

WPs54 Southern Wet Prairie Pollinator Resources

Grass-dominated but forb-rich herbaceous communities on poorly drained to very poorly drained loam soils formed in lacustrine sediments, unsorted glacial till, or less frequently outwash deposits. Typically in slight depressions, sometimes on very gentle slopes. Flooded for brief periods at most; upper part of rooting zone is not saturated for most of growing season, but saturation usually persists in lower zone for much of season.

Examples of insect pollinators (and their associated host plants in parentheses) that use WPs54 include:

Bees:

Andrena vernalis (*Zizia*)

Andrena simplex (*Symphyotrichum*)

Andrena chromotricha (*Solidago*)

Butterflies:

Danaus plexippus (*Asclepias*)

Anatrytone logan (*Andropogon gerardii*)

Poanes viator (*Carex lacustris*)

Moths:

Schinia nundina (*Aster lanceolatus*)

Eugonobapta nivosaria (*Thalictrum dasycarpum*)

Dargida rubripennis (*Panicum virgatum*)

Schinia indiana (*Phlox pilosa*)



Danaus plexippus (monarch) uses *Asclepias* (milkweed) species as a host plant. Photo: Bob Dunlap



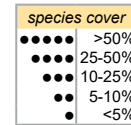
Schinia nundina (goldenrod flower moth) uses *Aster lanceolatus* (panicled aster) as a host plant.

Photo: Kyle Johnson

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Pollinator Resources Table

WPs54 Class Factsheet. Based on 51 plots. November 2024



Forbs	species frequency in NPC (%)	species cover (when present)	Compatibility	Longevity	Clonality	Principal Pollen Vector	Pollinator requirements	Pollination Index
Canada goldenrod (<i>Solidago canadensis</i>)	78	●●●	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	4
Tall meadow-rue (<i>Thalictrum dasycarpum</i>)	69	●	D	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Heath aster (<i>Aster ericoides</i>)	67	●	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	4
Eastern panicled aster (<i>Aster lanceolatus</i>)	61	●	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	4
Clasping dogbane (<i>Apocynum sibiricum</i>)	61	●	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	4
Virginia mountain mint (<i>Pycnanthemum virginianum</i>)	57	●●	SC	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	2
Common strawberry (<i>Fragaria virginiana</i>)	55	●	SC	Perennial	Present	insects	Early spring insect	3
Great blazing star (<i>Liatris pycnostachya</i>)	53	●	UNK	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	3
Sawtooth and Giant sunflower (<i>Helianthus</i> spp.)*	51	●●●	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	4
Golden alexanders (<i>Zizia aurea</i>)	49	●	SC	Perennial	Absent	insects	Generalist	3
Giant goldenrod (<i>Solidago gigantea</i>)	45	●●	GM	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	4
Golden or False golden ragwort (<i>Senecio aureus</i> or <i>S. pseud aureus</i>)	43	●●	SI	Perennial	Varies	insects	Generalist	Varies
Riddell's goldenrod (<i>Solidago riddellii</i>)	41	●	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	4
Stemless blue violets (<i>Viola sororia</i> and <i>V. nephrophylla</i>)	41	●	Varies	Perennial	Present	insects	Varies	Varies
Northern plains blazing star (<i>Liatris ligulistylis</i>)	41	●	UNK	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	3
Heart-leaved alexanders (<i>Zizia aptera</i>)	39	●●	SC	Perennial	Absent	insects	Generalist	3
Autumn sneezeweed (<i>Helenium autumnale</i>)	37	●	UNK	Perennial	Absent	insects	Generalist	4
Spotted water hemlock (<i>Cicuta maculata</i>)	35	●	SC	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	2
Stiff goldenrod (<i>Solidago rigida</i>)	35	●	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	4
Prairie loosestrife (<i>Lysimachia quadriflora</i>)	33	●	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	4
Prairie phlox (<i>Phlox pilosa</i>)	33	●	SI	Perennial	Absent	insects	Early spring insect, Somewhat specific insect	6
Swamp milkweed (<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>)	33	●	SC/si	Perennial	Absent	insects	Somewhat specific insect	5
White camass (<i>Zigadenus elegans</i>)	33	●	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	4
Northern bedstraw (<i>Galium boreale</i>)	29	●	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	4
Purple prairie clover (<i>Dalea purpurea</i>)	29	●	SC	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	2
Yarrow (<i>Achillea millefolium</i>)	29	●	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	4
Pale-spiked lobelia (<i>Lobelia spicata</i>)	29	●	SC	Perennial	Weakly	insects	Somewhat specific insect	3
Canada anemone (<i>Anemone canadensis</i>)	27	●●	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	4
Gray-headed coneflower (<i>Ratibida pinnata</i>)	27	●	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	4
Marsh vetchling (<i>Lathyrus palustris</i>)	27	●	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Somewhat specific insect	5
Smooth scouring rush (<i>Equisetum laevigatum</i>)	25	●	SC	Perennial	Present	wind, water	Generalist	0
Cut-leaved bugleweed (<i>Lycopus americanus</i>)	25	●	SC	Perennial	Weakly	insects	Generalist	2
Maximilian's sunflower (<i>Helianthus maximiliani</i>)	24	●●	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	4
Field horsetail (<i>Equisetum arvense</i>)	24	●	SC	Perennial	Present	wind, water	Generalist	0
Grass-leaved goldenrod (<i>Euthamia graminifolia</i>)	22	●●	A	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	2
New England aster (<i>Aster novae-angliae</i>)	22	●	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	4
Canada tick trefoil (<i>Desmodium canadense</i>)	22	●	A	Perennial	Absent	insects	Somewhat specific insect	4

