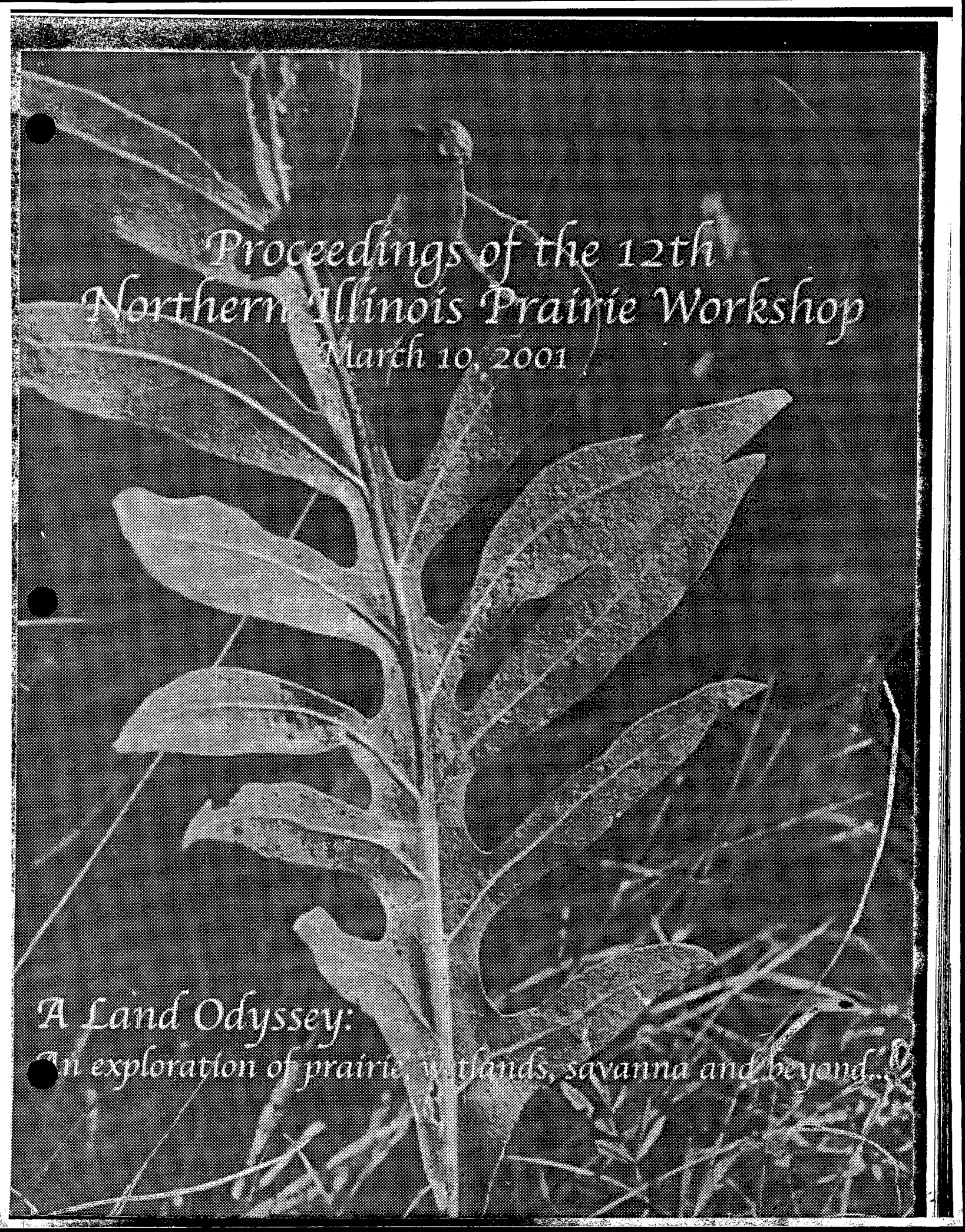

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A Land Odyssey:

An exploration of prairie, wetlands, savanna and beyond...

PLANT SURVEY OF WOLF ROAD PRAIRIE

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ABSTRACT: Some 462 plant species, 360 of which are native, have been reported from Wolf Road Prairie since 1973, but not all have been confirmed. A systematic search for 200 of the native prairie and savanna plants in 2000 failed to locate previously recorded 22 species. Of those located, populations ranged from one plant to thousands.

KEY WORDS: prairie, Wolf Road Prairie, populations, conservatism, species list

INTRODUCTION

Wolf Road Prairie Nature Preserve, located at the northeast corner of Wolf Road and 31st Street in Westchester, Cook County, Illinois, has one of the older and larger plant lists among sites in northeastern Illinois, dating back to Robert Betz's unpublished 1973 list which contained 251 species. By 1994, 415 species have been recorded from the prairie of which 324 are native.

New species are identified each year, adding to the list. However, as is the case with most species lists, locally extirpated plants are not removed from the list. Hence, while this preserves a record of what once grew at a site, it does not necessarily show what currently grows there. Updating this list is complicated as since positive identification of some plants can be problematic, we are unsure if a few plants really belong on the list if there is no voucher specimen, photograph, confirmation by a botanist, and some plants may be overlooked. Finally, species lists have limited informational value as they lack indication of distribution and population sizes.

The purpose of this study was to revise the species list, adding new species and recording the absence of others. Population sizes were also recorded. Since virtually all of our native prairies are tiny islands in a sea of non-native vegetation, ecological theory suggests that species will eventually be lost (MacArthur and Wilson, 1967; Simberloff and Abele, 1976; Pimm, Jones, and Diamond, 1988). We tried to answer the questions (1) are species being lost? (2) if so, which ones? and (3) how fast are they being lost? If new species were found we tried to judge whether they are truly new, or had simply been missed previously.

