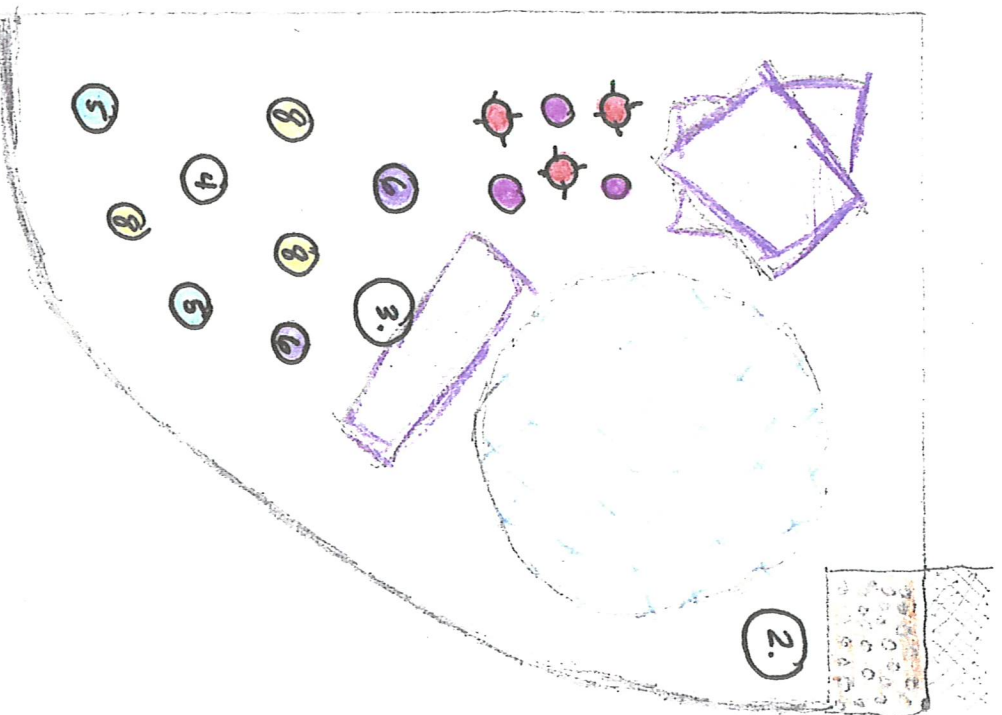


- 1.) White Wild Indigo (June-July)
- 2.) Common Spiderwort (May-July)
- 3.) Leadplant (July-Sept.)
- 4.) Rattlesnake Master (June-Sept)
- 5.) Prairie Dropseed grass
- 6.) Prairie Blazing Star (July-Sept)
- 7.) Butterfly Weed (June-July)



- 8.) Spotted Bee Balm (July-Sept.)
- 9.) Wild Geranium (May-June)
- 10.) Purple Prairie Clover (June-Sept)
- 11.) American Pasque Flower (March-May)
- 12.) ? False Solomon seal

Pricing for Native Plants South Entrance 2025

1) White Wild Indigo	25.75
2) Common Spiderwort	20.25
3) Leadplant	25.75
4) Rattlesnake Master	20.25
5) Prairie Dropseed	3(18.00) 72.00
6) Prairie Blazing Star	5(33.75) 168.75
7) Butterfly Weed	4(22.50) 90.00
8) Spotted Beebalm	3(20.25) 60.75
9) Wild Geranium	3(22.50) 67.50
10) Purple Prairie Clover	6(22.75) 154.50
11) Amer. Pasque Flower	5(22.50) 112.50
12) ?False Solomon Seal?	3(15.00) 45.00

Total	\$863.00-\$963.00
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White Wild Indigo

(*Baptisia alba*)

Prepared By:

Ben Bonar

White Wild Indigo is a flowering perennial plant that is native to the Midwest. It is able to tolerate most soil conditions ranging from wet-mesic to dry and forms an attractive herbaceous bush by mid summer. This makes it a popular addition to most native seed mixes.

