

## Native Cultivar (“Nativar”) Research



The Mt. Cuba Fellowship provides funding for two Master of Science degree-seeking students to conduct ecological research on native cultivars vs. straight species. Professors Doug Tallamy and Deborah Delaney oversee the graduate Fellows. Current research is focused on whether native woody cultivars support food webs as well as their parent species and determining the ecological role of flowering plants as nutritional forage for pollinators. Websites for Mt. Cuba Center’s Ecological Trial Research:

<http://www.mtcubacenter.org/horticultural-research/ecological-research-1/>

<http://canr.udel.edu/mtcubacenterresearch/>



Penn State University Extension’s Bees, Bugs & Blooms – A Pollinator Trial was an experiment from 2012-2015 which evaluated native plant species and their cultivars for their attractiveness to pollinators and their suitability for homeowner and agricultural use. More information can be found:

<http://ento.psu.edu/news/2016/bees-bugs-blooms-2013-a-pollinator-trial>



PhD. candidate Annie White under advisor Dr. Leonard Perry is conducting research at the University of Vermont focused on evaluating flowering plant selection for pollinator habitat enhancement on open-pollinated natives vs. native cultivars. This project is funded in part through a Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education grant. More information: [http://mysare.sare.org/sare\\_project/ONE12-169/](http://mysare.sare.org/sare_project/ONE12-169/) and Annie’s website: <http://pollinatorgardens.org>



JC Poythress under advisor J.M. Affolter conducted his master’s research at the University of Georgia investigating whether native plant cultivars are as effective as native plants propagated from local, wild populations at promoting native insect diversity. The following provides a synopsis of the results:  
<http://ipps-srna.org/WordPress/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/19B-Student-Poythress.pdf>

## Books

Planting in a Post-Wild World: Designing Plant Communities for Resilient Landscapes by Thomas Rainer and Claudia West. Portland: Timber Press, 2015

The Living Landscape: Designing for Beauty and Biodiversity by Rick Darke & Doug Tallamy. Portland: Timber Press, 2014

Pollinators of Native Plants: Attract, Observe and Identify Pollinators and Beneficial Insects with Native Plants by Heather Holm. Pollination Press, 2014

Attracting Native Pollinators: The Xerces Society Guide, Protecting North America's Bees and Butterflies by The Xerces Society. North Adams, MA: Storey Publishing, 2011

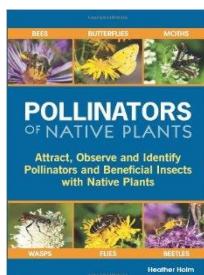
Bringing Nature Home: How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants by Doug Tallamy. Portland: Timber Press, 2007

## Websites



<http://www.xerces.org>

The Xerces Society is a non-profit organization that protects wildlife through the conservation of invertebrates and their habitat. Established in 1971, the Society is at the forefront of invertebrate protection worldwide, harnessing the knowledge of scientists and the enthusiasm of citizens to implement conservation programs. Their website is loaded with information including plant lists, identification guides, videos and more. The Xerces Society is a great resource hub for gardeners and landscapers seeking information on creating pollinator and beneficial insect-friendly gardens.



[www.pollinatorsnativeplants.com](http://www.pollinatorsnativeplants.com)

Heather Holm's website (landscape designer and consultant) features plant lists and posters, reports and other resources. Great site for learning more about pollinators and beneficial insects of the upper Midwest, Eastern U.S. and Canada. Frequent speaker on creating pollinator-friendly garden habitat.



Annie White's website (PhD. student in Landscape Design, University of Vermont) which discusses her research comparing native cultivars with native straight species for insect attraction. Her research aims to improve flowering plant selection for pollinator habitat enhancement in northern New England.

[www.pollinatorgardens.org](http://www.pollinatorgardens.org)



[www.wildones.org](http://www.wildones.org)

Wild Ones: Native Plants, Natural Landscapes promotes environmentally sound landscaping practices to preserve biodiversity through the preservation, restoration and establishment of native plant communities. They are a national non-profit organization with local chapters educating about the many benefits of growing native wildflowers in people's yards.

**POLLINATOR  
PARTNERSHIP**

[www.pollinator.org](http://www.pollinator.org)



[www.millionpollinatorgardens.org](http://www.millionpollinatorgardens.org)

The Pollinator Partnership's mission is to promote the health of pollinators, critical to food and ecosystems, through conservation, education, and research. Their signature initiatives include the [NAPCC](#) (North American Pollinator Protection Campaign), [National Pollinator Week](#), and [Ecoregional Planting Guides](#).

The Million Pollinator Garden Challenge is a campaign to register a million public and private gardens and landscapes to support pollinators. The initiative was launched by the The National Pollinator Garden Network, a collaboration of national, regional, conservation and gardening groups to support the President's Executive Strategy to "Promote the Health of Honey Bees and Other Pollinators."



[www.nativeplantwildlifegarden.com](http://www.nativeplantwildlifegarden.com)

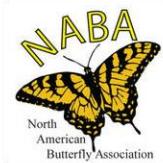
A weblog and Member's Forum run by a team of passionate professionals from across North America including authors, professors, writers, landscape designers, biologists, botanists, gardeners and photographers. Sue Sweeney's article, "The Nativar Dilemma" is an interesting read:

<http://nativeplantwildlifegarden.com/the-nativar-dilemma/>



Kim Eierman's website featuring useful landscape tips to improve our environment. Website includes articles, podcasts, videos and other resources. Kim is a speaker, writer and consultant who offers services for hire. Article on Mt. Cuba's Plant Trials from 2015:  
<http://www.ecobeneficial.com/2015/11/native-plant-research-mt-cuba-center-george-coombs/>

[www.ecobeneficial.com](http://www.ecobeneficial.com)



The North American Butterfly Association, a non-profit organization formed in 1992, works to increase public enjoyment and conservation of butterflies. They have local chapters in various regions across the U.S. Website offers butterfly checklists, publications and other resources.

<http://www.naba.org>

## Additional Pollinator Resources

Pollinator Partnership, Ecoregional Planting Guides- <http://www.pollinator.org/guides.htm>

Insert your zip code and learn more about your native vegetation type, common pollinators, landscaping tips, planting calendars, butterfly host plants and additional resources.

Butterflies and Moths of North America- <http://www.butterfliesandmoths.org>

Thousands of high quality images and information about North American Lepidoptera. A great site with regional species checklists, identification tools and a comprehensive list of additional resources.

Bug Guide- [www.bugguide.net](http://www.bugguide.net)

The Bug Guide is an important resource for amateur and professional entomologists. It contains millions of images of invertebrates and non-insect arthropods, with discussions and a handy ID request function. If you have an insect that you're having trouble identifying, this is the place to go!

The Biota of North America Program, North American Vascular Flora- [www.bonap.org](http://www.bonap.org)

Houses the North American Plant Atlas, Taxonomic Data Center Query and Customized Geographic Database Page. Good place to search for regional maps on a wide variety of North American native plant species. Tons of resources and look for the site to improve over time.