

sessile monkey-flower *Mimulus ringens*

Kingdom: Plantae

Phylum: Magnoliophyta

Class: Magnoliopsida

Order: Scrophulariales

Family: Scrophulariaceae

ILLINOIS STATUS common, native

FEATURES

The flowers have blue-violet petals. The arrangement of the lobed petals is said to resemble a monkey's face. Flowers develop in pairs on long stalks from the leaf axils. The leaves are paired and attached directly to the stem. A single plant may reach one to three feet in height.

BEHAVIORS

Sessile monkey-flower grows in wet areas in the northern three-fourths of the state. Flowers are produced from June through September. Bumblebees feed on the flower nectar, and the larval stages of several species of moths and butterflies feed on the leaves.

HABITATS

Aquatic Habitats

bottomland forests; marshes; peatlands; rivers and streams; wet prairies and fens; lakes, ponds and reservoirs

Woodland Habitats

bottomland forests

Prairie and Edge Habitats

none

© Illinois Department of Natural Resources. 2020. Biodiversity of Illinois.