

Seed Planning for Planting Schedule

Growing native plants from seed is extremely easy, but each species has specific requirements for the highest success rate. This guide is meant to be an extension and companion of the **Bona Terra Seed Growing Guide**.

The data set listed below is most relevant when applied using the techniques described in the **Bona Terra Seed Growing Guide**: <https://bonaterradc.com/seed-growing-guide/?v=ob3b97fa6688>. This guide goes over the full process of growing native plants from seed, taking into account whether you're planting direct-to-ground or in containers, seed storage, watering, and includes different soil mixes.

Most native seeds require a cold stratification period— a period of being kept cold to simulate winter— that can vary from species to species. This guide is intended to simplify this process for homeowners and plant enthusiasts to help them plan out the best time to collect seeds, stratify them, and plant them throughout the year. Since the life cycle of native plants are, well, cyclical, please note that some of these times can overlap, so pay special attention to the **key** below.

Glossary of Terms

Stratify/Stratification: a process that mimics natural conditions to help seeds break dormancy and germinate. Most native seeds have evolved to lay dormant in the soil over winter as a survival mechanism to prevent premature germination of the delicate plant material that can be damaged by frost. Because of this, the majority of these seeds need to have a cold moist period mimicked in order for them to germinate. See the **Bona Terra Seed Growing Guide** for stratification mixes and tips.

When to hit soil/plant: This is the time that seeds should be planted, either in containers or directly in the ground.

When to collect seeds: This is the ideal time to collect the seeds from your plants.

No information at this time: We are still collecting data about this species.

Special Notes:

- For information about planting seeds of native trees, shrubs, and woodies, consult *Manual of Woody Landscape Plants: Their Identification, Ornamental Characteristics, Culture and Propagation and Uses* by Michael A. Dirr
- Ferns reproduce by spores, and are therefore not included in this guide.
- The information in this guide has been collected and used by Bona Terra, and is specific to the Washington, DC region. While some information listed may be broadly applicable, all of the information detailed in this guide is based on Bona Terra's environmental growing standards, which may differ from growers in other regions and other local growers using different nursery practices.

Key

Stratify			No information at this time
Stratification/planting times overlap		NS	No cold stratification needed
When to hit soil/plant	C10-120		Cold stratification needed. Number indicates the number of days seeds need to be stratified
Seed collection/planting times overlap	I		This species is a legume and needs inoculation: this species have symbiotic relationships with mycorrhizae and/or bacteria that live in their roots and support the plants' growth. Seeds of legume species benefit from this relationship and need to have an inoculation of these microorganisms to thrive. You can purchase mycorrhizae on the internet or you can scoop a tablespoon of an existing plant of the same species and add it to your stratification mix.
When to collect seeds	S		This species needs to have the seeds scarified: scratch the seed coat to allow moisture in
Seed collection and stratification overlap			

Herbaceous Species		Species	Common Name	Cold Strat	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Notes
Achillea millefolium LE	Yarrow	NS			Green												
Ageratina altissima LE	White Snakeroot	C30/C60			Yellow	Yellow											
Agrimonia striata LE	Roadside Agrimony	NS															
Allium cernuum	Nodding Onion	C60			Yellow	Yellow							Green	Green			
Amsonia tabernaemontana var. salicifolia	Willow Bluestar	C60			Yellow	Yellow											
Antennaria neglecta LE	Field Pussytoes																Does not grow well from seed
Apocynum cannabinum	Dogbane	NS											Green	Green			
Aquilegia canadensis	Red Columbine	C60			Yellow	Yellow	Orange					Green	Green				
Asclepias incarnata	Swamp Milkweed	C30															
Asclepias syriaca LE	Common Milkweed	C30															
Asclepias tuberosa	Butterfly Milkweed	C30															
Asclepias verticillata	Whorled Milkweed	C30															