METHODS

We concentrated on prairie forbs due to their rarity and conservatism, as well as time limitations. Alien species were ignored since most are on the list only because they appear at the edges of the preserve or in highly disturbed areas. Some wetland plants on our list may actually be more common than we indicated, since most of the wetland is in the north half.

RESULTS

A total of species were recorded, including 360 native and 102 alien species (Table 1). Twenty-two previously recorded species were not found (Table 2). Of those found, populations ranged from one to thousands (Table 3). A list of species of concern was prepared (Table 4). Over half are very conservative species, with C values of 7 or greater (Swink and Wilhelm 1994).

DISCUSSION

The species list is evidence that Wolf Road Prairie is a rich and diverse site, with 462 species (360 native) having been seen there in the last 28 years. The FQI value (Swink and Wilhelm, 1994) is relative high at 90. The high diversity of forbs may be related to the variety of habitats, the high quality of the site which includes Grade A and Grade B prairie, as identified by the Illinois Natural Areas Inventory, and good management practices.

The apparent loss of some species does provide some cause for concern. In addition to "lost" forbs, we fear that another 10 to 20 native non-forb species may have disappeared from among the 150+ believed to have once colonized the site. This loss of flora is not uncommon as others have reported a similar trend at other high quality sites. (Leach and Givnish, 1996).

Several dozen species have very small populations, perhaps too small to sustain themselves. We recommend that management plans take into consideration the needs of the species with low populations. We propose a program of growing selected species in garden plots to increase the number of plants and seeds, to supplement natural reproduction. We also recommend that additional information be gathered on individual species of concern, in order to consider ways to maintain their populations. For example, *Castilleja coccinea* is a biennial and methods of seed collection and production will have to be greatly improved for revitalizing and stabilizing the current population.

There is evidence that a few species have moved into the site in recent years as they were not observed in their previous locations of prior *years (Amorpha canescens, Asclepias exaltata, Carduus nutans, Solidago ulmifolia, Trillium recurvatum*). Note that the *Asclepias*, *Solidago*, and *Trillium* are woodland species. Based on finding these woodland species in combination with other recent additions such as *Arisaema triphyllum* and *A. dracontium, Epipactus helleborine,* and *Claytonia virginica*, we feel the once open savanna is rapidly being transformed into a forest. If this rare savanna is to be preserved, management will need to be adjusted accordingly.

It is recommended that plant populations continue to be monitored, gaps in the data be addressed, management be stepped up, and the needs of individual species considered, and populations be augmented by growing plants in a nursery and returning seeds and plants.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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Table 1. Plants of Wolf Road Prairie

C	scientific name	common name	NWC
	ABUTILON THEOPHRASTI	velvetleaf, butterprint	FACU-
0	Acer negundo	box elder	FACW-
0	Acer saccharinum	silver maple	FACW
	ACHILLEA MILLEFOLIUM	yarrow, milfoil	FACU
0	Acnida altissima (Amaranthus tuberculatus)	water hemp	OBL
7	Agalinus tenuifolia (Gerardia)	slender false foxglove	FACW
2	Agrimonia gryposepala	tall agrimony	FACU+
	AGROPYRON REPENS	quack grass	FACU
8	Agropyron trachycaulum unilaterale (Elymus)	bearded wheat grass	UPL
	AGROSTIS ALBA	redtop	FACW
1	Agrostis hyemalis	tickle grass	FAC-
3	Agrostis perennans	thin grass	FAC-
5	Agrostis scabra	fly-away grass	FAC
4	Alisma subcordatum (A. plantago-aquatica)	water plantain	OBL
	ALLIARIA PETIOLATA (A. OFFICIONALIS)	garlic mustard	FAC
2	Allium canadense	wild onion, wild garlic	FACU
7	Allium cernuum	nodding wild onion	(FAC-)
0	Ambrosia artemisiifolia elatior	common ragweed	FACU
0	Ambrosia trifida	giant ragweed	FAC+
9	Amorpha canescens	lead plant	UPL
4	Andropogon gerardii	big bluestem grass, turkeyfoot	FAC-
5	Andropogon scoparius (Schizachrium)	little bluestem grass	FACU-
4	Anemone canadensis	meadowanemone	FACW
6	Anemone cylindrica	thimbleweed	UPL
5	Anemone virginiana	tall anemone, thimbleweed	UPL
7	Anemonella thalictroides	rue anemone	UPL
4	Antennaria neglecta	cat's foot, small pussy toes	UPL
3	Antennaria plantaginifolia	pussy toes, everlasting	UPL
7	Apios americana	ground nut	FACW
5	Apocynum androsaemifolium	spreading dogbane	UPL
2	Apocynum sibiricum	prairie Indian hemp, dogbane	FAC+
6	Arabis glabra	tower mustard	UPL
	ARCTIUM MINUS	common burdock	UPL
8	Arenaria lateriflora	wood sandwort, side-flowering s.	UPL
7	Arisaema dracontium	green dragon	FACW
4	Arisaema triphyllum (A. atrorubens)	jack-in-the-pulpit	FACW-
	ARMORACIA RUSTICANA (A. LAPATHIFOLIA)	horse radish	FAC
	ARRHENATHERUM ELATIUS	tall oat grass	FACU
9	Asclepias exaltata	poke milkweed	UPL
4	Asclepias incarnata	swamp milkweed	OBL
8	Asclepias purpurascens	purple milkweed	FACU
8	Asclepias sullivantii	prairie milkweed	UPL
0	Asclepias syriaca	common milkweed	UPL
7	Asclepias tuberosa	butterfly weed	UPL
1	Asclepias verticillata	whorled milkweed	UPL
	ASPARAGUS OFFICINALIS	asparagus	FACU
8	Aster azureus	sky-blue aster	UPL
5	Aster ericoides	heath aster	FACU-
9	Aster laevis	smooth blue aster	UPL
4	Aster lateriflorus	side-flowering aster	FACW-
4	Aster novae-angliae	New England aster	FACW
0	Aster pilosus	hairy aster, frost aster	FACU+
9	Aster praealtus	willow aster	(OBL)
7	Aster puniceus firmus	shining aster	OBL
5	Aster sagittifolius	arrow-leaved aster	UPL
2	Aster sagittifolius drummondii	Drummond's aster	(FACU)
3	Aster simplex	panicled aster	OBL
10	Astragalus canadensis	Canadian milk vetch	(UPL)
	ATRIPLEX PATULA	common orach	FACW-
8	Baptisia leucantha	white wild indigo	FACU+
	BARBAREA VULGARIS	yellow rocket, winter cress	FAC
5	Bidens cernua	nodding bur marigold	OBL
1	Bidens frondosa	common beggar's ticks	FACW
1	Bidens vulgata	tall beggar's ticks	FACU

