

## Leadplant

# *Amorpha canescens* Pursh

**Group:** Monocot

**Family:** Fabaceae (legume)

**Growth Habit:** Subshrub/shrub

**Duration:** Perennial

**U.S. Nativity:** Native, most of central U.S.

**Natural Enemies Attracted:** Small numbers of [Nabidae](#) and [Orius insidiosus](#).

**Pests Attracted:** Small numbers of leafhoppers, aphids, Japanese beetles and lygus bugs.

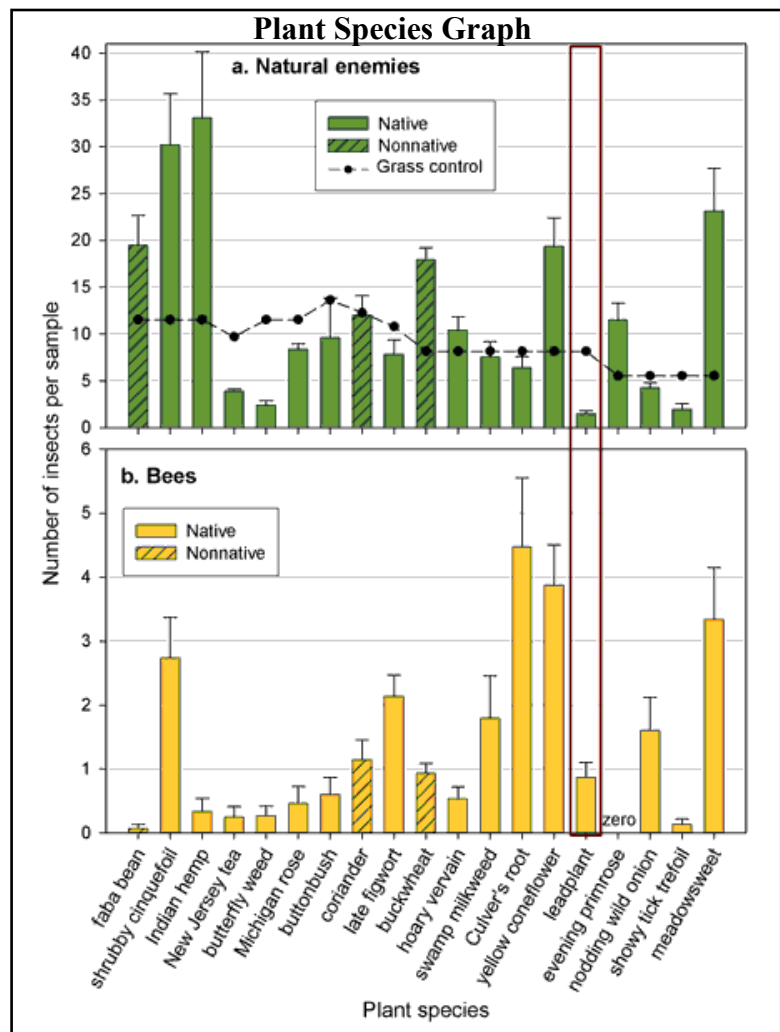
**Bees attracted:** Moderate numbers (between 1-5 bees per meter square in a 30 second sample) of bees including sweat bees, small carpenter bees, and bumble bees.



**Species Notes:** Flowers are small purple spikes. Plants are compact with small leaves, grow to about 1- 4 foot tall, and began to bloom in their third season of growth. Plants bloomed from late July through early August. This species was the least attractive to natural enemies in the mid season, with fewer natural enemies than in the grass control.

### About the Plant Species Graph:

Average number of beneficial insects collected at each plant species the week before, during, and after peak bloom, for plant species blooming from mid-August through early October (+ standard error). Leadplant (*Amorpha canescens*) boxed in red. Bars for natural enemies are in green, bars for bees are in yellow. Bars for native plants are solid and nonnative plants are striped. The black line on the top graph shows the number of natural enemies in grass with no flowering plants (grass control). Plants are listed in order of peak bloom.



**Habitat:** Includes full sun and very dry sites. Naturally occurring in sandy clearings and roadsides, hills, bluffs, and prairies.

**Cultivation and Management:** Plants are difficult to establish from seed, but may be grown from plug material (flowers in third year).

**Availability:** Species is available as seed, plug or container grown material from various native plant nurseries. See the Michigan Native Plant Producers Association

**For more information:** View the online USDA-NRCS PLANTS database

