MHc47 Central Wet-Mesic Hardwood Forest Pollinator Resources

Wet-mesic hardwood forests on somewhat poorly drained sandy loam soils on till plains and stream terraces, often on broad flats and gentle slopes adjacent to wetlands and in ecotones between upland forests and wetlands. Soils are saturated for prolonged periods, either because of clayey subsoil horizons that impede drainage or because of high local water tables.

Examples of insect pollinators (and their associated host plants in parentheses) that use MHc47 include:

Bees:

Hylaeus sparsus (Apiaceae) Andrena distans (Geranium maculatum) Andrena geranii (Hydrophyllum virginianum)

Butterflies:

Chlosyne nycteis (Eurybia macrophylla) Phyciodes tharos (Eurybia macrophylla) Lethe eurydice (Carex)

Moths:

Macrosaccus morrisella (Amphicarpaea bracteate) Cucullia asteroides (Eurybia macrophylla) Sphinx canadensis (Fraxinus nigra) Agonopterix pulvipennella (Symphyotrichum lateriflorum)



Andrena distans uses Geranium maculatum (wild geranium) as a host plant. Photo: Heather Holm



Lethe eurydice (eyed brown) uses Carex (sedge) species as a host plant. Photo: Bob Dunlap



MHc47 Central Wet-Mesic Hardwood Forest

Pollinator Resources Table

MHc47 Class Factsheet. Based on 23 plots. November 2024



Forbs	species frequency in NPC (%)	species cover (when present)	Compatibility	Longevity	Clonality	Principal Pollen Vector	Pollinator requirements	Pollination Index
Clayton's sweet cicely (Osmorhiza claytonii)	100	•	D	Perennial	Absent	insects	Generalist	5
Lady fern (Athyrium filix-femina)	91	•••	SC	Perennial	Present	wind, water	Generalist	0
Early meadow-rue (Thalictrum dioicum)	91	•	SI	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Sweet-scented bedstraw (Galium triflorum)	83	•	UNK	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	3
Large-leaved aster (Aster macrophyllus)	83	•	А	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	2
Hog peanut (Amphicarpaea bracteata)	83	•••	CH and CL	Annual	Present	insects	Somewhat specific insect	6
Erect, Smooth, or Illinois carrion-flower (Smilax spp.)*	78	•	D	Perennial	Present	insects	Somewhat specific insect	5
Large-flowered bellwort (Uvularia grandiflora)	78	•	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Early spring insect	5
Pale bellwort (Uvularia sessilifolia)	78	•	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Early spring insect	5
Rugulose or Yellow violet (Viola canadensis or V. pubescens)	78	•	Varies	Perennial	Present	insects	Varies	Varies
Canada mayflower (Maianthemum canadense)	78	•	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Early spring insect	5
Two-leaved miterwort (Mitella diphylla)	78	•	UNK	Perennial	Present	insects	Early spring insect	4
Jack-in-the-pulpit (Arisaema triphyllum)	74	•	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Early spring insect, Somewhat specific insect	5
Pointed-leaved tick trefoil (Desmodium glutinosum)	70	••	UNK	Perennial	Absent	insects	Somewhat specific insect	5
Wild sarsaparilla (Aralia nudicaulis)	70	•	D	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	4
Side-flowering aster (Aster lateriflorus)	70	•	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	4
Common enchanter's nightshade (Circaea lutetiana)	65	•	SC	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	2
Maryland black snakeroot (Sanicula marilandica)	65	•	UNK	Perennial	Absent	insects	Generalist	4
Wild ginger (Asarum canadense)	65	••	SC	Perennial	Present	insects	Early spring insect, Somewhat specific insect	3
Dwarf raspberry (Rubus pubescens)	61	•	SC	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	2
Large-flowered trillium (Trillium grandiflorum)	61	•	SC	Perennial	Present	insects	Early spring insect	3
Wild geranium (Geranium maculatum)	61	•	SC	Perennial	Present	insects	Early spring insect	3
Rose twistedstalk (Streptopus roseus)	57	•	UNK	Perennial	Present	insects	Early spring insect	4
Bloodroot (Sanguinaria canadensis)	57	•	SC	Perennial	Present	insects	Early spring insect	3
Lopseed (Phryma leptostachya)	52	•	UNK	Perennial	Present	insects	Somewhat specific insect	4
Honewort (Cryptotaenia canadensis)	52	•	SC	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	2
Red baneberry (Actaea rubra)	52	•	SC	Perennial	Present	insects	Early spring insect	3
Wood anemone (Anemone quinquefolia)	52	•	UNK	Perennial	Present	insects	Early spring insect	4
Common strawberry (Fragaria virginiana)	48	•	SC	Perennial	Present	insects	Early spring insect	3
Sensitive fern (Onoclea sensibilis)	48	•	SC	Perennial	Present	wind, water	Generalist	0
Common false Solomon's seal (Smilacina racemosa)	48	•	UNK	Perennial	Present	insects	Early spring insect	4
Interrupted fern (Osmunda claytoniana)	48	•	SC	Perennial	Present	wind, water	Generalist	0
Round-lobed hepatica (Anemone americana)	48	•	SC	Perennial	Present	insects	Early spring insect	3
Touch-me-not (Impatiens spp.)	43	•	SI/SC	Annual	Absent	insects	Somewhat specific insect	6
Tall coneflower (Rudbeckia laciniata)	43	٠	SC	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	2
Spotted water hemlock (Cicuta maculata)	43	•	SC	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	2
Ostrich fern (Matteuccia struthiopteris)	39	•••	SC	Perennial	Present	wind, water	Generalist	0

