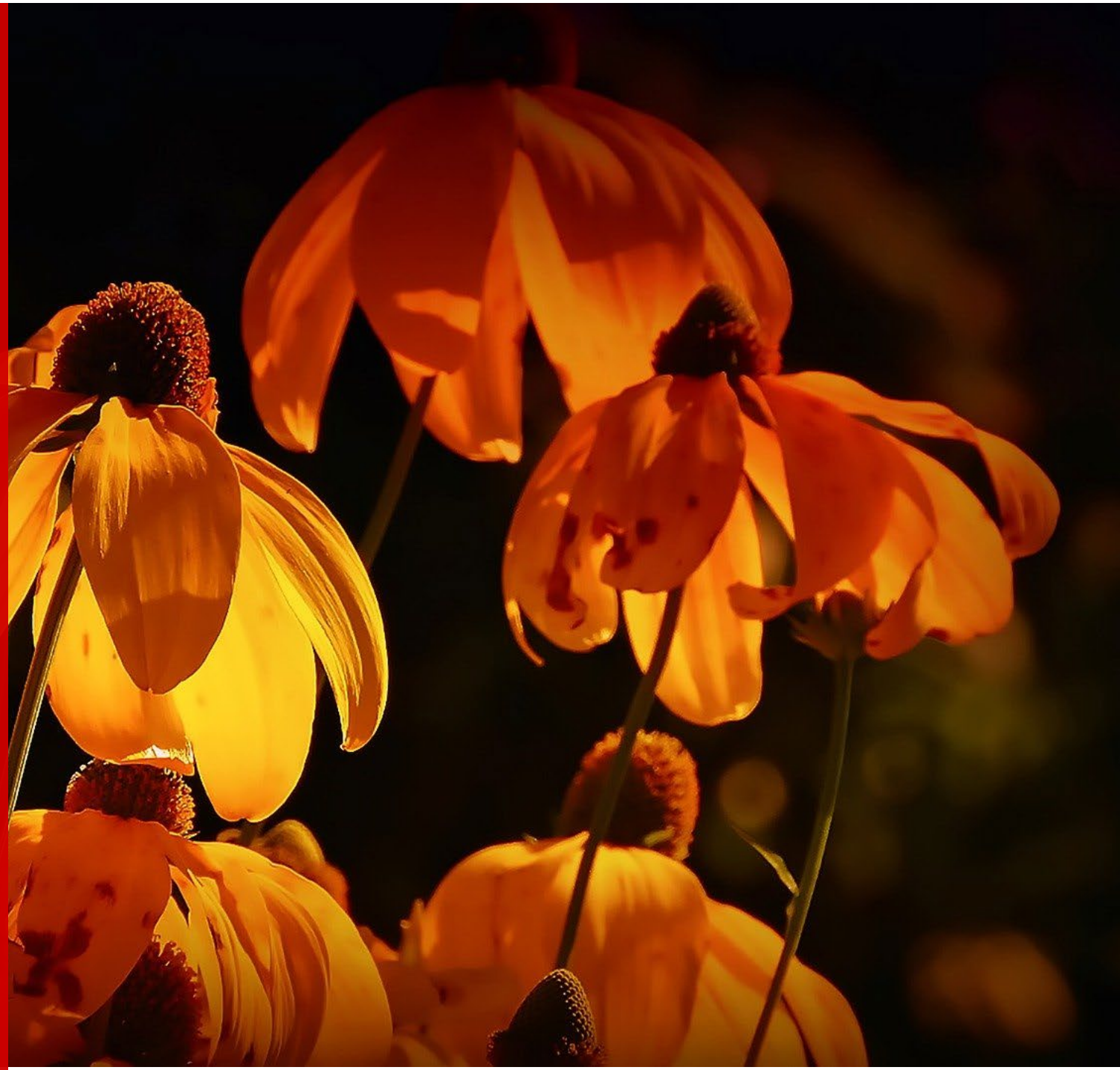


Solution Gardening

Sarah Browning,
Extension Educator





Gardening in the Shade

Plants for Shade Landscapes

[Go.unl.edu/shade](https://go.unl.edu/shade)



Anemone 'Robustissima'

