

Plant Outdoors

- Milkweed seeds may be planted in early spring, as they need cool soil for the first 30 days to germinate.
- They may also be planted in the late fall and will emerge the next spring.
- Plant $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch deep in a sunny spot.

Plant Indoors

If starting the seeds indoors, they will germinate after a period of cold, moist stratification.

- To germinate the seeds, mix with a suitable seed starting media and place mixture in sealed plastic bag in the refrigerator for 30 days.
- An alternative is to place seeds between moist paper towels in a plastic bag. Check the bag periodically to make sure it is not drying out or sprouting.
- If sprouting, plant immediately.
- Once the seeds have been through this cold treatment, they may be planted in plastic flats indoors. Most seeds will germinate in 7-10 days. Keep the soil moist.
- Plants are ready for transplant when they are 3-6 inches in height; acclimate the plants to outdoor conditions by placing them outdoors during the day for a few days before transplanting.
- Seedlings should be planted 6-24 inches apart and watered frequently.

Milkweed spreads by seed in the fall by the wind and underground by rhizomes, or roots that produce new roots. The flowers bloom from June to August.