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Native Species or Cultivars of Native Plants-Does it Matter?

By Carol Bell 0 Comments

There is a lot of excitement about planting native plants, and the reasons for choosing them are well-respected. However, when being planted for its native species, it matters. Why does it matter? Because of cultivars rather than straight species. Straight species native plants have grown in a particular area or ecoregion for hundreds or even thousands of years. Because of this, they have developed a relationship with the surrounding environment and have been genetically selected for survival. The word cultivar means a cultivated variety. It means the definition of a cultivar. A plant must be bred sexually. Some cultivars originated as "sports" or mutations that were discovered in the wild or in a nursery. Cultivars are a form of selective breeding. Cultivars are a form of selective breeding. Cultivars are bred for specific traits such as color, size, growth habit, and pest resistance

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