

UPn12 Northern Dry Prairie Pollinator Resources

Grass-dominated herbaceous communities on nearly level to steeply sloping sites with droughty soils. Moderate growing-season moisture deficits occur during most years, and severe moisture deficits are frequent, especially during periodic regional droughts. Historically, fire probably occurred every few years.

Examples of insect pollinators (and their associated host plants in parentheses) that use UPn12 include:

Bees:

Colletes robertsonii (*Amorpha*)

Megachile campanulae (*Campanula*)

Perdita halictoides (*Physalis*)

Osmia distincta (*Penstemon*)

Butterflies:

Hesperia dacotae (*Schizachyrium scoparium*,
Hesperostipa spartea)

Anatrytone logan (*Schizachyrium scoparium*)

Plebejus melissa melissa (*Astragalus crassicaerpus*)

Moths:

Schinia lucens (*Amorpha canescens*)

Trichordestra legitima (*Schizachyrium scoparium*)

Aristotelia roseosuffusella (*Dalea purpurea*)



Schinia lucens (leadplant flower moth) uses *Amorpha canescens* (leadplant) as a host plant.

Photo: Rachel Kranz

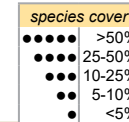


Hesperia dacotae (Dakota skipper) uses *Schizachyrium scoparium* (little bluestem) and *Hesperostipa spartea* (porcupine grass) as host plants. Photo: Bob Dunlap

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Pollinator Resources Table

UPn12 Class Factsheet. Based on 58 plots. November 2024



Forbs	species frequency in NPC (%)	species cover (when present)	Compatibility	Longevity	Clonality	Principal Pollen Vector	Pollinator requirements	Pollination Index
Purple prairie clover (<i>Dalea purpurea</i>)	78	●	SC	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	2
Heath aster (<i>Aster ericoides</i>)	76	●	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	4
Harebell (<i>Campanula rotundifolia</i>)	74	●	± SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	4
Stiff sunflower (<i>Helianthus pauciflorus</i>)	69	●●	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	4
Dotted blazing star (<i>Liatris punctata</i>)	69	●	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	4
Gray goldenrod (<i>Solidago nemoralis</i>)	67	●	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	4
Hoary puccoon (<i>Lithospermum canescens</i>)	67	●	H	Perennial	Absent	insects	Somewhat specific insect	6
Prairie wild onion (<i>Allium stellatum</i>)	66	●	SC	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	2
Northern bedstraw (<i>Galium boreale</i>)	59	●●	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	4
Hairy golden aster (<i>Chrysopsis villosa</i>)	57	●	UNK	Perennial	Weakly	insects	Generalist	3
Stiff goldenrod (<i>Solidago rigida</i>)	55	●●	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	4
Long-headed thimbleweed (<i>Anemone cylindrica</i>)	55	●	SC	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	2
Bastard toad-flax (<i>Comandra umbellata</i>)	55	●	SC	Perennial	Present	insects	Early spring insect	3
Missouri goldenrod (<i>Solidago missouriensis</i>)	53	●●	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	4
Alumroot (<i>Heuchera richardsonii</i>)	53	●	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	4
Pasque-flower (<i>Anemone patens</i>)	52	●	SC	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	2
Daisy fleabane (<i>Erigeron strigosus</i>)	50	●	A	Annual, bi-	Present	insects	Generalist	4
Tall cinquefoil (<i>Potentilla arguta</i>)	50	●	A	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	2
White sage (<i>Artemisia ludoviciana</i>)	50	●	SC	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Prairie smoke (<i>Geum triflorum</i>)	50	●	UNK	Perennial	Present	insects	Early spring insect, Buzz pollination	5
Yarrow (<i>Achillea millefolium</i>)	48	●	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	4
Silky aster (<i>Aster sericeus</i>)	47	●●	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	4
Rough blazing star (<i>Liatris aspera</i>)	43	●	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	4
Prairie turnip (<i>Pediomelum esculentum</i>)	41	●	UNK	Perennial	Present	insects	Somewhat specific insect	4
White prairie clover (<i>Dalea candida</i>)	41	●	UNK	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	3
Field pussytoes (<i>Antennaria neglecta</i> or <i>A. neodioica</i>)	41	●	A	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Smooth blue aster (<i>Aster laevis</i>)	40	●	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	4
Flodman's thistle (<i>Cirsium flodmanii</i>)	38	●	GD	Perennial	Weakly	insects	Generalist	4
Grooved yellow flax (<i>Linum sulcatum</i>)	36	●	SC	Annual	Absent	insects	Generalist	4
Tall wormwood or Tarragon (<i>Artemisia campestris</i> or <i>A. dracunculus</i>)	36	●	Varies	Perennial	Varies	wind	Generalist	0
Field chickweed (<i>Cerastium arvense</i>)	36	●	GD	Perennial	Weakly	insects	Generalist	4
Bearded birdfoot violet (<i>Viola pedatifida</i>)	34	●	CL flowers	Perennial	Present	insects	Early spring insect	4
Virginia ground cherry (<i>Physalis virginiana</i>)	33	●	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Buzz pollination	6
Toothed evening primrose (<i>Calylophus serrulatus</i>)	33	●	SC	Perennial	Absent	insects	Generalist	3
Narrow-leaved purple coneflower (<i>Echinacea pallida</i>)	24	●	SI	Perennial	Absent	insects	Generalist	5
Wild bergamot (<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>)	24	●	SC	Perennial	Present	insects	Somewhat specific insect	3
Blanketflower (<i>Gaillardia aristata</i>)	24	●	UNK	Perennial	Absent	insects	Generalist	4

