Asclepias incarnata - swamp milkweed
Milkweed Family (Asclepiadaceae)

**Rarity Rank:** S2/G5

**Range:** FL west to NM, north to Nova Scotia and Manitoba

**Recognition:**
- Robust perennial milkweed from a short rootstock, to 2 m tall in our area; has milky sap which is characteristic of most milkweeds
- Leaves are numerous, opposite, linear-lanceolate to ovate-elliptic, 6 to 15 cm long to 4 cm broad with rounded to heart-shaped bases and acute to acuminate tips
- Flower color is bright rose-purple (rarely white)
- Fruit is an erect follicle (“pod”), seeds with a long tuft of hairs at one end which allows wind dispersal

**Flowering Time:** June to September

**Light Requirement:** Full sun to partial shade

**Wetland Indicator Status:**
- OBL – Almost always in wetlands

**Habitat:**
- Louisiana occurrences are in freshwater swamps and marshes. May also occur in ditches.

**Threats:**
- Subsidence of fresh marsh
- Saltwater intrusion

**Beneficial Management Practices:**
- Protection of freshwater marshes and swamps
- Conduct more field survey work in order to determine current status in Louisiana

**LA River Basins:** Pontchartrain, Barataria, Terrebonne
**References:**


