

## Purple Coneflower *Echinacea purpurea*



**Other Common Names:** Eastern Purple Coneflower



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### PURPLE CONEFLOWER

*Echinacea purpurea*

 **Native Perennial**  **Pollinator Friendly**



**Full Sun / Part Shade** **Water:** Low to medium, drought tolerant  
 2-4' Tall x 1.5-2' Wide **Blooms:** Spring-early fall

**Color:** Lavender daisy-like flower with spiny brown center cone  
 Super spreader; can self-seed and become very aggressive

**Grown by a Denton County Master Gardener**

### General Information

Excellent perennial flowering plant for Texas gardens. The purple coneflower is drought tolerant and native to the Midwest and southeastern United States. The daisy-shaped flowers are individually arranged on sturdy, elongated stems with soft lavender or purple petals and a coned center. Long-blooming perennials attract bees and butterflies and will flower all summer with little attention. Works well cut flower arrangements.

### Characteristics

**Hardiness Zones:** 3 to 8

**Heat Tolerance:** High

**Size:** 2-3 feet tall by 2-3 feet wide

**Flowers:** 2-7 inches across, with coppery-orange centers and bristly cone

**Bloom time:** June - October

**Leaves:** Oval green leaves with pointed tips, 3 inches long and 2 inches wide

### Pests and Disease Problems

Japanese beetles sometimes eat both flowers and leaves, though rarely serious

### Plant Care

May be started from seeds or transplanted from containers. Prefers full sun but tolerates light shade. Fall is the best time to plant purple coneflower because they establish more easily in cooler weather. Place in fertile, well-drained soil enriched with organic matter. The plants require supplemental water once or twice per week after established. Fertilize at planting time with a timed-released product. Propagation from root cuttings is reliable if performed in the fall.

### Warning

Super spreader. Flower is reported to have medical uses, but sometimes causes allergic reactions if ingested.

### Sources for Additional Information

Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center. [Echinacea purpurea](#)

Missouri Botanical Garden. [Purple Coneflower](#)

Texas SmartScape. [Coneflower](#)