Besides its ability to harbor beneficial soil bacteria, White Wild Indigo also provides many benefits to native insects. Bumblebees are the main pollinator of its small white flowers but the plant is also visited by several species of skippers, butterflies and moths that feed on the foliage.

One easy way to identify White Wild Indigo is to look for it in prairies in the spring as it resembles asparagus when it emerges from the ground.

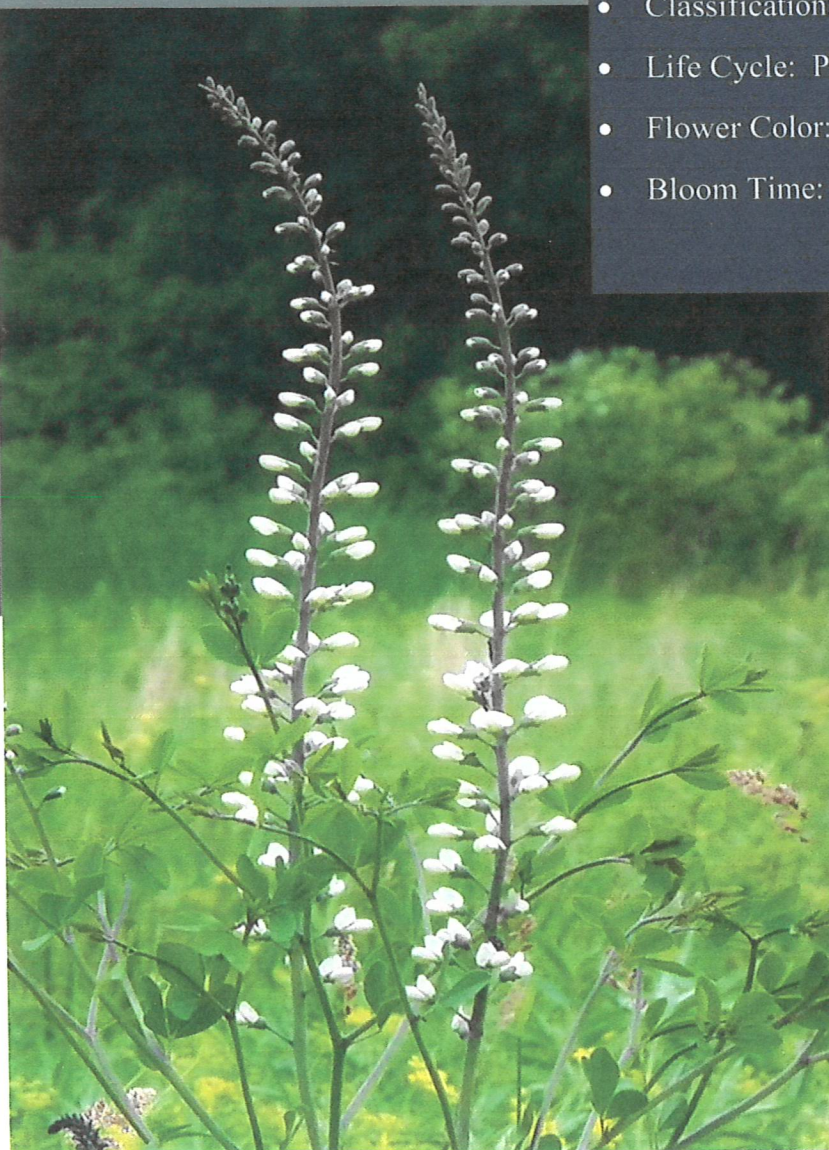
White Wild Indigo Quick Facts:

- Classification: Forb
- Life Cycle: Perennial
- Flower Color: White
- Bloom Time: June, July

Legumes

White Wild Indigo is a species of legume which implies that it is a part of the pea family. Legumes are beneficial for a variety of reasons but one of the largest is their ability to harbor beneficial bacteria called rhizobia on their roots. These bacteria add nitrogen to the soil which in turn benefits other prairie plants in the community.

Interesting Facts



Habitat Avengers

Featured Native Plant: *Tradescantia* (Spiderwort)

There are so many attractive native plant species suitable for ornamental purposes while also providing resources for wildlife. Several can be found in the genus *Tradescantia*...

