

**How to help collect common milkweed seed pods
with the Ohio Pollinator Habitat Initiative (OPHI)
2016**



**Ohio Pollinator
Habitat Initiative**

Annual Milkweed Pod Collection
September 1st through October 30th
Contact your local Soil and Water Conservation District
for more information



Q: What type of milkweed seed is OPHI collecting?



A: Only common milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*)

Be sure you have the correct species of milkweed...

YES!



VS

NO!



Common milkweed

Swamp milkweed

Be sure you have the correct species of milkweed...



Common milkweed

VS



Swamp milkweed

Be sure you have the correct species of milkweed...



Dogbane is sometimes confused with milkweed, but the seed pods are much smaller

Q: Where should I collect common milkweed seed pods?



A: You can collect mature common milkweed seed pods on private property if you have permission from the land owner



Ask friends, family, neighbors, etc. who have an established patch of common milkweed.

Q: How will I know if the seed pods are ready to pick?



A: Immature common milkweed pods are a soft green color; they will turn golden yellow to brown or gray when mature.

Q: How will I know if the seed pods are ready to pick?




NO

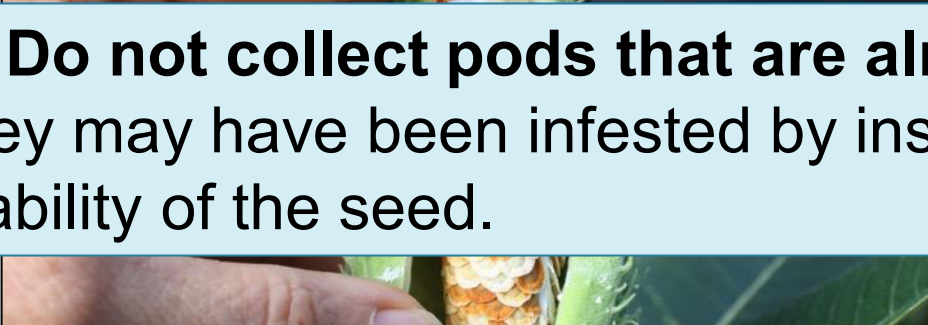


YES!

Tips for collecting:



• **Do not collect pods that are already open;** they may have been infested by insects, which could affect the viability of the seed.



• **When the pods appear ready, test the seam:** If the center seam pops with gentle pressure, they can be harvested.



• **Use paper bags;** not plastic.

Q: Why is the collection season September 1-October 30th?



A: Common milkweed seed pods will mature at different times depending on the location and environmental conditions at the site.

Q: Where do I deliver my common milkweed pods?



A: Counties in **GREEN** have Soil and Water Conservation District offices that have agreed to be a collection site.

Q: Where do I deliver my common milkweed pods?



**Each partnering SWCD office will have a collection bin like this;
Look for the OPHI label!**

Q: Where do I deliver my common milkweed pods?



Please note the date and county where seeds were collected on your paper sack, and drop in the bin.

Collection ends October 30th 2016!

Q: What will happen to common milkweed seed pods that have been delivered?



Q: What will happen to common milkweed seed pods that have been delivered?



A: All of the seed collected will be used to establish new plantings to create additional habitat for Monarch butterflies across Ohio.

Thank you!



To find the location of your local Soil and Water Conservation District office:
<http://www.agri.ohio.gov/divs/SWC/SearchLocalSWCD.aspx>

For more information about OPHI:

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