

common phlox *Phlox divaricate*

Kingdom: Plantae

Division/Phylum: Magnoliophyta

Class: Magnoliopsida

Order: Solanales

Family: Polemoniaceae

ILLINOIS STATUS common, native

FEATURES

The common phlox is a perennial plant that may grow upright or creeping along the ground. Its stems grow to one and one-half feet. The oblong or oval leaves are arranged oppositely on the hairy stem. Each leaf, up to four inches in length, has fine hairs. The light-purple to blue flowers are arranged in clusters at the tip of the stem. The five-petaled flower may be one and one-quarter inches wide. Seeds are produced in a capsule.

BEHAVIORS

The common phlox may be found statewide in Illinois. This plant grows in rich woods. It flowers from mid-April through early June. The common phlox is commonly called "Sweet William," as are several other species of Illinois wildflowers.

HABITATS

Aquatic Habitats

bottomland forests

Woodland Habitats

bottomland forests; southern Illinois lowlands; upland deciduous forests

Prairie and Edge Habitats

none

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