Slender beard tongue (<i>Penstemon gracilis</i>)	24	●	SC	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	2
Plantain-leaved pussytoes (<i>Antennaria plantaginifolia</i>)	22	●	A	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Whorled milkwort (<i>Polygala verticillata</i>)	22	●	CH	Annual	Absent	insects	Generalist	6
Prairie ragwort or Balsam ragwort (<i>Senecio plattensis</i> or <i>S. pauperculus</i>)	21	●	UNK	Varies	Present	insects	Generalist	Varies
White aster-like goldenrod (<i>Solidago ptarmicoides</i>)	21	●	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	4
Ground plum (<i>Astragalus crassicaarpus</i>)	21	●	UNK	Perennial	Present	insects	Early spring insect, Somewhat specific insect	4
Pale-spiked lobelia (<i>Lobelia spicata</i>)	21	●	SC	Perennial	Weakly	insects	Somewhat specific insect	3
Prairie milk vetch (<i>Astragalus adsurgens</i>)	17	●	UNK	Perennial	Present	insects	Somewhat specific insect	4
Downy paintbrush (<i>Castilleja sessiliflora</i>)	17	●	SC	Perennial	Absent	insects	Early spring insect, Somewhat specific insect	4
Western ragweed (<i>Ambrosia psilostachya</i>)	14	●●	UNK	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Low <i>Shrubs</i>								
Little bluestem (<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>)	84	●●●	UNK	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Junegrass (<i>Koeleria pyramidata</i>)	81	●	SI	Perennial	Absent	wind	Generalist	0
Porcupine grass (<i>Stipa spartea</i>)	79	●●●	UNK	Perennial	Absent	wind	Generalist	0
Big bluestem (<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>)	76	●●●	SI	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Blue grama (<i>Bouteloua gracilis</i>)	59	●●●	A	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Prairie dropseed (<i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i>)	57	●●●	SC	Perennial	Absent	wind	Generalist	0
Plains muhly (<i>Muhlenbergia cuspidata</i>)	50	●●	UNK	Perennial	Absent	wind	Generalist	0
Slender wheatgrass (<i>Elymus trachycaulus</i>)	45	●	UNK	Perennial	Weakly	wind	Generalist	0
Wilcox's panic grass (<i>Panicum wilcoxianum</i>)	36	●	UNK	Perennial	Absent	wind	Generalist	0
Sand reed-grass (<i>Calamovilfa longifolia</i>)	29	●●	UNK	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Needle-and-thread grass (<i>Stipa comata</i>)	28	●●●	UNK	Perennial	Absent	wind	Generalist	0
Indian grass (<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>)	26	●●	SI	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Side-oats grama (<i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i>)	21	●●	A	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Blunt sedge (<i>Carex obtusata</i>)	17	●●	UNK	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Semi-Shrubs								
Leadplant (<i>Amorpha canescens</i>)	88	●●	SC	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	2
Sage wormwood (<i>Artemisia frigida</i>)	60	●●	UNK	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Prairie rose (<i>Rosa arkansana</i>)	40	●●	SC	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	2
Shrubs								
Sand cherry (<i>Prunus pumila</i>)	38	●	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	4
Snowberry or Wolfberry (<i>Symphoricarpos occidentalis</i> or <i>S. albus</i>)	29	●	SC	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	2