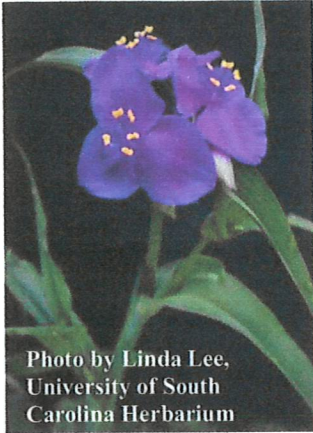
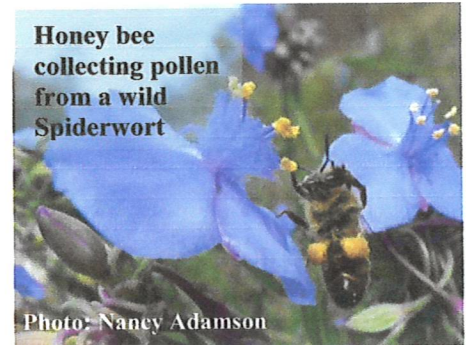


Photo by Linda Lee,
University of South
Carolina Herbarium

Plants in the genus *Tradescantia* are commonly known as Spiderworts. Other known common names include Indian Paint, Widow's Tears, Moses in the Bulrushes, Dayflower, and Trinity Flower. The name Spiderwort is attributed to the observation that the grass-like leaves of the plant are suggestive of a crouching spider. The term "wort" is from the Old English *wyr*t meaning root or herb and indicates a medicinal application, in this case spider bites. The genus was named after John Tradescant (1608-1662) who served as gardener to Charles 1 of England.



Honey bee
collecting pollen
from a wild
Spiderwort

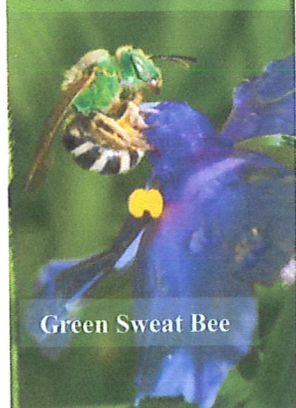
Photo: Nancy Adamson

Spiderwort species native to South Carolina include *Tradescantia ohiensis* (Ohio Bluejacket), *T. virginiana* (Virginia Spiderwort), and *T. subaspera* (Zigzag Spiderwort). *Tradescantia* species have dark, blue-green, arching, grass-like leaves that grow in clumps and typically stay green throughout winter. Plant height is from 2-3 ft. Showy clusters of blue or purple, three-petaled flowers top the stems. Flowers tend to open in morning. This species is easy to divide and transplant. *Tradescantia* species will grow in average, dry to medium wet, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade.



Bumble Bee

Photos: Heather Holm



Green Sweat Bee

Tradescantia flowers provide pollen and nectar for pollinators in the spring when resources are limited, and continue to bloom throughout the entire growing season. Bumble bees, our most important native pollinators, are frequent Spiderwort visitors. Songbirds will eat the seeds

and the visiting insects; while the full arching leaves provide cover for many wildlife species. The foliage hosts larvae (caterpillars) of several native moth species including the striking Golden Looper Moth (*Argyrogramma verruca*).

Tradescantia species are often included in rain gardens where their deep roots help filter out many pollutants before they can reach local creeks, rivers, and lakes (bioremediation).



Photo: Nancy Adamson

Syrphid fly

Syrphid fly larvae
are beneficial, they
feed on aphids

Photo: Alex Wild



Tradescantia foliage stays
green during winter

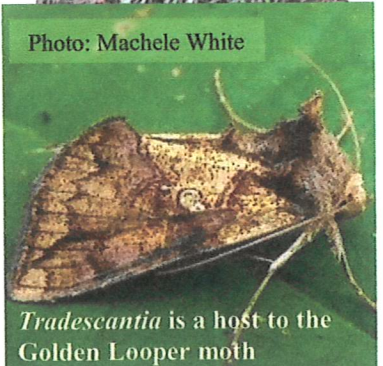


Photo: Machele White

Tradescantia is a host to the
Golden Looper moth

Information from:

herbarium.biol.sc.edu/herb/t.htm

www.pollinatorsnativeplants.com

nwf.org/nativeplants-beta/Plants/Details/3329

www.wildflower.org

www.sierrapotomac.org/W_Needham/Spiderwort_050626.htm

See also: <http://www.se-eppc.org/southcarolina/> and <http://www.se-eppc.org/>



Lead Plant

(*Amorpha canescens*)

