

Learn More About Native Plants

Range Plants of North Central Texas – Ricky Linex

This book has great color photos. The binding is not great but as Ricky told me it cost a lot to produce the book and he wanted to keep the cost down. The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service office kept selling out when it was first printed. He lists common and species names, bloom periods, distribution areas, identification details, value, and management. It is geared to livestock and wildlife management in listing the value of the plant. He also notes if it is toxic.

Wildflowers of Texas – Geyata Ajilvsgi

This book was not a favorite of Lisa Bellows because the plants are listed by flower color which can be misleading. However, when I started learning about native plants in Texas I found it useful because the plants were listed by flower color. When you start at knowing zip, having a book with some of the most common wildflowers listed by color can at least get you to step one, so you can dig deeper into the identification. I understand this book is not for the person with a wildlife or plant biology degree.

Texas Wildflowers – Campbell and Loughmiller

This is a good reference book once you have a little more experience in recognizing plant families.

Texas Range Plants – Stephan Hatch and Jennifer Plubar

This book by Steven Hatch is great, but you do have to learn more about plant identification terms. The first 28 pages and the 9 page glossary, will help with that. Jennifer's detailed drawings are excellent. About half of the book is on grass.

Remarkable Plants of Texas – Matt Warnock Turner

I love this book because it tells the stories of the plants, what they can be used for, and what they were used for... When I worked for TX Parks and Wildlife I had the pleasure of going to a seminar where he was the keynote speaker. Did you know that the trees of North America built the navy of Britain. And, that a tree marked on a settler's land as belonging to the king was one of the outrages that helped start the war of independence. That story is not in the book but there are many other stories. I used stories from the book to teach people about plants and trees when I did interpretive walks at the State Parks.

Native Texas Plants Landscaping Region by Region – Sally and Andy Wasowski

Another good read. It talks about garden design using natives and is based on different regions in TX. Plant info by Sally who passed away at the end of last year. Photos by her husband Andy passed in 2012. I also really enjoyed Requiem for a Lawnmower.

Illustrated Flora of North Central Texas - BRIT

This book is known as the plant bible to professional and semi professional botanists in Texas. It is 3.5 inches thick and is a Key for identifying over 2000 vascular native and adapted plants in the North Central Region of Texas.

Just Weeds History, Myths and Uses - Pamela Jones

This book lists 30 plants considered weeds that have various uses and the stories behind the plants.

Herbs for Texas - Howard Garrett

I included this book simply because I haven't found many herbs that bees don't like. You can find plants or seeds for most of them. Howard even includes some of our natives in the book.

Where to Buy Native Plants and Seeds

Painted Flower Farm in Denton TX

Native American Seed in Junction TX www.seedsources.com

If you do a search on a plant using the true species name. Often sources selling the seed will pop up. If you are thinking of buying, look for sources in or near our area for the best luck.