UF IFAS Extension Escambia County Garden Notes

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Milkweeds

It is always best to grow one of our native milkweeds (pictured) to support Monarch butterflies. If you do still have the Tropical milkweed, it is necessary to cut plants to the ground right now before butterfly migration. We want Monarchs to move through our area, not reproduce. Pruning helps reduce the parasite OE found on the plants.





No Weed and Feed

Weed and feed products are very popular but UF does not recommend their use for turfgrasses in our area. We only apply fertilizer when the grass can use it in April through September. Weed prevention is at different times. Fertilizer is often applied at the wrong time when you apply a weed and feed product.

Woody Goldenrod

For dry and well drained spots of your landscape, the Woody goldenrod (Chrysoma pauciflosculosa) is a good wildflower choice. The small shrub offers bright yellow fall flowers that extend above a 2 foot tall plant. Plants tend to be evergreen when in the right location and additional new seedlings will emerge each spring if your landscape is suited for this plant. This plant along with the true goldenrods are not allergy producing plants. These wildflowers are visited by many pollinators and can make attractive ornamental landscape features in sandy soil.

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