

SPOTTED BEEBALM (HORSEMINT)

Monarda punctata

An aromatic, erect perennial ranging from only 6 in. to almost 3 ft. tall. Rosettes of yellowish, purple-spotted, tubular flowers occur in whorls, forming a dense, elongated spike at the end of the stem or from leaf axils. Each whorl is subtended by large, conspicuous, whitish, purple-tinged, leaf-like bracts. When blooming in late summer and early fall Beebalm has no equal in attracting bees, butterflies and other beneficial insects. Very drought-tolerant, the long blooming period makes this a valuable addition to any wildflower garden. It is a vigorous self-sower after blooming and needs to be kept in check.

