

Milkweed can survive from 2 to 25 yrs in the wild depending on species & environmental factors

# Milkweed (Asclepias L.)

fruit of milkweed are brown pods. ripe pods split open to release fluffy seed.

Edible?  
Some species can be used in the human diet but they should be properly cooked. "boiled 3x before consumption - shoots, leaves, pods + buds."



The entire plant is filled w/ milky sap that contains latex, alkaloids + cardiac glycosides. Some species produce toxic chemicals to protect themselves against hungry herbivores

Thick, long rhizome "that store nutrients + produce new sprouts. can produce several separate stems located short distances away"

There are more than 140 species of milkweed - MOST originate in N. America.

can reach 1.5 to 6 ft in height.

BUTTERFLIES and Honey Bees