

Canada milk vetch *Astragalus canadensis*

Kingdom: Plantae

Division/Phylum: Magnoliophyta

Class: Magnoliopsida

Order: Fabales

Family: Fabaceae

ILLINOIS STATUS common, native

FEATURES

Canada milk vetch is a perennial herb. Its pinnately compound leaves have small, oval leaflets in seven to 15 pairs. Leaves are arranged alternately along the stems. The five-petaled, pealike flowers are pale yellow or white. The fruit is a pod that contains seeds. This plant grows to about four feet in height.

BEHAVIORS

Canada milk vetch may be found throughout Illinois. It grows in prairies and thickets. Flowers are produced from June through August.

HABITATS

Aquatic Habitats

wet prairies and fens

Woodland Habitats

none

Prairie and Edge Habitats

black soil prairie; edge; hill prairie; sand prairie

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