

# Wildflowers of the Prairie

@ Prophetstown State Park

Compiled by Matthew Wiczorek utilizing  
Newcomb's Wildflower Guide by  
Lawrence Newcomb ©1977

# Compilers' Note

- I do not claim this information as my own. The text is from Newcomb's Wildflower Guide by Lawrence Newcomb except if otherwise stated on the side. The pictures are cited to those that own them.
- If you come out and notice a bunch of species not included, e-mail me at [prophetstowninterp@dnr.in.gov](mailto:prophetstowninterp@dnr.in.gov), and I will be glad to add to the list for the benefit of all.

# Wild Bergamot- *Monarda fistulosa*

- Lilac or pink flowers
- Unspotted
- Floral bracts often pink-tinged
- Leaves Grayish, triangular or lance-shaped.
- 2-3' Tall



# Blazing Star – *Liatris spp.*

- Stem leaves narrow or lance-shaped
- Purple flowers in dense heads, arranged in spikelike cluster
- 5-60 small, tubular, 5-lobed flowers in each head
- 1-5' Tall



# Purple coneflower – *Echinacea purpurea*

- Rays reddish purple, drooping
- Flower heads very large (2 ½ -4” wide) with bristly central disk
- Leaves egg shaped and long stalked
- 2-5’ tall



# Pale coneflower – *Echinacea pallida*

- Rays pale purple to pink, drooping, very thin
- Flower heads very large (2 ½ -4” wide) with bristly central disk
- Leaves egg shaped and long stalked
- 3’ tall
- Relative of purple coneflower



# Yellow or Gray-headed coneflower – *Ratibida pinnata*

- Flower rays long and narrow, strongly drooping
- Larger leaves pinnately divided into 3-7 lance-shaped, toothed leaflets
- Disk a gray or brown knob
- 3-5' tall



# Black-eyed Susan – *Rudbeckia serotina*

- Yellow flower rays narrowed at the tip
- Stem leaves slightly toothed or entire
- Stem covered in bristly hairs
- Disk blackish brown
- 1-3' Tall



# Common sunflower – *Helianthus annuus*

- Disk nearly flat, purple or brown
- Flower heads 3-6” wide, striking yellow rays
- Larger leaves broadly egg-shaped, toothed, long-stalked, rough on both sides
- 3-10’ tall



## Woodland sunflower – *Helianthus divaricatus*

- Stalks of lower leaves very short
- Leaves opposite, lance-shaped, tapering to the tip
- Leaves rough on upper surface
- 2-6' tall



## Oxeye/False Sunflower – *Heliopsis helianthoides*

- Larger leaves long stalked and are coarsely and sharply toothed
- Opposite branching
- Flower heads 1 ½” wide, disk cone shaped
- Stem smooth
- 2-5’ tall



# Compass plant - *Silphium laciniatum*

- The inflorescence is very tall and elongated, with yellow composite flowers about 3-4" across
- 6-30 of these composite flowers, which bloom during mid-summer for about 1½ months
- Thick dense stalk
- 3-7' Tall



# Prairie Dock- *Silphium terebinthinaceum*

- Very large egg shaped leaves
- Heads numerous 1 ½ - 3” wide
- Leaves toothed or cleft
- 4-10’ Tall



# Chicory – *Cichorium intybus*

- Rays blue  
(occasionally white)  
obviously toothed at  
the tip
- Leaves partly  
clasping, toothed,  
lobed or entire
- 1-4' tall



# Aniseroot- *Osmorhiza longistylis*

- Styles longer than petals, becoming 1/8" long at the tip
- Stem nearly smooth
- Root carrot-like, with a pleasant anise (licorice) odor
- Small white flowers
- 1-3' Tall



## Canadian/ Showy tick trefoil - *Desmodium canadense*

- Large rose purple flowers in dense racemes
- Stem downy
- Pods with 3-5 joints, sticky when mature
- 2-6 ' tall



# The next 3 species

- The next 3 species are not technically wildflowers, and is often pulled from the prairie to let the native flower and forbs species flourish.

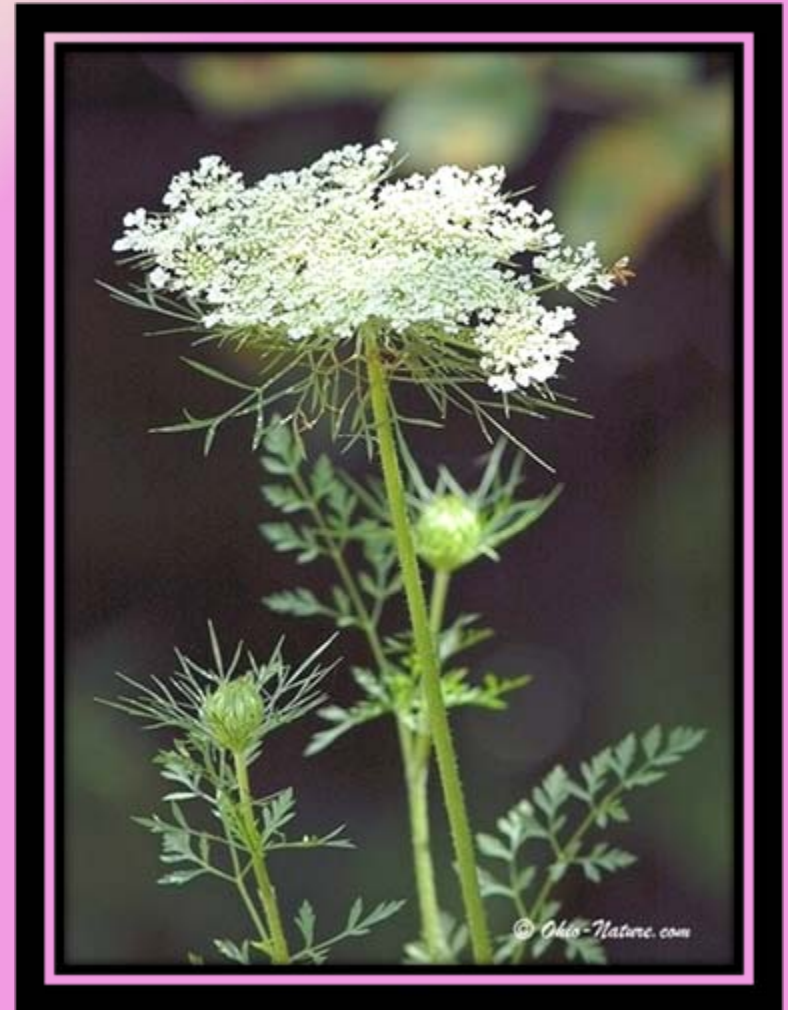
# Daisy fleabane – *Erigeron annuus*

- Flower heads 1/2-3/4” wide
- White or tinged with pink
- Rays 50-100
- Stem leaves toothed, not clasping
- Stem hairs stand out
- 1-5’ tall



# Queen Anne's Lace (Wild carrot) – *Daucus carota*

- Stem covered with bristly hairs
- Bracts beneath the umbel deeply and narrowly lobed
- Umbels 2-4" wide
- 1-3' tall



# Teasel – *Dipsacus sylvestris*

- Stems prickly
- Lilac flowers, small and slightly irregular, in a large, thistle-like head
- Leaves lance-shaped or oblong
- 2-6' Tall

