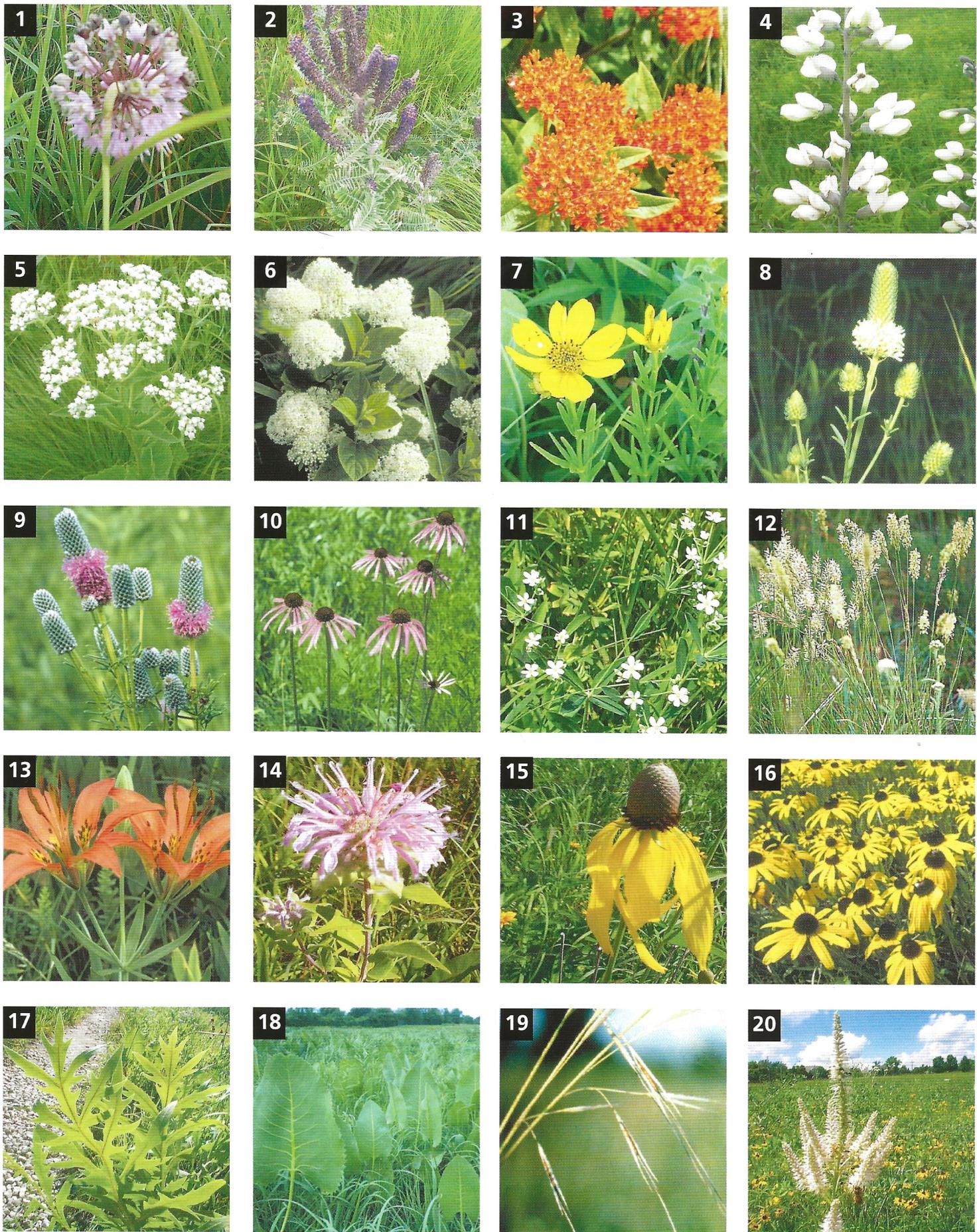


Summer Prairie Plants



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1 **Nodding Wild Onion (*Allium cernuum*)** – A perennial bulb for moist meadows and prairies. Soft, grass-like leaves, with 12 to 24-inch flower stalks that bend so the large globes of pale pink to white flowers nod toward the ground.

2 **Lead Plant (*Amorpha canescens*)** – A woody shrub, 2 to 3 feet tall, of the tallgrass prairie. Numerous gray-green, compound leaves complement the slender purple flower spikes. Fruits are small, fuzzy, bean-like pods.