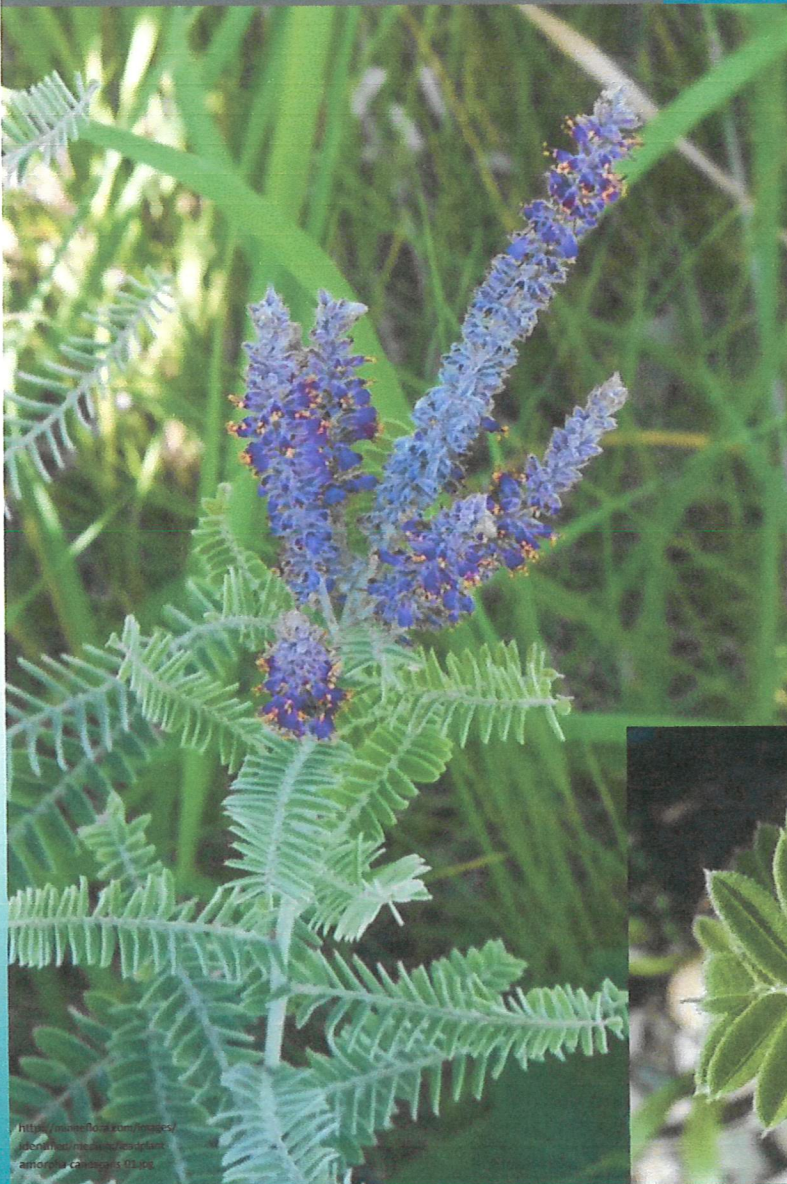
Prepared By:

Cecilia Hagen

Young lead plant stems are light green with very fine white hairs. The more sunlight it gets, the more white hairs it can get, to the point where it will appear dusty. Purple flowers with bright yellow anthers are arranged on a two to six inch long spike. The taproot can reach 15 feet or more into the soil. Lead plant is quickly eaten by deer, rabbits, and livestock due to its high protein content making it a difficult plant to establish. The presence of Lead plant indicates that the prairie is well maintained.

