Sweetspire

Today on Gardening in a Minute: sweetspire.

Sweetspire is a small shrub that’s native to North Florida, where it’s typically found growing in wetland areas. But it’s also great for home gardens, where it can be planted in wet or occasionally dry soils.

Each spring, sweetspire produces drooping clusters of tiny white flowers that attract butterflies. In the fall, the leaves change to a deep burgundy.

The cultivar ‘Henry’s Garnet’ is an improved variety that’s showier than the native form and has burgundy foliage year-round.

‘Henry’s Garnet’ is fairly compact, growing three to four feet tall and six feet wide. The native form is larger and puts out suckers, so give it room to spread.

Plant your sweetspire today in full sun or part shade, and you’ll have a colorful display once fall rolls around!

For more information about sweetspire and many other gardening topics, contact your county Extension office or visit Gardening in a Minute dot com.

Gardening in a Minute is a production of the University of Florida’s Center for Landscape Conservation and Ecology, IFAS Extension, and WUFT-FM.