



CASE WESTERN RESERVE
UNIVERSITY EST. 1826

Prairie Restoration Project Plant Species

E. Ashley Bair and Ana Locci
Case Western Reserve University
Summer 2007

Plants species planted during
June 2006

Bouteloua curtipendula
Side-oats Grama

- Class Liliopsida
 - Order Cyperales
 - Family Poaceae
- Foliage is Blue-green in color
- Bright purple flowers
- Height: 12-40 inches



USDA NRCS Plants Database

Schizachyrium scoparium

Little Bluestem

- Class Liliopsida
 - Order Cyperales
 - Family Poaceae
- Also called alkali grass or desert saltgrass
- Flat, hairless leaves bluish-green to reddish-brown in color
- Fluffy white seeds
- Height: 1-5 feet tall
- Observed third week of July



USDA NRCS
Plants Database

Kansas Wildflowers and Grasses
<http://www.lib.ksu.edu/wildflower/>

Elymus canadensis

Nodding Wild Rye

- Class Liliopsida
 - Order Cyperales
 - Family Poaceae
- Tufted at the base
- Spikes curve when blooms open
- Long, spear-like leaves which are green on the top surface, bluish on the bottom surface
- 3-5 feet tall



USDA NRCS Plants Database

Kansas Wildflowers and Grasses
<http://www.lib.ksu.edu/wildflower/>

Sorghastrum nutans

Indian Grass

- Class Liliopsida
 - Order Cyperales
 - Family Poaceae
- Leaf blades are up to 24 inches long, tapering to a narrow base
- Seed heads are yellowish to reddish-brown with reddish-brown hairs
- 3-7 feet tall



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Andropogon gerardii

Big Bluestem

- Class Liliopsida
 - Order Cyperales
 - Family Poaceae
- Bluish-purple stem base
- Leaf blades are 6-24 inches long, rough on the upper surface and hairy near the stem
- Seed heads have three spike-like projections
- 2-6 feet tall



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Chamaecrista fasciculata

Partridge Pea

- Class Magnoliopsida
 - Order Fabales
 - Family Fabaceae
- Leaf blades 1-4 inches long with 6-15 pairs of leaflets. Leaflets are smooth with hairs on the edges and may be blunt or pointed
- Flowers are yellow with reddish bases
- 1-4 feet tall



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Sporobolus heterolepis

Prairie Dropseed

- Class Liliopsida
 - Order Cyperales
 - Family Poaceae
- Grows in bunches
- Leaves are slender and can be green to golden
- Flowers are rust-colored
- Seed heads may have the scent of popcorn, cilantro, or sunflower seeds
- 1-4 feet tall



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Echinacea purpurea
Purple Coneflower

- Class Magnoliopsida
 - Order Asterales
 - Family Asteraceae
- Also known as Black Sampson Echinace
- Leaves are long lances, getting progressively smaller up the stem
- Flowers are light pink to purple, with a central egg-shaped yellowish to purplish disk
- Stems are erect, 12-24 inches tall



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Heliopsis helianthoides

Ox Eye Sunflower

- Class Magnoliopsida
 - Order Asterales
 - Family Asteraceae
- Stem is erect, unbranching, and rough
- Leaves are 2-6 inches long, 1-3 inches wide with a pointed tip
- Dark yellow flowers
- 2-5 feet tall
- Observed third week of July



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Asclepias tuberosa

Butterfly Weed

- Class Magnoliopsida
 - Order Asterales
 - Family Asclepiadaceae
- Stem is erect with leaves from the base to the flower
- Leaves are 2-4 inches long and narrow
- Flowers are bright orange, yellow, or red
- 1-2 feet tall



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Eryngium yuccifolium

Rattlesnake Master

- Class Magnoliopsida
 - Order Apiales
 - Family Apiaceae
- Also called rattlesnake master or button eryngo
- Stem is erect and waxy, blue-green in
- Leaves are 4-32 inches long and narrow with parallel veins.
- Flowers are small, whitish, and spiny
- 2-3 feet tall



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Ratibida pinnata
Grey-Headed Coneflower

- Class Magnoliopsida
 - Order Asterales
 - Family Asteraceae
- Crushed seed heads smell of anise
- Disk heads begin gray, but turn brown when flower opens
- 3-5 feet tall



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Aster novae-angliae
New England Aster

- Class Magnoliopsida
 - Order Asterales
 - Family Asteraceae
- Stout, hairy stem
- Lance-shaped leaves grow all the way up the stem
- Flowers are yellow at the center with purple, rose, or white rays
- Up to 4 feet tall