- Crisp dark green foliage that remains attractive all season
- Full sun or partial shade
- Well drained soil
- Height 3-4'
- Will fill any available space in the garden
- Zone 5-7



White Flower Farm

Brunnera 'Alexander's Great'

- Silvery leaves veined and outlined in green
- Blooms May and June with clusters of blue flowers
- Partial to full shade
- Requires consistent soil moisture
- Height 14" tall and wide
- As an accent in a shaded border foliage is eye-catching



Lungwort, *Pulmonaria* 'Mrs. Moon'

- Pink flower turn blue as they age
- Large elongated oval leaves with pointed tip; apple-green to dark green with silver spots
- Spread via creeping root stock
- Height 9-18", width 24"
- Can be susceptible to powdery mildew, but do better if they get morning sun
- Avoid wet soil in winter
- Zone 3-7



Burpee

Virginia bluebells, *Mertensia virginica*

- Early spring flowers
- Prefers moist soil and partial shade
- Tubular pink flower borne in nodding clusters; turn lavender-blue as the age
- Blue-green mouse ear-shaped leaves; 3-4" wide, 4" long
- Height 1-2 feet, width 12 inches
- Summer dormancy
- Zone 3-8



White Flower Farm



More Plants for Shade

Shrubs

- Beautyberry, coralberry, snowberry
- Currant
- Chokeberry- black & red
- Coralberry
- Dogwood – gray, red twig
- Mockorange
- Ninebark
- Privet
- Viburnum
- Yew



Trees

- American filbert, hazelnut
- Dogwood, Cornelian cherry
- Vernal witch hazel





Gardening in Wet Soil

Trees, Shrubs and Groundcovers Tolerant of Wet Sites

Go.unl.edu/wetsoil



Chokeberry, *Aronia arbutifolia* or *A. melanocarpa*

- Upright-spreading, often suckering shrub.
- Tolerates both wet & dry soil, and partial shade.
- White flowers in spring, black edible fruits.
- Glossy dark green foliage, with reddish-purple fall color.
- Medium-slow growth rate.
- Height 4-6'
- Zone 3-8



Winterberry holly, *Ilex verticillata*

- Native to swampy areas, does well in light or heavy soils.
- Full sun or partial shade.
- Choose hardy cultivars like 'Sparkleberry', 'Red Sprite' and 'Winter Red'. Need male pollinator to set fruit, 'Apollo' and 'Jim Dandy'
- Height 6-10' height, equal or larger spread.
- Zone 3-9



Ragwort flower, *Ligularia* 'Britt Marie Crawford'

- Full shade or morning sun
- Requires continually moist soils – around ponds, stream banks
- Cultivar has shiny chocolate-purple foliage with wavy margins
- Flowers in midsummer with golden yellow flowers
- Height 3-4'
- Not bothered by deer
- Zones 5-8



Allegheny Foamflower, *Tiarella cordifolia*

- Prefers full to partial shade
- Required highly organic, high moisture soil; but avoid wet soil in winter
- Blooms in May with pink-tinged flower buds, opening to white or pink star-shaped flowers; 3-4 inch tall spikes
- 3-4 inch wide, heart-shaped lobed leaves; evergreen
- Height 9-12 inches
- Zone 4-9



Woodland Phlox, *Phlox divaricata*

- Light blue flowers, in loose panicles, appear in spring
- Dark green, oblong, opposite evergreen leaves
- Plant in full to partial shade with moist, well-drained soil
- Plants spread slowly by creeping rhizomes
- Height 12-15", width 12"
- Zone 3-8



