Native Plant Identification Guides

David Redhage

These books are useful for identifying native plants that provide pollinator habitat in Oklahoma.

**** marks resources that are particularly good for Oklahoma.***

Arkansas Wildflowers. Don Kurz. Tim Ernst Publishing. Cave Mountain, AR. ISBN 9781882906710. 2010. 256 p.

Central Region Seedling ID Guide for Native Prairie Plants. USDA-NRCS Elsberry Plant Materials Center and Missouri Department of Conservation. 2007.
Handheld guide with brief written descriptions along with photos.

Common Herbaceous Plants of Southern Forest Range. Harold E. Grelen and Ralph H. Hughes. USDA-Forest Service Southern Forest Experiment Station Research Paper S0-210. New Orleans, LA. 1984. 147 p.
Available for purchase as a print on demand document.

Essential Native Trees and Shrubs for the Eastern United States. By Tony Dove and Ginger Woolridge. Charlesbridge. 2018. ISBN. 9781623545031. 312 p.

****Field Guide to Oklahoma Plants: Commonly Encountered Prairie, Shrubland, and Forest Species* (2nd ed.).** Ronald J. Tyrl, Terrence G. Bidwell, Ronald E. Masters, and R. Dwayne Elmore. Oklahoma State University. Stillwater, OK. 2008. Stock #7506437. 664 p.
Black and white drawings w/ state map of range and plant description.

Forest Plants of the Southeast and Their Wildlife Uses. James H. Miller and Karl V. Miller. Southern Weed Science Society. 1999. ISBN 0-9673140-0-3. 454 p.
Covers trees, shrubs and flowers and as the title indicates, their importance to wildlife.

****Forest Trees of Oklahoma: How to Know Them.*** Revised by Elbert L. Little, Jr. Oklahoma Forestry Division State Department of Agriculture Pub. #1, Revised Edition #13. Oklahoma City, OK. 1985. 205 p.

****The Guide to Oklahoma Wildflowers.*** Patricia Folley. University of Iowa Press. 2011. ISBN-13: 978-1-60938-046-5. 238 p.
Most plant descriptions indicate whether it is native or introduced, which I have found lacking in some other guides. It also indicates if a plant is more common in the eastern or western parts of Oklahoma - important to know for planting success.

Invasive Plants: Guide to Identification and the Impacts and Control of Common North American Species. Sylvan Ramsey Kaufman and Wallace Kaufman. Stackpole Books. Mechanicsburg, PA. ISBN 978-0-8117-3365-6. 458 p.
A good guide to help identify potential problem plants.

***Jewels of the Plains* (Revised Edition).** Claude A. Barr. The University of Minnesota Press.

1983. ISBN 978-0-8166-9801-1. 296 p.

***Missouri Wildflowers* (6th ed.).** Edgar Denison. Missouri Department of Conservation. 2008. ISBN 978-1-887247-59-7. 280 p.

National Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Wildflowers – Eastern Region. William A. Niering and Nancy C. Olmstead. Alfred A. Knopf, Inc. 1995. 887 p.
There is a western guide in this series.

***National Audubon Society Field Guide to Wildflowers – Western Region* (Chanticleer Press Edition).** ISBN 978-0-375-40233-3. 862 p.

***North American Range Plants* (5th ed.).** James Stubbendieck, Stephan L. Hatch, and Charles H. Butterfield. University of Nebraska Press. Lincoln, NE. 1997. ISBN 0-8032-9243-0. 500 p.

Oklahoma Native Plants: A Guide to Designing Landscapes to Attract Birds and Butterflies. By Conni Scorthorn with Brian Patric. The Roadrunner Press. 2019. ISBN 9781950871011. 105 p.

**Ozark Wildflowers: An Ecological Guide to Flowering Plants in the Region* by Thomas E. Hemmerly. University of Georgia Press. Athens, GA. 2002. ISBN 0-8203-2337-3. 240 p.
While the title says Ozarks, this guide also covers the Ouachita Mountains of Oklahoma and Arkansas.

Ozark Wildflowers-A Field Guide to Common Ozark Wildflowers. Don Kurz. Falcon Publishing. 1999. ISBN 1-56044-730-3. 262 p.

Pasture and Range Plants. Phillips Petroleum Company. Bartlesville, OK. 1963. Library of Congress Card No. 63-11000. 176 p.
Old publication with color plates of plants. Indicates how the plants respond to grazing management. Very good resource for Oklahoma prairie plants.

Shrubs and Woody Vines of Missouri. Don Kurz. Missouri Department of Conservation. ISBN 1-887247-12-2. 1997. 387 p.

The Southeast Native Plant Primer. Larry Mellichamp and Paula Gross. Timber Press. 2020. ISBN 9781604699913. 256 p.

The Sunflower Family: A Guide to the Family Asteraceae in the Contiguous United States. Richard Spellenberg and Naida Zucker. Botanical Research Institute of Texas Press. 2019. ISBN 9781889878652. 574 p.

Tallgrass Prairie Wildflowers: A Field Guide. Doug Ladd. Falcon Publishing. Helena, MT. 1995. ISBN 1-56044-299-9. 262 p.

Texas Range Plants. Stephan L. Hatch and Jennifer Pluhar. Texas A&M University Press College Station Texas. 1993. ISBN 0-89096-538-2 pp. 326

Trees, Shrubs and Woody Vines: A Pictorial Guide. Russell L. Stevens and Chuck R. Coffey.

The Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation Agricultural Division. Ardmore, OK. 2008. ISBN 978-0-9754303-2-3. 138 p.
Great photos with good descriptions. Be sure to visit the corresponding website..

Weeds of Arkansas Lawns, Turf, Roadsides, Recreation Areas: A Guide to Identification (MP 169). Ford L. Baldwin and Edwin B. Smith. Cooperative Extension Service, University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture. 71 p.
Useful for identifying small flowering weeds in your lawn.

****Weeds of the Great Plains.*** James Stubbendieck, Michell J. Coffin, and L.M. Landholt. Nebraska Department of Agriculture. Lincoln, NE. 2003. ISBN 0939870-00-5. 605 p.
Good color guide which lists origin of each plant.

Weeds of the South. Charles T. Bryson and Michael S. DeFelice, eds. University of Georgia Press. Athens, GA. 2009. ISBN-13 978-0-8203-3046-4. 468 p.

***Weeds of the West* (5th ed.).** Tom D. Whitson, ed. Western Society of Weed Science. 1996. ISBN 0-941570-13-4. 630 p.

Wildflowers: A Golden Guide. Herbert S. Zim and Alexander C. Martin. St. Martin's Press. 1987. ISBN 1-58238-162-3. 159 p.

***Wildflowers of Arkansas* (6th ed.).** Carl G. Hunter. Ozark Society Foundation. Little Rock, AR. ISBN 0-912456-16-7. 2001. 296 p.

Wildflowers of the Atlantic Southeast. By Laura Cotterman, Damon Waitt, and Alan Weakley. Timber Press. 2019. ISBN 9781604697605. 510 p.

Wildflowers of the Southeast Field Guide. By Jaret C. Daniels and Stan Tekiela. Adventure Publications, Inc. 2012. ISBN 9781591933519. 428 p.

Wildflowers of the Western Plains. Zoe Merriman Kirkpatrick. University of Texas Press. 1992. ISBN 0-292-79062-7 240 p.
One of the few books covering the wildflowers of western Oklahoma and Texas