Lead Plant Quick Facts:

- Classification: Shrub
 - Life Cycle: Perennial
 - Flower Color: Purple
 - Bloom Time: June-August
- ◆ Lead plant was nicknamed “Devil’s Shoestrings” by early pioneers because of its deep and sturdy roots that made plowing difficult.
 - ◆ The common name Lead Plant comes from the fine white hairs giving the appearance of lead dust.
 - ◆ It was once thought to grow where lead ore was underground.



RATTLESNAKE MASTER

ERYNGIUM YUCCIFOLIUM



Photos: Cecilia Hagen

Rattlesnake Master is a unique prairie plant known for its flowers that resemble golf balls. Each one inch ball is actually a tight cluster of many tiny flowers. The flowers have a honey scent, making them attractive for pollinators. The narrow, blue-green leaves can reach up to three feet in length have spines along the edges. These plants prefer full sun and dry conditions.

Prairie Dropseed: *Sporobolus heterolepsis*



Cultivation: The preference is full sun, mesic to dry conditions, and soil that is loamy, rocky, or gravelly. Because the seeds are difficult to germinate, it is easier to propagate this grass by dividing the dense tufts of leaves. Once it becomes established at a suitable site, Prairie Dropseed is long-lived. shade and acidic soils. Habitats consist primarily of hill prairies, gravel prairies, dolomite prairies, black soil prairies, cemetery prairies, prairie remnants along railroads, and limestone glades. Less often, Prairie Dropseed has been found in savannas, thinly wooded rocky bluffs, and grassy fens. This grass is found primarily in high quality natural areas. It is also cultivated as an ornamental plant. The seeds are eaten by sparrows and other granivorous songbirds from late summer into winter; these species include the Field Sparrow, Savannah Sparrow, Tree Sparrow, and Slate-Colored Junco. The foliage is readily eaten by bison, cattle, and horses. Sometimes voles and other small rodents dig burrows within the dense tufts of leaves and root mass of this prairie grass.

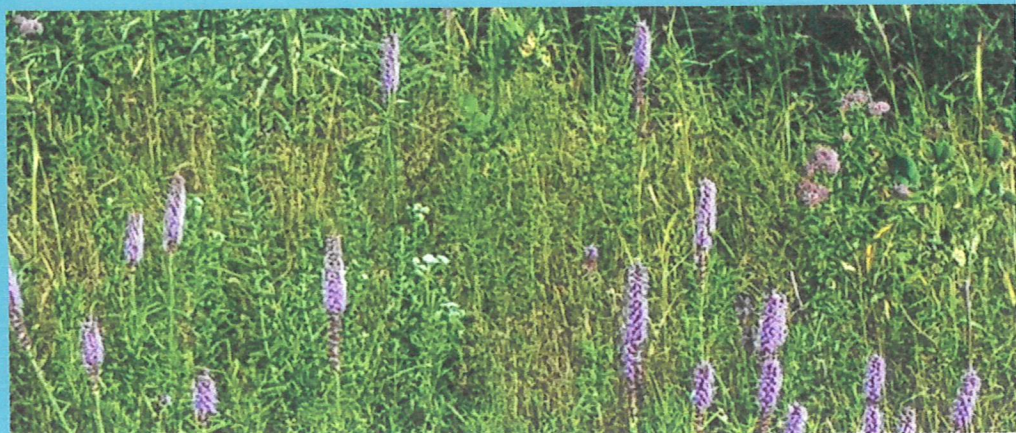


Plant Structure: This native perennial grass forms dense tufts of sprawling leaves about 1-2' tall and 2-3' across. In each tuft, the infertile (flowerless) shoots are more abundant than the fertile (flowering) shoots. One or more flowering culms develop from the center of each leafy clump. The narrow leaf blades are up to 20" long and 2 mm. across; they are medium green, hairless, and either flat or somewhat rolled lengthwise. The leaf sheaths are usually hairless, although a few hairs may be present at their summits. The root system is fibrous and short-rhizomatous. This grass spreads primarily by reseeding itself.

