**PURPLE CONEFLOWER – ‘Kim’s Knee High’**

*by Allison Kelly - horticulture major in Dr. Vincent’s HORT 461 Advanced Sustainable Garden Design class*

Flowering begins in mid-summer and continues sporadically until frost. ‘Kim’s Knee-High’ performs best in consistently moist, well-drained soil and full sun conditions. Tolerates a wide variety of soil conditions.

**Siting:** Echinacea purpurea ‘Kim’s Knee-High’ performs best in consistently moist, well-drained soil and full sun conditions. It is beneficial and highly attractive to birds, bees and butterflies.

**Care:** Plant crown at soil level. At planting, water the roots and surrounding area slowly and deeply. Keep soil moist until plant is established, then apply enough water to thoroughly moisten the root zone when the soil is dry or during drought. Modify water recommendations to reflect site drainage and rainfall. Apply 3" of mulch over the planted area. Do not allow mulch to touch the plant stems. It can be divided every 3 to 4 years to prevent overcrowding.

**Pests:** Echinacea are prone to several disease and insect pest problems such as stem rots, powdery mildew, anthracnose, and aster yellows. In addition, there may be damage from aphids, Japanese beetles, and mites; however, the resulting symptoms are usually minimal. Proper plant spacing, well-drained soils and proper sanitation by removing plant debris will help reduce disease problems.

This plant does not appear on the following invasive plant lists on (2/27/13):

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### Table

| Latin name: Echinacea purpurea 'Kim’s Knee High' | Texture: Coarse
| Common name: Purple Coneflower 'Kim’s Knee High' | Growth rate: Medium
| Flowers: Purple-pinkish petals surround a raised brown/bronze-colored center disk | Light: Full sun to part shade
| Fruit: Inconspicuous | Moisture: Dry to medium
| Height & Width: 2’ x 2’ | Soil*: Tolerates a wide variety of soils
| Type: Herbaceous perennial | Zones: 3 - 8
| Habit: Upright | Origin: Midwestern to Eastern United States, including South Carolina
| Wetland indicator category**: Not available | Benefits: Beneficial and highly attractive to birds, bees and butterflies

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*Image source: http://www.wildflower.org/image_archive*

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** Features:** ‘Kim’s Knee-High’ is a dwarf cultivar of this common garden favorite, purple coneflower. It is beneficial and highly attractive to birds, bees and butterflies.

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**Fruit:** Inconspicuous

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**Type:** Herbaceous perennial

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