

wild bergamot *Monarda fistulosa*

Kingdom: Plantae

Division/Phylum: Magnoliophyta

Class: Magnoliopsida

Order: Lamiales

Family: Lamiaceae

ILLINOIS STATUS common, native

FEATURES

Wild bergamot is a perennial herb that has leaves arranged opposite each other on the square stem. These lance-shaped leaves are toothed. Tube-shaped flowers develop in clusters at the stem tip. Flowers are pink to light lilac and two-lipped. The fruit is a nut. Wild bergamot may attain a height of two to four feet.

BEHAVIORS

Wild bergamot may be found statewide in Illinois. It grows in dry woods, fields, dry prairies and along roads. Flowers are produced from May through August. Bees are attracted to the flowers.

HABITATS

Aquatic Habitats

bottomland forests; lakes, ponds and reservoirs; Lake Michigan; marshes; peatlands; rivers and streams; swamps; temporary water supplies; wet prairies and fens

Woodland Habitats

coniferous forests; upland deciduous forests

Prairie and Edge Habitats

black soil prairie; edge; hill prairie

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