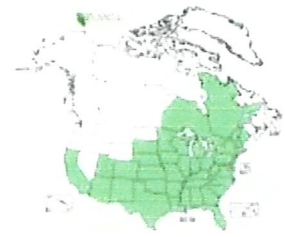
PRAIRIE BLAZING STAR

Liatris pycnostachya

Prairie blazing stars grow spikes of purple flowers that can reach five feet high. Flowering starts at the top of the spike and works down. The flowers have two long curly styles giving them a fuzzy appearance. Pollinators and hummingbirds flock to blazing stars. These plants are a popular choice for landscaping and home gardens because they are showy and relatively easy to maintain. The flowers were once mixed with corn and fed to horses to prepare them for races.



Butterfly Weed: *Asclepias tuberosa*



Cultivation: The preference is full sun, medium to dry conditions, and a sandy acid soil. This plant will flourish in other kinds of soil if the site is well-drained, including those that are rocky or contain clay. Sometimes the lower leaves will turn yellow, or the taproot will rot, if there is too much moisture in the ground. Also, if the taproot of a young plant is too close to the soil surface, it may not overwinter successfully due to heaving. Otherwise, Butterfly Milkweed is easy to grow, although somewhat slow to develop.

Plant Structure: This is a native perennial plant that is 1½-3' tall. It may develop as a single central stem, particularly when young, or branch outward to form a small bush in appearance. Older plants tiller at the base, with multiple stems emerging from the large taproot. The alternate leaves are medium green or yellowish green, and slightly shiny notwithstanding the presence of tiny hairs. They are linear or broadly linear in shape, about 3" long and ½" wide, with smooth margins. Unlike other milkweeds, this plant has a clear sap, and the level of toxic cardiac glycosides is consistently low (although other toxic compounds may be present).



Photo by Gerald Beetham

Spotted Bee Balm

Monarda punctata

Growing Information

- Sunlight: Full sun to part shade
- Soils: Dry to moist soils, does well in poor soils
- Bloom Time: Summer blossoms – July, August, September; interesting flower!
- Size: 2-3ft in height

Also called Dotted Mint or Dotted Horsemint, this plant is amazingly drought tolerant. Pollinators love this plant. Aromatic foliage, in bud, it forms saffron-colored rosettes in whorls along the top half of the stem. When the whorls release, watercolor-painted petals with little freckles are exposed and later mature to a soft pinkish-dawn color. These painted petals hold at the end of the flower spike for weeks upon weeks as they peek out through what appears to be leaf bracts.

Garden Companions

Wild Bergamot (*Monarda fistulosa*); Butterfly Milkweed (*Asclepias tuberosa*); Black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*)

Nature Benefits

- Nectar source for diverse number of pollinators
- Host for the Raspberry pyrausta butterfly caterpillar

Native Habitat

Occurs naturally fields, clearings, and roadsides.



Photo by Gerald Beetham

Wild Geranium

Geranium maculatum

Growing Information

- Sunlight: Partial to full shade
- Soils: Dry to moist
- Bloom Time: Lavender or pink flowers in April, May, June
- Size: 1-2ft

Also called Cranesbill. It's seed capsule is explosive. As woodland native, *Geranium maculatum* does prefer some shade.

Garden Companions

Columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*), Wild Ginger (*Asarum canadense*), Wild Strawberry (*Fragaria virginiana*), Solomon's Seal (*Polygonatum biflorum*), Bloodroot (*Sanguinaria canadensis*), Ostrich Fern (*Matteuccia struthiopteris*), Maidenhair Fern (*Adiantum pedatum*)

Nature Benefits

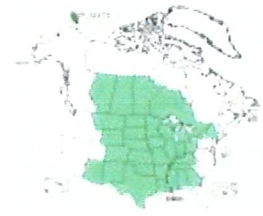
- Seed heads attract songbirds.
- Value to bumble bees and other native bees, butterflies, and other insects.

Natural Habitat

Occurs in woods, roadsides, and fields.