3 **Butterfly Weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*)** – Multiple clusters of vivid orange, sometimes yellow, flat-topped flowers appear on 3-foot tall stem, followed by spindle-shaped seedpods. Unlike other members of the milkweed family, butterfly weed lacks milky sap. One of the best prairie plants for attracting butterflies.

4 **White Wild Indigo (*Baptisia alba* var. *macrophylla*)** – A tall spike of pure-white, pea-like flowers tower above beautiful blue-green foliage on its sturdy stem. The upright, yellow-brown seedpods persist into winter. Plants grow 3 to 5 feet high.

5 **Pale Indian-Plantain (*Arnoglossum atriplicifolium*)** – A native of wet prairies and moist meadows. Dense clusters of small, creamy-white flowers arise atop 4 to 6-foot stems above the thick, blue-green, ruffled foliage at the base of the plant.

6 **New Jersey Tea (*Ceanothus americanus*)** – A compact, rounded shrub with upright, slender branches reaching 3 feet tall. Clean, deep green leaves were once used to brew tea. Frothy, white, terminal flowers bloom mid-summer and attract butterflies and hummingbirds.

7 **Prairie Coreopsis (*Coreopsis palmata*)** – The 1 to 2-foot stiff stems are adorned with bright yellow, daisy-like flowers. Found in dry prairies and open woods.

8 **White Prairie-Clover (*Dalea candida*)** – Charming cylindrical-shaped white flower heads are perched atop 2-foot upright stems with gray-green leaves.

9 **Purple Prairie-Clover (*Dalea purpurea*)** – Bright rosy-purple flowers bloom in a ring around the flower head, starting from the bottom. Dark green leaves appear fern-like on stiff, 2-foot stems.

10 **Purple Coneflower (*Echinacea pallida*)** – Showy, large flower heads are borne on 2 to 3-foot stalks. Numerous drooping, purple ray flowers accent a spiny, brownish-red central disc.

11 **Flowering Spurge (*Euphorbia corollata*)** – A flat-topped, native perennial that attains a height of 2-3 feet. Stems contain milky sap and the large clusters of pure-white flowers are long-lasting.

12 **June Grass (*Koeleria macrantha*)** – A cool season, early flowering prairie grass, which produces lustrous silvery-green seed heads, and rarely exceeds 2 feet tall. The slender green leaves tend to twist or spiral.

13 **Prairie Lily (*Lilium philadelphicum* var. *andinum*)** – Clusters of flaming red-orange flowers have purple spots in the throat and point upward toward the sun. Plants attain a height of 1 to 2-feet and the uppermost leaves are whorled.

14 **Wild Bergamot (*Monarda fistulosa*)** – This fragrant member of the mint family produces abundant lavender-pink flowers, which attract birds and butterflies. The fuzzy, 2 to 3-foot stems bear gray-green leaves often used to make herbal tea.

15 **Yellow Coneflower (*Ratibida pinnata*)** – Sometimes referred to as the drooping coneflower. Large yellow ray petals hang down from the thick, gray-brown center disc, which appears on 3 to 4-foot stalks.

16 **Black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*)** – Showy, long-blooming yellow flowers have jet-black centers that fade to brown. Growing 1 to 3-feet, stems and 4-inch leaves are covered with bristly hairs. Dried seed heads provide food for winter birds.

17 **Compass Plant (*Silphium laciniatum*)** – A prairie classic. Deeply dissected leaves are oriented vertically on resinous, 4 to 8-foot stems. Numerous yellow daisy-like flowers open from the top down. The large seeds are a favorite of birds and small mammals.

18 **Prairie Dock (*Silphium terebinthinaceum*)** – The unique foliage grows up to 2 feet tall. It is rough like sandpaper and resembles elephant ears. The 5 to 10-foot flower stalk supports bright yellow, daisy-like flowers.

19 **Porcupine Grass (*Heterostipa spartea*)** – A cool-season grass named for its sharp pointed fruits. Reaching 2 to 3 feet, this grass grows in small tufts with long tapering leaves.

20 **Culver's Root (*Veronicastrum virginicum*)** – Tall candelabra-like spikes of white flowers rise above interesting whorled foliage. This plant will grow 6 feet tall in moist, sunny locations.

*All plants shown are native to northern Illinois.