

yellow gentian *Gentiana alba*

Kingdom: Plantae

Division/Phylum: Magnoliophyta

Class: Magnoliopsida

Order: Gentianales

Family: Gentianaceae

ILLINOIS STATUS common, native

FEATURES

Yellow gentian is also known as yellowish gentian and white gentian. This perennial herb has leaves in an opposite arrangement along the stem. The simple, entire leaves are lance-shaped or oval. Leaves clasp the stem. The five-parted, white flowers are showy. The fruit is a capsule. Yellow gentian may attain a height of one to two feet.

BEHAVIORS

Yellow gentian may be found at scattered locations statewide in Illinois. It grows in moist prairies and on rich, wooded slopes. Flowers are produced from August through October.

HABITATS

Aquatic Habitats

wet prairies and fens

Woodland Habitats

upland deciduous forests

Prairie and Edge Habitats

black soil prairie; dolomite prairie; gravel prairie; hill prairie; sand prairie; shrub prairie

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