisiana.

References:

1. "Trees, Shrubs, and Woody vines of Louisiana" Allen, Newman, Winters (2002).
2. USGS Plants of Louisiana (warccapps.usgs.gov)
3. Biota of North America Program (bonap.org)

Roundleaf Greenbriar*Smilax rotundifolia*

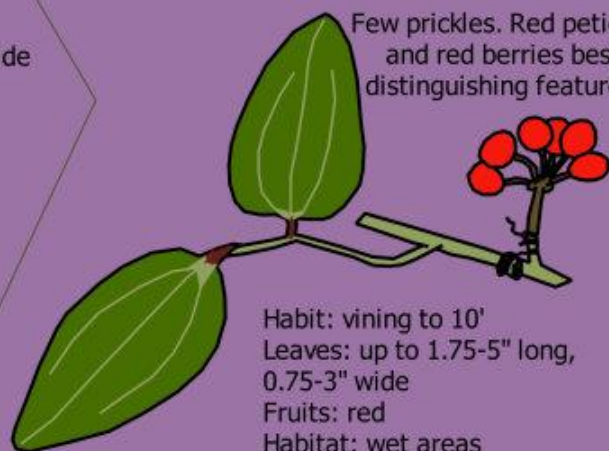
Habit: Vining to 20'
Leaves: 2-6" long, 1-6" wide
Fruits: black
Habitat: common in dry to moist areas throughout the state

Leaves round/heart-shaped with indented base.
Petioles sometimes pink.

Laurel Greenbriar*Smilax laurifolia*

Oblong leaves with pointed tips; typically growing upwards.
Few to no prickles except near the base.

Habit: high-climbing vine to 25'
Leaves: 3-5" long, 0.5-1.5" wide
Fruits: black
Habitat: moist pinewoods

Coral Greenbriar*Smilax walteri*

Few prickles. Red petioles and red berries best distinguishing features.

Habit: vining to 10'
Leaves: up to 1.75-5" long, 0.75-3" wide
Fruits: red
Habitat: wet areas

2020 LNPS Grant Recipients

The **Cajun Prairie Habitat Preservation Society project**, directed by Matthew Herron, Steve Nevitt, and Eric VanBergen, was awarded \$500 to help maintain the prairie restoration projects at Eunice and Duralde. Equipment, supplies and herbicide is planned for purchase to provide for more volunteer workdays on the prairies to help eliminate Chinese tallow, Johnsongrass, and many other undesirable species.

The **Living School project** in New Orleans East, directed by Rahn Broady, was awarded \$500 to develop a native medicinal garden. The Micro-Enterprise class for 10th graders plans to familiarize students with native plants, learn from elders about medicinal properties of some of the plants, and make traditional medicines and market them at the Green Expo.

The **Seeds of Light project** in Homer, directed by Patricia Bates and advised by Loice Kendrick-Lacy, was awarded \$500 to establish a native demonstration/teaching garden near the Homer Town Square in cooperation with the Mayor's Office. Work has already begun with a partner town council member. Funds will be used to purchase native plants.

The **Sowing Seeds Project** in New Orleans, directed by Jane Satterlee, was awarded \$500 to establish a prairie garden and increase native species in the previously established native garden at the Keller Library. The Library venue offers great visibility and the possibility of educational library programs about native plants and our historical prairies.

LNPS NOTICES

1. WEBMASTER — The LNPS webmaster position remains vacant. If you would like to volunteer for this position or know someone who is willing to help out, please contact LNPS by email lnpsinbox@gmail.com.
2. Field trips in the planning stage:
 - February—John Manion, Birmingham Botanical Gardens, will host a plant propagation workshop.
 - March—Abita Flatwoods (TNC) and surrounding properties that are closed to the public. Limited to 10-12 people.
 - April—Evangeline Parish, 1000 acres private property, led by Bill Fontenot
 - April—BBB at Allen Acres
 - May—Wallace Lake Biological station in north De Soto Parish
 - June—TNC Copenhagen Preserve

Annual LNPS Dues

Circle one: Individual, \$10. Student/Senior, \$5. Family, \$15. Organization, \$25. Sustaining, \$50. Corporate, \$100.

NAME _____

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Checks payable to LNPS.

Mail to: Jackie Duncan, Treasurer

114 Harpers Ferry Road

Boyce, LA 71409

Or, memberships and donations may be paid online at:
www.lnps.org

