

white prairie clover

Dalea candida

Kingdom: Plantae
Division: Magnoliophyta
Class: Magnoliopsida
Order: Fabales
Family: Fabaceae

ILLINOIS STATUS

common, native

FEATURES

White prairie clover is a perennial herb. Its pinnately compound leaves have five to seven leaflets. Each lance-shaped leaflet is about one inch in length and one-fourth inch wide. Small, white flowers are densely clustered in short, thimblelike spikes at the stem tips. Each flower spike is from one to four inches long. Every flower has four petals that are similar in structure and one that is different in size and shape from the others. The fruit is a capsule that contains seeds. White prairie clover may attain a height of one to three feet.

BEHAVIORS

White prairie clover may be found statewide in Illinois. It grows in dry to moist prairies. Flowers are produced from June through July. This plant is an important food source for grazing animals of the prairie.

ILLINOIS RANGE



© John Hilty

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

Unless otherwise noted, photos and images © Illinois Department of Natural Resources.



leaf and stem

Aquatic Habitats

wet prairies and fens

Woodland Habitats

none

Prairie and Edge Habitats

black soil prairie; sand prairie