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C	scientific name	common name	NWC
2	Boehmeria cylindrica	false nettle	OBL
9	Boltonia latisquama recognita	false aster	(OBL)
	BRASSICA NIGRA	black mustard	UPL
	BRASSICA RAPA	field mustard, turnip	UPL
	BROMUS INERMIS	Hungarian brome, smooth b.	UPL
	BROMUS JAPONICUS	Japanese chess	FACU
10	Bromus kalmii	prairie brome	FAC
	BROMUS TECTORUM	downy brome	UPL
10	Cacalia plantaginea (C. tuberosa)	prairie Indian plantain	FAC
3	Calamagrostis canadensis	blue joint grass	OBL
6	Camassia scilloides	wild hyacinth	FAC+
	CAMPANULA RAPUNCULOIDES	European bellflower	UPL
6	Cardamine bulbosa	bulbous cress	OBL
	CARDUUS NUTANS	musk thistle, nodding t.	UPL
7	Carex annectans xanthocarpa	small yellow fox sedge	(FAC)
5	Carex atherodes	hairy-leaved lake sedge	OBL
10	Carex bicknellii	copper-shouldered oval sedge	(UPL)
1	Carex blanda (C. laxiflora)	commonwoodsedge	FAC
4	Carex brevior (C. molesta)	plains oval sedge	(FACU)
9	Carex buxbaumii	dark-scaled sedge	OBL
4	Carex cristatella	crested oval sedge	FACW+
5	Carex hirtifolia	hairy wood sedge	UPL
6	Carex lacustris	common lake sedge	OBL
4	Carex pellita (C. lanuginosa)	broad leaved wooly sedge	OBL
5	Carex pensylvanica	common oak sedge	UPL
4	Carex rosea (C. convoluta)	curly-styled wood sedge	UPL
6	Carex sartwellii	running marsh sedge	(OBL)
5	Carex stricta	common tussock sedge	OBL
8	Carex tenera	narrow-leaved oval sedge	(FAC-)
7	Carex trichocarpa	hairy-fruited lake sedge	OBL
2	Carex vulpinoidea	brown fox sedge	OBL
7	Carya cordiformis	bitternut hickory	(FACU)
5	Carya ovata	shagbark hickory	FACU
10	Castilleja coccinea	Indian paint brush	FAC
6	Ceanothus americanus	New Jersey tea	UPL
3	Celtis occidentalis	hackberry	FAC-
	CENTAUREA VOCHINENSIS	tyrol knapweed	UPL
	CERASTIUM VULGATUM	mouse-ear chickweed	FACU
	CHENOPODIUM ALBUM	lamb's quarters, white goosefoot	FAC
	CHRYSANTHEMUM LEUCANTHEMUM PINNATI	ox-eye daisy	UPL
	CICHORIUM INTYBUS	chicory	UPL
6	Cicuta maculata	water hemlock	OBL
1	Circaea lutetiana (C. quadrisulcata)	enchanter's nightshade	FACU
	CIRSIUM ARVENSE	field thistle, Canada thistle	UPL
2	Cirsium discolor	pasture thistle	UPL
10	Cirsium muticum	swamp thistle, fen t.	OBL
	CIRSIUM VULGARE	bull thistle	FACU-
2	Claytonia virginica	spring beauty	FACU
7	Comandra umbellata (C. richardsiana)	false toadflax	FACU
	CONVALLARIA MAJALIS	lily-of-the-valley	UPL
1	Convolvulus sepium	hedgebindweed	FAC
6	Coreopsis palmata	prairie coreopsis	UPL
5	Coreopsis tripteris	tall coreopsis	FAC
6	Cornus obliqua	blue-fruited dogwood, pale/silky d.	FACW+
1	Cornus racemosa	gray dogwood	FACW-
6	Cornus stolonifera	red-osier dogwood	FACW
5	Corylus americana	American hazelnut	FACU-
2	Crataegus crus-galli	cockspur hawthorn	FAC
2	Crataegus mollis	downy hawthorn	FACU-
2	Crataegus punctata	dotted hawthorn	UPL
2	Cryptotaenia canadensis	honewort	FAC
7	Cuscuta glomerata	rope dodder	(FACW)
8	Cuscuta polygonorum	knotweed dodder	(OBL)
1	Cyperus strigosus	long-scaled nut sedge, straw-colored s.	FACW