Purple Prairie Clover:

Dalea purpurea



Cultivation: The preference is full sun and average to dry conditions. The soil can contain significant amounts of loam, clay, sand, or gravel – this plant is rather indifferent to the characteristics of the soil, to which it adds nitrogen. Foliar disease is not troublesome. Purple Prairie Clover is slow to develop, but is fairly easy to manage if the site is well-drained and there is plenty of sun. It is not common in areas that have been disturbed by modern development. Habitats include mesic to dry black soil prairies, gravel prairies, sand prairies, hill prairies, typical savannas and sandy savannas, limestone glades, and sandy hills or dunes near Lake Michigan. Recovery from occasional wildfires is good.

Plant Structure: This native perennial plant is unbranched and up to 3' tall. Older plants may tiller at the base and send up multiple stems, creating a bushy effect. There is no noticeable floral scent. The blooming period occurs from early to mid-summer, and lasts about 1-1½ months. The root system consists of a stout taproot that runs deep into the ground. The seeds travel only a short distance from the mother plant when the cylindrical spikes are shaken by the wind.

American pasqueflower (*Anemone patens*)

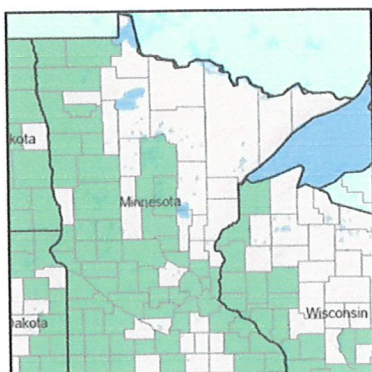
Family: Buttercup (*Ranunculaceae*)

DESCRIPTION: One of the first plants to emerge and bloom in the spring, pasqueflower has upright, bell-shaped flowers that develop shortly after the first downy leaves appear. Plants grow 5 to 8 inches tall, blooming in March and April. Most often found on prairie hillsides and outcroppings with dry, nutrient-poor soils, the species ranges across most of Minnesota.

USES: Pasqueflower works well in dry prairie restorations, native plant gardens and rain gardens' side slopes. It thrives on garden edges with enough sun and less competition from other plants. It's an important early pollen source for many species of native bees. After drying, all parts of the plant have medicinal uses. It's been used to treat rheumatism, skin conditions, headaches and lung disorders.

REFERENCES:

[U.S. Forest Service](#)
[Minnesota Wildflowers](#)



Range Map Credit: NRCS Plants Database



Photo Credit: Tony Randazzo

**STATEWIDE
WETLAND
INDICATOR
STATUS:** None

ID: Pale purple to white flowers up to 2 inches wide consist of five to eight petal-like sepals and many yellow stamens. Palmately divided leaves grow in whorls of three. Basal leaves develop after the bloom. Long, silky hairs cover stems and leaves.

SIMILAR SPECIES:

Thimbleweed (*Anemone cylindrica*) and Canada Anemone (*Anemone canadensis*) have white flowers and divided leaves, but lack long, silky hairs, and bloom in summer. Some nurseries sell European pasqueflower (*Pulsatilla vulgaris*) or a Western U.S. species (*Pulsatilla occidentalis*).

Planting Recommendations

Pasqueflowers can be started from seed, planted as containerized plants or propagated by division. Seed should be broadcast onto prepared soils in late fall, and then lightly raked or rolled to increase seed-to-soil contact. A scattering of prairie grass stems can help to stabilize soils and improve growing conditions. Weeds should be clipped during the first growing season to allow enough sunlight to reach the seedlings. Germination rates are often low, so containerized plants may be a better option when

more predictability is needed. In gardens, plants also can be divided in early spring or fall when they will be less stressed from warm temperatures. In general, plants should not be moved when they are flowering. But pasqueflowers can be divided when they start to bloom if the flower buds are cut off, which will decrease transplant stress and allow reflowering later in the season. Companion species include side-oats grama, little bluestem, Junegrass, prairie violet, dotted blazing star, prairie smoke and showy goldenrod.

Developed by Dan Shaw, BWSR senior ecologist and vegetation specialist

