Monthly Pollen

August 2022

Native Pollinator

Photo Credit: MK Johnston

Eastern Tiger Swallowtail, *Papilio glaucus*

Description: The majority are bright yellow with broad black stripes going less than halfway to the first vein, yellow marginal spotbands, distinct tails and iridescent blue markings on the hindwing. Some females have black forms with a shadow of the tiger pattern still evident (upper right corner graphic).

Flight: Two broods May/June and late July/August. Can be found well into September.

Habitat: Wooded areas and open spaces near woods. Caterpillars rely on the leaves of trees, particularly cherry to mature.

Feeding: Nectar of a variety of plants, such as butterfly weed, phlox, milkweed, joe-pyed weed, bee balm and wild cherry.

Abundance: Common throughout southern Wisconsin.

Native Plant

Pale Purple Coneflower, *Echinacea pallida*

Description: Single showy flower head at the top of each stem, with many drooping, pale purple, petal-like ray flowers, each up to 3.5” inch long; disk purplish-brown, broad, cone-shaped. Few basal leaves that are long, tapered, and with parallel veins.

Range: Indiana and Wisconsin southwest to Arkansas and northern Texas.

Bloom Time: Early June through August.

Native Habitat: Prairies and prairie remnants in dry, mesic soils.

State Status: Wisconsin threatened and rare.

Value, Medicinal: Used by indigenous cultures for centuries and popular herbal remedy in today’s market.

Rare Plant Monitoring

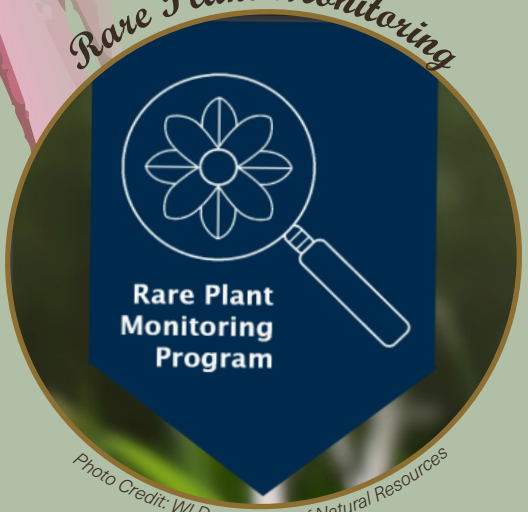

Photo Credit: WI Department of Natural Resources

Rare Plant Monitoring

Volunteer: The Wisconsin Rare Plant Monitoring Program gives plant enthusiasts an opportunity to conduct surveys for rare plants around the state. The information these volunteers collect is used to assess plant population trends during state and national conservation efforts.

Training: Program participants are trained in surveying techniques, including how to accurately estimate large plant populations, assess habitat condition, and use GPS coordinates to locate and mark rare plant populations. To get started, go to: **https://wiatri.net/inventory/rareplants/index.cfm**