

American germander

Teucrium canadense

Kingdom:	Plantae
Division/Phylum:	Magnoliophyta
Class:	Magnoliopsida
Order:	Lamiales
Family:	Lamiaceae

ILLINOIS STATUS

common, native

FEATURES

American germander is also known as wood-sage. This perennial herb has long rhizomes (underground stems). The stems above ground are erect, branched or unbranched and hairy. The leaves grow opposite each other on the stem. Each leaf is simple, lance-shaped and pointed at the tip. The lower leaf surface has hairs that lay flat against the leaf. One of the most obvious traits of this species is that its stamens stick out over the top of the flower. Five-petaled, pink flowers are arranged in a spike at the top of the stem. The fruits are four, yellow-brown nutlets per flower, each nutlet about one-tenth inch long. The plant may grow to four feet tall.

BEHAVIORS

American germander flowers from June through September. This plant grows in bottomland woods, wet prairies, thickets, ditches and fields. It may be found statewide in Illinois.

ILLINOIS RANGE





close-up of flowers

Aquatic Habitats

bottomland forests; wet prairies and fens

Woodland Habitats

bottomland forests; southern Illinois lowlands

Prairie and Edge Habitats

black soil prairie; edge; sand prairie