

Tallgrass Prairie Plant Species

Native to Middlesex, Oxford and Perth Counties

The following native tallgrass prairie plant species are known to occur in Middlesex, Oxford and Perth Counties. Many of them are rare within these counties and in Ontario because prairie habitats themselves have become very rare. This species list can be used as a guide for inventory or restoration purposes. List updated 2021.

M = Middlesex County; **O** = Oxford County; **P** = Perth County; **Y** = Yes occurs in county; **R** = Rare in county

Grasses

Scientific Name	Common Name	M	O	P
<i>Andropogon gerardi</i>	Big Bluestem	Y	Y	Y
<i>Bromus kalmii</i>	Kalm's Brome	Y		
<i>Calamagrostis canadensis</i>	Canada Bluejoint	Y	Y	Y
<i>Elymus canadensis</i>	Canada Wildrye	Y	Y	
<i>Anthoxanthum hirtum</i>	Hairy Sweetgrass (R)	Y		Y
<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	Old Switch Panicgrass	Y	Y	Y
<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	Little Bluestem	Y	Y	
<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	Yellow Indiangrass (Savanna Grass)	Y		
<i>Sporobolus cryptandrus</i>	Sand Dropseed	Y		
<i>Sporobolus compositus</i>	Rough Dropseed	Y		
<i>Sporobolus michauxianus</i>	Prairie Cordgrass	Y		Y



Yellow Indiangrass (Savanna Grass)
(*Sorghastrum nutans*)

Wildflowers

Scientific Name	Common Name	M	O	P
<i>Achillea borealis</i>	Woolly Yarrow	Y	Y	Y
<i>Amphicarpaea bracteata</i>	American Hog-peanut	Y	Y	Y
<i>Anemonastrum canadense</i>	Canada Anemone	Y	Y	Y
<i>Anemone cylindrica</i>	Long-headed Anemone	Y	Y	
<i>Apios americana</i>	American Groundnut	Y	Y	
<i>Apocynum cannabinum</i>	Hemp Dogbane	Y	Y	Y
<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	Swamp Milkweed	Y	Y	Y
<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	Butterfly Milkweed	Y		
<i>Cirsium discolor</i>	Field Thistle (R)	Y	Y	
<i>Desmodium canadense</i>	Showy Tick-trefoil	Y	Y	
<i>Doellingeria umbellata</i>	Flat-top White Aster	Y	Y	Y
<i>Euphorbia corollata</i>	Flowering Spurge	Y	Y	Y
<i>Fragaria virginiana</i>	Wild Strawberry	Y	Y	Y
<i>Gentiana andrewsii</i>	Andrew's Bottle Gentian	Y	Y	Y
<i>Gentianopsis crinita</i>	Greater Fringed Gentian	Y	Y	
<i>Helenium autumnale</i>	Common Sneezeweed (R)	Y		Y
<i>Helianthus giganteus</i>	Giant (Tall) Sunflower	Y		
<i>Helianthus strumosus</i>	Pale-leaved Sunflower	Y		
<i>Heliopsis helianthoides</i>	False Sunflower, Ox-eye	Y		
<i>Hypoxis hirsuta</i>	Eastern Yellow Stargrass (R)	Y		
<i>Lespedeza capitata</i>	Round-headed Bush-clover	Y		
<i>Lespedeza hirta</i>	Hairy Bush-clover	Y		



Wild Bergamot
(*Monarda fistulosa*)



Michigan Lily
(*Lilium michiganense*)



Flowering Spurge
(*Euphorbia corollata*)