More Plants for Wet Soil

Shrubs

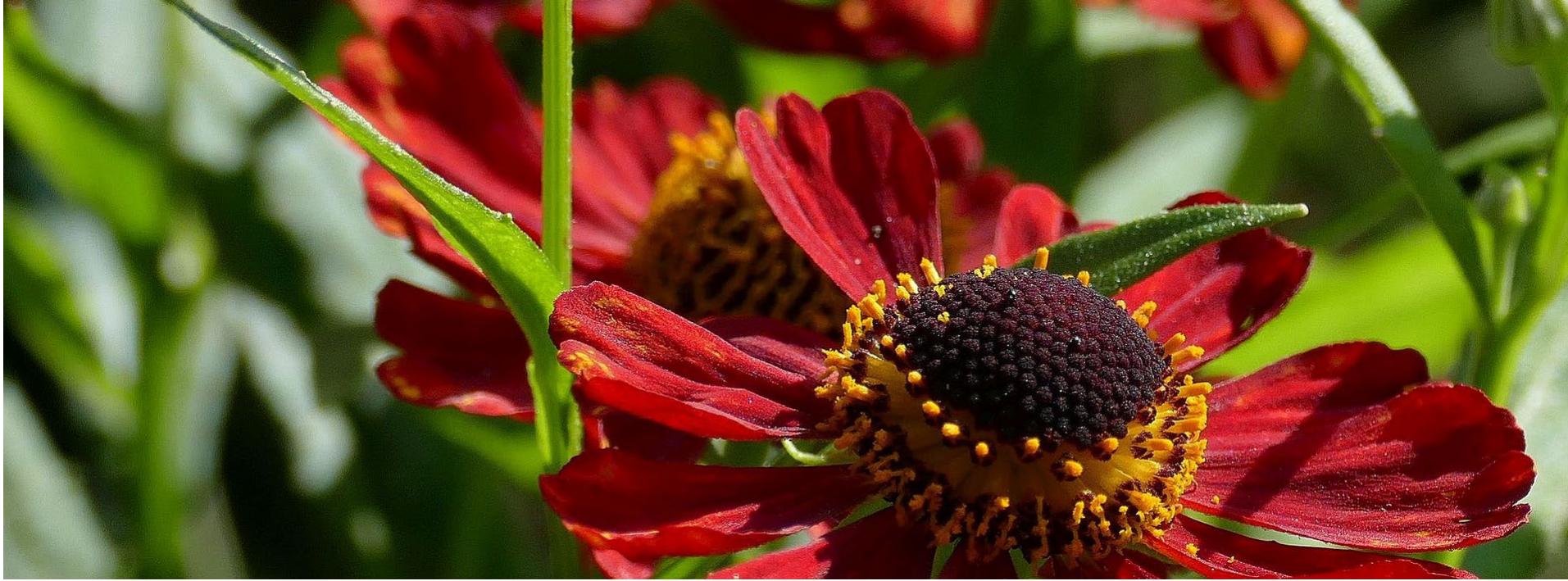
- American elder
- Buttonbush
- Chokeberry – black & red
- Dogwood – gray, red twig
- Downy serviceberry
- Summersweet
- Virginia sweetspire
- Winterberry holly
- Viburnum – arrowwood, cranberrybush

Trees

- American hornbeam
- Arborvitae
- Baldcypress
- Northern catalpa
- Hackberry
- Honeylocust, thornless
- Persimmon
- Red maple
- River birch
- Sycamore
- Swamp white oak



**Buttonbush &
Persimmon**



Gardening on Dry Sites

Trees, Shrubs and Groundcovers Tolerant of Dry Sites

Go.unl.edu/drysoil



Coneflower, Black-eyed Susan

Rudbeckia hirta (annuals)

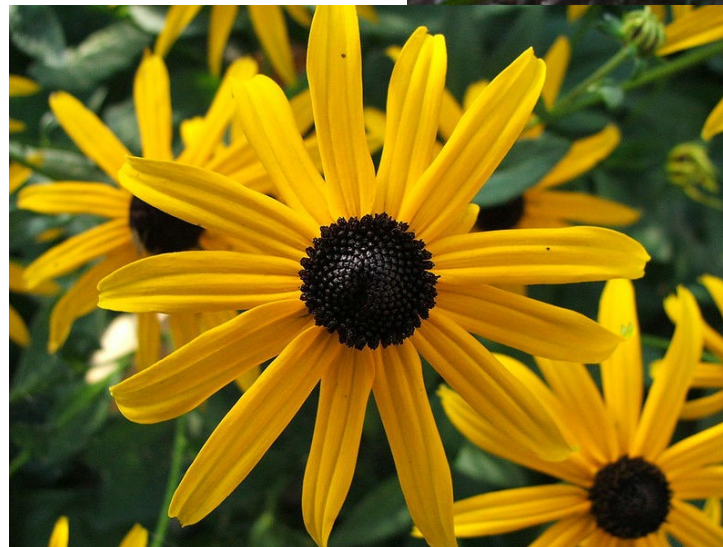


- ‘Sonora’
 - Radiant gold, 5-6 in. flowers, with a ring of mahogany around dark centers
 - Compact plants, height 15”
 - Blooms from early summer until frost
- ‘Hot Chocolate’
 - Large, bicolor flowers that are dark mahogany red at their base, tipped with yellow
 - Flowers 3” across, bloom profusely
 - Very heat tolerant
 - Height 18”