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C	scientific name	common name	NWC
10	Cypripedium candidum	white lady's slipper	OBL
	DACTYLIS GLOMERATA	orchard grass	FACU
3	Danthonia spicata	poverty oat grass	UPL
	DAUCUSCAROTA	wild carrot, Queen Anne's lace	UPL
4	Desmodium canadense	showy tick trefoil	FAC-
	DIPSACUS LACINIATUS	cut-leaved teasel	UPL
6	Dodecatheonmeadia	shooting star	FACU
	DUCHESNIA INDICA	Indian strawberry	FACU-
8	Echinacea pallida	pale purple coneflower	UPL
0	Echinochloa crusgalli	barnyard grass	FACW
5	Echinocystis lobata	wild cucumber	FACW-
2	Eleocharis acicularis	needle spike rush	OBL
8	Eleocharis compressa	flat-stemmed spike-rush	FACW
8	Eleocharis elliptica	golden-seeded spike rush	(OBL)
3	Eleocharis obtusa	blunt spike rush	OBL
2	Ellisia nyctelea	Aunt Lucy	FAC+
4	Elymus canadensis	Canada wild rye	FAC-
5	Elymus villosus	silky wild rye	FACU
4	Elymus virginicus	Virginia wild rye	FACW-
3	Epilobium coloratum	cinnamon willow herb	OBL
	EPIPACTIS HELLEBORINE	helleborine orchid	UPL
0	Equisetum arvense	horsetail	FAC
3	Equisetum hyemale	tall scouring rush	FACW-
5	Eragrostis frankii	sandbar love grass	FACW
2	Erechtites hieracifolia	fireweed	FACU
0	Erigeron annuus	annual fleabane	FAC-
0	Erigeron canadensis	horseweed	FAC-
4	Erigeron philadelphicus	marsh fleabane	FACW
5	Erigeron strigosus	daisy fleabane	(UPL)
9	Eryngium yuccifolium	rattlesnake master	FAC+
5	Erythronium albidum	white trout lily, w. adder's tongue	UPL
8	Euonymous atropurpureus	burning bush, wahoo	FAC-
0	Eupatorium altissimum	tall boneset	(FACU)
4	Eupatorium maculatum	spotted Joe Pye weed	OBL
7	Eupatorium purpureum	purple Joe Pye weed	UPL
4	Eupatorium rugosum	white snakeroot	UPL
0	Eupatorium serotinum	late boneset	FAC+
2	Euphorbia corollata	flowering spurge	UPL
0	Euphorbia maculata	eyebane, nodding spurge	FACU
	FESTUCA ELATIOR	tall fescue	FACU+
1	Fragaria virginiana	wild strawberry	FAC-
5	Fraxinus pennsylvanica	red ash	FACW
1	Fraxinus pennsylvanica subintegerrima	green ash	FAC
	GALINSOGA CILIATA (G. QUADRIRADIATA)	Peruvian daisy, quickweed	UPL
1	Galium aparine	annual bedstraw, cleavers	FACU
10	Galium asprellum	rough bedstraw	OBL
7	Galium boreale	northern bedstraw	FAC
5	Galium concinnum	shining bedstraw	(UPL)
5	Galium obtusum	wild madder	FACW+
8	Galium tinctorium	stiff bedstraw	OBL
5	Galium triflorum	sweet-scented bedstraw	FACU+
2	Gaura biennis	biennial gaura	FACU-
8	Gentiana andrewsii	closed gentian, bottle g.	FACW
9	Gentiana flavida	yellowish gentian	FACU
10	Gentiana puberulenta (G. puberula)	downy gentian, prairie g.	UPL
4	Geranium maculatum	wild geranium	(UPL)
7	Geum aleppicum strictum	yellow avens	FAC+
1	Geum canadense	white avens, wood a.	FAC
2	Geum laciniatum trichocarpum	rough avens	FACW
	GLECHOMA HEDERACEA	ground ivy, creeping Charlie	FACU
2	Gleditsia triacanthos	honey locust	FAC
4	Glyceria striata	fowl meadow grass, fowl manna g.	(FACW)
10	Habenaria leucophaea (Platanthera)	Eastern prairie fringed orchid	FACW+
0	Hackelia virginiana	stickseed	FAC-

