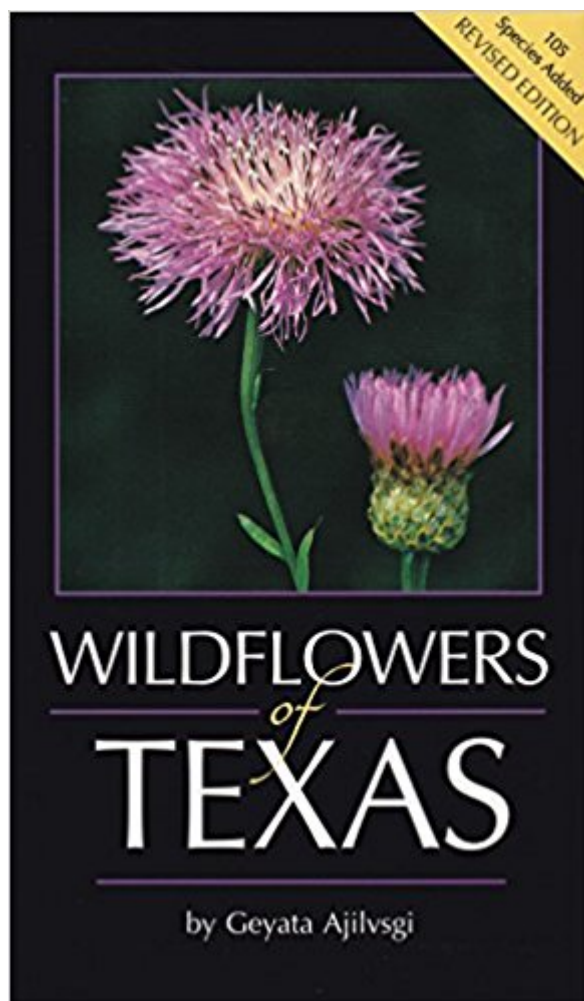




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# Wildflowers Of Texas



## Synopsis

In her popular *Wildflowers of Texas*, native-plant expert Geyata Ajilvsgi gives lay readers the most comprehensive field guide currently available on the state's abundant wildflowers. This latest edition contains information on 482 of the most common species found in the state's major vegetation zones. Each entry includes a full-color photograph of the flower on the page facing the entry, bloom period, range and habitat, and botanical description. A special note in each entry explains the plant's therapeutic, culinary, and other traditional uses, such as landscaping value. A color map of Texas shows the state's major vegetation zones, corresponding to the range codes used in the text. Other supplementary material includes a glossary of botanical terms, an illustrated glossary of plant parts, and a selected bibliography for future reading.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

In this revised edition of her popular *Wildflowers of Texas*, native-plant expert Geyata Ajilvsgi gives lay readers the most comprehensive field guide currently available on the state's abundant wildflowers. With the addition of 105 species, the book now contains information on 462 of the most common wildflower species found in the state's major vegetation zones -- from the mountains in the west to the swamplands in the east, from desert to piney woods to coastal plain, from the Panhandle to the semitropical Rio Grande Valley. Each entry reflects the most current scientific knowledge about the plant, such as recent changes in taxonomic classification. Designed for ease of use in the field, the guide is organized by color -- the most obvious characteristic of flowers. The species are thus grouped into four sections: white-green, yellow-orange, red-pink, and blue-purple.

Within each color section the species are arranged alphabetically by family, then genus and species. Information about each species includes its bloom period, range and habitat, botanical description, and other helpful facts. A special note in each entry explains the plant's therapeutic, culinary, or other traditional uses as well as its landscaping value. Alternate common names and the origin and meaning of the plant's scientific name are also provided, giving readers insight into the rich history and lore of botany. To simplify the identification of wildflower species in the field, a full-color photograph of each flower appears on the page facing the entry. The book's stunning photography is the work of not only the author but also some of the best-known nature photographers around the state. A color map of Texas shows the state's major vegetation zones, corresponding to the range codes used in the text. This enables the reader to determine at a glance the geographic range of a particular species. Other supplementary material include botanical and plant glossaries and bibliography.

GEYATA AJILVSGI writes and photographs from her home in the Hill Country. Considered among the state's top plant and butterfly experts, she is the author of *Butterfly Gardening for Texas* and many other books.