Orange Coneflower

Rudbeckia fulgida (perennial)

- 3-4" wide deep yellow flowers, nearly black central cone; midsummer bloomer
- Dark green foliage, slightly hairy foliage
- Height 18-30 inches, width
- Performs best in full sun with moist soil, but tolerates dry conditions
- Zone 3-8



Above – Proven
Winners

Left - Wikipedia

Goldenrod

Solidago 'Wichita Mountains'

- Numerous 2" thick bright golden flower spikes up to 12" tall
- Blooms late summer to frost
- Good drought tolerance
- Seed propagated species found growing in the Wichita Mountains of SW Oklahoma
- Height 24-30"
- Zone 4



Lambs Ears

Stachys byzantina



- Thick soft velvety silver-gray leaves, tongue-shaped 4" long leave create a rapidly spreading mat of foliage
- Insignificant flowers
- Full sun, appreciates light shade in afternoon in hot climates
- Grows easily in average, dry to medium well-drained soil
- Avoid overhead irrigation
- Height 8-18", width 12-18"
- Zones 4-8
- Superior cultivar 'Helene Von Stein'

Tickseed Coreopsis, *C. grandiflora*

Lanceleaf Coreopsis, *C. lanceolata*

- Both are easy to grow in full sun
- Bright flowers attract butterflies & pollinators
- Resistant to deer and rabbits
- *C. grandiflora* – spade shaped leaves
 - Flowers early June to late August
 - Deadhead for best return bloom
 - Zones 4-9
- *C. lanceolata* – lance shaped leaves
 - Zones 3-8
 - May be longer-lived than *C. grandiflora* but not as floriferous



Trees for Dry Soil

Plantnebraska.org





Gardening with Wildlife

Landscape Plants Rated by Deer Resistance

[Bit.ly/deerresistance](https://bit.ly/deerresistance)

Rabbit-Resistant Garden and Landscape Plants

[Bit.ly/rabbitresistance](https://bit.ly/rabbitresistance)

Basket of Gold

Aurinia saxatilis

- Covered in spring with small yellow flowers
- Gray-green foliage and spreads into clumps rapidly
- Requires full sun and excellent drainage
- Cut back after flowering
- Height 12"
- Zone 3-7



Bleeding Heart, *Dicentra spectabilis*

- Blooms May-June
- Full shade to partial sun, with moderate soil moisture
- Height 30"+
- Plants may go dormant in mid-summer, especially in dry locations
- Zone 2-7



Blue Mist Spirea

Caryopteris x clandonensis 'Longwood Blue'



- Lavender-blue flowers appear in late summer on new growth
- Foliage is green with silver-gray tones
- Height 2-4'
- Grows best in full sun and well-drained soil
- Zones 5-9

Catmint, *Nepeta x faassenii*

- Lavender-blue flowers in late June to August
- Gray-green foliage on arching stems
- Shear back 1/3 after blooming
- Great plant for very hot dry areas or hellstrips
- Full sun and well-drained soil
- Height 18-24", width 18"
- Zones 4-7





Attracting Butterflies & Pollinators

Gardening for Butterflies and Pollinators

[Bit.ly/IA-butterfly](https://bit.ly/IA-butterfly)



