

# Canada milk vetch

## *Astragalus canadensis*

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

**ILLINOIS STATUS**  
common, native

### FEATURES

Canada milk vetch is a perennial herb. Its pinnately compound leaves have small, oval leaflets in seven to 15 pairs. Leaves are arranged alternately along the stems. The five-petaled, pealike flowers are pale yellow or white. The fruit is a pod that contains seeds. This plant grows to about four feet in height.

### BEHAVIORS

Canada milk vetch may be found throughout Illinois. It grows in prairies and thickets. Flowers are produced from June through August.



stem with flowers

### ILLINOIS RANGE



## **Aquatic Habitats**

wet prairies and fens

## **Woodland Habitats**

none

## **Prairie and Edge Habitats**

black soil prairie; edge; hill prairie; sand prairie