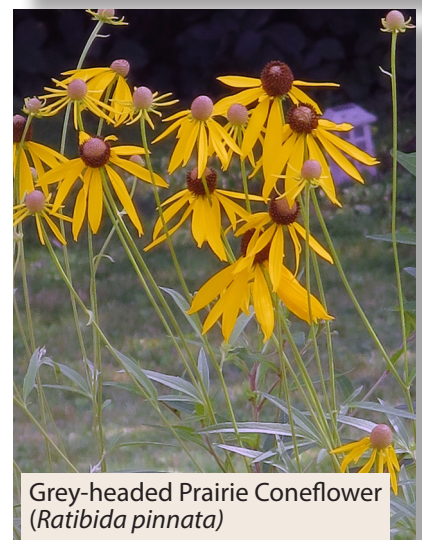
Scientific Name	Common Name	M	O	P
<i>Liatris spicata</i>	Dense Blazing-star (R)	Y		
<i>Lilium michiganense</i>	Michigan Lily	Y	Y	Y
<i>Lilium philadelphicum</i>	Wood Lily (R)	Y		
<i>Lithospermum canescens</i>	Hoary Pucoon (R)	Y		
<i>Lobelia spicata</i>	Pale-spike Lobelia (R)	Y		
<i>Lysimachia ciliata</i>	Fringed Yellow Loosestrife	Y	Y	Y
<i>Lysimachia quadriflora</i>	Four-flowered Yellow Loosestrife (R)	Y	Y	
<i>Lythrum alatum</i>	Winged Loosestrife (R)	Y		
<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	Wild Bergamot (Bee Balm)	Y	Y	Y
<i>Nabalus albus</i>	White Rattlesnakeroot	Y		
<i>Palusticodon aparinoides</i>	Marsh Bellflower	Y	Y	Y
<i>Parnassia glauca</i>	Fen Grass-of-Parnassus	Y	Y	
<i>Penstemon digitalis</i>	Foxglove Beardtongue	Y	Y	Y
<i>Penstemon hirsutus</i>	Hairy Beardtongue (R)	Y		
<i>Polygala senega</i>	Seneca Snakeroot	Y		
<i>Polygala verticillata</i>	Whorled Milkwort (R)	Y		
<i>Pycnanthemum tenuifolium</i>	Slender Mountain-mint (R)	Y		
<i>Pycnanthemum virginianum</i>	Virginia Mountain-mint	Y		
<i>Ranunculus rhomboideus</i>	Prairie Buttercup (R)	Y		
<i>Ratibida pinnata</i>	Grey-headed Prairie Coneflower (R)	Y		
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	Black-eyed Susan	Y	Y	Y
<i>Sisyrinchium mucronate</i>	Mucronate Blue-eyed Grass (R)	Y		Y
<i>Solidago nemoralis</i>	Grey-stemmed Goldenrod	Y	Y	Y
<i>Solidago ohioensis</i>	Ohio Goldenrod (R)	Y		
<i>Solidago riddellii</i>	Riddell's Goldenrod	Y		
<i>Solidago rigida</i>	Stiff Goldenrod	Y		Y
<i>Symphotrichum ericoides</i>	White Heath Aster	Y	Y	Y
<i>Symphotrichum laeve</i>	Smooth Aster	Y		
<i>Symphotrichum novae-angliae</i>	New England Aster	Y	Y	Y
<i>Symphotrichum oolentangiense</i>	Sky Blue Aster	Y		
<i>Symphotrichum pilosum</i>	Old Field Aster	Y	Y	Y
<i>Symphotrichum urophyllum</i>	Arrow-leaved Aster	Y	Y	
<i>Teucrium canadense</i>	Canada Germander (R)	Y		
<i>Thalictrum dasycarpum</i>	Purple Meadow-rue (R)	Y		
<i>Verbena hastata</i>	Blue Vervain	Y	Y	Y
<i>Vernonia gigantea</i>	Giant (Tall) Ironweed (R)	Y		



Hairy Beardtongue
(*Penstemon hirsutus*)



Giant Ironweed
(*Vernonia gigantea*)



Grey-headed Prairie Coneflower
(*Ratibida pinnata*)

Information Sources

This information was extracted from the following documents:

- *Planting the Seed: A Guide to Establishing Prairie and Meadow Communities in Southern Ontario*. Environment Canada, 2000. Copies from [Tallgrass Ontario](#).
- *Preliminary Annotated Checklist of the Vascular Plants of Elgin, Middlesex and Oxford Counties, Ontario*. Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, 1991.
- [Tallgrass Ontario](#).

More Information on our Website

www.thamesriver.on.ca

- Gardening with Native Plants
- Recommended Native Trees and Shrubs
- Recommended Native Wildflowers and Grasses
- Butterfly Larvae Host Food Plants
- Southwestern Ontario Nurseries that Sell Native Plants
- Invasive Non-native Plants