Butterfly Milkweed

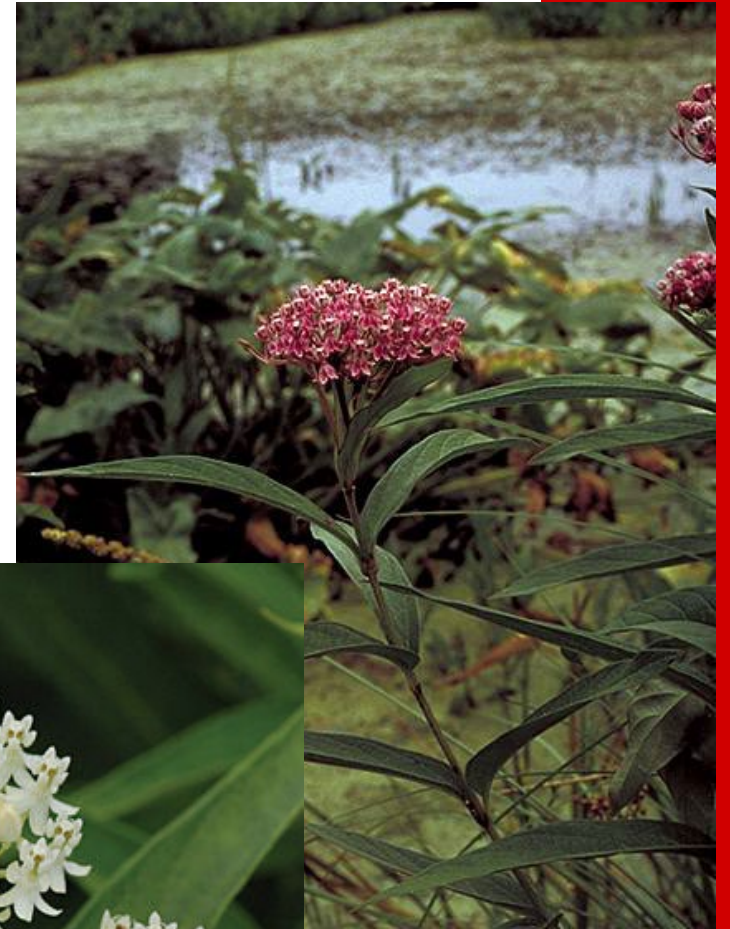
Asclepias tuberosa

- Clusters of orange flowers produced in spring- 6 weeks
- Lance-shaped leaves alternate or spiral up the stems
- Late to emerge in spring
- Full sun
- Height 2-3'
- Zone 4-9



Swamp Milkweed, *Asclepias incarnata*

- Rosy pink flowers produced atop stems in spring
- Flowers have a faint vanilla scent
- Opposite 3-6" long leaves; milky sap
- Full sun
- Plants normally found in ditches, swamps and other wet areas; well-drained sites tolerated
- Height 3-4', width 2'
- Cultivars
 - Cinderella – larger, more compact flower heads
 - Ice Ballet – white flowers on 3-5' stems
 - Soulmate – rose/purple flowers
- Zone 3-7



Burpee

'Purple Dome' Aster

Aster x novae-angliae

- Widely adapted and nearly pest-free
- Purple 1-1/2" flowers; Sept-Oct
- Full sun
- Height 18-24", width 36"
- Zones 4-8
- 'Alma Potschke' - bright rose, height 3-4'



Above Burpee

Left High
Country
Gardens

Summersweet Clethra, *Clethra alnifolia*

- AKA Sweet pepperbush
- Deciduous shrub, native to swampy woodlands, wet marches, stream banks
- Oblong, serrate leaves; dark glossy green; yellow to golden brown in fall
- Blooms in late summer, July-Aug., even in shady locations
- Compact size; height 3-8', 4-6 width
- Zone 3-9
- Very attractive to butterflies and bees





Great Groundcovers

Selected Ground Covers for Missouri

[Bit.ly/MO-groundcover](https://bit.ly/MO-groundcover)



Leadwort, Plumbago

Ceratostigma plumbaginoides



- Great ground cover with electric blue flowers produced in late summer
- Prefers full sun, possibly afternoon shade
- Foliage turns bronzy-red in fall
- Height 8-12"
- Zone 5-8

Prairie Smoke, *Geum triflorum*

- Nebraska native
- Drooping purplish-red, nodding, cup-shaped flowers
- Persistent, feathery silver & pink seed heads
- Requires full sun and well-drained soil
- Height 9-12", width 12"
- Zones 1-7



Solomon Seal

Polygonatum odoratum var. *thunbergii*



- Blooms in spring with white-green flowers
- Partial to full shade
- Prefers moist, woodland-type soils
- Height 18-24"
- Zone 3-8

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