Maidenhair fern (Adiantum pedatum)	35	•••	SC	Perennial	Present	wind,	Generalist	0
Virginia waterleaf (Hydrophyllum virginianum)	35	•••	SC	Perennial	Present	insects	Somewhat specific insect	3
Grasses and Sedges								
Nodding fescue (Festuca subverticillata)	70	•	UNK	Perennial	Absent	wind	Generalist	0
Pennsylvania sedge (Carex pensylvanica)	70	•••	SC	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Bearded shorthusk (Brachyelytrum erectum)	65	•	UNK	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Long-stalked sedge (Carex pedunculata)	61	••	SC	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Starry sedge (Carex rosea)	61	•	UNK	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Graceful sedge (Carex gracillima)	52	٠	UNK	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Bottlebrush grass (Elymus hystrix)	52	•	UNK	Perennial	Absent	wind	Generalist	0
Climbing Plants								
Virginia creeper (Parthenocissus spp.)	78	•	SC	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	2
Shrubs								
Chokecherry (Prunus virginiana)	74	•	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Early spring insect	5
Prickly gooseberry (Ribes cynosbati)	61	٠	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	4
Hawthorn (<i>Crataegus</i> spp.)	57	٠	Varies	Perennial	Absent	insects	Early spring insect	Varies
Beaked hazeInut (Corylus cornuta)	57	•••	Di	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Nannyberry (Viburnum lentago)	57	٠	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	4
Poison ivy (Toxicodendron rydbergii)	48	•	D	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	4
Downy arrowwood (Viburnum rafinesquianum)	48	٠	UNK	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	3
Tree Canopy								
Basswood	91	••••	SI	Perennial	Absent	insects	Generalist	5
Black ash	74	•••	D	Perennial	Absent	wind	Generalist	0
Bur oak	65	•••	SI	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Northern red oak	57	•••	SI	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Green ash	43	••	D	Perennial	UNK	wind	Generalist	0
Sugar maple	43	•••	D	Perennial	Absent	insects	Early spring insect	6
Red maple	39	•••	D	Perennial	Absent	insects	Early spring insect	6
Ironwood	-	-	UNK	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Blue beech	-	-	UNK	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Tree Subcanopy								
Basswood	70	•••	SI	Perennial	Absent	insects	Generalist	5
Black ash	52	•••	D	Perennial	Absent	wind	Generalist	0
Bur oak	43	•••	SI	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Northern red oak	13	••	SI	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Green ash	9	•	D	Perennial	UNK	wind	Generalist	0
Sugar maple	52	••••	D	Perennial	Absent	insects	Early spring insect	6
Red maple	13	••	D	Perennial	Absent	insects	Early spring insect	6
Ironwood	74	••	UNK	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Blue beech	61	•••	UNK	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0

Tree Shrub Layer								
Basswood	70	•	SI	Perennial	Absent	insects	Generalist	5
Black ash	78	•	D	Perennial	Absent	wind	Generalist	0
Bur oak	43	•	SI	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Northern red oak	74	•	SI	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Green ash	48	•	D	Perennial	UNK	wind	Generalist	0
Sugar maple	57	•••	D	Perennial	Absent	insects	Early spring insect	6
Red maple	57	•	D	Perennial	Absent	insects	Early spring insect	6
Ironwood	43	•	UNK	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Blue beech	52	••	UNK	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0

* Erect, Smooth, or Illinois carrion-flower (Smilax ecirrata, S. herbacea, or S. illinoensis)