

## Link 1. *Echinacea angustifolia* Facts

(Compiled by Robyn Klein)

*Echinacea* is the Latin and common name of a wildflower native only to North America. Latin names are always italicized. The Genus is always capitalized and the species always in small letters.

*Echinacea* is mostly called purple coneflower, a native plant of the United States.

*Echinacea* from Montana is called coneflower, comb flower, snakeroot and many other names.

There are nine species of *Echinacea*:

- Echinacea angustifolia* (narrow-leaf coneflower)
- Echinacea atrorubens* (Topeka purple coneflower)
- Echinacea laevigata* (smooth coneflower)
- Echinacea pallida* (pale purple coneflower)
- Echinacea paradoxa* (yellow coneflower)
- Echinacea purpurea* (purple coneflower)
- Echinacea sanguinea* (sanguine coneflower)
- Echinacea simulata* (wavyleaf purple coneflower)
- Echinacea tenesseeensis* (Tennessee coneflower)

The nine *Echinacea* species are endemic to eastern and central North America and into southern Canada. Among the nine species of *Echinacea* only one is native to Montana, *Echinacea angustifolia*.

The most commonly used *Echinacea* species are *Echinacea purpurea*, *E. angustifolia* and *E. pallida*. Of these three species, *E. purpurea* is the species most cultivated as a crop. This non-native species of *Echinacea* is often what people grow in their gardens.

*Echinacea angustifolia* is considered medicinally superior, but that is debatable according to current scientific research.

The only native species of *Echinacea* found in Montana is *Echinacea angustifolia*.

There are fourteen Montana counties where *Echinacea angustifolia* has been documented: Big Horn, Carter, Custer, Dawson, Fallon, Garfield, McCone, Powder River, Richland, Roosevelt, Rosebud, Sheridan, Wibaux, Yellowstone.

For more information of the distribution of *Echinacea* species (by species) you may check out: <http://kindscher.faculty.ku.edu/research/ethnobotany/distribution-maps-for-echinacea-species>

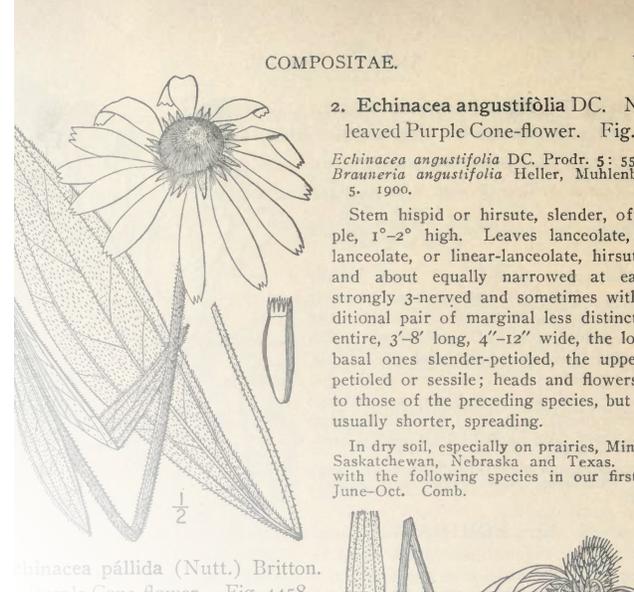


Photo credit: Britton, N.L., and A. Brown. *An Illustrated Flora of the Northern United States, Canada and the British Possessions* [image]. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1913.

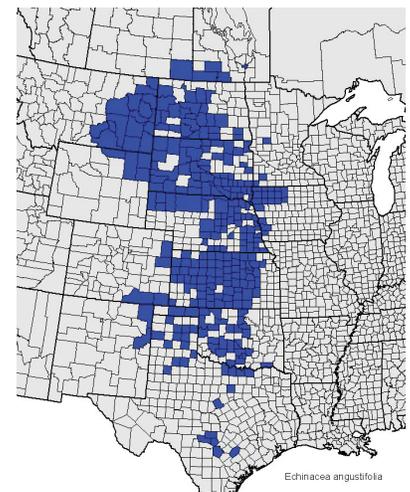


Photo credit: Kindscher, Kelly. *Distribution Map for Echinacea angustifolia* [map]. Scale unknown. The University of Kansas, Kelly Kindscher, *Echinacea* mapping project.

