SOUTHEAST NATIVE POLLINATOR MIX SEED PACKET

WHAT'S IN THE MIX?



WHAT IS HAPPENING TO OUR POLLINATORS?

Many species of pollinating insects are experiencing a troubling decline. For instance, Monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*) populations have plummeted by 90% over the past twenty years. Moreover, commercial beekeepers are facing annual losses of 30% to 40% of their honey bee colonies. Numerous biologists believe that this decline is largely attributed to the decline in quality habitat for pollinators.

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE ABOUT POLLINATORS?

Pollinating insects play a vital role in global food production. Approximately one-third of all food relies on insect pollination. Moreover, these pollinators are crucial for the reproduction of 75% of the world's flowering plants, which provide food for wildlife, clean our air, and clean our water. Pollinators impact everyone.

HOW TO PLANT YOUR SEED PACKET

This seed packet is filled with native wildflowers that will support various species of pollinating insects. Each packet holds enough seeds to cover a 10x10 area at a conservation seeding rate of approximately 20 seeds per square foot. However, evenly spreading such a small quantity of tiny seeds over this area can be challenging, making a smaller project a more practical option.

- 1. **Timing:** Best time to seed this packet is in the dormant season (Dec-Feb). It can be broadcast into already prepped seed beds.
- 2. Site Selection: Pick a site that gets a minimum of 6 hours of direct sunlight.
- 3. **Site Prep:** Proper site prep is key to project success. Prepare a seed bed that is free from any other vegetation or residue to ensure seed to soil contact. Seed bed should be lightly worked but firm (a boot print should be barely visible).
- 4. **Seeding:** Broadcast the seed evenly across your project area. Lightly rake the project to get good seed to soil contact. Ideal seeding depth is around 1/8 inch.