

**Common Names:**

Coneflower, Purple  
Coneflower

**Plant Type:** Perennial**Light Requirements:** Full  
Sun**Height:** 2-4ft**Bloom Time:** June-August**Hardiness Zone:** 3-8

## **Echinacea purpurea**

*Echinacea purpurea* is an herbaceous perennial in the daisy family (Asteraceae). It is native to eastern and central North America and can often be found in prairies and meadows throughout the United States. While the species typically boasts a purpleish-pink flower, many cultivars are available in shades of white, yellow, red, and orange. The leaves and stems have a rough, hairy texture. The central disk is brown and spiny; in fact, the genus name "Echinacea" is rooted in the Greek word for hedgehog, in reference to the cone's appearance. *Echinacea* has long been used for medicinal purposes to treat a variety of ailments.

*Echinacea* grows best in full sun with well-drained soil. It can tolerate a wide range of soil textures, including rocky soils. Once established it can tolerate occasional periods of drought, though it prefers moist soils. *Echinacea* is long-lived and takes well to division and replanting. Plants generally self-seed in the garden. The seedheads are a good source of forage for birds, especially goldfinches.

**References:**

[https://plants.usda.gov/DocumentLibrary/factsheet/pdf/fs\\_ecpu.pdf](https://plants.usda.gov/DocumentLibrary/factsheet/pdf/fs_ecpu.pdf)

<https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/echinacea-purpurea/>

[https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id\\_plant=ecpu](https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=ecpu)