Skyblue aster (<i>Aster oolentangiensis</i>)	22	●	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	4
Swamp thistle (<i>Cirsium muticum</i>)	22	●	GD	Biennial	Absent	insects	Generalist	6
Bottle gentian (<i>Gentiana andrewsii</i>)	20	●	SC	Perennial	Absent	insects	Somewhat specific insect	4
Rough bugleweed (<i>Lycopus asper</i>)	18	●	SC	Perennial	Weakly	insects	Generalist	2
Veiny pea (<i>Lathyrus venosus</i>)	18	●	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Somewhat specific insect	5
Swamp lousewort (<i>Pedicularis lanceolata</i>)	16	●	UNK	Perennial	Present	insects	Buzz pollination	5
Culver's root (<i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i>)	14	●●	UNK	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	3
Flat-topped aster (<i>Aster umbellatus</i>)	14	●●	UNK	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	3
Great lobelia (<i>Lobelia siphilitica</i>)	12	●	SC	Perennial	Weakly	insects	Somewhat specific insect	3
Yellow stargrass (<i>Hypoxis hirsuta</i>)	12	●	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	4
Cup plant (<i>Silphium perfoliatum</i>)	12	●	SC	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	2
Wood lily (<i>Lilium philadelphicum</i>)	12	●	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	4
Grasses and Sedges								
Prairie cordgrass (<i>Spartina pectinata</i>)	86	●●●	UNK	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Big bluestem (<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>)	80	●●●	SI	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Indian grass (<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>)	51	●●●	SI	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Switchgrass (<i>Panicum virgatum</i>)	47	●●●	SC	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Woolly sedge (<i>Carex pellita</i>)	41	●●●	SI	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Rigid sedge (<i>Carex tetanica</i>)	39	●	UNK	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Flattened spikerush (<i>Eleocharis compressa</i>)	39	●	SC	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Mat muhly grass (<i>Muhlenbergia richardsonis</i>)	33	●●●	UNK	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Bluejoint (<i>Calamagrostis canadensis</i>)	25	●●	A	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Baltic rush (<i>Juncus arcticus</i>)	25	●●	SC	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Tussock sedge (<i>Carex stricta</i>)	24	●●●	UNK	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Prairie dropseed (<i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i>)	24	●●	SC	Perennial	Absent	wind	Generalist	0
Narrow reedgrass (<i>Calamagrostis stricta</i>)	24	●	A	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Fowl manna grass (<i>Glyceria striata</i>)	20	●●	UNK	Perennial	Present	wind	Generalist	0
Half-Shrubs								
Prairie rose (<i>Rosa arkansana</i>)	29	●●	SC	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	2
Shrubs								
Red-osier dogwood (<i>Cornus sericea</i>)	18	●	SI	Perennial	Present	insects	Generalist	4
Pussy willow (<i>Salix discolor</i>)	16	●	D	Perennial	Present	insects	Early spring insect	5

*Sawtooth and Giant sunflower (*Helianthus grosseserratus* and *H. giganteus*)