



*Flowers blooming*

## Planting Tips:

These irises can be reproduced by seeds or by root division. Root clump division is the most common way to increase the number of irises in a garden.

This iris likes rich, moist soils (acidic). It grows well in sun and partial shade with a low tolerance for drought. Because of rhizome production, it will need to be thinned occasionally.

## Visitor Education Center (VEC)

### About Us

The Visitor Education Center (VEC) at the North Mississippi Fish Hatchery is the first and only facility of its kind in Mississippi. It is owned and operated by the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks.

In addition to the native habitat area, the VEC features a 10,000 gallon aquarium, interactive exhibits, displays, artifacts, fishing rodeo pond, gift shop and gallery, and the World Record White Crappie. All of these elements serve as entertaining and engaging learning experiences for all visitors.

The VEC promotes the sport of freshwater fishing in Mississippi, and encourages the conservation and stewardship of aquatic resources. The facility offers guided and self-guided tours along with a myriad of programs and workshops for the public.



*Copper iris blooms*

## MISSISSIPPI NATIVE: COPPER IRIS

*(Iris fulva)*

**NMFH Visitor  
Education Center**

**Phone:** (662) 563-8068

**Web:** [www.mdwfp.com](http://www.mdwfp.com)

**Address:** P.O. Box 100, 457  
CR 36, Enid, MS 38927



*Blooming*

## Description:

This species of iris is beardless, crestless, and flat-topped. The flower's color typically ranges from copper to brick red. Petals are smaller than the sepals and droop towards the ground. The sepals spread out widely and arch downward. The flower has a six petal structure on its tall, slender stalks. The bright green leaves are narrow and long.

## Size:

This Mississippi native usually grows 1 to 3 feet tall. The flowers, on average, are 2 to 3 inches wide.

---

## Other Names:

*Red Iris*

---

## Habitat/Season:

The copper iris can be found along stream banks, in swamps, and in freshwater marshes.

Blooming may begin as early as March and continue through May.



*Leaves and bloom*

## Interesting Facts:

The copper iris attracts hummingbirds and bees.

This particular iris is popular in many southern gardens, usually planted along pond edges.

Unlike other iris species, such as the yellow flag iris, the copper iris is not considered invasive.



Information Sources: Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, MSU Extension, Clemson.edu, USDA, and VEC Staff. Pictures taken at the VEC (Wiggins, E.); property of MDWFP.