Coreopsis tripteris

Tall Coreopsis

- Class Magnoliopsida
 - Order Asterales
 - Family Asteraceae
- Foliage is lanced, up to 6 inches long, and smells of anise
- Flowers are 2 inches wide, yellow petals, brown centers
- 6-8 feet tall



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Monarda fistulosa
Wild Bergamot

- Class Magnoliopsida
 - Order Lamiales
 - Family Lamiaceae
- Stem is branched
- Leaves are lanced to oval, 1-4 inches long, less than 1.5 inches wide, hairy to smooth on upper surface, hairy on lower surface, toothed with pointed tips
- Flower is lavender, 2 lipped, up to 1.5 inches long
- 1-3 feet tall



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Silphium terebinthinaceum

Prairie Dock

- Class Magnoliopsida
 - Order Asterales
 - Family Asteraceae
- Stem is smooth and colored green to red
- Flower is yellow, 2-3 inches long, with 15-30 florets
- Large, rough leaves, up to 18 inches long and 12 inches wide with dark green upper surface



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Silphium trifoliatum
Whorled Rosinweed

➤ Class Magnoliopsida

- Order Asterales
 - Family Asteraceae



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Verbena hastata
Blue Vervain

- Class Magnoliopsida
 - Order Lamiales
 - Family Verbenaceae
- Stem is erect, may be branching, rough and hairy
- Leaves are lance to oval, 2-7 inches long, sharply toothed with a green upper surface and green, hairy lower surface
- Flowers are very small and bluish-purple
- 2-7 feet tall
- Observe Third of July



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Asclepias syriaca

Common Milkweed

- Class Magnoliopsida
 - Order Gentianales
 - Family Asclepiadaceae
- Also called Milk plant, Wild asparagus, Silkweed, and Wild cotton.
- Produces white latex when broken
- Stem is erect and hairy
- Leaves are broad ovals or lances, dark green in color with a red main vein
- Flowers are small and may be pink or light purple
- 2-5 feet tall
- Observed third week of July



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Helianthus grosseserratus

Sawtooth Sunflower

- Class Magnoliopsida
 - Order Asterales
 - Family Asteraceae
- Stem is erect and may be branching and is often has a purple tint
- Long lanced leaves, 4-12 inches long and 1-4 inches wide with a rough upper surface and soft lower surface and serrated margins
- Flowers have 10-20 yellow ray florets and a golden-yellow disk florets.
- 3-12 feet tall



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Lespedeza capitata
Roundheaded Bushclover

- Class Magnoliopsida
 - Order Fabales
 - Family Fabaceae
- Stem is erect, unbranched, and very leafy with soft, silver hairs
- Leaves are 1-2 inches long, very narrow and may be hairy
- Small flowers, white or cream in color with a reddish purple base.



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Rudbeckia subtomentosa

Sweet Black-eyed Susan

- Class Magnoliopsida
 - Order Asterales
 - Family Asteraceae
- Stems are erect and branching
- Leaves are 3 lobed and toothed
- Flowers have a purplish-brown disk and yellow florets
- Over 3 feet tall
- Observed third week of July



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Rudbeckia triloba
Brown-eyed Susan

- Class Magnoliopsida
 - Order Asterales
 - Family Asteraceae
- Stem is erect, may be branched, and hairy
- Leaves are toothed, and lower leaves may have 3 lobes
- Flowers are up to 2 inches long and have brown or dark orange disks and yellow ray florets
- Up to 5 feet tall



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Silphium integrifolium

Rosinweed

- Class Magnoliopsida
 - Order Asterales
 - Family Asteraceae
- Stem is erect, stiff, rough, and may branch
- Leaves are ovate, 2-6 inches long, 1-2.5 inches wide with velvety underside
- Flower has a yellow disk and 15-34 ray florets 1-2 inches long in a lighter yellow
- 2-5 feet tall



Illinois State Museum

Solidago rigida

Stiff Goldenrod

- Class Magnoliopsida
 - Order Asterales
 - Family Asteraceae
- Stem is erect and stout, leafy, and rough or hairy
- Leaves are broad, thick and rough lances or ovals, 2-10 inches long and 1-4 inches wide
- Flowers are about 3/8 inch wide; bracts firm and rounded
- 1-5 feet tall
- Observed third week of July



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Penstemon digitalis
Foxglove Beardtongue

- Class Magnoliopsida
 - Order Scrophulariales
 - Family Scrophulariaceae
- Stems are erect and somewhat branching
- Leaves are various in shape and length
- Flowers are white and glandular, tubular in shape
- Up to 3 feet tall



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Rudbeckia hirta
Black-eyed Susan

