



Asclepias viridis green antelopehorn

Why Observe?

Green antelopehorn a perennial, herbaceous plant that grows in rocky prairies, glades, fields, and roadsides. Each flower has both male and female parts, and is pollinated by insects. As a member of the milkweed family, this plant is especially important for monarch butterflies. Green antelopehorn tends to bloom between late spring and mid-summer.



[bretonplumlee via iNaturalist.org](#). CC BY-NC 4.0 (cropped)

Tips for Identification

This plant typically grows 12 to 18 inches tall but can grow up to 25 inches tall. The small, green and purple flowers are grouped in showy clusters.



[beckymn via iNaturalist.org](#). CC BY-NC 4.0 (cropped)

Be aware there is variation from individual to individual within a species, so your plant may not look exactly like the one pictured. If you are uncertain whether or not a phenophase is occurring, report a “?” for its status until it becomes clear what you are observing after subsequent visits.

Asclepias viridis
green antelopehorn

Image Needed

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Initial growth

New growth of the plant is visible after a period of no growth (winter or drought), either from above-ground buds with green tips, or new green or white shoots breaking through the soil surface. Growth is considered "initial" on each bud or shoot until the first leaf has fully unfolded. For seedlings, "initial" growth includes the presence of the one or two small, round or elongated leaves (cotyledons) before the first true leaf has unfolded.



[madisonruther via iNaturalist.org. CC BY-NC 4.0 \(cropped\).](#)

Leaves

One or more live, fully unfolded leaves are visible on the plant. For seedlings, consider only true leaves and do not count the one or two small, round or elongated leaves (cotyledons) that are found on the stem almost immediately after the seedling germinates. Do not include fully dried or dead leaves.



[kmattern via iNaturalist.org. CC BY-NC 4.0 \(cropped\).](#)

Flowers or flower buds

One or more fresh open or unopened flowers or flower buds are visible on the plant. Include flower buds or inflorescences that are swelling or expanding, but do not include those that are tightly closed and not actively growing (dormant). Also do not include wilted or dried flowers.



[brandonbest via iNaturalist.org. CC BY-NC 4.0 \(cropped\).](#)

Open flowers

One or more open, fresh flowers are visible on the plant. Flowers are considered "open" when the reproductive parts (male stamens or female pistils) are visible between or within unfolded or open flower parts (petals, floral tubes or sepals). Do not include wilted or dried flowers.



[Lynda D via iNaturalist.org. CC BY-NC 4.0 \(cropped\).](#)

Fruits

One or more fruits are visible on the plant. For *Asclepias viridis*, the fruit is large and pod-like and changes from green to tan or brown and splits open to expose seeds with fluff. Do not include empty fruits that have already dropped all of their seeds.



[Richard McDonald via iNaturalist.org. CC BY-NC 4.0 \(cropped\).](#)

Ripe fruits

One or more ripe fruits are visible on the plant. For *Asclepias viridis*, a fruit is considered ripe when it has turned tan or brown and has split open to expose seeds with fluff. Do not include empty fruits that have already dropped all of their seeds.

Phenophases not pictured: Recent fruit or seed drop