

	<b>Scientific name:</b> <i>Monarda fistulosa</i>
	<b>Common name(s):</b> Bee Balm, Wild Bergamot, Horsemint
	<b>Family:</b> Lamiaceae (Mint)
	<b>Native:</b> CO, widespread across North America
	<b>Habitat:</b> Plains, foothills, moist meadows, ditches, roadsides  Native Bee Balm provides pollen and nectar to native bees, butterflies, and moths and seeds for overwintering birds, and it attracts hummingbirds when in bloom. Combine with Sunflowers ( <i>Helianthus sp.</i> ), Coneflowers ( <i>Echinacea sp.</i> ), Black-Eyed Susan ( <i>Rudbeckia hirta</i> ), Milkweed ( <i>Asclepias sp.</i> ) and tallgrass prairie grasses like Switchgrass ( <i>Panicum virgatum</i> ) and Indian Grass ( <i>Sorghastrum nutans</i> ). Plants need good air circulation. Deadhead flowers to prolong summer bloom; leave spent seedheads standing through the winter. Deer and rabbit resistant.
<b>Plant type:</b> Rhizomatous perennial (clump-forming; reseeds) <b>Elevation:</b> to 8800’ <b>USDA Hardiness Zone:</b> 3 <b>Exposure:</b> Full sun, part sun, light shade <b>Soil:</b> Adaptable (clay, loam, sandy); prefers well-drained <b>Moisture:</b> Moderate, low, dry <b>Flower color:</b> Rose pink, lavender, light purple <b>Bloom time:</b> Summer <b>Mature size (height x width):</b> 2-4’(+ with high H20) x 2-3’	
	<b>Propagation:</b> No pre-treatment of seeds is necessary. Sow the seeds in cells, pots or in situ after the last frost date (around May 10th on the Front Range). Cover the seeds very lightly (light requirement). Seeds will germinate in 10-14 days.
 	