

Bee Balm



Monarda didyma

Endearing, eye-catching blooms are large, colorful, and always enhanced by nectaring butterflies, hummingbirds, and gentle native bees.

Flowers are edible and foliage is aromatic and useful in teas.

A great cut flower, blooms June-July.

Species grows 4-5 feet tall and wide.

Loves rich soil. Full sun to light shade

Highly deer resistant.

Can spread aggressively, great for naturalizing, but seldom outcompetes other robust perennials in a mixed border.



Later in the season, leaves are often blemished by mildew, which, in our climate, can affect even the most resistant varieties. For that reason, we plant them behind things that will draw attention later in the season, like Little Bluestem, Prairie Dropseed, Aromatic Aster, and Bluestar. We don't cut back the plants unless the mildew is extreme.