

# Identifying Wildflowers



Three Asteraceae members — gray-head coneflower (above), pale purple coneflower (right), and cup plant (below).



Prairie rose,  
family  
Rosaceae

Flowering times from Kaul, R. B., D. Sutherland, and S. Rolfsmeier. 2006. *The Flora of Nebraska*. University of Nebraska.

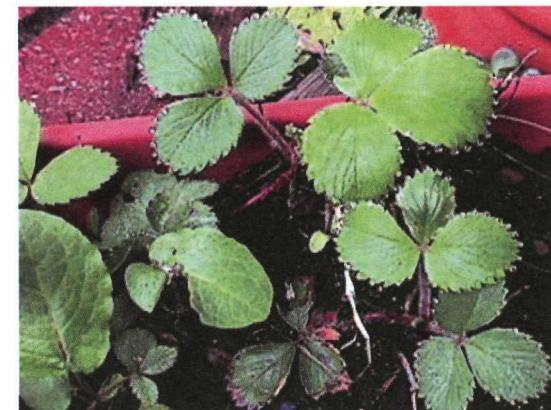
Naturalists identify wildflowers by using the flower characteristics. Often, you can consider the plant's bloom time, color of bloom, number of petals, and shape of flower in identification. This brochure presents a quick guide to important wildflowers at the monument. Flowers are listed by time of blooming and the color of each bloom-bar approximates the flower color. A field guide can assist you in exact identification, OR ASK A PARK RANGER!



Butterfly weed,  
family  
Apocynaceae

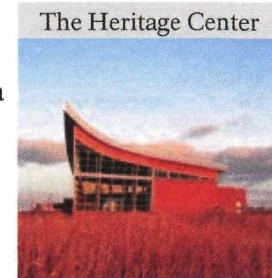


Wild strawberry,  
family Rosaceae



## Free Land!

The Homestead Act of 1862 had an immediate and enduring effect upon America that is still felt today. Under this law 270 million acres, 10 percent of the land in the United States, were turned over to individuals. This great transformation led to profound and lasting changes to land, American Indians, to immigration and migration patterns, industry and to agriculture. Homestead National Monument of America, a unit of the National Park Service, commemorates the lives and accomplishments of all pioneers and the changes to people, land, and the world brought by this Act.



The Heritage Center

Homestead National  
Monument of America  
8523 W. State Highway 4  
Beatrice, NE 68310  
402-223-3514

[http://www.nps.gov/  
home/](http://www.nps.gov/home/)

## Inventory and Monitoring in the Monument

The Heartland Network Inventory and Monitoring Program of the National Park Service conducts long-term monitoring of key indicators of change to determine condition of natural resources within the national park system. This scientific information enables land managers to restore natural resources for the pleasure of this and future generations.

*....protecting the habitat  
of our heritage*

  
**Heartland  
Network**  
Natural Resource Monitoring

National Monument Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Homestead National Monument of America  
Beatrice, Nebraska



## Prairie Plant List Color and Bloom Times Homestead National Monument of America



Bee balm, *Monarda fistulosa*, also called wild bergamot, or horsemint is found in moist soil.