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C	scientific name	common name	NWC
5	Helenium autumnale	sneezeweed	FACW+
	HELIANTHUS ANNUUS	garden sunflower, annual s.	FAC-
2	Helianthus grosseserratus	sawtooth sunflower	FACW-
8	Helianthus rigidus (H. laetiflorus)	prairie sunflower	UPL
5	Helianthus strumosus	pale-leaved (wood) sunflower	UPL
	HEMEROCALLIS FULVA	orange day-lily	UPL
	HESPERIS MATRONALIS	Dame's rocket	UPL
8	Heuchera richardsonii	prairie alum root	FAC-
6	Hieracium canadense var. fasciculatum	Canada hawkweed	UPL
	HORDEUM JUBATUM	squirrel-tail grass	FAC+
5	Hydrophyllum virginianum	Virginia waterleaf	(FAC)
6	Hypericum majus	sand St. John's wort	FACW
	HYPERICUM PERFORATUM	common St.John's wort	UPL
4	Hypericum punctatum	spotted St. John's wort	(FACU)
10	Hypericum pyramidatum	great St.John's wort	FAC+
9	Hypoxis hirsuta	yellow star-grass	FAC
5	Hystrix patula	bottlebrush grass	UPL
	IRIS GERMANICA	German iris	UPL
5	Iris virginica shrevei	blue flag	OBL
8	Isopyrum biternatum	false rue anemone	UPL
5	Juglans nigra	black walnut	FACU
4	Juncus dudleyi	Dudley's rush	(FAC)
8	Juncus greenei	Greene's rush	FAC
6	Juncus interior	inland rush	(FACU)
0	Juncus tenuis	path rush	(FACU+)
2	Juniperus virginiana crebra	red cedar	FACU
	KOCHIA SCOPARIA	burning bush	FACU-
7	Krigia biflora	false dandelion, 2-flowered cynthia	FACU
2	Lactuca canadensis	wild lettuce	FACU+
	LACTUCA SALIGNA	willow lettuce	FACU
	LACTUCA SERRIOLA (L.SCARIOLA)	prickly lettuce	FAC
	LATHYRUS LATIFOLIUS	everlasting pea, flat pea	UPL
8	Lathyrus palustris	marsh vetchling	FACW
9	Lathyrus venosus	veiny pea	(UPL)
4	Leersia oryzoides	rice cut grass	OBL
5	Lemna minor	small duckweed	OBL
	LEPIDIUM CAMPESTRE	field cress	UPL
0	Lepidium virginicum	common peppergrass, c. peppercress	FACU-
4	Lespedeza capitata	round-headed bush clover	FACU
6	Liatris aspera	rough blazing star	UPL
8	Liatris pycnostachya	prairie blazing star, gayfeather	FAC-
6	Liatris spicata	marsh blazing star, gayfeather	FAC
6	Lilium michiganense	Michigan lily, Turk's cap l.	FAC+
10	Lilium philadelphicum andinum	prairie lily	FAC-
	LINARIA VULGARIS	butter-and-eggs, toadflax	UPL
8	Lithospermum canescens	hoary puccoon	UPL
6	Lobelia spicata	pale spiked lobelia	FAC
	LONICERA TATARICA	Tartarian honeysuckle	(UPL)
6	Ludwigia alternifolia	seedbox	OBL
5	Ludwigia palustris americana	marsh purslane, water p.	OBL
6	Ludwigia polycarpa	false loosestrife	OBL
	LYCHNIS ALBA	white campion	UPL
5	Lycopus americanus	common water horehound	OBL
7	Lycopus uniflorus	northern bugle weed	OBL
4	Lysimachia ciliata	fringed loosestrife	FACW
10	Lysimachia hybrida	river loosestrife	OBL
7	Lysimachia lanceolata	lance-leaved loosestrife	FAC
9	Lysimachia quadriflora	narrow-leaved loosestrife	OBL
7	Lythrum alatum	winged loosestrife	OBL
	MACLURA POMIFERA	Osageorange	FACU
3	Malus ioenis (Pyrus)	Iowa crab	UPL
	MALUS PUMILA (PYRUS MALUS)	apple	UPL
	MALUS SP.	a crabapple cultivar	
	MATRICARIA MATRICARIOIDES	pineapple weed	FACU

Table 1. Plants of Wolf Road Prairie

C	scientific name	common name	NWC
	MELILOTUS ALBA	white sweet clover	FACU
	MELILOTUS OFFICINALIS	yellow sweet clover	FACU
5	Mentha arvensis villosa	wild mint	(OBL)
6	Mimulus ringens	monkey flower	OBL
4	Monarda fistulosa	wild bergamot	FACU
	MORUS ALBA	white mulberry	FAC
	MUHLENBERGIA RACEMOSA	upland wild timothy	(UPL)
	Muhlenbergia sp.	satin grass	FACW
	NARCISSUS PSEUDONARCISSUS	daffodil	UPL
	NEPETA CATARIA	catnip	FAC-
0	Oenothera biennis	common evening primrose	FACU
10	Oenothera pilosella	prairie sundrops	FAC-
8	Onoclea sensibilis	fern, sensitive	FACW
	ORNITHOGALUM UMBELLATUM	star of Bethlehem	UPL
3	Osmorhiza claytonii	hairy sweet cicely	FACU-
3	Osmorhiza longistylus	smooth sweet cicely	FACU-
0	Oxalis stricta	common wood sorrel	UPL
9	Oxalis violacea	violet wood sorrel	UPL
7	Oxypolis rigidior	cowbane	OBL
	PAEONIA SP.	peony	
2	Panicum implicatum (P. lanuginosum)	old-field panic grass, hairy panic g.	FAC-
4	Panicum oligosanthes scribnerianum	Scribner's panic grass	(FACU)
5	Panicum virgatum	switch grass	FAC+
8	Parthenium integrifolium	wild quinine, American feverfew	UPL
2	Parthenocissus quinquefolia	Virginia creeper	FAC-
	PASTINACA SATIVA	wild parsnip	UPL
9	Pedicularis canadensis	wood betony, lousewort	FACU+
7	Penstemon calycosus	smooth beard tongue	FACU
5	Penthorum sedoides	ditch stonecrop	OBL
9	Petalostemum purpureum (Dalea)	purple prairie clover	UPL
	PHALARIS ARUNDINACEA	reed canary grass	FACW+
	PHLEUM PRATENSE	timothy	FACU
8	Phlox glaberrima interior	marsh phlox	FACW
	PHLOX PANICULATA	garden phlox	FACU
7	Phlox pilosa var. fulgida	prairie phlox, downy p.	FAC-
1	Phragmites australis (P. communis)	common reed	FACW+
3	Physalis heterophylla	clammy ground cherry	UPL
0	Physalis subglabrata	tall ground cherry	UPL
6	Physostegia virginiana arenaria	prairie obedient plant	(UPL)
1	Phytolacca americana	pokeweed	FAC-
	PICEA GLAUCA (?)	white spruce	
5	Pilea pumila	clearweed	FACW
0	Plantago rugelii	red-stalked plantain	FAC
9	Platanus occidentalis	sycamore	FACW
	POA COMPRESSA	Canada blue grass	FACU+
	POA PRATENSIS	Kentucky blue grass	FAC-
4	Podophyllum peltatum	May apple	FACU
6	Polygala sanguinea	field milkwort	FACU
8	Polygala senega	Seneca snakeroot	FACU
3	Polygonatum canaliculatum (P. biflorum)	smooth Solomon's seal	FACU
4	Polygonum amphibium stipulaceum	water knotweed, w. heartsease	OBL
	POLYGONUM AVICULARE	common knotweed	FAC-
4	Polygonum coccineum (etc.)	water heartsease	OBL
	POLYGONUM CONVOLVULUS	black bindweed	FAC-
	POLYGONUM CUSPIDATUM	Japanese knotweed	FACU
2	Polygonum hydropiper	water pepper	FACW
0	Polygonum lapathifolium	heartsease	FACW-
0	Polygonum pensylvanicum	pinkweed, Pennsylvania smartweed	FACW-
	POLYGONUM PERSICARIA	lady's thumb	(FACU-)
6	Polygonum punctatum	smartweed	OBL
5	Polygonum ramosissimum	bushy knotweed	FAC-
8	Polygonum sagittatum	arrow-leaved tear thumb	OBL
1	Polygonum scandens	climbing false buckwheat	FAC
2	Polygonum virginianum (Tovara virginiana)	woodland knotweed, jumpseed	FAC