- Class Magnoliopsida
 - Order Asterales
 - Family Asteraceae
- Stem is erect and very branched
- Leaves are finely toothed and vary in size in shape
- Flowers have a dark purple to brownish disk with eight to twenty yellow-orange ray florets
- 1-3 feet tall
- Observe July



Vernonia altissima

Tall Ironweed

- Class Magnoliopsida
 - Order Asterales
 - Family Asteraceae
- Leaves are lance shaped, finely tooth with fuzzy underside, up to 10 inches long
- Flowers are tiny, reddish-pink, with 13-30 flowers per head



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Lobelia siphilitica
Great Lobelia

- Class Magnoliopsida
 - Order Campanulales
 - Family Campanulaceae
- Erect, stiff stem with milky sap
- Leaves are toothed lances, about 1 inch wide and up to 6 inches long
- Flowers are tubular, light purple to blue
- 1-3 feet tall



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Veronicastrum virginicum

Culver's Root

- Class Magnoliopsida
 - Order Scrophulariales
 - Family Scrophulariaceae
- Stems are erect and may branch
- Whorled leaves (usually 4 or 5 at a node), lanced, up to 5 inches long
- Flowers are white or pinkish and tiny, globular on a cone-shaped head
- Up to 6 feet tall



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Existing Prairie Plants

Summer 2007

Daucus carota

Queen Anne's Lace

- Class Magnoliopsida
 - Order Apiales
 - Family Apiaceae
- Also called wild carrot, bishop's lace, and bird's nest
- Leaves are deeply lobed and fernlike
- Umbels of white or pink flowers with a single red or dark purple flower at the center
- Up to 5 feet tall
- Observed third week of July



Plantago lanceolata
English Plantain

- Class Magnoliopsida
 - Order Lamiales
 - Family Plantaginaceae
- Erect stem with milky sap
- Leaves are toothed lances, about 1 inch wide and up to 8 inches long
- Oblong flower head with tiny greenish-white flowers
- Up to 2 feet tall
- Observed third week of July



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Cirsium sp.
Thistle

- Class Magnoliopsida
 - Order Asterales
 - Family Asteraceae
- Leaves are deeply lobed and hairy with sharp spines
- Flower is purple with a large, spiny green base
- Up to 6.5 feet tall
- Observed third week of July



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Taraxacum officinale

Common Dandelion

- Class Magnoliopsida
 - Order Asterales
 - Family Asteraceae
- Leaves are basal and sharply lobed
- Bright yellow flower head
- Stem is milky when crushed
- Up to 15 inches tall
- Observed third week of July



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Oxalis europaea
Yellow Wood Sorrel

- Class Magnoliopsida
 - Order Oxalidales
 - Family Oxalidaceae
- Foliage is divided into three heart-shaped leaflets
- Flowers are small and yellow
- 4-6 inches tall
- Observed third week of July



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Ranunculus acris

Tall Buttercup

- Class Ranunculales
 - Order Ranunculaceae
 - Family Ranunculus
- Foliage is somewhat hairy
- Flowers are small and yellow with five overlapping petals above 5 green sepals which turn yellow in a mature flower
- 1-3 feet tall
- Observed third week of July



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Lepidium virginicum
Common Peppergrass

- Class Magnoliopsida
 - Order Brassicales
 - Family Brassicaceae
- Leaves are lances with large teeth
- Several small white flowers give a bottlebrush appearance
- Has a peppery taste
- Up to 2 feet tall
- Observed third week of July



Hieracium sp.
Hawkweed

- Class Magnoliopsida
 - Order Asterales
 - Family Asteraceae
- Leaves oblong, hairy, and basal
- Flowers are yellow or orange
- Stem stalk is upright and leafless
- Up to 2 feet tall
- Observed third week of July



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Vernonia altissima

Tall Ironweed

- Class Magnoliopsida
 - Order Asterales
 - Family Asteraceae
- Leaves are lanceolate with a hairy underside, 6-10 inches long
- Flowers are small and purple
- 6 feet tall
- Observed third week of July



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Viola sp.
Violet

- Class Magnoliopsida
 - Order Malpighiales
 - Family Violaceae
- Leaves are alternate, heart shaped
- Flowers are small and purple with 5 separated petals
- Up to 7-8 inches tall
- Observed third week of July



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Rumex obtusifolius
Bitter Dock

- Class Magnoliopsida
 - Order Caryophyllales
 - Family Polygonaceae
- Leaves are heart shaped and toothed with reddish veins
- Flowers are small and red to green on upright stalks
- Up to 5 feet tall
- Observed third week of July



Poa sp.
Bluegrass

Class Liliopsida

- Order Poales
 - Family Poaceae

- Leaves are narrow and can be folded or flat with a basal sheath
- Observed third week of July



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