I just moved to Texas last year and wanted to learn what the plants around me were. This is a great little field guide, and has helped me quite a bit in identifying the wildflowers around me. I bought a used copy from a private seller and the book I received was a very old edition (the copy I checked out from the library repeatedly before I broke down and purchased the book was a newer edition and had a few changes and more flowers in it) and it was a bit more worn than the description led me to believe, but it works. The book itself is great! It's very clear and concise, it's well arranged and pretty easy to find what I'm looking for. The edges of the pages have colors dividing them into sections so that you can look up a flower by the dominant color of its petals. I love this book and am glad I got it.

This book has so many outstanding qualities: 1) an extensive number of species, which is no small task in a state as large and as geographically heterogeneous as Texas 2) excellent written descriptions with notes on everything including medicinal and native food uses, alternate names, histories of discovery, and garden suitability 3) clear photographs organized by color The organization of the book is not always optimal for use as a field guide. At times I have had some trouble using this book to ID a species and have turned to the internet first and then read the relevant entry from

the book. If the book was to be re-edited for use as a field id, it would be helpful to use multiple indexing systems like the Audubon guides do. For example, the book could retain the descriptions and organization of the flowers by color and then include a second section with smaller thumbnails organized by leaf/plant shape or a section of thumbnails organized by habitat (ie a list of all desert flowers, a list of wetland flowers, a list of prairie flowers.) Even a small graphical icon at the corner of the photos which could indicate general plant size or leaf shape might help speed searches. I also wish there were entries to include species with ornamental berries. However, changes to the book might be difficult since it is already a large guide and it would be a challenge to find room for additional material.

Love this book, learned and learning more each time I open it up. Some wild flowers I never knew the name of and love knowing what to call all the lovely and beautiful flowers. So glad to have found this book and that I bought it.

I love this book! It is perfect for beginners (like me) who borrow their neighbor's book so much that it falls apart. I bought 2 books; one for me and one for the Master Gardener. This book is beautifully photographed, organized with detail and written so easily that I want to learn everything about flowers! I am a photographer first but this book has brought out a passion to learn more. I share what I learn with others and hope my enthusiasm plants a seed for them to learn more!

It is a wonderful book about Texas Wildflowers. It has a lot of information and great pictures of the plants found in different parts of the state.

I bought this book a few years ago (2009) and I use it to this day every time I'm in the fields. I use this book to identify wildflower species on my property for the purpose wildlife management. I am NOT a botanist or horticulturalist. I like flowers and grasses and need to ID native and non-native species on my property. I'm always finding something new. I love the ease of use due to it's compact size. Compact doesn't mean they skimp out on information. Color photos, not all are close-ups but most are, with clear excellent quality. I have identified more flowers just by looking at the photo. Wildflowers are grouped by color (this makes things easy to find) starting with white, then yellow-orange, red, and last blue-purple. It's a compact size which makes it easy to carry around (although I never do--I take photos of my flowers and then compare it to the photos in the book). I've used it so much that the binding is starting to be affected (but I'm tough on frequently accessed

books). It's a tough little paperback. Other field guides, especially grass field guides, group by species or family and assume you know something about botany. I also appreciate the amount of written information on each flower species: Common name, scientific name, bloom period, habitat, a succinct physical description of the flower/plant (e.g., growth type--low creeping, bush, vine, etc.) flower size, leaf shape; and lastly an interesting side note of the plant's history, medicinal properties, or important significance in native American history. What I love about this is that there is a consistency in the information presented. Every flower gets the same attention. Another aspect of the book I love so much is that it presents natives and non-native species (invasive and non-aggressive species--native and non-native clovers are an example). There is only one other book that I refer to almost as much as "Wildflowers of Texas" and that book is Sally Wasowski's "Native Texas Plants"; but this book is geared more toward landscaping with native Texas plants (flowers, shrubs, trees--shade and ornamental). "Wildflowers of Texas" covers HUNDREDS--close to 500 wildflower species. It is a reference book, not a how-to book. I own another volume by Geyata Ajilvsgi (Butterfly Gardening for the South) and that is a butterfly book that I bought at a used book store, quite by accident. Many more flower and shrub species are included in that book with particular focus on butterfly gardens (Ms. Ajilvsgi also describes some butterflies but it is by no means complete--just specific to the flowers and butterflies of the south US.) "Butterfly Gardening for the South" is more of a how-to garden/landscape book. I don't know what else to say about this great little book that hasn't already been said. If you're looking for a how-to garden book this is not it. If you need to identify wildflower species, this is an excellent book especially if you live in the south (Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana for example). I know that some species are native to the US and reach well beyond Texas borders but you will not find California Poppy in this book (what I'm trying to say, keep your garden region in mind).

A MUST for any wild crafter! I love this book. I go hiking a lot or just on walks and often wonder "What kind of flower is this?" Well, now I know!

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