# Pollinator Habitats At Blueberry Hill Organic Farm By Virginia Keith



# BLUEBERRY HILL SORGANIC FARM























# 150+ Varieties of Vegetables, Melons, Berries and Herbs











# Grant Opportunities



# Natural Resources Conservation Service



# NRCS EQUIP Grant Pollinator Habitat \$585/acre reimbursement

"Increased habitat for pollinators will improve fruit set, size and quality, productivity per acre, biodiversity, beneficial insect populations and the food base for many wildlife species....reducing the need for pesticides" NRCS

Pollinator Habitat Planting Methods;

2013 -walk-behind seeder and mulched with straw

2016 – hand broadcast seeder, no mulch

Estimated Cost for .2/acre - \$288 Using walk-behind seeder

Seed; Ernst, Eden Brothers - \$116 (enough for 1/2 acre)

Earthway Seeder; Nolts \$102

Straw Mulch; \$7/bale – 10 bales \$70

Labor; 4 hours

# The Xerces Society for invertebrate conservation

## NORTHEASTERN POLLINATOR CONSERVATION SEED MIX

A native seed mix specially designed to provide foraging and nesting resources for a diversity of pollinators

- Approximately 15 species of perennial wildflowers that provide high quality sources of pollen and/or nectar
- Includes a native bunch grass that provides nesting habitat for bumble bees and other beneficial insects
- Appropriate for habitat restoration in Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, northern New York, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont
- Available in 1/2 or 1-acre quantities

## Available from Ernst Conservation Seeds

Meadville, Pennsylvania

### www.ernstseed.com

### sales@ernstseed.com or (800) 873-3321

Ernst Conservation Seeds produces and supplies native plant seed for use in restoration,

reclamation, conservation, and wildlife habitat enhancement.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Cultivar/Ecotype	Percent of Mix*	
FORBS				

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Common Name	Botanical Name	Cultivar/Ecotype	Percent of Mix*
FORBS			
Anise hyssop	Agastachefoeniculum	Commercial	9.68%
Arrow leaf aster	Symphyotrichum sagittifolius	PA	0.31%
Bigleaf lupine	Lupinus polyphyllus	Commercial	11.46%
Blue false indigo	Baptisia australis	Southern WV	1.45%
Boneset	Eupatorium perfoliatum	PA	0.39%
Common monarch flower	Asclepias syriaca	PA	3.11%
Lanceleaf coreopsis	Coreopsis lanceolata	Coastal Plain NC	14.78%
Maximilian's sunflower	Helianthus maximilianii	Commercial	2.18%
Meadow bottle gentian	Gentiana clausa	РА	0.07%
New England aster	Symphyotrichum novae-angliae	PA	0.22%
New York ironweed	Vernonia noveboracensis	РА	0.03%
Ohio spiderwort	Tradescantia ohiensis	РА	0.5%
Partridge pea	Chamaecrista fasciculata	РА	10.05%
Showy goldenrod	Solidago speciosa	Southern WV	0.16%
Slender mountainmint	Pycnanthemum tenuifolium	Commercial	0.62%
Tall white beardtongue	Penstemon digitalis	Commercial	5.99%
Wild bergamot	Monarda fistulosa	Commercial	2.05%
GRASS			
Little bluestem	Schizachyrium scoparium	'Camper'	36.95%

Recommended seeding rate: at least 7.2 bulk pounds per acre.



Gayfeather / Blazing







































## Benefits noticed

Improved fruit set
Increase in fruit size, quantity and quality
Reduction in pest populations

## Improved Fruit Set



Improved Fruit Size, Quality and Quantity





## Significant pest reduction