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<i>Baptisia alba</i>	White Wild Indigo	C10 I S											Collect seeds, dry, freeze for 20 days before storing
<i>Baptisia australis</i>	Blue False Indigo	C10 I S											Collect seeds, dry, freeze for 20 days before storing
<i>Baptisia australis</i> var. <i>minor</i>	Dwarf Blue Indigo	C10 I S											Collect seeds, dry, freeze for 20 days before storing
<i>Baptisia tinctoria</i>	Yellow Wild Indigo	C10 I S											Collect seeds, dry, freeze for 20 days before storing
<i>Bidens aristosa</i> LE	Swamp Marigold	C60											
<i>Blephilia hirsuta</i>	Hairy Wood Mint	C60											
<i>Boltonia asteroides</i>	False Aster/Susquehanna Dolls Daisy	C30/C60											
<i>Chamaecrista fasciculata</i> LE	Partridge Pea	C10											
<i>Chelone glabra</i>	White Turtlehead	C90/C120											
<i>Chrysopsis mariana</i> LE	Maryland Goldenaster	C30											
<i>Clinopodium vulgare</i> LE	Wild Basil	C30											
<i>Conoclinium coelestinum</i> LE	Blue Mistflower	C60											
<i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i>	Lanceleaf Coreopsis	C30											
<i>Coreopsis tripteris</i>	Tall Coreopsis	C30/C60											
<i>Desmodium canadense</i> LE	Showy Ticktrefoil	C10 I S											
<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	Purple Coneflower	NS											
<i>Elephantopus tomentosus</i> LE	Elephant's Foot	NS											
<i>Eryngium yuccifolium</i>	Rattlesnake Master	C60											
<i>Eupatorium altissimum</i>	Tall Boneset/Giant Ironweed	C60											

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Collect seeds, dry, freeze for 20 days before storing

Hypericum ascyron/Hypericum pyramidatum	Tall St. John's Wort	C60	Yellow	Yellow	Orange	Orange					
Hypericum punctatum LE	Spotted St. John's Wort	C60	Yellow	Yellow	Orange	Orange					
Impatiens capensis LE	Jewelweed/Touch- Me-Not										Best planted in soil in fall. Expect germination 1-2 years later
Impatiens pallida LE	Yellow Jewelweed										Best planted in soil in fall. Expect germination 1-2 years later
Iris versicolor	Northern Blue Flag Iris	C120				Orange			Green	Green	
Lespedeza capitata	Round-Headed Bush Clover	C10 I S			Yellow	Yellow				Green	
Lespedeza virginica	Slender Bush Clover	C10 I S			Yellow	Yellow				Green	
Liatris spicata	Dense Gayfeather, Marsh Blazing Star	C30	Yellow	Yellow	Orange	Orange			Green	Green	Collect seeds, dry, freeze for 20 days before storing
Liatris squarrosa	Scaly Blazing Star	C30	Yellow	Yellow	Orange	Orange			Green	Green	Collect seeds, dry, freeze for 20 days before storing
Lobelia cardinalis	Cardinal Flower	C60	Yellow	Yellow	Orange	Orange			Green	Green	
Lobelia inflata	Wild Tobacco	C60	Yellow	Yellow	Orange	Orange			Green	Green	
Lobelia puberula LE	Downy Lobelia	C60	Yellow	Yellow	Orange	Orange			Green	Green	
Lobelia siphilitica	Great Blue Lobelia	C60	Yellow	Yellow	Orange	Orange			Green	Green	
Ludwigia alternifolia LE	Seedbox	C60	Yellow	Yellow	Orange	Orange			Green	Green	
Mitchella repens LE	Partridgeberry		Green	Grey	Grey	Grey			Green	Green	Collect berries July-January
Monarda fistulosa	Wild Bergamot	NS			Orange	Orange			Green	Green	
Monarda punctata	Spotted Beebalm	NS			Orange	Orange			Green	Green	
Oenothera biennis LE	Evening Primrose	NS			Orange	Orange			Green	Green	
Oligoneuron rigidum	Stiff Goldenrod	C60	Yellow	Orange	Gold	Orange			Green	Green	
Packera aurea (same year)	Golden Ragwort	NS			Gold	Orange					

The logo for Bona Terra Native Plants is centered on a white background. It features the brand name 'BONA TERRA' in a large, bold, serif font, with 'BONA' on top and 'TERRA' below it, both slightly tilted. To the left of 'BONA' and to the right of 'TERRA' are two small, stylized, leaf-like icons. Below 'TERRA' is the tagline 'native plants' in a smaller, lowercase, sans-serif font. The entire logo is surrounded by a faint, circular watermark containing the URL 'bonaterradc.com' and the word 'native' repeated twice.