Table 1. Plants of Wolf Road Prairie

C	scientific name	common name	NWC
2	Populus deltoides	eastern cottonwood	FAC+
6	Populus grandidentata	large-toothed aspen	FACU
	POPULUS NIGRA ITALICA	Lombardy poplar	UPL
4	Populus tremuloides	quaking aspen	FAC
	PORTULACA OLERACEA	purslane	FAC-
10	Potamogeton amplifolius (?)	large-leaved pond weed	OBL
9	Potentilla arguta	prairie cinquefoil	FACU-
	POTENTILLA RECTA	sulphur cinquefoil, upright c.	UPL
4	Potentilla simplex	common cinquefoil	FACU-
5	Prenanthes alba	white lettuce, lion's foot	FACU
8	Prenanthes aspera	rough white lettuce	UPL
8	Prenanthes racemosa	glaucous white lettuce, rattlesnake root	FACW
0	Prunella vulgaris lanceolata	selfheal, carpenter's weed	(FACU)
5	Prunus americana	wild plum	UPL
1	Prunus serotina	wild black cherry	FACU
	PRUNUS SP.	a cherry cultivar	
3	Prunus virginiana	choke cherry	(FACU)
5	Pycnanthemum virginianum	common mountain mint, Virginia m.	FACW+
6	Quercus bicolor	swamp white oak	FACW+
4	Quercus coccinea	scarlet oak	UPL
5	Quercus macrocarpa	bur (or burr) oak	FAC-
7	Quercus rubra	red oak	FACU
6	Quercus velutina	black oak	UPL
4	Ratibida pinnata	yellow coneflower, gray-headed c.	UPL
	RHAMNUS CATHARTICA	common buckthorn	FACU
	RHAMNUS FRANGULA	glossy buckthorn	FAC+
1	Rhus glabra	smooth sumac	UPL
2	Rhus radicans (Toxicodendron)	poison ivy	FAC+
1	Rhus typhina	staghorn sumac	UPL
5	Ribes missouriense	wild gooseberry	UPL
	ROBINIA PSEUDOACACIA	black locust	FACU-
4	Rorippa palustris fernaldiana (R. islandica)	marsh cress	OBL
5	Rosa arkansana suffulta	sunshine rose	UPL
5	Rosa blanda	early wild rose	FACU
5	Rosa carolina	pasture rose	FACU-
	ROSA MULTIFLORA	multiflora rose, Japanese r.	FACU
7	Rosa setigera	Illinois rose	FACU+
3	Rubus allegheniensis	common blackberry	FACU+
3	Rubus flagellaris	common dewberry	FACU-
2	Rubus occidentalis	black raspberry	UPL
3	Rubus pensilvanicus (etc)	Yankee blackberry	FACU
1	Rudbeckia hirta	black-eyed Susan	FACU
9	Rudbeckia subtomentosa	sweet black-eyed Susan	FACU+
2	Rumex altissimus	pale dock	FACW-
	RUMEX CRISPUS	curly dock	FAC+
4	Sagittaria latifolia	common arrowhead	OBL
5	Salix amygdaloides	peach-leaved willow	FACW
2	Salix discolor	pussy willow	FACW
7	Salix glaucophylloides (S. myricoides)	blue-leaved willow	FACW
6	Salix humilis	prairie willow	FACW
1	Salix interior	sandbar willow	OBL
1	Sambucus canadensis	elderberry	FACW-
2	Sanicula gregaria	clustered black snakeroot	FAC+
6	Scirpus acutus	hard-stemmed bulrush	OBL
4	Scirpus atrovirens	dark green rush	OBL
4	Scirpus fluviatilis	river bulrush	OBL
4	Scirpus pendulus (S. lineatus)	red bulrush	OBL
5	Scirpus validus creber	great bulrush, soft-stem b.	OBL
5	Scutellaria epilobiifolia	marsh skullcap	OBL
5	Scutellaria lateriflora	mad-dog skullcap	OBL
7	Scutellaria parvula leonardii	small skullcap	FACU
6	Senecio pauperculus	balsam ragwort	FAC+
	SETARIA FABERI	giant foxtail	FACU+
	SETARIA GLAUCA	yellow foxtail	FAC