NPS Photo Files

Common name	Species name	Family	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Common name	Species name	Family	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Wild strawberry	<i>Fragaria virginiana</i>	Rosaceae							White avens	<i>Geum canadense</i>	Rosaceae						
Crow-foot violet	<i>Viola pedatifida</i>	Violaceae							Illinois bundleflower	<i>Desmanthus illinoensis</i>	Mimosaceae						
Carolina larkspur	<i>Delphinium virescens</i>	Ranunculaceae							Showy tick-trefoil	<i>Desmodium canadense</i>	Fabaceae						
White prairie clover	<i>Dalea candida</i>	Fabaceae							Rattlesnake master	<i>Eryngium yuccifolium</i>	Apiaceae						
Light poppy mallow	<i>Callirhoe alcaeoides</i>	Malvaceae							Common sneezeweed	<i>Helenium autumnale</i>	Asteraceae						
Blue-eyed grass	<i>Sisyrinchium campestre</i>	Iridaceae							Compass plant	<i>Silphium laciniatum</i>	Asteraceae						
Slimpod Venus' looking glass	<i>Triodanis leptocarpa</i>	Campanulaceae							Cup plant	<i>Silphium perfoliatum</i>	Asteraceae						
Wild licorice	<i>Glycyrrhiza lepidota</i>	Fabaceae							Beebalm	<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	Lamiaceae						
Venus' looking glass	<i>Triodanis perfoliata</i>	Campanulaceae							False boneset	<i>Brickellia eupatorioides</i>	Asteraceae						
Bedstraw	<i>Galium aparine</i>	Rubiaceae							Cheerful sunflower	<i>Helianthus x laetiflorus</i>	Asteraceae						
Canada milkvetch,	<i>Astragalus canadensis</i>	Fabaceae							Prairie coneflower	<i>Ratibida columnifera</i>	Asteraceae						
Purple prairieclover	<i>Dalea purpurea</i>	Fabaceae							Blackeyed Susan	<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	Asteraceae						
Surfpea	<i>Psoralidium tenuiflorum</i>	Fabaceae							Baldwin ironweed	<i>Vernonia baldwinii</i>	Asteraceae						
Daisy Fleabane	<i>Erigeron strigosus</i>	Asteraceae							Oxeye	<i>Helopsis helianthoides</i>	Asteraceae						
Prairie sunflower	<i>Helianthus petiolaris</i>	Asteraceae							Azure blue sage	<i>Salvia azurea</i>	Lamiaceae						
Tall cinquefoil	<i>Drymocallis arguta</i>	Rosaceae							Evening primrose	<i>Oenothera biennis</i>	Onagraceae						
Prairie milkweed	<i>Asclepias sullivantii</i>	Apocynaceae							Missouri goldenrod	<i>Solidago missouriensis</i>	Asteraceae						
Narrow-leaf Echinacea	<i>Echinacea angustifolia</i>	Asteraceae							Stiff goldenrod	<i>Solidago rigida</i>	Asteraceae						
Pale purple coneflower	<i>Echinacea pallida</i>	Asteraceae							Mares tail	<i>Conyzza canadensis</i>	Asteraceae						
Leadplant	<i>Amorpha canescens</i>	Fabaceae							Downy gentian	<i>Gentiana puberulenta</i>	Gentianaceae						
American germander	<i>Teucrium canadense</i>	Lamiaceae							Louisiana sagewort	<i>Artemisia ludoviciana</i>	Asteraceae						
Indian hemp	<i>Apocynum cannabinum</i>	Apocynaceae							Ashy sunflower	<i>Helianthus mollis</i>	Asteraceae						
Common milkweed	<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>	Apocynaceae							Stiff sunflower	<i>Helianthus pauciflorus</i> ssp.	Asteraceae						
Wavyleaf thistle	<i>Cirsium undulatum</i>	Asteraceae							Jerusalem artichoke	<i>Helianthus tuberosus</i>	Asteraceae						
Roundhead lespedeza	<i>Lespedeza capitata</i>	Fabaceae							Annual sunflower	<i>Helianthus annuus</i>	Asteraceae						
Silverleaf surfpea	<i>Pediomelum argophyllum</i>	Fabaceae							Wingstem	<i>Verbesina alternifolia</i>	Asteraceae						
Butterfly milkweed	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	Apocynaceae							Heath aster	<i>Aster ericoides</i>	Asteraceae						
Prairie rose	<i>Rosa arkansana</i>	Rosaceae							Tall thistle	<i>Cirsium altissimum</i>	Asteraceae						
Whorled milkweed	<i>Asclepias verticillata</i>	Apocynaceae							Saw-tooth sunflower	<i>Helianthus grosseserratus</i>	Asteraceae						
Grayhead prairieconeflower	<i>Ratibida pinnata</i>	Asteraceae							Dotted gayfeather	<i>Liatris punctata</i>	Asteraceae						
Illinois tickclover	<i>Desmodium illinoense</i>	Fabaceae							Canada goldenrod	<i>Solidago canadensis</i>	Asteraceae						
Common Yarrow	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Asteraceae							Nodding ladies'-tresses	<i>Spiranthes cernua</i>	Orchidaceae						