<i>Senna marilandica</i> LE	Maryland Senna	C10 I S											
<i>Sisyrinchium angustifolium</i> LE	Blue-Eyed Grass	C30											
<i>Solidago altissima</i>	Tall Goldenrod	C60											
<i>Solidago gigantea</i>	Giant Goldenrod	C60											
<i>Solidago juncea</i>	Early Goldenrod	C60											
<i>Solidago nemoralis</i> LE	Gray Goldenrod	C60											
<i>Solidago odora</i>	Anisescented Goldenrod	C60											
<i>Solidago rugosa</i>	Wrinkleleaf Goldenrod	C60											
<i>Solidago speciosa</i>	Showy Goldenrod	C30/C60											
<i>Solidago uliginosa</i>	Bog Goldenrod	C30/C60											
<i>Spiranthes cernua</i>	Nodding Lady's Tresses	C90											
<i>Symphyotrichum ericoides</i>	Heath Aster	NS											
<i>Symphyotrichum laeve</i>	Smooth Blue Aster	NS											
<i>Symphyotrichum lanceolatum</i> LE	Panicled Aster	NS											
<i>Symphyotrichum lateriflorum</i> LE	Calico Aster	NS											
<i>Symphyotrichum novae-angliae</i>	New England Aster	C30											
<i>Symphyotrichum oblongifolium</i>	Aromatic Aster	NS											
<i>Symphyotrichum patens</i>	Late Purple Aster	NS											
<i>Symphyotrichum pilosum</i> LE	Frost Aster	NS											
<i>Teucrium canadense</i> LE	American Germander	C60											

Thermopsis caroliniana	Carolina Lupine	C10 I S											
Tradescantia ohiensis	Ohio Spiderwort	C120											
Verbena stricta	Hoary Vervain	C30											
Verbena urticifolia	White Vervain	C60											
Verbesina alternifolia LE	Wingstem	C30											
Verbesina occidentalis LE	Maryland Gold Crown	C30											
Vernonia noveboracensis	New York Ironweed	C30											
Viola primulifolia LE	Primrose-Leaved Violet	C60											
Viola pubescens LE	Downy Yellow Violet	C60											
Viola sororia LE	Common Violet	C60											
Yucca filamentosa	Adam's Needle Yucca	C30											Collect seeds, dry, freeze for 20 days before storing

Grass and Sedge Species

Species	Common Name	Cold Strat	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Notes
Andropogon gerardii	Big Bluestem	NS													
Andropogon glomeratus	Bushy Bluestem	C30													
Andropogon ternarius	Split-Beard Bluestem	C30													
Andropogon virginicus LE	Broom Sedge	C30													
Carex annectens	Yellowfruit Sedge	C60													
Carex eburnea LE	Bristleleaf Sedge	C60													
Carex frankii LE	Frank's Sedge	C60													

			Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Notes
<i>Carex flaccosperma</i>	Blue Wood Sedge	C60													
<i>Carex lurida</i> LE	Sallow Sedge	C60													
<i>Carex pedunculata</i> LE	Long-Stalked Sedge	C60													
<i>Carex rosea</i> LE	Rosy Sedge	C60													
<i>Carex prairea</i>	Prairie Sedge	C60													
<i>Carex vulpinoidea</i>	Fox Sedge	C60													
<i>Chasmanthium latifolium</i>	River Oats	C60													
<i>Danthonia spicata</i> LE	Poverty Oat Grass	NS													
<i>Dichanthelium clandestinum</i> LE	Deer-Tongue Grass	NS													
<i>Elymus hystrix</i> LE	Bottlebrush Grass	NS													
<i>Elymus virginicus</i> LE	Virginia Wild Rye	NS													
<i>Eragrostis spectabilis</i>	Purple Lovegrass	NS													
<i>Juncus effusus</i>	Soft Rush	C120													
<i>Panicum anceps</i> LE	Beaked Panicum Grass	C60													
<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	Switchgrass	NS													
<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	Little Bluestem	NS													
<i>Tridens flavus</i> LE	Purpletop	C60													
<i>Tripasum dactyloides</i> LE	Eastern Gamagrass	C60													
Vine Species															
Species	Common Name	Cold Strat	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Notes
<i>Vitis riparis</i> LE	River Grape	C45													


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