Table 1. Plants of Wolf Road Prairie

C	scientific name	common name	NWC
6	Silene stellata	starry campion	UPL
5	Silphium integrifolium, deamii	rosin weed	UPL
5	Silphium laciniatum	compass plant	UPL
5	Silphium terebinthinaceum	prairie dock	FACU
	SISYMBRIUM OFFICINALE	hedge mustard	UPL
7	Sisyrinchium albidum	common blue-eyed grass (white b.)	FACU
7	Sium suave	tall water parsnip	OBL
3	Smilacina racemosa	feathery false Solomon's seal	FACU
5	Smilacina stellata	starry false Solomon's seal	FAC-
5	Smilax lasioneura	common carrion flower	(UPL)
0	Solanum americanum (S. NIGRUM)	black nightshade	FACU-
	SOLANUM CAROLINENSE	horse nettle	FACU-
	SOLANUM DULCAMARA	bittersweet nightshade	FAC
1	Solidago altissima	tall goldenrod	FACU
1	Solidago canadensis	Canada goldenrod	FACU
4	Solidago gigantea leiophylla	late goldenrod	FACW
4	Solidago graminifolia	common grass-leaved goldenrod	FACW-
3	Solidago graminifolia nuttallii	hairy grass-leaved goldenrod	(FAC)
5	Solidago gymnospermoides	viscid grass-leaved goldenrod	FAC
5	Solidago juncea	early goldenrod	UPL
7	Solidago missouriensis fasciculata	Missouri goldenrod, prairie g.	UPL
4	Solidago nemoralis	old-field goldenrod, gray g.	UPL
7	Solidago riddellii	Riddell's goldenrod	OBL
4	Solidago rigida	stiff goldenrod	FACU-
5	Solidago ulmifolia	elm-leaved goldenrod	UPL
	SONCHUS ASPER	spiny sow thistle	(FACU)
	SONCHUS ULIGINOSUS	common sow thistle	FAC-
5	Sorghastrum nutans	Indian grass	FACU+
6	Sparganium eurycarpum	common bur reed	OBL
4	Spartina pectinata	prairie cord grass, slough g.	FACW+
7	Sphenopholis obtusata	prairie wedge grass	FAC
7	Spiraea alba	meadowsweet	FACW+
7	Spiranthes cernua	nodding ladies' tresses	FACW-
10	Sporobolus heterolepis	prairie dropseed	FACU-
5	Stachys palustris homotricha	woundwort	OBL
5	Stachys tenuifolia hispida	marsh hedge nettle	FACW+
8	Stellaria longifolia	stitchwort	FACW+
	TARAXACUM OFFICINALE	common dandelion	FACU
3	Teucrium canadense	germander, wood sage	FACW
5	Thalictrum dasycarpum	purple meadow rue	FACW-
7	Thalictrum dioicum	early meadow rue	FACU+
6	Thalictrum revolutum	waxy meadow rue	FAC
5	Tilia americana	basswood, American linden	FACU
2	Tradescantia ohiensis	common spiderwort	FACU+
	TRAGOPOGON PRATENSIS	common goat's beard	UPL
	TRIFOLIUM CAMPESTRE (T. PROCUMBENS)	low hop clover	UPL
	TRIFOLIUM HYBRIDUM	alsike clover	FAC-
	TRIFOLIUM PRATENSE	red clover	UPL
	TRIFOLIUM REPENS	white clover	FACU+
5	Trillium recurvatum	red trillium	FACU-
5	Triosteum aurantiacum	early horse gentian	UPL
	TULIPA SP.	tulip	
1	Typha angustifolia	narrow-leaved cattail	OBL
1	Typha latifolia	common cattail, broad-leaved c.	OBL
3	Ulmus americana	American elm	FACW-
	ULMUS PUMILA	Siberian elm	UPL
4	Ulmus rubra	slippery elm	FAC
2	Urtica procera (U. dioica)	tall nettle, stinging n.	FAC+
	VERBASCUM THAPSUS	common mullein	UPL
0	Verbena bracteata	creeping vervain	FACU
4	Verbena hastata	blue vervain	FACW+

Table 1. Plants of Wolf Road Prairie

C	scientific name	common name	NWC
5	Verbena urticifolia	hairy white vervain	UPL
5	Vernonia altissima	(hairy) tall ironweed	FAC
5	Vernonia fasciculata	common ironweed	FACW
7	Veronicastrum virginicum	Culver's root	FAC
	VIBURNUM LANTANA	wayfaring tree	UPL
	VIBURNUM OPULUS	European highbush cranberry	(FACU)
	VIBURNUM RECOGNITUM	smooth arrow-wood	FACW-
7	Vicia americana	American vetch	UPL
	VINCA MINOR	periwinkle	UPL
4	Viola affinis	LeConte's violet	FACW
9	Viola pedatifida	prairie violet	FACU-
5	Viola pubescens (V. pensylvanica)	yellow violet	FACU-
7	Viola sagittata	arrrow-leaved violet	FACW-
3	Viola sororia (V. papilionacea)	common blue violet	FAC-
2	Vitis riparia	riverbank grape	FACW-
	XANTHIUM STRUMARIUM (etc)	cocklebur	FAC
7	Zizia aurea	golden Alexanders	FAC+

