

Culver's-root *Veronicastrum virginicum*

Kingdom: Plantae

Division/Phylum: Magnoliophyta

Class: Magnoliopsida

Order: Scrophulariales

Family: Scrophulariaceae

ILLINOIS STATUS common, native

FEATURES

Culver's-root is a perennial herb. Its narrow, toothed, dark green leaves are arranged in whorls of three to nine around the upright, branched stem. Leaves may be eight inches long and three-fourths inch wide. Flowers have four petals. Petal color varies from white to pink to pale blue. Each tubelike flower has two stamens that are longer than the tube. Flowers are clustered at the stem tip and arranged like a candelabra, each spike of which may be eight inches long. The fruit is an ovoid capsule, about one-fourth inch long. This plant usually grows to a height of two to four feet.

BEHAVIORS

Culver's-root may be found throughout Illinois. It grows along roadsides and in woods, moist prairies, wet meadows and thickets. Flowers are produced from June through September.

HABITATS

Aquatic Habitats

wet prairies and fens

Woodland Habitats

upland deciduous forests

Prairie and Edge Habitats

black soil prairie; edge; sand prairie

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