

Fall Flowers of the Grasslands



Dotted Blazingstar *Liatris punctata* - The roots were used as food and medicine.



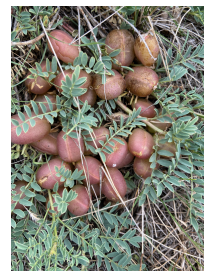
Low Goldenrod *Solidago missouriensis* - Long mistaken as causing hay fever.



Stiff Goldenrod *Solidago rigida* - A vibrant yellow dye can be made from the dried flowers.



Goat's Beard *Tragopogon dubius* - Introduced species. The seed heads resemble giant dandelions.



Nuttall's Ground Plum *Astagalus crassicus*. - The fruits are edible and said to taste like apple.



Purple Prairie Clover *Dalea purpurea* - Attracts native pollinators, including native bees.



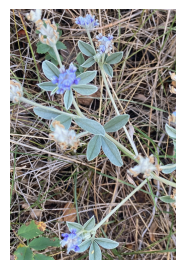
Flodman's Thistle *Cirsium flodmanii* - This is a native thistle.



Smooth Aster *Symphyotrichum laeve* - They are an important nectar source for pollinators.



Prairie Turnip *Pediomelum esculentum*- The roots were dug up and boiled for food.



Silver Leaf *Psoralea argophyllum* - Branching is more open than Prairie Turnip.



Winter Fat *Krascheninnikovia lanata* - A superfood for deer especially in winter with its high protein content.

Animal Signs in the Grasslands



Foxes steal goose eggs.



Woodpecker Holes



Gopher Holes

Sources

Wildflowers Across the Prairies by F.R. Vance, J.R. Jowsey and J.S. McLean

Plants of the Western Forest Alberta, Saskatchewan & Manitoba Boreal and Aspen Parkland by D. Johnson, K. Kershaw, A. Mackinnon, and J. Pojar

The Path to Wild Food by S. Walker
www.saskwildflower.ca

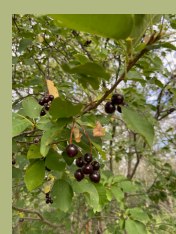
Fall Fruiting Shrubs



Rose - Three rosehips have more vitamin C than an orange.



Saskatoon - The berries are edible fresh or preserved.



Chokecherry - Indigenous people dried the berries for preservation.

Flowering Plants of the Saskatoon Natural Grasslands



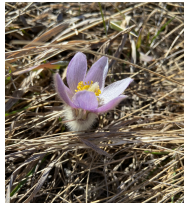
The Saskatoon Natural Grasslands (SNG) were saved from residential development in the 1990s by efforts of the Saskatoon Nature Society and other environmental groups who saw the irreplaceable value of preserving intact fescue grassland. The 34 acres are now administered by Meewasin Valley Authority but stewardship still resides with the Saskatoon Nature Society and with Silverspring residents to ensure this living museum endures for future generations.

Created by Carmen Gilmore for the



Native Plant Society of Saskatchewan

Spring's Earliest Blossoms



Prairie Crocus
Anemone patens - Usually the first spring bloom.



Golden Bean
Thermopsis rhombifolia - Bloom indicates it was time for the spring hunt of buffalo.



Early Cinquefoil
Potentilla concinna - 'Cinque' is 5 in French, for the plant's 5 leaflets.



Early Blue Violet
Viola adunca - Many violet seeds have oily bodies which attract ants to aid dispersal.



Moss Phlox
Phlox hoodii - Legend says that May's Flower Moon is named for carpets of these flowers.



Pussytoes
Antennaria species - The woolly flower clusters resemble a cat's paw.

Spring Flowering Shrubs & Trees



Pussy Willow
Salix discolor - Provides pollen and nectar for early pollinators.



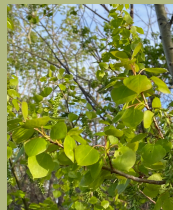
Saskatoon
Amelanchier alnifolia - The Cree word for these berries is mis-sask-quah-toomina.



Wild Currant
Ribes spp. & Gooseberry
Ribes spp.



Chokecherry
Prunus virginiana - Tasty berries but don't eat the cyanide rich seeds!



Trembling Aspen
Populus tremuloides - The white powder on the bark acts as a sunscreen.



Wolf Willow
Elaeagnus commutata - Indigenous people used the berries' seeds as decorative beads.

May and June Flowers



Prairie Rose
Rosa arkansana - Three rose species grow in the SNG, Prairie Rose is most common, Wood's Rose prefers shady groves, and Prickly Rose is extra thorny.



Three-Flowered Avens
Geum triflorum - Also known as Prairie Smoke for its airy seed heads.



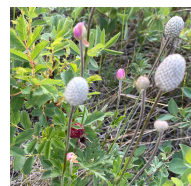
Milk Vetch
Astragalus - At least 6 species grow in the SNG and all have similar leaf types.



Northern Bedstraw
Galium boreale - Guess at they were used for?



Field Chickweed
Cerastium arvense - The common chickweed found in our gardens was fed to hens.



Cut-Leaved Anemone
Anemone multifida



Long Fruited Anemone
Anemone cylindrica



Canada Anemone
Anemone canadensis

Indigenous people used Anemone leaves and seeds medicinally but they contain caustic irritants, and should be avoided.

Find more educational resources on the Saskatoon Natural Grasslands and native plants at www.npss.sk.ca

Late Spring and Summer Blossoms



Pasture Sage
Artemisia frigida



Prairie Sage
Artemisia ludoviciana



Hairy Golden-aster
Heterotheca villosa



Yarrow
Achillea millefolium - 'Folium' means 'leaves' and 'mille' or 'a thousand' refers to the highly dissected leaves.



Slender Beard-tongue
Pentstemon procerus - The name refers to the hairy staminode amongst the 4 stamens.



Richardson's Alumroot
Heuchera richardsonii - Named for the explorer Sir John Richardson.



Scarlet Gaura
Gaura coccinea - Flowers open in the morning and sometimes wilt in the heat of the day.



Blanket Flower
Gaillardia aristata - Explorers wrote that the prairies were blanketed with wildflowers.



Rough Fleabane
Erigeron asper - Useful insecticide.

Fruit & Flowers left over from last year



Rose Hips



Yarrow



Thistle



Anemone Seedhead