Table 2. Species Searched For But Not Found

Scientific Name	Common Name
1. Anemone cylindrica	Thimbleweed
2. Apios americana	Ground Nut
3. Asclepias sullivantii	Prairie Milkweed
4. Asclepias verticillata	Whorled Milkweed
5. Bidens vulgata	Tall Beggar's Ticks
6. Cuscuta polygonorum	Knotweed Dodder
7. Cypripedium candidum	White Lady's Slipper
8. Echinocystis lobata	Wild Cucumber
9. Eupatorium maculatum	Spotted Joe Pye Weed
10. Habenaria leucophaea	Eastern Prairie Fringed Orchid
11. Helianthus rigidus	Prairie Sunflower
12. Liatris pycnostachya	Prairie Blazing Star
13. Oxypolis rigidior	Cowbane
14. Physalis heterophylla	Clammy Ground Cherry
15. Solidago gigantea	Late Goldenrod
16. Solidago gymnospermoides	Viscid Grass-Leaved Goldenrod
17. Solidago missouriensis	Missouri Goldenrod
18. Solidago riddellii	Riddell's Goldenrod
19. Stellaria longifolia	Stitchwort
20. Thalictrum dasycarpum	Purple Meadow Rue
21. Vernonia fasciculata	Common Ironweed
22. Viola sagittata	Arrow-leaved Violet

Table 3. Estimates of Flowering Stalks for 179 Species

Number of Flowering Stalks	Number of Species
Less than 100	73
100 to 500	39
More than 500	67

Table 4. Species of Special Concern

Scientific Name	Common Name	Abundance	C
1. Spiranthes cernua	Nodding Ladies' Tresses	1	7
2. Cacalia plantaginea	Prairie Indian Plantain	12	10
3. Astragalus canadensis	Canadian Milk Vetch	12	10
4. Lilium philadelphicum	Prairie Lily	15	10
5. Hypericum pyramidatum	Great Saint John's Wort	49	10
6. Gentiana puberulenta	Downy Gentian	87	10
7. Castilleja coccinea	Indian Paintbrush	137	10
8. Viola pedatifida	Prairie Violet	174	10

9.	Lathyrus venosus	Veiny pea	1	9
10.	Potentilla arguta	Prairie Cinquefoil	3	9
11.	Lysimachia quadriflora	Narrow-Leaved Loosestrife	4	9
12.	Rudbeckia subtomentosa	Sweet Black-Eyed Susan	17	9
13.	Amorpha canescens	Lead Plant	75	9
14.	Prenanthes aspera	Rough White Lettuce	9	8
15.	Heuchera richardsonii	Prairie Alum Root	10	8
16.	Echinacea pallida	Purple Coneflower	10	8
17.	Prenanthes racemosa	Glaucous White Lettuce	13	8
18.	Aster azureus	Sky-blue Aster	18	8
19.	Gentiana andrewsii	Closed Gentian	37	8
20.	Polygala senega	Seneca Snakeroot	53	8
21.	Asclepias purpurascens	Purple Milkweed	58	8
22.	Phlox glaberrima	Marsh Phlox	87	8
23.	Baptisia leucantha	White Wild Indigo	148	8
24.	Scutellaria parvula	Small Skullcap	2	7
25.	Rosa setigera	Illinois Rose	3	7
26.	Aster puniceus firmus	Shining Aster	3	7
27.	Asclepias tuberosa	Butterfly Weed	4	7
28.	Geum aleppicum	Yellow Avens	5	7
29.	Spiraea alba	Meadowsweet	16	7
30.	Arisaema dracontium	Green Dragon	39	7
31.	Eupatorium purpureum	Purple Joe Pye Weed	62	7
32.	Mimulus ringens	Monkey Flower	3	6
33.	Hieracium canadense	Canada Hawkweed	5	6
34.	Cardamine bulbosa	Bulbous Cress	7	6
35.	Arabis glabra	Tower Mustard	10	6
36.	Polygala sanguinea	Field Milkwort	21	6
37.	Lilium michiganense	Michigan Lily	29	6
38.	Liatris aspera	Rough Blazing Star	35	6
39.	Coreopsis palmata	Prairie Coreopsis	40	6
40.	Silene stellata	Starry Campion	67	6
41.	Physostegia virginiana	Prairie Obedient Plant	95	6
42.	Dodecatheon meadia	Shooting Star	151	6
43.	Prenanthes alba	White Lettuce	3	5
44.	Silphium laciniatum	Compass Plant	5	5
45.	Asclepias exaltata	Poke Milkweed	5	5
46.	Iris virginica	Blue Flag	15	5
47.	Viola pubescens	Yellow Violet	19	5
48.	Scutellaria lateriflora	Mad-dog Skullcap	20	5
49.	Smilax lasioneura	Common Carrion Flower	25	5
50.	Rosa carolina	Pasture Rose	50	5

Table 5. Comments on individual species growing in Wolf Road Prairie.

Asclepias tuberosa (butterfly weed) has never had more than 2-4 plants.

Astragalus canadensis (Canada milk vetch) has a small and localized population, and appears to be holding steady, though flowers are rarely seen. It appears that deer are eating the flowers, thus preventing reproduction.

Castilleja coccinea (Indian paintbrush, red form) has declined significantly since the 1970's, when they were estimated to be in the thousands.

Habenaria leucophaea (prairie white fringed orchid, also known as Platanthera leucophaea), is Endangered in Illinois and Federally Threatened. It has not been seen since about 1983 and is presumably extirpated.

Hypericum pyramidatum (Great St.Johns Wort) population remains small in spite of a serious attempt to revitalize it.